

# Cardiff High School

## Summer Newsletter 2018



As always it's been another very exciting year. Once again Cardiff High School was the highest performing school in Wales in nearly every key measure. This means, that for a period of seven years, the school has performed at an unprecedented level. It is the consistency of performance over this long period of time which makes it so remarkable. Often it is the attainment of pupils upon which politicians place great emphasis. However, as a school, we want to ensure that, not only are our children well educated, but also that they are physically, morally and socially able to thrive. We obviously do this through our teaching, but I am sure that when you read this Newsletter you will agree that the sheer number and variety of extra-curricular activities available for pupils also significantly contributes to these values. This year many of your children have experienced Cardiff High trips or taken part in music, drama, sports or cultural events and you have shared with me how impressed you have been with the quality and breadth of opportunities on offer. I am once again indebted to all the staff here at Cardiff High School for their continued commitment to our pupils.

However, the year has not been without its challenges. School budgets have been stretched. As Wales' most oversubscribed comprehensive the Council are considering plans to increase our pupil intake, however, as yet, there are no further details. In addition, Welsh Government have also only recently confirmed new performance measures for schools.

A recent issue I have been working on with educationalists across Wales is the challenge faced by schools in recruiting high quality teachers. It would seem more teachers are leaving the profession early and that fewer graduates are entering the profession. It will be interesting to note how many of our children in school today go into the teaching profession. What I would say is, "Why wouldn't you teach?" This Newsletter shows what a wonderful profession it can be. You get the opportunity to work with young and creative minds who hold our future in their hands and also with some truly inspirational people. It truly is the most rewarding profession in the world.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our chair of governors, Nonny Matthewson and the governing body for all of their support. I would also like say a big thank you to Julia Lewis for all her efforts in leading the PTA. Julia is now stepping down from her role after a number of years and will be missed. We look forward to working with all of our parents and carers in the new academic year. It is great to have such strong parental engagement and support. I would like to wish you all an enjoyable summer.

S M JONES

Headteacher

# Skills Challenge

## Dragon's Den Meets the Apprentice

Year 13 pupils have been working extremely hard this term to complete their final challenge as part of their Advanced Skills Challenge qualification. The first task of the Enterprise and Employability Challenge was to create a pen portrait, a modern version of a CV that showcased the skills they identified from carrying out several skills audits. After this, the students embraced the opportunity to work in small groups and hone their entrepreneurial talents to develop and market a novel idea for a 'pop-up' shop. Based on their skill subsets, each student had to apply for and carry out a 'role' within their team to bring their product to market. The students worked exceptionally hard and had to pitch their final ideas to outside speakers from various businesses. They were absolutely blown away by the high standard presented to them. The novel ideas being showcased by the students would have any dragon, or Lord Sugar himself wanting to invest. Ideas included themed restaurants, speciality chocolate classes, innovative gifts and healthy food snacks. Their final task was to produce a 'Destination Passport' that involved them researching the specific requirements of their target careers and identifying SMART targets to achieve their goals. This task also utilised their numeracy skills and allowed them to calculate take home pay from hypothetical salaries in areas they wanted to work after living expenses were deducted - the reality of this was a shock to a lot of them!

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# Physics

## British Physics Olympiad AS Challenge

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March seventeen of our Year 12 physics students took part in the British Physics Olympiad AS Challenge, organised by Oxford University. The challenge took the form of a one hour written exam paper, which consisted of five short multiple choice questions and six longer questions. The questions focussed on problem solving and were designed to “challenge the top AS physicists in the country.” For example, one of the short questions required an estimate of the number of atoms in a typical course grain of sand found on a beach and one of the longer questions was based around the analysis of data relating to an Alpha Particle Indirect Conversion Radioisotope Power Source!



The students who took part all gave a very good account of themselves and provided some excellent answers to questions. It was very encouraging to see that they were not put off by the difficulty of the subject matter, but instead displayed high levels of resilience and a willingness to attempt questions that were set in unusual contexts. Particular congratulations go to Daniel Austin and Noah Evans, who both achieved a Bronze Award Certificate as a result of their excellent performance in the exam. A number of other students missed out on the Bronze Award by just a couple of marks.

## Health Science A-Live!

On Thursday 15 March 2018, 32 Year 12 Biology students attended the Science in Health Live! event held at Cardiff University Medical School. Activities included selected tours around various research departments, short science talks and the opportunity to explore the interactive exhibition area to discover the science behind the scenes of healthcare professions.

**Shaun and Harrison wrote the following:**

*Our trip gave me a deeper insight in to the work that medical staff and related fields of work do, of research into cures for diseases or drugs to fight terrible diseases. The day inspired me to follow my dream to enter the health industry.*

**Shaun**

*It gave me an insight into the world behind the front lines of medicine.*

*We visited a number of labs where they research new and developing cancer treatments. I was so inspired, that I applied for their laboratory work experience placement scheme, which I was lucky enough to get! I'm really looking forward to exploring what we only scratched the surface of.*

*We also had the opportunity to speak to current students at the event, to ask about various aspects of their studies.*

*Overall, the event was highly informative and thought provoking, prompting me to think about what I had seen as possible paths for further study and, eventually, a career. I would wholeheartedly recommend anyone interested in any of the sciences to attend. You may just find that something you want to pursue in the future!*

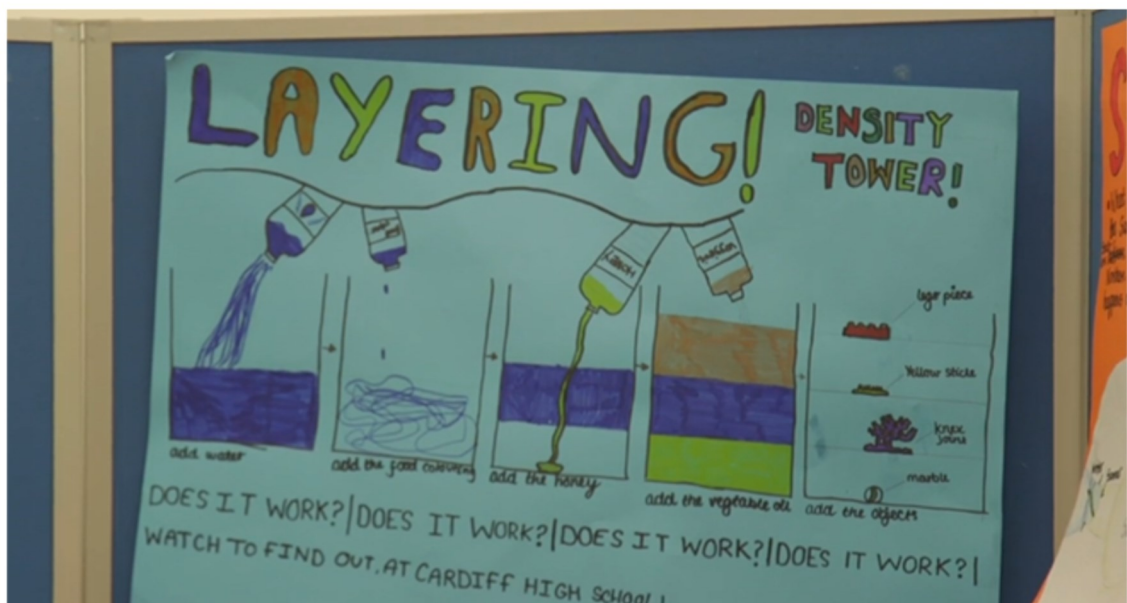
**Harrison**





# Primary Science Transition Day

Throughout the year teachers from primary schools in the local area worked with Cardiff High School on developing the use of ICT and digital techniques for pupils in their science lessons. This culminated in a celebration day at Cardiff High School where all schools enjoyed the chance to exhibit projects that they had completed. Cardiff High pupils took part and thoroughly enjoyed meeting old friends and teachers from primary school! A show based on the science behind was thoroughly enjoyed by all! Pupils loved being able to make their own musical instruments with wine glasses filled with different volumes of water. The day was a huge success and it was clear at the end that pupils were able to showcase their achievements and had a much greater understanding of the science that they learnt.



# Law

## Duress by Threats

Year 13 Law students have been studying the fascinating defence of duress by threats for their Criminal Law Special Study Paper. Students have discovered a series of fascinating cases, for example R v Hasan (2005) and R v Abdul—Hussein (1999) and have enjoyed carrying out legal research in to the key concepts surrounding the defence of duress. Duress is available to the accused when they were told to commit an offence and were subject to threats of immediate death or serious personal violence so great as to overbear the ordinary powers of human resistance.

There have been several class debates about the availability of the defence and the conflict between legal principle and public policy. This has involved a study of how the appellate courts have juggled supporting the rights of the victim with the rights of the defendant.



Students have also taken on the role of law firms, advising on whether or not the defence will be available in realistic hypothetical scenarios, a large amount of marks are available for this in the examination.

It has been an excellent year, all the very best for the future year 13 Law!

## Geography

### Fieldtrip Fun

#### KS5

Year 12 students have taken part in two fieldtrips in order to prepare for their summer examinations. They deepened their understanding of their coastal work by visiting Ogmere and Southerndown. Despite it being a bitterly cold day students were able to carry out their investigations to collect data in order to present their findings and enhance their understanding. Students also took part in a fieldtrip investigating segregation in Cardiff. Fieldwork is a vital part of the geography curriculum and enable students to bring to life topics they study in the classroom.

#### KS3

Lower school pupils are all benefiting from carrying out fieldwork in the local area around the school. Year 7 have been investigating the school to identify if there is a microclimate. Year 8 has been investigating changes in a river as it moves downstream in Nant Fawr woods and year 9 have been assessing the environmental quality in the local area. These investigations allow students to develop questioning skills, data presentation, analytical skills and evaluative skills. It is also a lovely opportunity for students to develop their ability to work in a team and to enhance their communication.

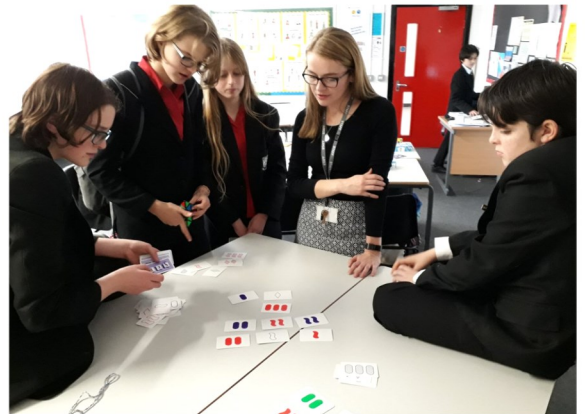
# News from the Maths Department



## KS3

In preparation for the Year 7 and Year 8 UKMT Maths Team Challenge pupils competed in try-outs before four pupils were selected based on their mathematical problem solving skills and their ability to work as a team. Congratulations to Max Romanovskaia-Currell, Hamid Jamal, Mohammed Toor and Adam Ahmad-Azam. They performed well and through admirable resilience and sheer determination finished in the top half. The team had a fantastic day and successfully completed many tricky questions.

In April, around 80 year 7 and 8 pupils took part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. Congratulations to all who entered but especially Adam Ahmad-Azam, Leo Wiltshire and Samuel Richmond from year 8 as well as Monty Hood and Abbas Schwarz from year 7 who all achieved gold certificates! Very excitingly, Adam Ahmad-Azam, Monty Hood and Abbas Schwarz also qualified for the prestigious Kangaroo round and will compete in this challenge in June.



Year 9s were also given the opportunity to compete in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge.

Congratulations to all pupils and especially Danial Ahmad-Azam who achieved a gold certificate and qualified for the Kangaroo round.



We were very proud of all of our Year 7 and 8 students as they used their creativity to design maths posters with a Welsh twist which were entered for the National Eisteddfod competition. A big well done to Lucy Hobson, Hibah Mohamed and Maisy Aitkenhead from Year 7 and Zaynab Rahman, John Park and Harriet Henson from Year 8 who finished 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively.

Maths Club has been busy this year with KS3 students playing Set, entering mathematical competitions, and being challenged by each other to solve difficult problems.



# ***Sixth Form News***

## **Space Camp**

Molly Jones Year 12 underwent a rigorous application and selection process to be awarded a place on the prestigious Honeywell Leadership Programme in the USA. Molly attended the course, targeted at STEM students,



for a week in February. Molly had the opportunity to engage in workshops that expanded her knowledge of current issues in the STEM field. As part of the programme, she attended talks with astronauts and entrepreneurs in the field of science and technology. The programme had 160 students from all nationalities, therefore team building was an essential part of the programme. As part of a team, Molly had to help programme a computer to successfully launch a rocket and take a key role in a disaster scenario. Molly has taken a lot away from this experience. Her confidence has been improved and her ability to work independently has been strengthened. Molly had to apply her scientific knowledge in a

variety of new situations, these skills have set her up for success in the future!

## **Widening Experiences**

Throughout the Spring term, Cardiff High Sixth Form welcomed a number of different companies in to school to talk to students about apprenticeships and further Education. In conjunction with Careers Wales, talks have been given by Sony, Sgil Cymru, Deloitte and Cardiff and Vale College Higher Education. They have provided students with an insight into different education and career pathways after A Levels. Thank you to Careers Wales and all who delivered talks.

## **Yale Young Global Scholars**



A huge congratulations also goes out to Maya Hoffer in Year 12 who has secured a funded placement on the Yale Young Global Scholars Programme. Together with some of her fellow SEREN students from across Wales, she will undertake 2 weeks of classes in August studying Biological and Biomedical Studies following the simulation and capstone group project theme at the infamous Yale University. We look forward to hearing all about it on her return.

## **Goodbye and Thank You!**

On behalf of the Sixth form team extend a huge thank you to our year 13 students. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know all of you and working alongside you over the last two years. The staff are looking forward to celebrating your successes with you on results day!!

A big thank you goes out to our year 13 prefects who have worked extremely hard for the benefit of the Sixth form and the school over the last year. They have conducted themselves with maturity and with humour in all aspects of school life and have been true ambassadors for Cardiff High School. Our final assembly was a humorous and gracious event which reflected the achievements of the students. Everyone left with a smile on their face! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the role of prefects. The Achievement Team is extremely proud of you!!!





## Adran Gymraeg/Welsh department

## Eisteddfod ysgol



The school Eisteddfod was a very successful day. The eventual winners were 7K with Ms Law and 8P with Mr Lewis. Their form tutors were very proud. Jane Rance won the crown whilst Cerys Lewis was chaired for her poem. The pictures are available to see on the department's



gallery on the school website. The fun is obvious for all to see as the students enjoyed singing, reciting, lip dubbing and speed bouncing!! playing their instruments, dancing. Much of the work had been completed before the day as students had prepared their off stage entries. Winning work is displayed all around the school on various display boards. Not only was the Eisteddfod a wonderful day to enjoy Welsh culture but £500 was also raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care on the day.



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

## Welsh department on tour

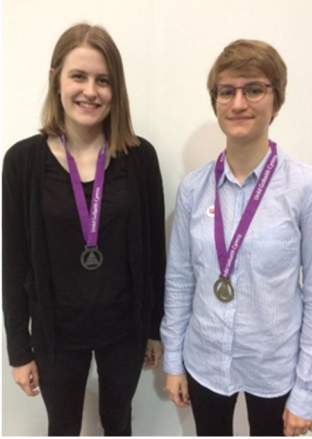
March was a busy month in the department as year 7 and 8 (with the help of year 12/13 Welsh students) headed off to Llangrannog. Over 120 students enjoyed a weekend of skiing, tobogganing, dancing, archery, swimming, quad

biking, go carting and a lot of eating. Many thanks to the staff who helped out on the weekend. Numerous photos have been placed on the school gallery and also shared on twitter. Follow us @CymraegCHS. 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 and the students enjoyed their time using the new facilities available for us.



65 students from years 9 and 10 headed off to France to celebrate St Davids Day festival at Eurodisney. After climbing the Eiffel Tower and the Tower of terror, the students headed to Ypres to see the grave of Hedd Wyn and all the other soldiers killed during the 1<sup>st</sup> World War.

## Urdd Eisteddfod



Da iawn i Alys Williams for winning the prestigious Carys Lewis Jones memorial award in the Urdd Eisteddfod at Builth for the second year running. The prize is awarded for the best piece of writing in year 12 and 13. Lucy Ogden was second. Miriam Butcher won the year 10/11 competition with Rosina Davies and Helen Lowe second and third. Miella Hood won the year 8 and 9 competition. Their work has been published in the winner's publication. We are so very proud of your achievement.

On stage, the students have been busy competing in all the learners' competitions. In the National Urdd Eisteddfod Magdalena

Lacey Hughes competed in the junior individual recitation. Seren Davies, Beth Bradfield, Cerys Lewis and Lili Wedgewood came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the ymgom competition. They performed live on S4C. The recitation group won the recitation title for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 4 years with a poem called 'Newyddion'.

We are also very proud of Alys Williams from year 13 who has won through to the final four of the Welsh learners medal losing out to the eventual winner who was a Welsh teacher! Alys completed tasks all day which included learning the ukulele through the medium of Welsh and being interviewed live on Radio Cymru. Gwaith ardderchog Alys.





# Business & Economics

## **Cadbury World**

At the end of the summer term our Year 10 students will be applying what they have learnt in the classroom to bring to life crucial business and economic concepts and theories by taking a trip to Cadbury world. Students will be given a tour of the Cadbury World site and will be attending a seminar, where Cadbury's key business strategies will be discussed. Both our Year 10 Business and Economics students have been studying a new specification which now places more focus on applying theory to practice, it is hoped that this trip will bring to life all topics taught this year.



## **KS5**

It is delightful to hear that so many of our A Level students have applied to study an undergraduate degree in Business and Economics related courses. It is an honour for the department that you recognise the value that the subjects have within the economy, by planning to continue your academic studies to guide you to your future career path.



## **Thank You and Congratulations!**

Finally, we would like to say a huge "Thank You!" to Miss Wood for her work within the department this year! We wish you the very best of luck in your new school!

## *'I Could've Danced All Night...'*

The only way to start this year's drama entry to the summer newsletter has to be with the incredible performance that was put on by this year's cast, crew and orchestra of ***My Fair Lady***. Knowing that the previous year's production had set the bar very high, the cast of 2017 did a phenomenal job of presenting the world of 1910 London. The tone and feel of this year's piece was light-hearted and upbeat which gathered rave reviews from the audience of all four sold-out performances. Special mentions have to go to the leads but it was noted on many occasions to me how incredibly engaging and believable the ensemble cast were when delivering the huge chorus numbers. The school productions would not be such a phenomenal success if it wasn't for the massive commitment made by all those involved. A big thank you goes out to everyone who contributed in some way, especially to those who go unseen.





# Drama Department News

## ***‘Attend the Tale of Sweeney Todd...’***

In January the Music and Drama Departments ventured across country to see an amateur production of the grisly musical, ***Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street***. After a fairly lengthy coach trip we found ourselves in the quaint town of Cambridge where we sat down at the Arts Theatre and waited for the murderous events to unfold. Although there were certainly moments of their production that we felt could have been done slightly differently, it was of great value to the sixth form students to see, as an audience member, their exam text being performed live. Hopefully it will give them some constructive outlook when they approach their papers this summer!



Cast of ‘Sweeney Todd’ - Cambridge Arts

## ***‘And yet, it is better to settle for half...’***

A truly invaluable experience was had by the Year 12 students who joined the minibus of theatrical wonder when we made the equally long trek to Twickenham to see Hampton Hill Theatre’s interpretation of ***A View from the Bridge***. The journey on a Sunday afternoon was certainly worth the effort as the class was treated to a really excellent performance from an amateur company. The stylised way in which they performed Arthur Miller’s classic tragedy was a joy to behold and will make a huge difference to their written work when analysing it in their exam. We were lucky enough to also speak to the director, designer and lead actor at the end of the performance which gave them further insight into how the piece was put together.



## **Sociology; A Hive of Critical Thought**

Hard work and commitment from Yr13 throughout their two years studying Sociology meant that they departed school fully prepared, optimistic and enthusiastic about the upcoming exams. Emotions ran high during the final lesson together, with tears of joy and relief flowing alongside some trepidation and anxiety of what the future will hold. And that was just from Mr Wise.

Within a group of many deserving pupils, a special mention must be given to Ben Cradick, whose work ethic, dedication to improvement and all round positive attitude earned him our award for Yr13 Sociologist of the Year.

Yr12 look set to follow in the footsteps of their older fraternal and sororal sociologists. As a very hardworking and enthusiastic cohort, it was difficult to select just one pupil who stood out. However, after much deliberation, Babar Khan was awarded Yr12 Sociologist of the Year. Again, dedication to improvement and a positive, enthusiastic attitude meant that he followed in the illustrious footsteps of last year's Yr12 winner, Raihaan Ahmed.

The department continues to collaborate with other institutions to ensure pupils receive a rounded understanding of how sociological study can impact the wider community. Links with the Runnymede Trust continue to prove fruitful, a result of which has been contributing to the book 'Migration Stories' and presenting it at the Houses of Parliament. Alongside this, Rafi Bin Asgar took part in sociological research in conjunction with Cardiff University looking at the patterns and impact of crime within the Grangetown area.

Looking ahead, we have developed further links with Cardiff University, in particular Dr Kevin Smith, who has been invited to talk to Yr12 pupils next year about his studies within the field of education.

Sociology at Cardiff High continues to be a hive critical thought, engagement with society and enthusiasm for learning. And that's just Miss Wilson.



Year 13—Goodbye and Good Luck!



## E-SAFETY MAGAZINE COMPETITION

This year, the ICT department organised an E-Safety magazine competition for year 7. Pupils had to design and create a four-page E-safety magazine for a target audience of Year 6 pupils. First, pupils learnt about the importance of an eye catching front cover before designing and creating their own. Next, they had to design the rest of their magazine while considering their target audience, house style, and what desktop publishing features they were going to use to enhance their magazine and make it appropriate for the purpose and the audience. Finally, the content of their magazine was just as important as their design; it needed to be relevant, interesting and understandable for Year 6 pupils.

The standard of work this year was excellent. The ICT department was able to establish three winners that demonstrated several desktop publishing skills, eye-catching designs that were consistent throughout and informative content that was laid out cleverly.

### THE WINNERS WERE:



1<sup>st</sup> place - Benjamin Holt.



2<sup>nd</sup> place - Ruth Hilton.



3<sup>rd</sup> place - Lucy Hobson.

## CODING CLUB

The Wednesday afternoon coding club has been going strong this term, with pupils working hard on Scratch producing games around the theme of “space” for the Game of Codes competition. We have also been looking at a number of important Computer Science topics including operating systems, artificial intelligence and robots, and hacking (and how to avoid it!).

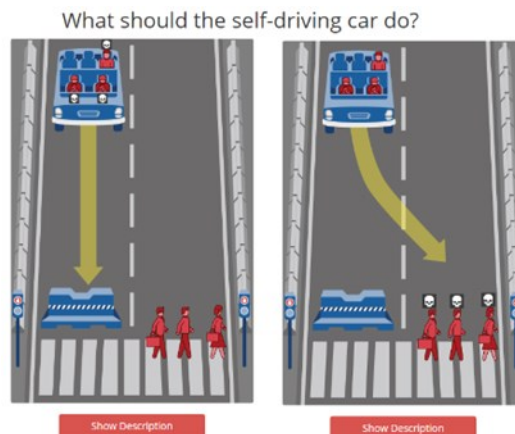
### DIGITAL COMPETENCY – HELP HUB:

Digital Leaders attended a workshop to improve their understanding of Internet Safety and to think of ideas of how to improve E-Safety awareness. The Digital Leaders came up with a number of ideas as part of the workshop to improve the school community. The ‘Help Hub’ was an idea taken forward to inform pupils and parents of how they can share ideas by asking questions. The Digital Leaders now have a desk during each parents’ evening to provide information on e-safety and answer ‘frequently asked questions’. This has been a successful idea and some of the questions are displayed on the school website.



## DRIVERLESS CAR WORKSHOP

In January, a representative from a company involved in making and testing Connected and Autonomous vehicles (AKA self-driving cars) came in to speak to the year 12 Computer Science class. Pupils were shown how self-driving cars are progressing in their journey to our streets, and given opportunities to discuss the difficult ethical issues associated with the topic including hacking, life or death situations and the use of drivers' data.



## PRIMARY E-SAFETY TRANSITION

In February, a group of 20 pupils from our local primary schools came to Cardiff High for a workshop about e-safety. Pupils completed activities and engaged in discussions about how they talk to other people online, how they feel about their online lives and what to avoid on social media. In the afternoon session, pupils used Scratch to create a Snakes and Ladders game.



## GAME OF CODES COMPETITION



Four teams from Cardiff High School were shortlisted in the Game of Codes National Programming Competition. The competition provided an opportunity for pupils to develop their problem solving, communication and teamwork skills as well as improving their knowledge of computer programming in a fun and innovative way. The challenge was to create a piece of software using Space as the theme.

The pupils created a variety of space games using mainly Python and Scratch. All entries were as a program and a written piece of work that included a reflection on teamwork. Well done to all the teams that took part and one team was very successful in winning their game category.



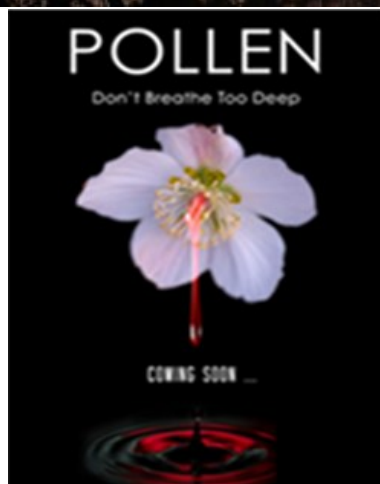
## Year 12 Media Studies Atrium Visit: *Creative Industries*

Year 12 media students recently visited an interactive and insightful Creative Industries taster day at ATRiuM Cardiff. Sessions attended included *Journalism: Fake News* where our students participated in a seminar discussion about truth and lies, the media, and our responsibilities as potential publishers of 'fake news'. This session, led by an experienced journalist, enhanced the teaching of *News in the Digital Age* which is a section of the new AS Media Studies specification and was very thought provoking in this 'fake news' claim era.

Another very popular session attended was *Visual Effects and Motion Graphics* in which VFX were showcased and some of the secrets of the visual effects industry were revealed. Students who attended found themselves immersed in the creative and technical world of visual effects -some taking centre, green screen stage!

In the afternoon we attended *Media Production* and students observed the filming of a drama production piece, even becoming part of the recording as a vociferously whooping and cheering reality TV audience.

Furthermore, CHS Media students are already well on the way to becoming creative practitioners in their own right judging by the production pieces created this term. Using appropriate software, tools and techniques students created media products



# INTO FILM

## Filmclub

Our dedicated filmclubbers meet every Friday lunchtime to view, discuss and review films. The club is run by year 10 students and all members have a voice in choosing the films viewed and reviewed. Recent screenings include Christopher Nolan's *The Dark Knight* which led to discussions about contemporary film production and certification. Another popular choice was *Interstellar* another Christopher Nolan film...perhaps he really is the blockbuster auteur of our time. Our clubbers review films and post them on the official **Into Film** website so writing for real purposes and rewards! [See our review winner pic with DVD prize but more importantly acclaim]

We believe that film makes an important contribution to young people's educational and cultural development, that film supports curriculum learning and fosters literacy development. The club will have a reboot in September to widen the access to KS3 learners.



## Psychology Department

### A Bumper Year

As a teacher of Psychology it is always a pleasure to introduce students to a brand new subject as they embark upon their journeys into an unknown world when opting to study the subject at AS Level. It is therefore incredibly heart-warming when some of those individuals decide to continue their study of Psychology to undergraduate degree level having found a passion for a subject that they hadn't known existed at the outset of their two year course.

Although each year we have a select few individuals who hope to make a future career as a Psychologist, it seems that this year has been particularly bumper, with several of those continuing their study of Psychology through to A2 Level now applying to study the subject at university.

Some of the students have clear areas in which they would like to specialise such as Matthew Lewis who would like to become a Sports Psychologist, but many are opting to study Psychology further before going on to decide which avenue they hope to take their careers down. This year we also saw the first application from student Lucy Campbell to read Psychology at Cambridge University.



Of course, the Psychology department sends best wishes to all Year 13 learners who are about to leave us for pastures new; but in particular I hope that those who are embarking upon a psychology degree keep in touch and us well informed of their future successes.

Congratulations one and all!

Pictured are just some of our Year 13 students going on to study Psychology at university next year. Picture 1: (Left to Right) Dylan Davidson, Maddy Juma, Josie Partridge, Issy Jenks. Picture 2: (Left to Right) Lucy Campbell and Lucy Ogden.





## East Asian Adventure!



In July of last year, 12 intrepid expeditioners from Year 11 and 13 set off for the Far East. As an Outlook Expeditions team they were heading out to Cambodia and Laos to complete community work in local villages and complete a 3 day trek through the Cambodian Rainforest.

After departing the UK and arriving in Laos, students took in the sites of Vientiane, the French inspired capital, before heading to the village of Tansoum where they helped with construction

around the local school and held English classes for the youngest villagers (villagers are now experts in parts of the body in English thanks to 'Heads, shoulders, knees and toes'). Students immersed themselves into village life, fishing, cooking, even dancing and struck up lasting friendships, an experience they will never forget and one which left many planning on returning to the same village in the future.

After leaving the village and crossing the border from Laos into Cambodia it was time for some culture, sightseeing and relaxation in Siem Riep. Visits were paid to the amazing ancient temples of Angkor, numerous markets and some interesting food stalls, where snakes scorpions and tarantulas could all be eaten!



After some of the longest bus journeys ever taken across Cambodia we arrived briefly in Phnom Penh before heading into the Cambodian Rainforest thanks to more bus journeys on questionable roads and a scenic river boat ride. Arriving in the village of Chi Pat we met our guides for our 3 day trek through the jungle of the Cardamom Mountains. The trek saw us walking around 15KM a day in 30°C + temperatures (with the help of some moral boosting singing) and sleeping in hammocks in what was an incredible place. It all contributed to what was an amazing achievement and experience.

Leaving Chi Pat, the end of the expedition grew closer and it was back to Phnom Penh where we learnt of



some of Cambodia's history under the Khmer Rouge and even ran into Miss Cope on her holidays. Much to everyone's delight we also got our first taste of some western food for 3 weeks. Then it was time to say our goodbyes to Asia and fly home for a well-deserved (proper) shower and some clean clothes.

All the best to the next group going to Costa Rica in the summer of 2019!

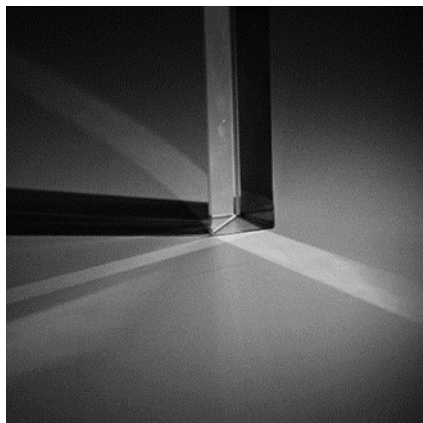




# Photography Club

Just Don't Say 'Cheese'!

This academic year, we've continued to meet twice a week (after school on Mondays and at lunchtimes on Tuesdays in S9) to undertake various projects, which allowed us to develop our creativity and skills. We've been looking at capturing shapes, contrast, tone, texture and composition to encourage our members to consider what inspires them and why. Not 'typical British weather' on a few days provided us with an



opportunity to engage with nature and natural light through photography and with much needed doses of vitamin D.



As in previous years, we've been involved in photographing important school events, such as the wonderful production of 'My Fair Lady', CHS Awards Evening or Y7 and Y8 Eisteddfod, each of them a very enjoyable occasion.



We are very grateful to Ms Davies for the beautiful display board she created showcasing our work. It looks really attractive and if you haven't seen it yet, come to Science (by S18) and spend a few minutes viewing it.

Of course, we feel very proud of Nia Davies (Y8), Connie Piper (Y8), Daniel Dululescu (Y8) and Dan Ogden (Y10), whose photographs have been published on the BBC website over the course of this school year. It needs to be noted that Nia and Connie are our record holders for having had their three images published on the BBC since they started submitting them in November 2017. In addition, one of their photographs made the cut for 2017's best 16 images sent by readers in response to themes set weekly. It is not those successes that count to us most, though. Remaining dedicated and focused on our passion as well as growing by developing our skills allow us to take better photographs and become more perceptive observers, which is what matters most to us.



Yes, we do all these things for fun, but - undeniably - photography isn't just for a laugh. Perhaps it is only fitting to remind us all here what Susan Sontag had to say on the subject and wish you a great summer.

'All photographs are memento mori. To take a photograph is to participate in another person's (or thing's) mortality, vulnerability, mutability. Precisely by slicing out this moment and freezing it, all photographs testify to time's relentless melt.'

# CHS Continues to Offer **Free** English Language Classes to Parents Who Speak Other Languages for the Third Year Running



'With languages, you are at home anywhere.' Edward De Waal

This year, Cardiff High School has been offering two classes for parents who speak English as an additional language:

-Beginners (every Wednesday, 15:10 - 16:10)

-Improvers (Wednesday A: 13:10 – 14:10 and Wednesday B: 11:25-12:25)

These time slots are likely to change next year, so let us know your availability by email ([ef@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:ef@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk)).

While beginners focus on mastering everyday vocabulary and grammar that is necessary for clear communication, the improvers discuss topics frequently covered by the media, including social issues, health, ecology, crime and natural calamities. We listen to the news, analyse transcripts, work on new vocabulary and discuss the topics that we find engaging. The atmosphere of our lessons is relaxed and everyone always has something interesting to contribute while practising their fluency.

Your interest and involvement in your child's learning are the best ways you can help them and attending these classes could be your first big step towards this.

**Do you know anyone who may benefit from our classes? Why don't you let them know? Spread the word – your small gesture may make a tremendous difference in another person's life.**

### The Results Are In – Reading Rules!

On the Thursday before half term, a large group of students gathered in the library to celebrate their love of reading. Cardiff High School's newest members of the Millionaire's Club were rewarded with a lunchtime full of games, prizes and a new badge to wear on their blazers. The Millionaires have read over 1 million words on Accelerated Reader this year; this massive achievement is one to be proud of. A big congratulations goes to Mia Lewis who read a whopping 5,256,880 words this year and Abbas Schwarz for reading a stellar 4,976,887 words. Miss Cope's 8HK class have made the biggest improvement this year increasing their word count by 20%. The class who read the most words by far was Mr Desambrois' 7HJKL class with an incredible 35,837,884 words! It has been a great year of



reading in Key Stage 3 and we hope to see next year's Key Stage 3 students just as excited and motivated to read.

### The RSPCA Public Speaking Competition

On March 22nd, some of our talented debaters took part in the annual RSPCA competition. The event not only allows our wonderful team to develop their public speaking skills, but it also gives them a stage on which to voice their concerns about animal welfare: one of their passions! Our team spoke articulately and knowledgeably about keeping primates as pets. The students had the chance to meet with RSPCA staff and debaters from other schools across Cardiff. Our team's hard work paid off, as they were selected as the "judges' choice". **This means they'll be competing again at the competition final, on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. A huge well done and thank you to all involved! We can't wait to see what achievements the next competition will bring!**

### On the way to Hay!

The English department were thrilled to take 50 Year 9 and 8 students to the Hay-on-Wye literary festival at the end of May. The day was very exciting even though it was raining. In fact, the weather simply added to the literary atmosphere! Our students first went to a talk with self-esteem guru Gemma Cairney. Gemma was very positive and inspirational, and our students asked her some very sophisticated and interesting questions about politics and gender identity. Some of us were lucky enough to meet Gemma and she was an absolute tonic. Next up were Andrew Donkin, Eoin Colfer and Giovanni Rigano who discussed their absolutely gorgeous graphic novel *Illegal*. We managed to meet these chaps too and they were very charming indeed. All in all this was a wonderful opportunity for the pupils of Cardiff High School to interact with authors and experience the value of reading.





## Christmas visit to France

### KS3

Some of our Year 8 students have taken part in a visit to northern France in order to use their French at the local market and the Christmas market, to find out more about French cuisine and heritage, and to work as a team in the activities arranged for the evenings.

At our first visit, a rural French bakery, they deepened their understanding of the importance of tradition and heritage for the French. The students listened intently while Bruno explained his craft to them in French and gave them a demonstration. We were so impressed with our pupils' understanding and engagement during the visit. They were amazed and fascinated by how important bread is to the French and how some French people travel over 60km to go to Bruno's bakery to buy his bread because it is the best bread in the region. Vive la différence!



## **Viva Barcelona 2018**



In February of this year the Art Department made a return the sunny climbs of Spain, the rich culture of Barcelona and surrounding area. Pupils from our exam classes had the opportunity to get up close and personal with some of the artistic greats and legends of the art world. As part of the trip they took a walking tour of the sites and sounds of the city. Visiting such landmarks as the mesmerising Sagrada Famillia, Park Guell, Casa Mila and Casa Batllo. All the creation of Antoni Guadi. The trip also visited the Dali Museum in Figueres, the home of some of the most exciting surreal work in the world. They visited The Picasso Museum in the Ancient Gothic Quarter of Barcelona.

The theme of history was continued when pupils were treated to

the sites of Girona, the medieval town on the banks of the river Onyar. Throughout the trip pupils were encouraged to draw and take photographs, recording their time and taking inspiration from this incredible region the inspirational artists and designers. The pupils were a pleasure to be with and thoroughly enjoyed their time with friends and teachers.



## ART NEWS

It's that time of year again when the art rooms are bursting with personal creative responses in all shapes, sizes and media. We have paintings, drawings, ceramic pieces lining the shelves in the kiln room, plaster covered shop mannequins and even an instillation inside an actual garden shed. The creativity and imagination shown by our

pupils never ceases to amaze us. Our year 13 pupils recently completed their fifteen hour art exam – the focus and commitment shown by our pupils was exemplary.

It is an exciting time for Year 10 as they conclude their coursework project. There are many thought provoking and exciting projects that have developed from the ideas generated by the initial trip to St Fagans. We cannot wait to see the outcomes that are produced in July.

Key stage 3 have been exploring a wide range of techniques and processes in a range of media whilst also exploring some important issues such as recycling and sustainability and raising awareness of animal welfare.

Art and textiles clubs have also been thriving this year – there has rarely been a lunchtime when the rooms are not buzzing with activity.



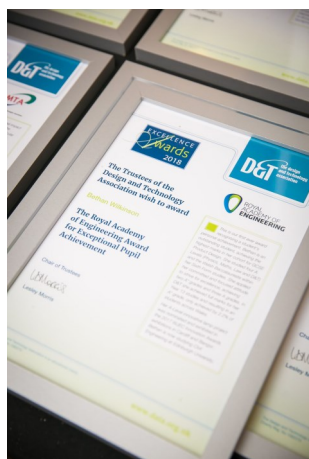
Molly Powell  
Year 11



Lowri Bowden  
Year 13



## Winner of the First Ever Pupil Achievement Design & Technology Association Excellence Award



On 23rd March, Bethan Wilkinson was awarded the first ever Outstanding Pupil Achievement Award at the 18th Design and Technology Association Excellence Awards. The award was sponsored and awarded by the Royal Society of Engineers.

### **The citation that was read out at the awards was as follows:**

*This is our first ever award recognising a student's personal achievement. Bethan is an outstanding student, achieving the highest mark in her GCSE cohort for GCSE Product Design. She studied four A Levels (Physics, Maths, Law and D&T) and the Welsh Baccalaureate within her Sixth Form studies. She applied her committed and focused attitude to strive for excellence, achieving two A\* grades and three A grades. In D&T she achieved full marks for her Year 13 studies; resulting in an A\* grade only achieved by 2.2% of D&T students across Wales"*

The Design and Technology Association Excellence Awards is an annual event held at The Institution of Engineering and Technology, situated on the banks of the Thames in London: the Awards recognise the commitment and achievements of students teachers, teacher trainers, education consultants and academics across primary and secondary schools, and further and higher education.

Awards were presented by Lesley Morris, Chair of the Design and Technology Association and Tony Ryan, Chief Executive of the Design and Technology Association

Tony Ryan, Chief Executive of the Design and Technology Association, recognised Bethan's achievement, saying: "Bethan Wilkinson is to be congratulated on her well deserved award,

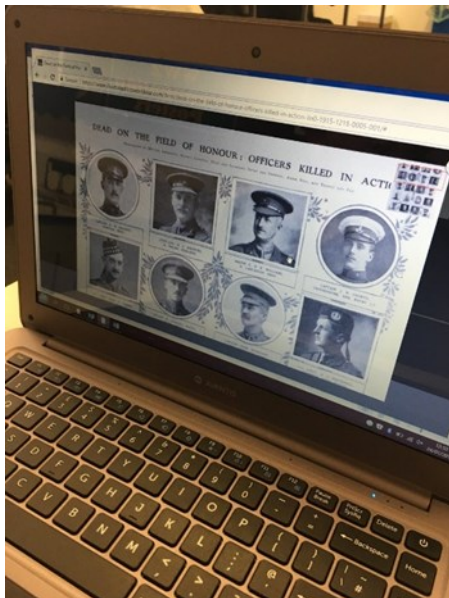


and celebrated for going above and beyond what might be expected in her achievements in the subject of design and technology. We know that employers across the advanced manufacturing and creative industries are already concerned about the real shortage of engineers and designers and we need more people like Bethan to inspire future generations."



## Digital Research To Remember Their Sacrifice

Students across the school have been completing some compelling research in History Club this year. Every Wednesday lunchtime, pupils have been working on compiling a book detailing the 'Old Boys' who attended Cardiff High and played their part in WW1. The War Memorial at Cardiff High School has been the inspiration behind this project with the aim being that each 'Old Boy' has their own page in the book. Pupils have been practising their Digital Literacy skills and word processing their research as well as carrying out some of their own. In conjunction with a local historian, the pupils have been doing their own research around each 'Old Boy' and have discovered some memorials and images of them to include on each page. For example, Flora (7K) discovered that two 'Old Boy's' William Black and Harold Blow were commemorated on the War Memorial at the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Broadway, Roath and went to photograph this. Magdalena (7K) has been contacting various churches to verify the names on their War Memorials. The next step for pupils will be for them to visit the local archives at Cathays Library to locate more images. The pupils aim to publish the book to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice in November 2018 – so watch this space! If you have any information that can help this exciting and important project, then please email Miss Warren (NW@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk) or Mr Olsen (MO@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk)



## **German Department News**

Following the departure of our Year 11 students in May, the German department put together a number of revision sessions to support our learners, which ran throughout their study leave. We offered sessions targeted on reading skills, listening skills, essay support skills and - new to our G.C.S.E. examination – translation skills. The feedback from these sessions by those who attended has been very positive, so positive in fact that we have now introduced a lunchtime speaking club for Year 10, which has been received with great enthusiasm by our learners. We are also introducing a Film club every Tuesday. This is a fantastic opportunity to experience the best films Germany has to offer – and there are many – to listen to spoken German (and maybe read the subtitles, if necessary!) and immerse yourself in German culture.

With regard to experiencing German culture, The German Department will again be preparing for its annual visit to the Cologne Christmas Markets, and we already have forty very excited year 8 learners looking forward to seeing the sights, experiencing the magic of the Markets themselves and practising their German. I always take pride in their excitement when they exclaim, “I spoke German and they understood me!”

As a department, we strongly believe in giving our learners as many opportunities to immerse themselves in the culture as possible and this year we have encouraged our learners to subscribe to a German magazine, suitable for their ages, which we feel will really enhance their German skills and cultural awareness. Letters have been sent home, but if you haven't received it an e-mail to either myself or Mrs. Bevan will rectify that!

On that note we were fortunate to be visited Dr. Nick Hodgkin, Lecturer in German Studies at Cardiff University. He delivered a seminar to our A2 students on the topic of “Post—Germany Reunification”, which was extremely well received by our students. We were very grateful to Dr. Hodgkin for giving us his time and expertise and look forward to working with him in the future. He was very impressed with the language skills of our students, which he compared to that of his undergraduates!

The work that the department does to encourage and promote the language can often go unseen or unnoticed so we were touched when one of our learners, who did not take German at A2 sent us a card which summed up our passion and dedication for this fantastic, and following Brexit, vital language for our youngsters. It read:

“Thank you for helping me to develop my language skills. I am so glad to be able to speak and understand German. You have inspired my interest in learning languages, and I will continue to travel and learn for many years”

We wish all of our students a restful summer and the best of luck in their examinations.

# **Athletics**

## **Boys**

This summer has seen a huge amount of success for the boys' athletics teams. In April the Senior Boys team won the Cardiff and Vale Championships.

In the Cardiff and Vale Middle Championships the Y10 and 11 team competed well to finish 3<sup>rd</sup>. Welsh International Mark Mellor won the Pole Vault for the 3<sup>rd</sup> successive year. Both Mark and Ed King have been selected for the Welsh School Championships.



In the Cardiff and Vale Junior Championships the Year 8 and 9 team won comprehensively by 40 points. Highlights were the performances of Zak Wall winning 3 individual events and relay. Jake Knight also became Hammer and Discus County Champion. Luke Hall won the 1500m walk. Ellis Maullin Davies became county champion in the Pole Vault. All the above have been selected for the Welsh Schools Championships and in addition Luke Hall (1500m walk) and Fraser King (Pole Vault) have also gained selection.

U14 and 16 Cup – the boys teams are involved in the race for the National finals at Brecon and won both their preliminary rounds impressively. Both B's teams have also reached the County B finals. Over 40 athletes were involved.

## **Basketball**

The boys' basketball teams have again represented the school very well this year. A range of matches have been played against Cardiff and Vale schools. The Year 8 team gained the most success by remaining unbeaten and defended their Cardiff and Vale title by beating Cowbridge in the Final at Cardiff Met





## **Girls Athletics Newsletter**

The girls have made a fantastic start to the Athletics Season with our Year 9 and 10 girls finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the Middle County Athletics Championships. The highlight of the day was Ellie Beddall being crowned County Champion in the Shot with a PB of 11.75m.

Our Year 8 and 9 girls competed in the Junior County Athletics Championships finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Isobel Thomas was crowned County Champion in the Pole Vault with a vault of 2.80. We are hopeful that both Ellie and Isobel will be selected to represent Cardiff and the Vale at the Welsh Schools Championships in July.

The Year 7 girls have been training hard and we are looking forward to their County Championships in a few weeks time.

## **Success for Girls Football!**

Our Year 7 Girls Football team has enjoyed a highly successful season this year. Both the A and B teams maintained an unbeaten run before encountering rivals Glantaf in February. After qualifying for the semi-finals they both comfortably beat Bro Morgannwg and were due to meet Glantaf once again, in the final. In a fantastic afternoon organised by CVSFA, both teams fought hard with the B team narrowly losing 2-1 but the A team were crowned COUNTY CHAMPIONS in a thrilling 3-1 victory! Amelia Macdonnell scored the goal of the season earning her player of the match, with Lucy Bunn also putting in her season best performance. The A team was also crowned Sport Cardiff's 7-a-side champions, remaining unbeaten all day. They were also undefeated 5-a-side champions in the CVSFA 5's at Powerleague beating Glantaf in the final.



## **NETBALL FINALS UPDATE**

Cardiff High School was very well represented at the County Netball finals in March by teams from yr 10 and yr 11.

Yr10 were finishing a highly successful season which has seen the squad crowned National Urdd Netball champions and many of the squad players being selected to play for their clubs and county in prestigious tournaments. The Yr10 team did not quite have the fairytale ending to the season we had hoped for but definitely played some very impressive netball to finish a highly commended 2nd place in the county finals.

Yr11 were delighted to have achieved their season's goal of reaching the county finals. They have shown tremendous grit and determination all season and it was the perfect close to their 5 years at Cardiff High School. It was a tough afternoon with some excellent displays of team work and skill, resulting in the yr11 team finishing 4th.

# Football round up

## Year 7

Year 7 were unfortunately eliminated from both cup competitions early in the season, unlucky to be drawn against strong opponents. They have improved through the season with notable performances from Ellis James, Ben Holt and Owen Fitzgerald.



## Year 8

The Year 8 football have again had a very successful season, reaching the CVSFA final for the second year in a row. Unfortunately they were defeated by a very strong Whitchurch team in the final. Rhodri Jenkins continues to be a regular source of goals, with Harry Beddall outstanding in defence and midfield.

## Year 9

Year 9 produced some fantastic performances in the CVSFA cup, with notable wins against Corpus Christi and Llanishen. They reached the final before being defeated by eventual winners Fitzalan. It has been great to see Hamza Khan and Adam Fatmi establish themselves as first team players whilst Abdullah Qureshi has starred in midfield.



## Year 10

Year 10 were knocked out in both cup competitions in games in which they may have won on another day. Hedd Davies-Murray has had a superb season in goal whilst Mackenzie Bird, Joe Bassett have produced consistent performances throughout the season.

## Year 11

In their final season as a year group, the boys were out to defend their CVSFA trophy. Despite impressive wins against Eastern High and Glantaf, the boys were knocked out by eventual winners Whitchurch. It was great to see Ed King, Rhys Jenkins, Barney Soady, Cameron Carver and Toby Yebdri all represent the Senior team this year.



## Senior Footballers CVSFA Champions!

The Senior football team are Cardiff & Vale's finest for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the last 4 years. The boys defeated Llanishen, Bishop of Llanishen and Glantaf to reach the final played at Leckwith Stadium against Cardiff & Vale College. The boys got off to a dream start when Toby Yebdri produced a magnificent finish inside 6 minutes to give CHS the lead. CAVC equalised shortly before half time, but there was still time for captain for the day, James Driscoll to slot home a penalty to restore CHS' lead. Early in the second half, Toby Yebdri hit the crossbar before Owain Edwards produced a moment of brilliance to make the score 3-1, beating a defender before finding the top corner from 25 yards out. CAVC pulled a goal back but the boys dug deep to produce a fantastic defensive display to hold on for a much deserved victory. The final whistle was the signal for mass celebrations, with many pupils winning a trophy for the first time. It was a fantastic way for so many Y11 and Y13 boys to end their CHS careers.





## Rugby at Cardiff High School

It's been a hugely rewarding season with many highlights both in terms of results and in participation levels. In Lower School, Year 7 have impressed with their unfailing commitment to training and enthusiasm. The boys also performed well in several sevens tournaments and have shown huge improvement in terms of their game understanding and their standard of play.

The Year 8 and 9 sides have had very successful seasons. They both reached the last eight of the National Cup, conducting themselves in a manner of which they can be justly proud. The National Schools Sevens saw the Year 9 team perform superbly reaching the knock out stages in a competition with an entry of over 160 teams. The boys lost narrowly to the eventual runners up; a magnificent achievement.



Year 10 have also had a busy season with some pleasing performances against Glantaf and Radyr. Well done to Jacob Rudall who has been selected for next season's Cardiff Blues south Squad.



The Senior Team has continued to excel. Following their success in the Blues South League the Boys became Blues Champions by defeating a combined Mountain Ash and Aberdare team and then became East Wales champions by beating Coleg Gwent.

The team then played an exceptionally strong Maes y Gwendraeth side in the Welsh final where the boys played

exceptionally well before eventually losing by 36 points to 28 points.

## THE BISHOP'S LIFE



The Religion and Philosophy Department had the honour of welcoming the first ever female Bishop in Wales, The Right Reverend Joanna Penberthy, who is also a former Head Girl of Cardiff High School. Bishop Joanna addressed many of our pupils in years 7, 8 and 10, telling them about her journey of faith which began as a teenager studying at Cardiff High.

Pupils heard how, at a time when women were unable to become priests in the Anglican Church, Bishop Joanna felt sure that God had called her to this vocation and how, eventually, women were able to be ordained as priests and now can even become bishops! It was fascinating to learn of the challenges that Bishop Joanna has faced as Wales' first female bishop



as well as her views about gender and equality in the Church and society as a whole.

Bishop Joanna had lunch with staff and students in our Philosophy Café, where the question 'is religion good for women?' was insightfully discussed.

The day even ended in song, with Year 7 insisting the Bishop Joanna give them a few verses from a favourite hymn, so that they could sing along, too!

***"Bishop Joanna shows that it is possible for women to achieve a high position in the Church. Since for so long it was not possible, her journey and story was inspiring. She shows religion in real life and is very insightful." [Year 10 students]***



Mrs. Hill joined the department in 2011, bringing her experience of delivering Philosophy for Children across schools in South Wales with her. This was instrumental in developing these approaches within lessons and resulted in the renaming of the Religious Education department to the Religion and Philosophy department. Mrs. Hill pioneered the hugely successful, popular and now pupil led Philosophy Cafe, an extra curricular activity attended by pupils across the key stages, discussing a wide variety of philosophical issues. Mrs. Hill has also been fantastic at securing some unique outside speakers to visit the school in order to enhance our pupils' experiences, most recently 'The Right Reverend Joanna Penberthy.' Behind the scenes, Mrs Hill has brought her considerable expertise from her work as an examiner to the department and has delivered whole school training, based on the new GCSE RS specification, to teachers nationwide. She has also been a committed form tutor during her seven years at Cardiff High School, helping many pupils in this pastoral capacity. All of this experience and dedication will be sorely missed, but we wish her all the best as she moves on to her new role as a National RE Advisor for the prestigious organisation 'RE Today.'



## Music Department News

### **Raising the Roof of St Matrin's Church Roath**

The annual Carol Service held on the last Wednesday of the Autumn term was a spectacle not to be forgotten. The event drew together some 250 performers. The dedicated preparation and practice by the students led to some superb performances. The 90 strong Senior Choir were joined by a sixth form string trio for the ever popular Vivaldi Gloria whilst Junior and Senior Boys' Choirs teamed up for their



rendition of Good King Wenceslas. The Chambers Orchestra and Senior Girls' Choir were also on form as was the String Orchestra. The Year 13 Music class was on hand to sing a beautiful unaccompanied

Coventry Carol and, coupled with seasonal reading, the capacity congregation of an additional 400 voices gave great cheer to all the favourite Christmas Carols.





## Musicians at the School Eisteddfod



The annual school Eisteddfod was a huge celebration of our cultural heritage. Performers from all forms in Years 7 & 8 took part in preliminary competitions for instrumental and vocal solos and finalists gave exceptional performances on stage in front of their year groups on the day of the main Eisteddfod. The 'hwyl' of the event was perfectly captured by the massed singing of several great Welsh songs to round off a day of real celebration. The pictures below show some of the finalists in the music competitions.

### Year 13 Leavers:

It has become a tradition to collect together the Yr13 students who have performed and produced the annual school productions. We are saying a fond farewell to all of these great Yr 13 students this year. It has been a pleasure to share so many memorable performances with them and we look forward to welcoming them back in the audience for next year's hit musical Phantom of The Opera.





### **Year 11 Class Concert:**

The spring months are always the busiest time for performance and controlled assessments in the creative subjects. It was a pleasure this year to gather the two Yr 11 GCSE Music Classes for a Class Concert in Neuadd Celyn. Joined by some staff, parents and friends our students performed to each other as the final part of their preparation before their performing exam. The repertoire was hugely varied and the atmosphere of support and mutual respect was exceptional. Congratulations to you all.



## CARDIFF HIGH SCHOOL *Past Times*

It is always a delight to hear from past pupils and this year we have been fortunate to have been



contacted by the families of two past pupils.

We were contacted earlier in the year by Mrs Margaret Ellis, who is the niece of Kathleen Paterson (second left in the photo) who joined Cardiff High School for Girls in 1920. Records show that whilst at school, Kathleen was a successful student who was Head Prefect and was awarded a number of prizes including the Mary Collin Prize which is

still awarded at our Presentation of Awards Evening today. What is particularly remarkable about Kathleen is that following her departure from Cardiff High School in 1927 at the age of 18, she took articles in her father's firm Wentworth Price and went on to become the first woman in Wales to qualify as a Chartered Accountant.

Following her qualification, Kathleen worked for three years in the accounts department of Mars, the chocolate bar makers in Slough before returning to her father's firm and remaining there throughout the Second World War. Thereafter followed roles as an accountant and a company secretary before Kathleen joined Marments Department Store in 1958 where she remained until her retirement in 1969.

Throughout her retirement, Kathleen devoted herself to travelling and to family history and she was able to combine both by visiting her elder sister in South Africa, followed by a world tour to the USA, Australia and New Zealand.

A considerable amount of Cardiff High School records can be viewed at the Glamorgan Archives and in 1980, Kathleen deposited various records for which she had been responsible, including those of the Cardiff High School Old Girls Association (1895-1975).

Sadly, Kathleen died on the 9 March 1999, 3 months short of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday but those who knew her, remember her as a kind and lovely person who always filled a room with enthusiasm and laughter.

How lovely it is to think that even 86 years ago, Kathleen was empowering women.



## CARDIFF HIGH SCHOOL *Past Times*



We were fortunate this year to meet Mrs Helen Coles, the wife of Robert Coles who was a pupil at Cardiff High School in 1938.

Sadly Robert died earlier this year aged 83 and Mrs Coles wanted to visit the school as it had been the wish of her husband to come back to Cardiff High School one more time. Mrs Coles very kindly brought us in a scrap book that contained numerous photographs of Robert during his school years and she was also kind enough to donate.

Robert's athletic team blazer which he can be seen wearing in the photograph attached.

During her visit to us, Mrs Coles provided details of Robert's life after leaving Cardiff High School.



In 1945 Robert was conscripted into the 6<sup>th</sup> Airborne Division as a Paratrooper before going into the SAS. During his service Robert took a bullet to his left rear leg (during the Arab-Israeli conflict).

Following the end of his service in 1948, Robert went to work for Diversey Limited a chemical based company. He remained with this company until 1987 during which time he was based with them in Ireland, South Africa, Kenya and Zambia. He eventually retired in 1987 but then returned to work for a company in Zambia until his final retirement in 1992.

Throughout his youth, Robert played cricket and rugby and he became a professional rugby coach with coaching credits including Brentwood in Essex, the Irish Army, in Johannesburg and he was also

the national coach for East Africa.

Mrs Coles advised us that Robert always spoke with fondness of his time at Cardiff High School and whilst she was happy to visit us, the visit was tinged with sadness as it was without Robert. We would like to thank both Mrs Margaret Ellis and Mrs Helen Coles for the photographs and information that they kindly provided to us in order that we were able to share the details of the interesting lives that their aunt and husband have led following their time in Cardiff High School.



## **British Education Awards 2018**

Last term the Key Stage 5 team was hugely proud to announce that Grace Charles of 12T had won the British Education Awards' Welsh GCSE Learner of the Year 2018, following in the footsteps of Hannah Souter of 13K in 2017. The British Education Awards recognises the outstanding academic and extracurricular achievements of students – and is the only event in the UK that celebrates individual success on a national platform.

Grace was nominated by her Achievement Leader Miss Wilson for her outstanding GCSE Results, dedication to dance and sport and excellent contributions to wider

school life. Miss Wilson describes Grace as a model student in every sense and a true asset to the school. Grace achieved the highest GCSE grades in the year group last year: a tremendous 11 A\*s, through sheer determination and effort, and remained upbeat, confident and focused throughout the experience. Her positive attitude inspired her fellow students to achieve, and she was always willing to help others. Grace never complains and is always smiling and happy to help anyone in need. She is exceptionally polite, friendly and hardworking and is highly respected by students and staff alike, having been described as an absolute pleasure to teach by numerous staff, and a genuine team player by her peers.

Outside of the classroom, Grace's passion in life is dance. She is an outstanding performer and has trained in the disciplines of ballet, tap and jazz from a young age. She trains for eight hours a week with her dance school 'The Debbie Chapman Dancers' where she prepares for examinations and annual shows, as well as supporting with the teaching of younger pupils once a week. She also works with the renowned ballet Company 'Ballet Cymru' in Newport once a month where she trains alongside the company's professional ballerinas.

Additionally, Grace was selected to dance for the prestigious London Studio Centre's Youth programme which she attends every Saturday in Hereford, having auditioned with hundreds of fellow dancers across England and Wales and being one of only forty students selected. She also continues her love of dance within school by performing in the school's annual productions including 'Miss Saigon' and 'Jesus Christ Superstar', and this year took on the instrumental role of Director of Choreography for the production of 'My Fair Lady', leading and teaching over fifty pupils from a variety of dance backgrounds, alongside performing in the show herself.

Grace is also an avid member of the school's sports council, and recently has contributed to many important decisions about the delivery and provision of sport within Cardiff High. Beyond the school, she also acted as a Young Ambassador for the Youth Sports trust last year, helping to encourage her inactive peers to get involved with sport, alongside preparing for her GCSEs. Her love of fitness has also seen her raise money for several charities, including several 10K races for Kidney Wales.

Grace attended the awards ceremony at the Beetham Tower in Manchester where she was up against many other talented hopefuls from all over Wales and the rest of the UK. We are all very proud of her and are thrilled that she has received such a prestigious recognition for her efforts.

## ECO GROUP NEWS!

The Eco Committee as had a very busy year, and has really worked hard, pursuing school and personal projects designed to make Cardiff High School an even more eco friendly environment. The committee has been responsible for a bike helmet campaign and a litter on the school site awareness campaign. They have audited the school environment and continue to strive to improve facilities and opportunities for all pupils. Their current focus is on water usage and improving the wild flower area within the school grounds. Pupils from yr7-13 play an active role on the Eco Committee and are eagerly awaiting our next Green Flag Accreditation day in July. Any pupils interested in becoming part of this exciting group are more than welcome.

As an Eco club, we've recently discovered a tool that we're very excited about. Everyone wants to help the environment but lives are busy and time is precious. Wouldn't it be great if it was easy or something you do anyway? Introducing Ecosia, a green replacement for Google. With the profits they make from ads, they fund tree planting projects to fight against the global deforestation problem and global warming. Simply install it and go, your searches directly fund tree planting which is kept track of for you by a counter in the top right corner. Feel good about doing something to help the planet while surfing the net.





# News from Lower School

## Gleeds Workshop



40 Year 9 pupils took part in an extremely successful workshop organised by Gleeds Construction and The Transformation Trust at Cardiff High School on 18th October 2017.

This one-day 'Royal Refurb' workshop provided students with an insight into one of the world's largest construction consultancies, exposing them to real-life situations and helping them learn about key roles in team projects. Students worked in groups, supported by professional mentors, on a simulation of the project that Gleeds are currently leading on at Buckingham Palace,

Key skills developed throughout the workshop included using teamwork, time management, decision making and problem solving. Students improved their presenting skills when they fed back to the other groups on their project and the reasons for their choices.

Pupils rose to the challenges incredibly well and impressed our visitors with their confidence, mature decision-making and enthusiastic participation.



## Royal Variety

We were very proud to have one of our pupils at the Royal Variety Performance this year. Max Haines 8K was chosen by a panel to have the honour of meeting the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and presenting them with their programme before the show started.



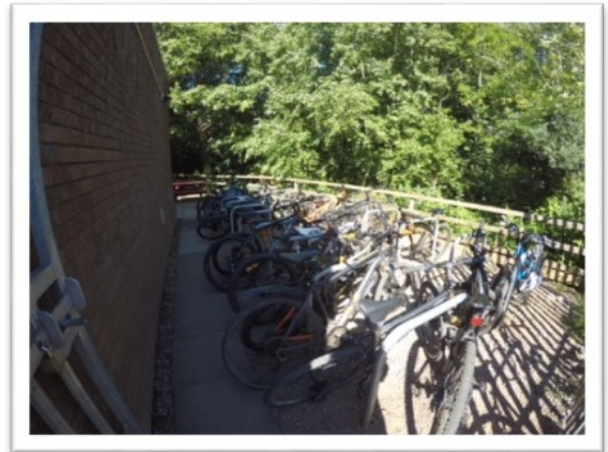
Max said that some of the highlights included seeing the winner of Britain's Got Talent, as well as meeting David Walliams. Max described it as a "once in a lifetime experience."

## Do you ride a bike to school?



Cycling to Cardiff High School is an extremely popular way of getting to school. Over 200 bikes a day are parked on site! Cycling is now so popular that we have several bike sheds and bike loops for pupils to secure their bikes. At the front of the school we have a lockable bike tunnel with [some] bike loops outside and to the rear of Ty Celyn we have several bike loops installed. We also have a tyre pump held reception in the event of a puncture.

We advise all pupils who ride their bicycles to school to lock them either in the bike shed or at one of the loops using a good quality strong lock. We have made enquiries with several bike suppliers and they recommend a 'D Lock' to be one of the most secure. Last term South Wales Police held an event at Cardiff High to security mark bikes. This event was very popular, so please look out for the date of the next event. We also advise that a good quality cycle helmet is worn. It has been recently observed in school and by members of the local community that some pupils have been riding their bikes whilst carrying their helmets. Traffic is very busy in the area and on site and we strongly advise that helmets are worn until the rider dismounts the bike in school.



Pupils should be safety and security conscious when riding their bikes to school!





Students of the Term Spring 2018 / Disgyblion yr Tymor Gwanwyn 2018



**Lucy Bunn 7T**



**Oliver Borley 7P**



**Leema Shams 8H**



**Steven Sunil 8K**



**Grace Barnes 9T**



**Charlie Butcher 9T**



**Sali Powell 10P**



**Rhys David 10L**



**Ella Rowlands 11J**



**Umer Ali 11J**



**Grace Wellington 12T**



**Moustafa El-Shaboury  
12L**



**Madeline Van Noorden  
13T**



**James Oldcorn 13J**