



# Cardiff High School News *letter*

SUMMER TERM 2015

## Headteacher's Message



As Headteacher, you look for Signs as to where your school is in terms of educational, moral, social and cultural development. This year has told me a lot about Cardiff High School.

During this academic year, Cardiff High School became one of Wales' first School Improvement Hubs, shaping the future of professional development for teachers, not just in Cardiff High School but across five local authorities. The school prides itself on its standards of teaching and once again, we have been innovative and creative in ensuring we continue to raise the bar in terms of teaching practice

and improving our educational standards.

The exam season in terms of hard work and commitment has been very successful. The effort put in by pupils and staff has been exceptional. I hope this is reflected on the exam results days in the summer.

Socially, Cardiff High School pupils have been active throughout the year. We have achieved success on the sports field, on the stage, at hustings and in events up and down the country. I am sure you

will enjoy reading about these accomplishments in this Newsletter.

Culturally, it has been a very exciting year with trips overseas and around the United Kingdom, and hosting visitors here at Cardiff High School most recently with a group of Headteachers from Bangladesh.

Morally, the school has contributed to so many good causes throughout the year in terms of charitable causes, fundraising events and community events.

The school continues to grow and develop and it is a wonderful environment to work and study in. This year, we have had unprecedented interest in studying in the Sixth Form, and have been overwhelmed by record external applications. Likewise in Year 7, we have a huge number of applications which the Local Authority is administering. Even with our new building, we are bursting at the seams and require new resources! Therefore, we continue to fundraise to support our aim of having outstanding facilities to match our outstanding teaching and there have been fabulous fundraising events this year organised by the Parent Teachers Association. Lots of teachers and parents have enjoyed the numerous events. Please see page 2 for further details of how you can help.

Finally, may I wish you all a good summer and I look forward to seeing you in the new academic year.

*Sygnor*  
Head Teacher

## Dr. Brigley's Retirement

At the end of this teaching year, a momentous occasion will be celebrated, even though it will be a sad day for teachers and students at Cardiff High School. Dr. Jude Brigley is retiring from Cardiff High School – and indeed teaching – after a long, fruitful and happy career.

Jude joined Cardiff High in 1996, as Head of English, having taught previously at many other schools in England and Wales, including St Illan in Caerphilly. Her reputation as a trailblazer for cutting edge learning and teaching strategies in the classroom soon established her as someone who tirelessly sought the best ways to give the children in her care every chance to succeed beyond expectations.

Such commitment and dedication brought wider successes, and both as Director of Learning and Assistant Head for Learning and Teaching Jude was able to share her expertise with other members of staff to raise attainment across the school. As a result, Cardiff High School earned its own reputation as a centre of excellence for thinking skills and we were the first secondary school in Wales to be awarded the Advanced Thinking School badge. The school was also able to produce its own learning and teaching handbook; The Refinery, which every member of staff uses to help plan and execute excellent lessons.

Not only has Jude been interviewed by the press and TV on a variety of educational issues, she is also a published editor and author of poetry collections. Indeed poetry is something that has been very close to her heart all her life, and she undertook a PhD (while working full time) in Poetic Thinking. If you have ever heard her call herself 'The Poetry Doctor' now you know why!



Even though Jude is 'putting down the chalk' at the end of this term, you will not be surprised to learn that she still intends to work in education. From September, she will be working for Central South Consortium as a strategic adviser on learning and teaching, shaping the future of policy, developing teachers and leading school to school support.

Your children (or you!) may well have been taught and inspired by her, and every pupil in the school will remember her wonderful assemblies. We know you will join us in wishing her a very fond farewell and hoping she will thrive on the challenges of shaping the future of education in Wales.

Good luck Jude – we will miss you!

# Inspirational Head Teacher Of The Year

On Friday 19th June, Cardiff High School was formally recognised for its work in supporting each and every learner. The highly prestigious **New Directions Education Inspirational Teaching Awards** 2015 event was held in recognition of teachers, support staff and head teachers across Wales who go the extra mile to make a significant difference to their students, staff and the local community.

We were incredibly pleased as a school, when we learnt that Steve had been nominated as Inspirational Secondary Head teacher of the Year but recognised that the competition was stiff.

The judging panel described the shortlisting process as one of the toughest they had encountered and the team reviewed over 150 nominations.

It came as no real surprise to the staff at Cardiff High, however, when on Friday evening Steve won the highly acclaimed award "Inspirational Head Teacher of The Year."

We know that while Steve is incredibly proud to be receiving this award, he firmly believes that it is the staff and students who contribute to the successes of the school. Congratulations Steve Jones.

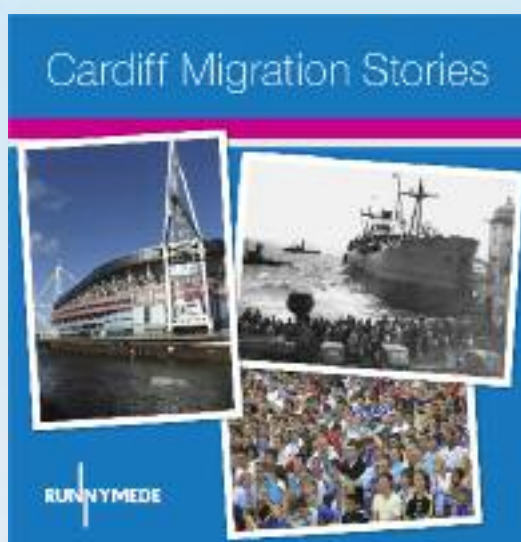


## Sociology

The large number of students currently studying Sociology at AS and A Level have benefited this year from advice and guidance talks from students of Cardiff University. This has certainly had a positive impact with a large number of students opting to study the subject as under graduates next year.

Links with St Cyres in Penarth have seen a sharing of resources and expertise between departments with future collaborations planned for the next academic year.

Although Sociology is only studied at Key Stage 5, pupils lower down the school will have had opportunities to explore sociological issues through the Wider Curriculum Dimensions, in particular exploring how Wales has evolved and the impact that such changes have had on society. The department's strong links with the Runnymede Charity continue, and a collaboration project is currently in the offing. The results of the previous Runnymede collaboration led to pupil work featuring in "Migration Stories" publication as well as Cardiff High pupils presenting research findings to MPs in parliament.



## Staying in touch



Please sign up to ParentMail2© to receive emails and texts from school. Once you have registered with ParentMail2© you will also be able to top up your child's dinner money online and view what they are purchasing in the canteen on a daily basis.



To follow us on Twitter we are @officialCHS  
Please go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and sign up



For up to date news like our Facebook page  
[www.facebook.com/cardiffhighschool](http://www.facebook.com/cardiffhighschool)



Keep up to date with all that is happening at school. The Cardiff High School website should be your first stop for information.  
[www.cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk](http://www.cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk)



# French & German Departments

## National Pupil Language Ambassador Training



*Members of the CHS Languages Committee: Lucy Morgan, Frankie Jones, Rachel Daniels, Khin Su Tha, Georgia Fenhoulhet, Jessica Page, Cari Lloyd, Madeleine Taylor, Marcello Cardelli, Anna Bevan and Lydia Lisk.*

In February, five Key Stage 3 pupils from the Modern Foreign Languages department attended the National Pupil Language Ambassador Training at City Hall in Cardiff. This event was organised by the British Council of Wales, an organisation that connects Welsh students and academics with other people around the world, and gave pupils the opportunity to learn more about the benefits of continuing their language studies.

Pupils took part in language taster sessions Modern Language Assistants and University Student Language Ambassadors and listened to talks from a number of guest speakers. They also took part in training that would allow them to take on the responsibility of becoming Pupil Language Ambassadors at Cardiff High.

On returning to school, the pupils decided to recruit a number of other language enthusiasts from across the French and German departments in Key Stage 3, in order to create a Cardiff High School Languages Committee. The Languages Committee has met three times and discussed ideas that may help to further increase the profile and uptake of languages at Cardiff High. The ideas discussed include: the creation of a French and German cinema club, creating new displays around the school, the organisation of activities on 'National European Languages' Day and potentially organising a session as part of the Wider Curriculum Dimensions programme concerning the importance of language learning. The Languages Committee has also recently introduced 'Language App of the Month' so that pupils can use new technologies to enhance their language learning at home. The Languages Committee is really looking forward to putting some of their other ideas into practice in the coming weeks.

## The German department on the move

What a busy year it has been for the German Department at Cardiff High! In December, year 9's had their first experience of Germany, its language, culture and customs through the magic of the Christmas Markets. The students had a thoroughly enjoyable time in one of Germany's oldest and most beautiful cities, where they sampled the food, visited the majestic Cologne Cathedral and shopped 'til they dropped in a number of different markets. Did we stop there? No! In February half term it was back to Germany, this time Berlin with the Sixth Form students, or the German Squad, as they insisted on calling themselves! As the photos suggest the visit to the Reichstag was a real "highlight", so too the visits to the Brandenburg Gate, the Jewish Memorial and the Fernsehturm – the highest point in Berlin, with spectacular views of the city. Our time spent at the East Side Gallery – the last remaining section of the Berlin Wall was a thought-provoking experience, as the students learnt of the impact that it had on the German people. The visit to the Checkpoint Charlie Museum, however, proved to be the most poignant as the true hardships and horrors of the Cold War and the clash of ideologies played out in Germany's capital city became clear to them. The escape stories from the East were a real eye-opener for our students; indeed, our tour guide himself was a living legend of that period having been kidnapped from West Berlin and imprisoned for several years, even facing execution, for his part in smuggling people into the West! It was not all work, however, as Rebecca's insatiable hunger meant that we stopped at many Imbisse along the way and even jousted one another with giant foam chips in the Currywurst Museum, without doubt the favourite Museum on our tour! To find out more about the German Squad's adventures follow the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rOPUEQIGpQw>.

Is this the end of our travels? Of course not! In the summer term a group of year 11's and 12's will be visiting Bristol

University to experience at first hand life as a languages undergraduate and to see the enormous benefits that learning German – a language spoken by over one hundred million people every day in Europe – can bring, not only for pleasure, but also in the workplace.

On that note we would like to wish all our students the best of luck in their forthcoming exams and remind them to take full advantage both of the range of Apps that we have promoted this year and also the support sessions that are available. Viel Glück und viel Erfolg.



# Design & Technology

## D.T. SUCCESSES!

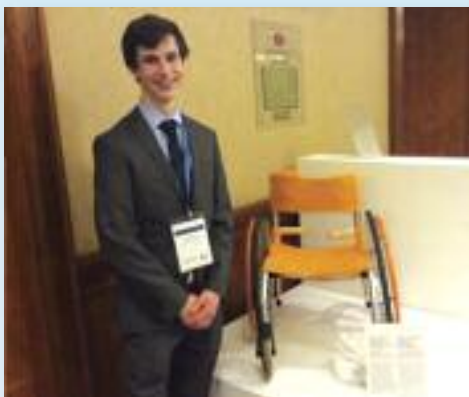
### Teachers from other schools attending training sessions in D&T

This year we were awarded the prestigious status of South Wales Branch Coordinators for the Design & Technology Association. This enables the department to host specialist events delivered by experts within the Design & Technology Association. In November we welcomed 25 Food Technology teachers from various schools across South Wales who attended a session based on the delivery of the new Food & Nutrition syllabus. In June we have another D&T Association event planned (Programmable Components) which will no doubt be equally as successful as the last.

We were also fortunate enough to be selected by Teach Design to host an Autodesk Inventor (3D Modelling Software) Training and Accreditation day. This event was publicised nationally and had teachers from the local area, Pembrokeshire and the south west of England in attendance. Mr Griffiths, Mr Davis, Miss E. Jones and Mr Martlew all attended the training day and were successful in achieving the Accredited Teacher Status in using this software. A great achievement which our students will no doubt benefit from.

### A Level Student Success

In previous editions of this newsletter we have outlined the success of Zach Cater's A Level Product Design project (Collapsible Wheelchair for MS Sufferers). Throughout this year he has encountered success upon success. This a true testament of his hard working attitude and determination to succeed. His successful journey started last July when his project was selected for display at the WJEC Innovation Awards as it was identified as one of the best A Level projects in Wales. Whilst on display at this exhibition his project went on to win the IPO Award resulting in a huge amount of support and sponsorship in applying for a patent that will protect his idea, and hopefully result in it being put into production. As a result of this achievement Zach was approached and asked to display his work at the UK Investment Summit at the Celtic Manor in December, the biggest business event of the year with an underlying focus on how successful engineering is in Wales. Zach's project was on display amongst some of Wales's most successful engineering companies projects such as Renishaw's 3D printing bicycle, and the Airbus. This was an amazing event with a number of inspirational speakers including Sir Terry Matthews and the Prime Minister, David Cameron. The success goes on! Zach has now been selected to go on display at the Big Bang Fair at the Birmingham NEC in March. We were delighted to hear that he was shortlisted in the National Science and Engineering Competition! Not only was he shortlisted, however he went on to become runner up in the entire competition! Here is a great bit of publicity that Zach received on the Welsh Government website <http://goo.gl/1TOrrd>



## Design & Construction Challenge Winners 2015

On the 18th March Mr Davis took 10, Year 10 pupils to the Cardiff and Vale College in Barry to take part in the Design & Construction Challenge against other South Wales schools. As a part of the challenge the team was required to perform a number of construction based tasks. The quality of our students' work was considered exemplary. What an amazing compliment and even more so considering our students had no prior experience. This day was thoroughly enjoyed by all; and we were awarded first place in this competition. We cannot wait to defend the title next year. The students in attendance were Osian Conn, Adam Williams, Isaac Brown, Seb Edwards, Izzy Richards, Lauren Evans, Lucy Mangion, Isabelle Edwards and Ala Chamman. An article based on our students' success was posted on the Cardiff & Vale College website and can be found at the following address: <http://goo.gl/eLszT7>

*Smart Wall paint being used in a Year 7 electronics lesson in conjunction with iPads and the Aurasma App*



## Smarter Surfaces Reference School Status

Smarter Surfaces is a company which specialises in creating paints that can be transformed into dry wipe surfaces. As a part of a Foresight Teacher project Mr Martlew attended a session with other D&T Teachers from various regions of the UK to be presented with this fantastic product. As a result of which we were given Smart Wall Paint to try out; this can be found on the desks in F34. As a successful part of this project Cardiff High School was named as one of a select few schools in the UK which is now identified as a reference school. This means that we are using the paint and schools are encouraged to visit and see it in action. The article on the Smarter Surfaces website can be found at the following web address : <http://goo.gl/VxCP9g>

## Arkwright Scholarship news

This is our third year of being an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship affiliated school. Currently in the sixth form we have two students who were successful in applying for a prestigious engineering scholarship; Callum Gilmour and Caitlin Ray. This means that they have been sponsored £300 a year, by an engineering company or organisation to pursue their A Level studies as a result of the potential that they have shown to become future leaders in engineering. This year several Year 11 Product Design students applied for the scholarship which involves a detailed written application form and a rigorous aptitude test. Bethan Wilkinson, Ahmad Ihmoda and Max Taylor were all successful in getting past this stage of the application. This is an amazing achievement. They were invited to attend the next stage of the application process which was a practical problem solving and interview day at Bath University. This day took place over the Easter holiday. All three students returned to school saying what a positive experience this was and that they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Fingers crossed that the judges were impressed by our fantastic students and that in the next edition of the newsletter we can inform you of their success!





## Coder dojo Computer Club

Coder dojo Club is held every Tuesday after school. All students use applications such as App Inventor, Scratch, Python and Raspberry Pi to make basic games. This helps improve problem solving skills and provides first-hand experience of programming language.

Some quotes from the students who attend:

'It's exciting,' 'I love computers' 'look my game is fun' 'I learn important life skills' 'overall it was a great hour'.

Another exciting opportunity is on offer for students to participate in a Techno camp Robotics' Competition that will be held at the University of South Wales. The challenge this year is to design and build a robot which can take the place of a human in a sport of your choice. The robot will then take part in the 'Robo-Sports Cup' at the Treforest Campus Students' Union on 25th June.

## Scratch

Year 7 students have been busy developing their programming skills and using the skills to create computer games using Scratch.

Scratch is a programming language and an online community where children can program and share interactive media such as stories, games, and animation. As students create with Scratch, they learn to think creatively, work collaboratively, and reason systematically. Well done! To all the students and congratulations to the best games created in the Year Group.



## Quadcopter

The ICT department secured funding for the Engineering Club run by students and as a result designed and developed Quadcopter. The Quadcopter flies by actively changing the speed of each of its four propellers to balance. It can be controlled via Remote control or laptop. It also has a GPS and knows its current longitude and latitude, so using Google maps you can give it directions and it will fly autonomously to set positions.

The team started the club simply because of their mutual interest in computing, electronics and creating/designing machines.

## GCSE Computing

Year 10 students took part in a full day Greenfoot and HTML Training Programme in preparation for their GCSE Computer Science

Students were introduced to Greenfoot creating games such as: space invaders, flappy bird and much more. Demonstrating different scenarios and having hands-on experience in line with example exam papers and the outlined curriculum.



## WELL DONE TO ALL OF OUR EISTEDDFOD WINNERS!

### Advertising Wales Posters

- 1st. Annabel Evans 7L
- 2nd. Cari Lloyd 7K and Josephine Moucher 7K
- 3rd. Lara Amjad 7L



### Websites about Wales

- 1st. Halima Bibi 8T and Mirium Butcher 8R
- 2nd. Najma Ihmoda 8S and Matthew Saunders 8R
- 3rd. Tia Lewis 8T and Nia Morris 8S



## #GADGETCHS

Each term students are encouraged to send either a photo or link of their favourite gadget to: @ict\_chs including the hashtag:

#chsgadget the one that is favoured the most by the end of term receives a prize. This terms Gadget Competition winner is: Nicholas Averill 10H. Well done!



# Art Department News

**The Art Department is incredibly proud of the fantastic work produced this term.**

Key stage 3 pupils have really impressed us again this year with their ambition and imagination. Year 7 are currently demonstrating excellent problem solving skills as they design and create some weird and wonderful fish using cardboard and found objects.

Year 8 have completed some superb pieces of work based on the work of Angie Lewin. We were very excited when the artist Angie Lewin actually responded to a tweet. She was so impressed with the work that she sent us a signed copy of her book 'Plants and Places.'

In March two classes in year 7 and 8 were fortunate to have the opportunity to take part in a photography workshop. They worked with two artists who taught them how to use photography to creatively capture their local environment. Pupils took some superb photographs many of which have been entered in a national competition – we wish our pupils the best of luck!



Year 10 have made an exceptional start to their GCSE course. They are currently involved with the "Creativity In Nature" project. Their work has revolved around the subject of natural forms. Since September they have been learning new techniques and processes working predominantly out of A3 sketchbooks. They have been introduced to a range of relevant artists to inspire their own work so they might grow and develop as artists and individuals themselves. The Art Department has taken great pleasure and pride in regularly updating the Twitter account with exciting pages from their books. The prospects for the coming year are very exciting.

It was a pleasure to take year 10 pupils to the Museum of Natural History and the Pitt Rivers museum in Oxford at the end of last term. Pupils managed to get lots of inspiration for their GCSE coursework projects.

Year 11, 12 and 13 are in the process of completing their art exams and the art rooms are bursting with superb pieces of art work that really demonstrate how talented so many of our pupils are. It has really encouraging to see so much diversity in the responses to the exam questions, with pupils completing stillations, paintings, sculptures, mixed media work and textiles pieces. We look forward to showcasing the wonderful work produced at the end of the year.



*Year 11 exam piece by Niamh Johnson*



A huge congratulations to year 9 pupils Casey Pasley and Tom Hobson who won first and second prize in a competition to design a poster depicting Cardiff in the Future. Their entries really

impressed the judges. The lucky winners were congratulated by the Lord Mayor who presented them with their prize.

## Geography Department

### Fieldtrips

Pupils across the school have complimented their classroom based learning with a range of fieldtrips in South Wales as well as in our local community. GSCE and A Level students have benefitted from trips to Southerndown and Ogmore by Sea, The Brecon Beacons and Cardiff CBD. Lower school pupils' fieldwork has been based on our school site and around the local area. They have carried out investigations into the settlement of our local area, river characteristics and microclimates. This is a vital part of geography and allows students to develop a wide range of skills, as well as building on their numeracy and literacy skills.

Following previous highly successful over sea trips 32 pupils will be visiting Morocco in the next academic year. This will be a fantastic opportunity for all the students involved.



### International Links

The geography department has recently hosted a very experienced teacher from New Zealand, Mary Connor. Mary is in the UK comparing the education systems of the two countries. Mary also took the time to work with some of our pupils who have benefited hugely from the experience, developing their cultural knowledge and improving their geography skills. The department is looking forward to developing this international link to enhance our learning and teaching within the department.



## BIG BANG!

On 12th March 2015, 3 members of staff and 50 Year 9 students headed off to Birmingham to attend the annual Big Bang Fair. After a long journey, students were given the freedom to explore the show floor at the NEC Arena which played host to over 200 organisations including universities and science industry experts from around the UK.

There were various hands-on activities for the students (and staff!) to get involved in, which gave them a taste of what science can be used for or what could be expected in a career in science or engineering. This included investigating how energy can be produced cleanly with pedal power, problem solving as a team to defeat 'Spectra', and engaging with a life-size model of the Bloodhound speed barrier car made entirely out of K'Nex amongst many, many others.

One of the highlights of the day was attending one of the many live shows that were put on throughout the day. We chose to attend 'Supertasters' which was an interactive, fun and interesting look at how much we rely on our senses, hosted by Stefan Gates from the BBC's 'Gastronauts'.

After a long day we headed home, inspired and laden down with freebies and ideas to take back to school and our future lessons. The students behaved exceptionally throughout the day, making the staff who accompanied them immensely proud and keen to attend next year's event!



## Year 13 Biology Techniquet Trip

In March the Year 13 Biology students headed off to Cardiff Bay to attend a DNA workshop at Techniquet. They were given the opportunity to extract DNA from their cheek cells. Using modern laboratory techniques and equipment they produced a DNA profile. Millions of copies of cheek cell DNA were produced using a Polymerase Chain Reaction. The resulting DNA was then separated via gel electrophoresis and allowed the students to view their DNA profiles. The students had a lot of fun working in pairs, steadying each other's hands and occasionally nerves, while trying not to contaminate samples or wreck the delicate gel plates.

## Success for A-level Biologists

The Society of Biology's highly challenging British Biology Olympiad competition kicked off in February. The aim of this competition is to challenge and stimulate students with an interest in biology and to expand and extend their talents. The two-hour online exam designed for students between the ages of 16-19 covers topics beyond the scope of A-level, therefore allowing recognition for those students whose carry out extra-curricular study. This year we are delighted to report that 7 of our students received certificates of commendation for their extremely good results in this gruelling task.

Well done to Fiona Guan, Nick Walsh, Sepehr Heravi, Aoife Storer-Martin, Daniel McElroy, Gordon Lai and Emily Tumelty.



## Science Surgery

Y10 and Y11 have been making the most of the support that is available to them in the build up to GCSE exams by attending the weekly Science Surgery Sessions. Pupils have been turning up in their droves to work on a one to one basis with teachers, gain exam practice and help iron out any issues. Good luck to all pupils sitting their GCSEs this summer!

## Physics Trip to CERN, Geneva

After an early start, Miss Isaac, Mrs Grennan and Mr Toye and 23 Yr 12 physics pupils, headed to Bristol airport to fly to Geneva to visit CERN. We had a good view of the eclipse thanks to Genevieve Leake who had the foresight to bring some viewing glasses. What a way to start a Physics trip! On arrival the party headed straight into Geneva town centre and the lake to bask in the sunshine and see the city and the famous water jet fountain. Back at the hotel, the competition for "Foosball" champion got underway, with the staff bowing out almost immediately.



Saturday morning we went to the CERN site where we saw the public exhibition. This was a sight in itself but what we were about to see was at the fine edge of physics. At CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, physicists and engineers are probing the fundamental structure of the universe. They use the world's largest and most complex scientific instruments to study the basic constituents of matter – the fundamental particles. We visited the COMPASS experiment (standing for "Common Muon and Proton Apparatus for Structure and Spectroscopy"!!!!!!). We had an introductory talk in a prestigious lecture theatre and were then driven into France. The site has a 27km circumference so you need a bus to visit the experiments! To end the CERN visit we saw the control room for the whole operation whilst the collider was in action.

Sunday was a more relaxed start and a final visit into Geneva city centre. The weather closed in and we beat a retreat to the airport to fly back to Bristol and home again. A brief but fascinating visit to the beginnings of the universe.



# News from the Maths Department



The outstanding achievements of our Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 mathematicians have continued to impress this academic year. Following the Senior and Intermediate Maths Challenges in November and February respectively, four students qualified for further rounds in the competition, an outstanding achievement. Congratulations go to Ethan Ren and Eleri Williams, who completed the British Mathematical Olympiad Round 1, and to Philippa Godbehere and Lucas Harcombe who qualified for the Intermediate Kangaroo rounds for their respective age groups. On Thursday 30th April, 74 of our talented Year 7 and Year 8 pupils took part in the Junior Maths Challenge and we're confident that the results of this competition will be just as impressive.

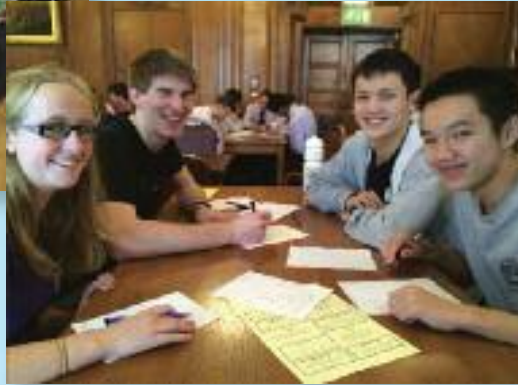
Individual success was complimented by the achievements of our Senior and Junior Maths teams. Both teams excelled in their respective UKMT Team Challenge events; the Senior team (Ethan Ren, Eleri Williams, Matthew Pritchard and Darren Luu) placing in the top five and the Junior Team (Lucas Harcombe, Zaid Dudhniwala, Rohit Krishnan and Ruadhri Horton) coming third out of 25 teams from across South Wales. These competitions combine mathematical, communication and teamwork skills and offer students another way to express and develop their enjoyment of Mathematics. They are extremely competitive and the consistent high-placing of our pupils every academic year demonstrates the impressive mathematical talent that we have at Cardiff High!

In April, two of our most enthusiastic Year 12 students went the extra mile to deepen their love of the subject. Eleri Williams and Alicia Saltmarsh attended the London Mathematical Society's 'Women in Maths' day at Oxford University; a thoroughly interesting day featuring inspiring talks by female mathematicians and workshops in which the students tackled stimulating mathematics themselves.

Back in school, it was congratulations to Elena George (7H) and

Thakshayani Sivakumar (8T) who won our Year 7 and 8 Mathematical Eisteddfod competitions respectively.

We have exceptionally high expectations for all our pupils in Mathematics. As a consequence we are continually refining our teaching and learning process to ensure pupils receive exciting and effective lessons. This year we have focussed on collaboration and problem solving skills. Don't be afraid to ask our pupils to do the IMCA (yes, to the tune of YMCA) in order to solve a tricky problem! Key Stage 3 and 4 pupils have also taken part in Technquest workshops, investigating the mathematics behind organising a rock concert and aeronautical engineering!



Finally, at the business end of Key Stage 4, our pupils have been demonstrating bucket loads of ambition in their pursuit of GCSE success. We have been overwhelmed by their enthusiasm for all the additional support available outside of lessons, including the weekly Maths Surgery and the Easter Holiday Walking Talking Mock. Good luck everyone!

## Cardiff High School Chess Club



Cardiff High's chess club continues to meet twice weekly in T4 and we play games, learn chess openings and discuss chess tactics. New players of any age or ability are always welcome. Mr Nicol's unbeaten record in 2015 is still somehow intact despite many good games and close encounters.

Many of our students play chess for Cardiff Chess Club and there was success for Anlan in Year 7 as he recently secured 3rd place in the 2015 John Bishop Memorial Championship - Well Done!

A chess themed presentation by the maths department was unveiled at the recent Literacy and Numeracy Workshop here at Cardiff High. We discussed the benefits of using chess in the classroom to promote problem solving and thinking skills in a way that students enjoy. One of the problems analysed was: How many queens can you place on a chessboard so that no queen attacks another? The answer will be unveiled in the next newsletter!

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

## S4C

Two of our students in year 7 have been on S4C recently. Marcus Aitken was interviewed on 'Heno' due to his fundraising work. He spoke well with the presenters live on S4C. Da iawn ti Marcus. Emily Phillips was also interviewed whilst she was winning the Welsh Climbing Championship at Caernarvon. Emily has gone on to win the UK title for the third year. Emily spoke of her love of climbing through the medium of Welsh. Gwaith ardderchog Emily.



## Help Available

For those out there who still need additional help with their Welsh – a new revision guide has been published and is available from the school at £3 a copy. The school has been helping with the creation of this guide and therefore highly recommended that the students purchase a copy.

The new GCSE BBC Bitesize site has been updated and improved. This is an excellent resource which will help with grammar skills. Students from both KS3 and KS4 from CHS have been involved with this resource and were given the opportunity to give feedback on the resources created. A similar website has been created for KS5 by Canolfan Penarth and our 6th form and Mrs Griffiths have been involved with this work.

At KS3 Mrs Edwards has been part of a team to develop a new reading website called [www.ciwib.org](http://www.ciwib.org). This is an excellent website created by Tinopolis with short reading, music and video clips. These are updated monthly.



## Pupil of the Term

Celebrating success is central to our inclusive ethos at school and as each term draws to a close we hold a series of special celebration assemblies. The Achievement Team led by Mrs Yarrow is always delighted to summarise the activity of students in many different activities in and beyond school and also to congratulate students on exceptional attendance at school. Our 'Students of the Term' are role models to the whole school population and are awarded for many reasons including excellent citizenship in school, participation in lessons and in extracurricular activity. Many students are also student leaders at school serving their year group and our many societies and clubs. It is a pleasure to share the recipients from all year groups for the Autumn and Summer Term.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 who have achieved International recognition.

### Year 7

Emily Phillips - Climbing  
Gabe Harcombe - Climbing

### Year 8

Ben Smith - Climbing  
Sean Brown - Boxing  
Jessica Paige - Tumbling  
Anna Lukaris - Gymnastics  
Bronte Wright - Squash

### Year 9

Erin Oelmann - Tennis  
Ben Watson - Table Tennis  
Zoe Petermaans - Climbing  
Lucas Harcombe - Climbing  
Millie Gall - Football



Rose and Phoebe Skinner have been successful in their nomination for the South Wales Echo Bouquet of the Week by Bobarth for their continued efforts in raising money for children in Wales with cerebral palsy. Well done girls.



Emily Phillips in year 7 achieved a record breaking win as the British Youth Climbing Championships, Emily has now scored a hat trick, winning the award for the third year running. Emily is the only person to have done this.

# One Day: 1.1 Million Faces

On February 11th 2015, around 200 students from schools and colleges across Wales visited the former Nazi concentration and death camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland. This was part of the Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project. Four Cardiff High School students were selected as ambassadors for the project. Huw Davies, Kate John, Caitlin Gall and Jake Morris are all in year 12. This is their account.



Two weeks prior to our trip we attended our first seminar where the focus of the project was explained to us; that 'hearing is not like seeing'. We were told to focus on humanizing both victims and perpetrators of the Holocaust, to see them as humans and not numbers on a page. Here we met Holocaust survivor Eva Clarke, a fitting start to this project. On February 11th we embarked on the one-day visit to Poland.

The first camp we visited was the Auschwitz 1 concentration camp, which is often referred to simply as Auschwitz. This camp was made into a museum in July 1947 and gets over one million visitors per year. When we walked toward the camp, we saw the infamous sign "Arbeit Macht Frei", which translates to "work will set you free". Auschwitz 1 was predominantly a work camp and inside the old barracks are now artefacts collected from the camps. There are numerous photographs, registration logs and personal items displayed in the museum. We all found it hard to picture the 1.1 million people who died in the Auschwitz camps, but the items in the museum helped to remind us that the people who died were individuals, not just statistics.

One of the hardest hitting moments of this part of the day was viewing the collections of items that were displayed around these buildings. One of the items displayed was human hair, and it filled the whole length of the room, right up to the ceiling. As well as simple clumps of hair there were longer styles such as braids. It is estimated that the hair was cut from 140,000 victims and the reality is that what we saw was only a fraction of the hair shaved off the prisoners at the camps. Other items that were abundant were glasses and prosthetic limbs. This was particularly awful to see especially when you remember the fact that only one in ten people wear glasses and even less wear prosthetics. There were also suitcases, each with people's names and addresses on. The suitcases were used to

carry personal belongings to the camp, however, upon arrival the cases were taken and most people never saw them again.

The item that was in the most abundance was shoes, which filled practically a whole room. The shoes ranged of many different styles and sizes, many of them belonging to babies and children. For us, one of the most saddening moments of the tour was seeing the large collection of baby-grows. All these items helped us to remember that all the people who lived in these camps were unique individuals, and that innocent children too perished at the hands of the Nazis.

Next, we saw the 'black wall' which is stationed in the courtyard between Blocks 10 and 11. This is one of the places where prisoners were executed. Next to it was a gallows that was used to hang the Gestapo's political prisoners. However, instead of being hung around their neck, they were hung by their arms. It was particularly upsetting to stand in a place where so many people had died in such an awful manner; we learned that the first mass killing of people using Zyklon-B took place in one of these cells. The different types of cells here were starvation and standing cells. The starvation cells were so-called because this is where prisoners were kept without food or water until they died. The standing cell forced four prisoners to stand in a cell that was only one meter wide by one meter long. What makes it worse is the fact that the prisoners would have to go to work the following morning, and at the end of the day they were forced back into the cell. The standard punishment in the cell lasted ten days. Often the prisoners would go mad due to the lack of space or die because of a lack of oxygen.

A key of the aim of the trip was to re-humanise not just the victims but also the perpetrators; it is easy to forget that real people did this to other people. One of the moments which helped us to deeply consider this was when we saw the house where Commandant of Auschwitz, Rudolf Hess, used to live. We were told that Hess had moved nearer to his place of work in order to carry out his job more efficiently. He brought his family with him. This is so very similar to what many people do nowadays to





advance their career; it made us think that maybe anybody could become a perpetrator of violence given the chance.

The final part of the Auschwitz 1 tour was of the only remaining gas chamber that is still standing. The others were blown up by the Nazis, except one which was blown up in a prisoner rebellion. During this part of the tour nobody spoke and it was very difficult sitting there seeing it in real life. Next to the gas chamber was the crematorium, which is where the bodies were burned after they were gassed. This was a hard hitting end to our tour at Auschwitz 1; an unthinkable number of people were killed and burnt in the room we were stood in. What an experience to be able to see all of this.

After visiting Auschwitz 1, we got back on the bus and drove about ten minutes down the road to Auschwitz 2, better known as Birkenau. Birkenau became an official Death Camp in 1941. We all felt that Birkenau was a lot more harrowing than Auschwitz due to the sheer size and bleakness of it. Apart from the remains of gas chambers that the Nazis tried to burn down before Birkenau was liberated, it is in near enough the same condition now as it was 70 years ago when it was full of innocent people. We walked around the camp itself which took about an hour to cover all of the ground. In each of the sheds (which initially held around 14 horses when used as a military barracks) there were rows and rows of bunk beds. We were told that around 14 people were allocated per bunk bed. Running through Birkenau is a train track where the prisoners got off the train after arriving and our guide explained to us that when the prisoners arrived, they were separated into two lines of men and women. From these lines, prisoners would be signed in and then Nazi officers decided essentially whether they lived or not. Some people, mainly the elderly, the weak and the children were sent straight to the gas chambers where they were killed.

At the rear of the Birkenau complex, locals from the area have set up a small museum where they have hung up photos found in suitcases that weren't burnt by the Nazis. Some of the locals who found suitcases with names on carried out research into the person's history and have set up small sections of the museum dedicated to particular families, each with passages about their lives and numerous photos. To see all of these photos reminded us that the prisoners in Birkenau, and all the other concentration and death camps, were just ordinary people who lived ordinary lives.

Before leaving Birkenau to return to the airport, there was a memorial service led by Rabbi Marcus during which we all lit candles. By now it was pitch black and freezing cold and had been snowing again. This made the experience even more sincere; knowing that the prisoners had to relentlessly put up with these conditions, wearing nothing but thin, flannel pyjamas. The service was incredibly touching, ending with two minutes of silence. Someone suggested to Rabbi Marcus that we have a minute silence for everyone who died in Birkenau. The Rabbi replied that

if we had just one minute of silence for everyone who died at Birkenau alone, we would be stood in silence for two years. That was a shocking realisation for all four of us, and was most definitely the most emotional part of the whole trip.

Overall, the trip to Auschwitz was undoubtedly one of most



fascinating experiences of our lives, and we would encourage anyone with the opportunity to go. The experience on the day was somewhat overwhelming. Perhaps, oddly, it was in the days following the trip that we feel we began to understand more about Auschwitz and the horrors committed there. As clichéd as it sounds, this is a rare occasion where words cannot do full justice to what we saw and experienced on the trip. We have certainly tried our best to convey some of our thoughts and feelings in this article; a first step in fulfilling our role as ambassadors for the project. Re-humanising victims and perpetrators alike has helped us to go beyond statistics, beyond simple facts and we now feel more understanding of the consequences of people's action during the Holocaust. This understanding, we believe, is vital to preventing a repeat of such horrors of the past.

We would like to thank the Holocaust Educational Trust for offering us this fantastic opportunity to take part in their 'Lessons From Auschwitz' project. The experience has truly been invaluable to us.

*Huw Davies, Kate John, Caitlin Gall & Jake Morris*

## Remembrance Committee Appeal

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

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 the school website (on the History Department area).

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 taken on a new lease of life this year being run effectively by 3 of our Year 12 students (Lucy Cuddihee, Lydia Slack and Emily Frankish). Over the past year they have been looking at World War I, from eating Spa, having conversations in "trench language", through to looking at the American Civil War - much fun is being had by all.

With thanks to Rhys Wyn Evans of the *Cardiff Times*, for permission to use his photographs taken on the day.



# Music Department



## Jekyll & Hyde

January & February saw the Music and Drama departments perform the annual school Musical of Jekyll & Hyde. There were outstanding performances from all pupils involved – Tom Barber as Jekyll was masterful in his portrayal of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde contrasting Jess Davies' honest rendition of the role of his wife Emma. The third lead role was performed by Ginny Beth-Sampson who was mesmerising in her role of the down trodden Lucy. The lead cast were ably supported by the board of Governors and Matthew Leaman as Utterson. The whole ensemble were simply extraordinary in their commitment to acting and singing – every pupil on stage became their character. The rehearsal period was as intense as

always, with the student orchestra ably supporting the onstage action admirably led by orchestral leader – Alice Howell. The whole production was dramatic, dark and intense and the two stand-out numbers were the full chorus performances of Façade and Murder! An absolute triumph of a performance – well done to all pupils involved! We are looking forward to next year's ambitious venture 'Jesus Christ Superstar'.

## Festive Performance in the Annual Carol Service

The Music Department entertained a fully packed audience in the schools' Annual Carol Service at St. Martin's on 16th December 2014. Pupils performed a wonderful festive array of music ranging from the Senior Girls' choir singing 'Angels Carol' by Rutter to the Chamber Orchestra delighting the congregation with Faure's Pavane. The event was not to be missed and the congregation got the opportunity to sing the carols accompanied by the String Orchestra. The impressive sum of £600 was collected for the very worthy Huggard charity.

## Young Musician

The Music Department will be hosting its annual Young Musician Competition on 12th May 2015 in Neuadd Celyn. The finalists for the categories are Junior: Rachel Daniels, Georgia Fenouhlet, Lauren Hurle and Grace Lim. The intermediate category will be represented by Ben Barber, Julian Desilva, Rebecca Ellis-Hillman and Phillipa Godbehere with the Senior Category seeing Tom Barber, Alice Howell and Raphael Rosin compete. The evening demonstrates the extreme talent, dedication and high standard of musical performance represented here at Cardiff High.

March was another busy month for the Music Department with pupils performing whole class singing pieces and competing for the onstage competition. Pupils were once again thorough and poised in their musical performances with both the vocal and instrumental categories tough to judge. Congratulations to all involved!



Harri Lee (Year 8)  
Winner of the Instrumental



Lauren Hurle (Year 8)  
Winner of the Vocal



Year 7 winners of the  
Voice On stage Competition



## A Big Thank You!

The Learning Support department would like to extend its thanks for the hard work and dedication of the Yr 12 pupils who worked with the Year 7 and 8 pupils in either Paired Reading or Spelling – we really cannot run these sessions without their support. The final session was our Awards Morning when all pupils received a Certificate, and the Year 12s were given letters which outline their role and dedication to the scheme which can be used on their CVs. The pupils really benefit from these sessions not only in Literacy but also in social skills and developing self-esteem, so again, **Thank you Year 12!**



## “The Dingbat Challenge”

In the Learning Support corridor we have displayed some “Dingbats” for the pupils to work out – there were Merits on offer for anyone who could work them all out and it has caused a lot of interest and discussion.

## Religion and Philosophy in Focus



### Year 11

In January Year 11 GCSE students commenced the ‘Religion and Medicine’ module. As an introduction to this Dr Heather Payne, Senior Lecturer in Child Health Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff University, delivered sessions to all students. Dr Payne focused upon the importance of the Hippocratic Oath and moral dilemmas, covering the topics of abortion, euthanasia and genetic engineering.



### Year 10

As part of the Year 10 GCSE Religious Studies course students study a module on Relationships. In February the department was again visited by Dave Shutt, a Youth Worker in All Nations Church Cardiff. He delivered sessions which focussed upon all aspects of Christian Relationships and the students enthusiastically engaged with the topic area. They were also encouraged to ask questions, which often challenged Dave’s beliefs, further developing their skills of discussion and evaluation technique.



Ahead of the Easter holidays, Year 8 Religion and Philosophy students were again treated to an exciting, interactive workshop led by local Christian youth workers. Taking the theme of the action serial ‘24’, students were introduced to the dramatic events that unfolded in the last 24 hours before Jesus’ crucifixion. Groups were given the opportunity to explore the significance of these events for Christians all over the world today.

# Drama

## Practical Assessment

Year 11, 12 and 13 have just completed the practical aspect to their studies and this year in particular showcased such a high range of ability and diversity. From the devised work, which is constructed by the pupils, to the text based work, which asks the pupils to learn from a published script, there was such a range of skills present. Physical theatre, musical theatre, dance, surrealism and melodrama were but some of the styles and genres that were used. The high standard of work could not have been produced if it wasn't for the tireless effort made by the pupils outside of their allocated lesson time where they came in at lunchtime, after school and even on weekends. All the very best for results day!

## Drama Club and Big Talent Agency

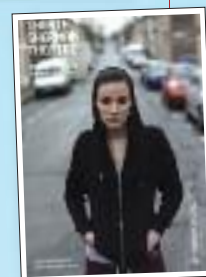
I'm pleased to announce that Drama Club is starting this term and so many Year 7, 8, and 9 pupils will have an opportunity to get involved with live performance. Together with The Big Talent Agency, we are hoping to build each session towards a live performance that the pupils will perform in either an assembly or to some of the primary feeder schools. Shelley Norton, who runs the Big Talent Agency, was really keen to get involved and she has been to school recently speaking to all of the year groups about exciting opportunities, such as other plays and musicals outside of school, as well as the possibility of extra work for the many television and film contracts that are now running at Cardiff Pinewood Studios. Thrilling stuff!



Year 13 working on still image

## Drama Trips

During May and June there are also some theatre trips organised. In May Year 13 are going to Sherman Cymru to see a modern and stylised version of Euripides' classic *Iphigenia in Aulis* which has been interestingly named *Iphigenia in Splott*. This will almost certainly help them in their understanding of how ancient Greek theatre can be modernised and interpreted. Year 10 are visiting London in June to see the hugely popular and successful *The Woman in Black*. This frightening theatre experience will no doubt keep them on the edge of their seats but it follows a fascinating backstage tour of the National Theatre in London.



## English



## Hay Scribblers Event

In February a group of twenty Year 9 pupils attended a Hay Scribblers day at Cardiff University. Organised by the Hay Festival of Literature, this is a chance for pupils to hear talks by a variety of authors and speakers as well as participating in writing activities. We were privileged to hear Laura Bates, who founded the Everyday Sexism project, discussing the way women and men are portrayed in the media and she really inspired girls and boys alike. We were also excited that Darren Shan, author of the Cirque du Freak series, read from his new book and discussed his writing process and plans for future novels. Finally, Emma Meese from Cardiff University's Centre for Community Journalism talked about the impact of social media on how the news is reported and asked us to consider the pros and cons of our own use of social media, which gave everyone food for thought. The pupils asked a variety of perceptive and thoughtful questions and thoroughly enjoyed the day.

## World Book Day

This year World Book Day was a non-uniform day across the school. Many pupils created excellent costumes based on literary characters and we were also thrilled that many staff dressed up. Special mention must go to the team effort from the History Department and to the 'Scooby Gang'. We're already planning bigger and better things for next year!

## Hay Festival Schools' Day

At the end of May fifty pupils from Year 9 will attend the Hay Festival, in Hay on Wye. Every year the festival puts on two days of events for schools and we are lucky that this year we have managed to secure tickets. Pupils will be attending talks given by the award-winning author, Tim Bowler, and by Robert Muchamore, author of the CHERUB series, and Sophie McKenzie. The English Department are really looking forward to this trip and we hope that we can make it an annual event.

## Year 9 Pupils Enjoy An Extraordinary Performance Of 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time.'

The English department was delighted to invite students studying Mark Haddon's highly successful book 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' to an award-winning production at the Welsh Millennium centre in April. The play was staged in a black box with clever use of projections to create different locations and key images. These ranged from the mathematical formulae in which Christopher excels to his terrifying experiences aboard a train and then the London Underground as he went in search of his mother. It was an absolute pleasure to take students from Year 9 to see such an outstanding and tremendously inventive performance. We look forward to arranging more theatre trips next year!



# Da Iawn Pawb!

## Eisteddfod ysgol

The school Eisteddfod was a very successful day. The eventual winners were 7H and 8J and their form tutors were very proud. Benedict Watson won the crown whilst Nadine Kandil was chaired for her poem. The pictures are available to see on the departments gallery on the school website. The fun is obvious to all as the students enjoyed singing, reciting, playing their instruments and dancing. Much of the work had been completed before the day as students had prepared their off stage entries. Their winning work is displayed all around the school.

*Llongyfarchiadau i bawb a fu wrthi yn helpu ond yn enwedig i Mrs Normansell am drefnu'r dydd. Braf oedd gweld y plant yn mwynhau wrth gefnogi llwyddiannau ei gilydd.*



## Urdd Eisteddfod

Students have been busy preparing for the Urdd Eisteddfod. Da iawn i Rachel Daniels bl. 9 am ennill y gystadleuaeth llefaru ail iaith dan 15 oed yn ysgol Plasmawr yn yr Eisteddfod Sir. Daeth y grŵp yn drydydd hefyd gyda'r gerr 'Y Deg Gorchymyn'. The senior girls will be going to the National Urdd Eisteddfod as well as they won the county round. The name of their poem is 'Melinau'. Hopefully we will see all our competitors through to stage and onto S4C on Wednesday and Thursday of Whitsun half term.



## Welsh Department on Tour

Around 150 students headed off to Llangrannog for a weekend of fun and games. Aeth llawer i sgio, nofio, gwibgartio, dawnsio, dringo, marchogaeth a llawer mwy. Diolch enfawr i'r staff am roi o'u hamser unwaith eto. Eating ice cream on a Friday afternoon is always a highlight as the parlour opens especially for us. The Urdd camp has recently opened a new sleeping block called Neuadd Eleanor and the students enjoyed their time using the new facilities available for us.

Please check out the department gallery for photos of the trip.

The 6th form recently went to the Riverside Theatre in Newport to see 'The Royal Bed'. This was a translation of the play studied for a level called 'Siwan'. Students also spoke to the cast members at the end of the performance.

Year 13 were very lucky as they were visited by the author Ioan Kidd. They study his work in year 13 and he read and gave his thoughts on his short stories. Diolch yn fawr iawn i Ioan Kidd am ddod i'r ysgol ac i Mrs Normansell am drefnu'r dydd.

Year 9 and 10 spent a great afternoon in the Urdd centre in the Millennium Centre discussing music with the radio 1 DJ Huw Stephens. Students from all over Wales were present as part of the project 'Cymraeg pob dydd'. Many thanks to Branwen from the Urdd for organising.



## Eco

The orienteering course we built out of reclaimed wood and acrylic off cuts was nominated in the 'Recycling Innovation' category at the 'National Tidy Wales Awards'. Rory Jones, Patrick Richards and Matthew Cater attended the ceremony which was hosted by ex-Wales international rugby player Tom Shanklin. We came runners up and won a £50 gardening gift voucher.

The orienteering course is located in 'Nant Fawr Woods' and is currently be used by pupils as part of the PE curriculum.



Last term all year 7 classes took part in planting trees donated by the 'Woodland Trust'. The pupils worked in their form groups to plant a total of 420 saplings which will provide food and habitat for wildlife.



## Football Round Up



The Year 7 team have made an encouraging start; the highlight of the year being a fantastic comeback to win 3-2 against Whitchurch courtesy of a last minute penalty by Owain Jenkins. Striker Joe Bassett is currently representing the Cardiff and Vale football squad.

### Year 8

Cup defeats against St Teilo's in both CVSFA and the Welsh cup have been frustrating for a developing team, but we look forward to a successful season next year! Toby Yebdri continues to be a regular source of goals including 5 in 8-2 victory over Bro Eder, while Cameron St John has shone in goal. The supremely talented Barney Soady continues to represent Bristol City FC and has signed a two year extension.

### Year 9

It's been a mixed year for this team; defeating Glantaf 6-0 in a friendly and then losing 2-1 in the CVSFA cup. In the Welsh cup the team were defeated narrowly by The Bishop of Llandaf. The boys showed their true potential in friendly matches by beating recently crowned Welsh Champions St Teilo's 4-1, inspired by a Luke Robinson hat-trick and beating CVSFA champions Corpus Christi 5-0. Hopefully the team can take their success in friendlies into next season's cup competitions.

### Year 10

The year 10 produced a fantastic team performance to defeat Llanishen and showed great character to come back from 2-0 down vs Fitzalan to win on penalties. Their progress in the Welsh Cup ended in heart breaking fashion; a last minute winner saw Llantwit progress to the national rounds of the competition. The season ended, however with a goal fest against Whitchurch securing a 5-3 victory.



### Year 11

The boys were out to defend their CVSFA trophy but that looked unlikely when they were 2-0 down after 30 minutes against Barry in the semi-final. Joe Tong's hat-trick helped spark an amazing comeback to win 6-2. The final was against St Teilo's, also last year's final opponents. St Teilo's opened the deadlock early in the second half when a looping cross found the back of the net. St Teilo's doubled their lead when a long throw wasn't cleared. Tiago Micallef's penalty gave the boys hope but unfortunately they couldn't find an equaliser and St Teilo's were crowned champions. This was the final game of the current Y11 football team marking an end to 5 years together. Especially pleasing is that the boys were undefeated for nearly two years winning the Y10 CVSFA Cup along the way. Special mention to Joe Tong, Matt Steele, Ben Vincent and Tiago Micallef who have all represented the school's senior football team.

## WALES FINEST

### Senior Footballers become National Champions!

### Boys also crowned Cardiff & Vale Champions



Cardiff High School are the Welsh Champions for the first time, defeating Dyffryn Conwy 4-2 in Oswestry.

CHS settled into their passing game quickly, with all players looking calm in possession, with Nick Davies denied a goal inside 2 minutes by the post. Seb James was a constant threat down the left and when given his first sight of goal he found the top corner to give CHS the lead. Seb was involved again soon after; playing in Nick who produced a fine piece of skill to beat the defender and pull the ball back to Tiago Micallef to finish. An amazing first half got even better; Tommie Shorey beat 2 Conwy defenders before playing in Joe Tong who unselfishly squared the ball for Tiago to grab his second!

Conwy responded early in the second half through an own goal. CHS continued to dominant possession and looked threatening on the counter attack, however Conwy was awarded a penalty and the Conwy

number 9 dispatched it to make the last 15 minutes tense. The boys remained composed and substitute Ben Vincent turned the ball home following a goal mouth scramble to secure the victory. The final whistle signalled glorious scenes with Captain Dave Brown lifting the trophy!

This of course is the second trophy of the year. Two weeks previously the boys defeated Whitchurch 2-0 to win the CVSFA Cup. Zach Pathmanathan reacted first to Dave Brown's flick on to put CHS into the lead. Whitchurch were awarded a controversial penalty, but goalkeeper Matt Hall guessed right to maintain the lead. Abdi Osman was sent off with 30 minutes remaining but the 10 men stood strong and repelled wave after wave of Whitchurch attacks. CHS broke away in stoppage time and when Tiago was brought down, he picked himself up to score and confirm the victory for CHS!

A very memorable end and deserved reward for a season of hard graft. 2 trophies and history made. **CONGRATULATIONS!**



## County Netball Champions

The Year 10 team finished off another successful season by being crowned county champions for the 4th successive year. They beat teams from Llantwit Major, Corpus Christi and Howells to win the County Title at Talybont.



## Girls' rugby festival

Girls from Years 7 & 8 attended The Girls' Rugby Festival hosted by the WRU at Rumney fields. They took part in coaching sessions in the morning and were introduced to the games of both touch rugby and contact rugby. In the afternoon one team played in a touch rugby competition and the other in the contact tournament. The girls were absolutely fantastic! They all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and some stars of the future were most definitely spotted.

Girls' rugby sessions continue to be held on a Friday 3.10pm on the 3G. All welcome!

## National Netball Finals

Following victory in the county round of the Ann Smart and President's Cup tournaments, Cardiff High School was the county representative for Cardiff and the Vale in both the U16 and U18 age groups at the 2015 National Netball Finals held at LC2 in Swansea.

Both teams had a gruelling day of netball, playing fiercely contested matches against some very tough opposition. The Under 18 squad beat Ysgol Duffryn Amman and Ysgol Uwchradd Caereinion. They drew a thrilling match with Haberdasher's Monmouth and lost narrowly to Brynteg, Hawarden and Ysgol Brynrefail.

The Under 16 squad beat Porthcawl, Pembroke, Christ College, Haberdasher's Monmouth, St Joseph's and Llangefni. They lost by 1 goal in a nail biting match to Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr. The Under 16's were crowned National Champions 2015 due to a far superior goal average.

Lauren Evans (U16) and Rose Thomas (U18) were voted coach's players of the tournament.

Congratulations to all squad members.



## Rugby Union

The Senior Rugby team have had an extremely successful season. Playing in the Under 18 Blues South league the school's XV successfully beat major scalps such as Llanishen and Radyr during the season and a 100% win record was only dented by a 10-10 draw against a strong Glantaf side before Christmas. The team won the league but unfortunately lost in the play offs to Radyr. The team also had its most successful run in the Welsh Cup for many years reaching the quarter final only to draw with Cymer, Rhondda (but go out as the home side).

### Dan Schwartz (Wales Under 16's)

Dan has had an incredible season. Not only has he been an integral part of the senior school team, Dan has represented the Blues South U16 team and through a series of outstanding performances was selected to represent Wales. The International tournament at Wellington College saw Dan gain his 1st cap against England Under 16's on Sunday 19th April. Our congratulations go to Dan and his family.



### Prince Faraji, Callum Brown and Joe Turner (Cardiff Schools Under 15)

Prince, Callum and Joe have all played a part in the Cardiff Schools Under 15 Dewar Schield team this year. Callum and Joe now play in the final of the Vase competition on Parc y Scarlets. Both Prince and Joe have been selected for the 7's squad that play in the national district 7's in Llandovery.

### Rosslyn Park National schools sevens

Year 8,11 and the Senior XV enjoyed an enriching experience again playing in the biggest schools sevens tournament in the world during March.

## Basketball

### Dan Koukouravas and Jack Solomons

Congratulations go to Dan and Jack who represented Wales Under 16 in Italy playing against San Marino and regional Italian sides. Dan represents Wales Under 15 now in Ireland on the weekend of May 2/3rd, 2015. Well done both.

## Girl's PE Excels!

### Year 7

The year 7 girls demonstrated their abilities as outstanding all-rounders this term by ending the Games season within the top 3 of the county in 3 different disciplines. 3rd in cross country, 3rd in hockey and 2nd in netball.

The netball A team came agonisingly close to silverware at the end of a superb season which has seen them win all but one game after losing to Glantaf 7-8 at the end of February. During the term the girls have played many matches including a Saturday match versus a touring Wycliffe School and entered the county qualifying competition well prepared. They breezed through that round scoring over 30 goals in just 3 matches against St Teilo's, Radyr and Bro Morgannwg and conceding the solitary 1 goal. During the final tournament the girls were outstanding, beating Stanwell 14-1 and Bro Edern 9-6 however lost to eventual winners Glantaf 7-2. A 2nd place finish in the end, however judging by the girls' disappointment from gaining silver and not gold they will be back stronger next year! It has been pleasing to see so many girls turn up to netball club and it was fantastic to see all 4 teams able to play a fixture on the same night. More of the same next year girls!

On the hockey front the girls demonstrated some fine improvements over the Spring term and the A team qualified for the county tournament by scoring 8 goals and conceding 0 during their qualifying group phase. During the final tournament they were very unlucky not to finish higher than 3rd after conceding two late goals in consecutive matches. However, the huge strides made was clear to see after losing 4-1 to Glantaf and 3-0 to Howells early in the term, to lose 1-0 (Glantaf) and draw 2-2 (Howells) during the final tournament. The B team also showed big improvements however were unable to reach the county finals after finishing second in their qualifying campaign. Next year will see the girls move from 7 to 11 a side and to full pitch games.

The pupils deserve a huge amount of credit for their dedication and commitment this term and throughout the season. They have consistently attended regular training sessions, showing such infectious enthusiasm.

47 netball games were played (including tournament games) throughout the season by the A, B, C and D teams along with 21 games by the A and B hockey teams which demonstrates their fantastic commitment.

### Year 8

The year 8 girls continued their high levels of commitment to the netball and hockey clubs this term which made it a difficult task to pick A county squads to enter both county qualifying tournaments. Throughout the year high numbers of girls have represented the school teams with the netball teams having played 32 games (tournament games included) between the A and B teams, and 10 hockey games for the year 8 squad.

The netball A team narrowly missed out on qualifying to the county finals round after finishing second in their group at the end of February. After defeating St Illtyds, Bro Edern and Plasmawr the girls narrowly lost to Stanwell, the winners of the group. Meanwhile the B team demonstrated big improvements since the start of the year with victories this term over Corpus Christie, Radyr and Howells.

The hockey team started the term with an excellent 5-0 victory against Howells before drawing with Glantaf (who went on to win the county tournament) 1-1. During the county qualifying group the team beat Radyr 3-0 however let standards drop against Howells and lost 1-0 therefore missed out on reaching the final rounds. However, the girls have been dedicated to both practice and matches.

### PGL

16 members of the year 7 and 8 netball team visited the PGL Centre, Swindon for a netball weekend at the end of February. The weekend included numerous netball matches during the Saturday and Sunday mornings along with outdoor activities such as abseiling and zipwire to name a few during the afternoons.



Both the year 8 and year 7 teams made it through to the final rounds from their difficult groups, beating teams from Wales and England. In their semi-finals both teams lost, however ended the tournament in 3rd place and came home with their bronze medals. Credit must be given to all pupils who were present on the trip for their impeccable behaviour throughout the week-end.

## Football at Cardiff High

The year 7 and 8 team continued to play friendlies after their cup defeat during the winter term and had a mixed term results wise, winning 1 and losing 2. However there were many positives to take with the girls showing clear signs of improvement. This was demonstrated within the Sport Cardiff 5-a-side tournament in which two teams of 5 won more than half of their games played with some fantastic goals scored!

The U15 girls football team have had a truly outstanding term by winning 3 friendlies and a fantastic Welsh Cup run which ended with silverware! This cup run saw the girls beat Dyffryn High (Newport) in the last 16 of the Welsh Cup away in Newport, on penalties after a very tight 1-1 draw. In the quarter finals they faced Cwmatawe (Swansea) who had reached the Premier League girls finals representing Swansea City. After a very nervy first half which saw them 3-1 down they demonstrated a real togetherness to bring the score back to 3-3 and with 1 minute remaining snatch a winner! Onto the semi finals they marched and a tough encounter against Cwm Rhymni, last years' beaten finalists. After snatching an early goal in very windy conditions the game looked to be heading our way until the very last kick of the game saw Cwm Rhymni equalize. Penalties again and practise makes permanent as they say, with the team winning 3-2 which sent them through to their very first Welsh Cup Final.

The Final: The final took place in Aberystwyth on Wednesday the 15th of April against last years' U13 and U14 Welsh Cup Champions, Ysgol Eifionydd from Porthmadog. The girls did not let the opposition or the occasion overawe them and made the perfect start when Millie Gall raced through to place the ball past the oncoming goal keeper. The team was organised and disciplined throughout, and showed huge amounts of determination to win their 1v1 battles than their North Wales counterparts. Despite coming under some pressure in the second half they held strong with a fine defensive display, front attack to defence and sealed the win when Mille Gall added a second with minutes left to play. The team have been so together throughout this cup run and this was epitomised in their performances during the final. Clear underdogs, but their effort, fight and spirit shone throughout, and as their quote said before the final: "Teamwork makes the dreamwork".

5 members of the Welsh Cup winning squad (Anna Richards, Millie Gall, Caitlin Bevan, Izzy Edwards and Beth Jenkins) were crowned Sport Cardiff 5 a side champions after defeating Llanishen, Whitchurch A, Whitchurch B, Eastern High and Mary Immaculate. Without doubt the best team won on the day with the girls demonstrating excellent organisation in defence along with precision and accuracy in attack.



## CHS Football Bloggers score a dream trip to Cardiff City FC

Our CHS football bloggers were recognised for their efforts by Cardiff City FC earlier this year.

The group of pupils from Cardiff High School in Cyncoed have set up and run their own football blog **Football CHS**, regularly posting opinion pieces, match reports and news about the world of football.

The blog was brought to the attention of bosses at Cardiff City, who agreed to run a competition to feature some of the bloggers' match reports in the club's official match programme.

As part of the competition, the students were invited to sit in the Cardiff City press box to watch the Capital Cup match against Bournemouth, and then blog about the trip and the match itself.

Year 9 pupil Millie Gall and Anna Richards (Year 10), had their blog posts published in the programme for Cardiff City v Nottingham Forest in October, while Year 12 pupil Joe Richards also had his full match report published in the programme for the Bluebirds' midweek game against Watford in September.

15 of the school bloggers were then invited to Cardiff City's training headquarters at the Vale Resort, where they were able to watch players training and meet Manager Russell Slade, Brazilian Fabio De Silva and full back John Brayford, who officially presented Joe, Anna and Millie with framed copies of their reports in the programme.

Joe has since contacted the club and secured an ongoing internship placement writing match reports for the Cardiff City U18 team, published on the official club website and sometimes in the following match's programme.

Joe, who is studying for A Levels in History, Geography, English Literature and French at Cardiff High Sixth Form, said: "I have supported Cardiff City all my life therefore it is a dream come true to work for the club. The first



game I attended was a 2-1 defeat to Northampton Town at the old ground Ninian Park when I was just 5 years old and I am also a season ticket holder. I have been lucky enough to see behind the scenes at what happens at the club on a match day and watch the game from the press seats.

"I would like to do this as my job full time when I leave school and the Football CHS blog is the perfect way to gain experience for this field of work."

Speaking about the bloggers, Cardiff City's Football Media Relations Manager, Mark Denham said: "The bloggers at Football CHS are a talented group and a credit to their school and teachers. It's been a pleasure working with budding football journalists."

Mr Wise, who helps moderate the blog, said: "We are really proud of the effort all the pupils have put into the ongoing writing and running of Football CHS. The writing is of a really high standard and their passion for football shines through – it's always a great read. Our thanks go out to Cardiff City FC for supporting the blog; it's fantastic for the bloggers to be recognised by some of their footballing heroes."

## Food Technology

In February the Year 10 Food Technology class had a visit from the pupils at Lycée Hôtelier Yvon Bourges, a French Culinary College in Dinard. The aim of the visit was for our pupils to exchange recipes and talk about the cultural differences in the food that we eat and the pupils' preconceptions of each other's countries. During the visit our pupils demonstrated how to make Welsh Cakes and in return were shown how to make Bretton Pancakes with Salted Caramel which were a delight! The visit was highly successful in widening our pupils' repertoire of recipes and provided an ideal opportunity for both sets of pupils to learn about different cultures first hand. This is something that we are hoping to repeat annually.

## Year 10 Industrial Trip to Brace's Bread

As part of the GCSE Food Technology course it is essential that pupils gain first hand industrial experience in order for them to understand and processes of manufacturing a food product on a mass scale. The Year 10 GCSE Food Class went to visit the Brace's Bread factory in Crumlin. The visit was a great success and the tour we received proved to be of great value to the pupils learning. We saw the whole manufacturing process from mixing the dough mixture right through to packaging the products and boxing them up ready for distribution. A big thank you to Brace's Bread for a great morning!



## Economics & Business



With the exams rapidly approaching the Business and Economics department has been looking for new ways to surpass last year's record results. We have focused on creating revision videos using an app called Explain Everything. Using the app we have made over 100 videos for Economics and Businesses Studies. Students can now revise the entire Business Studies course using the videos and testing them using video exam paper walkthroughs. The students have embraced the new technology with the videos receiving over 8000 views from our students in the last year. Visit our twitter page, @chseconbusiness to see more.

# Parliament

## Cardiff Youth Council

This academic year, 3 members of our student body have joined the Cardiff Youth Council (CYC) as representatives of Cardiff High School. These 3 pupils now have the chance to discuss issues in society on a wider platform. They also have wonderful opportunities to go abroad to visit other youth groups. They are also eligible to seek to represent UKYP (United Kingdom Youth Parliament) and BYP (British Youth Parliament). 1 of these 3 has already had the chance to visit Ireland as a part of a group of 6 representatives to meet at The Participation of the Isles, this meant all 5 nations (Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, England, and Wales) came together for the first time in more than 40 years to discuss topics and issues that were close to their hearts. This Participation of the Isles was the first of many and it is wonderful that a pupil from Cardiff High School was a part of the movement towards achieving greater understanding of neighbouring countries.



Cardiff High recently held a Question Time debate for our sixth form students. Five local MP candidates, Jo Stevens from the Labour Party, Jenny Willott from the Liberal Democrats, Craig Williams from the Conservative Party, Chris von Ruhland from the Green Party and Martin Pollard from Plaid Cymru, representing the major

parties were invited to give their opinions and to provide the students with the opportunity to form their own. The candidates first took it in turns to answer a question put forward to them by a year 12 student on what their party could offer young people in Cardiff. The event was chaired by Head Boy Rishan Rahman and Head Girl Caitlin Ray. Questions were then offered for debate and it became a bit more exciting! Over the

next 40 minutes the candidates were asked a range of questions and the students were left better informed about each party's policies, ready for the vote on May 7th. Hopefully, with the assembly elections coming up next year this will be the first in a series of political debates at Cardiff High.

### Greetings from parliament!!

We are the school parliament and we are the voice for the needs and requirements of the student body. The school parliament is a cross age representation of 2 representatives from each year including sixth form. Despite age differences we realise that many issues pupils have are recurrent throughout the year groups and these are the problems we take to our termly meeting with Mr Jones (Head teacher) to try and resolve them.



Members of parliament travelled to the Pierhead building in Cardiff Bay in late January this year to take part in a youth day with pupils from across South/Mid Wales schools. Discussions took place about 4 topics; Welsh Independence, Fracking, Votes@16, and the school curriculum – issues which all of us had strong views on. At the end of this jam-packed day, a panel took place where members of the audience got to question politicians of opposing parties; this was eye opening and highly engaging. The idea was borrowed and CHS did our own take on Question Time later this year.

This term we have set forth the action plan to bring more curricular/academic badges into the school awards system and hope this encourages people of all different abilities to strive for the best they can be. We will also be presenting a film night for year 6 pupils who are going to be joining our welcoming school community; we dearly hope that this event goes well and the future high school debutantes will feel more at home in September.

## A Fond Farewell To Staff Members



Dr. Jude Brigley



Keira McDade



Steve Howells



Mandy Esseen



Sandra Roberts



Andy Bartlett



Syra Saddique