

# ***The Governors Annual Report to Parents***



***2014/2015***





## Governors' Report

Dear Parent / Guardian

It is often said that "It is an honour and a pleasure...." to do this and the other. I can honestly say with my hand on my heart that this expression is completely true for the opportunity to be the chairperson on the governing body in Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin. Team work at every level is witnessed in this school which contributes to our pupil's whole education. Our children are given every opportunity to partake and succeed in various fields with the care and attention of committed and professional staff. The governing body is extremely proud of receiving the opportunity to co-operate with the whole school staff under the capable guidance of the head and senior leadership team.

In the education field, nothing stands still for a long period of time, thus being on a national level, local authority level or school level. This is no exception in Bro Myrddin. I would like to thank the members of staff who have moved on to other jobs or who have retired during the year and in many occasions following many years of service to the school. I would like to draw a special attention to Mrs Eira Jones who served as secretary for the senior leadership team for 25 years and clerk to the governing body for 15 years. I would like to thank her for helping every governing body chairperson during that period while doing so in an effective, efficient and hassle free way. Good luck to her successor, Miss Siân Thomas. A warm welcome also to every new member of staff – I hope that you have a happy and productive time in the school. By the time you will have read this report, Estyn will have visited the school in order to conduct a school inspection – we look forward to the opportunity to discuss the school with them, and receive and respond to the report in due course.

Pupils will not be able to get the best out of their school time if they are not in school. Attendance is of key importance and has an effect on achievements. It is a pleasure to note that the school's attendance level is higher than what is set by the Local Authority.

One of the school's annual achievements is the pupils' academic achievement.

The school's wider menu offers a vast range of opportunities for pupils to partake in various activities that enrich their experiences of being a pupil in the school – from rugby to cooking and from singing to visiting America. These successes were seen on the sports fields, on the stage and in an exhibition in the Urdd Eisteddfod. Congratulations to everyone for taking part, as excellent ambassadors to the school. We are extremely proud of them all.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to sincerely thank the Parents and Teachers Association who arrange activities to socialise and raise money for the pupils. They annually contribute towards the running costs of the minibus and this year a water fountain was purchased for the pupils and new tables for the canteen.

It is an exciting time within education in Wales considering the challenges and opportunities which will come our way. Donaldson's report brings exciting opportunities to re-look at the curriculum and this will influence on the teaching in the school over the next years. Challenges relating to finance that ask for thinking and creativity and we are fortunate to have a committed and professional team of staff who lead in a strong way in this field.

You are welcome to contact the Headteacher or the Chair of the Governing Body if you would like to discuss anything in particular or to have more information regarding any aspect of this report. Thank you for your support and co-operation and together we can look forward to another exciting year.

**Lynwen Roberts**  
**Chair of Governing Body**





## The Headteacher's report — Dr Llinos Jones

This is yet another extremely successful academic year. Our strong exam results have seen us reach the top for school in the County, family and Wales. I would especially like to thank the pupils, parents and staff for their hard work and commitment. The teachers and students have continued to work hard in order to maintain the high standards set in Ysgol Bro Myrddin over the past decade. Our success has led to us being chosen by the Welsh Assembly Government as one of the new pioneer schools in Wales as sharing our good practice for teaching and learning.

Many of our other successes were also noted on the school website and in our local partners and through Twitter and Facebook. You will also see a list of other successes in this report. We are pleased to be able to report on a wide range of achievements secured by our talented pupils.

The Governors are also determined to ensure that the staff, middle leaders and the senior leadership team are answerable via the range of commitments who meet regularly to discuss policy and school activities.

We look forward to a future of excitement under the guidance of our Senior Leadership Team. Our aim is to maintain and raise the school's high standards by offering a vast choice of curriculum and extra-curricular experiences.

We are also looking towards the future with great excitement as the consultation relating to changing the school language category from 2A Category to Welsh Medium Category progresses on.

During the year substantial investment has been made in digital learning resources with the establishing of Wi-Fi and more broadband in the school. Over 50 iPads have been purchased and staff have started building on the work that has already been completed in order to make the best use of this technology within the classroom. We are continually looking to develop digital learning and at present we are moving towards selecting 'digital learners' within the pupils. During the next year we will be using the expertise of these leaders in order to move on further.

It is important that we continue to be open and honest on every aspect of improving the school and in our opinion, the opinion of pupils and parents is an integral part of that. We are developing 'The pupil's Voice' in every aspect of the school life and act on the results. We have plans to strengthen the voice of the school council, years' council and the sports council. We are eager to ensure that we are aware of the opinion of everyone who is connected with the school. Therefore, we ask you to use the questionnaire that's distributed during parents' evenings in order for us to know your opinion on our performance.

Communication is key to use and we are updating our website on a daily basis to ensure usefulness. Visit these to receive the latest information about the school. We have also developed a text message system in order to facilitate the relationship between the school and the home. The school website address is [www.broMyrddin.sirgar.sch.uk](http://www.broMyrddin.sirgar.sch.uk).





## Progress on recommendations in the Estyn Inspection Report 2009

### ***A1. Continue to refine the school's procedures for tracking pupils' performance against targets to ensure they are robust enough to enable clearer identification of underachievement***

We now have a system to monitor and track record of success for all pupils from Yr 7 to 13. The targets and the challenge are set based on past performance and predictive data, for example, FFT. These targets are shared with pupils and teachers assess pupils' work against these expectations. By using a traffic light system we also recognize the underachievers and the more able and talented pupils and we ensure that they are challenged to reach the highest possible standards. With underachieving pupils the school addresses the reasons for the underachievement in order to ensure that all pupils reach their full potential

### ***A2. Continue to work closely with the Local Education Authority to provide suitable facilities for the Physical Education, Music and Drama departments and to provide adequate facilities for sixth form dining***

In September 2010, we officially opened the new Drama department on the school site. September 2011 saw the opening of Panedini, the sixth form cafe. The cafe is open from 9.30 to 3.00 and provides a place for pupils and staff to have a snack, lunch, coffee and a chat. It also can be a workroom for the pupils. September 2012 also saw a new development with the opening of the Music department. Substantial investment has also been made to the fitness room for the Physical Education Department in 2013. We have therefore achieved Estyn's recommendations.

### ***A3. Implement a more rigorous system for raising attendance levels***

The school's attendance rate has been consistently high and has improved further in 2014/15 with the appointment of a new Assistant Head responsible for attendance in May 2014. Honest communication with parents has also seen progress. This is an aspect that the school has worked hard to improve and the data shows the success. There has been a substantial increase in pupil attendance since the last inspection. By now the school's attendance rate is 95.5%, compared with 91% for the County and 91.4% for Wales. The rate of unauthorized absence is very low at 0.1%, much better than the county rate (0.8%) and national rate (1.5%).





# Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin

## Members of the Governing Body 2014-15

**Chair** : Mrs Lynwen Roberts

**Vice-Chairman** : Councillor Gareth O Jones

**Clerk** : Miss Siân Thomas, Clerk to the Governors, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin,  
swyddfa@bromyrdin.sirgar.sch.uk

There are 20 members on the Governing Body :

- **Head**
- **6 Parent Governors**
- **5 LEA Representatives**
- **2 Teacher Representatives**
- **1 Support Staff Representative**
- **5 Co-opted Community Representatives**

### Parent Governors

(period ending)

Mrs Lynwen Roberts (Chairperson)	(10.11.16)
Mrs Marlene Jones	(08.11.16)
Mr Hywel Davies	(09.11.16)
Mrs Eleri Beynon	(03.12.16)
Reverend Beti Wyn James	(28.10.18)
Mr Nigel Cooke	(04.10.19)

### LEA Governors

(period ending)

Reverend Councillor Tom T Defis	(27.01.19)
Councillor Peter Hughes-Griffiths	(23.09.16)
Councillor Mair Stephens	(23.09.16)
Mr Arwel Lloyd	(26.03.17)
Councillor Gareth O Jones – Vice-chairman	(04.09.19)

### Teacher Governors

(period ending)

Mr Aled Williams	(31.08.17)
Dr Huw Griffiths	(23.09.16)

### Support Staff Governor

(period ending)

Mrs Meinir McLellan	(24.05.19)
---------------------	------------

### Community Governors

(period ending)

Mr Alun Charles	(16.03.19)
Mrs Glenys Thomas	(13.01.17)
Mr Elfed Davies	(13.01.17)
Mrs Anne Loughran	(13.01.17)
Mrs Luned Thomas	(17.03.17)





YBM Strategic Priority	Action Plans in the School Development Plan
Curriculum	<p>Change the school's language category from 2A to Welsh Medium – the consultation process has already begun.</p> <p>We are already preparing for the 2015-16 curriculum changes planned for the BAC and new specifications in 2015 and 2016.</p> <p>We continue to co-operate with AFASIC Wales to develop strategies for promoting oral communication across the curriculum.</p> <p>Prepare for the introduction of the Common Application System by implementing the system for Yr 11 by the end of April 2016.</p> <p>Develop the SIMS management system.</p>
Monitoring and tracking	<p>Develop the progress plan, monitor, track and support through a number of strategies including monitoring and tracking under-attaining learners, developing the role of the parents and pupil and the development of school reports.</p> <p>Review and refine the assessment policies, marking books, under-achieving and support and literacy and numeracy.</p> <p>Develop whole school strategies for more able and talented pupils.</p> <p>Develop the work of the workforce for boys who underachieve.</p> <p>To further develop the systems to monitor and track the well-being of the pupil and to redesign the KS3-KS5 PSE menu following developments in the Baccalaureate from 2015.</p> <p>Increase the percentage of school attendance.</p>
Standards	<p>Raising standards KS3, KS4 and KS5.</p> <p>Co-operate with other departments to respond to differences in achievement of boys and girls in KS3 and KS4.</p>
Literacy and numeracy	<p>Co-operate to develop monitoring processes and develop skills and Literacy and Numeracy plans.</p> <p>Create specific focus groups based on the findings of the national tests.</p> <p>Develop teachers' skills for using e-learning tools through appropriate training.</p>
Self-appraisal	<p>Follow a detailed self-appraisal calendar when looking at all aspects of school life.</p> <p>Develop leadership at all levels throughout the school.</p> <p>Develop the role of the Governing Body as a 'critical friend'.</p> <p>Ensure that the voice of the learner, parents and staff is heard.</p>
School environment	<p>To continue to develop an action plan to support Welshness throughout the school.</p> <p>Develop the Eco Council.</p> <p>Plan for a 3G pitch on school premises.</p>





## Links with the community

The school is used regularly by external clubs and societies. We have worked closely with the Urdd and 5x60 officer to provide Welsh medium provision programs outside school hours or during school holidays.

We also have close ties with our School Liaison Officers, PC Cath Williams. She has supported us very well in our PSE program and has worked very closely with our Heads of Year and the SLT. Her advice and work has been invaluable to us. A host of guest speakers come to the school annually to offer assistance including representatives of local banks, businesses and colleges.

Our humanitarian committee work hard each year to raise significant amounts of money to humanitarian causes locally and nationally. Yr 12 do voluntary work in the community on an annual basis to support numerous associations such as Radio Glangwili, Arthritis Research Shop, The Red Cross Shop, Tenovus Shop, Plant Dewi, Glangwili Hospital, Whitemill School, Barnardos Shop, Oxfam Shop and Wales Air Ambulance.

## Annual Report – Finance

The Governors hold a sub-committee for Finance and Buildings which meets once a term to discuss these specific subjects. In the year 2014-15 the school succeeded again to finish the fiscal year within budget. However, following a reduction in the budget for Carmarthenshire Council by central government, the amount of money which had been given by the Council to the school for 2015-16 means that the school must find savings of up to £160,000. We were able to make vital savings whilst ensuring that our standards were not affected. However, we already know that we will have to find further savings of £300,000 for the financial year 2016-17. Therefore there is quite a challenge facing the SLT and Governors.

Expenditure		Budget	Actual
	Salaries	3406055	3351210
	Buildings	373491	381091
	Supplies and Services	482016	482471
		<b>4261562</b>	<b>4214772</b>
Income		Budget	Actual
	Customer Invoices	193938	265163
	Government Grants	4069638	4056117
	Other Grants	3000	3760
		<b>4266576</b>	<b>4325040</b>
Surplus/ deficit		<b>5014</b>	<b>110267</b>





## New staff appointments for September 2015:

Miss Sian Davies – Teacher in the Maths Department

Miss Hannah McAvoy – Teacher in the English Department

Mrs Ffion Page – Teacher in the Welsh Department

Mr Wayne Nicholas – Caretaker

## Pupil Performance

KS3 Performance Level 5+							
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015 Family	2015 LA	2015 Wales
Welsh	85.3%	88.5%	91.0%	95.3%	94%	86.5%	90.9%
English	86.9%	88.5%	93.0%	92.2%	92.5%	88.4%	87.9%
Mathematics	93.0%	90.8%	94%	95.3%	96.6%	90.4%	88.7%
Science	89.9%	91.6%	96.0%	96.9%	96.1%	91.9%	91.8%
CSI	86.8%	88.1%	91.8%	89.8%	90.8%	85.1%	83.9%

KS4							
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2015 Family	2015 LA	2015 Wales
L2 Welsh	82.7%	78.8%	75%	83.3%	81.7%	74%	75.1%
L2 English	85.8%	79.3%	79%	81.7%	74.7%	71.7%	68.3%
L2 Mathematics	80.0%	76%	79%	88.5%	72.3%	66.8%	64.2%
L2 Science	83.3%	76.7%	73%	84.7%	84.3%	85.9%	83.3%
L1	98.0%	96.9%	100%	100%	98%	96%	94%
L2	86.0%	83.6%	90.0%	95%	86.7%	87%	83%
L2+	75.0%	71.7%	72.0%	82%	67%	60.9%	54%
CSI	73.0%	69.0%	70%	79%	64%	58%	54%
Points (capped)	372.2	361.8	368.2	383	377.8	353	342





## Summary of Secondary School Performance

Summary of Secondary School Achievements					LA / School number		669/4056
Percentage of 15 year old pupils who:							
	Entered for at least one qualification	Achieved the Level 1 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold	Achieved the Level 2 threshold inclusive	Core Subject Indicator	Average capped wider point score per pupil	Average wider points score per pupil
Number of 15 year old pupils on the register in January 2015:							131
School 2014/15	100	100	95	82	79	383	667
LA Area 2014/15	99	96	87	61	58	353	577
Wales 2014/15	99	94	83	58	54	342	525
School 2013/14/15	100	99	89	75	72	373	636

	Number of 15 year old boys on the register in January 2015:						63
School 2014/15	100	100	94	71	67	370	599
LA Area 2014/15	99	95	84	58	55	343	554
Wales 2014/15	99	93	80	54	51	331	500
School 2013/14/15	100	100	84	65	62	359	582

	Number of 15 year old girls on the register in January 2015:						68
School 2014/15	100	100	96	93	90	395	730
LA Area 2014/15	99	97	90	64	61	363	600
Wales 2014/15	99	96	87	61	58	354	551
School 2013/14/15	100	99	94	85	82	386	687

- For details on approved qualifications, point scores and contribution to thresholds, please see the Database of Approved Qualifications in Wales (DAQW) in <http://www.daqw.org.uk>
- For information about which syllabuses are included in each subject area see the Guidance Notes.
- Average capped wider point scores are calculated using the 8 best result.
- Entry Level Qualification.
- For the final SSSP this definition will be replaced with the percentage of pupils aged 15 leaving education with no qualifications as defined under the National Performance Indicator EDU / 002.
- Used for all Free Meals Benchmarking tables.





## Pupil destinations

Pupils	Yr 11		Yr 12		Yr 13	
	Quantity	%	Quantity	%	Quantity	%
In full time education – in this school	94	71.8	86	93.5	3	2.9
In full time education – in another school	6	4.6	2	2.2		
In full time education – college	27	20.6	3	3.3	6	5.8
In full time education – Higher Education Course					82	79.6
Gap year					5	4.9
In part time education						
Youth training including apprenticeship	2	1.5	1	1.1		
Unemployed and registered with Careers Wales						
Unemployed and not registered with Careers Wales						
Failed to start Employment, Higher Education due to illness						
Left the area	2	1.5				
Not responding to follow-up steps therefore is unknown						
Job					7	6.8

## Attendance

Pupil attendance	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015
% Authorised absences	6.8%	4.7%	4.4%
% Non-authorised absences	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
% Attendance	93.0%	95.3%	95.5%

Governing Body targets with respect to attendance	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017
% Attendance	95.7%	95.9%	96.1%

At-





## Toilets

Toilet facilities are regularly audited and is part of the cleaning contract with the Authority. Pupils, by completing a questionnaire and through the School Council, will contribute to the monitoring of the quality of these facilities. We have acted on the results of the questionnaire by employing a cleaner on site during the day to focus on cleaning the toilets.

## Notes on Healthy Schools

We have committed to Healthy Eating and Drinking in Schools that incorporate the guidance for 'Appetite for Life'. This came into force in September 2013. It sets out the strategic direction and actions required to improve nutritional standards of food and drink sold in our school. We have supported the implementation of this Catering service to ensure that all food and drink at our school will comply with the measure. Healthy eating is promoted through Food Technology, Biology and PSE lessons. Consistent messages are provided by the staff in terms of food and drink at school and off site. We now aim to reach Stage 5 Healthy Schools.

## Order of the day at Bro Myrddin

The timetable is arranged on the pattern of 5 lessons per day over a period of ten days in the school. Session times are noted below.

8.55-9.05	Registration		10.20-10.35	Break		12.35-1.35	Lunch
9.05-9.20	Assembly		10.35-11.35	Lesson 2		1.35-2.35	Lesson 4
9.20-10.20	Lesson 1		11.35-12.35	Lesson 3		2.35-3.35	Lesson 5

## School Holiday Dates 2015-16

Term	Begins	Half Term		Ends	Days
		Start	End		
October 2015	2 September	26 October	30 October	18 December	71
Spring 2016	4 January	15 February	19 February	24 March	54
Summer 2016	12 April	30 May	3 June	19 July	65
Designated INSET Days – Monday September 1, Monday April 11.					2
INSET Days on School's digression – Tuesday, September 2; Friday, October 23; Wednesday, 20 July.					3
For information: Good Friday – April 3, May Bank Holiday, May 4.					
Total					195

## Discipline

School rules are needed to protect standards within the school. They are based on the central ideas of self-respect, respect for others, and common sense. The rules are discussed in the tutorial lessons and all pupils are expected to comply. High standards of discipline are ensured by implementing a clear system of discipline to pupils that do not comply. Any misconduct is dealt with firstly by the subject teacher followed by the Head of Department and Head of Year. If the misconduct continues, the pupil is put in lunchtime detention. If this happens more than three times then the parents are notified that the pupil will be kept in suspension after school. Pupils may be suspended from attending the school in accordance with Welsh Government guidance. The school's positive behavior policy ensures that very few children have discipline problems.





The school operates a clear policy in dealing with issues of bullying and responds immediately if such a problem arises.

### Health and Safety

The school's Health and Safety policy reflects the desire of the Governing Body to ensure a secure site for pupils and staff alike. All categories of employment are represented on the Health and Safety Committee. This committee reports to the Governors Health and Safety Committee. It is emphasized to all staff to report any deficiencies or hazards immediately to the Health and Safety Officer.

### The School Prospectus

The School Prospectus is annually changed to incorporate any changes required by the Welsh Government and other relevant bodies. A copy is given to the parents of children entering school for the first time or transferring from another school. Copies are available on the school website or a hard copy can be obtained from the school office.

### Special arrangements in terms of accessibility for pupils, staff and parents with disabilities

The Governing Body has adopted a School Equality Plan. This plan will ensure that arrangements are being made by the school to ensure that pupils (or other stakeholders of the school) with disabilities will not be treated less favorably than others.

### Medium of Teaching and Language Policy

All National Curriculum subjects are taught and assessed through the medium of Welsh at Bro Myrddin and the medium of teaching, namely Welsh, is the norm to the great majority of pupils who choose Bro Myrddin as a secondary school. With respect to Science a language choice has existed since founding the present Language Policy. In September 2015 the pupils who entered Yr 7 study Science in Welsh if they studied the subject in Welsh in their primary schools. A minority of pupils have chosen to study Science in English, and have done so for several years. In September a chosen language existed with respect to Mathematics. In each of these classes, it is emphasized that the understanding of mathematics is the most important thing to ensure high standards in the subject and not the attention to the medium of teaching and learning. Now every pupil studying Maths KS3 and KS4 do so in the Welsh language. In Welsh medium KS3 Science and Mathematics lists of terms and subject vocabulary are provided in both English and Welsh. Additional English medium resources, books and ICT as well as Welsh are regularly used to enhance language development, scientific and mathematical pupils. This ensures that all pupils are able to discuss the subjects in Welsh and English, and eliminates any concern that may exist among those who believe that scientific and mathematical education in Welsh only will make it difficult for pupils to adapt to the context of English medium science and mathematics after leaving school. Also the departments are currently preparing online resources to aid non Welsh speaking parents to help their children.

### The Welsh Language

Welsh is the school's official language for extracurricular activities and the vast majority of academic lessons. The school is proud of its Welsh ethos and acts to ensure that this is maintained for each new cohort of pupils. Pupils who choose to attend the school are encouraged to speak Welsh around the school, in extracurricular activities and lessons that are taught through the medium of Welsh. Parents are asked to support the school in this respect by encouraging their children to speak Welsh, to respect the school's Welshness and to do their best to promote this at all times. The school operates on targets set by Carmarthenshire's Strategic Language Plan to move with the linguistic continuum.





The result of that is that the school is currently going through a consultation to change the school's language category from 2A to Welsh Medium. This means that, in September 2016 if the consultation is successful, that all subjects apart from English will be taught through the medium of Welsh.

## Policies

Three new policies were adopted by the Governing Body in their latest annual meeting which are a new security policy, namely 'site security policy', 'safer recruitment policy' and 'DBS policy'.

## SEN Report 2014-15

Our goal at Bro Myrddin is to teach pupils with SEN alongside their peers in the mainstream as far as it is practicable. In order for children to receive a differential Curriculum, at times they may be withdrawn from classes temporarily, to focus on some key aspects of the work such as basic literacy and numeracy skills. This is done on the basis of standardized tests and reports received from the education authority officials and heads of primary schools and after discussions with the parents.

Mrs Caroline Walton, our school Co-ordinator for ALN is responsible for planning and coordinating provision for pupils with special educational needs and is also responsible for organizing the work of the support staff. Statements are reviewed annually at a meeting arranged with parents and the county support service. Mrs Lynwen Roberts has been named as governor for ALN.

There are 130 pupils on the SEN register and are classified as follows;

Year	Statements	School Action Plus	School Action
7	2	11	13
8	3	7	17
9	2	8	14
10	1	7	12
11	5		7
12	1		8
13		3	9
<b>Total</b>	14	36	80

A profile on each pupil on the SEN register has been created. The profile gives us the view of the individual pupil, the factors that affect their learning in lessons, the results of any standardized tests and teachers targets.

A large number of SEN pupils now receive access arrangements in internal and external examinations. Computer readers are also available. This enables the pupils sitting English or Welsh Language to hear the text being read aloud. Therefore, pupils who have weak reading but good comprehension skills can have access to English and Welsh language papers for the first time.

A reading workshop for less confident readers called 'Literacy Toolbox' was developed during the year. The scheme uses computers and special teaching methods to promote reading and spelling skills. There has been significant improvement in the reading age of the pupils who participated in the scheme.





## Pupil welfare

We have a team of people who work to the benefit of pupils. Four members of the Senior Leadership Team have been trained as Child Protection Officers – Dr Llinos Jones, the Headteacher; Mr Euryrn Madoc Jones, Deputy Headteacher; Miss Zelda Williams and Mr Jonathan Thomas, Assistant Headteachers. The Heads of Year play a vital role, as do the youth officers, the first aid assistant, the school health nurse, learning coaches and school counselors. Our two school counselors Mrs Netta Thomas and Mrs Zena Cooper saw 26 pupils this year. The Peer Mentoring scheme, a scheme to train pupils in the sixth form to work with vulnerable children is going from strength to strength.

## Sports

The Governors believe that the school's main sports goals were realized which were to:

- Provide a safe and stimulating environment where pupils can work towards gaining maturity.
- Develop physical skills.
- Promote awareness of the importance of exercise for health.

Many activities offered by the department and the 5x60 officer including rugby, football, athletics, cricket, tennis, gymnastics, orienteering, badminton, aerobics, cross country, netball, creative dance, canoeing, rafting, rounders, skiing, outdoor activities, hockey, basketball, touch rugby, volleyball, circuit training, weight training, climbing, mountain biking and mountaineering. In addition, many pupils complete Bronze, Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh annually. The success of our pupils on the playing fields at school and extracurricularly is exceptional with several individuals reaching national standards.

Since last year the school have appointed a Sports Council following a ballot by the school pupils. The council's role will be to lead and advise the SLT on any issues related to the field.

## Achievements

We are very proud of our pupils' academic and extracurricular achievements not only on the playing fields but on stage and in the world of acting and the national media.

## Extracurricular activities

Annually numerous extra-curricular experiences are offered to our pupils to coincide with their academic studies. Numerous tours, various workshops, competitions and interesting guest speakers, annual conferences and opportunities of all kinds are held.

## Humanitarian committee

We have an active humanitarian committee of 70 sixth form pupils. This year we collected over £6,000 for various good causes.

## Annual Parents Meeting

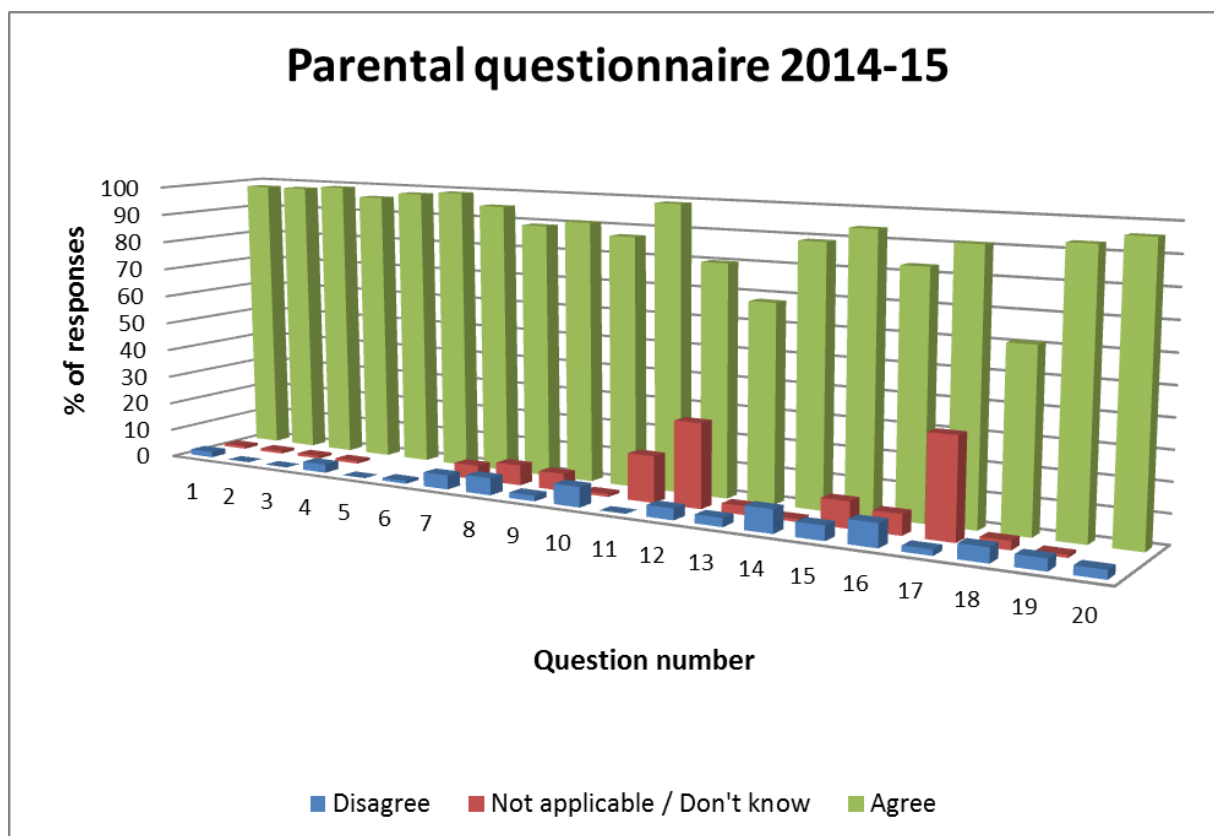
Since May 2013 the new arrangements are in place in terms of full annual meeting of governors / parents. Rather than having to hold a Governing Body meeting with parents, parents have the right to request a meeting with the Governing Body on issues of concern. Parents can exercise this up to three times during the school year, provided that the purpose of the meetings is to discuss matters relating to the school, not the progress and achievement of individual pupils or complaints regarding staff members or members of Governing Body. A meeting will be arranged with the Governor if 10% or 30 of the parents ask in writing for a meeting using section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Regulations 2013.





## Questionnaire for Parents

Please use the new questionnaire distributed during parent evenings so we can find out what you think of our performance and, if appropriate, to suggest ideas that could be adopted for the benefit of the school. During the 2014/15 academic year, this was your response to the questionnaire.



1. Overall, I am satisfied with the school.
2. My child is happy at school.
3. My child was helped to settle in well when they started school.
4. My child is making good progress at school.
5. The standard of teaching is good.
6. Staff expect my child to work hard and do his best.
7. The homework given builds well on what my child is having in school.
8. The staff treat all children fairly and with respect.
9. Pupils behave well in school.
10. My child is encouraged to be healthy and take regular exercise.
11. My child is safe at school.
12. The school listens to the voice of my child.
13. My child receives appropriate additional support in relation to any particular individual needs.
14. I have enough information about my child's progress.
15. I feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions, suggestions or a problem.
16. I understand the school's procedure for dealing with complaints.
17. The school helps my child to mature and take responsibility.
18. My child is ready to move on to the next school or college or into employment.
19. A good range of activities including trips or visits.
20. The school is well run.





## List of events 2014-15

### September – November 2014

- **Travel** – Over the summer Siobhan Eleri from Yr 12 went to Namibia in Africa for 5 weeks with the British society. Gwennan Campbell and Lydia Richards have also travelled to Lesotho.
- **Conferences** – the Department of Welsh, the Department of Geography and the Department of Science visited various free conferences in September 2014. The Welsh Department visited Cardiff for two days while the Department of Geography went to Aberystwyth and the crew who wanted to study medicine visited the University of Swansea for a day. These were all funded by the Welsh Education Forum.
- **Induction day** – Yr 12 went for a day to Heatherton in September 2014 for team building activities.
- **Department of Religious Education** – On October 1st Yr 7 pupils travelled to Cardiff to visit the Synagogue and the Gurdwara. On the October 8<sup>th</sup> a trip was arranged to Priory chapel where Yr 9 pupils had a special wedding ceremony.
- **Chinese Music Workshop** – Yr 8 pupils have been part of Chinese music workshop in September.
- **Sport results** – the school has had a busy and successful period during the year. A host of rugby, football, netball and hockey games were played. In addition to this the school was part of the Welsh schools ski championships in October 2014 with the boys coming 4<sup>th</sup> and the girls coming 5<sup>th</sup>. In the Scottish Schools ski championships the boys and girls came 4th. Yr 7 and 8 boys are the Welsh champions in the cross country. There has been considerable success in the Brianne Cross Country competition with seven pupils either coming first or second.

### November 2014 – February 2015

- **Geography trip to the River Ogmore** – On the 14th and 16th October 2014, Yr 9 pupils had the opportunity to attend an informative tour with the Geography department to study the Ogmore River on its journey from its origin to its mouth.
- **Tour of America** – On 23 October a large group of Yr 11 pupils and teachers held an annual trip to America with the History Department.
- **From Bro Myrddin to Patagonia!** – Congratulations to Gwenllian Anthony, a Yr 12 pupils who has been chosen to be part of a trip to Patagonia with the Urdd. Gwenllian will get a chance to visit Welsh communities in Argentina in October 2015 to strengthen the bond between Patagonia and Wales.
- **ECO Committee** – 8 pupils and two teachers went on a week's trip to Odense, Denmark. As you know this Autumn Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin along with Bro Pedr, Lampeter, Holluf Pile Skole and Hjalleseskolen, Denmark, Laanilan Koulu SCHOOL, Finland and schools Lykeio Apostolon Petrou and Pavlou, Cyprus, were lucky enough to win a European grant to hold meetings in conjunction with the first of those meetings in Denmark. The next meeting in Cyprus will be in the week before Easter.
- **Trip to visit Mandir in Cardiff** – On the 4th of November 2014 Yr 8 pupils had a special experience to visit the Mandir Hindu Temple in Cardiff.
- **"At home, there is abuse? You're not on your own"** – On 20th November 2014, representatives of the school council attended a conference at Parc y Scarlets. The text being discussed was "Youth on domestic abuse".
- **Thanksgiving Service** – Again this year a memorable thanksgiving service was held at Bro Myrddin. The Reverend Beti Wyn James was welcomed to share a message with the pupils.
- **Open Evening** – Once again this year, the school opened its doors to the public. There was a buzz and various activities in all departments around the school.
- **Christmas Fair** – the hall opened its doors on Thursday the 27th of November for the annual Christmas fair. We raised a sum of £2,300 towards the school funds to purchase resources for pupils. On the evening a cheque for £2,500 was also presented to the school by the Parents' Association.





- **'Jesus' Drama** – On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, a group of A Level Drama students went to see a performance of "Jesus" by Aled Jones Williams by third year students of the University College, Aberystwyth.
- **Builth Wells Winter Fair** – On December 1st Yr 10 and 11 pupils who were studying Agriculture went on a trip to the Winter Fair in Builth Wells.
- **Religious Education Tour to Skanda Vale** – On December 16th a crew of Yr 12 Religious Education pupils visited Skanda Vale in Llanpumsaint.
- **Bro Myrddin Carol Service** – a carol service was held at St Peter's Church on Monday, December 15th. We collected £410 for two charities namely Save the Children and Carmarthen Food Bank.
- **Yr 12 Christmas Panto 2014** – On the eve of the Christmas holidays, the pupils from Yr 12 were very busy preparing and creating a pantomime for Yrs 7 and 8 and Sali Mali's story was the basis of the story this year.
- **Christmas Presents Appeal** – This year the school Humanitarian Committee has decided to collect Christmas gifts from pupils to be distributed to less fortunate children in the area. Everyone was asked to contribute voluntarily and a host of goods such as toys, clothes and books were received. The donations will be sent to Salvation Army to be distributed to local children in need.
- **Trip to London** – At the end of January the Music Department travelled to London to see a production of Les Miserable.
- **Welsh Gig** – A Welsh Gig was organized in the Parrot by Prosiect4Cymraeg on January 9th where the County's Secondary schools were invited to listen to Welsh bands such as 'Ysgol Sul', 'Tymbal', 'Castro' and 'Bromas'.
- **Mark Griffiths from Radio Cymru FM** – Marc Griffiths from Radio Cymru FM came to talk to year 12 about businesses and self-employment on Wednesday 4th February. He began by talking about his experience of running his own business and the decisions he had to make to follow the right path. He then proceeded to use his 'mixer' and his microphone allowing some of the pupils to present a mock program. The pupils also practiced problem-solving tasks. Before saying farewell he recorded the school choir singing the national anthem. He transferred the recording on Twitter and Youtube in preparation for the Rugby Six Nations game. The response on social networks was great!
- **Land Industries Day** – On Tuesday, February 11, a group of Yr 9 pupils had the opportunity to attend a conference on Land Industries at Pibwrlwyd College. There was a range of workshops including sessions on Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Animal Care, Horse World and Countryside Management. The 25 pupils enjoyed the insight offered to their areas of interest with many already preparing for their future career plans.
- **Health and Social Care Conference** – The Department of Health and Social received an invitation to be part of the Conference of Health and Social Care at the Halliwell Centre recently. It was an opportunity that was even more exciting because the Minister of Health; Professor Mark Drakeford was there to open the conference. Mr Drakeford was officially welcomed to the conference by Dr Llinos Jones. In his welcome speech Professor Mark Drakeford discussed the importance of health and social care, emphasizing the potential special opportunities within the field. He also stressed the importance of the Welsh language in treating and offering support to individuals who use health and social care services. The remainder of the day is divided into workshops by the Red Cross, Step by Step, Welsh Health Council and the Institute for the Blind, Cardiff.
- **Visit from Deiniol Jones** – Deiniol Jones came to visit Yr 8 pupils recently to help them learn how to commentate. Yr eight have been studying the skill of commentating in their Welsh lessons, and the purpose of his visit was to help them to understand the requirements of the skill better.





- **Only Men Aloud Workshop** – we welcomed two members of Only Men Aloud and Only Boys Aloud to the school recently to conduct a workshop with members of the older boys singing party.
- **Lab in a Lorry** – Yrs 7-9 pupils had a great opportunity recently to do scientific activities in a special truck. The 'Lab in a Lorry' as it is called is designed to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers, providing the opportunity for children between 11 and 14 years old to explore science through interactive experiments.
- **The hustle and bustle of Bro Myrddin's Eisteddfod 2014** – on Thursday February 12th, 2015, we held the school Eisteddfod and welcomed two former pupils Gethin Lewis and Catherine Ayres as judges. Llwydiarth court won. It was an honour and a privilege to see that there was merit for the two chairs and two crowns with Elin Wyn James of Hergest house winning the Welsh chair and Lowri Luxton from Llwydiarth house winning the English chair. Evan Burke from Peniarth house won the English crown and Anell Dyfri also from Peniarth house won the Welsh crown.
- **Service on 23rd February** – a special service was held for Cameron Comey. Thanks to Reverend Beti Wyn James for her support in the preparation.
- **Mini iPad winner** – Congratulations to Eve Johnson year 11 for winning an iPad recently after completing a questionnaire on the web by the County Council for school lunches.
- **Musical Talents** – Congratulations to Nia Emanuel on being accepted to the Youth Orchestra of Wales, Angus Bruce to the Welsh Youth Choir, Catrin Eleri Jones Youth Brass Band of Wales and Daniel O'Callaghan Youth Wind Band of Wales.
- **Carmarthen Town Sports Awards** – Bro Myrddin students have been successful in the Carmarthen Town Sports Awards evening held on Friday 30th January. Tom Butterworth won the prize in the competition under 13 years old for skiing, Sean Williams won the prize in the under 16 Great Britain and Wales competition for water polo, Jack Davies, a former pupil of the school won the under 19 award for his performance in gymnastics at the Commonwealth Games. Hannah Davies came in second for her swim, and Bethan Lewis won for her achievements in surfing and rugby.
- **Trampolining** – Congratulations to five pupils from Bro Myrddin for representing the school in the Welsh Schools trampolining competition in Pontypool on 23 November. Jessica Thomas, Bethan Curtis and Elina Deacon of Yr 10 came first in the intermediate. In the beginners competition Sharna James Yr 10 came 2nd and Sara Edwards Yr 8 came 5th.
- **Four horsemen to represent Wales** – On the 2nd of November Anna Phillips, Holly Yate, Lewis Daniels and Thomas Daniels won the 90cm competition in the Kings Equestrian Centre in Bromyard. Following their success they will represent Wales in the British Championships. Lewys Daniels and Celyn Yate will also represent Wales as individuals.
- **Golfing** – Congratulations to Nicholas Evans Yr 7 for winning the 10-11 years old Mini Master Welsh on the Montgomery golf course at the Celtic Manor during half term.
- **Wales Cross Country Cup Winners** – Congratulations to Iwan Glynn Yr 7, Bedwyr Thomas Yr 7, Archi Morgan and Guto Dafydd Yr 8 on winning the Welsh Cross Country Competition at Brecon on Saturday November 15th.
- In terms of our netball teams 48 games were played by the girls and they managed to win 40 of them. 27 hockey games were played and 18 of them were won.
- In terms of our rugby teams Yr 7 have played 7 games and won all of them. Yr 8 have played 6 games and won 6. Yr 9 have played 7 games and won 5 of them. Yr 10 have played 6 won 6. Yr 11 have played 2 and won 2. The 1st Team have played 10, won 4 and lost 6. The Second team have played 2 and won 2. Therefore out of 40 games the school has won 31.

### March 2015 – May 2015

- **Eco Tour to Cyprus** – after a successful trip to Norway, the committee has made its way to Eco Limassol, Cyprus with 8 pupils at Easter. The tour was packed one and a very interesting one with a visit to a factory





which creates solar cells and a day at a school in Cyprus to learn about the country's independence.

They were also able to visit a park photovoltaic cells and see the highest mountains of Cyprus.

- **Yr 7 Trip to the Language Enterprises' Eisteddfod Ddwl** – A group of enthusiastic Yr 7 and Yr 12 went to the Civic Hall, Llandeilo on April 21st to represent the school in the Eisteddfod Ddwl. Bro Dinefwr School won the first prize with Bro Myrddin a close second.

- **Profiles morning** – On Thursday, April 30th a very special morning celebration was held at Ysgol Bro Myrddin. As Yr 11 external examination were on the horizon there was a special morning to present the learner profiles. The pupils and parents were welcomed by Headteacher Dr Llinos Jones and was followed by a purposely aimed speech by Emma Benger of Careers Wales.

- **Urdd** – Congratulations to Siwan Dafydd of Yr 13 who has been elected as vice-chairman of 'Bwrdd SYr Ifanc' (Urdd) this year. AS part of the job she has already had various experiences – at the beginning of the year she chaired a session of questions and answers with Carwyn Jones First Minister and also co-chaired another session asking Betsan Powys, Head of Radio Cymru and Ian Jones, Chief Executive of S4C. Siwan also represents the School on the Urdd Youth Forum with Gwenan Campbell, Llew Charles, Ben Griffiths, Elin Ricketts, and Caryl Walters. Elin and Caryl are also on the 'Bwrdd SYr Ifanc'.

- **Battle of Waterloo** – The school is part of schools called Waterloo 200 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the battle. Each child in Yr 9 was given the task to research a soldier from the local area, Thomas Picton and to determine whether or not he was a local hero. One pupil recognised, through her research work, that she was related to him. On the 18th of June, Elin Davies 9.1 and her history teacher Mr. Owen Rhys were invited to a service in St Paul's Cathedral in London to discuss the work with the television presenter Dan Snow.

- **Bro Myrddin Bro Myrddin** – It was a historic day across Wales and the UK on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May, and as the country's adults decide the fate of the country for the next four years, to spread democracy Bro Myrddin pupils also held an election, as the school mock-election to capture the imagination of the whole school. The election was organized by the school's Politics Department. Plaid prevailed with 39% of the vote with UKIP second with 32%.

- **Urdd Eisteddfod Caerphilly 2015** – The Eisteddfod was very successful to Bro Myrddin and the press sang the school's praises for three days when the school was competing. The school has been successful with 11 stage competitions. The junior and senior 'Cerdd Dant' party received first prize led Mrs Nia Clwyd. Four second prizes were won for the younger boys' party led by Mrs Meinir Richards, the SA junior choir's effort led Mrs Nia Evans, the older girls' choir led by Mrs Meinir Richards and the 'Cerdd Dant' duet. Third prize was won by the older instrumental duet, the younger 'Cerdd Dant' duet, older dialog led by Mrs Lowri Davies, the older folk dance trained by Mrs Janice Bergiers and the older SATB Choir led by Mrs Meinir Richards. Nia Wyn Davies also won the Cogurdd. Eight prizes were awarded in the homework competitions. 1st prize for years 10 and 11 poetry was won by Elin Wyn James and class 7-2 for their class project. William Pritchard Yr 12 won the second prize for composing and Guto Huws for colour prints and a series of colour prints. Third prize was won by Elin Wyn James again for Yr 10 and 11 poetry, for a piece of Yr 8 prose Guto Dafydd and Guto Huws for a series of monochrome prints. Huge congratulations to all.

- **Young Composer Competition** – congratulations to William Pritchard Yr 12 for winning the top prize in this year's Young Composer Competition. William had the pleasure of hearing his piece "Hwyl, Haul" being performed by Riverside Brass, a professional brass ensemble in Neuadd y Dderwen, Rhosygilwen Cilgerran. William had a special experience and also attend a master workshop with them to discuss the details of his interpretation of the piece.

- **Carmarthen Rotary Club Competition Prize** – Congratulations to Andrea Chang from Yr 9 on winning the Young Musician of the Year Cup at the Rotary Club in Carmarthen in a recent musical competition. Andrea won the Ian Bennett memorial cup for playing the piano.

- **Entrance Scholarships** – Many of the school's Yr 13 pupils were recently awarded a special success. Seven girls and six boys from Yr 13 gained entrance scholarships to the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. Steffan Nicholas also won a scholarship to the University of Bangor and a prize of £3,000.





- **Inter-house Tug of War competition** – At lunchtime on the last Friday before Easter for the first time in the history of the school, an inter-house tug of war competition was held.
- **Awards Night Bro Myrddin** – On Thursday, 26 March 2015 the annual awards night was held at the school. The guest speaker was Mr. Ken Owens, an international rugby player and a former pupil of the school. The annual awards were awarded to: Ysgol Bro Myrddin Award – Daniel Griffiths, Cathryn Rees, Gwenno Jones; Betty Hughes Memorial Award – Llewelyn Hopwood, Elan Richards; Gareth Evans Trophy Yr 13 – Steffan Cennydd; Gareth Evans Trophy Yr 11 – Huw Collins; St Peters Players Award – Stephen Cennydd; Megan and Myfanwy Memorial Trophy – Sioned Jones; Rhian Denby Jones Memorial Trophy – Cari Seren Davies, Siobhan Eleri, Lowri Luxton; Business Department Trophy – Llifon Davies; Andrew Rees Trophy – Llewelyn Hopwood, Elan Richards; Music Trophy – Aled Rosser; Hugh Griffiths Trophy – Siwan Mai Jones; Margaret Morris Trophy – Owain Binding, Steffan Dafydd Jones; PE trophy – Carys Jones; Elin Ruth Jenkins Trophy – Eira Lewis; Non Jenkins Trophy, Sian Williams; Peter Hughes Griffiths Trophy – Hywel LIYr; Rhys Schiavone Trophy – Alex Williams; Rheon and Elliw James Trophy – Erin Walters, Ffion Walters.
- **Terry Jones Memorial Award** – Congratulations to Angus Bruce Yr 13 for winning the Terry Jones Memorial Award this year, a prize that's awarded annually to a student who made a valuable contribution to the Carmarthenshire Music Service. Angus received the award for his contribution in playing the Viola.
- **Construction Trades Competitions Regional South Wales** – On February 26th the South Wales Regional Construction Trades Competitions were held. The day was held by Coleg Sir Gâr on the Ammanford campus in its construction centre. Scores of colleges across South Wales gathered to compete in a variety of building trades including carpentry, brickwork, plumbing, electrical, painting and decorating and plastering. Ysgol Bro Myrddin had two competitors in the secondary school's department which were Osian Davies and Deian Rees. Deian was awarded as the champion with Osian taking third place. Congratulations to both.
- **St. John Ambulance** – congratulations to Gwion Siôr Morgan from Yr 11 on being selected to represent Wales at the International Cadet Camp in Hong Kong where he will be part of various activities including a first aid competition. Gwion was also invited to attend St James Palace for young performers where he will meet with Princess Anne.
- **School sports** – the annual school sports day was held in late April at Johnstown. Hengwrt prevailed for the second consecutive year with a score of 514, Hergest second with 497 points, Llwydiarth in third position with 450 and Peniarth in fourth position with 419. Points. Following the annual routine the trophies were awarded among the girls and boys champions who won the most points in competitions. The individual winners this year were Maddie Morgan and Iwan Glynn Yr 7, Eva Edwards and Guto Dafydd Yr 8, Cadi Evans and Lewis Daniels Yr 9 and Jessica Thomas and Garmon Dyfri Yr 10.
- **Water polo** – Congratulations to Sean Williams from Yr 10 for competing in the under 17 and 19 years old with the Welsh water polo squad in the UK National Group Championships in Manchester recently. The squad won the under 19 years old plate competition and the under 17 years old squad finished second in the plate competition after a hard game against Caledonia, having won their first two games with over 20 points. Sean also competed in the under 19 years' old water polo squad in Malta for three days at Easter.
- **Representing Wales in the British Gymnastics semi-finals May 2015** – Carrie Davies and Mared Cole from Yr 7 are representing Wales in the semi-finals of the British Gymnastics in May.
- **Cross Country Brianne** – Congratulations to the following for their recent success in the Brianne cross country: Yr 7 – 1st Iwan Glynn; 2nd Maddie Morgan, Deian Morgan; 3rd BedwYr Thomas. Yr 8 – 1st Archi Morgan, 2nd Eva Edwards, Guto Dafydd; 3rd Bethan McFayden. Yr 9 and 10 – 1st Sioned Glynn and Thomas Jones.
- **Athletics** – a huge success was awarded to the school in the recent Dyfed athletics. Three first prizes were won, six second prizes and six third prizes. Another 12 students came in the first eight.





- **Football** – Yr 10 boys' team finished as runners up in the Urdd's West Wales 7s.
- **London Marathon** – Iwan Glynn is one of six from Wales who was invited to run a mini marathon in London. He ran the last 3 miles of the course in 17.30m.
- **NASUWT Athletic Cup** – Yr 7/8 boys came second in Brianne and will compete in the Dyfed NASUWT at Haverfordwest on the 17th June.
- **Rugby (7s)** – Yr 7 won the region's competition; Yr 9 reaches the semi-finals in the Bishopton competition; 1st team won the plate in the Llandovery competition. In the Rosslyn Park 7s competition in London the same team won two games and lost two games. The same result was also obtained by the U16 team.
- **Athletics** – a huge success was awarded to the school in the recent Dyfed athletics. Three first prizes were won, six second prizes and six third prizes. Another 12 students came in the first eight.





