



# Autumn Newsletter 2014



In the Summer Term 2014 Newsletter I expressed how excited we were, as a school, to be looking forward to the Autumn Term 2014. It has not disappointed! We have enjoyed highly successful Year 6 and Sixth Form Open Evenings and once again have been overwhelmed with interest by students wishing to study at Cardiff High School. It is wonderful to see such faith put in us by parents, not just in this community but also across Cardiff.

Much of this is based on our exceptional exam results. Last year 87% of all Year 11 students achieved 5 A\*-C grades, the highest figure ever recorded in Wales with 36% of all students attaining 5A\*-A grades including English and Maths. We were equally as proud that all of our Year 11 leavers left with a minimum of 5 A\*-G grades. In the Sixth Form, our students, both individual and collectively, achieved some of the highest results in Wales. Of course the school is so much more than this. It is a welcoming, caring environment with a wonderful Wellbeing and Achievement Team to support all pupils in their learning.

In spite of the challenging times ahead, with huge curriculum changes due early next year and further financial pressures afoot, we go from strength to strength and I hope that you will continue to support us in our aspirations.

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) was, until recently, known as the Cardiff High School Partnership, a charity which was founded in 2002. The purpose of the PTA is to raise funds to support the school in its drive to provide outstanding facilities and enrich the day to day lives of the pupils.

The need to fundraise is of continuing importance to support our children and improve the schools facilities. Many thanks to all parents who give by Direct Debit or Text Donate, who have joined our School Lottery or have attended a fundraising event. All your donations go directly to benefit our children and enhance their school experience. This term a canopy outside Ty Celyn and sports equipment have been purchased through the PTA donations and as always, this is very much appreciated by all the pupils and staff. (Please see the end of term letter sent home to parents which includes correspondence from the Chair of the PTA)

We wish you a very enjoyable festive period and a Happy New Year.

S M JONES  
Headteacher

# German



The academic year had barely begun when the thoughts of many of our year 9 German students turned to Christmas! Why? Well because our annual trip to the Christmas Markets in Cologne! Following the success of our inaugural visit last year, 40 more students have signed up for a weekend of sausage or schnitzel eating, souvenir shopping and, of course, chocolate munching in the Chocolate Museum in the city centre!

Cologne (Köln in German), by my reckoning, is one of the most beautiful and enigmatic cities in Germany. Here, Christmas shopping in some of the oldest Christmas markets in Europe is made even more special by the backdrop of Cologne Cathedral and the Hohenzollern Bridge. It is without doubt one of the highlights of the German Department's calendar. As year 7 and 8 wistfully await their turn, the students in years 12 and 13 are looking forward to showing off their language skills in Berlin as we plan our February visit to the capital. Year 13 students are excited because we intend to visit sights that they will recognise from scenes in the film that they are studying. The DDR Museum, the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, the Fernsehturm and the East Side Gallery, which is the last remaining part of the Berlin Wall, will be the high point of our visit and yes, maybe the odd Currywurst will also be eaten.

On a different note, it was a real pleasure for the department to meet soon-to-be Cardiff High students when Year 6 visited us on Open Evening in October. It was a joy to see how enthusiastically they took part in the language quiz that we put on! (We think we may have a few prospective A-level candidates already!) To give these youngsters an idea of what learning German in Cardiff High is like, we asked our current year 7 pupils to write down a few thoughts about their own experiences after just 7 weeks with us and we were overwhelmed (although not really surprised) by the comments made. You can read a few for yourselves on this page!

The Year 9 Options Evening also proved to be hugely successful and the prospective high numbers of students opting for German next year is a testament to our vibrant and thriving department. Indeed, the department would like to congratulate our GCSE students on their success in the subject this Summer, which saw over 97% of students achieving A\*-C grades. We would also like to wish our successful A Level students all the best in their future endeavours and studies and we were, once again, pleased to see some continuing with German at University. We are always proud to have been able to instil a love and passion for languages in others. Long may it continue, or should we say 'lange soll es anhalten'!



# Cardiff High School

---

## Ysgol Uwchradd Caerdydd

**P**arent  
**T**eacher  
**A**ssociation

 [WWW.CARDIFFHIGH.CO.UK](http://WWW.CARDIFFHIGH.CO.UK)



Follow us on Twitter @CHS\_PTA

Registered Charity Number: 1063086

The Cardiff High School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) has got off to a great start since September. Lots of events have been organised with many more to come.

School departments and pupils around the school are benefitting with new equipment. The PTA recently funded outdoor seating, a canopy and table tennis for the Ty Celyn 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre.



We have also attended all Parents evenings, the Presentation of Awards evening and the Autumn Concert to serve snacks and refreshments. We recently held a Quiz night and a Christmas Market which was a great success also, and we raised over £500. Thank you to stall holders who took part and to those who attended our festive event.

Our next events will be our Multicultural Food Evening and our Boden Shopping Evening. To keep up to date with what is happening follow us on twitter @CHS\_PTA or keep an eye on our webpage [CHS PTA Webpage](#)  
If you would like to get in touch with us to make suggestions or to offer help please email  
[PTA@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk)





# Cardiff High School

## Ysgol Uwchradd Caerdydd

**P**arent  
**T**eacher  
**A**ssociation

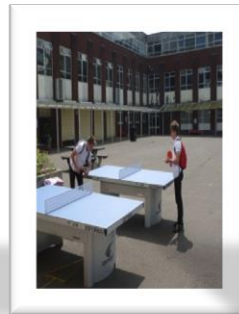
 [WWW.CARDIFFHIGH.CO.UK](http://WWW.CARDIFFHIGH.CO.UK)



Follow us on Twitter @CHS\_PTA

Registered Charity Number:1063086

### Some of the things we have achieved with help from the PTA



### Some of the things we would like to achieve



£15,000

Science Lab Upgrade



- Apple technology
- Cloud storage technology
- Upgrade PCs
- New technology for Learning Hub

IT Equipment

£1,500



Green Screen Technology

£6,000



Front of school ATP

£4,000



Basketball Hoops & Court

£1,600



Sports Equipment



Outdoor Auditorium



Outdoor equipment



Outdoor Astro Turf



Outdoor Seating

## Catering for the 6<sup>th</sup> Form

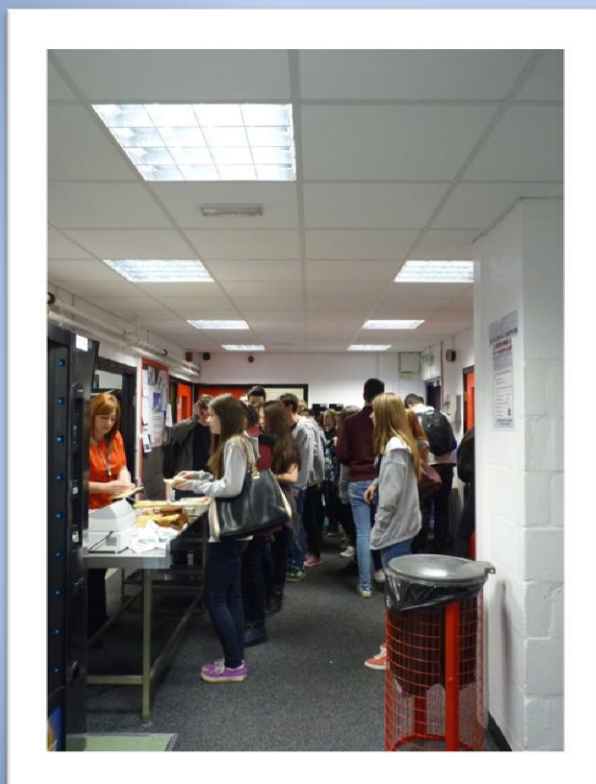
After a lot of disruption during the reorganisation, the 6<sup>th</sup> Form are now settled into their new home in Ty Celyn and really pleased to have a base. Senior staff recently met with the Senior Prefects Team and discussed how we could encourage them to stay on site and use our facilities, especially with the winter weather coming.

Following those discussions, a “Breakfast Café” service has been introduced in the smaller canteen especially for 6<sup>th</sup> form use between 9am and 10am, where those students who don’t have a lesson, can purchase a light breakfast. All the food is cooked fresh to order and students have access to the TV which is showing the BBC News Channel while they wait. Many students use the facility to enjoy tea and toast while catching up on a bit of study.

A break time tuck shop trolley has also been introduced in the 6<sup>th</sup> form centre.

After Christmas we plan to introduce a system of pre-ordering for the 6<sup>th</sup> Form with a selection of items available for delivery and collection from the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Office in order to save on congestion in the canteen during the lunch period.

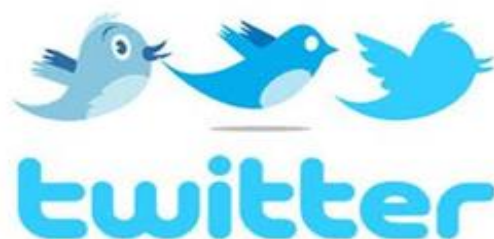
Feedback from the 6<sup>th</sup> Form is very positive and long may it continue to be so.





[www.facebook.com/cardiffhighschool](http://www.facebook.com/cardiffhighschool)

Our page on facebook for all the latest updates and news



Go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and search @officialCHS



[www.cardiffhigh.co.uk](http://www.cardiffhigh.co.uk)



If you haven't yet signed up to Parentmail2 please email [sarah.young@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.young@cardiff.gov.uk) for an activation code.



# LLANISHEN RFC

## Looking for a venue to hold your function ?

Be it a reception for a christening, birthday, engagement, wedding, anniversary, funeral or other general entertainment the Club has the staff, function room and facilities to meet your needs. We can offer a Club facility :

- with a fully licensed bar and function room able to accommodate up to 185 guests
- licenced for music and areas for dancing
- with a kitchen for caterers and food preparation
- able to accommodate daytime bookings for functions and meetings as well as evening events
- with car parking available on-site
- with accommodating staff who will meet your requirements
- that can be hired at highly competitive rates

**Interested ? - see overleaf also**

**For information: contact Becki Marshall (Bar Manager) 07771-906813 or 029-20761-688 or [beckimarshall@gmail.com](mailto:beckimarshall@gmail.com)**

### **Website**

After Sept 1st: [www.LlanishenRFC.mywru.co.uk](http://www.LlanishenRFC.mywru.co.uk)

Prior to Sept 1st: <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/llanishen/>

# LLANISHEN RFC



*"look no further than your local sports club when you are thinking of holding your next social function"*



**For enquiries:**

**BECKI MARSHALL  
(BAR MANAGER)**

**07771-906813**

**OR**

**029-20761-688**

[beckimarshall@gmail.com](mailto:beckimarshall@gmail.com)

**Club House  
Ty-Glas Avenue  
Llanishen  
Cardiff  
CF14 5DX**

**See overleaf also**





# Geography



## **Geography in Action: Year 12 and 13 Fieldwork**

During October, both Year 12 and 13 Geography students took part in fieldwork. Year 12 students visited the Afon Llia River near Ystradfellte in the Brecon Beacons. Here they undertook a river survey measuring a variety of variables, including gradient, velocity, width and depth. Year 13 visited the Glamorgan Heritage coastline at Southerdown and Ogmore-by-Sea. The students were able to see geography in action looking at depositional and erosional features. These two fieldtrips enhanced the classroom-based theory. A fun time was had by all!



Year 13 Coastal Fieldwork



Year 12 River Fieldwork

## **Year 11 GCSE Revision**

The Geography Department has been running cross-age tutoring for Year 11 students every Tuesday lunch hour. Year 12 students mentor the GCSE pupils to develop their examination techniques. Alongside this, the department is running three revision sessions per week to further develop understanding of the syllabus topics. All are welcome!

## **Thank You**

A big thank you is to be given to Karen Pryce, who has been in the department since January covering maternity leave. She has been an asset to the department. We wish her luck for the future!

# *Physical Education*

## **Jordan Fender and Lauren Evans (Athletics)**

Both Jordan (Y11) and Lauren (Y10) competed in the recent Welsh Combined events Championships in NIAC, Cardiff Met. Lauren who set a new Personal Best of 1.65m in the High Jump, competed very well and in all 5 events and eventually finished runner up. Meanwhile Jordan took advantage of an injury to close rival and friend Harry Hillman to win the Under 18 section and became Welsh Champion. Both Jordan and Lauren have now been selected to represent Wales in the Celtic International in Glasgow later this month. We wish them the very best of luck!

## **Rugby**

The school continues to provide a rich diet of rugby for the pupils and several games and tournaments have been played to date. The Year 11 squad won the Cardiff Schools 7-a-side plate tournament in September. The success of the Senior Rugby Team has been remarkable. Remaining unbeaten all season, they top the Blues South League, winning seven and drawing 1 game. They recently defeated Carleon in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the Welsh cup. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round game v Glantaf in which the teams drew 10-10 in the league proved to be quite an occasion – with an overwhelming victory of 15 – 15!

Dan Shwartz (Y11) continues his progress playing for the Blues South u16 team and Prince Faraji (Y10) is making his mark in the Dewar shield Cardiff Schools team. Well done both!

## **Cross Country**

The Boys Cross Country teams continue to run impressively and this was highlighted by the recent success of the Senior Boys team. Having already secured the South Wales Regional team event, they were hot favourites to win the National Inter Schools title in Brecon on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. They did not disappoint!! With John Cove (2nd) Nick Jones (12<sup>th</sup>) , Abdi Osman (17th) and Oliver Hassey (16<sup>th</sup>) the team defeated every other team from Wales. This is the third consecutive year that the Senior Boys have won this title.

# *Physical Education*

## Girls Cross-County

48 girls have competed for the school this term with particular success for the senior girls, who were victorious within the Cardiff and Vale League. Year 7 claimed an excellent third place within their league whilst the seniors also picked up gold in the South Wales Championship along with silver in the Welsh Schools Championship in Brecon. Emily Griffin was crowned South Wales Senior Champion after an outstanding run in Trelai Park and was very unfortunate to lose out in the league when pulling out unwell during the last race.

## Girls Football

It has been great to see so many girls show an interest and attend girls' football. This year has seen the school enter the Welsh cup for the first time with the 7+8 girls unfortunately losing in the first round, but the 9+10 team are still in the competition (at time of edit). Anna Richards, Millie Gall, Caitlin Bevan and Susie Davies have all been training with the Cardiff and Vale County squads this season also. Player of the term is Talia Qureshi.

## Transition

This term has seen the Year 6 pupils enjoy a successful cross-country afternoon on the school's grounds with Roath Park Primary victorious overall. During the next term, there will be a football and netball tournament along with a dance festival.

## Year 7 Netball and Hockey

Over 30 girls have been regularly training for the netball team and competition is high for places in match squads. The B Team has lost only one of its 5 matches while the A team remain unbeaten so far. Player(s) of the term is everyone!

Again, over 30 girls have attended training for the hockey teams and they have started the season well with the A team, just like the netball, unbeaten so far. They will begin to expand from 7-a-side to 11-a-side full pitch after Christmas. Player of the term is Rachel Jones.

## Year 8 Netball and Hockey

Just like the year 7 teams, the year 8s have had over 30 girls regularly attending training. Unfortunately they have not had a huge amount of matches this term; however many have been arranged for after Christmas. The B Team did well in their tournament in October, finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in their group.

Year 8 hockey girls have got off to a flying start this term, only narrowly losing one of their matches so far. Further matches have been arranged, with preparation key before the county finals qualifying rounds after Christmas! Player of the term is Molly Powell.



# *Physical Education*

## **Year 9 Netball and Hockey**

Congratulations to the Year 9 Netball team who have had a fantastic start to the season. They have successfully won all of their Year 9 matches apart from a closely contested match against the current County Champions, Glantaf. The girls gave them a hard fought match eventually losing 9-12. The Year 9 team also played a Year 11 touring side from Mid Wales and again gave the team a very competitive match whilst just losing in the last few minutes, but it was a great experience for them. The B squad have also had much success on the court, winning many matches and greatly improving throughout the season. It is great to regularly see over 20 girls at weekly training sessions.

The squad are now looking forward to the Prelims of the County Tournament and aiming to make the County Finals for the first time.

The Year 9 hockey team have made a competitive start to the season and are looking forward to playing Bishop of Llandaff and Bro Ederny before Christmas with their County Tournament taking place in January.

## **Climbers Update**

CHS climbers Gabe Harcombe (Y7), Emily Phillips (Y7), Ben Smith (Y8), David Souter (Y8), Lucas Harcombe (Y9), Rebeca Smith (Y9) have been competing regularly in National competitions. Highlights have included Lucas' 7<sup>th</sup> place finish in the Welsh Championships, Ben finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> and Emily becoming Welsh Champion! Ben and Emily are due to compete in the British Leading Championships. Good luck to both!

## **Basketball**

The Y11 basketball team, lead by Mr Friedl, is in fine form. The boys have recently been crowned Cardiff Games Champions, defeating Mary Immaculate in the final. They have also qualified for the next round of the National Championships after winning the South Wales Championships after defeating Treorchy, Pontllanfraith and Bassaleg.



# *Physical Education*

**YEAR 10 NETBALL:** The year 10 netball squad remain undefeated again this season and were crowned NATIONAL URDD CHAMPIONS 2014 on the 13<sup>th</sup> November at the largest Urdd tournament ever held. 48 schools competed for the title. The team have been county champions for the last 3 years and they are preparing for the county tournament to be held on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> at Whitchurch High School.

**YEAR 10 HOCKEY:** The year 10 hockey team remain undefeated this season after beating Llanishen 5v0 and drawing with a very strong Howells team 1v1. We look forward to their county tournament in February 2015 and welcoming an Argentinian touring team in January.

**SENIOR NETBALL:** The senior netball squad have had some very pleasing and emphatic victories over local schools in friendly matches, but none more so than their recent victory in the President's Cup competition. They now progress to the next round as Cardiff and Vale Champions.

**SENIOR HOCKEY:** The senior squad came runners up to Plasmawr in the group stages of the U18 county tournament to Plasmawr. They look forward to welcoming an Argentinian touring team on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

**HUB SELECTION:** A number of talented netballers have been identified and selected for the various hubs organised by Welsh Netball.

**LA HUB:** Sophie Lacey yr10, Eve Bryant and Daisy Morgan yr9.

**DEVELOPMENT HUB:** Izzy Richards yr10, Grace Lim yr9

**PERFORMANCE HUB:** Molly Murphy, Elysse Haywood, Lauren Evans yr10 and Caitlin Xerri yr11.

**INTERNATIONAL HONOURS:** Congratulations to Elysse Haywood who has been selected for the Welsh Netball U17 squad for 2014-2015.

**TENNIS:** Many congratulations to Erin Oelmann, Alex Oelmann, Grace Lim & Beth Jenkins who became Yr9-10 South Wales Champions and then went on to Backwell School Bristol, Cheltenham Ladies College and St Mary's School before being defeated by Talbot Heath, the eventual South West Regional Champions in the Regional finals held in Exeter. The girls finished an extremely respectable 9<sup>th</sup> in GB! Special thanks to Dr Spiller for transporting the girls to their finals in Exeter and supervising their home match against Cheltenham Ladies College.

**SILVER YOUNG AMBASSADORS:** Congratulations to Molly Murphy and Shaheer Khan yr10 who have been selected as the Silver Ambassadors for sport in Cardiff High School and the local area.

# Physical Education

## FOOTBALL ROUND UP

It's been a very busy start to the 2014-15 season at CHS with cup games in the Cardiff and Vale and Welsh School's Cups being played in addition to many friendly games.

## KS3 HIGHLIGHTS

The goal scoring form of Y8 pupil Toby Yebdri has been outstanding; Toby has scored 10 goals in just 3 games to help the team to wins against Bro Edern and Glantaf. Y9 were knocked out of the Welsh cup by Bishop in a closely fought 3-2 defeat but are awaiting a last 16 game v Glantaf in the Cardiff and Vale Cup.



## KS4 HIGHLIGHTS

Y10 produced a fantastic team display to beat Llanishen in the Welsh Cup, Iwan Rhys-Jones scoring twice in a 3-1 win. The boys then came back from 2-0 down to defeat Fitzalan on penalties. However a last minute goal by Llantwit Major meant the boys were knocked out of the Welsh Cup in heart breaking fashion. Y11 have are into the quarter finals of the Cardiff and Vale cup; the goals of Joe Tong and performances of Tiago DeBrito Michallef have been crucial to their early success.





# Physical Education

## SENIOR HIGHLIGHTS

The Senior football team is in great form and is currently undefeated in eight cup fixtures this season. They have qualified for the last 16 of the Welsh Cup following a 3-1 win against Whitchurch, with Nick Davies scoring twice. The team is also into the quarter finals of the U19s Collage's cup following a comprehensive 6-0 win against Cwmcarn; Joe Tong and Seb James finishing off excellent team moves. The boys are also in the hat for the next round of the Cardiff and Vale Cup, following a 5-1 win v Stanwell.

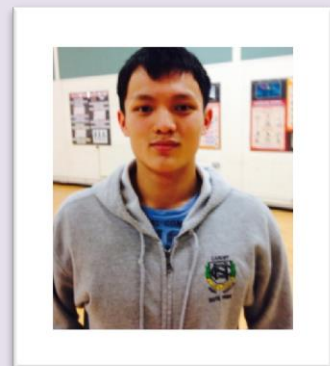
## RACE FOR THE GOLDEN BOOT

Y11 pupil Joe Tong currently leads the way with 11 goals, but is just one in front of Y8 pupil Toby Yebdri. Last year's winner Nick Davies (Y12) currently has 8 goals this term, tied with striker partner Seb James (Y13).



### Ethan Ren – Year 13 (Fencing)

It is a pleasure to announce the fantastic achievements of Ethan Ren in Year 13 who has taken the Fencing world by storm. Ethan won a silver medal in the 2014 Sainsbury's school games in the team event; whilst representing Wales. He will captain the Wales region at this year's Cadet Winton cup. He has made the selection criteria for the 2015 South Africa Junior Commonwealths this summer. Ethan is the no. 1 ranked U20 Welsh fencer (ranked 13th in Great Britain). He was selected as part of the GB squad to fence at the 2014 Plovdiv Junior World Cup in Bulgaria. In his first year of competing at senior level, he is ranked among the top 50 seniors in Great Britain



### Aron Syversen (Boxing)

Aron recently competed in the Welsh Under 60kg Novice championships in Swansea and became Welsh champion. Huge congratulations to Aron on this remarkable achievement.



## **CHS FOOTBALL BLOG**

This term has seen the launch of the Cardiff High School Football Blog, giving pupils a chance to write match reports and articles about all things football. The blog has already enjoyed some considerable success with 8 pupils being selected by Cardiff City to watch a match at the Cardiff City Stadium and write a report for the following week's programme. Joe Richards of 12K impressed Cardiff City so much with his writing that he now contributes regularly to the Cardiff City website and match day programmes!

Here is a blog entry from Millie Gall and Anna Richards about their experience at the Cardiff City Stadium which has also featured in Cardiff City's match day programme 'CF11':

"On Tuesday 23rd of September we were invited to attend the Capital One Cup fixture between Cardiff and Bournemouth, and were lucky enough to have the opportunity to write the match report. We arrived at the stadium at 6:30 and we were taken to the press room where all the other reporters were for that match.



Shortly after we were taken through the tunnel and into the dugout area. It was amazing to feel like one of the players and we could see how big and amazing the stadium looked. We were then taken up to the press box where we found our seats. The view of the pitch was incredible; we really felt as if we were the real reporters for that match. We had never felt so important and special before. As the match kicked off, we took out our pens and paper and were ready to start jotting down important notes. At the end of the first half, we were taken back to the press room and were given a nice big slice of chocolate cake and were also provided with hot and soft drinks. We enjoyed this because we are used to nagging our dads for chips and a drink and this time we didn't even have to open our mouths! In the second half we continued taking notes and enjoying the game. As the second half ended, we left our seats to go to the press conference where we heard Scott Young and Eddie Howe speak about their thoughts of the game. We tried our best to take notes however they spoke too fast for our hands to move! Once the press conference had finished we managed to convince Mr Curnow and Mr Wise to take us to McDonald's. Unfortunately we had to pay ourselves! Overall, the experience was one to remember and we would both definitely do it again."

# Learning Support

## Perfect Paired Partnership

The Year 12 pupils who have volunteered their time are proving a very valuable asset in supporting Learning Support with Paired Reading and Spelling. Forty Year 12s meet with the Learning Support Assistants (LSA) every Wednesday and Thursday during Registration in the Library, working with pupils who require extra input with their literacy skills.

Paired Reading works through texts of different genres, developing comprehension skills to be used across the curriculum, while Paired Spelling gives the pupils an opportunity to practise and learn different spelling patterns, with a game of Boggle proving to be competitive amongst all pupils and LSAs. The scores are being counted and verified for Spelling Champion of each group, with winners to be announced at the end of the term.





# Law

## Law in Action at Cardiff Crown Court

Thirty-two year 12 pupils visited Cardiff Crown Court in October to witness criminal trial procedure in action. After a tour of the courts, library and interview rooms, pupils had the opportunity to sit in on various trials to observe judges, barristers, ushers and clerks at work as well as listening to witnesses giving evidence. Pupils were moved by judges passing their verdict and handing down sentences, especially when the defendants were taken from the court back to the cells. The day ended with the parents of Darrell Simester (the victim in the Doran case) giving the many news groups a press release on how his son is recovering from the forced labour he did for 13 years. The visit to the court motivated many pupils and helped some pupils decide on their future work experience plans.

Plans are also underway for pupils to visit the Houses of Parliament for a tour and workshop, the Old Bailey Central Criminal Court to observe the most serious criminal cases and the Supreme Court – the final appeal court in England and Wales – for a tour.





## The basics of cycling safety

- Look behind before you turn, overtake or stop
- Use arm signals before you turn right or left
- Obey traffic lights and road signs
- Do not ride on the pavement unless there is a sign saying that you can
- On busy or narrow roads do not cycle next to another person
- When overtaking parked cars, watch out for car doors opening suddenly
- Do not listen to a personal stereo while cycling



# Maths Department News

It has been an exciting first term in the Maths department, with both staff and students involved in many wonderful activities over the last couple of months. Our long-running Maths Surgery has seen a record number of attendees, as just under half of our Year 11's prepared for their maths GCSE in November. Heartfelt thanks go to all the staff and the Year 12 and 13 students who help to make it such a success.

## **How to help at home**

With the prevalence of Numeracy and Literacy in education, on 12<sup>th</sup> November Mrs Greenwood and Miss Ayres teamed up with members of the English department to run a workshop aimed at Key Stage 3 parents, sharing useful strategies to support literacy and numeracy development at home. The evening was attended by approximately 100 parents, many of whom gave very positive feedback about the event.

Developing students' confidence in numeracy is hugely important and one of the main messages of the workshop was to have a 'can improve' attitude. It was discussed that, as an adult, saying things such as 'I can't do maths' can only serve to have a negative impact on any young person hearing it. Various methods and games that could be used to support and develop a child's numeracy at any level of proficiency were introduced, explained and competitively taken part in! It is hoped that there will be another workshop in the New Year focusing more on the problem solving element of numeracy.

## **Our talented mathematicians continue to shine**

Following on from last year's mathematical successes, the start of this academic year has seen some excellent achievements by our Key Stage 5 students. Over 70 Year 12 and 13 students took part in the Senior Maths Challenge, with 34 of these students receiving a bronze, silver or gold certificate. Congratulations go to Ethan Ren, who has qualified for the first round of the British Mathematical Olympiad, and Eleri Williams who has qualified for the Senior Kangaroo.

Ethan and Eleri were joined by Matthew Pritchard and Darren Luu to compete in the Senior Team Maths Challenge on 20<sup>th</sup> November. Against stiff competition from 18 schools in South Wales, they remained in the top five teams throughout the day's events, eventually coming in fifth. This is an impressive achievement and continues Cardiff High's tradition of being strong performers in these events.

In 2015, it will be the turn of our Key Stage 3 and 4 students to show their mathematical prowess with the Intermediate and Junior Maths Challenges occurring in February and April, respectively. In June it will also be time for our Year 8 and 9 students to defend Cardiff High's Team Maths Challenge title from last year, where we beat 25 other schools from South Wales to have the chance to compete nationally. The results from the National Final in London were exceptional; despite being in competition with 80 of the best schools in the whole country, we succeeded in coming fifth. It will be a tough act to follow this year, but we are confident that with our excellent Year 8 and 9 students we will have a fighting chance!



## Cardiff High School 3<sup>rd</sup> in Welsh Schools Chess Championship

The popularity of Chess Club continues and it's members have been busy this year, with many promising Year 7 students joining in the fun. They meet twice weekly in T4 and as well as playing games, they learn chess openings and discuss chess tactics. Mr Nicol has challenged students of all ages to a game and remains unbeaten this year - although he has confided that he's not sure this will last much longer!

At the beginning of November, four students were selected to represent the school at the Welsh Schools Chess Championship held in Merthyr. They were up against older and more experienced students but performed exceptionally well and secured an impressive third place. Well done boys!

For more chess news, tournaments, puzzles and photos follow @CHSChess on Twitter.



# Yr Adran Gymraeg

## A level success

The department is very proud of the success gained by our year 13 students. All 8 achieved a C grade or above in the summer with every student achieving an A grade in the oral exam. The examiner could not fault their enthusiasm and love for the language. Many thanks to all who help with Clwb Cinio. Arthur Morris Jones, Eleri Bevan, Margaret Davies and Lona Roberts have been visiting school every fortnight to chat to our 6<sup>th</sup> form students in Welsh. All their hard work has paid off.

## 6<sup>th</sup> form visits

Year 12 recently went on to the Gartholwg to watch a production called 'Sxto' by Arad Goch theatre. The production was about the effects of a young girl after she has sent an indecent image of herself to her boyfriend. It was an excellent production which was cleverly done through lighting, sound and the use of words. Many other visits have been planned including 'Pws mewn Bwts' at the WMC, Hairspray at Ysgol Glantaf as well as day visits to Cardiff and Swansea Welsh departments.



## Urdd

The department is very happy to announce that it has won a grant from the Urdd to further improve Welsh outside the classroom. Last year, thanks to this money, many events were organised, including beatboxing sessions with Mr Phormula, a talk with Huw Stephens (Radio 1) and numerous theatre visits. The Urdd also organised the Eryl Walsh memorial award which was won by Eve Edmunds as the best Welsh speaker at KS3 in Cardiff. Huge congratulations also to the yr 10 Urdd netball team who are Urdd national champions beating over 40 other teams to the title. Da iawn ferched.

## Rhys Patchell

Year 12 (and Mrs Evans) were very pleased to invite Rhys to their Welsh lesson where he was grilled by a variety of questions. Roedd Rhys yn ateb llawer o gwestiynau gan gynnwys gwybodaeth am fwyta'n iach a chadw'n heini. He also participated in the poetry test and his answers were of a high standard – not a surprise as he had achieved an A in Welsh A level!



### GCSE results

This year enjoyed the best ever results in the department with 89% gaining a C grade or above. Da iawn i bawb a weithiodd yn galed – fel adran rydym yn falch iawn ohonoch. Oherwydd hyn, mae grwp o 13 wedi dewis i ddilyn safon Uwch yn yr adran – un o'r grwpiau mwyaf yng Nghymru. We especially welcome students from Whitchurch and Llanishen who join us just for their Welsh studies.

### Welsh lessons for teachers

A huge well done to the brave female staff members who have started Welsh classes after school under the guidance of Cardiff University. We wish them all the best as they learn basic Welsh phrases to be used on a day to day basis.


### Operation Christmas Child


A huge thanks to students, form tutors and parents for the generosity shown again this year with the shoe box appeal. Around 105 boxes were collected and over £100 which will help ease the troubles of children around the world. If you would like more information on the journey of the shoe box please look on their website as there are a variety of facts and video clips to enjoy.





As more and more parents are looking for ways to help their children with their Welsh, it's good to see so many reading Welsh magazines independently every month. Without a doubt, this has a huge impact on their work and of their enjoyment of the subject. The reading and spelling lessons in KS3 which happen every fortnight, are improving both their reading and grammar skills of our learners. All these spelling tests can be found on the Quizlet app under the username mrsefanschs. Year 9 students have also recently had their work published in law! Magazine – these were excellent letters which described their favourite television programmes.





© Hysbyrtiad Udd Gobaith Cymru ym holl gylchgrawn on nodir yn wahanol.  
 Cynnyddwyd gan **Udd Gobaith Cymru** ac argraffwyd gan Y Lolfa ar bapur wedi-e-algylchu.  
 Am yfyr a fanylion cyflwyniad a llais, Swyddfa'r Udd, Penrhelys, Gweryt yr Udd, Llanrannog, Llandudul, Ceredigion SA41  
 6AE.

A hefyd: [www.uddgobaithcymru.co.uk](http://www.uddgobaithcymru.co.uk) a [www.uddgobaithcymru.co.uk](http://www.uddgobaithcymru.co.uk)

# History

## Remembrance 2014

At the 11<sup>th</sup> hour, on the 11<sup>th</sup> day on the 11<sup>th</sup> month 2014 the students and staff of Cardiff High stood still to remember those who had fought for our freedom; this year had a special significance being the anniversary of the outbreak of World War I. So, as a special act of commemoration, the newly formed Remembrance Committee delivered a roll call of names of the 'Old Boys' who fought and gave their lives in World War I, and the names of the students' and staff relatives. This act was marked with the playing of the Last Post by Tom Barber (year 13) and a silence across the school. A sombre but reflective act – lest we forget.



## Remembrance Committee Appeal

The Remembrance Committee of Cardiff High is made up of year 12 students who want to look at ways of developing how Cardiff High remembers World War I. They have lots of ideas but are also asking for help.

- a) Do you have any information on the 'Old Boys' who fought in World War I? There are many of them and over the next few weeks we hope to place their names on the school website (within the History Department area) if you think you could help.
- b) Do you have any relatives who fought in World War I that you would like remembered in next year's act of Remembrance?

If you feel you could help please contact the Committee via email: [jet@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:jet@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk)

## History Club

History Club has enjoyed a new lease of life this year being run effectively by 3 of our Year 12 students (Lucy Cuddihee, Lydia Slack and Emily Frankish). In the first term the club was looking at World War I, from eating Spam to having conversations in "trench language" – much fun is being had by all.

## Historical Association Great Debate

The History Department was honoured to be hosting the South Wales heat of the Historical Association Great Debate. 8 students from 3 different schools battled it out to debate "What does the Magna Carta mean to me?" For Cardiff High Huw Davies and Lydia Slack delivered impassioned speeches about its relevance (or lack of!), but in the end were narrowly beaten by a student from Stanwell. Outstanding effort Huw and Lydia, thank you!



# Science Department News

## Nuffield Biology Project

Rishan Rahman spent the summer working with the University of Wales, School of Medicine. As part of a project funded by the Nuffield Foundation, Rishan worked with a team of prestigious scientists to research methods of measuring cell death in human tumour cells using a dye called DRAQ7. He thoroughly enjoyed the experience and he had the opportunity to present his findings to members of academia and the public at Technquest last month. We are very proud of Rishan!



## Lab In A Lorry

Lab in a Lorry kicked off our academic year in style. On the very first week of term James Bamford (from the Institute of Physics) and his team brought their unique brand of teaching and learning to Cardiff High. Using a converted articulated lorry divided in to three workstations and some undergraduates from Cardiff University to help work with our pupils they rotated through three 20 minute interactive sessions on sound, light and medical physics. Pupils were able to make a wine glass resonate until it shattered, understood why we see beautiful colours at sunrise and sunset, as well as carry out an endoscopy on Derek the Dummy using fibre optic cables.



## Technquest

Y10 pupils worked with Technquest to understand how physics and numeracy can be applied to real world examples by exploring asteroids. Pupils were able to work out the size of an asteroid impact and calculate how much of the population would be affected by it. They also got to hear about real asteroids and used scales to imagine how big these actually are. A real opportunity for pupils to see how Physics and Maths are used in the real world.





# Science Department News

---

## *Science Surgery*

The Science Department has started a weekly Science Surgery in the library to help Y10 and Y11 prepare for their forthcoming GCSE exams. It will be held on Mondays and Tuesday (timetable available in school) and pupils will be able to come along all year for support with their classwork, homework or revision. Our lovely A Level scientists will also be giving up their time to help support KS4 pupils with their specialist knowledge. Our first session was attended by over 80 pupils, so we look forward to seeing a good turn out every week!

## *Walking Talking Mocks*

From January through to February Y10 and 11 pupils will be carrying out their controlled assessments in Science. These contribute to 25% of their final grade and so are hugely important. We will be running a Walking Talking Mock for Y11 in December and one for Y10 in January, for pupils to get a good look at how these assessments are completed. They will have the opportunity to see examples of good and bad work and will also use mark schemes to help them compose the best answers possible. Both year groups will then complete their real controlled assessment shortly after.

## Science Club

This term we have run a KS3 Science club with themed evenings of science, including Alien Autopsy, a Halloween Vampire Whodunit, as well as creating fireworks, an active volcano and bouncy custard. A team of Sixth Form students have helped every week and their hard work and enthusiasm for science will stand them in good stead for their chosen careers. These Sixth Form students will be awarded the STEM ambassadorship in December. This is a life- long achievement provided they contribute to science, technology, engineering or maths every year.

Role models from industry visited us thanks to UK STEM Ambassador Coordinators Sian Ashton and Cerian Angharad. A huge thank you to Mrs Punter and her excellent team of Sixth Form for their hard work this term. The pupils have had a fantastic time!

## CERN

In March next year 23 Year 12 pupils will be flying to Switzerland to visit the world's biggest science experiment at CERN, the Large Hadron Collider. The facility is home to more than 10,000 scientists from all over the globe with their combined research trying to discover the origins of the universe. Pupils will spend a day having a guided tour around CERN and mingling with the scientists. The Physics behind the visit is covered in both Y12 and 13 and so pupils attending will be able to see the theory in action first hand. We are very excited to be running this trip and look forward to being able to report back on our experiences in the next newsletter.

# SOCIOLOGY NEWS

## **Sociology News Article**

The large number of students currently studying Sociology at AS and A Level shows how the subject remains a very popular choice. An impressive set of summer exam results has been the outcome of the hard work and positive attitudes that pupils consistently display in the classroom, testament to the interesting and engaging nature of the course. In fact, once again, a large number of pupils have opted to continue their study of Sociology at university.

## **Flexible Week**

Although Sociology is only studied at Key Stage 5, pupils lower down the school had opportunities to explore sociological issues through the flexible week in the summer term. Through analysing the cultural, religious and ethnic changes to Welsh society based on census data, pupils explored how Wales has evolved and the impact that such changes have had on society.

## **Runnymede Charity**

The department's strong links with the Runnymede Charity continue, and another collaboration project is planned for 2015. The results of the previous Runnymede collaboration led to pupil work featuring in the "Migration Stories" publication as well as Cardiff High pupils presenting research findings to MPs in Parliament.



# ART DEPARTMENT NEWS

What a superb start to this academic year, the first September in the wonderful new art rooms and the first exhibition in our new gallery space. The exhibition includes three large pieces of work by Molleasha Quinn, John Davies and Dewi Preece. The Art Department was very pleased with the excellent results achieved this summer. 95% of GCSE pupils achieved A-C this year with 58% achieving A\* and A grades. 100% of our A2 pupils achieved A - C grades with many of our pupils going on to study Art Foundation. Dewi Preece has gone on to study architecture at Cardiff University. The art rooms have been buzzing with activity this term with many exciting projects, guest speakers, and artist workshops taking place.

In October we were extremely fortunate to be part of 'Made in Roath', a celebration of the arts in the local area. A lucky group of Key Stage 3 pupils were able to work with a practising artist, designing postcards that were displayed in the exhibition. It has been a real delight this term to see so many pupils attending Art Club on Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtimes.

## KEY STAGE 3 NEWS

This term year 7 have been taking on the role of young explorers. As they explore the theme of 'The Island' pupils have been introduced to the formal elements and have developed their observational drawing skills in a range of media.





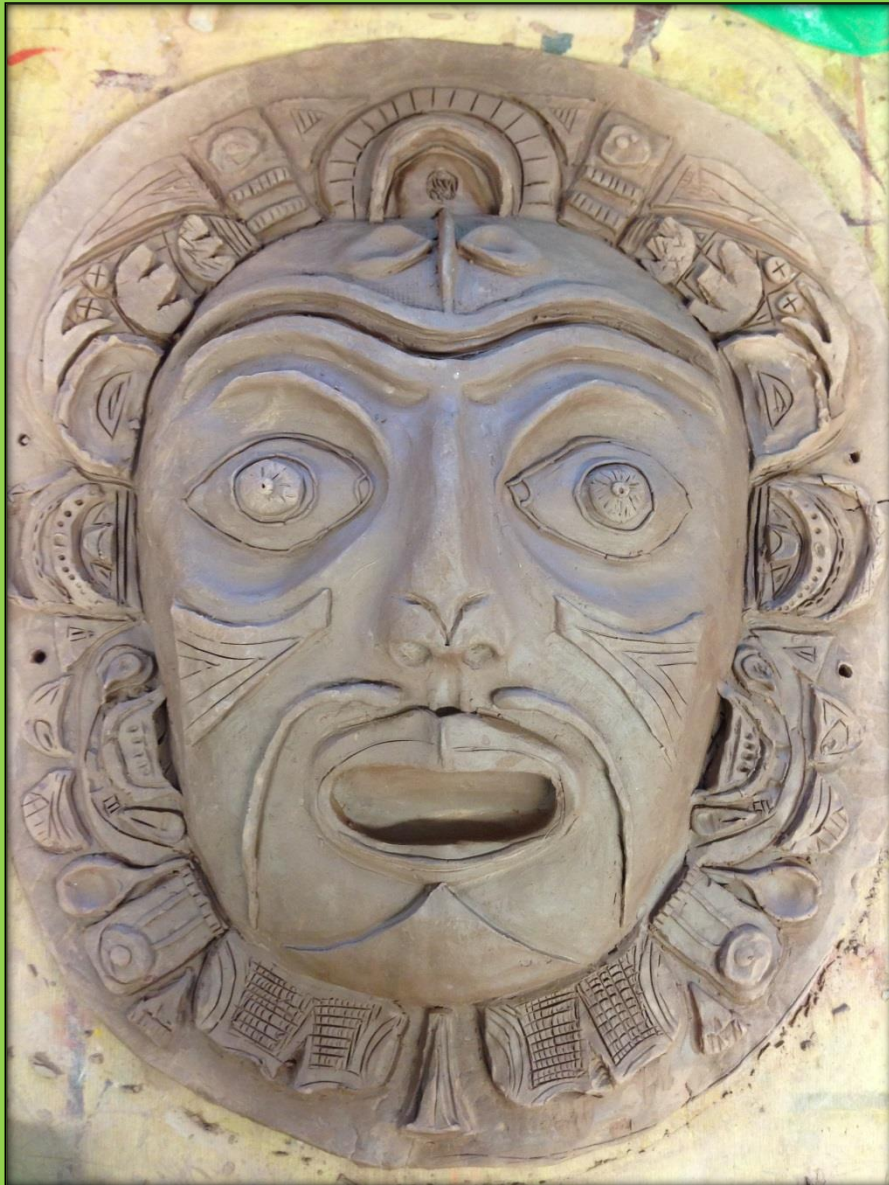
The highlight of year 8 art lesson so far this term has been the wonderful collages produced by so many of our pupils, responding to the work of Angie Lewin. It will be an exciting few weeks as these creative collages are now transferred into prints and paintings. We look forward to seeing many of these displayed around the school in the coming weeks.

Year 9 have worked extremely well this term as they study the work of Picasso to inform the creation of their own cubist collages. We are particularly proud of their lively and imaginative sketchbooks and pleased to see so many keen year 9 pupils attending Art Club.



## KEY STAGE 4 NEWS

Year 10 will be looking forward to their trip to the Pitt Rivers museum in the new year. They have been exploring a range of new processes and techniques whilst developing their drawing skills. Year 11 have been working hard completing their personal responses to the Ethnic Art project as the submission date for their coursework unit looms.



## KEY STAGE 5

Year 12 and 13 have been developing their coursework . They produced some superb dry point prints whilst working with printmaking artist Bill Chambers.





# DRAMA DEPARTMENT NEWS

There has been a wealth of activity since our last entry to the newsletter in the previous academic year. Following on from the last edition, the then Year 9 class took their Theatre in Education piece to the four primary feeder schools to perform a short play about the transition from Year 6 to Year 7. The piece was a great success and certainly gave those young people a real boost of confidence going into this year's GCSE course.

We are so lucky to have such great theatrical institutions on our doorstep, and one that has continued to create and showcase fantastic work is the Sherman Cymru. We teamed up with Adam on the *Fresh Ink Project* who took eight KS4 and 5 pupils through a series of workshops to create a five minute script. These were then submitted to the Sherman who in turn passed them to four actors who interpreted them in a live showcase at the theatre. The response was incredible and all of the students who attended were amazed at the level of performance and the moving, sincere way that the writers had constructed them. A truly memorable experience!



**Fresh Ink certificates at The Sherman Cymru.**

Following that we then went to see an edgy, gritty and modern interpretation of Shakespeare's classic, *Romeo and Juliet*, at the Sherman. An added incentive to attend was the fact that *Romeo* was played by an ex-pupil, Chris Gordon, who proved to be a huge success in his first acting venture after graduating from The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.



**Former pupil Chris Gordon who played Romeo at the Sherman, October 2014.**



# DRAMA DEPARTMENT NEWS

The auditions for the school production took place at the start of September and again we had a massive amount of interest from those wanting to be involved. This year is our biggest cast to date and we have boldly taken on the thrilling, brutal and mysterious musical, Jekyll and Hyde. Tickets will go on sale after the New Year.



This year's London trip was another roaring success as KS5 students were treated to the highly acclaimed and multi-award winning show, "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time". Based on Mark Hadden's book, I would recommend anyone to go and see the stylised and original way that it has been interpreted. It is coming to WMC in April for all those interested. We also had tours of The National Theatre and The Globe which will certainly aid the students in their exam and practical studies.



# DRAMA DEPARTMENT NEWS

At the end of November Year 11 GCSE students were privileged and honoured to have the author of their Unit 3 exam text, Sera Moore Williams, visit for a 90 minute workshop. This incredible experience provided valuable insight and provided the opportunity to hear straight from the playwright as to how she had constructed the play. Sera very kindly looked at the students Unit 1 devised performances and provided them with some fantastic guidance and assistance.



**Sera Moore Williams who visited  
CHS in November.**

Once the school production is completed in February there will be an opportunity for all KS3 students to be involved in performance. After school there will be Year 7,8 and 9 Drama Clubs where the pupils at Cardiff High will learn more about the world of theatre, performance and live production. The work produced in the clubs will hopefully be performed in and around the school and will help to build those necessary skills needed for performance such as communication, cooperation and confidence. Times will be confirmed after February half term.

## A Level Project Excellence

Zach Cater completed his A Level Product Design course and is now at Nottingham University studying Mechanical Engineering. For his A Level Product Design project Zach designed a wheelchair specifically for MS sufferers that allowed them increased independence in mobility. His project was identified as being one of the top A Level Product Design projects in Wales and was displayed at the WJEC Innovation Awards exhibition held at Sophia Gardens and Bangor University in October.

At the exhibition, the project won the very prestigious Intellectual Property award. In addition to this Zach has now been approached by Abel & Imray Patent Attorneys who have sponsored his patent application costing between £3000-£10,000. The success goes on! Whilst at the exhibition, through positive display and networking, Zach's project was selected for 2 amazing events. The first being The UK Investment Summit held at The Celtic Manor; the largest UK Business Event of the year. There were 18 products on display in a showcase of Welsh engineering and design excellence; only 3 were student projects. In attendance at the summit were some of the most powerful names in engineering and investment. It was an amazing day which gave Zach the opportunity to promote his product and present it to the First Minister. In addition we were privileged to attend seminars delivered by industry experts and key note presentations delivered by various inspirational speakers including David Cameron and Sir Terry Matthews.

Zach's project has also been shortlisted for the National Science and Engineering Competition with his work being put on display at the Birmingham NEC as a part of The Big Bang Fair. The success of this project is a true testament to Zach's continued hard work and talent in the Design & Technology department.



# D & T



## Arkwright Scholarship News

Callum Gilmour (Year 12) has successfully achieved an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship as a result of his application whilst he was in Year 11. He was required to demonstrate his excellent problem solving Design & Technology knowledge, He completed an exam, an interview day and a team participated in building sessions in order to demonstrate the potential to become a future leader in design and engineering. Callum will now obtain financial sponsorship in addition to the expert advice from his sponsors, The South Wales Institute of Engineering Educational Trust. A truly amazing achievement.

We are now approaching the 2015 Application process. Any Year 11 student is eligible to apply for an Arkwright Scholarship. If you intend on pursuing a career in design, architecture or engineering and you are interested in applying please see Mr Martlew or email [jm@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:jm@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk)





# D & T



## **An Afternoon of Tea & Jazz**

In collaboration with Christ Church the Year 11 Food and Textiles pupils hosted an Afternoon Tea and Jazz event as a fundraiser for the Design Technology Department and to make links with the local community. Cakes and refreshments were made and served by pupils to the local community and Tom Barbers Jazz Band played a range of beautiful Jazz pieces to serenade the afternoon. The event was very successful and was enjoyed by all concerned and is planned to return in the Summer term of this year.

## **Great things happening in Food Technology**

The Year 10 Food Technology group went to the Braces Bread factory in Crumlin this term. The trip gave pupils the opportunity to see the bread making process from the raw ingredients through to the packaged product being loaded into a delivery van. Pupils really enjoyed seeing how the bread was made and were very surprised to see how computerised the process now is. It was brilliant industrial experience in preparation for their exam next year.

The Year 8 cookery club is back in full swing and started with a warming Autumn Sweet Potato Lentil Curry and traditional Bara Brith, da iawn Blwydden Wyth!

Coming soon we will be giving pupils the opportunity to show off their culinary skills with an Inter-form Cook Off where each form will enter a team of three to be crowned the 'Top Chefs' of their Year group. The competition will be judged by a professional chef. Watch this space!





It's been a busy term for the eco committee as we work towards the 'Eco Schools 2<sup>nd</sup> Green Flag'.

As part of the eco committee's action plan we are aiming to increase the amount of pupils cycling to school by 5% and reduce the amount of litter around the school by 5%. Cycle racks have been installed near Ty-Celyn and more bins have added around the school. We will continue to monitor their use to see if they have a positive impact.

We've also been busy planting this term.

- A group of year 9 pupils planted 1800 daffodil and bluebells at the front of the school.
- Year 11's helped refresh the soil and add new shrubs to the planters.
- The gardening club have weeded the planters, sown meadow plants in the nurture garden and planted bluebells.

Watch this space in spring!

### Working with the Community

In November year 7 form captains worked with the 'Friends of Nant Fawr Community Woods' to clear around trees planted in 2012. The pupils worked really hard and cleared brambles and weeds giving the trees a good chance of establishing in the spring.



**@ecoclubCHS**





## Planting bluebells



## Refreshing the planters



## Daffodil planting



## Year 7 clearing in - Nant Fawr woods





# FRENCH DEPARTMENT NEWS

## **Learning for the Future**

This academic year, the French Department has welcomed two new colleagues, Mrs. K. Bevan and Miss N. Bradfield. Together, this term, we have been working on aspects of learning which highlight the importance of foreign language learning beyond Year 9 and into GCSE. We have encouraged our pupils to work hard to develop the spoken communication and presentation skills which are vital to securing a career later in life; whilst adding a global slant which would allow our pupils to have a wider choice of the job market. Our Year 9 pupils have also been further developing their linguistic problem-solving skills; another essential skill which universities and employers seek.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Nia Jones from CILT Cymru visited Cardiff High School to give a presentation to our Year 9 pupils studying French. Her presentation highlighted the highly useful skills that language-learning teaches and develops and how desirable these are amongst employers. Our pupils learnt that learning languages contributes to mutual understanding, a sense of global citizenship and personal fulfilment. Technology, globalisation and ease of international travel are bringing more of the world within our reach and learning languages can equip our pupils with the knowledge and skills to take advantage of the opportunities of life in the 21st century.

Nia also highlighted to our pupils that languages are a life skill and that knowledge of a foreign language is not just another GCSE grade – it is a concrete and demonstrable life skill, and it is a skill highly valued by employers. As well as communication skills, languages teach you adaptability and independence and develop different modes of thinking – seeing a situation from many perspectives is essential and the ability to operate cross-culturally is becoming just as valued by employers as straight language skills. Learning a language combines the intellectual with the practical as no other subject does; you need to be able to think on your feet.

Nia stressed to Year 9 that today, there is a global market for jobs. It is not necessary to be completely fluent in a foreign language to be an asset to any potential employer. Knowing how to meet and greet people from other countries and cultures is a valued skill. She also outlined the importance of realising that languages combine well with virtually any subject for further study - the range of combined degrees and further education courses involving a language is extremely wide.

We enjoyed Nia's visit and learnt a great deal about how choices now can have an enormous impact on many aspects of our lives in the future.

# I.T. News

## Coder dojo Computer Club:

Coder dojo Club is held every Tuesday after school. All students use applications and programming language to make simple games. This helps them improve their problem solving skills and first-hand experience of programming language. Some of the coder dojo mentors were awarded I've got an idea digital badges for their innovator competition entry.

Tom, Daniel and David act as mentors and teach the students many skills. Students develop new skills and find that they know the basics of programming very quickly. They are soon able to produce some impressive games with multiple components. A few weeks ago the students made their own apps for their mobile phones and last week the students started to create robots.



Some quotes from the students who attend:

**'It's exciting', 'I love computers' 'look my game is fun' 'I learn important life skills' 'mentors are lovely' overall it was a great hour :D**

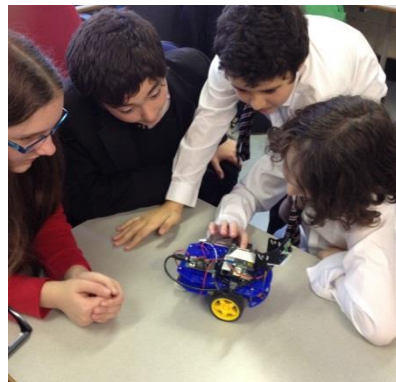
The robot was made by Dan Healey and Tom Haywood. Tom said 'the raspberry pi powered the robotic camera, and the robot was controlled over the internet on a phone, Nifty right?' Students developed the following skills:

### **Controlling the robot via mobile phones and completing the challenges:**

Challenge 1 was controlling the robot to go in a straight line.

Challenge 2 was going up in a straight line turning and going down the other side

Challenge 3 was the hardest of them all, It was Challenge 2 but also reverse parking in a space that was just big enough for it



# I.T. News

Coder Dojo Mentors, were awarded with electronic badges for their design competition entry. The students presented some amazing innovative ideas.





# I.T. News

## **Scratch transition project:**

Primary students linked with secondary students to develop and play some of the games created. The incentive was to learn programming using scratch and to win a 'Game' voucher. The winning game was: 'Flying to Space' by Joseph Groves. His game was an immediate hit with all year groups; he had over 200 views and 20+ comments:

If you would like to play the game go to: <http://scratch.mit.edu/projects/23441279/>



***'THAT GAME WAS AMAZING!!!'***

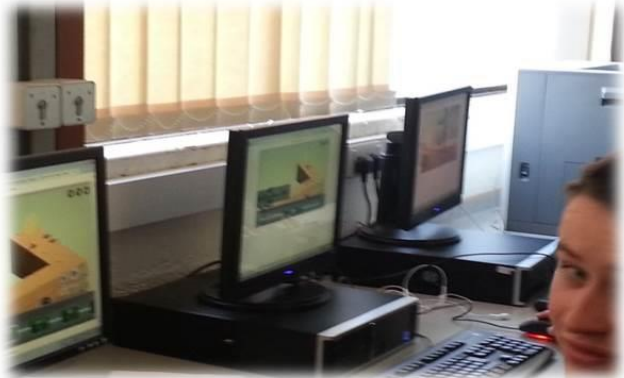
***'Awesome game, I'm going to play this 24/7'***

***Well done! By popular demand this project will continue next term***



### Dr who game (BBC):

During the development stage of the Dr who game, some of the computer club students took part in testing for the game. They played the game and gave feedback to support some of the improvements on the game. They really enjoyed the game and all said they recommend it as part of an educational tool to help students to code.



# I.T. News

## Presentation evening:

In recognition of the continued celebrations within the ICT and Computing department Scott Addis- Computing and Isabel Tarr – ICT were awarded certificates for highest achievement in the subject. We congratulate them both and wish them all the success for the future.



Izzy Tarr



Scott Addis

## Year 7 CHS Magazine

At the start of the year the students created a Cardiff High School magazine targeted at Year 6 pupils. The students were given resources and told to do their own research to create a magazine that could be used for the up-and-coming Year 6 pupils. One of the winning entries was:



Lottie Pearson





# More Able & Talented

Last month, some of our pupils in Year 8 represented the school at the MAT conference at Lakeside Primary School. We were so impressed by the teamwork and leadership skills they displayed. Here is their account of the event:

“As a group of nine (Zoe Lloyd, Miriam Butcher, Yipei Sun, Zirsha Najeeb, Harri Lee, David Kankanian, Edward Rimell, Gwilym Goulding, and Lucas Tong), we ventured down to Lakeside Primary School for the first MAT Cross Phase Conference. At Lakeside we met up with six students from each of the feeder primary schools (Rhydepennau, Lakeside, Roath Park and Marlborough). We initially spent some time talking to the primary school students about life in CHS and this was nice as it meant when these students come up to CHS they will already know someone. We did lots of team building activities from brainteasers to the egg drop challenge- it was challenging but great fun.

It is hoped that in the future more of these events will take place and we can't wait to be involved again. We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Toye for taking us and to Mrs Grennan for organising it.”

Report written by Zoe Lloyd, Miriam Butcher, Yipei Sun, Zirsha Najeeb (8R)



# Music Department News

## Academic Success

The department was delighted with another set of excellent GCSE, AS and A level Music results in the summer. 100% of GCSE pupils achieved A\*-C grades and 7 out of 9 AS level pupils achieved the top A grade. The results demonstrate the excellent teaching and student desire and commitment to excel in the subject – well done all!

## Presentation of Awards Evening

The Senior Girls' Choir and A Level Trio provided the entertainment during the annual presentation of awards evening performing 'Read All About It' accompanied by Matt Leaman and Shostakovich's Prelude for Flute, Violin and Piano respectively. The trio, were Music students Tom Barber, Alice Howell and Jo Pearce. This was another opportunity to showcase the immense depth of talent we have in the Music department with both Matt Leaman and Alice Howell picking up awards.

## Jazz At The Hilton

A jazz quartet delighted audiences at the annual ASCL Head Teachers conference in November, entertaining the guests during the pre-presentation event. Led by Tom Barber at the Piano the jazz ensemble featured smooth jazz standards like Duke Ellington's 'Take The A Train' performed by Ben Barber on Sax, Robbie Drummond on Bass and Matt Hall on Drums. This self-rehearsed ensemble represents the dedication and talent present at Cardiff High School.



# Music Department News



## 'A Night At The Movies' - Autumn Concert

The Music Department's Autumn term concert 'A Night At The Movies' was a massive success with some outstanding performances from the talented musicians at Cardiff High School. Over 200 students participated to a sell-out audience in the newly built Neuadd Celyn. There were solos from Jess Davies entertaining the crowd with a song from Wicked and Alice Howell mesmerising the audience with the unforgettable theme from Ladies in Lavender. The Junior Girls' Choir gave a lovely performance of 'Let It Go' from the hit Frozen whilst the Senior Girls entertained with the sultry 'Sky Fall' from James Bond. The String Orchestra performed the haunting melody from Schindler's List and Wind Band set the concert off to a roaring start with a medley from Mamma Mia! Other highlights were the Senior Boys who 'rocked the boat' with their Guys & Dolls medley and the Chamber Orchestra who expertly performed Faure's 'Pavane'. All students need to be congratulated on their commitment to after school and lunchtime rehearsals in order to prepare for the concert. Many thanks to Miss Sian Isaac who operated the lights and sound and to the Partnership who provided excellent movie themed treats during the interval. If you wish to purchase a DVD of the event, priced at £10, then please contact [DE@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:DE@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk)



# Music Department News

## **'Treading The Boards' With The Welsh National Opera**

Rhys King (year 7) and Sam James (year 9) have been spending time this term performing Carmen with the Welsh National Opera. After successfully auditioning in June, the boys have been part of the group of street urchins. The WNO have travelled all over the UK, performing to thousands of opera fans across the nation. I'm sure the boys will always remember this experience. Congratulations to them both. The music department and all the staff at Cardiff High are very proud of you!

"I enjoy touring because you have lots of fun meeting new people and doing something you enjoy."

*Rhys King*

"Carmen has been an amazing experience. I've really enjoyed working with the cast and meeting new friends. Visiting new places and performing in the different theatres has also been awesome."

*Sam James*



## **Carol Services**

The department will be performing in a special service at St. Margaret's Church, Roath on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December featuring vocal ensembles and instrumental solos.

The Music department's Carol Service will take place at 6pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at St. Martin's Church, Albany Road. The Service will feature performances from Junior & Senior boys through to the Chamber Orchestra.

# R.P. Department News



## Philosophy Café

Philosophy Café continues to go from strength to strength. Pupils from across the key stages meet every Thursday, week B, lunchtime in F18. Philosophy Café is a great way of bringing staff and students together to discuss life's big questions in a fun and informal setting. We are also engaging with the local community! Our most recent visiting 'philosopher' was Angela Gorman from the local charity *Life for African Mothers*, who got us all thinking more deeply about the issues of money and the value of human life. Come along and be part of this exciting activity. The café is student-led and we welcome suggestions for discussion topics as well as volunteers to present at the café, from students and staff alike.

If you would like to help run the Philosophy Café, or if you have ideas for discussions, please see Mrs James, Mrs Hill, Mr Watkins or Mrs Williams or email Mrs Hill at [ah@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:ah@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk). We look forward to seeing you!



# R.P. Department News

## **Student Success Continues In 'The National Schools' Bible Project'**

Congratulations to the eight pupils now in Year 8 and 9, who came highly commended in last Summer's nationwide Schools' Bible Project competition. Following on from Cardiff High's success in the 2012 and 2013 competitions, these pupils impressed the judges with their creative re-tellings of episodes from the Gospels. All students were proud to receive their prizes of 'Christian Projects' publications. Well done to Rosie Jones, Lizzie Attwood and Nehmat Ahluwalia in year 8 and Niamh Shurmur, Nadia Khalid , Haarith Zaman , Abbey Smith and Sam James in year 9.



## **Israeli Youth Delegates' Annual Visit To The RP Department**

On Monday 10th November the Religion and Philosophy Department was again visited by Israeli Youth Delegates. Elijah and Nina, both eighteen years old, were visiting Wales as part of their important role. They delivered a stimulating and informative session to a group of students in Years 12 and 13 about Israel and the challenges of being a young person living there. Our students asked them some extremely thought provoking questions of excellent quality, and often heated, discussion took place. Well done and thank you to everyone involved!





# English Department News

## Kids Lit Quiz

Once again the Kids' Lit quizzers have been pitting their wits against other literary brainboxes from across Cardiff. This year Cardiff High have entered two teams from Years 7 and 8 who have been swotting up on a variety of children's literature in order to answer a series of questions that would not be out of place on Mastermind. Led by Ms H Davies and Mr Poole, who secretly test their own knowledge from the audience, we have great hopes for these teams when they compete in the heats held in Bishop of Llandaff School in early December.

## Public Speaking

This year the 6<sup>th</sup> form have been keen to become involved with public speaking and debating and have already competed against Cardiff Sixth Form College at the CEWC debating championships, held at the Temple of Peace in November. Huw Davies and Kachenka Pribhanova fiercely contested their side of the argument about whether there should be a quota system for female MPs. Huw was awarded best speaker, although sadly the team found that their motion was defeated.

## Ambition

Year 11 have been busily preparing themselves for a really hectic period in their school calendar. With January exams looming the attendance at the Thursdays master classes has been phenomenal. The recent Walking Talking Mock was well received by pupils who benefitted from a really focused walk through of the upcoming exams. We've been very impressed by the attitude and approach of Year 11 students and the 'ambition' they are showing. More information about how to support your child and to access past papers or master class resources can be found on [www.edmodo.com](http://www.edmodo.com) through the access code 59bdi2 or by following @EnglishCHS on twitter.

## How to help your child at home

With the increased focus on Literacy and Numeracy skills across Key Stage 3 both the Maths and English departments recently took part in a workshop designed to help parents support their sons/daughters at home. Practical tips and strategies were provided by the departments' Literacy and Numeracy Champions. Ms Helen Davies, Mr Ian Miles and Mrs Sarah Grenyer shared a variety of helpful tips and approaches that could be used at home to reinforce spelling, punctuation, reading and communication skills. Mr Miles set up a kind of literacy speed dating session to allow parents to reflect on the importance of communication while Mrs Grenyer looked the types of reading questions that come up on the National Reading Tests, giving top tips about how to develop the skills needed for these questions. Ms Davies' punctuation pointers were designed to remind parents about the importance of accuracy in written communication. This evening was the first of a series of sessions – make sure you are at the next one!