

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

OYLCHLYTHYR HAF 2025



CARDIFF HIGH SCHOOL

JULY 2025



GET IN TOUCH

029 20 757741

LLANDENNIS ROAD
CARDIFF CF24 6WG



As we approach the end of another school year, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our dedicated staff, governing body, and to you—our parents and carers—for your continued support.

The 2024–25 academic year has been both rewarding and inspiring, filled with memorable moments and significant achievements. We've celebrated success across many areas: from sporting triumphs and captivating drama productions to vibrant concerts and a rich variety of enrichment activities. We have also been especially proud of the high levels of engagement and enthusiasm shown by our students in the classroom.

This year's exam season has been our busiest yet, with record numbers of entries. Our students approached it with maturity and determination, and we look forward to celebrating their efforts on results days later this summer.

The final weeks of term have been especially lively, with highlights including the Year 11 Prom, the Year 13 Leavers' Dinner, Sports Days, Health and Wellbeing events, school trips, the Sports Presentation Evening, Cultural Appreciation Week, and our very first Summer Festival—a joyful collaboration between our Drama, Music and Art Departments, showcasing the creativity and talent of our students.

Naturally, the year has also brought its challenges, particularly in the face of ongoing financial pressures. With that in mind, I would like to politely draw your attention to the article "Investing Together", which outlines how you can support us as we continue striving to enhance every aspect of school life for our pupils.

As always, I am incredibly proud of our staff, whose dedication to the achievement and wellbeing of every student remains unwavering. I know they will continue to give their all as we move into the new academic year.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable summer break.

SM Jones
Headteacher



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Pupil Achievements

Cardiff High School has enjoyed a wealth of incredible achievements on the stage, on the playing field and certainly in the classrooms and around the school. We are incredibly proud to announce that at the time of writing, our students have achieved over **136,000 merits**.

We would like to congratulate all of our learners who have achieved this year. We are immensely proud of your efforts as I'm sure everyone at home is.

A big congratulations to the highest achieving pupils.

This year has also seen the new stationery shop open for pupils to spend their merit points in. They are able to choose from a range of stationery items including pens, post-it notes, and bookmarks.

From September there will be a new merit awards system in place where the students will receive a certificate when they reach the Headteacher's commendation award, but will also be able to purchase certificates for all other milestones reached throughout the year in the stationery shop with their merit points.

The awards available will be:



Bronze Award



Silver Award



Gold Award



**Form Tutor
Commendation**



**Head of School
Commendation**



**Assistant Head
Commendation**



**Deputy Head
Commendation**



**Headteacher
Commendation**

Year 7	Charlotte Bromiley 7K
Year 8	Eden Willis 8L
Year 9	Ralph Crowter 9K
Year 10	Harri Phillips 10L
Year 11	Sam Jones 11P
Highest Merits Overall: Ralph Crowter 9K ~ 411	



Pupil Achievements

We would like to say a big thank you to **New Directions, Apollo Teaching Services and VES Recruitment** for kindly donating Amazon vouchers to the school. This provides us with the opportunity to increase the rang of items in our stationery shop and to Greenberg Opticians and Chris Phillips (Japanese Jiu Jitsu Club) for kindly supporting our stationery shop by advertising in this Summer Newsletter.



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If you are interested in supporting our stationery shop with a donation or placing an advert in a future programme/newsletter, to enable us to make sure we can keep rewards available for our students, then please get in touch with **ButlerA7@hwbcymru.net**.



If you haven't yet signed up for the ClassCharts Parent App then please contact mcguirel17@cardiffhigh.cardiff.sch.uk or ONeilN6@hwbcymru.net and we will provide you with your details. Your login is different to your child's and you have access to different functions, such as being able to see their attendance, report absences via the click of a button, and you can get some daily feedback from us about how wonderful our young people are.



In Memory of Zac Trevett

As a school community, we continue to remember and honour Zac Trevett, a much-loved student who sadly passed away in November 2024 aged 13.

Zac brought warmth, humour, and kindness to our school. He had a quiet strength and a gentle presence and is deeply missed by his friends and the staff who had the privilege of teaching him.

Zac was a proud Maindy Corries footballer and an avid Cardiff City fan—a true Bluebird through and through. His love of football brought him great joy both on and off the pitch.

As a tribute to Zac, we have planted a memorial tree on the school grounds. Thank you to our Eco Club and our Estates Team for their support in this. The tree will stand as a lasting symbol of his life and the impact he had during his time with us. It will be a quiet place for reflection, remembrance, and peace – somewhere students and staff can visit to feel close to him.





CULTURAL APPRECIATION WEEK

Celebrating Our Diversity: Cultural Appreciation Week 2025

Last month, our school community came together to celebrate **Cultural Appreciation Week 2025** – a joyful, thought-provoking, and enriching celebration of the many cultures that make up our Cardiff High School family.

Throughout the week, pupils and staff had the opportunity to explore traditions, languages, food, art, music, and stories from around the world.

Highlights of the week included:

- *A Food Journey Around the World*, prepared by our wonderful canteen staff, where learners sampled dishes from across the globe – with delicious flavours representing East Asia, South America, the Caribbean, America and South Asia. The variety and quality on offer was an absolute treat!
- *Afro Dance Workshop*, led by Erica Karenzi, which brought infectious energy and rhythm to our hall as pupils learned traditional and contemporary African dance moves.
- *African Drumming Workshop*, delivered by Olivia Manzenza and Becky Cassinelli, offered pupils a hands-on musical experience exploring rhythm, teamwork, and the rich cultural roots of African percussion.
- *Henna Tutorial Sessions*, which allowed pupils to learn about the cultural significance of henna and try out simple designs in a respectful, guided environment.
- *Cultural Show & Tell during Form Time*, where pupils proudly shared items, stories, and traditions connected to their cultural heritage – sparking wonderful conversations and connections.



- *Staff Cultural Heritage Video* where members of staff shared their own cultural backgrounds, family stories, traditions and experiences.
- *Cultural Dress Day*, a colourful celebration of identity and pride, where pupils and staff wore traditional clothing or colours representing their culture.

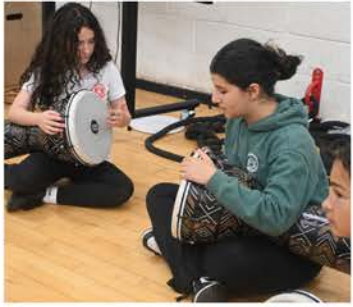
We were especially proud of the respect, curiosity and enthusiasm shown by our pupils throughout the week. It was a wonderful opportunity to deepen our understanding of one another and to recognise the richness and strength that comes from our diversity. Together, we celebrated not just where we come from, but how much stronger we are when we learn from each other.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the week so special.





CULTURAL APPRECIATION WEEK





INVESTING TOGETHER



We are excited to share the news of an important fundraising initiative taking place across our school community. As part of our ongoing commitment to providing the very best learning environment for our students, we are launching a campaign to raise funds for vital improvements to some of our most valued facilities.

Our key priorities for the academic year 2025 – 2026 are:



- **Upgrading our 3G Pitch** – Our current pitch has served us well, but it's now in need of refurbishment to ensure it remains a safe, high-quality space for PE lessons, after-school clubs, and competitive sports. A new surface will enable students of all ages and abilities to train, play, and enjoy physical activity all year round.
- **Enhancing our Drama Studio** – Drama plays a vital role in boosting students' confidence, creativity, and communication skills. We would love to improve our studio space with better lighting, seating, and sound equipment to support both curriculum work and school performances.
- **Investing in new sports equipment** – To broaden participation even further and to replenish current items, we are seeking to purchase a wider range of modern, inclusive, and high-quality sports equipment for PE and extracurricular activities.

We appreciate that times are challenging for many families, and we truly appreciate any contribution you can make—no matter how big or small. Every pound raised will go directly towards enriching the daily experience for your children, ensuring they have access to the facilities they need to thrive.

There are two ways for you to donate –

EITHER

Via the ParentPay option, within the section entitled:

[Payment Item Cardiff High Fundraising 2025 – 2026](#)

OR

Set up a direct debit of, perhaps £1 per month, to this account:

[The Cardiff High School Partnership Fund](#)

[Account Number 60160776 Sort Code 20-18-15](#)



Law Department



A Conversation with Barrister David Gareth Evans

Pupils interested in pursuing a career at the Bar recently had the invaluable opportunity to hear from David Gareth Evans, an experienced barrister. In an engaging and insightful talk, Mr. Evans shared his personal journey into the legal profession and offered practical advice on how aspiring lawyers can navigate the pathway to becoming a barrister. Mr. Evans highlighted the rewards of a career at the Bar: intellectual challenge, the chance to make a real impact through justice, and the dynamic, ever-changing nature of courtroom work.



Pupils also took part in a debate on fusion of the legal profession and whether we need barristers and solicitors. This long-standing topic in legal circles raises fundamental questions about the structure, accessibility and future of legal services. The debate gave pupils the chance to grapple with the historical roots and modern implications of the current two-branch system with most pupils arguing against fusion. This debate helped to clarify pupils' thoughts, honing their evaluative and analytical skills, in preparation for the Unit 1 Law exam this summer.

Rt Hon Lord Hermer KC Returns to Cardiff High School to Inspire Future Lawyers

Guest speaker: Rt Hon Lord Hermer KC



Cardiff High School was honoured to welcome back one of its distinguished former pupils, Rt Hon Lord Hermer KC, for an inspiring talk with our Law students. Lord Hermer, now the Attorney General for England and Wales and Advocate General for Northern Ireland, shared his journey through the legal profession, offering invaluable insights into his career and the path to becoming one of the country's top barristers and now chief legal adviser to the Crown.

During his visit, Lord Hermer reflected on his time at Cardiff High School and how his interest in law began to take shape during his studies here. He spoke fondly of his experiences as a pupil and how the school helped nurture his passion for the law, providing him with a strong academic foundation that set him up for success in his legal career.

Lord Hermer emphasised the importance of resilience, hard work, and the continuous pursuit of learning in the legal field. He also provided pupils with practical advice on how to succeed in their studies and how to prepare for a future career in law. The pupils were particularly keen to hear about Lord Hermer's experiences in the courtroom, where he has represented clients in some of the most high-profile cases in recent years.



Law Department



New York, New York!



Pupils from the Law, Business, and Economics departments recently embarked on an unforgettable educational journey to New York City – a dynamic hub of international diplomacy, finance, and culture.

One of the most impactful moments of the trip was our visit to the United Nations Headquarters, where students witnessed global diplomacy in action and engaged in discussions about international law, peacekeeping and economic development.



We also explored landmarks, including Ellis Island and Liberty Island, where pupils gained insight into the immigrant experience that shaped modern America. A reflective visit to Ground Zero and the 9/11 Memorial offered a powerful perspective on resilience and remembrance, while the One World Observatory provided breathtaking views – and a reminder of the city's enduring spirit.

The itinerary also included time to enjoy New York's vibrant energy, with unforgettable stops at Times Square and a dazzling performance of Moulin Rouge on Broadway.

This trip offered pupils a rare opportunity to connect academic concepts with real-world experiences, leaving them inspired and more globally minded than ever.

Year 13 Criminal Law Revision Lessons

Guest Speaker: Umberto Spezi, Pupil at Oxford University

We recently welcomed past pupil, Umberto Spezi, to inspire and support our Year 13 pupils as they prepare for their Law exams.

Umberto Spezi, who studied Law with us last year, is now thriving at Oxford University. Umberto credits much of his academic success to the preparation and revision strategies he developed during his time with us, particularly when it came to tackling scenario-based questions—a key feature of the Unit 3 exam.



Scenario questions require students to apply the law to hypothetical situations. These types of questions test not only knowledge of legal principles but also the ability to analyse and reason within the context of a legal framework.

Umberto recapped the offences of murder, theft and non-fatal offences and focused on defences such as duress, self-defence and intoxication. Umberto's advice to current students was simple: practice, practice, practice. The more scenario questions you tackle, the better you become at applying the law. It's not just about memorising the rules; it's about understanding how they work in real-life situations.

Good luck to all our pupils expecting results over the Summer.



Law Department



Access to Justice and the Role of Pro Bono Clinics

Guest Speaker: Hannah Menard, University of South Wales



This month, we were thrilled to welcome guest speaker Hannah Menard from the University of South Wales to our school, where she shared invaluable insights on the role of pro bono law clinics in ensuring access to justice. As a passionate advocate for legal aid and public service, Hannah spoke to our Year 12 students about her work with the University's pro bono clinics and the impact they have on individuals and communities in need.

Hannah explained how pro bono clinics—where law students provide free legal advice under supervision—are an essential part of the legal landscape. These clinics not only offer much-needed support to individuals who may not be able to afford professional legal representation but also provide law students with practical experience, helping them to develop essential skills in a real-world environment.

Hannah also discussed the importance of access to justice, a principle that ensures everyone, regardless of their financial situation, has the right to fair legal representation. She emphasised how crucial it is for aspiring lawyers to engage with social justice issues early in their careers, noting that pro bono work is an excellent way to gain insight into the barriers faced by underrepresented communities.

The session was particularly impactful for our Year 12 students who were about to sit their Unit 1 exam soon but are also thinking about possible careers in law. We are grateful to Hannah Menard for her thought-provoking presentation and for inspiring our pupils to think critically about the values and responsibilities that come with a career in law. As our Year 12 pupils continue to explore their future pathways, her message about the importance of access to justice will undoubtedly resonate with them.



Naomi (Charlotte W.) is surprised by a visitation from Father Christmas

Move over Kubrick, Spielberg, and Bigelow. Cardiff High School's students have been scripting, recording, and editing some of the best films of the year not to have hit cinemas.

Most Fridays, a troupe of Cardiff High's film-makers congregate in the name of audio-visual art to make thoughtful, skilful, sometimes scary and sometimes funny and sometimes tear-jerkingly emotional films on various themes.

It is no understatement to say that this year's film-makers have been exceptional, with every bi-weekly competition being ridiculously difficult to judge. If you are friends or family with any of the film-makers, make sure you ask to see their brilliant work.

The Summer Movie-Making Competition is in progress, so if you wish to enter, check out the details and requirements on the posters around the school. Cinema vouchers are won by the judges' selection.

This year's Christmas Competition was won by Mishkaat Ahmed, Hannah Duck, Feiya Gong, Sasha Methley and Charlotte Waterman for their festively fantastic(al) A Christmas Wish.



Brook Workshops Help Students Challenge Gender Stereotypes and Misogyny

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting students' personal development and wellbeing, we were delighted to welcome guest educators from Brook, the leading sexual health and wellbeing charity, into school.

Brook delivered interactive workshops to students across Key Stages 3 and 4, focusing on challenging gender stereotypes and addressing misogyny. These sessions formed an important part of our Health and Wellbeing curriculum, which aims to equip students with the knowledge and confidence to make respectful, informed choices in their relationships and wider lives.



The workshops encouraged students to think critically about how gender norms are reinforced through social media, popular culture, and peer expectations. Students explored how these stereotypes can lead to inequality and harm, including the rise of misogynistic attitudes and behaviours. The sessions also provided practical guidance on how to challenge discrimination, promote equality, and show respect in everyday interactions.



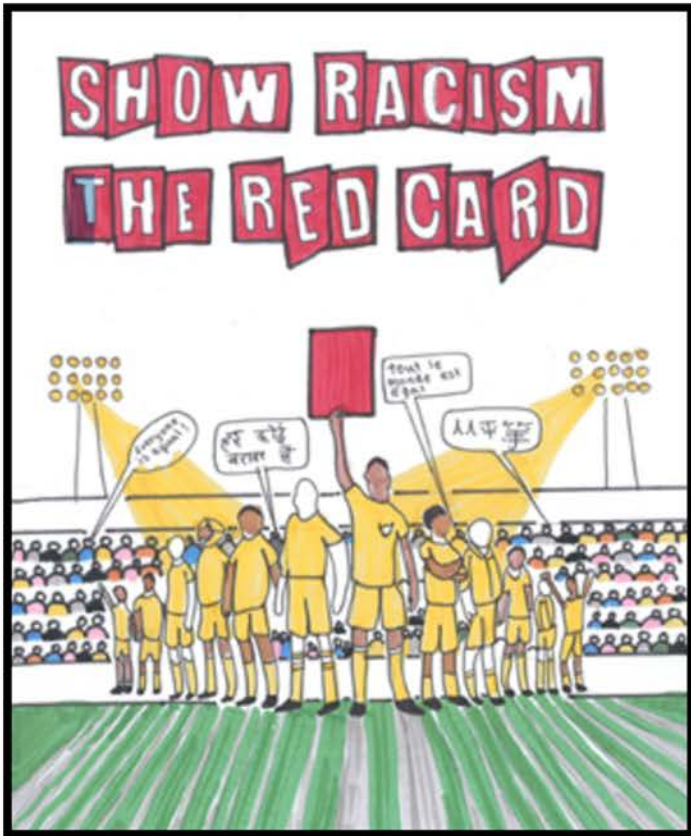
CHS Pupil Leadership Team



Show Racism the Red Card

Earlier this year, our Key Stage 3 pupils took part in the Show Racism The Red Card Creative Competition where they submitted either a poster, poem or infographic with an anti-racist message.

Show Racism the Red Card received over 450 entries from schools across Wales and, we were delighted when three of our pupils were selected to attend the awards ceremony as prize winners.



Mellina Karthikeyan in Year 9 designed a highly creative poster with a focus on anti-racism in sport.

Zainab Fatima in Year 9 wrote a moving poem advocating for unity and justice.

Ariana Akinleye in Year 7 produced a fantastic infographic showcasing Hanef Bhamjee's work in the South African Anti-Apartheid movement.

United in Harmony

In a world where colours blend and shine,
Let love and justice intertwine.

With open hearts, we stand as one,
Against the shadows, we'll overcome.

No more the chains of hate and fear,
Let every voice be loud and clear.

For every shade, a story told,
In unity, our strength unfolds.

From whispered dreams to roaring cries,
We rise together, reaching skies,

With empathy, we break the mould,
A tapestry of hearts, bold and gold,

Let kindness be our guiding light,
In every corner, day and night.

For in our differences, we find,
A richer world, a love unconfined.

For every shade, a story told,
So hand in hand, let's pave the way,

For brighter tomorrows, come what may.

In every heart, let justice bloom,
Together, we'll dispel the gloom.

- Zainab Fatima (9K)





The significance of humanizing the Holocaust

By Ellie Kahan and Skye Townsend

Annually, The Lessons From Auschwitz project combines online seminars and independent learning with a one-day visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau.



Providing students across the country with the unique experience of learning from the past – leading

into the future with an understanding of the complexities of Holocaust victims, emotive testimonies and perpetrators.

This year I was privileged enough to be a part of this insightful programme in broadening my human consideration, to reiterate that the Holocaust happened to real people as a result of the actions of real people.

In order to understand the incomprehensible, we began our journey within the breakdown of the project's definition of the Holocaust: **'The Holocaust was the murder of approximately six million Jewish men, women and children by Nazi Germany and its collaborators during the Second World War.'**

However, solely limiting the understanding of the Holocaust to statistics like '6 million' and infamous sites such as Auschwitz diminishes the human empathy of the Holocaust and ultimately continues to dehumanise those who were killed, furthering the programme of the perpetrators who intended their erasure. The individuals within 'men', 'women' and 'children' each tell their own story – their dreams, relationships, and personalities. Just like you and me as we move through life. Vitally before, during and after the Holocaust, serving as an exploration of Jewish identity, culture and experience.

Thus, the collective effort must be made as a society to remember. Remember the voices, the faces, and the names of those who are lost to the Holocaust.

But to also understand the certain level of human constructiveness that went into the events, to ensure we can recognise from the past and prevent the extent of near eradication ever again within global communities.

Nearing the end of the project, we explored how the events and ideologies of the Holocaust are still relevant in today's society across the globe in various mediums, rooting from the animosity between the human race.

Living in the United Kingdom today, there are **approximately 300,000** Jews; England contains the second largest Jewish population in Europe and the fifth largest Jewish community worldwide.

However, the Community Security Trust (CST) recorded 3,528 antisemitic incidents in the UK in 2024, the second-highest total ever reported to CST in a single calendar year.

Highlighting the relevance, we must keep acknowledging the power we hold as individuals, as the knowledge we gain shapes our worldview of human worth. Learning about the Holocaust's impact is one of the best ways to commemorate and bring justice to those who lost their lives, as well as discourage the other forms of racism and intolerance that are still present in our world today.

I'd like to finish with a quote from Manfred Goldberg, a truly inspirational Holocaust survivor whose story I had the opportunity to listen to; you can find it online on the Holocaust National Trust website. His reflection on the Holocaust and events he experienced acts as a reminder of the harm that can foster when we enable ourselves to become bystanders in a world prone to intolerance.

'All it takes for evil to triumph is for good people to remain silent.' – Manfred Goldberg



Welsh Department

Adran Gymraeg

Eisteddfod ysgol

The school Eisteddfod was a very successful day. The eventual winners were 7T and 8P. Their form tutors Ms Foreman and Mr Lewis were very proud and extremely competitive. The fun was obvious to all as the students enjoyed singing, reciting, speed bouncing(!), playing their instruments and much more.

Much of the work had been completed before the day as students had prepared their off stage entries. Their winning work are displayed all around the school on various display boards.

Llongyfarchiadau i bawb a fu wrthi yn helpu ond yn enwedig i Ms Hill am drefnu'r dydd. Braf oedd gweld y plant a'r athrawon yn mwynhau wrth gefnogi llwyddiannau ei gilydd. Here are a selection of entries in various competitions.

Welsh Department on Tour

July will be a busy month as we will be heading to Llangrannog with over 200 students from Year 7 right at the end of term. We are looking forward to returning to lovely West Wales and participating in a variety of activities. Please follow @CymraegCHS on X to see the fun and happy smiles.



Sophie Calon

Year 10 were lucky to have an ex pupil pop in to talk to them about following their dreams and working hard towards their goal. Sophie left Cardiff High many years ago but adored writing.



Her first book was published in June called 'Long Going' and is a raw description of her life living with a father that was addicted to alcohol. Sophie had recently been in a Q and A at Hay Festival and Year 10 grilled her on the ways to write and publish a book. Diolch o galon Sophie Calon am ddod i fewn atom.

Welsh Department

Adran Gymraeg

Eisteddfod yr Urdd



Eddie Jennings represented the school in the Welsh learners medal and competed extremely well. He interviewed the lovely Bronwen Lewis who was the president for the day and was headlining the final evening with her beautiful singing. Eddie won the writing competition for Years 12 and 13 – which was the second year that he had been successful. Aoife Naughton won the Year 10 and 11 competition. Ceridwen Morgan won the Year 8 and 9 competition with Csege Hanczar in second and Izzy Methley in 3rd. Sacha Methley won the Year 7 competition with Hannah Duck in second. All of these students had written excellent pieces of literature.



Here is an extract from Ceridwens work:

Dilyniant Y Sêr

Bob nos, bydd pobl o'r byd yn gwyllo'r sêr. Maen nhw'n pefrio a blincio yn yr awyr dywyll, llachar a hardd. Ond, ambell waith, rhaid i seren stopio blincio, a bydd hi'n cau ei llygaid er mwyn cysgu am dragwyddoldeb. Roedd heno yn un o'r nosweithiau hyn. Roedd yr hen seren, gydag enw anhysbys, yn llosgi yn ffyrnig, pigog a phoeth. Teimlodd hi'n gysglyd iawn. Roedd hi'n caru'r bobl bach gyda eu llyfrau a darluniau ac adeiladau a cheir, ond roedd hi wedi gwyllo ers canrifoedd, ac allai hi ddim dweud celwydd: ei hamser hi oedd hi..

A felly, gwnaeth y sêr gylch o gwmpas yr hen seren. Canon nhw'n dawel ac yn beraidd, hwiangerdd garedig i helpu'r hen seren i gysgu. Roedd llawer o'r sêr yn ifanc. Edrychodd yr hen seren arnyn nhw gyda chariad yn eu llygaid, a gyda balchder hefyd. Roedd hi'n gwybod, bob tro syrthiodd seren, basai seren newydd yn codi, a fasai'r awyr ddim yn wag o sêr. Tra aeth y seren i gysgu, mewn man arall yn y bydysawd, roedd llewyrch newydd yn ffurfio. Roedd llygaid yr hen seren yn cau, a llygaid y seren newydd yn agor.

Roedd hi'n ddiwrnod o dristwch, ond hefyd, roedd hi'n ddiwrnod o lawenydd. Pylodd yr awyr, am eiliad yn unig, ac yna sgleiniodd hi eto, ac roedd y byd mewn heddwch unwaith eto.





SCIENCE DEPARTMENT



Year 12 Engineering EESW Competition



A group of 20 Year 12 Physics students took part in the EESW Engineering competition this year. Pupils were given the brief to “design a Smart Energy Management System using Compound Semiconductors” and worked in groups to research, write code and develop prototypes. Pupils then wrote detailed technical reports (some were 90 pages long!) which detailed their analysis and put forward designs with evaluations and recommendations. They worked with engineers from the company CS Connected, the world’s first compound semiconductor cluster located in Newport, to refine these ideas and make improvements.

The students then went to the competition day at Swansea University where each group set up a booth to display their work and gave presentations to industry experts. 60 teams from schools across South Wales presented their work on different projects and the 5 teams from Cardiff High School were incredibly successful.

Tashifa Asif, Fatima Chughtai, Nada Hussein and Avishka Waje were nominated for the award for “Best Use of STEM for Sustainability” and were the successful winners of the award for “Best Written Report” as judged by WJEC and the team won a £500 prize.

Tom Liu, Thomas Merrey and Angel Pedregosa-Hasnaoui were nominated for the award for “Most Innovative Application of an Existing Technology” and were the successful winners of the award for “Most Innovative/Adapted Design” as judged by SONY, also winning a £500 prize.

A huge congratulations to the students in the winning teams and to all students who took part in this esteemed project. Alongside the project pupils also used their work to earn Gold CREST awards from the British Science Association.

Cambridge University Lower Sixth Challenge

Congratulations to our Year 12 Chemistry students who have done brilliantly well and achieved certificates in the very tough Cambridge University Lower Sixth Challenge:

Gold: Saul Gerrard, Jayesh Advani, Fatima Chughtai and Tom Liu.

Silver: Simone Williams

Copper: Sama Al-Battat

A special well done to Jayesh who has also won an invitation to a Chemistry residential weekend at St Catharine's College in September.



Year 12 British Physics Olympiad

A huge congratulations to our dedicated Year 12 students who recently took part in the prestigious British Physics Olympiad competition. This national problem solving challenge is renowned for pushing students beyond the standard curriculum, encouraging them to apply core physics principles to unfamiliar and often abstract scenarios – including topics as advanced as rocket science!

With over 6,000 students participating from across the UK each year, the competition is both rigorous and highly respected. We're incredibly proud to share that Cardiff High students rose to the occasion and delivered outstanding performances.

A special well done to all those who took part and earned the following awards:

Science Club

Throughout the school year, pupils from Years 7 and 8 have been regular attendees at Science Club, where they've taken part in a wide variety of exciting and hands-on experiments. The club has offered engaging practical experiences across all three sciences: Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. In Biology, students had the chance to look at their own cheek cells under a microscope and extract DNA from kiwi fruit—experiments that gave them a closer look at the microscopic world and the building blocks of life. In Chemistry, they enjoyed the thrill of fire writing, learning about combustion reactions. Physics sessions included the balloon rockets, helping pupils understand forces and motion. It has been fantastic to see the enthusiasm, curiosity, and teamwork shown by everyone who took part. We are incredibly proud of all the young scientists who got involved, and we look forward to welcoming them—and some new faces—back in the new school year!

Year 12 Isaac Physics Senior Physics Challenge

Another congratulations goes to Andries van der Goes who recently took part in the Senior Physics Challenge hosted by Isaac Physics.

Andries achieved the Diamond award for ranking in the top 150 students out of 1500 students who took part. He showed exceptional problem solving skills along with outstanding mathematical and physics knowledge.



Diamond Award



Gold	Jack Short Aleksandr Zavialov
Silver	Saul Gerrard Angel Pedro Pedregosa Hasnaoui
Bronze	Hau Yung Ryan Chan Demir Erzurumluoglu Alvin Guo Tom Liu Noah Teague Andries van der Goes Alex Wiltshire
Commendation	Tashifa Asif



PE DEPARTMENT



FOOTBALL



Year 7



There are many pupils who have represented the school in their first year at CHS! The team were eliminated in the first round of the CVSFA cup, which meant we entered the plate competition. Wins against Cathays and Mary Immaculate set up a final with Llanishen and despite being 1-0 up at Half Time, the boys ended the game with a respectable 2nd place.

Year 8



A year of great progress from Year 8 under the guidance of Mr. Squire. They have played many games and showed a willingness to try and develop as a team. Progress was halted in the cup by a strong Willows team. There have been defeats, but the margin of defeat is narrowing, a very pleasing year with many involved.

Year 9

A tough year for Year 9, who have struggled against very strong opposition. The team shows a willingness to try and play an attractive style of football, and I am confident that they will improve even more with time. Morgan Garwood-Pask and Gabi Bird have stood out with Jay Joseph ending the season strongly.

Year 10

Year 10 have had a very up and down year. The highlight being a fantastic victory in a friendly v Whitchurch where the team demonstrated a great battling spirit and some clinical finishing. They reached the CVSFA quarter finals, but were eliminated by Eastern. Sol Davies, Alessandro Santoro and Dylan Griffiths-Williams have all represented the Year 11 team this year.



Year 11



Year 11 were the team to watch this season! All of their games being thrilling contests with plenty of goals. A quarter final, 4-3 win will live long in the memory, especially Joe Naughton's stoppage time winner. The performance of the season came in the semi-final, as last year's winners, Glantaf were beaten 7-2, including Harry Paul's hat-trick. The CVSFA final was a close affair against a strong Plasmawr side. A red card and 2 quick fire goals seemed to take it away from them, but a late Alfie James' goal set up a dramatic ending, unfortunately just missing out, 3-2.

Seniors



A fantastic start to the season with 2 wins and a draw against sides who would all end the year in the top 4. Unfortunately results became harder to come by, including a narrow exit to St Cyres in the Welsh cup, the first time in 4 years we have not participated in the final.. The team recovered to finish 2nd in the league and face Glantaf in the semi, we didn't perform on the day and had to settle for defeat. Besides our winners, Ben Boyce, Isaac Farrugia and Harry Fry have been strong performers throughout the year.

GIRLS FOOTBALL



Year 7



The Year 7 team have played some fantastic football this year, beating several teams in their league. This included winning games against Bro Morgannwg, St Richard Gwyn, Fitzalan, and Corpus Christi. The team also faced some very competitive matches against a strong Stanwell side who took the lead in the last 10 minutes of the game. The girls' teamwork and ambition has been crucial for their success this year.

Year 8

The Year 8 team had a strong start to the season with a convincing 5-1 win against Bro Edern in the first round of the CVSFA cup. The team were then continued this success in the next round of the cup, beating Eastern High School 2-1. The team then suffered a defeat against a very strong Stanwell side. Despite this, the team continued working hard which allowed them to win against other strong teams in the league such as Radyr.



Year 9/10/11

A good season for the senior girls' team this year. The team was successful in the first round of the CVFSA cup, convincingly beating Bro Morgannwg 7-0. The team was then defeated by Whitchurch who showed great skill and determination throughout the match. However, the team used this as motivation to then go on and beat other teams in the league, including Corpus Christi and Radyr. In this squad, some pupils were then also invited to attend the 'BE Football Influencer Training' sessions which is used to shape the future of football coaching!



RUGBY



Year 7

This year, an incredible 57 pupils represented the Year 7 rugby team, whether as part of the A squad or our developing novice team. The boys have shown huge improvement across the season, growing in skill, confidence, and teamwork. We finished as one of the top four teams in Cardiff and scored some of the most exciting tries of the year. More importantly, we built a strong team culture, developed new leaders, and had a lot of fun along the way. A highlight of the season was attending the Urdd tournament, where our thrilling match against Bryn Celynnog was nominated as Game of the Tournament – a true reflection of the spirit and determination these players have shown all year. With so much progress made already, there are exciting times ahead.

Year 8

This season has showcased the progress that has been made, marked by unwavering enthusiasm, and a genuine passion for learning the game. Throughout the year, the team has taken on a full fixture list, often facing opponents with a clear physical advantage. But, never once did that dampen their spirit. The team reached the semi-final of the Cardiff School Plate and played some excellent 7's at the Urdd 7's. The progress made this year has laid a strong foundation for what promises to be an exciting Year 9 season.

Year 9



The Year 9 rugby team has had a fantastic season, showing huge improvement and growing closer as a group. They're a very tight team, pushing each other every session and bringing real energy and commitment to training. They went far in the Welsh Cup, performed strongly in the Cardiff Schools Sevens, and made a great run in the plate competition at the Urdd. This is a team full of determination and hard work – and there's plenty more to come from them.

Year 10

The Year 10 rugby squad has enjoyed a season filled with determination, development, and moments of triumph. One of the standout highlights of the year came in the Cardiff Schools Cup semi-final, where the team produced a superb performance to defeat a strong Glantaf side—just weeks after a narrow and hard-fought loss to the same team in the Welsh Cup. It was a true testament to the squad's resilience and capacity to learn and bounce back from disappointment. Many of the players have been involved the Elite Performance Pathway and some successfully selected for the Dewar shield u15 Cardiff School's squad. The team's cup run continued all the way to the final, where they faced a very talented Bro Edern outfit. Despite missing several key players through injury, the boys battled bravely and showed real character throughout the contest. With continued focus and belief, this group has the potential to achieve even more as they move into senior school rugby.



RUGBY



Year 11



The Year 11 rugby team has played a key role in the success of our wider rugby programme this season. Many of the boys were integral to the senior rugby setup, while others contributed in moderation games and helped the team reach the semi-final of the Cardiff Cup. A real highlight was competing at the prestigious Rosslyn Park 7s with a committed, dedicated group who represented the school with pride. Several players were also involved in Cardiff Schools rugby, showing the strength of talent in this year group. Whether they stay on or move on, this is a group that will be remembered for their contribution, character, and love of the game.

Rosslyn Park

Our trip to the Rosslyn Park Sevens in London was an unforgettable experience for all involved. We entered three competitions: the U18 Boys Vase, U16 Colts, and U14 Girls. The senior boys gave a strong account of themselves but came up against tough opposition. The U16 boys were drawn into a challenging group and, despite narrowly losing all three matches, gave the eventual group winners an outstanding contest. The U14 girls – many new to rugby – showed great promise, winning one of their four games and displaying impressive athletic potential. Beyond the pitch, the tournament offered a unique opportunity for pupils to grow closer as teams and witness the incredible standard of school rugby from across the UK and around the world, including teams from Dubai and Kenya. It was a special few days that will live long in the memory.

Seniors

This year's league proved to be one of the most competitive in recent memory, with three standout teams battling neck-and-neck at the summit of the table. Ultimately, only a single point separated the top three teams, and Cardiff High secured a hard-fought third-place finish. The team's performance in the Rosslyn Park 7s also deserves special mention. Competing on one of the most prestigious stages in school rugby, the Cardiff High 7s squad played with flair and intensity, winning two out of their three group games and narrowly missing out on progression. The season concluded with a moment of sweet success, as Cardiff High lifted the Jones Charles Shield for the third consecutive year with a commanding victory over Llanishen.



NETBALL



Year 7



The Year 7 team has had a fantastic season, with large numbers at training and regular fixtures for both the A and B teams. They won the Plate competition in the National Urdd Tournament and finished 2nd overall in the Cardiff & Vale Finals. A fantastic achievement for their first year at Cardiff High!

Year 8

The team has showed great progress this year. Despite suffering some defeats at the beginning of the season against Howells, Radyr, and Bro Morgannwg, the girls used this as an opportunity to progress their skills and working together as team. This then resulted in a strong end to the season, beating teams such as Bro Edern and Whitmore. A good end to the season that the girls strive to continue to work on next year.

Year 9

Another fantastic year of netball for our Year 9 team with consistent wins in all our friendly matches, including Glantaf and Llanishen. They put in an incredible few performances in the pool stage, beating Howells and Cathays, to qualify for their third county finals in a row. They narrowly lost to Bro Edern in their final match, ending the year as county runners up.

Year 10

An amazing year for our Year 10 team who remained undefeated in all their friendly games throughout the season.



This team has shown incredible commitment all year to lunchtime training, afterschool training and matches. Their dedication and consistency shone at the county finals where they played unbelievably well, winning all games confidently, and being crowned County Netball Champions 2025—back to back from last year! They have truly represented the meaning of “team” this year. Da iawn all!

Year 11

Year 11 played many friendly games this year and continued to develop as a team. They just missed out on qualifying for the county finals, losing narrowly to pool winners Radyr. We are hoping that many of the girls will return to play senior netball next year, and we wish good luck to those moving onto pastures new!

Seniors



It's been a fantastic year for our senior netball squad. The team showed fantastic commitment throughout the year in playing friendly matches to ensure they were prepared for county and national qualifiers. County champions and 4th in Wales in the national President's Cup finals. More to follow in the Team of the Year award.



HOCKEY



Year 7



The Year 7 cohort played squad games v Llanishen and Whitchurch to enable them to develop their game play for 7 aside. They went on to play Llanishen and Howells in their pool in the plate competition, where they finished in the runner up spot, where the outcome came down to goals scored. We are very grateful to Cardiff Met who have supported our extra curricular programme and enabled regular training to take place for the girls.

Year 8



A strong start to the season for our Year 8 hockey team. The team have beaten teams including Glantaf, Ysgol Bro Morgannwg and Ysgol Plasmawr, with some very tight games against Howells. The team have shown great resilience and has demonstrated some excellent performances this season.

Year 9

The Year 9 team have had another very successful season which culminated in a very close final with Glantaf. The girls played extremely well and fought hard to achieve 2nd place this year. We also entered the Welsh Cup this season and our U14 team performed brilliantly, it came down to shuffles in the qualifying stages however the girls held their nerve and qualified for the National Finals in Brecon. They represented Cardiff & Vale and played some excellent hockey finishing in a very commendable 4th place.

Year 10

Our Year 10 team had another successful year improving on last year's semi final place. They won their pool to qualify for the finals where they came up against a strong Howells time which ended in a very commendable 2-0 defeat and our girls finished 2nd in the County.

Year 11



The U16 squad, comprising players from Year 10 and 11 played Bro Morgannwg and Whitchurch, unfortunately, they didn't qualify for National Finals but played some very competitive hockey and worked well as a team and displayed great determination and resilience.



CROSS-COUNTRY



Girls



Another fantastic season for the cross country team! In league race 1 the Year 7's finished in 2nd place with the Year 8 & 9 team taking the win and the seniors also finished in 2nd place. For the second league race the Year 7's finished in 3rd place, the Year 8 & 9 team continued with their winning streak and the seniors finished in 2nd. Overall, all three age groups finished in the top 3 positions. Both Year 7 and seniors finishing in 2nd place and our Year 8 & 9 team finishing in 1st place! County representatives were Sophie Paul, Ellie Jones, Lily Parsons, Amelie Powell, Rose Williams and Olivia Ingram.

Boys



The boys' teams all delivered strong performances throughout the season, despite frequently challenging conditions that tested their resilience.

The Year 7 team was led by standout efforts from George Bailey and Toby Ahmed, both consistently finishing in the top five, while many others showed steady improvement race after race.

Our Year 8 and 9 team achieved an impressive 2nd place finish in the county, an exceptional accomplishment considering they often competed without some of their more experienced runners due to injury. Morgan Garwood-Pask and Shen Rose spearheaded the team with outstanding performances.

The senior team, composed largely of younger athletes this year, was led by sole sixth-form runner George Gow, who set a strong example with his solid performances. There is plenty of promise and potential to build on in the coming years.

INDOOR ROWING



Cardiff Games Indoor Rowing

The PE department entered the Cardiff Games Concept 2 Indoor Championships and it was hugely rewarding to see both individual and team successes.



Credit to the pupils who participated for their willingness to train and work hard on their technique and relay changeovers prior to the event. Some of the outstanding highlights were the performances of Medi Miller, Monty Grzonka (both Year 7), Csege Hanczar (Year 9) and Dan Rees (Year 10), who were crowned individual champions. In the team relay Year 7 boys and girls, Year 9 boys and Year 10 boys were champions.





DANCE CLUB



This year saw the highest number of dancers ever! 82 dancers across lower school attended after school on Monday's learning various styles of dance and having lots of fun with friends. In the Spring term, 40 of those dancers then chose to commit to a team to create two fantastic pieces. The year 7 piece called 'Royalty' consisted of 24 dancers and the year 8 piece called 'Party Animals' consisted of 16 dancers. Both groups performed at the Cardiff School's Dance Extravaganza (in a heatwave) and were able to showcase their hard work to friends and family. They were very supportive of other schools and their performances were excellent. They have made great friendships through this dance club and have made Miss Foreman and the school proud! Da iawn dancers – let's see what next year brings!

Japanese Jiu Jitsu



Self defence, confidence, fitness and fun!

Adults and Juniors

Wednesdays 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Saturdays 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Sport Wales National Centre

Sophia Gardens, Cardiff CF11 9SW

Run by a CHS parent

www.jitsu.wales



GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT



Adventure of a Lifetime: Our Unforgettable Trip to Iceland!

Students and staff returned from our incredible four day trip to Iceland filled with excitement, memories, and a deeper appreciation for the wonders of the natural world. A group of enthusiastic students and staff set off to explore one of the most unique and breath-taking countries on Earth and every single day brought new wonder, adventure, and learning.

The journey was nothing short of spectacular, from glaciers to geysers, lava to lagoons, every moment was packed with discovery and awe.

From the moment we arrived, Iceland amazed us with its natural beauty. We marvelled at the mighty Gullfoss waterfall, stood where continents meet at Þingvellir National Park, and watched in awe as the Geysir erupted before our eyes. Each stop revealed something new about this land of fire and ice.

One of the most unforgettable experiences was our glacier walk. Equipped with crampons and helmets, students carefully hiked across the icy surface of a real glacier an experience that was both thrilling and humbling. Guided by local experts, we learned about the powerful forces that shape glaciers, the impact of climate change, and how to walk safely on ice. It was a true once-in-a-lifetime adventure that brought our geography lessons to life in the most hands-on way imaginable.

Another magical highlight came after dark, when the sky lit up with the elusive Northern Lights. We were lucky enough to witness this breathtaking natural phenomenon – vivid streaks of green and purple dancing across the sky. Students stood in stunned silence, watching nature put on a show we'll never forget.

We also visited the world-famous Sky Lagoon, where students had the chance to unwind in a warm geothermal infinity pool overlooking the ocean. The peaceful atmosphere and stunning views made it a perfect moment of calm at the end of our packed itinerary.





English Department



WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

5 MARCH 2026

Celebrating World Book Day 2025!

Students and staff got creative once again to **celebrate World Book Day across the school** and 'dressed their doors' with clues to their favourite stories.

This year's bonus challenge, in recognition of WBD being celebrated alongside the Eisteddfod, was to showcase a link to Wales and/or Cymraeg. This could be choosing a book written by a Welsh author or a tale with a Welsh characters or settings.

Students then went on a scavenger hunt to track down and correctly identify as many titles as they could!

First Prize students = Eileen Li, Saein Jang & Inshal Irfan (10S)

Joint First Place for Best Dressed Doors =
Ms Hill & 7L – 'Blodenwedd' - The Mabinogion
Miss Foreman & 7T - 'The Wizard of Oz' by L. Frank Baum

The English Team would like to thank everyone who took part and we hope students enjoyed spending their WBD book tokens! Here are the winning entries and a few of our favourite snapshots from the corridors:





English Department



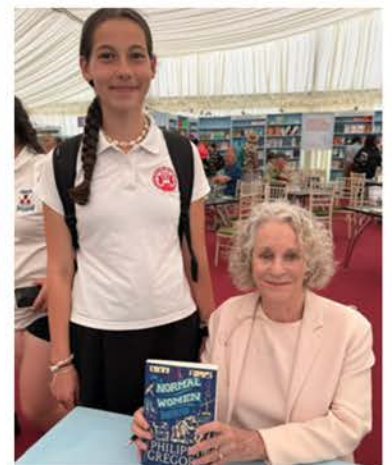
The Hay Literature Festival 2025!



Students in Year 9 were lucky enough to visit one of the world's top literary events again this year! Held in Hay-on-Wye, pupils had the chance to hear talks, ask questions and engage in workshops with some fantastic authors – Alastair Campbell, Philippa Gregory and Caroline O'Donoghue – meeting them for book signings in the sunshine afterwards. Our very own Bea White, 9S, even took on the challenge of debating 'Why Welsh should be taught in all schools in Wales' on stage alongside Alastair Campbell! It was so impressive to hear her eloquent, impromptu speech and lovely to hear the Welsh Department and our very own Mr Lazell get a shout out. Check out her excellent argument [here](#). (Her time in the spotlight is from 28 minutes).

Amongst the 150,000 people expected to visit the festival, the students' engagement with the authors and excellent, punctual and polite attitude was exemplary throughout the day and made all staff in attendance proud to work with Cardiff High Pupils.

Ms Ware would like to say a huge thank you to the students, parents and carers and to all the staff that helped the trip to go ahead: The English team, Mr Poole, Mrs Llesion-Jones, Ms Mason, Ms Davies, Mrs Eaton, Mrs Rowlands and Mrs McGuire.





Mathematics Department



Going for Gold in Maths!



Hundreds of Cardiff High School students have taken part in mathematical challenges over the past few months. In the Senior Maths Challenge, for Years 12 and 13, 52 students won an award, with particular congratulations going to our Gold medal winners; Alex Zavialov, Lucy Price, Natalia Mariblanca, Eddie Jennings, Amy Bennett and Jack Short. Alex Zavialov qualified for the prestigious British Mathematical Olympiad and scored 47/60 which was the highest mark in Wales.

In the Intermediate Maths Challenge, for Years 9, 10 and 11, an incredible 73 students won an award. Our highest scoring students, achieving a Gold award, were Yuhan Zhang, Csombor Hanczar, Finley Evans, Beau Bartlett-Jenkins, Jody Chen, Wesley Chong, Erfan Hakim-Azari, Morenci Rawlinson, Alicia Thomas, Dawid Urban, Emma Kong, Darcey Howlett, Yousif Alhusseini, Will Bowen, Puvith Hewage, Sam Breckon, Wei Xie and Tijay Tijju.

The Junior Maths Challenge, for Year 7 and 8, was sat in April. Sixty five students achieved an award, with particular congratulations to our Gold award winners; Joshua Brown, Shah Tazwar, Ben Hardingham, Joseph Pearce, Gwen Morris, Jolene Chen, Ayesha Manzoor, Dylan Guest, Luhan Zhang, Amena Aly, Ahaana Vijayaruban, Esme McAlpine, Muhammad Abdullah, Alex Lai, Amelia Schwarz, Anna Thomas, Nia Sunil, Lili Kosaner, Charlotte Bromiley, Feiya Gong and Nina Barker.

As well as the individual challenges, the school has had great success in the UKMT Team Challenge too. Emma Kong, Csege Hanczar, Joshua Brown and Luhan Zhang were selected to represent the school at the regional finals in Swansea. They did incredibly well by beating 17 other teams and winning the event. This meant that they qualified for the national finals. This competition was held in June at the Royal Horticultural Halls in Westminster, London. Teams from the best schools in the UK, as well as China, competed in this prestigious international event, which also had guest speaker Simon Singh presenting the winning trophy. Our team did fantastically well by scoring well in every round and making the shortlist of the poster competition. Although we did not win, they represented the school and South Wales brilliantly – well done team!

As well as mathematical success, Emma Kong in Year 9 has had another fantastic year of chess. In April she competed in the Welsh Chess Championships in Cardiff. Despite losing her first game, she went on to secure wins and draw against strong adult players, and was crowned Welsh Women's Chess Champion – well done Emma!





SIXTH FORM



New College Visit

In February we once again took Year 11 students to New College to participate in the Step Up to Oxford programme where students were able to get a feel for life as an Oxbridge student. It was lovely to be met by last Year's Head Prefect Hibah Mohamed, who is currently attending New College to study Medicine. Hibah helped deliver a session to our students in her capacity as a New College ambassador. Whilst we were there it was announced that Nour Elbetany (Year 11) has written the winning entry for the Step Up to Oxford poetry competition with her poem about New College, "Cloisters Of Reflection". Congratulations Nour!



Cloisters of Reflection

*Beneath these arches,
Silence reigns,
A balm for thought,
For joy, for pain.*

*The footsteps soft on ancient stone,
Echo lives now long unknown.*

*The sunlight spills in patterns fine,
Through carved-out vaults,
A sacred shrine.*

*Each shadow tells of wisdom sought,
Of questions posed and answers caught.*

*In this still space,
The world stands still,
Since 1379,
A haven shaped by human will.
New College cloisters,
Calm and true,
Hold the dreams of those who pass through.*

**By Nour Elbetany
Cardiff High School**

Help! I'm Going to Uni – Cardiff Met Podcast Tour



In March we welcomed Cardiff Met's podcast tour in to present to Year 13 to discuss life as a student and what our Year 13's should be thinking about as they prepare for the next steps of their education. It was an interesting way to deliver thoughtful content. Thank you the Hanna Kenny at Cardiff Met for arranging this.



SIXTH FORM

Sutton Trust Fulbright US-UK Programme



Olivia Manzenza, Year 12, was successful, in securing a place on the Fulbright US-UK Programme in Nottingham, which she found an incredibly inspiring experience. During the residential, she had the opportunity to experience a range of workshops and discussions led by staff and experts. A highlight for Olivia was being educated about the possibilities America holds for her future, especially in terms of higher education. The programme provided insights into the US university application process, with sessions led by current students professionals from American institutions. Hearing first-hand experiences from those who had studied in America gave Olivia a better understanding of what life at a university would be like. Throughout the programme, she also met so many incredible people, all of whom shared individual unique perspectives and ambitions. The experience left Olivia feeling more motivated about the potential path ahead. Olivia said, "I can't wait to see what the future holds with the Sutton Trust, as this experience has truly uplifted my passion to pursue higher education in the US."

Year 13- Goodbye and Good Luck



Goodbye and thank you! On behalf of the Sixth Form team, we wish to say thank you to our Year 13 students. It has been a pleasure getting to know all of you and working alongside you over the last two years. The staff are looking forward to celebrating your efforts, rigour and successes with you in the forthcoming Leavers' dinner and then again 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 whole student body over the last year. They have conducted themselves with utmost maturity and with some much-needed humour in all aspects of school life and have been true ambassadors for Cardiff High School. Our final assembly was a witty, entertaining and gracious event which reflected the achievements of the students. Everyone left with a smile on their face and memories for life! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the role of prefects. The Achievement Team is extremely proud of you!



SIXTH FORM



Cambridge and Oxford University Residentials

Mahad Mohamed and Aleksandr Zavialov, Year 12, were successful via the Seren Network on securing places on the Cambridge Residential in January. Here is Mahad's

review of the experience: *"Visiting Cambridge university was an amazing experience, I learnt a lot about the work culture and what to expect when working in such a university. I also engaged in many activities that garnered me a great perspective of the social life in this university and what a typical lecture would look like. The facilities are wonderful, especially the education library and it was really cool seeing how there were loads of societies and sports teams you could join on the side."*



Year 12 Health and Wellbeing Sessions and Destinations Planning

Over the last few weeks we have delivered a number of sessions to Year 12 to support their Health and Wellbeing. On 01st July we have had talks from Ash Cymru on vaping, the Senedd discussed the importance of using your vote, Crimestoppers delivered information on hate crime, the PCSO discussed spiking and consent and finally Tidy Butt came in to chat about mental health. The sessions were very interesting and gave pupils food for thought. This was then followed by a day in Cardiff Met who provided students with sessions on student finance, budgeting through creating meal plans, and how to pack for university. The day was extremely enjoyable and we thank Cardiff Met for delivering the sessions and inviting us in. Finally, we formally launched our UCAS process on 08th July with sessions on how to pick a course and support on personal statements. Parents were also welcomed in to gain advice on how they can help support their child's application. The Health and Wellbeing Days were rounded off with our silly sports day with 12K winning the day. Thank you to all staff and external speakers who helped make these events happen.





SIXTH FORM



Oxford University Open Day

Year 11 and 12 students had the opportunity to attend the Oxford University open day on 02nd July. The students visited many colleges and had an enjoyable day. We managed to also catch up with two ex-head prefects – Shorief Ali and Hibah Mohamed – who were both working as student ambassadors for their respective colleges, Jesus College and New College Oxford.



University of South Wales Healthcare Taster Day



17 students took up the opportunity to visit USW in June to experience different careers in healthcare and to examine and try out skills they needed. Students visited the maternity, A&E, nursing and operating departments at the university and gained valuable hands on experiences. Thank you to the team at USW for organising this event again.



Prefect Team 2025-26

Congratulations to all who have made it onto our prefect team form 2025-26, the sixth for team is looking forward to working with you over the year. We had an extremely high standard of applicants this year who made the selection process very tough – thank you to all who applied. The following students have taken leading roles within the team:

Head Prefects: Verity Russell & Erica Karenzi

Deputy Head Prefects: Linda Amin, Olivia Manzenza, Adrianna Smith & Briana Gymiah



Cardiff High School Alumni



We are currently attempting to get in touch with former Sixth form pupils! We would love to find out what you are doing now!

If you are a former pupil or know someone that is, no matter how long ago, please could you forward them the link below so they can complete a short Google form.

We plan to have an Alumni Display wall in TY Celyn, to inspire our current students.

[Please click here for the Alumni Form](#)



MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Carols at St Martin's Church

A real highlight of the autumn term was the annual Carol Concert at St Martin's Church. It's the perfect way to round off the first school term of the year. The church was packed to the rafters which was no surprise with well over 300 musicians taking part. St Martin's on Albany Road is the perfect venue with its great acoustic. Our many choirs and orchestras gave fabulous performances and the congregational carols raised the roof. We were very pleased to be able to support the *Doctors Without Borders* charity at the event and we'd also like to thank Fr Irving and the congregation of St Martin's for making us so welcome.



BBC NOW A Level Music Trip



Both Year 12 and Year 13 music classes enjoyed an evening of twentieth century French music at the Hoddinott Hall performed by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. Students were immersed in music of the French impressionist composer, Maurice Ravel, who depicts classic fairy tales in his magical ballet music 'Ma Mere L'Oye'. Students also heard Poulenc's one act opera 'La Voix Humaine' sung by the soprano, Danielle de Niese. It was fantastic to see and hear the Ravel set work being performed live in concert in Cardiff!

Hamilton Trip KS4



Over 80 GCSE Music students enjoyed an evening at the Wales Millennium Centre to see Lin Manuel Miranda's hit musical, Hamilton. The hip-hop musical explores universal themes of ambition, love, family and legacy and students were enraptured by the touring cast's performance from start to finish. We were all trying our best not to sing along!



MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Carducci String Quartet Visit



Cardiff High string players and music students were fortunate to take part in a composition workshop led by the Carducci String Quartet. The quartet demonstrated various techniques that students could try in their composing work as well as performing some students' compositions. The award-winning quartet were generous with their time and advice and certainly inspired the composers of the future.

Percussion Workshop with Matt Harby of City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra

We were lucky to have a visit from professional percussionist Matt Hardy, who plays with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Evan Bird (Year 9) and Nye Bradfield (Year 13)



spent a session after school working through their challenging percussion parts for Les Misérables, and Matt was able to offer them invaluable advice on orchestral playing.

Junior Boys MFY



The Junior Boys Choir have had a busy year of music making, including an entry for the Music For Youth National Festival. Just over 50 boys from Year 7, 8 and 9 met after school to record their performances, which were then sent off to an adjudicator. The choir received excellent feedback; Fantastic to see so many young boys engaging with singing. It is great to hear a boys' choir combining all stages of boys' vocal development. This was an enthusiastic rendition that was very enjoyable to watch. They were also invited to perform at the Birmingham Fringe Festival in July. As a reward for all their hard work, the boys enjoyed a pizza delivery afterwards!

Chamber Choir at Music for Youth

After a busy few months of exams it's been a joy to hear the Senior Chamber Choir back together. After a successful audition the choir will be appearing at the National Final of Music for Youth in Birmingham. The choir will be singing a hugely challenging programme of music including Morren Lauridsen's Sure on this shining night. We are very proud of the choir for their success at this National event.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Luke Khaleel Winner of Young Composer Competition



Following a visit to school from a professional string quartet, Luke Khaleel 11S was inspired to compete in the Carducci Young Composers Competition 2025. The award-winning Carducci quartet played through all the entries and shortlisted Luke as a finalist. The quartet performed his piece in Cheltenham recently where he was announced the winner. As the winner of his category, Luke's piece 'The Dawn of the Tyrant' was performed at the Carducci Festival in Highnam alongside their professional programme. Luke is keen to pursue a composition career so is really focused on music making now. Huge congratulations on this prestigious award Luke.

National Performers in Music

This summer we are very proud that a big group of Cardiff High School musicians will be representing the school at National level. Following an audition the pupils will attend residential music programmes across Wales before beginning a National Concert Tour in August. This is a huge achievement and we are very proud of the musicians.

Bohan Jin is a member of the National Youth Orchestra of Wales and Chloe Curley, Saul Gerrard, Dylan Pymble, Harry Eilbeck and Sam Morris are members of the National Youth Choir of Wales.

ASCL Conference Chamber Choir



It was a pleasure for the Senior Chamber Choir to be invited to sing at the ASCL [Association of School and College Leaders] National Conference. The prestigious gathering of National Leaders gave a fantastic reception to the singers of the Senior Boys Choir and Chamber Choir in the event at St David's Hotel Cardiff. They sang a wide range of music and solo items also including Our Time by Sondheim and Irish Folk Song 'The Wild Rover'. These performance opportunities really broaden the experiences of our musicians.

Rotary Bohan and Dylan



Congratulations to our Cardiff High School musicians Bohan Jin and Dylan Pymble who were both finalists in the Rotary Young Musician Competition recently. Both were runners up at this prestigious regional festival and were highly commended by the panel of adjudicators for their stylish performance. We are very proud of your effort and achievements. Dylan is a Tenor and sang a wide ranging vocal programme whilst Bohan performed an adventurous programme on Piano. Diolch to the Rotary Club for your vision in supporting this platform for young musicians.



MUSIC DEPARTMENT



London Sixth Form Concert Visit



It was a pleasure to take the AS and A2 Music Classes for an away trip to London. The main focus of the visit was to attend two performances by world class musicians. To begin with we visited the Barbican Centre for an evening concert performance of Brahms Symphony 4. The London Symphony Orchestra were directed by the world famous conductor Sir Simon Rattle.



The concert series is called 'The Half Six Fix' and features an introductory talk and illustration of aspects of the chosen music presented by the conductor. The full symphonic performance followed and the Barbican Hall was packed for the event. After a meal at Covent Garden and overnight stay [with breakfast at Borough Market] we moved on to see the Impressionist Paintings of Monet at the National Gallery before attending a Matinee performance of Les Misérables at the Sondheim Theatre. Having walked for miles we set out for home having experienced the very best culture London can offer.

Rebecca Evans Concert visit

Getting out to experience concert performances is a really important part of the way we learn to be better musicians. The Year 12 Music Class enjoyed an invitation to a concert at Penarth Chamber Music Festival to hear the international operatic soprano Rebecca Evans alongside a professional string Ensemble. The performances included songs and pieces by Americans Leonard Bernstein and Samuel Barber. Many of the class are planning on studying music at degree level and the concert was a perfect opportunity to see a magnificent group of performers working professionally at such a high standard.

Marriage of Figaro Cwta



Both Year 10 Music classes went by train to Cardiff Bay to watch Welsh National Opera's performance of The Marriage of Figaro Cwta (in short). This abridged version of the opera gives students an opportunity to experience the art form as well as introducing them to classical operas. For many, this was their first time seeing an opera production!



Cardiff High School presents/Ysgol
Uwchradd Caerdydd yn cyflwyno...

Mon 17th - Thurs 20th Feb 2025
6pm in Neuadd Celyn

Les Misérables

SCHOOL EDITION

Performed entirely by students
School Edition special adaptation licensed by THE MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL and
CARRIBON, MACKINTOSH & JOHNSON LIMITED



The Senior Musical is always a highlight in the school calendar and the Music and Drama Departments kept over 200 pupils with months of rehearsals in preparation for Les Misérables. The musical is one the most demanding of productions and the cast, orchestra and crew of students excelled themselves. The sell-out show was performed for four consecutive evenings, and our main hall Neuadd Celyn was transformed into a fantastic theatre space. We also performed the show for the whole of Year9 at Cardiff High who were mesmerised by the phenomenal performance. Many thanks to everyone from our school community who came to support us as audience members, by sponsoring the event and by donating to our raffle. As always we're also indebted to the many staff who help supervise front of house and back stage as well as our estates team and administrative staff for their support. Here's to the Senior Musical 2026!







ART DEPARTMENT




In what has been an extremely busy year for the Art Department, we are thrilled to see the continuing development of art skills in all our lessons across the curriculum! What has stood out for us the most is the confidence and resilience of our learners. The sheer variety of materials used in all year groups and the determination of our young artists to demonstrate creativity and ambition is truly outstanding. The following images are just a sample of what has been created this year!.....



After studying the symbolism of 'Guernica' by Picasso, Year 9 have created their own anti-war posters. Inspiration has emerged from Banksy street art and promoting peaceful messaging through Art. There are new displays of selected pieces in F2 & 3. Well done to Year 9 for engaging so positively with this subject matter!

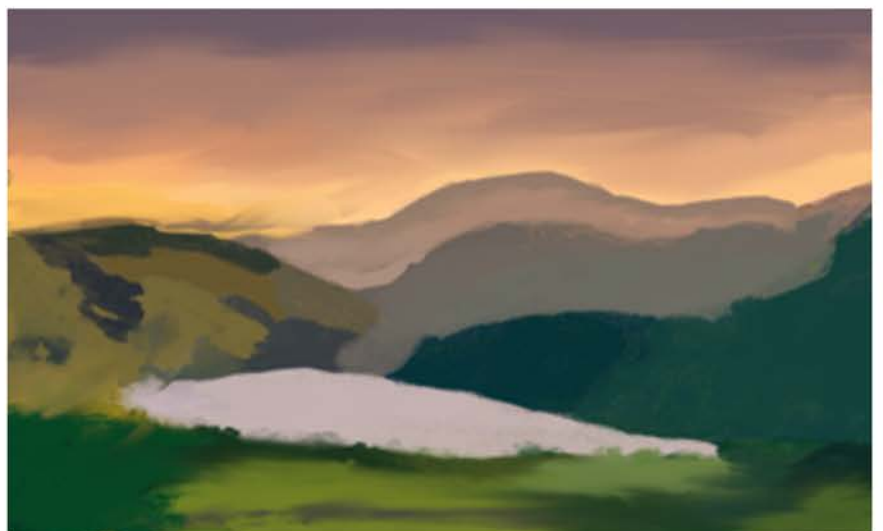
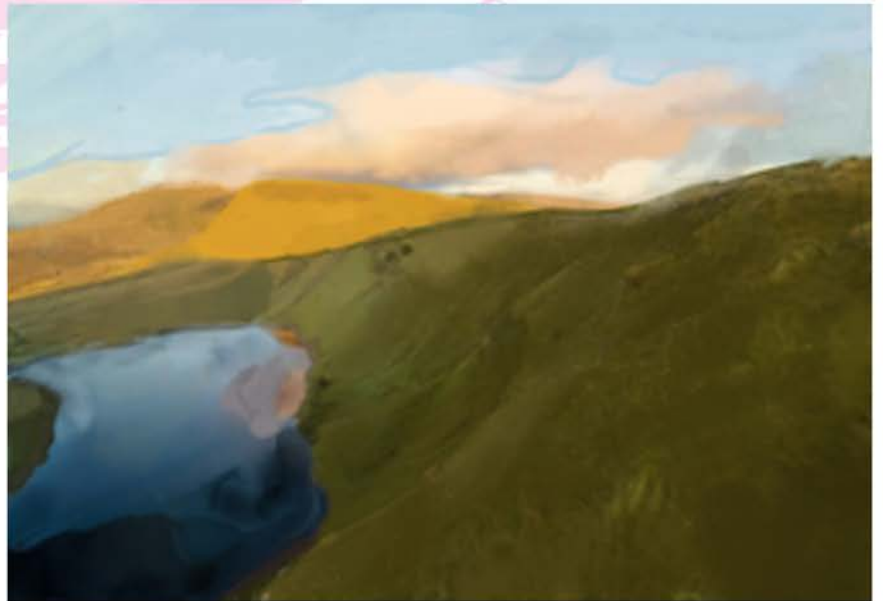


ART DEPARTMENT



Year 7: Expressive Landscape Project

Well done to all pupils who experimented with Procreate on the Art Department iPads to create these fantastic expressive landscapes! This selection is work by: Zachary Flanagan, Scarlett Griffiths, Owen Sambell, Sum Yi Wu (7H), Maryam Afzal & Abdullah Chaudhry (7K).





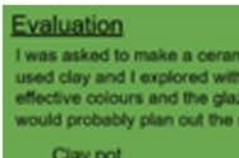

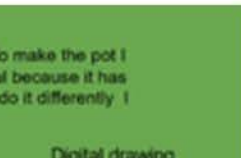
ART DEPARTMENT




Year 8 have been hard at work creating these imaginative and colourful prints for their theme of endangered animals!

		
Clay Pot	Digital Drawing	Painted Pot
My Evaluation		
<p>I was asked to make a clay pot inspired by Kate Malone's work. To make my pot I used clay for making it and slip for attaching parts of the pot together. I had to use a method of making two small pinch pots and joining them together, then making a hole in the top. I explored the use of the formal elements such as line and texture in my digital drawing. I used texture on the leaves and line to draw the outline of my digital drawing. I think my work is successful because I have used many formal elements and I have also used colour and line effectively. I would paint it differently next time because it isn't very bright and I would add more detail to the leaves.</p>		

			
My Evaluation			
<p>I was asked to make a ceramic pot inspired by Kate Malone. To make my pot I used clay and I had to use the scratch and slip method to put my flower and bees on. I explored the use of texture, pattern and shape. I think that my work is successful because it turned out close to my digital drawing, but the wings of my bees did fall off. I would probably make sure that the wings are stuck securely next time. Before my pot was fired, the wings were very fragile and didn't fall off. Next time I would make the colour of my pot the same and make sure that the wings and bees have a stronger support.</p>			

		
Clay pot	Painted pot	Digital drawing
Evaluation		
<p>I was asked to make a ceramic pot based on Kate Malone. To make the pot I used clay and I explored with texture. I think this is successful because it has effective colours and the glaze makes it look shiny. If I could do it differently I would probably plan out the shape more.</p>		

		
Evaluation		
<p>I was asked to create a clay pot based of Kate Malone's work (nature). In this piece of work I used: slip, clay, water, clay tools. I have explored the use of texture, form, 3D and shape. I think my work is successful because it represents a rose well. I would do the shape differently next time because it's not very smooth and I'd rather it be more interesting with a smaller bottom and a wider middle.</p>		

These digital slides from Year 8 learning logs detail the construction of ceramic pots, Procreate designs and final pot decoration. Well done to the whole year group for their beautiful 3d work inspired by Kate Malone.

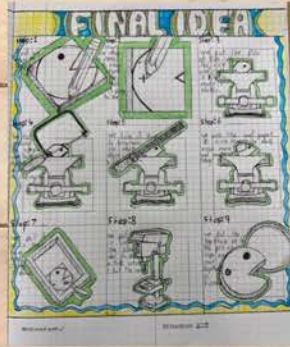


DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



KS3 in D&T

YEAR 7



YEAR 8

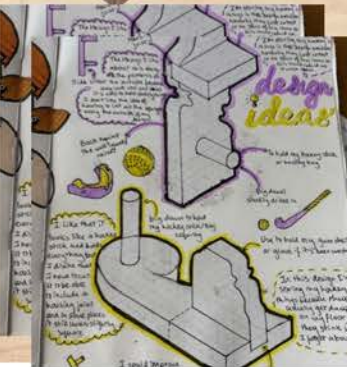




DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



Year 9 have really impressed us this term! A real example of hard work, resilience and creativity in all 4 projects all year round. It's been rewarding preparing for another cohort of 7 Product Design classes next year!



YEAR 9

YEAR 10

Chair Model Evaluation

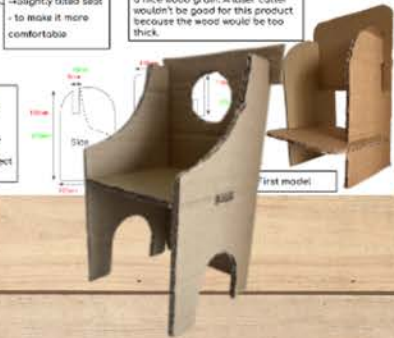


- Ergonomic Features
- Back rest - to support your back
- Slanted arm rest - to rest your arms
- Slightly tilted seat - to make it more comfortable

My model is quite different to my designs because I didn't have a good idea of what I wanted to create. My designs in my sketchbook were too complicated for me to make. I made a simple cutting list which consisted of 2 different parts. The size of my chair model is 15.

If this chair was to be batch produced the best machines to use would probably be a CNC router because it can cut out the same precise shapes over and over again. I would use oak for this chair because it is strong and has a nice wood grain. A laser cutter wouldn't be good for this product because the wood would be too thick.

If I were to make a 1:1 scale I would use a hand saw to cut the wood for the chair. I would use a hand saw to cut the wood for the chair. I would use a hand saw to cut the wood for the chair.





DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

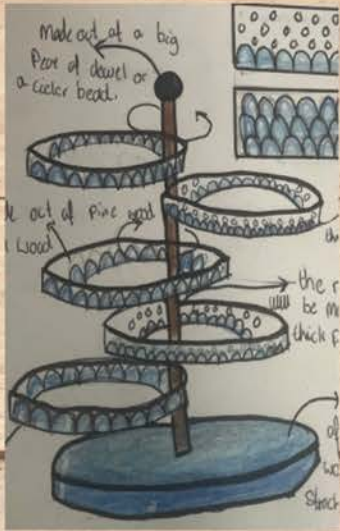


YEAR 11





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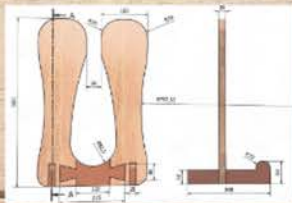




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YEAR 12 & 13





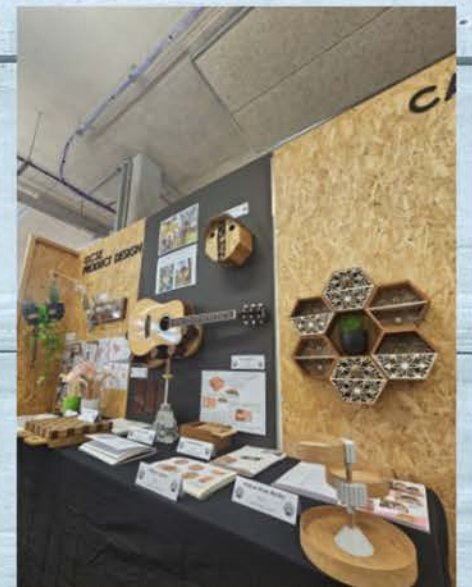
DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



D&T EXHIBITION AT CARDIFF MET



We are always incredibly proud of our hardworking and creative Product Designers in D&T. This year we showcased the talent of just some of our KS4/5 pupils' work at the Creative Exhibition at Cardiff Met University, School of Art & Design!





DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

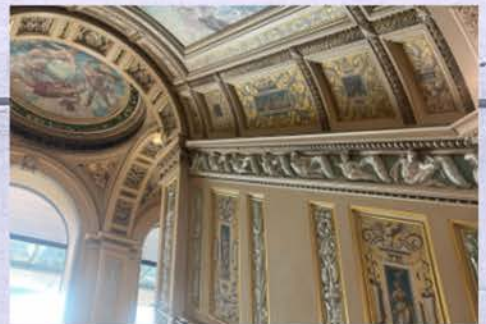


Y9 LONDON 2025





DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY





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Y11 ITALY 2025





DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY





Goodbye & Good Luck



Mrs D Macho



Mr D Rhodes



Mrs S Carter



Mrs K Rees



Mr J Amer



Mr A Hivet



Miss E McPhilemy



Mrs N Peacocke



Miss E Dinnick



Mr J Robbins



Ms M Berman-Jones



Miss N Morgan



Ms C Chan



Miss H Richmond