



Bryntirion Comprehensive School
Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion

TASTER DAY NEWSLETTER



www.bryntirioncs.bridgend.sch.uk

"A good school with outstanding features". Estyn

TASTER DAY

Bryntirion Comprehensive School welcomed over 240 pupils from Llangewydd Junior School, Maes-Yr-Haul Primary School, Penyfai Church is Wales Primary School, Trelales Primary School, Coety Primary School, Bryncethin Primary School. Litchard Junior School. Tondu Primary School, Oldcastle Primary School and Newton Primary School.

Year 6 enjoyed a variety of lessons and activities shown in this newsletter. The day was a great success and we look forward to welcoming the children to further transition events this academic school year.

We hope the day has given Year 6 a taste of life at Bryntirion and the brilliant school community here.

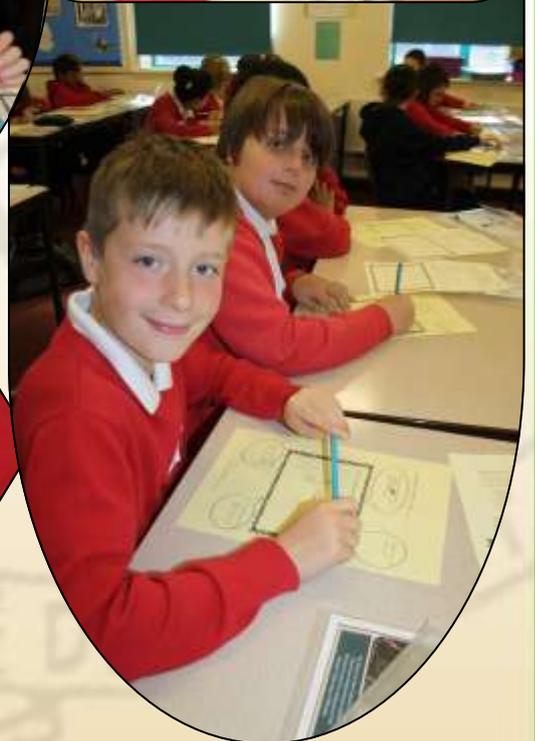
ART & DESIGN

Year 6 pupils from Llangewydd Junior School were developing experimental and vocabulary skills within Art and Design. They learnt about metal craft work and the works of metal recycler Val Hunt, who uses throw away metals to create pieces of body adornments and sculptures. Pupils used henna pattern designs to emboss and engrave into everyday metals such as foil and tomato puree tubes. The pupils were very enthusiastic and creative in their outcomes. We created an art vocabulary word bank for pupils to take away with them. We very much look forward to seeing them as our new Year 7 next year.



ENGLISH

Gloomy forests, haunted houses and blood-thirsty vampires were the order of the day in the English Department as Year 6 completed their transition morning. Pupils eagerly rose **to the challenge of writing a Halloween 'Drabble'** - a short horror story no longer than one hundred words. The spine-chilling stories set hearts thumping in a morning filled with monsters, moonlight and misery. The quality of the work did not disappoint, and pupils were able to take their terrifying tales home as a reminder of a fun-filled lesson.





RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Year 6 pupils from Maes Yr Haul were exploring and discovering the various artefacts used for worship from five of the main World Religions. They were looking at many different items from Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Sikhism and Judaism. They had the opportunity to look closely at the artefacts such as the Kirpan and the Kippah and were able to try the items on!

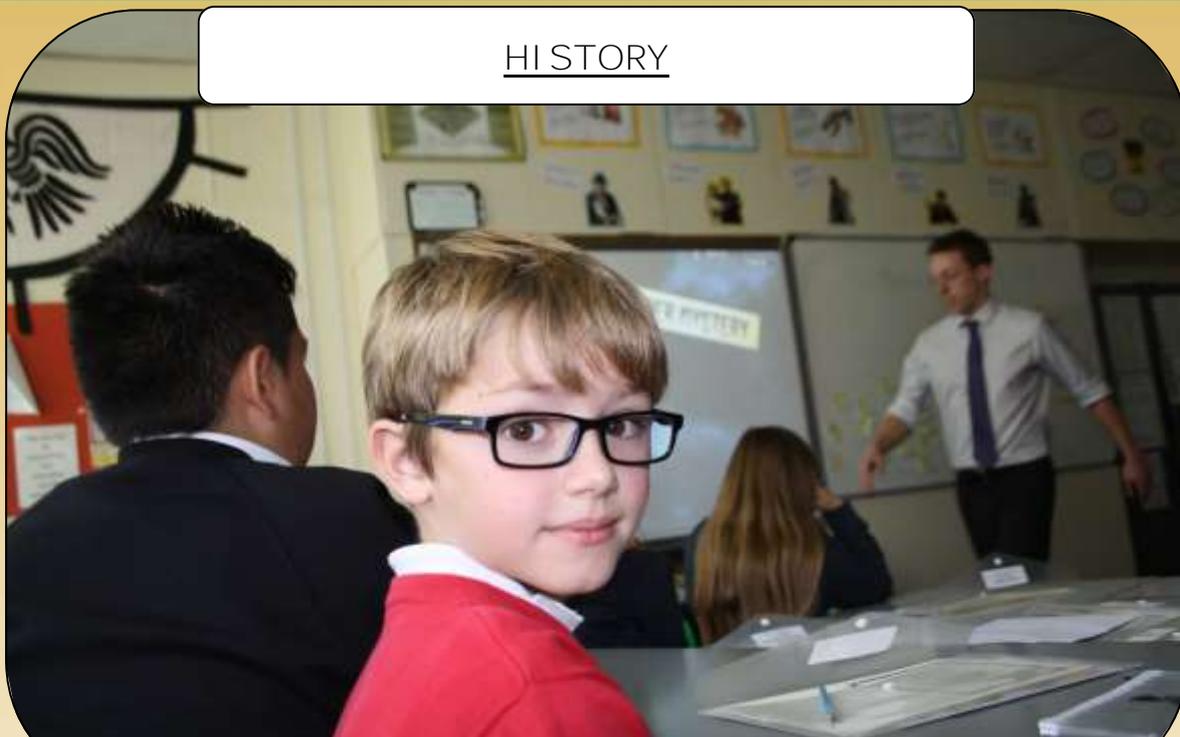
HISTORY

With Halloween around the corner, the pupils had the opportunity to examine the historicity of some of the characters they will be dressing up as on the day; witches. The lesson challenged the modern stereotypical imagery of witches and their abilities, replacing them with the historical truth of innocent women and the inexplicable trials they faced.



Year 6 first entered the class to discover a crime scene, along with some curiously spooky music. A murder had just taken place! Beneath the police tape and ominously placed spider's webs they found evidence; a broomstick and a note incriminating a witch. After initially drawing their own misconceptions of a witch on the board, the young investigators soon realised they had little hope of finding the killer dressed in a pointy hat. A real witch would look more normal.

HISTORY



To solve the crime they did a tour of the classroom, gathering evidence from a number of townspeople who may have had information regarding the identity of the witch. This again proved fruitless. While three women were certainly named by the townspeople, the young investigators had no way of knowing who was supernatural. They would have to be trialed.

Examining the 'Matthew Hopkins Handbook', the investigators learned some of the more popular trialling methods; throwing the witch off a cliff, dunking the witch in water, poking the witch with a needle and feeding her dog a cake! Recognising that these trials were both unfair and cruel, the investigators realised the killer would not have been a witch and did not support harming innocent women in foolish trials. Instead, with the sounds of Harry Potter playing, they set about designing a campaign badge to oppose the witch hunting of Matthew Hopkins.

We may not have found the killer, but at least we didn't harm anyone else.



While the pupils had fun discussing the characteristics of witches and the gruesome nature of the trials, they showed great maturity and empathy in recognising the implications of these beliefs on real people in History. The class showed great promise and enthusiasm as historians and I look forward to seeing them again next year!

MATHEMATICS

In maths the pupils worked on a murder mystery based around Bridgend and Cardiff in groups of three. Pupils had to sort information from cards about various suspects including Dewi Death. Updates were provided through the investigation to keep our Bryntirion detectives on task.

Pupils used arithmetic, time and problem solving skills.



MATHEMATICS



LUNCHTIME

Many thanks to our wonderful kitchen staff who provided lunch for over 240 pupils from the visiting primary schools.

Year 6 enjoyed the variety of food on offer and meeting and mixing with pupils from the other primary schools.



PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

Year 6 pupils were entertained in a short concert to showcase the amazing talent we have at Bryntirion. Pupils from Year 8 - Year 12 took part. There was a wide variety of music including solos on brass and woodwind instruments and the piano, a flute duet, a string ensemble and vocalists. The concert was finished off with a vocal duet accompanied by guitar, performed by Year 12 students Morgan Clemett and Scot Hawtin. Pupils were informed of the many opportunities they will have to participate in music making activities when they join us in September.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The P.E department at Bryntirion were overjoyed to see so many primary school pupils participating in a range of different activities organised for their taster day.

All pupils approached the activities with enthusiasm and excitement. It was very encouraging to witness pupils positive attitude to their new surroundings and all were willing to try the activities; ranging from inflatable volleyball, badminton, bench-ball and table tennis.



Keep an eye out for the 5x60 timetable for these activities next

September.

Look forward to seeing you as our new year 7.

PSE

The theme for the Personal and Social Education taster activity was *First Impressions*. The young people thought about the factors that we consider when meeting somebody for the first time, and how we form and make a first impression. The students then watched a clip of a speech by motivational speaker, Nick Vujicic, and considered the many positive qualities that he displayed that helped us to form such a positive opinion of him. We then reflected on our biases, as well as what we can do to make the most of the first few days of Year 7.



THANK YOU TO ALL THE PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS FOR ATTENDING OUR
TASTER DAY.

WE HOPE YOU HAD A FUN DAY FULL OF NEW EXPERIENCES.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU AGAIN IN FEBRUARY FOR THE
SCIENCE TASTER DAY.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOU JOINING THE
BRYNTIRION COMMUNITY IN SEPTEMBER 2016!!

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