

# Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



King Henry VIII 3-19 School  
July 2025/ Gorffennaf 2025

## STEM event

This month we were proud to host the official launch of Monmouthshire County Council's exciting new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Programme. This ambitious programme, supported by the Welsh Government, is designed to create inspiring learning opportunities for young people across Monmouthshire.

The launch event brought together educators, businesses, and young learners to celebrate the beginning of a new era for STEM education in our region. We were thrilled to welcome guests to our new school site to showcase the facilities and resources that will help bring the programme to life.

As part of the morning, guests were given a tour of the Technology department, where the Plastics Lab recycling project demonstrated how our pupils are already applying STEM in meaningful and sustainable ways.



## Value of the Month

Appreciation / Gwerthfawrogiad  
Saying thank you and meaning it.

## Merits awarded in July

6,325

## Merits award this academic year

160,530

## Key dates for September

- 5<sup>th</sup> Years 7 and 12 school photos
- 9<sup>th</sup> Y12 Information Evening 5.30-6.30
- 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> Years 9 and 10 Paris trip
- 18<sup>th</sup> Awards Evening 6.30pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Open Evening
- 26<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Open morning 9-11am (by appointment only)



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## Sparx Maths

Congratulations to Evie (7), Megan (8), James (9), Owen (10) and Gracie (11) for achieving the highest points in each year group. We would also like to recognise Cadan, who was invited to attend the UK Maths Trust (UKMT) summer school after scoring in the top 5% of all pupils that participated in the UKMT maths challenge this year. As a school community, we have answered a total of **605,020 questions correctly** throughout this academic year. **Totalling 11,319 hours of personalised learning, fixing and filling, around 108,090 misconceptions and gaps.**

## Accelerated Readers

As a school community we have read a total of **36,233,687 words and 739 books** this academic year. Form 7EMW are this year's Accelerated Reader Word Count Champions, with an collective word count of over 4.5 million words read. This year's word millionaire (pupils who have read more than one millions words) are Fergus, Oliver, Aeron, Evie, Ethan, Jack and Noah. Congratulations!

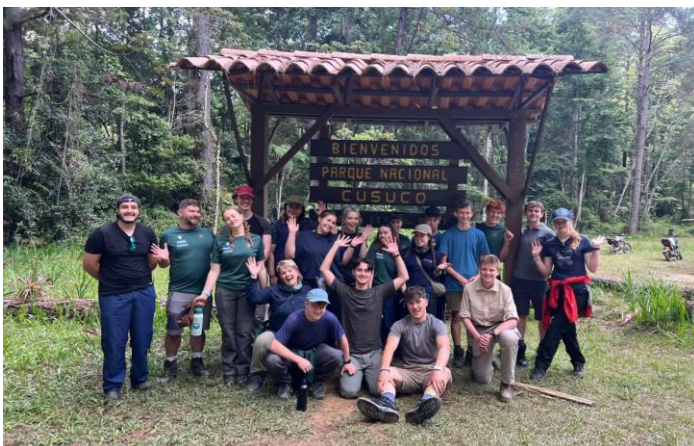


## Trip to National Museum of Wales Cardiff on 8<sup>th</sup> July

Ten Year 7 small group provision pupils visited a number of exhibits including The Evolution of Wales, which showcased life from the very beginnings of time to the present day. The story began in space with the Big Bang and pupils were taken on a 4,600 million-year journey, bringing them face to face with dinosaurs and woolly mammoths along the way. They also loved visiting the art and pottery exhibitions.

## Honduras Expedition

The Honduran Expedition left on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July and have been in Cusuco National Park, where they have been attending lectures and completing surveys in the rainforest. They are now moving onto the island of Utila to learn to scuba dive and complete marine surveys on the reefs surrounding the island.



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## Year 5 and 6 Educational Visit to West Midlands Safari Park

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed a memorable visit to West Midlands Safari Park. During the safari tour, pupils had the unique opportunity to observe a variety of magnificent animals at close range, including rhinos, lions, deer, gazelles, giraffes, and elephants. A particularly memorable moment involved a zebra with a rather bold personality, who playfully blocked the road in apparent pursuit of attention from passing vehicles! Following the safari, the group spent time exploring the main attraction area, which offered a wide range of activities including shops, games, and theme park rides.



## Trip to Mountain View Ranch



Years 1 and 2 enjoyed a fun filled trip to Mountain View Ranch.

The children enjoyed trying new activities like archery, overcoming fears of heights, and enjoyed exploring the wonderful grounds. There was lots of fun had by all.

## Parental engagement event

Years 3 and 4 families visited the school to celebrate pupil learning in our topic of Hopes and Dreams. Pupils also showcased their recorder playing, and the wonderful progress they have made.



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Dosbarth Eliffant have been enjoying our beautiful outdoor provision, they especially loved making potions in Cegin Mwd! The children have recently enjoyed visiting our school library and are really enjoying reading for pleasure.



Dosbarth Morfach have had a wonderful July. They have upcycled outdoor furniture, planted peas, courgettes, strawberries and flowers, held a sports themed afternoon, thoroughly enjoyed swimming lessons, and ran a beach party. We also invited families to brunch, which the pupils prepared and served. In between all this, we have made a punch and judy theatre, learnt about time, written postcards, and learnt about staying safe at the seaside.



Years 1 and 2 were lucky to receive a fantastic grant from the Abergavenny Rotary club to purchase vegetables for their new vegetable patch.

The children thoroughly enjoyed designing, preparing and planting.

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## Transition event

Year 5 pupils from our cluster primaries visited the school to watch a shortened version of Les Misérables alongside our Year 4-6 pupils. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience!



## ASDAN Coffee Morning

The Year 11 ASDAN group ran two coffee mornings for their coursework. Each had an International Links theme. One was American and one was Brazilian.



## Year 8 Summer Fair

This half term, Year 8 used their PSCE lessons to plan and organise our annual Summer Fair, with the support of entrepreneurs from Big Ideas Wales. They worked incredibly hard and had lots of fun selling on the big day, raising over £900! All proceeds will be donated to Teenage Cancer Trust. We would like to say a big thank you to our families, friends of the school, and local businesses for their support and generous donation



## Year 7 Llangrannog trip

The Welsh department took 79 pupils to Llangrannog. They immersed themselves in the Welsh language whilst doing various activities including 'High ropes', 'Archery', 'Orienteering', 'Skiing' and others, all the while enjoying the views from a vantage point above Llangrannog, with the sea to the one side, and green fields to the other. It's a lovely end to their Year 7 experience, before they start Year 8 in September.



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## English Poet Laureate competition

To celebrate moving into our new school building, the English department launched a new annual competition to find a 'Primary Phase Poet Laureate' and 'Secondary Phase Poet Laureate'. These are both prestigious and special roles that will last for 12 months.

Our winning poets wrote poems about special occasions and events. Congratulations to our winners! Thomas Year 5 and Owen Year 9.

Each poet has won a certificate, a £40 'Book-ish' voucher, a book of poems, and a trophy shield with their name engraved.



### The New School - by Thomas Year 5

The oak tree grows constantly watching for ever and ever,  
The windows shimmer like crystals in the sun,  
The sun shines, casting its rays far and wide,  
The green, green grass shimmering in the light,  
Dark during the night,  
The glossy brown bricks, tan and khaki,  
Grey and black at night,  
But dawn to dusk the one thing that stays the same,  
The oak tree, the one thing that unites the school.

### Entry to King Henry - by Owen Year 9

In halls where laughter dances in the air,  
We come together with hearts so light,  
A brand-new space, so bright and wide.

Where dreams with each step a story begins to  
unfold,

Of friendships made and tales retold,  
Sparkle with delight,  
A home for everyone, both day and night.

The classrooms buzz with eager minds,  
In every corner, new joy we find,  
Our teachers lead with kindness and grace,  
In this new school, our cherished place.

Through window views, sunlight pours in,  
In every heart, our dreams begin,  
Together here, our futures will grow,  
In laughter's bloom, we all will glow.

So, let's raise our voices, let them blend,  
On this new journey, hand in hand.  
With every lesson and every cheer,  
We'll treasure these bright days, so dear.

## Becky James PE classroom



We were honoured to welcome former pupil and Olympic double medallist Becky James to officially open our PE classroom which is named after her. It was wonderful for Becky to inspire future pupils, answer questions about her Elite athlete lifestyle, and witness our pupils take on a number of fitness challenges in our new fitness suite, spotting future potential Olympic athletes.

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## School Production of Les Misérables



On July 8th, the brand-new purpose-built school theatre came alive for the very first time with our epic production of Les Misérables. Running for 4 nights, we played to a sell-out audience with a cast of 70 pupils. Hiring the previous set of costumes used by the cast in London, adding professional sound, light and scenery, and accompanied by a visiting 19-piece professional orchestra, the cast entertained the audiences to a standard that would rival any performance at the Millennium Centre in Cardiff; these indeed were the words of the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary who was in attendance at the Thursday night performance.

The standard of drama and musicianship was on a level raised from all previous productions (if that is even possible!) We are so proud of the cast, along with the professionalism shown by our stage crew and front of house staff, and a huge thanks go to our catering manager and team. From the moment the audience walked into the school they were treated to a full theatre experience.

So, what will follow this? Watch out in September for details of our all-age school Christmas concert and next years' school production; evidence that performing arts at King Henry VIII 3-19 School really will live forever!

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## Year 6 Graduation

It's been wonderful to celebrate the achievements of our Year 6 pupils before they move to Year 7. They sang 'Hall of Fame' and 'Count on Me' to their very proud families. They also treated us to their own version of "Once I was in Year 7..."

Your teachers wish you all the best in your future adventures and enjoy the learning journey ahead.



## Year 6 Festival

As part of our Year 6 Festival, Year 6 pupils navigated maps to plan and then walk the Deri. Pupils made their own packed lunches with the support of Aramark, and developed their life skills as healthy, confident individuals. Despite the rain, the pupils had a great time with each other to mark the end of their time in Year 6.



## Family assemblies



It was amazing to see so many parents and carers at our family assemblies this week. Our pupils celebrated the fantastic achievements they have made this year through hard work and effort.

## Year 7 RVE lesson



Class 7H had fun in RVE sampling foods and drinks, whilst learning about religious food laws and foods traditionally consumed during religious festivals.

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## Sporting Successes

- ✓ Inter-house Tennis: A huge congratulations to everyone involved in the 2025 Inter-house Tennis tournament: A great display of Tennis, positive attitude and sportsmanship. Well done to winners Natalia and Ella, Ben and Will, Harry and Mikael, Bethany and Dolly
- ✓ Inter house swimming : The swimming Gala was fast, furious and full of new school records. Congratulations to Rhys, Caitlin and Tomos on finishing in the top three.
- ✓ Emmeline (Year 7) represented South Wales at the 2025 UK Lions U13 Girls Regional Hockey Championship. Emmeline was selected as the Championship hockey team goal keeper and faced opponents from all over the UK, including 9 regional teams from across Northern Ireland and England. The standard of hockey was absolutely phenomenal, Emmeline and the South Wales team showed ambition, courage, positivity and determination.
- ✓ Harri (Year 10) attended the Junior Welsh Tug of War Championships, representing Hay on Wye in the U19s men 560kg. They took Gold and are now eligible to attend the world tug of war championship in Nottingham to represent wales.
- ✓ Alicia (Year 10) was selected to represent Great Britain and Wales in the Under 18 Girls category, travelling to Netherlands, and various UK courses.
- ✓ Well done to Mr Newman and Owen (Y9) for taking part in the PIGUM-a 30 mile ultra marathon around the mountain peaks and trails of Abergavenny, with 5,000 feet elevation.
- ✓ Tomos (Year 8) was selected in the Wales Ski Team for this season, he will represent Wales in up and coming Ski Slalom races. Good luck!
- ✓ Grace (Year 9) has successfully competed in a number of equine competitions with many more to go through in the summer.



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Staff Training Day (school closed to pupils)	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
First day of school term: Reception Group A	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
First day of school term: Specialist Resource Base	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
First day of school term: Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 7, and Year 12	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September
First day of school term: Current Nursery pupils	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September
Stay and Play: New Nursery pupils (with parents and carers)	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September (1pm to 2pm)
First day of school term: Reception Group B	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September
First day of school term: Year 5, Year 6, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10, Year 11 and Year 13	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September
Stay and Play: New Nursery pupils (without parents and carers)	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September (9am to 10am)
First day of school term: Reception Group C	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
First day of school term: New Nursery pupils	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September

## Family Advice South Wales

Are you a parent affected by the cost of living crisis?

Monmouthshire County Citizens Advice provide free, confidential and impartial advice for parents on a wide range of areas, including debt, benefits, housing, employment and family.

If you or your family need help to find your way forward, speak to one of our advisers today by calling your local office:

Abergavenny 01873 856466  
Caldicot 01291 422119  
Chepstow 01291 622185  
Monmouth 01600 773297

Or visit us online at [www.monca.org.uk](http://www.monca.org.uk)

### A-Level Results

Thursday 14th August 9:30am



### GCSE Results

Thursday 21st August 10:00am

We warmly welcome all pupils and their families to join us for refreshments as we celebrate the hard work and successes of our wonderful pupils. Members of staff will be available to offer advice and guidance to pupils and their families regarding next steps.

If your child is unable to collect their results in person on results day, they will receive them via their Hwb email.

If they would prefer to use an alternative email address, please contact Miss Price, Exams Officer [PriceN87@monmouthshireschools.wales](mailto:PriceN87@monmouthshireschools.wales).

### Communication

- ✓ Our new Facebook page can be located [here](#)
- ✓ Instagram page can be located [here](#)
- ✓ School website can be located [here](#)

Please note that we are no longer using X (formerly Twitter) or the older version of the Deri View Primary/King Henry VIII 3-19 Facebook page.

**SCHOOLS FAMILY ADVICE**  
**SOUTH WALES**

Citizens Advice Monmouthshire County provide free, confidential and impartial advice on a range of areas including debt, benefits, housing, employment and family.

If you or your family need help to find your way forward, speak to one of our advisers today.

**CONTACT US**  
02921 111272  
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm