



## Examination Success

We are thrilled with the achievements of our students in this year's summer examinations where 80% achieved 5 A\*-C grades at GCSE - our best results ever!

Our learners have worked incredibly hard and truly deserve such fantastic results. Many students are now continuing their studies as members of our flourishing sixth form.

I would like to thank every student and member of staff for their hard work and all parents/carers for their invaluable support. The rise in results is an indicator of what the future holds for us.

**Mrs K Keane**

*Read more about our exam successes on Page 3.*



**Sarah Crowley:**  
4x Distinction\*,  
3xA, 3xB, 4xC as  
well as AS World  
Development(B)  
and Level 3  
Extended Project  
(A)



**Alice Pritchard:**  
2xA\*, 3xA, 1xB,  
5xC and 1xPass



**Amy Davies:**  
2xDistinction\*,  
1xA, 4xB and  
2xPasses



**Chloe Johnson:**  
2x Distinction\*,  
4xB, 6xC



**Emma Barne:**  
4xDistinction,  
1xA, 3xB, 4xC  
and 2xPasses



**Jamie-Leigh  
Butcher:**  
4xDistinction,  
1xA, 2xB and 1xC



**Alicia Redman:**  
4xDistinctions,  
2xB, 1xMerit, 2xC  
and 1xPass



**Jordan Fletcher:**  
4xDistinctions,  
1xB, 5xC and  
5xPasses



**Halie Casey:**  
2xA, 2xB, 4xC  
and 2xPasses



**Sarah Poore:**  
2xA, 1xB, 5xC  
and 5xPasses



**Curtis Shiers:**  
1xA, 3xB, 4xC  
and 2xPasses

# Dear All

At our recent Awards Evening I described our curriculum as being at the heart of our success as a school. I also told guests it is likely that 70% of the jobs that our current students will do have not yet been invented. To help prepare our students for the opportunities ahead of them, we focus on providing learners with a curriculum that is innovative, engaging and inclusive, enabling every young person to be successful in their own way. Throughout this newsletter you will see many examples of the exciting learning experiences our students have both during the school day and beyond.

This term we completed the first of three curriculum enrichment days. Our Year 7 students participated enthusiastically in 'The Big Sing'. Year 8 students completed an energetic Biathlon and D&T Batch Production activity. Year 9 students took part in a video and photography activity where they used their French and IT skills. 160

Year 10 students completed a Maths and Science lesson together in the hall - an amazing learning experience for everyone, while Year 11 students worked in groups to explore the theme of global citizenship.

Our emphasis as always is on personalised learning, with each student being treated as an individual and having personal guidance and target setting as part of their learning experience. Over the coming year we will continue to focus on meeting the needs of our students; we will continue to innovate and we will continue to challenge ourselves as a school.

*Kind regards*  
**Karyn Keane**



## Dates for your Diary

<b>December</b>	12	FONHS Meeting	14	KS 3 into 4 Transition evening		
16	End of term	13	Yr 10 Revision Conference	22	Yr 5/6 Transition Day - School closed to NHS learners	
<b>January</b>	22	Yr 13 Collaboration Parents Evening	28	GCSE/GCE External examinations end.		
3	Start of Spring Term	<b>April</b>	29	INSET Day- School closed to learners		
10-26	GCSE/GCE External Examinations	5	End of Spring term	<b>July</b>	20	End of Summer term
16	FONHS Meeting	23	Start of Summer term- FONHS Meeting	Please check the school website regularly for any amendments.		
24	KS4 Pathways Evening	<b>May</b>	7	May Day		
<b>February</b>	2	Year 11-12 English & Maths Progress evening	14	GCSE/GCE External examinations commence		
13	Start of half term	<b>June</b>	4	Start of half term Whitsun Bank Holiday		
17	End of half term	5	Diamond Jubilee Bank Holiday			
20	INSET Day- School closed to students	8	End of half term			
<b>March</b>	1	Key Stage 3 Eisteddfod World Book Day				

## Fond Farewells and Good Luck Wishes



Mr Roth, Assistant Headteacher and Head of Key Stage 5, has taught at the old school site and at Newport High for the past six years. He is now taking up the post of Assistant Headteacher at Aloha College International School in Marbella.



Mr Waring, Teacher of PE, started at Bettws High School in April 2001 and is now leaving to spend time with his family and develop his new business venture.

# Success Leads to Opportunity

This summer, 91% of those Year 13 students entered for an A level or Level 3 course successfully achieved a qualification. Twenty students have now progressed to university. These include:

**Isaac Halsall** who is reading Physics at University College, London after gaining 2 A\* Grades and 2 Grade B's along with the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification.

**Gavin Evans** gained a Distinction, 2 Grade A's and 1 Grade B and is now reading Physiotherapy at Cardiff University.

**Stacey Williams** has taken up a place at Aberystwyth studying Genetics following successes in A level Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics.

**Silifat Olatunde** gained 2 Grade A's, 2 Grade B's and a Grade C and is reading Architectural Engineering at Cardiff University.

**Georgia Duggan** gained 3 Distinctions, 1 Merit and the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification and is now reading Sport and Exercise Science at the University of Glamorgan.

**Naomi Richards** gained 2 Distinctions, 1 Grade B, 1 Grade D and the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification and is studying Sport Studies at University of Wales, Newport.

**Zara Grant** gained 2 Distinctions, 1 Grade D and the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification and is reading Sports Psychology at University of Glamorgan.

**Bethany Grist** gained 1 Grade B, 2 Grade C's and the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification and is studying Psychology at Swansea.

Other high achievers include **Ellis Secker** and **Abby Greenhaf** who excelled in Art, both achieving A\* Grades and **Louis Smith** who gained 2 Distinctions and the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification.

These results could not have been achieved without the hard work and commitment of both students and staff - congratulations and well done!



Stacey Williams



Georgia Duggan



Zara Grant



Gavin Evans



Silifat Olatunde



Naomi Richards



Isaac Halsall



Louis Smith



## The Riot Act

Year 10 took part in 'The Riot Act' performance this October. This was an Enterprise Day organised to help develop student's enterprise and key skills. Students took an active role in the performance and learned about the importance of communication and team work in many aspects of daily life, particularly in the world of work.

## Forgotten Landscapes

A group of Year 12 and 13 students enjoyed the 'Forgotten Landscapes' induction day at the University of Wales, Caerleon campus in September. The course then continued in school for a further four days with visiting lecturers leading a variety of sessions.

This university level course looks at the place of Wales in Europe and the world, using the iron industry in Blaenavon as a case study. The course links to the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification and will earn the students credits that can be submitted as part of their university applications.

Students had a great day at Caerleon and they all looked wonderful in their new school uniform!



# Eco News



The Eco Club recently spent some time clearing the raised



beds at the back of the school ready for planting bulbs. We have now weeded and cleared four raised beds to be used by our four Houses. The raised bed project is open to any members of Branwen, Olwen, Pryderi and Taliesin who would like to exercise their green fingers and develop new skills (and



perhaps even make some money for the Eco Club!). The raised bed project will take place on Thursdays, after school, between 3.00 and 3.30pm.

It was a huge job clearing the beds and we are very grateful for the time and effort from everyone, so thank you! Let's get planting...

If you would like to donate any used or unwanted gardening items, please either drop them into reception or give them directly to me.

**Mr Whitehead**

## Looking to the Future

Students are seen here enjoying a successful Year 12 Careers Day which offered a range of activities that centred on the world of work and life after school.

Careers Wales organised a number of external providers

to come into school to work with students on the day. Activities included working with potter Matthew Jones, who talked about the challenges of setting up a business, Careers Wales representatives providing advice on finding the right work placement and sessions working with members of the construction industry to build a model while considering costings and materials.

Students showed good communication and team working skills throughout the day and providers were impressed by their positive approach to all the workshops.



## Christmas Cheer

Christmas lunch can be difficult to prepare, but our Hospitality and Catering students showed that they have the skills and expertise to create and serve a truly mouth-watering meal.

Students invited residents from a local care home and guests from the community to eat, drink and be merry and also arranged entertainment that made the event go with a festive swing!



Everyone played their part brilliantly, from food preparation to serving at table and even helping with the washing up!



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Image shows Westwood showhome and Bowood house type at Parc Eglwys.  
Prices correct at time of going to press.



## Black History Month

Black History Month is held every October. It aims to promote knowledge of black history, culture and heritage, provide information on positive black contributions to British society and heighten awareness of cultural heritage.

To highlight Black History Month, Year 7 students spent some time browsing a new collection of books which tell the life stories of black people who have contributed to the fields of art, literature, science and social reform. Students then made fact files and shared these with their class.



## Hard Workers on Course for Success

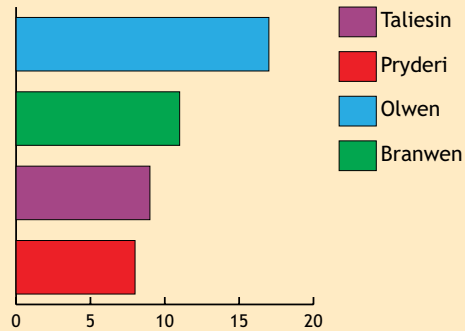
Pictured is Miss Parkhouse with members of her Key Stage 4 Psychology group. She says: 'The group is really hard-working and I can't praise the students highly enough for the

effort they put into their studies. There are some very strong characters in the class and this leads to some lively debates and discussions! I feel confident that good results in the summer examinations are within reach if they continue with their hard work. Well done all!'



# House Cup Update

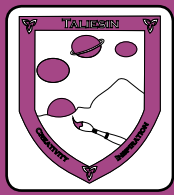
Congratulations to students who have been awarded Extra Mile Awards this term. EMA's are awarded to learners who positively contribute to the school community. The school council then meet to decide which of these students deserve their efforts to be rewarded with a House point.



A total of 45 House Points have now been awarded as follows:

Olwen	17
Branwen	11
Taliesin	9
Pryderi	8

Here are some of the students who have won House points this term. Well done!



## Taliesin



Ashley Fleming    Connor Roberts    Panashe Muchekwa    Rebecca-Jane Parkinson    Zoe Nash



## Pryderi



Daryl Briggs    Ian (Rhys) McLean    Kaylam Thomas    Mia Adamson    Ryan Ward



## Branwen



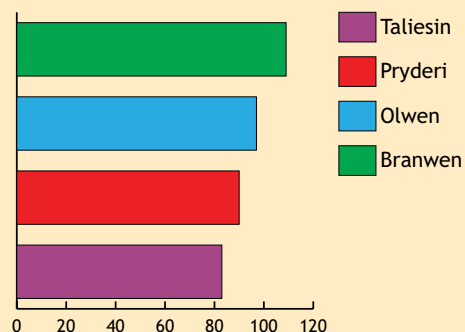
Allysha Hawes    Connor Holmes    Corey Oliver    Kraig Jackson    Ryan Truman



## Olwen



Joshua Blanks    Liam Kelly    Megan White    Rebecca Bates    Ryan Davies



House points have been added to points won on Curriculum Day and those won in the extra-curricular football and netball competitions. The current positions for the House Cup are:

Branwen	109
Olwen	97
Pryderi	90
Taliesin	83

The cup will be awarded to the winning House after the Eisteddfod in March.

Mr D Lawlor

# New Members for Book Club

Our Key Stage 4 Book Club continues to go from strength to strength and has welcomed some new members this term. We started the year reading 'How I Live Now' by Meg Rosoff, a story set in the near future where war impacts on the lives of a group of children who are left to fend for themselves. This novel divided the group, with some members disliking both the story and the style of writing and others finding it deeply moving and addictive.

We then read 'Looking for JJ' by Anne Cassidy, a challenging

read that takes the power play in the relationship of three young girls as its theme. We are looking forward to our next choice, 'Refugee Boy' by Benjamin Zephaniah, which we will be reading next term.

Well done to all Book Club members for their commitment to the club and the mature manner in which they respond to the books.

Mrs Brockley



# Open Evening

Once again, our annual Open Evening was a huge success. Over 800 visitors joined us in a full range of activities and showcases



covering every area of our school curriculum.

Performing Arts staff and students worked especially hard by performing scenes

from Hamlet meets Bugsey, 'Jump Style' Dance, as well as running the ever popular karaoke slots throughout the night.

Visitors were exceptionally complementary about our "vibrant and successful school community". Special thanks are extended to Newport Gwent Dragons for their support and to Lisa at

Chuckles Nursery and Barratt's for sponsoring this event.



# School Uniform

If you need to purchase any items of school uniform, polo shirts, cardigans, outdoor jackets and PE tops can all be bought from 'Pretty Miss' in Cwmbran Town Centre.

Polo shirts and indoor fleece jackets are sold in school between 2.00pm and 4.00pm every Tuesday and Thursday.



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# School Council News

## New Head Student Appointments

Well done to the following students who went through an intensive interview with Mrs James and Mrs Keane to earn their positions:

They are all already making an impact on student voice across the school. What does earning their position mean to them?



Matthew Paskin



Lauren Johnson



Elliott Hardee



Lauren Hale



Ross Ward

### Matthew Paskin

The last few years have been a real learning curve for me. I have wanted to run for the position of Head Boy since joining the school council in Year 10, as I see it is a great opportunity to have input into the decision making that goes on in school. I have already gained hugely from my position in terms of experience in leadership and improving my organisational skills. My self confidence has also grown as I take on roles involving public speaking and chairing meetings. I would recommend any student to join the school council as it may lead to being a part of the senior leadership team, which is a great opportunity.

### Lauren Johnson

Being Head Girl has brought me leadership skills that I once could only have imagined having. I now have the greatest confidence in what I am doing. My role always reminds me to think twice before taking any action and to consider issues from all sides. Whilst being Head Girl I have had the privilege of meeting with the school governors, attending the 9/11 service at Bettws Shopping Centre and hosting the Awards Evening. This role has changed me completely - for the better!

### Elliott Hardee

This is the first year that I have been part of the school council and I now realise that I have missed out on many things by not being part of it before. There is so much that the senior students and school council actually do and achieve, from discussions about learning, to deciding what you eat in the food court and selecting trips to run at the end of the year. We also play a part in organising charity events and we hope to organise a mini Olympics in the summer to make sure that everyone in school feels part of London 2012. I also have the opportunity to improve skills that I will need to gain employment and access university. By being part of the school council you can ensure that everyone in your tutor group's voice is heard.

### Lauren Hale

I am very much enjoying being deputy Head Girl. I find my role very rewarding as it gives me the opportunity to give something back to the school. I feel it has boosted my confidence and improved my ability to work as part of a team. We have worked hard to support charities and the community so far this year in a variety of ways, such as attending the 9/11 service and raising money for Children in Need and will be doing a lot more in the months to come. I enjoy listening to other learners in school and representing their views in school council meetings and would recommend being an active member of the school council to anyone!

### Ross Ward

Becoming Senior Student has given me an insight into just how much hard work goes on behind the scenes in school to keep things running smoothly. This position gives me a great opportunity to offer input on many school issues while ensuring the wider student voice is heard. I am also aware that I am improving my personal skills in the areas of leadership, communication and team work. I have thoroughly enjoyed the experience so far and look forward to meeting any new challenges my role may bring during the rest of this academic year.

## Introducing Your School Council Representatives

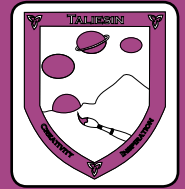
Here is the newly elected school council for the academic year 2011-2012. Students were elected through a ballot process at the start of the year. These students are the voice of your House and Year group and have the special privilege of meeting with Mrs Keane every half term to discuss hot school topics!





Year 7 Joshua Tolcher-Evans    Year 8 Kyra Quarterley    Year 9 Bethan Whitehead    Year 10 Bethan Burrows    Year 11 Mohammed Saddiq

# Taliesin



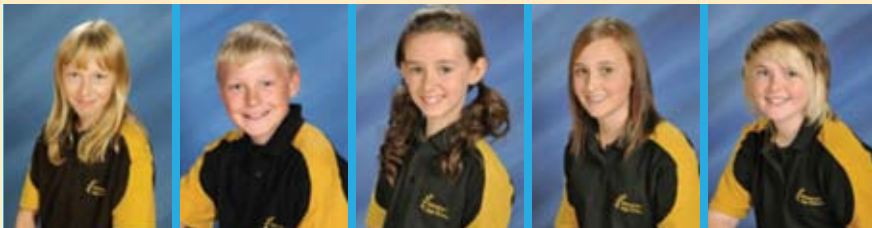
Year 7 Scott Jones    Year 8 Curtis Jenkins    Year 9 Ivan Small    Year 10 Nia Howells    Year 11 Bailey McCarthy

# Pryderi



Year 7 Ryan Truman    Year 8 Thomas Dixon    Year 9 Ben Donovan    Year 10 Jordan Johnson    Year 11 Shaunagh Coldrick

# Branwen



Year 7 Tillie Pritchard    Year 8 Cameron Ford    Year 9 Kathleen Flannelly    Year 10 Nikita-Miya Iles    Year 11 Shannen Hemmings

# Olwen



## Sixth Form Captains

Year 7 - Sam Elliott and Nicole Cloud

Year 8 - Chantelle Thomas and Jacob McCarthy

Branwen - Connor Lingard and Amy Davies

Olwen - Aimee Whitehead and Sepehr Nowrouz

Pryderi - Emma Barne and Ashley Frost

Taliesin - Sarah Crowley, and Alex Leighton

## What Shall I Wear?

Last year, students made an enormous effort to raise money for charity by holding a variety of fundraising events. We donated £595 to Tenovus to support the charity of our then Mayor and Chair of Governors, Mr Bill Langsford and also raised over £500 for Children in Need and Sport Relief.



A non-uniform day was held on 18 November to raise money for Children in Need and the Year 11 prom that will take place next summer. A total of £776 was raised on the day but a personal donation from Mrs Edwards increased the total to a round £800!



Winners of the Christmas raffle organised by the school council will be announced during the last week of term. All proceeds will go to St Anne's Hospice.

Please help us to reach another massive total in all our charitable collections this academic year!

# Curriculum Day

Wednesday 2 November saw our first Curriculum Enrichment Day for learners in Years 7 to 11. The event provided our learners with the opportunity to experience exciting and innovative workshops to enhance their learning.

The theme for the day was 'Discovery' and students participated in a diverse range of activities including teambuilding challenges, dance mat sessions, an assault course and even weather forecasting in French!

Year 10 students worked in teams using their mathematical and scientific knowledge to design a bridge which was tested during the afternoon session via live web-cam. Congratulations to the winning group, led by Mr Whitehead, whose bridge managed to hold almost 5kg! Each member of the group won an iTunes voucher for their efforts.

Here is some student feedback:

*'I think it should last longer, so instead of one day maybe two days or even a week doing no lessons but different activities!'*

*'I can't think of any feedback because I just enjoyed the day so much.'*

*'I liked the day because the teachers explained it well and the people who came in made the day extra fun!'*

*'I would enjoy it if the children got to choose what activities we did.'*

Here is some staff feedback too:

*'A fantastic day. This type of teaching is the way forward. Every month! Student choice would be the next step.'*

*'I thought the use of ICT, including youtube and the webcam link, were really good and kept the learners interested.'*

*'The day was a huge success. Having an entire year group for the entire day was great as it allowed everyone to build a good working relationship.'*

The day was a huge success thanks to the hard work and innovative session planning by our staff. Our students responded brilliantly, taking on all new challenges and engaging with the sessions with enthusiasm and commitment.

*Diolch yn fawr i chi gyd!*

Mrs N Davies



## Building for the Future

A group of industry professionals visited school recently to provide interesting and insightful sessions for members of Year 9 and Year 11 students studying BTEC Construction. Alison Howe of 'Construction Skills Wales' led a team of professionals including Bernardette Vickery and Mike Davies from 'Lovell'. Students experienced a range of

activities, from learning how to work out mathematical calculations to developing an understanding of the regulations involved with planning. They then looked at the construction of a scale model house and modern roofing methods were investigated. All learners responded well and were fully engaged in the activities.

We would like to thank everyone for giving up their time to support our students and look forward to many more successful visits and partnerships in the future.

Mr Van Ek



*Courtesy of Memento Arts*



## Return of the Ice Bridge!

Well done to our Construction students who worked hard to build a model bridge earlier this term. This event was organised by Careers Wales and was run by the Institute of Civil Engineers. The activity highlighted the importance of choosing the correct materials and construction methods when building load bearing structures that span distances.

Mr M Van Ek





# Taliesin is Terrific!

Taliesin learners have started the new academic year with a bang, with many learners going that extra mile by taking part in our student consultation groups, eco club, reading club and co-ordinating school charity events. All learners are making a positive impact on both their House and the wider school community, Gwaith da!

Mrs Paginton

## Performing Arts Round-Up

### Key Stage 3 Choir

We have had over 40 students taking part in the choir this term and were delighted to be asked to perform at both the Awards Evening and Open Evening.



We have been in great demand during December and have sung at the Malpas Community Centre and the 'Light Up A Life' service at Llantarnam Abbey. Our Christmas concerts conclude with a

performance outside the school as part of the Combined Carol Concert on 13<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 6.00pm.

I would like to thank choir members for their hard work this term - you have been brilliant!

### Awards Evening

Allysha Hawes, Zoe Nash, Amy Kempson and Hollie Kempson all sang during awards evening. They all performed



to a very high standard and wowed the audience. Ryan Truman and Emily Hawkins performed amazing solos during 'Don't Stop Believing'. Well done!

### Jam Pod

We were very lucky to be awarded a Jam Pod this term by Newport

Music Support Service. Bands can use this hi-tech equipment to hear each other through headphones when they rehearse. If any bands would like to use this equipment, please see me.



### Times and Places...

Please note the times different music groups meet during term time:

Monday lunchtime - Brass and String Group

Tuesday after school - Keyboard Group

Wednesday lunchtime - KS3 Choir

Thursday after school - whole school Choir

New choir members are always welcome, including staff!

Miss L Harris

## Trade Fair at Newport High School

On Friday 21 October, Newport High School hosted a Trade Fair and Income Generation Seminar. The event was organised in partnership with Newport City Council and St Julian's High School and was sponsored by Dragon Business Supplies and New Directions.



The event was the first of its kind in South Wales and attracted representatives from schools across the region. In today's economic climate, which is adversely affecting school budgets, the importance of generating additional income and maximising procurement efficiencies has never been more necessary for schools.

The school arranged for over 40 companies to demonstrate their services at the trade event. These provided schools with an opportunity to discuss procurement issues with companies who deal specifically in the following areas - educational supplies, photocopiers, IT, cleaning, teaching supply agencies and others.

The event was organised by Andy Knight, together with Mark Rowlands

from St Julian's High School and Dale Parry from Newport City Council.

Karyn Keane, Headteacher at Newport High School said "The pressure is on all schools to save money. Whilst each school has their own funding and spending priorities, by working together we are collectively able to procure goods and services to get the very best value for money. I am thrilled that so many schools and businesses have supported this event, demonstrating a willingness to work together and learn from each other."



# Ski Trip

This year's ski trip is taking place as we go to print. Students are visiting Saalbach in Austria and we hope that the snow is falling and that everyone is having a lovely time. Look out for some photos on the school website! Details of the 2012 trip will be available shortly.



Newport High School Ski Trip  
Saalbach, Austria  
2011



## Fantastic Fun

Year 8 enjoyed some great music courtesy of 'Mike Fantastic' who visited school in the autumn.

Mike Fantastic are a British electropop group formed in 2010, who made their debut on 'Britain's Got Talent' and have since released an album and two singles.

Our students danced and sang along and even the staff were seen tapping their feet. It felt more like an evening concert rather than 10 o'clock in the morning in the school hall! Our ears were ringing but a great time was had by all.

## Year 8 Report

Some of our students have decided to become part time reporters this term and investigate some Year 8 events. Here are some of their write ups...

### Break Out!

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, it was Newport High's first Curriculum Break Out Day. Year 8 took part in lots of interesting and exciting things during the day and had some fun too! In the morning, we took part in competitions to see which House would get the most points. Firstly, we did the P.E Biathlon in the Sports Hall which was an obstacle course with everybody taking part. Then, once we finished this, we went outside in groups of 8 to do some 'astro activities' which included shoot the hoop in netball, the rugby pass challenge and the cross bar challenge. Also, we had a dance mat competition where we had to dance to a very fast song. The teachers were giving out tickets with points written on them for who came in which place in the competitions.

After all the activities had taken place, all of the Year 8 students came back into the Sports Hall and the teachers announced which House had won. In the first group, Olwen came first and in the second, Branwen had won.

After the Biathlon had taken place, we went downstairs to

the Design and Technology area and went into our classes. Each of the classes made different things such as pizzas, storage baskets and wooden boats. Then, we went into our TFL classes and did team building exercises. It was a fun day and everybody enjoyed it.

by Casey Dudley and Dani Stanton.



### Year 8 HPV Jabs



Year 8 girls had their first HPV injection on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September. All of the girls were really worried about it but afterwards they were saying that it didn't hurt. On the 4<sup>th</sup> November, the girls had

their second jab. There were rumours that it hurt more than the first and that the needle was much bigger! Here's what some of the girls said afterwards:

*'On a scale of 1 to 10, I would say the most it hurt was probably 1 and ½ '*

*'It didn't hurt as much as I thought it would'*

*'It didn't hurt any more than the first one and that didn't hurt much'*

The third jab is on the 9<sup>th</sup> March.

by Ellis Mason, Caitlin Martin and Hollie Jones

# Llangrannog 2011

Here is an interview with Jade Williams, 8CH after the Year 8 visit to Llangrannog Urdd Centre

**1. Did you enjoy the trip to Llangrannog?**

Yes, it was really fun and I had a really good time.

**2. What activities did you do there?**

I did skiing, quad biking, go karting, a high rope course, horse trekking, trampolining, rock climbing, tobogganing and different sports.

**3. What was your favourite activity?**

I enjoyed all of them as most were activities that I hadn't done before.

**4. How long did it take to get there?**

It took about 4 hours to get there but we had fun on the bus!

**5. What was the food like?**



The food was quite nice and we had different food every night. We had chips, burgers, lasagne, curry and fish sticks.

**6. Were the beds comfortable and did you have to make your own beds?**

My bed was a bit hard so my back hurt in the morning and every morning we would have to make our own beds.



**7. Did you make any friends from other schools?**

Yes I made a few new friends including Megan Jones and Jake Thomas.

**8. How was the overall journey?**

It was fun but I was very tired on the way home.

**9. If you had the chance to go again would you?**

Definitely, it was an amazing trip!!

Interview by Rhiannon Bracher, Courtney Williams and Courtney Jarvis

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## Awards Evening

Our annual Awards Evening was held at the Christchurch Centre in early November. The evening celebrated the success of students across the whole school and was hosted by Head Boy, Matthew Paskin and

Head Girl, Lauren Johnson.

Not only were awards presented by staff and governors, we were also joined by Rugby World Cup Wales Internationals and Newport Gwent Dragons, Aled Brew and Lloyd Burns.



Dragons Coach Darren Edwards, Tony Allan of Newport League Indoor Men's Bowls Club and Bernadette Vickery of Lovell also presented awards to our outstanding achievers and sporting stars.

and Amy and Hollie Kempson.

Entertainment was provided by the Key Stage 3 choir, Zoe Nash, Allysha Hawes

and Amy and Hollie Kempson.



Our thanks are extended to Premier Copier Solutions for sponsoring this event.



# In The Spotlight



Lauren Hale (Year 13) caught up with Mrs James to ask her a few questions...

**Why did you decide to become a teacher?**

When I was in school, I always loved PE and it was definitely my favourite subject. I wanted to work with children and get the best out of them by giving them opportunities to succeed, so teaching seemed

the obvious choice.

**What's your favourite place?**

I have two! I went to Las Vegas with my husband for my thirtieth birthday which was a really exciting place to visit. Also, I travelled to Brazil when I was 17 to play squash in the world championships, which was really good!

**What's your favourite book and favourite film?**

My favourite film is Cars... I think it's brilliant! My favourite book is 'The Island' by Victoria Hislop. I read this book with the school Book Club and found the story very moving and the characters really memorable.

**If you could meet anyone, present or past, who would you most like to meet and why?**

It would have to be Princess Diana; she seemed so down to earth and didn't let royalty and wealth go to her head. She was very much the 'people's royal' and did so much good work for charity. She always stressed the importance of family values and she was an inspiration to many people.

**What is your most treasured possession?**

Aside from my family, because they mean the world to me, it would have to be my wedding and engagement ring because they have real sentimental value and mean so much to me.

**What is your best quality and your worst flaw?**

I think my best quality is that I'm a perfectionist; I have to have everything right or it drives me crazy. My worst flaw is probably that I'm really impatient; if something needs doing, I feel it needs to be done immediately!

Thanks Mrs James!



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## Peace and Reconciliation



Newport High students joined around 300 people at a service of peace and reconciliation at the community garden in Bettws in September. This annual service is held in memory of the September 11 terrorist attacks in America. Our students gave readings and lit candles before a minute's silence was held. Canon Henry Davies

led the service and the Mayor, the Lord High Sheriff of Monmouthshire, representatives of the armed forces, primary school students, churchgoers, residents, standard bearers and veteran soldiers were all in attendance.

Readers were Lauren Johnson, Jacob McCarthy, Matthew Paskin, Lauren Hale, Elliott Hardee and Alice Pritchard and the candle was lit by Ashley Frost.



## Calling All Parents and Students!

Follow us on [Twitter@NewportH](https://twitter.com/NewportH) for all the latest updates and school information.

# Sports News

## House Competitions

Some great House competitions were run by the PE team during this term. Netball and football games ran during the week of activities and both were very well attended. We even saw Mr Boschen on the football pitch but only on the sideline supporting his House!

The results were:

Football					Netball		
Year 7	1 <sup>st</sup> Taliesin	Year 8	1 <sup>st</sup> Taliesin	Year 9	1 <sup>st</sup> Olwen	Year 8	1 <sup>st</sup> Olwen
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Branwen and Olwen		2 <sup>nd</sup> Olwen		2 <sup>nd</sup> Pryderi		2 <sup>nd</sup> Branwen
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Pryderi		3 <sup>rd</sup> Branwen and Pryderi		3 <sup>rd</sup> Branwen and Taliesin		3 <sup>rd</sup> Taliesin
			4 <sup>th</sup> Pryderi				

Well done to all competitors for giving up their time after school and also gaining House points!

Check out the PE area of the school website for news of the House Badminton tournament running in the week before Christmas and for many other events throughout the year



## BTEC Sport

BTEC catch-up club runs every Wednesday lunch time in B1:13 with Mrs James.

Come along to finish or improve your work to move on to the next level. All key stage 4 sport students welcome.

## Duke of Edinburgh Presentations

Congratulations to the following students who successfully completed their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award last year when they were in Year 11.



Connor Murray  
Jacob McCarthy  
Chloe Smith  
Kayleigh Barry  
Liam Hardee

They were presented with their certificates and badges by Mrs Nelson, our new Head of Sixth Form.

## Football



It has been a busy term for our school football teams, with both friendly fixtures and cup matches in full swing.

The sixth form team won a dramatic shoot out, with Daniel Bond saving a penalty to send us through against Caldicot.

Unfortunately, they lost a close contest with Duffryn in the first round of the Welsh Cup but they have an opportunity to redeem themselves

when they meet later in the term for the second round of the Newport Cup.

The Year 11 team has only had one friendly fixture, beating St Josephs 4 - 2, with an elegant Jack Buckley chip setting the tone for the game. They will meet St Julian's in the next round of the Newport Cup.



The Year 10 team were missing two important players and lost 3 - 1 to Bassaleg.

The Year 8 and 9 teams have yet to play their opening fixtures in the cup competitions and the Year 7's lost to Caldicot in their first round match.





## Year 7 Rugby Results

The Year 7 rugby team have had a challenging round of matches this term but continue to display great enthusiasm on the field.

Vs St Julian's Lost 0-35  
Vs Caldicott Won 29-0  
Vs St Joseph's Lost 27-12  
Vs St Julian's Lost 25-0  
Vs Cwmcarn Drew 15-15

## Newport High Hockey

The Year 7 hockey squad have got off to a flying start with 2 wins and a draw in their first three games against three schools traditionally known to be strong

in hockey:

West Monmouth 6-1

Croesyceiliog 7-2

St Joseph's 2-2

The squad are training exceptionally hard at the moment in anticipation of the Year 7 League starting in January. We still need more players, so come along to training every Thursday 3.00pm - 4.00pm



## Squash Success

Congratulations to Jordan Williams who came third in the Welsh Squash tournament recently held at the Welsh Institute of Sport.

## Netball News

Well done to the Year 8 Team B who recently beat Hartridge 2-0. This was a great performance at home, particularly from player of the match and captain on the night, Chloe Mansfield. Year 8 Team A lost 5-1 to the Hartridge Year 9 team but deserve credit for some great play against these tough opponents. There were some excellent performances from all players. Captain on the night was Hannah McGee and player of the match was Ellis Mason.



Da iawn blwyddyn wyth!  
Year 7 drew 0-0 with Hartridge at home after a very energetic first fixture. There were excellent performances and effort from all Year 7's on the night!

Bendigedig blwyddyn saith!

### Training Times:

Year 7 netball training - every Wednesday after school

Year 8 netball training - every Tuesday after school

We now have 2 students from the University of Wales, Newport coming in to coach the girls every week.

All Stars Netball Club is on Monday from 6.30pm to 7.30pm in the sports hall. Joining the club is a fantastic way to improve your netball skills and enter more tournaments.

