



Brynteg News

Newyddion Brynteg



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As we approach the end of another very successful term, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Christmas 2015 edition of the Brynteg News. The autumn term has been both busy and productive and has enabled us to build upon our long and rich tradition of excellence in all aspects of the school's provision.

The publication of this year's GCSE and A Level results got the term off to an excellent start. Due to the hard work of staff and pupils, coupled with the support of parents, the school achieved the best GCSE results in its history. Naturally, as a school we are very pleased and we are now placed amongst the highest performing schools in Wales for many of the key indicators. Likewise, at A level our performance was, once again, very pleasing, with almost all our pupils gaining a place at university; the vast majority at their first choice institution.

We continue to offer our pupils a huge range of opportunities across a broad spectrum; the majority of which are reported to you in our Brynteg Online Newsletter. Extra-curricular activities in a wide variety of sporting and cultural activities remain a major strength of the school.

Our sporting teams continue to be very successful and a number of education visits have taken place throughout the term. The most recent of which saw a group of Sixth Form students and staff, together with some former pupils now studying at university, leaving on 9th December to visit Nepal. During their visit they will be undertaking some charity work to assist with rebuilding the country's essential services in the aftermath of last summer's earthquake.

The last day of term is Friday 18th December 2015 and **school will end for pupils at 1.30 p.m.**

The new term for staff begins on Monday 4th January 2016, which we have designated as a Teacher Development Day. **All pupils return on Tuesday 5th January 2016.**

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and, on behalf of the staff and Governing Body, wish you all an enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

Mr. David Jenkins, Head Teacher



Highlights of the Autumn Term

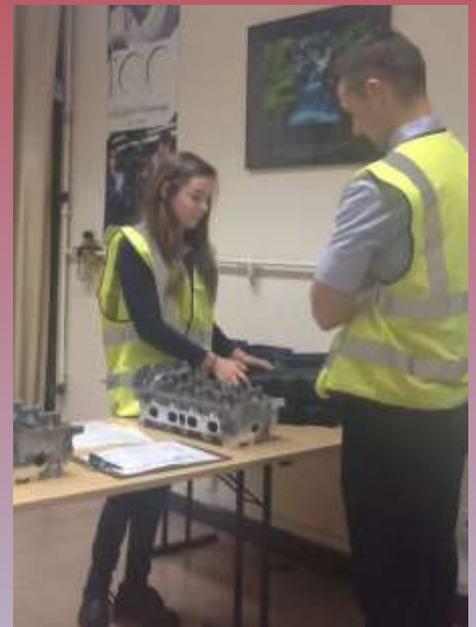
Uchafbwyntiau Tymor yr Hydref



Over the course of the last academic year, Year 9 have fostered strong links with Bridgend Ford Engine Plant who have provided support through school visits and funded campaigns such as the 'iPad Prize Draw'.

Fourteen pupils with over 95% attendance records were selected to visit the Bridgend Ford Engine Plant, where they met with a number of Ford Engineers, enjoyed a guided tour of the factory and developed their teamwork skills through a number of problem solving activities that Ford use when interviewing for new positions.

Brynteg always strives to make strong community links with all types of organisations, with an aim to provide as much support and as many opportunities for our students as possible.



The Nuffield Foundation supports work experience for Year 12 students who are studying Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths at A Level.

Placements are available in universities, commercial companies, voluntary organisations and research institutions.

Only 75 placements were awarded across the whole of Wales and Brynteg students Lucy Elliot, Ellie James, Rhys Evans and Ryan Durham successfully undertook 4 of these unique research opportunities.

They attended a Celebration Evening at Techniquest, Cardiff Bay, and were presented with their certificates by Nobel Laureate, Professor Sir Martin Evans.





Our Year 7 have made a fantastic start to the new chapter of their schooling at Brynteg and are settling in very well to life as our newest bunch of Teggies.

Mr Wade asked a few of our Year 7 students to let us know their experiences during the first few weeks at Brynteg.

My name is Joe Elliott.

One of the best things in Brynteg for me are the opportunities to join lots of new clubs. It's great fun getting involved and you get to make lots of new friends in other year groups.



We are Jack Davies and Gwener Bo-Rigg.

Gwener likes visiting the Library at lunch time with friends, reading, and going on the computers!

Jack likes the P.E department, especially the rugby as he loves rugby!



Brynteg welcomed ex - Welsh rugby international Ian Gough to the school in November to work with 12 Year 11 boys as part of the 'Reach for the Sky' programme, which has been launched across a number of schools in South Wales.

This is a mentoring scheme being run in conjunction with Education Staffing Solutions with the aim of improving the attainment of boys.

He will meet with them again in January where they will review their targets and achievements to date.

In April, the boys will visit the Millennium Stadium with Ian as part of the final session.





The television cameras of ITV Wales rolled into Brynteg in September as the Rugby World Cup 2015 teed up for kick-off.

They were here to try and find out exactly what Brynteg's secret is in producing so many rugby greats (and even some legends), as we have seen more than twenty Welsh International players pass through our halls over the years.

Head of PE Mr Adam Rosser, Rugby Hub Officer Ben Thomas and a selection of Year 7 rugby-playing pupils were interviewed for the programme.

Isobel Dodd has had a very busy and successful year so far in Athletics.

She is the Wales National Under 20 Women's Indoor Champion at 1500m, the National 1 Mile Road Running Champion and she won a Silver Medal at Welsh National Athletics Under 17 Championships amongst a host of other notable triumphs.

She continues to fly the flag for Brynteg, Bridgend County and, of course, Wales.



Brynteg's Year 7 Netball Teams have made an excellent start to the year, winning the majority of their games against other local schools, including Bryntirion, Pencoed, Cynffig and Llangynwyd.





In September, Year 11 French Course Pupils flew to Bordeaux and travelled on to Villenave d'Ornon, Bridgend's twin town, to spend a week immersed in French culture and daily life.

The week was packed with interesting activities including a visit to the city of Bordeaux, a Tree Tops adventure site and the Wine Museum.

They also trekked up the highest sand mountain in Europe, Dune du Pyla, and experienced an entertaining visit to a circus school, where they were able to practise their juggling, trapeze and balancing skills - en français, bien sûr!!



During October half term, Year 11 GCSE students travelled to Washington DC and New York on a trip organised by the History Department.

They had an amazing and educational experience and visited iconic sites such as the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty, the White House, the Rockefeller Centre and the Lincoln Memorial amongst others.



In September, like lots of other schools all over Europe, Brynteg celebrated 'European Day of Languages'.

On the day, teachers across the school swapped their usual welcome of 'shwmai!' in lessons to more exotic greetings such as 'hola!', 'moi, moi!' and 'goeiedag!'.

The Languages Faculty arranged lots of fun events for the day, including a European Café at break time where delicacies such as 'gaufres belgiques' and 'Kuchen' could be tasted and enjoyed by all.



Art Club has been very popular this term with sixth form art students introducing new art projects to the pupils each Thursday lunchtime.



The Club were very proud to be involved in the Poppy Poster Competition run by Sainsburys and, out of 50 entries, had a number of winners selected by a local MP.

Congratulations to all who entered but in particular to **Katie Mabey** (1st place), **Charlotte Llewellyn** and **Alex Kinsella** (2nd place) and **Isabella Randall** (3rd place).



During Anti-Bullying Week in November, the whole of Year 7 were treated to two stunning performances over two days by Brynteg Theatre in Education on the evils and consequences of bullying in its many forms.

The plays, performed by Year 12 and 13 pupils along with Head of Drama Mrs Beesley, proved hard-hitting and thoughtful and completely captivated the audience.

Deputy Head Mrs Grabham highlighted how, unfortunately, bullying will always exist and might well affect some of the audience at some point. However, Mrs Grabham also confirmed that there are many effective processes in place to deal with this within Brynteg.



Also in November, Vocalmotion attended the Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations Annual Awards Ceremony in the Heronston Hotel, an event which celebrates and recognises the sacrifices and commitment of many of the hard working volunteers in our Borough.

Vocalmotion opened the Awards Ceremony with two performances; a toe tapping refrain of "Blame it on the Boogie" and a moving performance of Green Day's "21 Guns", whilst Emily March from last year's Year 13 ended events with an emotional performance of "I Dreamed a Dream" from Les Miserable.





Calendar

Spring Term 2016



04.01.2016	Staff Development Day
05.01.2016	Spring Term begins (for pupils)
	External Exams start
28.01.2016	Year 9 Parents' Learning Pathways Options Meeting
04.02.2016	Year 9 Parents' Evening
11.02.2016	Year 10 Parents' Evening



Thought of the Week

Meddyliad yr Wythnos



Theme - Santa Appeal/Thinking of others

'There can be no keener revelation of a Society's soul than the way it treats its children.'

Nelson Mandela



Santa Appeal 2015

Apêl Sion Côrn 2015



Now in its' 21st year, the Santa Appeal aims to raise money to support families in Bridgend who find Christmas a difficult time of year financially.

Over the past few weeks, pupils have been holding a multitude of events in and around the school to raise money to go out and buy presents for children within the Bridgend area and will deliver them to Social Services at the end of term before Christmas.

The final amount raised will be announced in the next edition of Brynteg News.