

Newsletter / Cylchlythyr

King Henry VIII 3-19 School
June 2026/ Mehefin 2026



Gwent Wildlife Trust Competition Winners

Congratulations to Year 1 who have been awarded first place in the Gwent Wildlife Trust competition. Their entry captured the judges' attention with a fantastic video explaining why they deserved to win, complemented by beautiful wildlife paintings and thoughtful, nature-inspired poems. Their creativity and passion for the natural world truly set them apart.

As a reward, the class has won a free visit to a local nature reserve, where the pupils can enjoy exploring and experiencing wildlife in its natural habitat.

Da iawn, Blwyddyn 1



Value of the Month Participation / Cyfranogiad

Having an opinion and helping make decisions.

Key dates for July

- 1st – Year 8 Summer Fair
- 2nd – SRB Art gallery (1.45pm)
- 3rd – Nursery Summer Showcase (9.15am)
- 6th – Year 8 HPV Immunisations
- 7th to 9th School Production, Fame 7pm
- 13th – Year 7 Family Assembly
- 14th – Year 8 Family Assembly,
- 14th – Year 6 Festival (All day)
- 14th – SRB Beach party
- 14th – Secondary Sports Awards 6-7pm
- 15th – Year 9 Family Assembly
- 15th to 17th – Year 7 Llangrannog trip
- 16th – Year 1 trip to Gwent Wildlife Trust
- 16th – Year 6 Graduation (9.10am)
- 16th – PTA Primary Summer Fair (3-5pm)
- 16th – Year 10 & Year 12 Art trip Cardiff
- 17th - Last day of School (closes at 1pm)

Merits awarded:

7976

Sparx Maths:

469,870 questions answered correctly, and
9,194 hours of personalised learning completed

Accelerated Reader:

Pupils have read a total of 1,658,335 words
for 34 minutes per day (pupil average) in June.

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Greenmeadow Farm

Reception and Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Greenmeadow Farm. The children loved meeting a variety of animals, feeding the sheep and goats, and taking a ride on the tractor and trailer. They also had great fun climbing on the wooden tractor and watching a live milking demonstration. It truly was the "best day ever," and the children made many wonderful memories. Llauer o hwyl!



Folly Farm

On Thursday 18th June, Year 5 and 6 had their rewards trip to Folly Farm in Pembrokeshire. The pupils represented our school wonderfully, showing interest and enthusiasm for the farm and zoo animals. We went for a ride on the land train to see some rare breeds of farm animals that Folly Farm are working hard to protect. Although we fought a heavy battle with the seagulls for our packed lunches, the children remained in excellent spirits and were eager to try out the rides in the afternoon. We could not have asked for a better day.



Middle Phase SRB Garden Project

Our Middle phase SRB have been busy weeding and clearing the sensory garden and flowerbeds. We have replanted lavender into the flowerbeds on the playground to make it more appealing.

Parents and Green 2 Earth (local business) have donated compost to help us develop our vegetable patch, plant pumpkins and plant flowers. Diolch.



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Plas Gunter Mansion

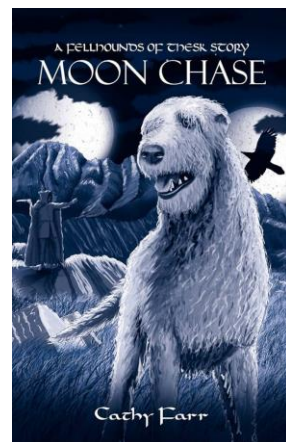
Year 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed an exciting educational visit to Plas Gunter Mansion, where they took part in a range of archaeology-themed activities.

The children learned about excavation techniques; carefully uncovering artefacts and evidence from mock dig sites. They also practised creating detailed archaeological sketches, recording findings just as real archaeologists do. The trip was both engaging and informative, helping to bring history to life through hands-on learning.



Author Visit

Cathy Farr visited our school and spoke to the pupils about her work as an author, bringing along her Irish wolfhound, which quickly became a highlight of the visit. She explained how she writes her stories and then read an extract from one of her books, keeping everyone's attention with a clear and engaging delivery. The dog stayed calmly by her side throughout, and pupils enjoyed learning about it as well. Overall, it was an interesting session that gave pupils a chance to hear an author read aloud, and learn more about writing.



Outdoor Learning at Grange Farm



Pupils from Years 8 and 9 enjoyed visits to The Grange Project in Monmouthshire, an 80-acre rewilding and nature restoration site. Through activities including nature walks, foraging, den building, stick whittling, outdoor games, and toasting marshmallows over a fire, pupils developed practical skills, teamwork and a deeper appreciation of the natural world. A fantastic day was had by all.

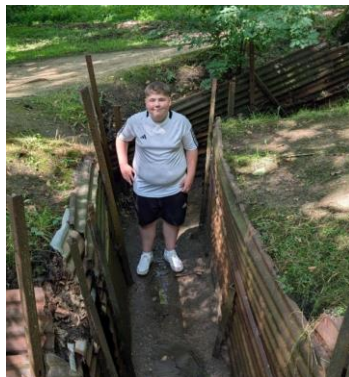
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Battlefields Trip

Year 9 pupils enjoyed a memorable Battlefields trip across Belgium and France. Highlights included visits to the In Flanders Fields Museum, key sites around the Ypres Salient, and a moving Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, where pupils laid a wreath on behalf of the school. The group also explored the Somme, visiting landmarks such as Vimy Ridge, Thiepval, and the Lochnagar Crater, before travelling to Paris. The trip ended with a fun-filled day at Disneyland Paris, rounding off an inspiring and unforgettable experience.



Geography Fieldtrip to the Afon Caerfanell, Talybont on Usk.

Year 10 recently completed a field trip to the Afon Caerfanell to investigate how the river changes downstream. Pupils collected data on channel width, depth and velocity at two locations, and examined surrounding rocks for signs of erosion. Despite mixed weather, they showed great resilience. Back in the classroom, they will use their findings to compare the sites and complete their coursework.



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Rotary Young Chef Competition

Seventeen pupils showcased their culinary skills in the Rotary Young Chef competition, each creating a healthy two-course meal on an £18 budget. Dishes included Poached Peaches with home-produced honeycomb. Congratulations to all participants for their high standards, enthusiasm and organisation. Our winners, Grace and Rosie, will now compete at the Abergavenny Food Festival on 20th September for a place in the next stage. Photos show Rosie's asparagus, pea and mint risotto followed by a lemon tartlet with a medley of berries. Grace's photos show Mediterranean vegetable couscous with chicken, followed by a raspberry soufflé with raspberry coulis. We wish them the best of luck and encourage supporters to watch them on the Market Hall Stage.



Sporting Success

- Congratulations to year 8 pupil - Elizabeth on winning a haul of medals in the DSA Dwarf Sports Association National Games held in Birmingham. She excelled in sports across the board achieving Gold, Silver and Bronze medals across 3 days of competing.
- Chloe Y9 sat an exam in *Horse Care and Riding for the Disabled*, gaining her Bronze Award with flying colours. Chloe has become the first young adult to gain this Award in the Southwest region as part of Riding for the Disabled (RDA). The examiner was so impressed with Chloe's portfolio and riding skills that Chloe has been advised to sit an additional exam to gain her Silver Award. This is an amazing achievement, and the school is immensely proud of Chloe for what she has achieved.



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Primary Phase Sports Day

Pupils enjoyed a fantastic sports event, showing great effort and team spirit in all their races. The highlight was the Parents' Race, where adults joined in to lots of cheers and laughter—bringing extra excitement to the day! Well done to all our pupils and thank you to our parents for making it so special.



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Secondary Phase Sports Day

Years 7–10 enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day filled with energy, teamwork and house spirit. Pupils took part in a wide range of events, including table tennis, touch rugby, tug of war, shuttle relays, house tennis and pickleball. Track and field events saw strong performances in the 100m, 200m and 400m races, as well as shot put, javelin and long jump. The day was full of enthusiasm, with pupils supporting one another and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout. Well done to everyone who took part and made the day such a success!

