



Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion | ■ ■ ■
Bryntirion Comprehensive

NEWSLETTER

EDITION 7

Cylchlythyr Rhifyn 7



What's happened...

Digwyddiadau yr Hanner Tymor Hyn



Llangrannog

On Monday 13th January, the Welsh department took 146 pupils in years 7&8 to Gwersyll yr Urdd, Llangrannog. Whilst there, pupils enjoyed speaking to staff at the Gwersyll in Welsh, gaining confidence using their Welsh language skills and enjoying all of the activities on offer. Pupils were able to participate in a variety of activities during the day and evening, including skiing, high ropes, quads, motorbikes and the anticipated escape room. Please feel free to use the QR code below to access our Llangrannog 2025 video. More photos and videos from the trip can be found on our Instagram account, @cymraeg_bryntirion.



What's happened...

Digwyddiadau yr Hanner Tymor Hyn



First Give Programme

Our Year 8 pupils have been learning about social issues and have researched locally based charities who work in our community. Pupils have selected a charity to support and arranged a series of meetings to plan and organise social action activities which will take place in the summer term.



Bryntirion COP Challenge 2 – Inspiring Change!

The COP Challenge is an exciting annual event where pupils independently develop ideas to improve our school and make it more environmentally friendly. From sustainability initiatives to creative ways of enhancing our surroundings, this challenge empowers students to take the lead in making a real difference.

Last year's winners, Earth Justice, can already be seen all around the school! Their fantastic initiative to distribute spider plants in every room not only improves the environment but also provides air-purifying benefits and supports well-being, a great example of student-led change in action!

This year's event, held on Thursday, 30th January, saw our Year 7 volunteers and School Council members gather in D20 for a showcase of creativity, collaboration, and innovation. Over 30 pupils pitched their ideas to the School Council, impressing everyone with their high-quality videos and original proposals.

With eight fantastic ideas to consider, the School Council faced a tough decision. After much deliberation, four finalist proposals were put to a whole-school vote during an extended form time on Friday, 14th February, where staff and students watched the finalist videos and cast their votes. Longyfarchiadau to the Wildflower Warriors! Their winning proposal focuses on planting wildflowers to support biodiversity, improve air quality, and create vital habitats for pollinators, all while making our school a greener and more welcoming space.

A huge thank you to all our dedicated and hardworking Year 7 pupils who participated. We can't wait to see this incredible idea come to life!

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Digwyddiadau yr Hanner Tymor Hyn



Dathlu Diwrnod Santes Dwynwen

The week of the 20th of January, Ysgol Gyfun Bryntirion was alive with activities celebrating Welsh culture through the theme of *Cariad* (Love), inspired by the story of Santes Dwynwen and the celebration of *Diwrnod Santes Dwynwen* on the 25th of January.

During form time, pupils explored resources linked to this heart-warming tale, with a special thank you to the History Club for creating a wonderful PowerPoint to share the story. Music tasks introduced pupils to the rich heritage of Welsh folk music, while Criw Cymraeg took centre stage by delivering engaging assemblies to Years 7, 8, and 9, promoting the Welsh language and culture.

To mark the end of the week, a Santes Dwynwen pop-up shop, organised by Criw Cymraeg, brought extra cheer during break time. The shop offered thoughtful gifts and sweets, all in the colour red, in anticipation and support of *Wear Red for Velindre*, which took place on January 31st. All proceeds from the shop went towards this meaningful collection.

As this was a key cultural event in our school calendar, Cymraeg points were worth double throughout the week, encouraging even more participation in celebrating Welsh language and heritage.

Diolch yn fawr to Criw Cymraeg and to everyone who took part in making this celebration of Welsh culture so memorable!



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Wear Red for Velindre Day

Bryntirion Comprehensive School has raised a staggering £750.00 for Velindre Cancer Charity on their Wear Red Day which took place on 31st January, in support of cancer patients and their families across Wales. Our school turned red for the day with pupils and staff wearing red items of clothing and bringing a donation for the charity, our canteen staff even turned some of their food items red!! The day was a huge success. A big Diolch to everyone who supported the day.



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Sony trip

Year 10 King's Trust visited the Sony Factory in Pencoed on Wednesday 12th February. Pupils were given a tour of the factory by Z. He explained the functions of each department and told the pupils about the apprenticeship opportunities that they could apply for. Three of the current apprentices spoke to the pupils about the opportunities they had at Sony, one was a former Bryntirion pupil! Pupils finished off the session by having an origami workshop with one of their Japanese colleagues who was on secondment from Japan.



Valentines Day cake & coffee morning

On Friday 14th Feb during breaktime pupils put on a cake and coffee morning to staff to raise money for our Big Bocs and future community projects.



Staff Bake sale



Price -Suggested £1 donation



We are raising money to help the big bocs



We are selling cakes, drinks and more food



It will take place in the staff room



What's happened...

Digwyddiadau yr Hanner Tymor Hyn



WYTHNOS LYFRAU BRYNTIRION

Reading has been identified as the “single biggest indicator of a child’s future success” (World Book Day, 2024): it sparks our creative voices, transports us to far-off lands and teaches us to empathise with others.

Following the success of last year’s programme, we were delighted, once again, to launch ‘Bryntirion Book Week’. This week has been an opportunity for us to celebrate all-things reading. This year, we decided to focus particular attention on how reading, writing and speaking can lead to a range of career opportunities, as well as how stories can be brought to life through poetry and performance.

‘Bryntirion Book Week’, held between 10th-14th February, has been a whole-school celebration of reading for pleasure, with a jam-packed calendar of events including:

- Readathon for year 7 and 8 pupils;
- Scholastic Book Fair;
- Author visit and career talk for year 7 pupils from local author Paul Leyshon;
- Author visit and creative writing workshops for year 9 pupils and MAT year 7/8 pupils from local author Jess Webb;
- Poet visit and poetry writing workshop for year 8 pupils and SEREN year 9 pupils from Young People’s Laureate Martin Daws;
- Poet visit and lecture for sixth form students from Welsh poet and author Tony Curtis;
- Creative writing workshop for sixth form students from poet and author Tony Curtis;
- Pupil and staff ‘Book Swap’;
- Book-themed assemblies and extra-curricular activities;
- ‘Drop Everything and Read’ event;
- Library registration and BorrowBox information;
- English in different fields – careers information and videos for KS4 pupils.



Thank you to staff, pupils and parents for supporting these events, and encouraging our learners to engage with and develop a love of reading and storytelling.

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WYTHNOS LYFRAU BRYNTIRION

Images from Book Week at Bryntirion Comprehensive School.



What's happened...

Digwyddiadau yr Hanner Tymor Hyn



Sport

A collection of images from the recent sporting success at Bryntirion. This ranged from cross country, football, hockey and rugby.



What's happened...

Digwyddiadau yr Hanner Tymor Hyn



Sport

A huge congratulations to the Senior Football Team who recently won their quarter final game and now progress to the semi finals of the Welsh Cup!



Cross Country

Congratulations to the 6 pupils who recently represented Glamorgan Valleys in the Welsh National Schools Cross Country Championships at Brecon.



What's happened...

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Performing Arts head to London

A group of 59 Performing Arts pupils went on an unforgettable performing arts trip to London. Their experience began with some time eating lunch (mostly cookies) and watching street performers at Covent Garden, before heading to the renowned Pineapple Dance Studios, where they worked with West End stars to block scenes for *Miss Saigon*, honing their theatrical skills under expert guidance.

The students also attended spectacular West End performances of *Moulin Rouge* and *Hadestown* which further inspired their love for the performing arts. Toby Lewis commented how it reminded him how inspired he is to continue on his own journey into performing in the future.

On Thursday, the group moved on to the Shakespeare Globe, where members of the Royal Shakespeare Company led workshops on delivering dramatic monologues and soliloquies, providing invaluable insight into classical performance techniques, as well empathising with character through the technicalities of language.

The pupils gained so much invaluable knowledge throughout the trip, thriving in the immersive and creative environment. Their exceptional behaviour stood out, with workshop leaders praising them for being respectful, attentive, sweet, and wonderfully creative. Their enthusiasm and conduct left a lasting impression on everyone they met. The trip concluded with heartfelt praise from the bus driver, who described it as the best school trip he had ever experienced.

These pupils were a true credit to our school, representing it with maturity, talent, and impeccable behaviour for the duration of the trip.



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Auschwitz Memorial Assembly

The 27th January marked the 80th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Auschwitz camps. Year 12 and 13 RS and Psychology students delivered a powerful assembly to commemorate this important anniversary. These students went to Auschwitz last October and shared their experiences and thoughts with Year 11 students.



Bryntirion Hive

A huge congratulations to Pip from Year 7 who represented Bryntirion in the British Schools Trampolining Central Zone Final. Pip was one of the youngest competitors in her category, competing in the Years 7 - 9 category and came 9th out of around 200 competitors. Also a big congratulations to Eva on becoming a Wellbeing Ambassador at Bryntirion Comprehensive!



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Welsh Blood Service

The school welcomed Laura and Ieuan from the Welsh Blood Service who raised awareness of our upcoming 'Blood Donation Day' in March with our Sixth Form and staff. A large number of students also signed up to the Bone Marrow Registry.



Year 11 Options Evening

A great evening for Bryntirion's Option Evening which was very well attended. A range of subjects were on show with talks from the Senior Leadership team about Key Stage 5 education.

