

Insight

Summer 2024 Gwanwyn

The official newsletter of
St Joseph's RC High School

Taflen wybodaeth swyddogol
Ysgol Gyfun Gatholig Joseff Sant



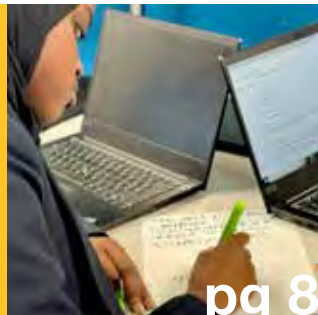
SERVING GOD THROUGH LEARNING TOGETHER

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Mrs J Jarrett
Headteacher

Headteacher's Message neges y pennaeth

A very warm welcome to the summer edition of Insight. Thank you to the students and staff who have contributed to this edition.

Many people think this time of year will be less busy in school, but as you can see from our packed newsletter, our students have enjoyed a wide array of activities that have not only enriched their educational experience but also helped them forge lasting memories and friendships. From the spirited participation in sports events and the creative flair displayed in our art gallery to the intellectual curiosity shown by our Cyber Girls and our junior maths

champions, our students have demonstrated remarkable enthusiasm and dedication. These experiences are invaluable, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie that will stay with them long after they leave our school.

Finally, as the term comes to a close, on behalf of everyone at St Joseph's RC High School, we wish you and your families a restful and joyful summer and look forward to working with you in the Autumn.

“God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars”. **Martin Luther**



Trees, glorious trees

Nothing quite like them...

This year pupils have planted a further 20 native field maple trees in spare pockets around the school and in spaces in which young saplings had died. These were generously donated by the Gwent Wildlife Trust and we are grateful to Petra, Beccy and Rob for their help with planting.

We no longer have any more space to plant trees so our next focus will be to create a wildflower strip alongside the entrance to welcome everyone arriving at school and of course to attract insects and birds.

We also have put in a hopeful lottery bid to try and gain funding for a green roof on a PE container. That reminds me, perhaps we should ask Mr O'Driscoll (Head of PE) if he minds!

“Excuse me, Mr O'Driscoll...you know that container...?!”





ECO

Litter picking, the idea and now with the gear!

The Eco warriors have always ensured that we litter pick in the local estate and across school grounds. This year however we really did look the part with all the gear and the idea.

Aidan Dempsey, our very own Thunberg, had applied to Keep Wales Tidy for the full set of tidying up gear and as a result we have litter pickers and snazzy bag gadgets to make it all so much easier. In total we picked up over 400 items (see the table) in four bags from across the Duffryn estate. Before you enquire, yes we did recycle 90% of this as it was a make up of cans, plastic and cardboard.

Category	Items picked up	Brand & Brand Frequency
Paper	97 items	McDonald's (14), Asda (1), School Canteen Cardboard (2), Canteen Coffee Cup (1), Bobby's Sweets (1), Swizzels (1)
Metal (Cans) including foil	54 items	Coca Cola (3), Red Bull (2), Fanta (4), Strongbow (1), Monster (3), Boost (3), Dr. Pepper (2), OMJ (3), Appletiser (2), Luzozade (1), Pepsi (1) Radnor Hills (2), J2O (1), Sprite (1)
Plastic Bottles & Containers (HARD PLASTIC)	77 items	McDonald's (16), Yazoo (16), Innocent Drinks (1), Prime (1), School Canteen Cup (3), Coca Cola (2), Tropicana (1)
Glass	2 items	Gordon's Gin (1)
Soft Plastics	98 items	Canteen Bag (1), Cadbury's (3), Doritos (2), Kinder (1), Asda (4), Canteen Wrapper (1), Fridge Raiders (2), Snickers (1), Swizzels (1), Reese's Pieces (1), Haribo
Other Landfill Waste e.g polystyrene	34 items	Extra Gum (2), McDonald's (1), Mr Freeze's Pops (1)
Cartons	5 items	Pringles (2)
Food	1 items	Canteen Flapjack (1)

Is there still anyone out there that does not know how long plastic takes to break down?

*Answer: **Over 500 years.** Why is it still being dropped and not recycled?*



BIRD BOXES & BIO BLITZ 4B'S!

Report from Gwent Wildlife

The report from Gwent Wildlife Officers, Rob and Jacob.

We arrived and met the group. We took a register and carried out a safety briefing by reading through risk assessments to ensure pupils were aware of how to safely carry out the tasks ahead. The bird nest boxes that the pupils had previously made were gathered. Finishing touches were given to some of the nest boxes to make sure all of them were in a condition suitable for birds to move in. We then installed the nest boxes onto trees; students decided where to put them after discussions about sensible places, including height from the floor, facing them in a direction out of prevailing wind and excess sun and distance apart from each other.

Once all the nest boxes were up, pupils were given identification books and survey sheets to complete a bioblitz (nature survey). Students identified plants and animals while recording their findings onto the survey sheet. This data has now been collated into a excel workbook and can be used in the future to compare other survey data. During the bioblitz many species of tree and plant were identified as well as several birds. While dry, it was overcast so the temperature stayed low and we didn't survey as many insects were as we expected and included mostly butterflies and bees.



Aidan's Gwent Wildlife Trust Article

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Sixth Form pupil Aidan for having a wonderful article published in the Gwent Wildlife Trust magazine. We are very proud of your continuing support of our local natural environment, thank you. You can also read his article online.

[Click here to read his article](#)

Summer Message



“For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body.”

1 Cor 12:12-13 xii

What is meant by the term Catholic summer? A Catholic summer brings together elements of the world and God's grace in which we are immersed each day of the season. As a gift of grace, we can find ourselves floating within the divine love of light, warmth, flavour, touch...and one another.

God whispers his presence with us through his visible creation and through human experiences of our relationship with one another. The elements that meld summer into a pleasant memory, can be a means which brings us into an encounter with our Lord. We are social beings. Although, each of us has different desires for socializing, we all need and thrive in the touch of human interaction. Through our baptism God's grace introduces us into the gift of life within the mystical body. We are invited into a blend of souls of both physical and spiritual forms. We each have our own purpose and mission, talents and gifts to share with one another uniting us in one body.

One of our most basic gifts given through grace is the ability to love, however, most of us upon hearing the word “love” immediately sentimentalize it. Thinking in terms of what the Greeks referred to as “eros,” the love between spouses, or “philia,” the love of friendship, love can sometimes be misunderstood. But there is also the richer, Catholic understanding of love referred to as “agape.” St. Thomas Aquinas describes it, as the love of “willing the good of the other, as other.” Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI teaches that with agape, we can “love even the person whom I do not like or even know.” We are then capable of giving Christian love to anyone.

The summer gatherings encourage play within which we find loving one another, simple and rewarding. Our summer backyard barbecues and parties and summer breaks away with family and friends reawaken within each of us a return and celebration of who we are as God's children. We are made to gather with one another and to enjoy each other's company, simply for the sake of doing so.

A Catholic Summer is a grace-filled opportunity to rekindle the warmth of love shared between God and us. Moments of encounter present themselves in summer experiences within the blend of sun, water, shared meals, and the gift of each other. We need only to look and see.

Heavenly Father,

Amidst the hustle and bustle of summer, we seek moments of rest and relaxation. Bless us with the ability to unwind, to find solace in the quiet moments, and to recharge our weary spirits. Grant us the gift of peaceful sleep and rejuvenation. Amen.



St Joseph's Youth Chaplaincy

This year, the youth chaplaincy, as well as 'The Chase' led by Year 9, raised an amazing £916 for CAFOD.

Every fortnight, on a Wednesday, the Youth Chaplaincy team sell a range of products such as cookies, soup as well as hot chocolate to raise money for CAFOD. Youth Chaplaincy is made up of Y7-13 and they meet every Tuesday at breaktime. Everybody is welcome! They work together to embrace the Catholic ethos of the school during the different seasons of the Liturgical Year and they also meet to discuss ways that they can fundraise to support charities like CAFOD. Their recent project to raise money for CAFOD is the sale of personalised reusable plastic cups. These are currently on sale for £3 and orders are currently taking place with Y8 and will continue in September due to popular demand! If you are interested in making a purchase or joining the Youth Chaplaincy then please email Miss Burrige.



National Children's Day

St Joseph's RC High School were invited to celebrate National Children's Day at St Woolos' Cathedral. This was a celebration of the wonderful young people across Newport. Some of whom showcased their talents in a variety of performances, including singing, dancing, poetry, and literature recitals.

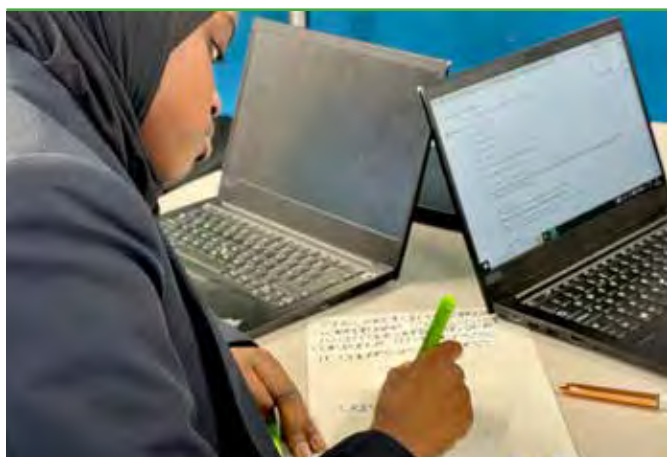
We were proud of all the young people there, especially our own pupils. who not only performed, but one was also Master of Ceremony.

We look forward to celebrating the young people across Newport again next year.

“ Our core mission is to inspire and nurture talent by supporting young people to gain the skills, experience, and exposure they need to be the future first line of defence in our CyberFirst world” Cyberfirst Schools



CYBERFIRST



Year 8 Cyberfirst Trailblazers

In June, a select number of Year 8 students took part in the CyberFirst Trailblazers course, aimed at promoting cyber related activities to prospective computer scientists. Led by CyberFirst teachers Kate and Holly, students were introduced to a range of activities such as Open Source Intelligence Gathering where students needed to use their data analysis skills to track down and track down the source of the Lem-Ming Pox! Students needed to use a spreadsheet with patient data found on the dark web and use Google maps to hunt down patient zero (don't worry, this was all fictional!)

Students then needed to work out a range of puzzles in order to identify which holiday destinations patient zero had visited in order to identify the origin of the disease!

Kate and Holly also discussed the dangers of fake news and techniques on how to spot this. They also discussed the use of AI and some of the ethical implications of this. It was a great afternoon of cyber related activities and certainly helped to raise the profile of cyber security within the year group.

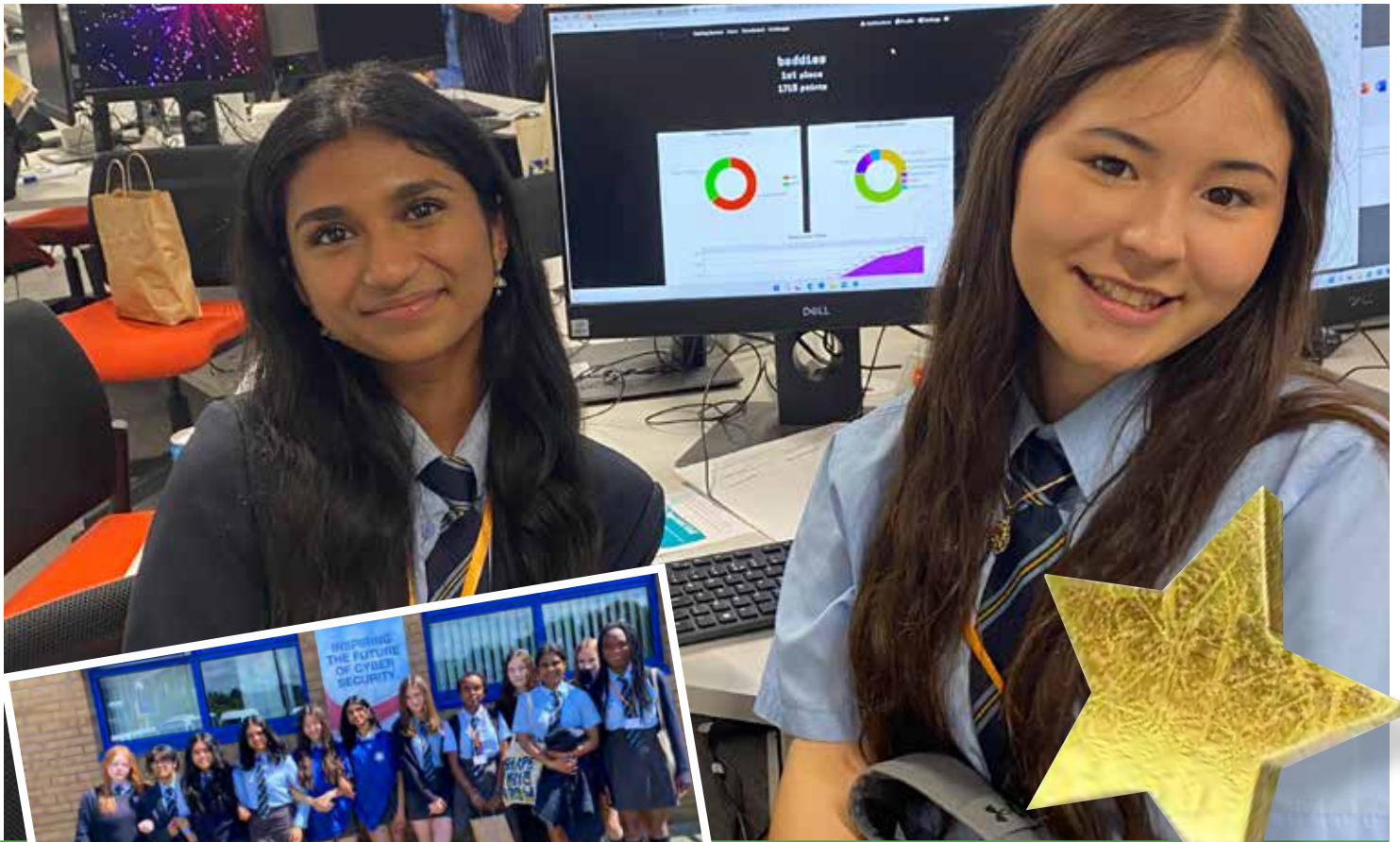
Year 9 Cyber Explorers Cup

The Cyber Explorers cup is a new UK-wide competition that is aimed to encourage students to take computer science for GCSE and beyond. During the competition, students develop key cyber security skills and use their problem-solving skills to complete puzzles, win points and compete for tech prizes!

More than 60,000 students from around 2,500 schools across the UK have already been signed up to Cyber Explorers, and this year a team of four keen Year 9 computing students represented St Josephs this year: Nicolas, Nandor, Lameik and Daniel. They did a fantastic job, coming 5th in the whole of Wales and making the top 50 teams in the UK (42nd)!

While competing in this event, both Nicolas and Daniel also achieved additional rewards in the form of SCQF Qualifications, which are Scottish qualifications equivalent to GCSE level awards!

Their performance was recognised during Year 9 assembly, where all four boys were celebrated and awards were presented by Mr Willis, Mr Wyatt and Holly Lidbury from CyberFirst. Well done boys!



Year 10 CyberGirls

We would love share the news from our Year 10 CyberGirls trip to Cardiff University. The event was attended by all Welsh schools with CyberFirst accreditation including Cardiff High and Rougemont. The event concluded with an online 'capture the flag' competition in which students could work individually or in pairs to solve puzzles and score points. I am really pleased to let you know that our students, **Mailee and Meah won the competition! Not only did we win, Aryam Sium and Evie Evans came second! All these students received prizes for their success (T-shirts, water bottles, etc.).**

An additional part of the competition was participating in a 'working lunch' where students were encouraged to visit cyber company stalls and ask questions in order to receive freebies as well as codes that could be converted to points in the final competition. Judging by the size of some of our students goodie bags, we have some very good conversationalists!

All the girls represented the school brilliantly and we are delighted to congratulate:

Caitlin Bees 10P	Devodil Gunaseelan 10H
Triumph Mekwunye 10P	Meah Alexander 10P
Evie Evans 10T	Mailee Gumsley 10O
Cara Jones 10P	Hannah Joseph 10H
Zahrah Magallanes 10H	Abisha Nadeem 10H
Serenwyn Purkiss 10H	Aryam Sium 10S

SJHS Digital Leaders



St Josephs' CyberFirst Digital Leaders took part in their first online Cyber Security session, which focused on raising awareness of phishing techniques used by cyber criminals. This has helped students consider how they too can raise awareness within the school community!



St Josephs was selected to pilot the CyberFirst Digital Student leaders programme for Wales. A number of year 9 students were invited to apply for the position of digital leaders via the NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre). While we were told to expect to have 1-2 successful applicants, we actually had 6 successful applicants! **Congratulations to Daniel D, Nicolas, Nandor, Seren, Leanne and Daniel J for your successful applications, you are the first CyberFirst digital leaders in Wales!**





AN EXCITTING TRANSITION



SJHS Transition Days

Throughout June, we undertook a range of different transition experiences with our Primary cluster schools to help our new Year 7 pupils acclimatise to life in high school as smoothly as possible.

We extended our very successful Mock High School week to the majority of our cluster primary schools, and over 40 lessons by 28 members of staff from the high school were delivered to Year 6 pupils. At the start of July, we welcomed all of our new Year 7 pupils and their parents into school to experience what life is like in high school.

Parents and pupils were able to meet their new form tutor. This was followed by two days in St Joseph's where pupils had the opportunity to attend different subjects and spend more time with their form tutor. During the two days, they toured the school, attended lessons and were expertly supported by our Transition Ambassadors, who even produced a film to welcome them (with the help of Mrs Kent). They even had a whole day dedicated to wellbeing activities, superbly led by our PE department. The day ended with our transition Mass in school.

This was a wonderful way to end the two days, uniting our primary schools together and celebrating the start of their new journey in St Joseph's.

We were very lucky to have been so effectively supported by our primary colleagues during all of these events.

We are very excited to welcome our new Year 7 pupils in September, and whilst we know that moving up to a new school can be daunting, we are sure that these experiences will help alleviate some of the worries.

[Click here to visit SJHS Transition](#)



With a welcome return for a third year, the Enterprise Fayre was yet again a huge success...

<https://www.velindrefundraising.com/>



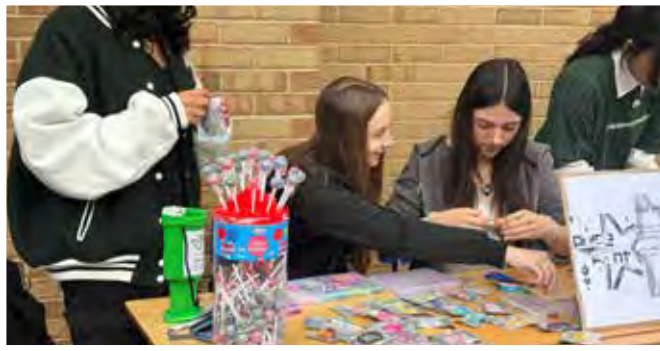
Velindre Cancer Centre provides specialist cancer and blood services across South and Mid Wales through Velindre Cancer Centre and the Welsh Blood Service. Delivering quality, care and excellence to their patients and donors is at the heart of their organisation.

#VELINDRE

This year, Year 10 raised £4745.68 (all profits to be given to Velindre Cancer Care) **as creative and innovative entrepreneurs, producing and selling hand crafted products.**

The event, organised by Miss Adams, the Acting Head of Welsh Baccalaureate, and the Year 10 Welsh Baccalaureate team, directed learners in their planning and dedication to a worthy cause. Year 10 were the true superstars showcasing their business techniques as enterprising individuals.

With over 50 stalls, Year 10 sold a variety of products ranging from, drinks and sweet cones, to jewellery and interactive games.



Year 10 raised £4745.68 in total. Fantastic.

The whole SJHS community were thrilled with the large inflatables taking their best shot at LaserTag, holding on for life on the Bucking Broncho and jumping for joy on Total Wipe Out. It was an absolute pleasure to see all learners laughing and having fun, enjoying the activities but also coming together as a community to raise money for Velindre.

We were very fortunate to have Lisa Miller from Velindre Cancer Care and a very special guest, ex Welsh Rugby Player

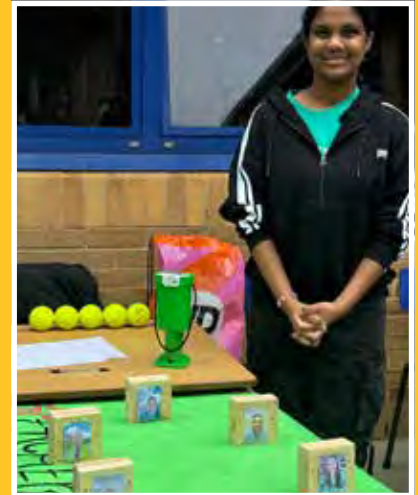
Morgan Stoddart, an ambassador for Velindre, join us at the Enterprise Fayre.

Thank you to all involved for supporting this great cause. A huge diolch yn fawr to our wonderful SJHS family for raising money for Velindre Cancer Care, a very worthy cause.

The preparation for the Enterprise Fayre July 2025 begins...

#TeamWelshBaccalaureate





A Day in Oxford

by Lucy Hurley

Having visited a number of other universities beforehand, Oxford University broadened my horizons on what the ideal university may look like. Being established in 1096, the university and area not only provide education, but a rich history.

We were educated on the many reasons why pursuing an education at Oxford would be beneficial, such as tutorials being the main focus of teaching. In other universities, pupils find themselves in class sizes with hundreds, struggling to express themselves and their academic queries. Whereas in Oxford, tutorials provide an opportunity to be in a class size of an average of 6. The possibilities in small class sizes are endless, extending your knowledge and sculpting insightful young people. All courses are full time education, so all pupils are pushed to pursue their academic talents to the best of their abilities.

Personally, the most fascinating aspect was that all Oxford students are offered accommodation for at least two years, with many colleges offering this for the whole duration of an undergraduate degree. Oxford is one of only two universities in the UK that offers this!

So why not Oxford? The common misconception is that only students from privatised sixth form education are accepted when actually in 2023, over 67% of UK students were admitted from the state sector. The location isn't half bad either. The area surrounding the university is picturesque, capturing the beautiful stonework and bustling life and is even used in many movies. Harry Potter, Mamma Mia, Saving Private Ryan, many of the classics!

Oxford is one of the most notoriously prestigious universities, providing a sense of community, diversity and inclusivity. It's most definitely one for all. It made me realise that no matter where you're from, your circumstances or your background, you're capable of accomplishing anything you put your mind to.

Myself and the other Seren students thoroughly enjoyed this remarkable occasion and so many students were eager to apply to Oxford. The Seren Foundation is a community of driven individuals who are determined and motivated to strive for excellence and embellish 'Serving God through Learning together'. This Oxford trip certainly brought out the motivation and passion in these individuals. This incredible opportunity has truly opened many doors.



SEREN FOUNDATION OXFORD

“All the water activities were fun as they were a new challenge.” **Joyce Malanda, 9E.**

“I really enjoyed playing volleyball in the sports hall as it helped us to make new friends and it was really fun.” **Isabella Pogonowski, 9E**



Ym mis Mehefin, aeth Blwyddyn Naw i Wersyll yr Urdd Glan-Ilyn yng Ngogledd Cymru ar gyfer penwythnos llawn gweithgareddau anturus. Gadawodd 28 o ddisgyblion cyffrous gyda Mr Burton a Miss Griffiths am naw o'r gloch bore Gwener, pawb yn edrych ymlaen at chwaraeon dwr ar llyn mwyaf Cymru.

Ar ôl cyrraedd, aeth pawb yn syth allan i'r coedwig ar y cwrs raffau uchel gyda sleidiau enfawr a 'Naid Ffydd'. Roedd pawb yn ddigon uchel i weld dros frigiau'r coedwig ac allan ar draws y llyn gyda'r haul yn gwenu. Yn y nos, ymlaciodd pawb gyda ffilm a snaciau cyn i ddydd Sadwrn prysur iawn.

Ar ôl brecwast llawn, roedd llawer o weithgareddau eraill fel wal dringo, saethyddiaeth, cyfeiriannu, nofio yn y pwll a mwy! Yn y prynhawn, roedd sesiwn canwio yn y llyn ac, er gwaethaf y glaw drwm, roedd pawb wrth eu bodd!

Mwynheodd pawb sioe gyda 'Dyn Adar' a ddaeth mewn i ddangos adar ysglyfaethus ac roedd cyfle i sawl disbybl dal y dylluanod a'u bwydo. Yn y nos, roedd gan St Joe's y Neuadd chwaraeon am oriau o bêl-droed, badminton a phêl-foli. "I really enjoyed playing volleyball in the sports hall as it helped us to make new friends and it was really fun." Isabella Pogonowski, 9E

Bore Sul, cododd y llawer am bump o'r gloch yn y bore er mwyn croesawu'r gwawr ar ddraws Llyn Tegid gyda'i gilydd a thynnu lluniau. "Watching the sunrise over Llyn Tegid at 5am on the Sunday morning was amazing. The staff at Glan Llyn were really friendly and the food was great!" Reid Smith and Rhianwen Hickman, 9E. Prydferth.

Roedd sesiwn dwbl o badffwrddio yn yr haul cyn i ginio boeth a dechrau'r daeth nol i Gasnewydd. "The Stand Up Paddle boarding was my favourite because it helped to develop teamworking skills and I enjoyed exploring the Welsh landscape" Reid Smith, 9E. Cytunodd Rhianwen Hickman; "Stand Up Paddle boarding was fun and the scenery on the way to Glan Llyn was lovely." Cysgodd llawer ar y bws ar ôl penwythnos llawn dop antur a hwyl. Da iawn Blwyddyn Naw! Diolch yn fawr Glan-Ilyn!



Beautiful Glan Llyn Lake



Table tennis champions!



In June, Year Nine went to Gwersyll yr Urdd Glan-Ilyn in North Wales for a weekend full of adventure activities. 28 excited students left with Mr Burton and Miss Griffiths at nine o' clock on Friday morning, everyone looking forward to water sports on Wales' largest lake.

After arriving everyone went straight out to the woods for the high ropes course with the massive slides and the 'Leap of Faith'. Everyone was high enough up to see over the treetops and out over the lake with the sun shining. In the night, everyone relaxed with snacks and a film before a busy day on Saturday.

After a full breakfast there were loads of other activities like the climbing wall, archery, orienteering, swimming in the pool and many more! In the afternoon, there was a canoeing session on the lovely lake and despite the heavy rain everyone loved it!

Everyone enjoyed the show with 'Dyn Adar' (The Bird Man) who came in to show his birds of prey and there was the opportunity for many students to hold and feed the owls. In the night, St Joe's had the sports hall booked for hours of football, badminton and volleyball.

Sunday morning, most got up for five o' clock in the morning in order to welcome the sunrise over Lake Tegid together and take pictures. *"Watching the sunrise over Llyn Tegid at 5am on the Sunday morning was amazing. The staff at Glan-Ilyn were really friendly and the food was great!"* Reid Smith and Rhianwen Hickman, 9E. Prydferth!

There was a double length paddleboarding session in the sun before a hot dinner and the journey home to Newport. *"The Stand Up Paddle boarding was my favourite because it helped to develop teamworking skills and I enjoyed exploring the Welsh landscape"* Reid Smith, 9E. Rhianwen agreed; *"Stand Up Paddle boarding was fun and the scenery on the way to Glan-Ilyn was lovely."* Many slept on the bus on the way home after a weekend full of adventure and fun. Da iawn Blwyddyn Naw! Diolch yn fawr Glan-Ilyn!

SPORTS DAYS 2024

Sports Day at St Joseph's is always a very popular event in the academic year, this is why we had two! All year groups 7 & 8 then 9 & 10 were not only a credit to themselves and their forms, but also for us as a whole school community.

Both pupils and staff got fully involved in traditional and non-competitive activities. Each year group took part in eight events within their form classes, where they could gain points to coincide with our Catholic virtues for this term Learned and Wise. Points were awarded for teamwork and for all pupils in each form participating. Although there were points available to win for each form class, pupil participation and enjoyment was at the forefront of each sports day.

Pupils did also get to experience some of the traditional athletic events with all form classes competing against each other. It was great to see so many pupils involved, displaying great sportsmanship, resilience, determination, and amazing effort. There were overall form winners for each year groups, but each pupil should be extremely proud of their achievements and performances.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all pupils, parents, carers and other home links for your continued support and commitment towards our sporting extracurricular clubs this year! **We wish you a restful summer and are looking forward to seeing many more of you in September to continue building on our successes from this year in all our extra curricular activities and teams.**

Much love, Mr O'Driscoll and the PE Team





YR7&8



YR7&8



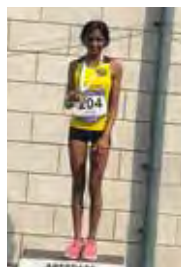
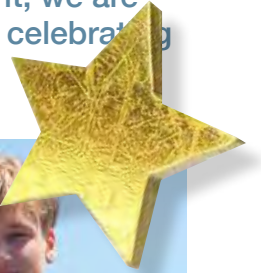


YR9&10



SPORTS SUPERSTARS

Some of our pupils are shining outside of school once more. As a PE Department, we are very proud of these pupils and what they have achieved so far. Please join us in celebrating their fantastic sporting achievements...



Isla UK Tang Soo Do

Chase Welsh Football

Isabella County Athletics

Seren Motorcross

Conor Weightlifting

Noah Welsh Athletics

U15 Corries Football

Year 10 Rugby Team

Jack Newport Football

SJHS Athletics Team

Year 8 Girls Rugby

Snr Boys Football

Year 7 Netball

Fletcher British ISKA
Champion

STOP THE PRESS: At the Welsh Schools Athletics Championships: Noah got silver in the 800m, Dylan Evans got bronze and a new PB in the 1500m and Seb Mitchell-Fofana got gold in the high jump and triple jump.

CURRICULUM FOCUS

MINISTRY OF CURRICULUM OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Written by Sunny Javed Yr12

Meeting teachers

Our council has engaged in productive meetings with teachers from various departments, including Music, Computer Science, PSHE and Science, regarding their content for the new curriculum in Years 7 and 8. These sessions provided us with a comprehensive overview of the course structures designed for these pupils and we provided valuable feedback on the presented course structures to ensure they meet the needs and preferences of our peers.

This has included the inclusion of greater diversity in Science through learning about prosthetic limbs, and in Music through the study of rap for the social justice unit.

Follow up discussion

We conducted a follow-up meeting, specifically with the Science department, to review the changes implemented based on our feedback.

One significant improvement was in the feedback process for student assessments. Previously, students either did not receive understandable feedback or did not receive enough feedback to the mini tests they sat. The adjustments have led to more comprehensive and detailed feedback for students, enhancing their learning experience.

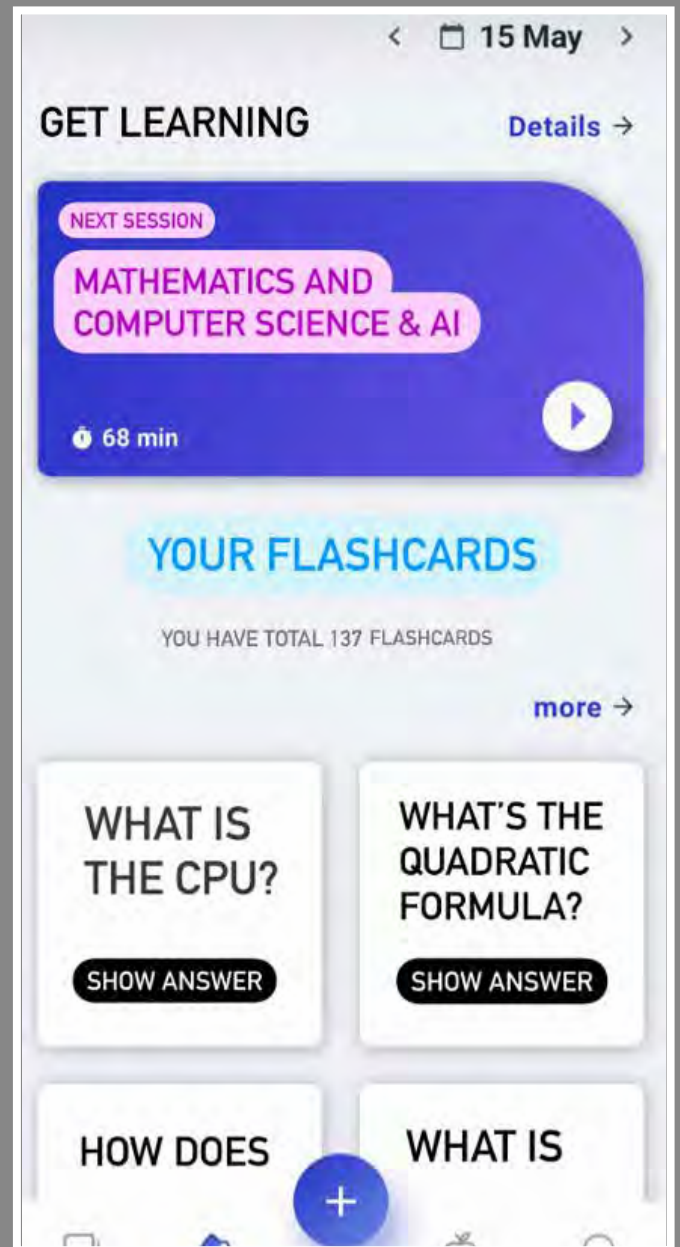
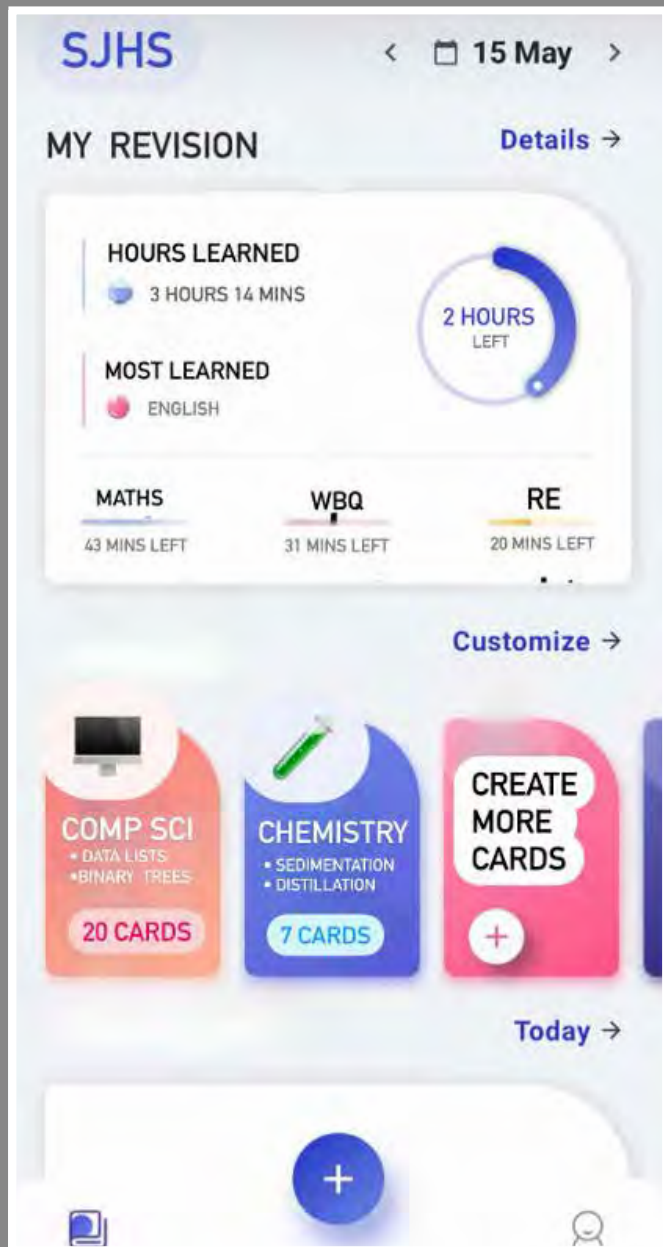
Student app

Our council is actively involved in the development of an app designed to assist students with their learning, providing online facilities such as revision flashcards, progress charts, AI tutor dedicated to each student and much more!

This app will be particularly useful for tracking progress, especially in enabling students to track their own progress. The app aims to bridge the gap and offer a more personalised learning journey for each student.

“I’m convinced that about half of what separates successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful one is pure perseverance”

Steve Jobs



(Above) Work is underway for the new student app.

Future plans

Looking ahead, we plan to expand our collaboration by meeting with more teachers from different departments. Our goal is to review and provide feedback on the draft content of their new curriculum. This ongoing interaction will ensure that the educational content remains relevant, engaging, and authentic for all students.

ARTxtra

Bryony Balfe



Noah Cunningham



Ellie Packer



The Advoate Project

This year we challenged year 9 with investigating how people in the public eye can be seen advocates.

Teaming up with the Music and Drama departments, pupils looked at how artists and performers have historically used powerful imagery as well as lyrics/text to portray a message or statement.

Through the medium of collage, paint, drawing, photography and digital apps; students created exhibition posters, photography booth selfies, advocate collages, mix media pieces and even their own album covers. We are so proud of how Year 9 tackled this challenge from an arty perspective!



Martina Abasolo



Natasha Williams



Lola-Rose Sims



Zoie Magallanes



Zoie Magallanes



Miguel Carretero-Casas



Bryony Balfe



Esther-Salome Madziva



Lola-Rose Sims



Martina Abasolo



Amelie Reasons



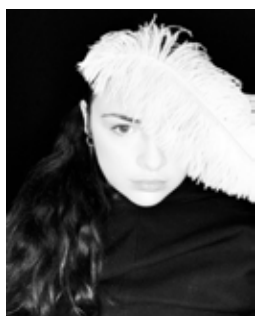
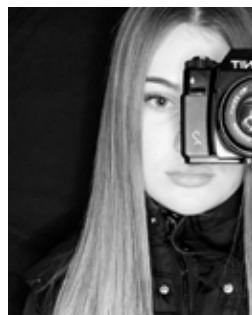
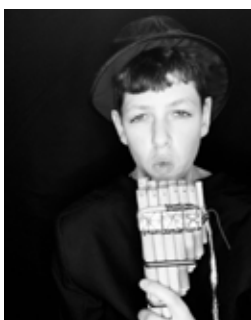
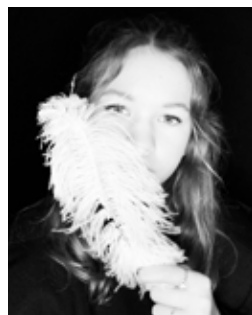
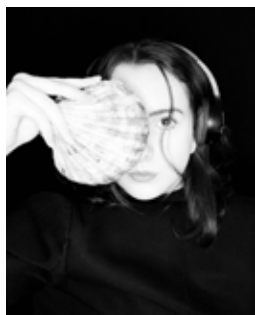
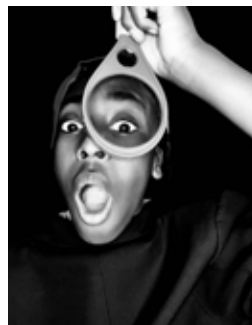
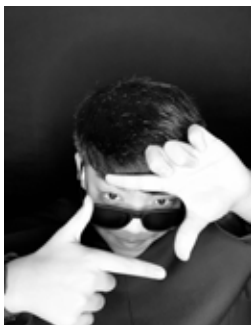
Pola Ignatowice



Miguel Carretero-Casas

ART EXTRA

Year 9 selfie's (part of the Advocate Project) allowed the pupils to express themselves, using a familiar format. A smart device was set up with lighting and props and they used a remote control to take photos.

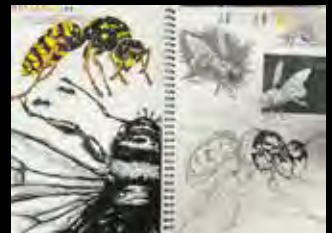


A LEVEL GALLERY



(above) **Bust Sculpture** by **Ella Perrott**

(left) **Portrait Digital Art** by **Marcus Gibbons-Barrington**



(Right) **A Level Sketchbooks** by **Marcus, Ellie, Oliver and Kaysha-Rose**



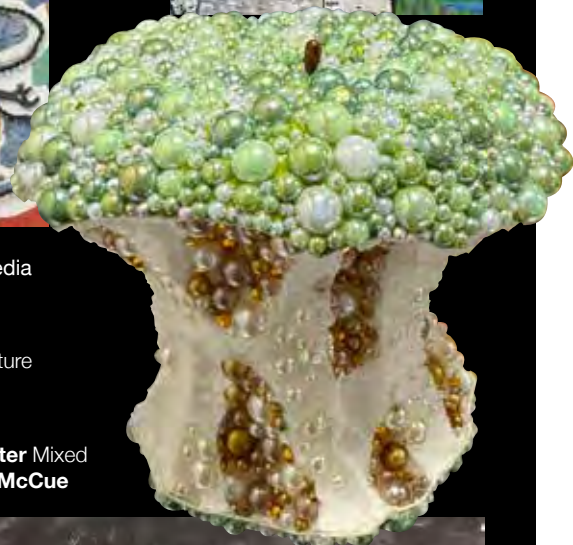
(above) **Architecture** by **Tanaka Dandajena**

(Below) **Sketchbook** and (right) **New York** by **Jasmine Gibson**



Trainers Mixed Media by **Kaysha Rose**

(right) **Apple Sculpture** by **Oliver Rocke**

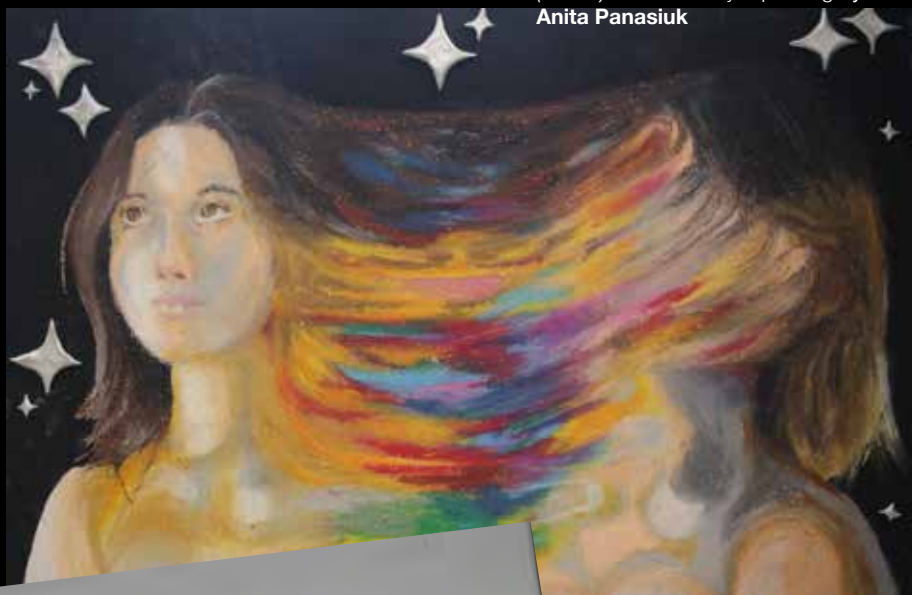


(Below) **Face in Water Mixed Media** by **Coehan McCue**

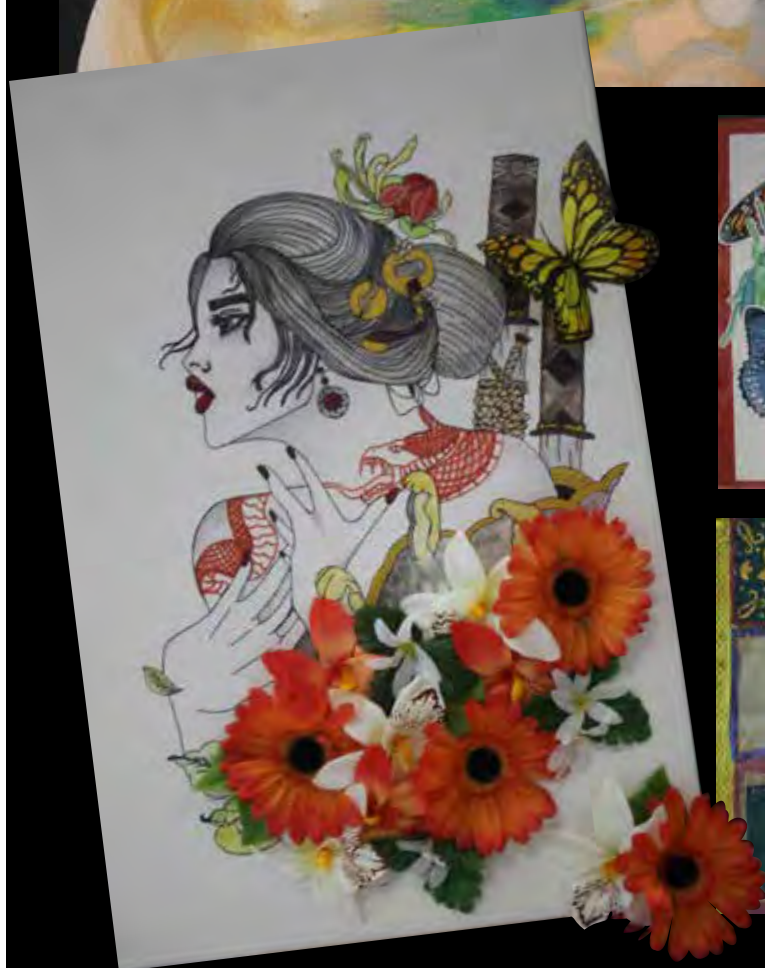


GCSE GALLERY

(Below) **Portrait** Acrylic painting by Anita Panasiuk



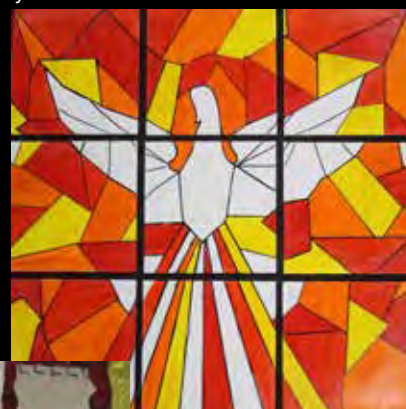
(Above) Sketchbook by Anita Panasiuk



Portrait with flowers Mixed Media by Kelsey Guy



(Left) **Insects** Colour Drawing by Tanatswa Kabvura

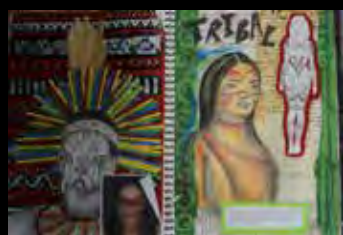


Bird Stained Glass
Acrylic by Isabela Gavassi Francisquini



Patchwork Textiles
by Isabela Gavassi Francisquini

Japanese Landscape Mixed Media by Olivia Vickery



Sketchbooks by Tanatswa Kabvura

EISTEDDFOD

Blynyddoedd 7 ac 8 \ Years 7 and 8



Dathlwyd ein heisteddfod flynyddol gan Flwyddyn 7&8 ar 9fed Gorffennaf ac roedd yn ddiwrnod llwyddiannus diolch i waith caled ac ymarferiadau'r disgyblion a'r athrawon.

Rydyn ni'n lwcus iawn gan fod llawer o ddisgyblion talentog gyda ni yn ysgol Joseff Sant a chawson ni ein hadlonni gydag amrywiaeth o ganu ac offeryn cerddorol. Ym Mlwyddyn 7, enillwyd y gystadleuaeth ganu gan Hughie Shearer (7O) gyda'i berfformiad acwstig gitâr gwych o "Stick Season" gan Noah Kahan a Robyn Chard (7P) a chwaraeodd yr iwcaili yn ogystal â chanu'n hyfryd. Daeth Evie Davies yn 2il ganu "I See the Light" o'r ffilm "Tangled"

Cawson ni hefyd gerddorion gwych yn perfformio ar y lwyfan ym Mlwyddyn 7 gydag Emme Jones (7S) yn dod yn 1af gyda pherfformiad piano, daeth Emily Porter (7S) yn ail gyda'i pherfformiad clarinét a daeth Laurenz Tamolang (7E) yn 3ydd gyda'i berfformiad offerynnol ffidil.

Ym Mlwyddyn 8, enillodd Jakub Sliwa (8J) y gystadleuaeth gerddorol gyda'i berfformiad hudolus ar y piano. Daeth Elliott Champs (8O) yn ail gydag Erin Thomas (8H). Canodd Elliott, "Proud of your boy" o'r ffilm Disney, "Aladdin" a chanodd Erin, "The Glue Song" gan Beabadoobee. Daeth Marcell Ruszi (8E) yn 3ydd gyda Liam Linton (8O). Rhoddodd Marcell berfformiad Beatbox gwych a chanodd Liam, "Strawberry Moon".

Prif ddigwyddiad y diwrnod oedd cadeirio'r bardd, lle ydyn ni'n gweld enillwyr cystadleuaeth greadigol

Saesneg yn cael eu coronni a gosgordd i'r llwyfan yn gwisgo clogyn. Ar y llwyfan, chwaraeodd Mrs Davies rhan hen dderwydd sy'n gofyn i bawb y cwestiwn, "A oes heddwch?" Ac mae pawb yn ymateb gan weiddi allan, "Heddwch!"

Llongyfarchiadau i Sydney-Rose Bishop 7E a Joe Thomas 8O a enillodd ac am ddarllen allan eu gwaith felly gallai pawb werthfawrogi eu talentau creadigol.

Gyda chystadleuaeth dosbarthiadau, enillwyd cystadleuaeth farddoniaeth gan 7E gyda eu ffersiwn o'r gerdd, "Byd y Bêl" ac enillwyd cystadleuaeth ganu gan 7J a 7O gyda "Sosban Fach".

Ym Mlwyddyn 8, roedd y gystadleuaeth mor agos a roedd rhaid i ni gael 3 enillwr gyda 8E, 8P ac 8T bod yn anodd i wahanu o ran pwyntiau. Enillwyd cystadleuaeth ganu gan 8O gyda ffersiwn hardd o "Calon Lân".

Enillwyr cyffredinol yr Eisteddfod ym Mlwyddyn 7 oedd 7T ac enillwyr cyffredinol ym Mlwyddyn 8 oedd 8E.

Diolch yn fawr iawn i'r barnwyr gweithgar i gyd ac yn gwneud penderfyniadau'n heriol ac i Miss Doyle, Miss Gallagher a Mr Green am helpu gydag eitemau cerddorol!

Da iawn pawb!



"A fabulous feeling of Welsh school spirit". Mrs S Neale



Years 7&8 celebrated our annual Eisteddfod on the 9th July and all of their hard work and rehearsals paid off to make it a very successful day.

We are very lucky to have lots of talented pupils at St Joseph's who entertained us with an array of singing and musical instruments. In Year 7, the singing contest was jointly won by Hughie Shearer (7O) with his wonderful guitar acoustic performance of "Stick Season" and by Noah Kahan and Robyn Chard (7P) who played the ukulele as well as singing beautifully. Evie Davies (7P) came 2nd singing "I See the Light" from the film "Tangled".

We also had some fantastic musicians perform on stage in Year 7 with Emme Jones (7S) coming 1st with a piano recital, Emily Porter (7S) came second with her clarinet performance and Laurenz Tamolang (7E) came 3rd with his violin instrumental performance. Da iawn pawb!

In Year 8, the musical contest was won by Jakub Sliwa (8J) with a captivating performance on the piano. Elliott Champs (8O) came joint second with Erin Thomas (8H). Elliott sang, "Proud of Your Boy" from the Disney film, "Aladdin" and Erin sang, "The Glue Song" by Beabadoobee. Marcell Ruszi (8E) came joint 3rd with Liam Linton (8O). Marcell gave a great beatbox freestyle performance and Liam sang, "Strawberry Moon".

The main event of the day was the chairing of the bard, whereby we see the winner of the creative English competition crowned and escorted to the stage draped in a cloak. Once on stage, Mrs Davies played the part of the ancient druid who asks, "A oes heddwch?" "Is there peace?" and everyone responds by shouting out, "Heddwch!" "Peace!"

Congratulations to Sydney-Rose Bishop 7E for winning with her poem, "The Red Dragon of Wales" and Joe Thomas 8O with his poem, "There's No Place Like Home" and for reading their work aloud on stage so that everyone could appreciate their creative talents.

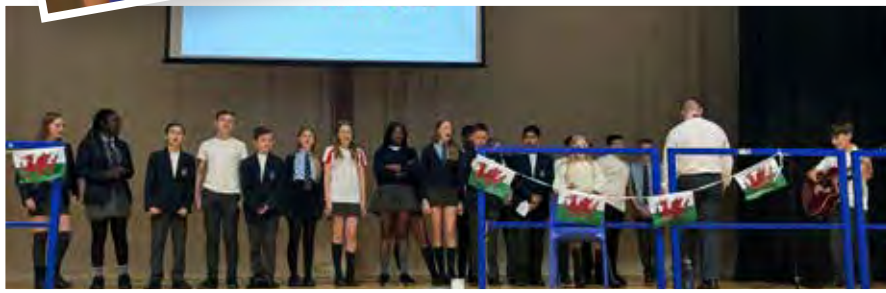
As far as the form competition went, in Year 7, 7E won the poetry competition with their rendition of "Byd y Bel" and 7J and 7O jointly won the singing competition with "Sosban Fach".

In Year 8, the competition was so fierce that there were 3 joint winners for the poetry competition with 8E, 8P and 8T being inseparable by points. 8H won the singing competition with a beautiful rendition of "Calon Lân".

The overall winners of the Year 7 Eisteddfod were 7T and the overall winners of the Year 8 Eisteddfod were 8E.

Thank you to all of the hardworking judges for making some challenging decisions and to Miss Doyle, Miss Gallagher and Mr Green for helping with the musical items!







Enillwyr cystadlaethau oddi ar y llwyfan • Off-Stage competition winners

BLWYDDYN 7 • YEAR 7

Mathemateg Math

- 1st Evie Davies 7P
- 2nd Jegeth Gunaseelan 7O
- 3rd Emery Repizo 7E

Technoleg Technology

- 1st Hayden Sunil 7O
- 2nd Nimmy Saju 7T
- 3rd Robyn Chard 7P

Celf Art

- 1st Arabella Pinera
- 2nd Emeline Shamon 7T
- 3rd Emery Repizo

Daearyddiaeth Geography

- 1st Leon Szulekewski 7S
- 2nd Joshua Nikil 7J
- 3rd Alex Constantine 7V
Olivia Bailey 7T

Saesneg English

- 1st Sydney-Rose Bishop
- 2nd Daisy De Cruz 7T
- 3rd Maya Olszewska – 7O



BLWYDDYN 8 • YEAR 8

Mathemateg Maths

- 1st Madison Castillo 8T
- 2nd Erin Thomas 8H
- 3rd Yjdea Mae Ramos 8O
Lacey Waite 8V

Technoleg Technology

- 1st Hannah Pavulo 8J
- 2nd Maja Kuczynska 8E
- 3rd George Chan 8S

Celf Art

- 1st Nina Hilton 8V
- 2nd Thea-Rae Sullivan 8S
- 3rd Sara Bradshaw 8P

Daearyddiaeth Geography

- 1st Ayush Joseph 8S
- 2nd Natalie Porter 8E
- 3rd Maja Kuczynska 8E

Saesneg English

- 1st Joe Thomas 8O
- 2nd Rosie-May Gibbons 8S
- 3rd Seren Bailey 8P





Ers mis Ionawr 2024, gosododd yr Adran Gymraeg her ysgol gyfan i naill ai ddechrau dysgu Cymraeg neu i wella sgiliau Cymraeg ymhellach trwy ymrwymo i wneud o leiaf 3 munud o Duolingo bob dydd. Mae gan bob athro Cymraeg eu cod Duolingo eu hunain ar gyfer eu dosbarthiadau a bob pythefnos, mae disgyblion sydd wedi bod yn gweithio'n galed yn ymarfer eu sgiliau Cymraeg wedi derbyn tystysgrif a gwobr, sydd wedi'i ddylunio gan ein Cyngor Cymraeg gweithgar.

Yn ystod tymor yr Haf, bydd y Cyngor Cymraeg yn edrych ar wahanol ffyrdd o wobrwyo dosbarthiadau cofrestru am weithio'n galed ar wella eu sgiliau Cymraeg ar Duolingo.

Since January 2024, the Welsh Department set a whole school challenge to either begin to learn Welsh or to further enhance Welsh skills by committing to 3 minutes of Duolingo every day. Each Welsh teacher has their own Duolingo code for their classes and every fortnight, pupils who have been working hard practising their Welsh skills have received a certificate and a prize, which have been designed by our hard working Cyngor Cymraeg.

Dyma pencampwyr Duolingo ar gyfer Tymor yr Haf:
Here are the Duolingo Champions for the Summer Term:

Blwyddyn 7 / Year 7

Aleks Rutkowski, Joan Mathew, Enza Benny, Ella Davies, Seren Richards, Caelan Jays, Carter Conibeer, Eira Delegencia, Nimrod Kekesi, Caitlin Taylor, Ruari Johnston, John Galvez, Laila Yunnis and Leon Szulejewski.

Blwyddyn 8 / Year 8

Hannah Mareverwa, Luis Cruz Sullivan, Megan Brunnock, Muaz Babar, Aaralyn Nigil, Ava Alcock, Ayush Joseph, Liam Cordy, Isabelle Harris, George Chan, Natalie Porter, Emaan Vaseem, Oscar Morgan-Cook, Seren Bailey, Alana David and Nina Hilton.

Blwyddyn 9 / Year 9

Lola Sims, Maelie Daniels, Elena Gladwin Runio, Iwan Bailey, Alvin Binoy, Ella Ortega, Punya Binoy, Lucas Ward, Tehzeeb Hussain, Will Channon, Sophie Bellia, Gabi Panasiuk and Jake Bayliss.

Blwyddyn 10 / Year 10

Yoel Kelati, Megan Wigmore, Bailey Channing, Audrey Acid, Aryam Sium, Evie Evans and Allyssa Salvador.

Athrawon / Staff

Miss J Davies (Technoleg / Technology)
Miss D McCarthy (Llyfrgell / Library)
Mrs A White (Gwyddoniaeth / Science)
Ms A Rice-Jones (Saesneg / English)
Mrs J Morgan (Dirprwy Bennaeth / Deputy Headteacher)

LLONGYFARCHIADAU MAWR I CHI I GYD!
HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL!

Llongyfarchiadau Mawr! Big Congratulations!

Da iawn i 3 o'n disgyblion Blwyddyn 12, Tadhg Burrell, Rosmy Saju a Tennessee Cruz, a wirfoddolwyd i barhau gyda'u sgiliau Cymraeg gan gwblhau sesiynau Ymlaen gyda'r Dysgu'n llwyddianus i godi hyder wrth siarad Cymraeg.

Cynhaliwyd y sesiynau ar lein gan e-sgol unwaith yr wythnos ac yn obeithiol, y bydd mwy o'n disgyblion Blwyddyn 12 a 13 yn cymryd yr her ym mis Medi gan ddilyn y manylion isod:

Da iawn to 3 of our Year 12 students, Tadhg Burrell, Rosmy Saju a Tennessee Cruz, who volunteered to keep up with their Welsh skills by successfully completing the Ymlaen gyda'r Dysgu sessions to raise confidence in speaking Welsh.

These sessions were held virtually by e-sgol once a week and hopefully more of our Year 12 and 13 pupils will embrace the challenge in September by following the details below:



YMLAEN GYDA'R DYSGU ONWARDS WITH WELSH

**SESIYNAU RHITHIOL I
FAGU HYDER
YN SIARAD CYMRAEG**

Disgyblion blwyddyn 12 a 13
Unwaith yr wythnos dros Teams
Dim gwaith ychwanegol nac arhollad
Sgil gwerthfawr ar gyfer y dyfodol
Tystysgrif a phecyn e-sgol*

**VIRTUAL SESSIONS TO
GAIN CONFIDENCE
IN SPEAKING WELSH**

For pupils in years 12 and 13
Once a week on Teams
No exam or written work
A valuable skill for the future
Certificate and goody pack*

**DATBLYGA
DY
GYMRAEG**

COFRESTRA



REGISTER NOW

**DEVELOP
YOUR
WELSH**




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7

The seven habits of highly effective trusted adults at St Joseph's RC High School...



In the last year, Mr Nunn has spoken to over 180 pupils and explained to them why a trusted adult is so important for helping pupils to maintain strong emotional health and wellbeing in our school.

Each pupil was asked to hold in mind an adult working in this school and then to consider three of their characteristics which made them be this very important person.

The key list of responses are shown below:

In the 2023 surveys the key characteristics mentioned by our pupils were that trusted adults are, positive, give good advice, loyal (have your back) you can tell them anything, open approachable, friendly, calm, understanding, will 'listen' and are non-judgemental.

It was also a surprise to me in the 2023 surveys that pupils kept talking about an excellent teacher. I stopped them to explain that I was asking them about a trusted adult and not an excellent teacher.

I repeated this request, before I came to realise that our pupils were not splitting the two, for our pupils a trusted adult has professional teacher attributes, they are consistent, fair and professional.

In April 2024, a further 25 pupils from the 4 ministries were also asked their views. On this occasion, I really tried to listen out for themes. This was an easy and enjoyable task as the

characteristics shone through in conversation. The numbers show the repeated answers across the 25 pupils.

Kind, comforting, loving, caring, sympathetic	19
Will listen (actively, provide time, attentive)	14
Wise, knows what to do, solves things easily, helpful	12
Understanding, empathetic	11
Trustworthy	9
Non-judgemental, fair, not condescending	8
Genuine, wholesome	6
Polite, calm	9
Funny	5

To simplify the survey results the pupils have agreed that these are the 7 habits of their trusted adults in our school:

- 1 Will listen attentively.**
- 2 Kind.**
- 3 Genuine.**
- 4 Trustworthy.**
- 5 Empathetic.**
- 6 Fair.**
- 7 Helpful.**

Whilst we know that pupils can present us with challenging situations, it seems apparent that we will gain their 'trust' and be instrumental in supporting their emotional and mental wellbeing if we all work to develop these characteristics further.

Some of our pupils presented a card and gift of thanks to the person that is their trusted adult in school during a special assembly, it was a wonderful celebration of support, love and respect within our school community.



GEOGRAPHY

YEAR 8 SOLAR FARM FIELD TRIP



70 Year 8 pupils went to a local solar panel farm at the beginning of July. They had a tour of then solar farm from the people who are there running the site every day. This included an explanation of how the different components work to produce power and even being able to see in real time how much energy was being produced. The pupils then did a biodiversity study with plenty of bugs, spiders and butterflies being caught for inspection before being released back into the wild.

Swansea University Visit

It was a pleasure to take 14 pupils who study Geography at GCSE to a conference being held at Swansea University.

Pupils took part in a workshop that helped them assess the impact St Joseph's is having on the environment, whilst being able to share successful strategies we are currently are doing. They had the opportunity to hear from a panel of experts who work within the 'Green Job' sector and ask questions to see the journey they've taken to get to this point in their career.

It was a brilliant day, where pupils returned to school looking to build on the success the Eco-committee have made over the last few years.



Solve the Problem of the Week

Are you ready for a challenge? Dive into our Problem of the Week! Whether you're a student looking to test your skills or a teacher eager to inspire your class, you'll find these puzzles both stimulating and rewarding.



[Go to Problem of the Week >](#)

UK Maths Trust

MATHEMATICAL CHAMPIONS

On April 25th, fifty students from Year 7 and 8 took on the Junior maths challenge from UKMT (UK Mathematics Trust). Hundreds of schools across the UK compete in this challenge every year. The competition consisted of 30 extremely challenging problems that our students had to think out of the box to answer. We had some absolutely amazing achievements so please congratulate our young mathematicians.

Participation

Year 7: John Galvez, Bethan Gettins, Jegath Gunasaleen, Kodi James, Maddison Johnston, Arabella Pinera, Antonia Raso-Coulbaly, Anish Shetty, Hayden Sunil, Laurenz Tamolang, Caitlin Taylor, Tommaso Tormen, Nona Wozniak.

Year 8: Sara Bradshaw, Maddison Castillo, Thomas Cross, Sarah Kier, Antonina Stepien, Max Szelag, Lily Tyler, Sofia Wheatley, Ruby Whittle.

Bronze

Year 7: Isabella Adams, Tyler Donaghy, Jack Freeta, Jerome Hanna, Gabriel Kraciewicz, George Timbrell.

Year 8: Ianah Agayao, Aimee Aji, Josh Benny, Deona Danie, Aimee Darke, Alfie Edattukunnel, Maja Kuczynska, Liam Linton, Hannah Marevera, Samuel Morgan, Oscar Payne, Marcel Ruszi, Erin Thomas, Joe Thomas, Emaan Vaseem, Harvey Velasco.

Silver

Year 8: Jeevan Checko, Ayush Joseph, Julia Kraciewicz, May Vincent.

Gold

Year 7: Isabella Peter

Year 8: Jakub Sliwa

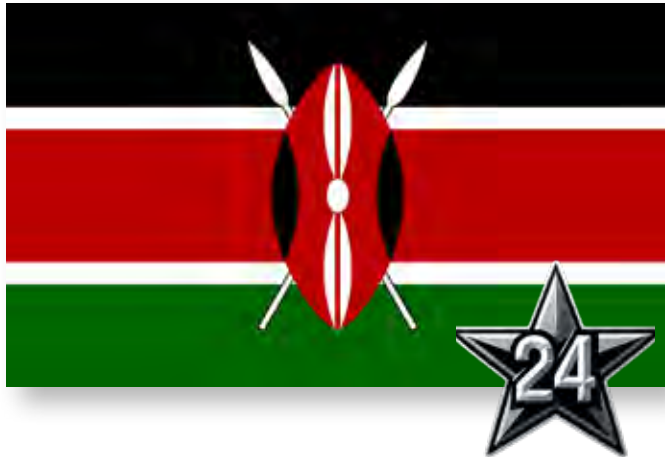




CAMPS

international

ETHICAL JOURNEYS WITH IMPACT



TRAVEL



Things you may see on your travels to Cambodia if you join the adventure with Camps International

This summer we are embarking on our 2024 Camps International Expedition to Kenya! Whilst on expedition, students will work closely with local communities to develop water systems, learn about women's rights and help with farming and conservation. With this trip now on the way we are very excited to launch our 2026 Expedition to Cambodia!

What to expect:

Cambodia is a truly incredible country to explore. Living alongside local communities, you'll get to experience the real heart of this South-East Asian gem, learning about its traditional culture and fascinating history and sampling some of its delicious cuisine. Not only will you be playing an active part in vital project work to improve the lives of rural communities, but you will also get to take on the challenge of mastering the fundamentals of scuba diving, surrounded by an array of colourful marine life in crystal-clear waters.

Who is it for:

This trip is being offered to all students from Year 8 to Year 12.

If you are interested in joining the **Cambodia 2026 expedition**, please see Mrs Carter in F11 during any break/lunch time.



THANKYOU &FAREWELL

As we approach the end of this academic year, we reflect on the significant contributions made by several remarkable members of our school community who are bidding farewell. Each of them has left an indelible mark on the lives of our students, fostering their growth and nurturing their talents. They have not only been teachers but also mentors and role models, guiding our students on their journey towards success and happiness. Their commitment to our school's mission and values has been unwavering and their passion for education has been evident in everything they do. Their tireless efforts have brought about positive changes in the lives of countless young minds, and we are eternally grateful for their dedication and hard work. We are all better for having known and worked with these members of staff.

As they embark on new journeys beyond our school walls, we extend our sincerest wishes for success, happiness, and fulfillment in all their future endeavors. Farewell, and may their paths ahead be as bright and rewarding as their time with us has been impactful.

Dates for your diary 2024

Autumn Term TYMOR Y HYDREF

September	
2	Inset Day
3	Year 7 Academic year begins
4	Years 8,9,10 11 & 13 Academic year begins
6	Year 12 Induction
11	KS4&5 Celebration Evening
12	School Photographs (Years 7, 9, 11 & 13)
October	
3	Year 7 Pastoral Evening
10	Year 7 Welcome Mass
22-24	Open Mornings
28Oct-1 Nov	Half Term

November	
28	Year 8 Parents' Evening
29	Inset Day
December	
2	Inset Day
5	Year 13 Parents' Evening
12	Year 12 Parents' Evening
18	Advent Service
20	Last Day of Term

Please be aware that if there are any unforeseen circumstances, these dates might change.

Catch the St Joseph's RC High School news as it happens on:

www.sjhs.org.uk

twitter.com/sjhsnewport

www.facebook.com/stjosephsnewport

St. Joseph's RC High School

Pencarn Way
Tredegar Park
Newport
NP10 8XH

Telephone: 01633 653110

Email: sjhs@newport.gov.uk

www.sjhs.org.uk

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant

Ffordd Pencarn
Parc Tredegar
Casnewydd
NP10 8XH

Ffôn: 01633 653110

Ebost: sjhs@newport.gov.uk

www.sjhs.org.uk

