



YBE NEWS - NEWYDDION YBE



Welcome to our first edition!

Well, an exciting first half term has passed us and we've all been really busy as you'll find out from our first edition of our new newspaper.

This half term has welcomed our new pupils into year 7 and some old faces have returned to us in the Sixth Form. Everyone has come back to us with a desire to learn and to take on new challenges.

We have had a number of prominent MPs, AMs and local councillors taking part in a 'Question Time' debate as part of Democracy Week. Years 11

And 12 put them through their paces on a number of challenging questions.

We celebrated our pupils' achievements in our annual Awards Evening, which saw Ashley Bryan-Mejri given the award for Pupil of the Year, the Outstanding Achievement Award for Key Stage 4 to Sophie Kirkham and the Outstanding Achievement Award for Key Stage 3 to Luis Roberts. Huge congratulations to all pupils who received awards.

And for the first time for a while we have set up our own Journalism Club with the aim to publish a half termly newspaper

for pupils and parents. We've started off small but are hoping to encourage others to join our dedicated team of reporters.

We were certainly busy on our Open Evening, running around interviewing parents and staff. Our full write up is featured on pages 2 and 3. We will be covering all of the major events that happen throughout the school year. A big thank you to the reporters so far for their hard work and efforts: Katherine Barnes, Katy Williams, Katie Gough and Natalie Smith.



Open evening success.

On October 8th 2009, Ysgol Bryn Eliau opened its gates to students and parents who are experiencing secondary school life for the first time.

Each department was full of fun things to do and make as well as important information about what the curriculum involves. The event itself was a huge success as each department was packed with children eager to get involved and earn their stickers.

The first sight for the children to see was the choir singing the song Jericho at twenty-minute intervals. The children had to watch the short performance to earn themselves a sticker. Children and parents were also invited to see the music department and see the facilities they have on offer.

For year six's interested in sport, the sports hall displays were a good example of what the school and the P.E department offers. BTEC students were

playing badminton and other years were displaying their gymnastic skills.

The art room was very busy with children getting the opportunity to have their faces painted by students. There was also a lot of work on display for parents and children to look at.

One of the busiest places throughout the evening were the R.S and P.S.E rooms. These rooms offered different things to do, and look at. These included different religious displays and the food involved in these, as well as a look at multicultural Britain.

There were plenty of things to take part in when you were in the languages department. German and French puzzles and making flags were the main things to do, but there was also a presentation on sixth form, made and presented by Nick Ledden, a student at Ysgol Bryn Eliau.

Bad smells, the goblet of fire and screaming jelly babies were all apparent in the science department's show. While the year

six's were able to do smaller experiments themselves, this show consisted of experiments that were more potentially dangerous and more exciting. One moment the crowd particularly enjoyed was when Dr Barnett ended the show with an experiment that involved fire coming from her arms.

There were many other interesting events going on around the school, so of these involving Welsh dancing, ICT games, maths games and personalised items in D.T

All in all the evening was enjoyed by all. Mrs Eithne Hughes said that the evening was a "Phenomenal success" and that it was the "best opening evening we've had. Also she would like to say "thank you to all the staff and students for their help."

Written by Katie Gough and Katy Williams.



Our next generation of journalists

During Open Evening we had lots of visitors to the 'Press Room' all eager to try their hands at reporting for our newspaper and to receive a sticker as part of the trail they were completing.

All of our budding journalists took some time to fill out a simple report on what they had enjoyed so far about the evening; all of our journalists have been sent a copy of this newspaper so they can see their name in print.

Here are some of their comments on what they had enjoyed so far:

'Face painting and the Science Department' – Chelsea Jones, Tan Y Marian.

'I have enjoyed Maths, Music and ICT' – Dominic Travis, St Elfod.

'I have enjoyed everything so far. I can't wait to come here!' – Chloe Evans, Ysgol Cynfran.

'Squeaky pop in Science. I also enjoyed gym in the Sports Hall.' – Verity Sutton, Ysgol Glanwydden.

'Getting the stickers and meeting the teachers' – Amy O'Hare, Ysgol Pen Y Bryn.

'I have enjoyed the evening by popping balloons in the Maths department. I also enjoyed the cafeteria eating the lovely soup. My dad loved the yoghurt!' – Rhys Watkins, Ysgol Hen Golwyn.

'I have enjoyed music because they were good singers,

art because I got my face painted, DT because there were good projects and English because I enjoyed the computers.' – Laura Roberts, Ysgol Pendorlan.

'We danced in Welsh'. – Miles Almond, Ysgol Y Plas.

'I have seen the headteacher and been to the library'. – Natalie Smith, Ysgol Llanddulas.

'Science making rainbows and writing my name with fire. I really enjoyed coming round Bryn Elian,' – Krystal Ashley, St George, Abergele.

'I have enjoyed the PE because it's the best PE ever!!' – Jasper Chalk, St Josephs.

A huge thank you to all of our budding journalists!



It's not just about learning

Learning doesn't just take place in the classroom and here at Ysgol Bryn Elia we're really proud of the huge range of clubs and activities we offer all of our students.

This section highlights what is on offer during and after school and provides information on how any student can access them. Each half term will showcase a department and their extracurricular activities.

So, for starters we have Journalism Club, without which this newspaper wouldn't have got off the ground. So far we're a small team but we're always looking for budding new journalists to join us. We meet every Wednesday lunch

time in G7 with Miss Smith and format our articles in G4.

The clubs kick off with Euro Club on a Monday after school from 2.45pm until 3.45pm, with Frau Roberts and Madame Slattery. After half term all pupils from all years are invited.

Year 11 have the chance to catch up on their Design and Technology work on Monday and Wednesday after school for an hour.

Anyone with a passion for reading can join Miss Aldridge in the Library for 'Mad About Books' on a Wednesday lunchtime. Or if you have an interest in writing then the Writing Squad is for you on Friday lunchtimes.

Budding artists can practise their skills

on a Wednesday after school if they are in years 7, 8 or 9. For years 10 and 11 it's Thursday after school.

The sporty ones of the school have loads of choice when it comes to clubs at lunch time and after school and there is something for to suit everyone, activities include: basketball, netball, football, rugby, water polo, street dance and cheerleading.

Sometimes pupils just want some quiet time after school to catch up on work or to complete homework without the distractions. Every day after school there is a homework club run by the Learning Mentors, years 7,8 and 9 can study in G4 and years 10,11 12 and 13 are in the Sixth Form area.

