

## Ysgol Garth Olwg's Award Ceremony

A wonderful evening was held to celebrate the success of our talented pupils over the last year in our Awards Ceremony. The Lower and Middle School choir sang beautifully and we were enchanted by Neve Cocks on the harp. Thank you to Mr Mick Antoniow AS, our guest speaker, and it was a pleasure to welcome his family from the Ukraine.



## Lower School Eisteddfod

At the beginning of February the Lower School Eisteddfod was held. There was excitement in the hall that day and the pupils' performances were outstanding in the recital and singing competitions. We are very proud of all of you.



## Mistar Urdd's Birthday

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of January the school celebrated a very special person's 100th birthday. The children loved singing and dancing to the Hei Mistar Urdd song. The pupils wore the Urdd's colours, baked biscuits and decorated the school with banners as part of the celebrations.

Penblwydd Hapus i'r Urdd!



PIC•COLLAGE



## Book Quiz

Congratulations to the Year 3 and 4, and Year 5 and 6 Book Quiz team for winning in the first round. Good luck to them in the next round.

## Choir Trip to Cardiff Bay

The Year 3-6 choir members had the chance to enjoy an overnight stay in the Urdd Centre in Cardiff Bay at the beginning of February. The pupils enjoyed learning the choir song, bowling, eating and watching a film!



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## Twmpath dawns

Year 3 and 4 pupils enjoyed taking part in a Twmpath at the start of February. They had a lovely afternoon learning new dancing skills.



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## Drama Practical exam

Over the past weeks, the Year 11, 12 and 13 Drama classes have been practising for their practical exam. A group of Year 13 pupils had chosen a scene from the drama 'Bryniau Glas Atgofion' and another pupil chose a monologue from the drama Macbeth. Year 12 chose to interpret the drama 'Tusk Tusk' by using Artaud theatre techniques. Year 13 decided to look at Artaud also. The method of Artaud includes Cruelty Theatre to create a deprivation of the senses and a feeling of fright and uneasiness.



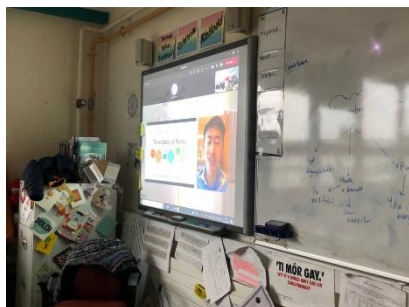
Artaud did this to awake the senses, nerves and hearts of the audience. The pupils certainly did this! They used fake blood, darkness, screeching, sound effects and even made the audience eat fondant that looked like realistic fingers!



Beca Roberts worked very hard on the clothing and they were very effective. A big thank you to Gareth Thomson too for helping with all the exams on the technical side with the lightning and sound. Congratulations to everyone!

## MIT Student

A few classes in the Science department had the privilege of having a virtual lesson from a student of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in January through the Global Teaching Labs in Wales. The programme co-ordinates sessions between MIT students who specializes in STEM and schools in Wales. This year the school collaborated with Daniel Zhang, a student who is studying for a BSc in Biology with the hope to study for a further degree to be a qualified doctor and to conduct research in cancer.



## No Waste Workshop

Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a No Waste workshop by Jennie Weaver. The pupils were taught how to cut down on everyday waste and they had the opportunity to create a body scrub to take home with them. Thank you Jennie.

## Moondance Project

Recently, Year 7 pupils have been discussing raising awareness of the bowel cancer screening process in their Moondance sessions. For more information go to: <https://bowelcanceruk.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/>



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## Dydd Miwsig Cymru

The purpose of Dydd Miwsig Cymru is to celebrate the variety of music that has been composed in Welsh and in Wales. It is an annual event and this year it took place on the 4th of February. To celebrate at Garth Olwg, we arranged plenty of events for the pupils and we encouraged staff to play Welsh music in their classes – it was great to hear Welsh music around the school.

To promote the event, the 3-19 pupils joined forces to create a video to the song Neidia by the band Gwilym. It was fun to create the video – you can watch it [here](#).

We also arranged a disco for years 5,6 and 7 at the end of the week. Everyone enjoyed dancing and playing games. Thank you to Gareth Thompson for DJing. There was also a competition for the pupils and congratulations to Grace Flynn, Year 7 for winning. It was a brilliant day and a chance to promote Welsh language music among the pupils !



## Urdd County Eisteddfod

Here are the results from the Urdd County Eisteddfod:

Folk singing yr 6 and under – 3rd: Olivia Thomas  
Singing Solo yr 3 & 4 – 2nd: Lillian Facey  
Recital yr 2 & under – 1st: Efa Norris, 2nd: Nel Spanswick  
Girls singing solo yr 10 & U19 – 2nd: Ffion Fairclough  
Singing Solo yr 2 & under – 1st: Eva Jones  
Folk singing yr 7,8, & 9- 1st: Mari Roberts, 2nd: Awen Rhys  
Piano recital yr 6 & under – 2nd: Beca George  
Recital yr 3 & 4 – 1st: Anni Gwyn  
Singing Solo yr 7,8,9 – 1st: Mari Roberts, 3rd: Awen Rhys  
Musical Solo – 1st: Georgia Evans, 2nd: Maisie Hill  
Recital Group yr 7-9 – 1st: Garth Olwg  
Ymgom yr 7-9 – 3rd: Garth Olwg  
Ymgom yr 10-13 – 1st: Garth Olwg  
Woodwind Solo U 19 – 1st: Elen Griffiths  
Recital Group yr 6 & under – 2nd: Garth Olwg  
Choir yr 6 & under – 2nd: Yr 5 & 6 Ysgol Garth Olwg  
Unison Party yr 6 & under – 1st: Garth Olwg  
Girls Party yr 7-9 – 1st: Garth Olwg  
Two part harmony group yr 6 & under – 2nd: Garth Olwg  
Creative dancing U 19 – 1st: Garth Olwg  
Solo Disco Dancing yr 7-9 – 1st: Zara Harden

Good luck to everyone representing the school in Denbigh!





## Ukraine Fundraiser

We had an array of activities on the last day of term collecting money for the Ukraine. It was great to see the School Council running stalls and games and it was wonderful to see the whole school coming together to raise money for such a worthy cause. We managed to raise £760 from the stalls alone not including the informal clothes!



## Poetry for the Planet

To celebrate International Poetry Day, the school took part in a competition by RCT to write a poem about looking after our planet. A hearty congratulations to our fantastic poets Pippa Conway from year 2 for winning the Foundation Phase competition and Poppy Jones year 6 for winning the Key Stage 2 competition. Excellent!



PIPPA CONWAY  
YEAR / BLWYDDYN 2 • YSGOL GARTH OLWG

### GOFALU AM EIN BYD

GOFALU AM EIN BYD  
COED GARW, MAWR YN TYFU YN ARAF FEL MALWODEN.  
HAUL, MELYN, MAWR YN TWYMO LAN FEL FI PAN RWY'N OER.  
CYMYLAU LLWYD YN SYMUD YN ARAF.  
GLASWELLT GWYRDD FEL BLANCED AR Y LLAWR.

MYNYDD GWYRDD YN FAWR FEL CASTELL.  
MŌR GLAS A GWLYB YN HELPŲ PYSGOD I ANADLU.  
PYSGOD LLIWGAR YN NOFIO FEL Y GWYNT.  
TONNAU'R DŴR GLAS YN TARO'R CREIGIAU.

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Welsh Poetry

Welsh Poetry

Welsh Poetry

POPPY JONES  
YEAR / BLWYDDYN 6 • YSGOL GARTH OLWG

### HELPŲ GDYDA AILGYLCHU

DWI EISIAU BYW MEWN BYD SY'N IACHUS,  
LLIWGAR A PHAWB YN GALLU ANADLU.  
DWI EISIAU BYW MEWN BYD LLE MAE PAWB  
YN WEN O GLUST I GLUST.  
DWI EISIAU BYW MEWN BYD NATURIOL A PHERT.

DWI DDIM EISIAU BYW MEWN BYD  
LLE MAE LLAWER O BLASTIG PERYGLUS YM MHOB MAN.  
DWI DDIM EISIAU BYW MEWN BYD  
LLE MAE BINIAU BRWNT MOR FAWR A MYNYDD.  
DWI DDIM EISIAU BYW MEWN BYD  
DI-LIW A DREWLLYD.

CRIO MAER COED O WELD EIN DAEAR DU A'R GWASTRAFF.  
Y DRWG YN Y CAWS YDYN NI.  
HELPŲCH I DROI'R BYD YN ÔL YN LLIWGAR.

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Welsh Poetry

Welsh Poetry

Welsh Poetry



## School disco on the yard

The pupils love dancing to Welsh music on the yard every Friday. Hei Mistar Urdd is the favourite so far!

## Looking after our World

Our theme this term is looking after our world

and the Nursery and Reception classes have enjoyed going around the school collecting rubbish and recycling. The pupils are looking forward to learning more about our world this term.



## Cycling skills

Year 6 pupils had the opportunity to cycle to improve their skills this term. They started on the yard to pass level 1 and then there was an opportunity for some to go out on the road. They learned the rules of the road to pass level 2. Thank you to the trainers who came to the school.



## Martyn Geraint Show

It was great to welcome Martyn Geraint back to the Lower School to entertain the Nursery and Reception pupils a few weeks ago. They loved singing and dancing and learning new songs. Come back soon Martyn!

## Lessons From Auschwitz

During my time taking part in the Lessons from Auschwitz course, I have had the chance to learn so many things that I would have missed if I had not participated. We had four online sessions where we had the chance to talk to Eva Clarke who is a holocaust survivor. Being given this opportunity to do a Q and A with someone who experienced first-hand what it was like living in Auschwitz Birkenau was very surreal. In addition to this, through the medium of Virtual Reality, three others and I were able to tour the camp and gain a new perspective on what we had heard by seeing it for ourselves. We were given headsets and had the chance to visit many of the notable features of the camp, which gave me a new perspective and allowed me to gain an insight into the vast impact this had on the lives of those involved. In particular, seeing the bunks where the prisoners stayed came as a real shock and echoed the messages throughout the project of the individuals involved and affected by the Holocaust. I feel very grateful to have been given this opportunity as an A Level History and RE student at Ysgol Garth Olwg and have learnt a lot through this experience, which will support my studies. Megan Bowen Bl.12



## Cardiff University Masterclass Project

On Monday the 28th of February, an awards ceremony was held for all Ysgol Garth Olwg History A Level students who took part in the Merthyr Rising workshop. We were invited to celebrate and be awarded for our creative projects inspired by the topic after a workshop conducted in Aberystwyth in December in conjunction with Cardiff University. Our creative works included art pieces, musical compositions, creative writings such as diary entries and writings of scripting and poetry. The entries were many and the prizes were much appreciated and everybody who attended - teachers, university staff and students included - enjoyed! My main highlight was when I was awarded 1st prize for my blend of a play and poem underscored by an original musical composition. I was very grateful to receive this award not just because of the level of personal effort but also due to the high standard of other entries. I was very honoured and humbled to be recognised in this way. Personally, I had a great experience and it was incredibly exciting seeing the pieces my peers had created - work that came in all shapes and sizes. It was a fabulous evening and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to take part in this activity. I found it to be a brilliant creative outlet to express myself and for me it was the perfect opportunity to harness my script writing skills alongside my poetry writing and musical composition skills. It was an amazing and invaluable experience for my classmates and I as we prepare for university education with this opportunity displaying the different forms university work may take.



Diolch yn fawr iawn i Miss Higgins and the staff at Cardiff University for this valuable educational experience where we were able to learn about our history and the injustices our fellow citizens faced in the past. Samuel Davies - Year 13





## Dear Evan Hansen

On Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, a group of drama pupils went to London for the day to watch Dear Evan Hansen. We had to leave the school very early but before long we were half way there and we stopped at the services to stretch our legs and grab a bacon roll from Greggs and a coffee from Costa – this certainly woke us up! We then continued our journey to London. We were dropped off at Trafalgar Square where we had two hours of free time. The year 7 pupils made a beeline to the Lego shop and M&Ms World to spend all their money. Others decided to have some lunch – some went to McDonalds whilst other people wanted something fancier and had a slap up meal at Pizza Express! Then, it was time for the show – and what a show it was! Dear Evan Hansen tells the story of a teenage boy that suffers from social anxiety – a relevant topic for young people these days. The songs were fantastic – some were catchy while others were very sad. The show came to an end and then it was time to get the coach back to school. We had a very memorable day and we would like to thank Miss Jones for organising the trip. It was lovely to finally be back in a theatre after such a long time away.



## Tansistion Day – Expressive Arts – Garth’s Arts



Our year 5 and 6 pupils were welcomed to the art department to take part in a workshop. The pupils had been studying the local area and had been looking carefully at the buildings in the surrounding area. At the workshop we presented work inspired by the artist Cefyn Burgess, who is well known for his work on Chapels and Churches. The pupils had the opportunity to study examples of his work and discuss the techniques he uses to create his work. The pupils drew their own buildings and were inspired by the buildings, chapels and churches in our village. Buildings were designed and drawn, then painted to add any details. Following the workshop, pupils had the opportunity to display their work. The pupils enjoyed their experience in the department and they also attracted the attention of Cefyn Burgess himself with their inspirational work after tweeting their outcomes!

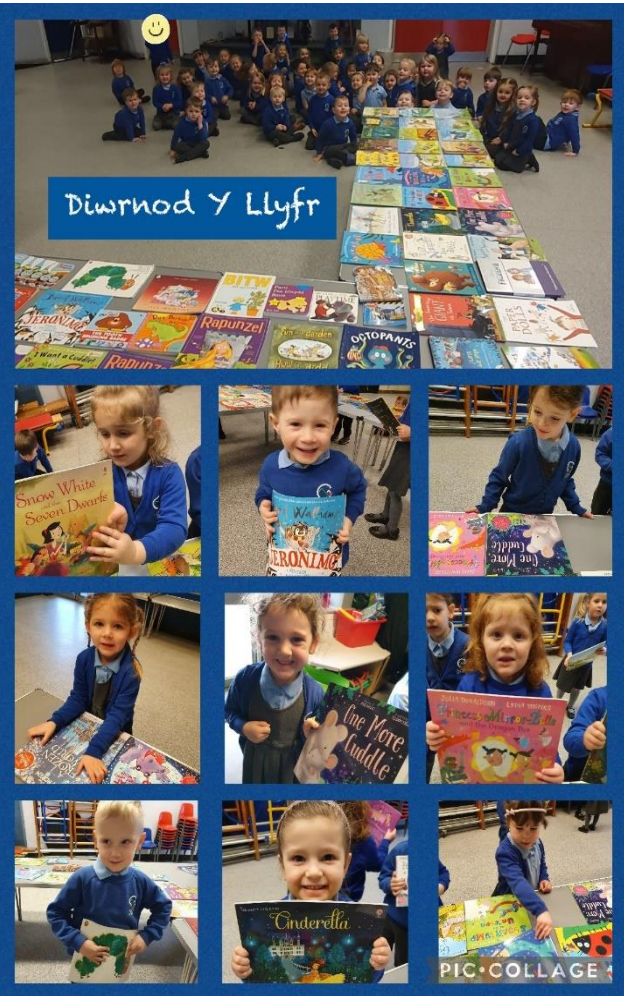
### INSET Days

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022





## World Book Day 2022

The excitement at the Middle School was palpable as they celebrated literature on World Book Day this year. Pupils had the opportunity to take part in a quiz and to participate in a range of competitions. Well done to everyone who took part!

Congratulations to all winners. A special thank you also to Miss Gunn for dressing up once again!



## Young Friends of the Earth Pontypridd

It was a pleasure to see the great work our pupils Alice Hanks-Doyle, Isla Powell, Elin Rees, Dan and Iwan Wright are doing for our planet in their spare time. They are members of the Young Friends of the Earth group in Pontypridd who work tirelessly campaigning for changes to address the climate emergency. They recently won an award from RCT but turned it down on the basis that the local authority needs to do much more to tackle the very

real environmental issues faced in their area. This story featured on BBC News and The Guardian and you can read more about it by following the links below. We are very proud of our pupils for standing up for what they believe in!

[The Guardian](#)

[BBC News](#)



Half Term Dates	Start	Finish
5 (Summer 2022)	25/04/2022	27/05/2022
6 (Summer 2022)	06/06/2022	22/07/2022

## Sporting Success

### The Road to the Principality!

Congratulations to the Year 9 Rugby Team on reaching the Welsh Cup Final at the Principality Stadium! They will compete against Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr on the 25th of April at 14:15.

During their journey to reach the final they beat Whitchurch High School 14-17 before beating Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun 24-29 in a back and forth game with an interception try by Harry Davies in the dying seconds to secure victory in treacherous conditions!

Next up was the semi-final against Ysgol Bro Teifi. The match was played in Merthyr Tydfil at the Wern. Despite being 7-5 up at half time after a try by Tomas Norcup, the boys found themselves losing 10-7 midway through the second half. A second half try by Ioan Leyshon put the boys back ahead 12-10 and that's how the game ended. It was a competitive game but a deserved victory for the boys! Good luck in the final boys!



### Roslyn Park 7 a side Tournament

Congratulations to the year 9 and 11 7-a-side rugby teams for their performance in the Roslyn Park tournament. The year 9 team won their group beating St John's School 15-12, Hereford Catholic School 34-5 and St Joseph's College 17-5. Despite losing to Oakham School in the elimination round, they managed to reach the second day of the competition. On the second day, they lost to The Crypt School 21-31 before beating Barnard Castle School 19-12 but unfortunately this was the end of year 9's journey.

The year 11 team also won their group. They beat Llandoverly College 31-7, Shrewsbury School 27-7 and Cheltenham College 29-

0. Unfortunately they lost to Warwick School 0-35 in the elimination round, which ended their competition. All the boys really enjoyed competing in such a prestigious tournament.



Congratulations to the Year 9 & 10 girls football team and to the Year 7 boys team who have won a place in the semi finals of the RCT Cup.



Congratulations to three of our former pupils – Ioan Emmanuel, Harri Wilde and Thomas Edwards on winning their first cap for the Wales U18 rugby team. Well done boys!

Congratulations to Paige Ward and Millie Davies who have been chosen to represent the Welsh Under 16 Schoolgirls team and to Steffan Emmanuel who has been chosen for the boys team.

Congratulations to the Year 9 and 10 basketball team for winning the RCT competition. The year 7 and 8, 9 and 10 and 11,12 and 13 teams also had a great experience in the regional rounds. The standard of playing was very high and the year 8 and year 10 girls team managed to reach the Welsh National round!



Congratulations to Kacey Peck and Ruby Neale for winning a dancing competition in the WDP Dancing World Cup!



Congratulations to the school's Dance Crazy dancers on their success in March.

