

The Governors' Annual Report To Parents



2015 / 2016



Governors' Report

Dear Parent / Guardian

Following another busy year in the school calendar, the time has come to reflect on the year that has passed. It is nice to have the opportunity to record some observations at the end of my period as Chairperson, and at the end of my term as a parent-governor.

Amongst the important events, the school's everyday life, the teaching and learning, the supporting and challenging continues. The high standard of teamwork across the school continues to contribute towards our children's whole education. The governors are very proud of the opportunity to work with the school staff under the skilled guidance of the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team.

Thank you to every member of staff, whatever their role, whatever their expertise, for another year of hard and devoted work. I would like to declare the governors' appreciation of the staff who departed to go to other jobs or retirement. Good luck to them. A warm welcome to the members of staff who joined the school during the year – I hope that they will enjoy their jobs and will settle well.

Congratulations to the pupils on their academic successes and on their successes on the playing fields and on the national stage yet again this year. Thank you to you as parents and guardians for your support to your children, for giving them every opportunity, and for ensuring that they are in the correct place at the correct time, even at 5 o'clock in the morning, to take part in the school's various activities. The school certainly gives roots and wings to our children.

On behalf of the governors, I would like to sincerely thank the Parents and Teachers' Association who hold activities to socialize and raise money for our children. They contribute annually towards the running costs of the minibus.

Estyn conducted a school inspection in November 2015. They reported that the school performs well with even better prospects. The 'learning experiences' field was 'excellent'. Following the visit, an action plan was prepared and the work is on-going.

Bro Myrddin School has become a Welsh Comprehensive School – the first Welsh Comprehensive in Carmarthenshire. Following a consultation process, the County Council approved the application in July and it came into force in September. Thank you to everyone who were a part of the work, under the Headteacher's skilled guidance.

At the end of the summer holidays, the very tragic news about the sudden death of William Edward Thomas, a 16 year old pupil, came to the school's attention. On behalf of the governors we extend our sincere sympathy with his family and friends.

You are more than welcome to contact the Headteacher or the Chair of Governors if you would like to discuss anything in particular or to gain more information regarding anything in this report. Thank you very much for your support and co-operation.

Lynwen Roberts
Chair of Governing Body



Headteacher's Report

© Tempest

Another excellent academic year of successes yet again. Strong exam results have seen us move to the top position for schools 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. As a school we were appointed one of the new 'pioneer schools' in Wales under the Welsh Government's plan and we are also about to start as a creative pioneer school in co-operation with the Arts Council of Wales. We are also a part of an exciting plan called Polli:Nation in order to improve the school environment and a lead school in the Global Learning Programme Wales. In addition, the school has developed to be a centre for the Olevi Outstanding Teacher Programme and Improving Teacher Programme.

We have witnessed many other successes as noted on our school website, in local papers and on Twitter and Facebook. You will see a list of other successes in this report. We are proud to be able to report on the wide range of successes ensured by our talented pupils and staff.

Last year we looked at the future with excitement as the consultation for changing the school's language category from 2A to Welsh Medium went ahead. By now, the consultation has come to an end and the school has become a Welsh specified school, the first specified Welsh school in Carmarthenshire.

Our annual aim is to maintain and raise the school's high standards by offering a vast curriculum and extensive extra-curricular experiences. To ensure this, 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 the process. We develop the Pupil's Voice in every aspect of the schools' life and act upon the results. We develop plans to strengthen the voice of the School council, the year councils and the Sports Council because we are eager to ensure that we are aware of the opinion of all who are connected with the school. We ask you therefore, to use the questionnaire that's distributed during parents' evenings in order for us to gather your opinion on our performance.

Communication is key to us and we are updating our website daily in order to ensure usefulness. We now have a new, more accessible website which gives the school's recent details. The address for our new website is www.yggbme.org. We also have a new app which is possible to use from any smart phone.

At the end of the academic year, in the middle of August, the school faced a terrible shock in the death of one of our pupils, William Thomas from Llangyndeyrn. I stated the following on our website: *"The knowledge that Ysgol Bro Myrddin has lost a talented and popular member of its community in such sad circumstances has without a doubt been the most heart wrenching event I, as school head teacher, staff and pupils have had to face. Will can only be described as a popular, well liked and highly respected individual and the depth of loss felt by both staff and pupils cannot be put into words. Our thoughts at this sad time are with Will's family and friends and we are here as a school to offer all the support and guidance that we can at this sad time."*

To close the report, I would like to thank the Governors especially who give their time tirelessly to regularly attend various committee meetings in order to discuss school policies and activities. I would also like to thank the staff and you as parents.

Dr Llinos Jones



Progress on the recommendations in the Estyn Inspection Report 2015

A1. Raising Standards of boys

Raising the standards of achievement of boys is a priority in our 2016-17 School Development Plan. The school has already addressed and raised the standards, and an increase of 7% in the standards of KS3 boys was seen in 2016 compared to 2015. An increase of 4% was seen in the L2+ at the end of KS4 and the gap between girls and boys has narrowed considerably. Work still needs to be done in order to see further progress.

A2. Strengthening and harmonizing the quality of teaching across the school and sharing best practices

The School Development Plan for 2016-17 will prioritize this recommendation and detailed plans are already in progress. We have already established a teaching and learning working group, and the school has been developed into a centre for the Olevi Excellent Teacher Programme and Improving Teacher Programme.

A3. Developing the use of data and understanding among managers and governors

This proposal is a priority in our 2016-2017 Development Plan and definite targets have been set. We are preparing a revised data document to compare the school's performance against the outcomes that have been modelled over the past four years and to add it to the data report in 2016. We also offer appropriate additional training for managers and governors.

A4. Sharpening the link between self-evaluation processes and planning for improvement

The recommendation is one of the priorities in our School Development Plan and a Post Inspection School Development Plan and Department Development Plan have been formed.



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)



YMB Strategic Priority	Action Steps in the School Development Plan
Raise the standards (with a special focus on the achievement of boys)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create and share the departmental strategies document to enhance the performance of boys • Develop the working group for underachieving boys • ERW 2 visit to focus on underachieving boys. Report back on the findings in a whole school INSET • Departmental reviews from September 2016 to focus specifically on the experiences of boys and to examine the way the document's strategies are being used to tackle boys' underachievement • Develop strategies to close the gap and to raise standards at KS3 and KS4 (written in particular) by visiting schools to observe their good practice. To share practices across departments • Develop the role of the parents in the process of raising standards of boys and regular reporting to parents on pupils' progress through interim reports • Develop parent / pupil / school pack to monitor progress
Strengthen and synchronise the standard of teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Teaching and Learning working group to develop pedagogy within the school • Improve the quality of questioning within the classroom • Ensure high expectations of pupils across lessons and provide opportunities to challenge the most able pupils • Develop differentiation strategies across mixed ability lessons • Identify and verify measures pupil progress within and across lessons • School Development Program in the centre Excellent Teacher Teacher Improvement Program and Olevi • A team of teachers to share good practice • Excellent Teachers use the program to strengthen the quality of teaching in the sections identified in the self-evaluation • Departmental self-evaluation by following the 2016-19 Self-evaluation Calendar
Develop the use and understanding of data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a retrospective data document to compare the school's performance against the outcomes that have been modelled over the past four years and that have been added to the 2016 data report • Offer appropriate, additional data training to the Governing Body and the middle management staff • Ensure that all governors have received training on data by the County • Develop the information developed from data centre managers by converting documentation to give more emphasis to analyse performance against prior attainment, and school site within the benchmarks for free school meals



Sharpen the connection between the self-appraisal processes and plan for improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a new and sharper Post-Inspection School Development Plan and recreate a new template to the Departmental Development Plan to coincide with the SDP • Ensure that the school's self-evaluation is linked directly with the SDP and the DDP • Organize regular meetings of middle leaders and schedule them on the school timetable
Respond to national priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the school as a pioneer school with regards to the curriculum through collaborating with WAG and ERW on modernization plans • Develop the pioneer lead school plans in order to develop plans for the Expressive Arts. • Begin on digital journey by appointing an expert for the 'work and finish project' in order to map the new digital framework • Develop digital leaders • Extend the availability of digital equipment • Develop the work of the Literacy working group by focusing on developing writing skills throughout the school (especially boys) • Develop the Baccalaureate within the school by creating a specific calendar for the International and Advanced Baccalaureate • Developing numeracy across the curriculum by working with departments to be further briefed on how to present the lessons in numeracy
Develop the school environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a plan to get 3G pitch on the school • Develop the school environment by cooperating with Polli:Nation to survey the site and develop the garden and surrounding area • Collaborate with the Science Department to create an outdoor learning environment

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 2016-17

Term	Term Begins	Half Term		Term Ends	Dates
		Begins	Ends		
October 2016	5 September	24 October	28 October	16 December	71
Spring 2017	4 January	20 February	24 February	7 April	54
Summer 2017	25 April	29 May	2 June	21 July	65
Designated INSET Days – Thursday, September 1; Monday January 3;					2
INSET Dates at School digression – Friday, September 2; Friday, October 21; Monday, 24 April.					3
Total					195

New staff appointments for September 2016:

Miss Bethan Williams – Teacher in the History Department.

Mr Emyr Rees – Teacher in the Science Department.

Mrs Rhian Rees-Thorne – Teacher in the Welsh Department.

Links with the community

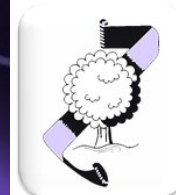
The school is used regularly by external clubs and societies. We have worked closely with the Urdd and 5x60 officer to provide Welsh medium provision programmes outside school hours or during school holidays.

We also have close connections with our School Liaison Officer, 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 on an annual basis to raise large amounts of money to local and national humanitarian causes.

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 2015-2016 the school succeeded again to finish the fiscal year within budget yet again. However, following a reduction in the budget for Carmarthenshire County Council by central government, the amount of money given to the school by the Council for 2016-2017 means that the school must find savings this year again. We have 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 for the financial year 2016-17. Therefore there is quite a challenge facing the SLT and Governors.



The School's Financial Declaration for 2015/16

Expenditure		Budget	Actual
	Salaries	3,296,181	3,260,000
	Buildings	343,715	333,245
	Supplies and Services	413,194	390,805
		4,053,090	3,984,050
Income		Budget	Actual
	Customer Invoices	163,522	191,480
	Government Grants	3,883,292	3,906,379
	Other Grants	8,762	28,865
		4,055,576	4,126,724
Surplus/Deficit		2,486	142,674

Pupil Performance

Excellent results were witnessed this year again as noted below;

KS3 Performance Level 5+							
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016 Family	2016 LA	2016 Wales
Welsh	88.5%	91.0%	95.3%	95.4%	94.9%	88.6%	92%
English	88.5%	93.0%	92.2%	93.4%	94.6%	89.3%	89.2%
Mathematics	90.8%	94%	95.3%	96.7%	94.7%	90.3%	90.1%
Science	91.6%	96.0%	96.9%	96.7%	97.4%	92.7%	92.8%
CSI	88.1%	91.8%	89.8%	94.1%	93.1%	86.3%	85.9%

KS4							
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016 Family	2016 LA	2016 Wales
L2 Welsh	78.8%	75%	83.3%	83%		72%	75%
L2 English	79.3%	79%	81.7%	83%		76%	69%
L2 Mathematics	76%	79%	88.5%	86%		72%	67%
L2 Science	76.7%	73%	84.7%	82%		87%	82%
L1	96.9%	100%	100%	99%		98%	95%
L2	83.6%	90.0%	95%	88%		90%	84%
L2+	71.7%	72.0%	82%	82%		66%	60%
CSI	69.0%	70%	79%	80%		64%	58%
Points (capped)	361.8	368.2	383	377		367	346



Summary of Secondary School Performance

Summary of Secondary School Achievements					LA / School		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 inclusive threshold	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 2016:							
School 2015/16	100	99	88	82	80	377	600
LA Area 2015/16	100	98	90	66	64	367	621
Wales 2015/16	99	95	84	60	58	346	544
School 2015/16	100	100	91	79	76	378	637

Number of 15 year old boys on the register in January 2016:							
School 2015/16	100	100	83	75	75	368	564
LA Area 2015/16	100	97	88	64	62	361	601
Wales 2015/16	99	94	80	56	54	334	518
School 2014/15/16	100	100	86	69	67	365	580

Number of 15 year old girls on the register in January 2016:							
Ysgol 2015/16	100	98	95	91	86	388	648
Ardal ALI 2015/16	100	98	92	69	66	374	643
Cymru 2015/16	100	97	87	65	62	358	572
Ysgol 2014/15/16	100	99	96	89	85	391	694

1. 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>
2. For information about which syllabuses are included in each subject area see the Guidance Notes.
3. Average capped wider point scores are calculated using the 8 best result.
4. Entry Level Qualification.
5. 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.
6. Used for all Free Meals Benchmarking tables.



Toilets

Toilet facilities are regularly audited and they are part of the cleaning contract with the Authority. By completing a questionnaire and through the School Council, pupils 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 are committed to Healthy Eating and Drinking in Schools that incorporates 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 of the Healthy Schools.

Discipline

School rules must exist in order to safeguard routine and 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 are maintained by implementing a clear system of pupil discipline if pupils do not comply. The subject teacher is the first to deal with the pupil and if this fails to resolve the situation, the issue is then discussed within the Department. If there is a need to deal with the pupil after this, then he or she will be referred to the Head of Year in order to hold further discussions before discussing lunchtime detention. If a pupil misbehaves constantly and is set lunchtime detention more than three times, we will then notify the parents and the pupil is kept in suspension after school. We can suspend a pupil from school in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines. We implement a positive behaviour promoting policy at school and due to this, misbehaving incidents within and outside the school walls are very rare.

The school operates a clear policy in dealing with issues of bullying and respond immediately if such problems arise.

Health and Safety

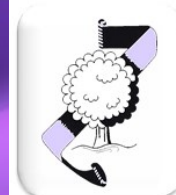
The school's Health and Safety policy reflects the Governing Body's desire to ensure a secure site for pupils and staff alike. All staff employment categories are represented on the staff Health and Safety Committee. This committee reports back to the Health and Safety Committee of Governors. It is emphasized to the staff that any defects / hazards should be reported to the Health and Safety Officer immediately.

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

The Governing Body has adopted the School's Strategic Equality Plan. This plan will ensure that pupils (or other stakeholders of the school) with disabilities are not treated in a less favourable way than others.

School Prospectus

The School Prospectus is amended on an annual basis in order to include any changes required by the Welsh Government and other relevant bodies. Copies are provided to the parents of children entering the school for the first time or transferring from another school. Copies are available on the school website or by e-mail or if there are problems associated with this, hard copies are provided by request to the school office.



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 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%



Medium of Teaching and Language Policy

All the National Curriculum subjects are taught and assessed through the medium of Welsh Bro Myrddin and here, of course, Welsh is the norm, to the great majority of pupils choosing Bro Myrddin as a secondary school. With regards to Science a language choice has existed since founding the Language Policy. In September 2015, the pupils who started in Year 7 following Science in Welsh if they studied this subject in Welsh in primary school. Minority of pupils have chosen to study Science in English, and has been for several years. In Mathematics again in the month of September 2015 was chosen language exists. In each of these classes, emphasized comes understanding of mathematics that are most important to ensure high standards are not subject to the attention of the medium of teaching and learning. Now every pupil studying Maths KS3 and KS4 Welsh language. Welsh language in Science and Mathematics in KS3 lists terms and subject vocabulary in both English and Welsh. Additional resources will be used in, ICT and English language books as well as Welsh regularly to enhance language development, scientific and mathematical pupils. This ensures that all pupils can 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 his make it difficult for pupils to adapt to the context of science and mathematics in English medium school leavers. Currently the department is also preparing online resources to assist non-Welsh speaking parents to help their children.

The Welsh Language

Welsh is the official language of the school for extracurricular activities and the vast majority of academic lessons. The school is proud of its Welsh ethos and act 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 in Welsh. Parents are asked to support the school in this by encouraging their children to speak Welsh, to respect the school's Welshness and encourage them to do their best to promote this at all times. The school operates on Carmarthenshire's Language Strategic Plan targets to move the school along the linguistic continuum. The result of this is that the school, since September 2016 has changed the language category from 2A to BC. This means that all subjects except English are taught in Welsh.

Policies

Three new policies were adopted by the Governing Body during the year, 'policy to tackle situations with unnecessary staff,' 'radicalization protection policy' and 'Contingency Plan - exams.'

Special Educational Needs Report 2015-16

Our aim at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin is to teach pupils with special educational needs alongside their peers in the mainstream as far as is practicable. In order for children to receive a differentiated curriculum, there will be times when pupils are withdrawn from classes temporarily, in order to focus on certain 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, the school's Additional Learning Needs Coordinator is responsible for planning and coordinating the provision for pupils with special educational needs and organize the work of the support staff. The statements are reviewed annually, at a meeting organized with individual parents and the county support service.

Mrs Lynwen Roberts has been named as a contact governor for the department.



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

Year	Statements	School Action Plus	School Action
7	1	10	19
8	2	9	11
9	3	6	13
10	2	6	12
11	1	2	15
12	2	0	0
13	1	0	10
Total	12	33	80

A profile was created on every pupil on the SEN register; a PCP (Plan Centred Planning). The PCP records the view of an individual pupil, the factors that affect their learning in lessons, the results of any standardized tests and teachers' targets.

A large number of the pupils on the SEN register now have access arrangements in their external and internal examinations. A computer reader was introduced to the pupils who are entitled to a reader in exams. This enables the pupils sitting Welsh or English language to hear the text being read aloud. Therefore, the pupils with weak reading skills but good comprehension skills can access Welsh and English language papers for the first time.

A reading workshop was developed for less confident readers during the year, called the 'Literacy Toolbox.' The scheme uses computers and special teaching methods to promote reading, handwriting and spelling. This has showed a significant improvement in the reading age of the pupils involved in the scheme. Various specialized workshops are held by the Department including a handwriting workshop; a Fresh Start workshop; the Literacy Toolbox workshop and a Letters and Sounds workshop.

Pupil Welfare

We have a team of people who work for the welfare of pupils. Four members of staff are trained as child protection officers - Dr Llinos Jones, Headteacher; Mr Eurnyn Madoc Jones, Deputy Headteacher; Miss Zelda Williams and Mr Jonathan Thomas, Assistant Headteachers. The heads of year play a vital role, as does the youth officer, the attendance, health and welfare officer, the school health nurse and the counsellor. Mrs Netta Thomas and Miss Carys Williams, the school counsellors, saw 46 pupils this year. The Peer Mentoring scheme, a scheme to train pupils in the sixth form to work with vulnerable children continues to go from strength to strength.



Sports

The Governors believe that the school's main sport goals have been verified:

- Provide a safe environment that stimulates the pupils where they can work towards general maturity
- Develop physical skills
- Promote an awareness of the importance of health when exercising.

Many activities are 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 of the pupils complete the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver Award annually.

The success of our pupils on the playing fields at school and extracurricular have been outstanding with several individuals reaching national standard. Last year a Sports Council was formed by a pupil vote. The Sports Council's role will be to lead and advise the SLT on matters relating to sports.

The school is also delighted with the academic and extra curricular achievements of our pupils, not only on the playing fields but on the stages and in the world of acting and the national media.

Extracurricular Activities

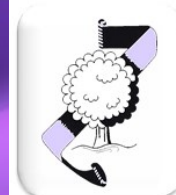
Numerous extracurricular experiences are offered to our pupils on an annual basis to coincide with their academic studies. Numerous tours, various workshops, competitions, interesting guest speakers, annual conferences and opportunities of all kinds are offered to all pupils.

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 Parent Meeting

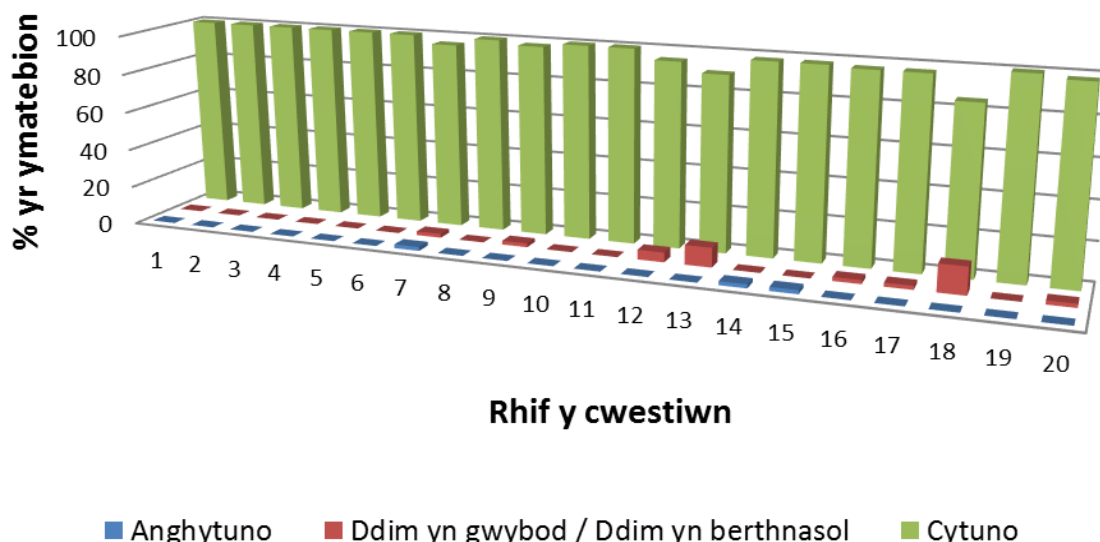
Since May 2013 new arrangements have been in force in respect of the annual meeting of governors / parents. Rather than having to hold an annual governing body meeting with parents, parents have the right to request a meeting with the governing body on issues of concern. Parents can exercise this right up to three times during the school year, provided that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss matters relating to the school, pupils' progress and achievement and individual complaints regarding staff members or members of the governing body. A meeting will be arranged with the Governors therefore, if 10% or 30 of the parents submit a request in writing for a meeting by using section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation Regulations (Wales) 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. This was your response to the questionnaire during the 2014/15 academic year;

Holiadur rhieni 2015-16



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.



2015-16 list of events

September-November 2015

4th September - year 12 pupils and their tutors went on an induction trip to Heatherton Adventure Park. This was an opportunity to enjoy the sun and team building activities of all kinds. Everyone was soaked from the battle boats, and everyone had the opportunity to reach their inner peace with archery, racing to beat the teachers in go-karting, aiming for a hole in one with crazy golf, clay pigeon shooting to beat the teachers and screams could be heard while flying down the "zip wire".

9 September - year 7 pupils, their form tutors and the sixth form spent three days at the Urdd Llangrannog. They enjoyed three days of action-packed fun and workshops.

14th October - year 7 went on an RE trip to Cardiff to visit the Synagogue and the Gurdwara.

Guest Speakers

There were a host of guest speakers to the school during the last few months:

Nerys Evans - discussion on topics affecting the state legislation.

Lorena Prist - discussion on the European Union.

PC Cath - school liaison program.

Careers Wales - Learning Pathways.

Non Vaughan Williams, Swansea University - Personal Statement.

Lowri Wyn Bulman - College Welsh National.

Reverend Tom Defis - Christian Aid.

Drugs bus.

The sculptor Claire Feguson Walker of CFW Design.

Visit by companies QCD Service (Ponthenri) and BBC IT Newcastle Emlyn

Visit by a Magstim company for 11 years.

Brolympau 2015 - On Friday, 3rd of July a day of sports was organized by P4C - the Welshness committee. The day was also to raise money to buy a defibrillator for the school. It was decided that the remaining funds will be divided between two charities as specified by the County Council Chairman, Mr Peter Hughes Griffiths, being Talking Books Wales and Tenovus West Wales. Tommo and Terwyn came from Radio Cymru and there were a host of stalls and fun activities to keep everyone entertained. The staff are also busy doing a 'sponsored rowing' all day. The winning house was Hengwrt. Following the special day, a cheque of £600 was presented to the chairman of the County Council, Mr Peter Hughes Griffiths and enough money was raised to buy a defibrillator for the school.

Defibrillator to Bro Myrddin - Following a day of fundraising at the end of the season, the school succeeded in its aim to raise funds to purchase a defibrillator to the school. By working together with the registered charity, CARIAD, the school succeeded in buying a defibrillator. The appliance is kept at the school for the use of all the school and the wider community. 25 members of staff will also receive training in the forthcoming weeks.

Royal Biological Society competition - a competition for the Royal Biological Society was held before the summer and 8 pupils of year 11 year won a certificate of commendation. Congratulations to Garmon Dyfri, Rhys Evans, Lowri Mathias, Libby Jones, Nia Williams, Lowri Davies, Chloe Williams, Bethan Thomas and Gemma Davies. Lowri Davies won a Bronze certificate.

Head prefects start their journey - At the beginning of the new school year, Lowri Luxton and Aled Rosser began their journey as our head girl and head boy. With them are a group of enthusiastic sixth formers - Lowri Butterworth, Mared Jones, Ieuan Jones and Iwan Harries.

Refugee Appeal Concert - On Saturday, October 3rd, the Older Girls Choir of Bro Myrddin Comprehensive School as part of a concert organized to raise funds for the Syrian Refugees Appeal in Capel Peniel, Carmarthen. It was nice to support such a worthy cause, and also a privilege to perform in an evening with Caryl Parry Jones, Gareth Ellis School Choir and Ysgol y Dderwen.



MacMillan Coffee Morning - Every year MacMillan Charity urges people to join in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning by holding events in their workspace. 15 pupils of the Sixth Form decided to hold a Coffee Morning at the school on Friday morning, October 2nd for the staff and the sixth form. The library was decorated with MacMillan banners and merchandise and the tables were filled with delicious cakes ready for the morning. There was great support and the Library was buzzing during breaktime. An admission charge of £3 which includes a cup of tea or coffee and delicious cakes, as well as a raffle raised a staggering £440!

School Council and Sports Council - By vote, young people were elected to represent the school's new School Council and Sports Council in September.

Workshop Only Men Aloud - Twenty-five older boys in the school had the opportunity to participate in a workshop with Only Men Aloud on Wednesday, October 14. The session was led by the singer Huw Llywelyn Jones.

Open Evening - A successful open evening was held this year again, when the school opens its doors to the public. This evening was an opportunity for the school to demonstrate the school's events. There have been a number of activities throughout the school.

Thanksgiving service - To conclude the October half term there was the school's annual Thanksgiving Service. The Reverend Beti Wyn James was welcomed to share her message. There were readings by the principal officers Lowri Luxton, Aled Rosser, Lowri Butterworth, Mared Jones, Iwan Harries and Ieuan Jones. There was a special contribution from year 7 pupils which were Betsan Elias, Betsan Campbell, Carina Sidhu, Rhys Lewis and Llew Richards. There were musical items by the Junior Choir - Ceirios (J Eirian Jones) led by Mrs Nia Evans and song by the Senior Girls' Party - Angus Dei (Robart Arwyn) and a song by the senior choir - Canaf yn y bore (LJRoberts) led by Mrs Meinir Richards.

Food Bank Council - Following Thanksgiving, the school received a number of contributions to the food bank in Carmarthen by staff and pupils. On Thursday 22 October a group of sixth form pupils went to the Carmarthen Food Bank to transfer goods.

Eisteddfod Bancffosfelen Youth Trophy - Congratulations to Ela Wyn James for winning the Youth Trophy at Eisteddfod Bancffosfelen. She won the main prize, a trophy donated by Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel for the best work at the Department of Literature as well.

Sports Achievements

Ski champions - Congratulations to Aidan Jones, Owen Llewellyn-Jones, Huw Butterworth and Tom Butterworth on winning ski Wales recently. For the first time ever, Bro Myrddin is skiing champions Wales and boys 'ski' to prove it will be displayed in the school foyer.

Congratulations to year 7 and 8 in their defeat against QEH school in the annual 'Varsity Challenge.'

Games - the school and the Department of Physical Education has been very busy since September with many games being played. In hockey competitions, we lost 4 games and there was at least one draw.

The Ann Smart netball tournament was won by the under 16's and the team will go on to the West Wales schools tournament. Played 16 games and won 14 and lost two.

Year 7 Rugby - Stradey 5—YBM 7; Stradey 14—YBM B 45; QEHS A 0—YBM A 50; QEHS B 0—YBM 35.

Year 8 Rugby - YBM 45—Stradey 0.

Year 9 rugby - YBM 47—Stradey 22; YBM 57—QEHS 7.

Year 10 rugby - YBM 26—QEHS 8

Older teams - YBM first 34 Bro Dinefwr 0; YBM Dinefwr 2nd 33 19; CSG 21—YBM 1st 26; YBM first 14—QEHS 17; Maes y Gwendraeth 0 -YBM 1st 47; Maes y Gwendraeth 19 -YBM 2nd 24.

Only one game lost since September.

Year 7 football - Bro Dinefwr 1 Bro Myrddin 3.

Football Year 8 - Bro Myrddin 7 Amman 4; Bro Myrddin 3 QEHS 1

Football Year 9 - QEHS 4 Bro Myrddin 3.

Year 10 football - Amman 3 Bro Myrddin 4; Bro Dinefwr 1 Bro Myrddin 2.

Women's football Year 7/8 Amman 4 Bro Myrddin 0.

Football Year 12/13 Bro Myrddin 2 Stradey 3.



March 2016

Winter Fair Builth Wells - On December 1st pupils from years 10 and 11 who study Agricultural went on a trip to the Winter Fair in Builth Wells.

A visit to the Atom in Carmarthen - Following a visit to the school year 8-3 had the opportunity to visit the new Atom center in Carmarthen. They were shown around the Atom by Mrs Iola Wyn.

The Christmas Story - on the last Thursday afternoon of term, year 7 pupils went with the Department of Religious Education to see a play of The Christmas Story in the Baptist Chapel in Lammas Street.

Tour of Finland in November 2015 - Ten members of the eco committee travelled to Finland on the school's third trip as part of a European partnership, Erasmus+. The pupils and teachers' numerous experiences include visiting schools, the hydroelectric plants in Isohaara, heat and power plant in Toppila and the highlight of the trip—visiting the Arctic Circle.

Mathematics trip to Cardiff - On Wednesday 20th January, a group of girls from years 12 to 13 went to Cardiff University for a series of Mathematics lectures. The purpose of the event was to educate us about the opportunities available to women in the world of mathematics.

Sixth Form pupils' adventures, Religious Studies - Wednesday 24th February Year 12 pupils went on a RE trip to visit the Skanda Vale religious centre in Llanpumsaint.

Religious Studies Revising Day at Trinity - Year 12 pupils had the opportunity to attend a RS revision day in Trinity Saint David's College.

Eco Committee - Congratulations to the Eco Committee for their success in the competition to decorate a Christmas tree in the Botanical Gardens. They won the Sustainability Award.

Eisteddfod Ddwl Carmarthenshire Enterprises, 2015 - On Monday, the 16th of November in the Civic Hall in Llandelilo, year 7 went to compete in the Carmarthenshire 2015 Eisteddfod Ddwl. The school was awarded second place.

Christmas Service - On Tuesday, December 15th all were welcomed to a Christmas service in Priory Chapel, Carmarthen.

Service last season - On Friday afternoon, the 18th of December the school came together for the last service of the season.

Steel Poppies by Bro Myrddin Pupils, Ypres Belgium - On Monday the 11th January 16 pupils in Year 9 Design and Technology went to work with a local blacksmith to create 17 poppies out of steel to commemorate 'Ypres 2016'. In September 2016 a new monument will be placed in front of Ypres in Flanders Fields, Belgium. The monument is located near the German War Cemetery in Langemark Poelkapelle. The memorial commemorates all those who participated in the First World War, military or civilian. A poppy was created by the pupils and will be placed at the foot of the monument while the other 16 poppies will be included in a wreath and will be laid at the Menin Gate, Ypres. Each poppy is unique to the pupil and the initials of the pupils who created all poppies are permanently stamped on them.

National Youth Choir and Orchestra - Congratulations to the following for qualifying: Sioned Beynon Yr 12; Elen Fflur Davies Year 12; Gwenno Griffiths Yr12; Mared Owen Yr 11; Gwenno Accaioli Yr 12; Sophie McLaughlin Yr 13.



Urdd Eisteddfod - Following a successful Eisteddfod 29 competitions will represent the school in the Eisteddfod.

Celebrating St David's Day Concert - On Saturday 5th March school choirs were invited to share the stage in the lyric with the baritone Gary Griffiths and the South Wales Male Choir. A very successful evening.

Saint David's Day - the St David's Day school celebrations began with a morning service led by Dr Llinos Jones, with a brief history of the festival and the service message known as 'do the little things'. The pupils and staff dressed in red and the odd Welsh costume among them. For lunch the canteen had provided soup and Welshcakes. During the lunch break there was an opportunity for members of the sixth form, teachers and the rest of the school to participate in a folk dance arranged by Mrs Ffion Page.

Sports Achievements

Ski Champions - Congratulations to Aidan Jones, Owen Llewellyn-Jones, Huw Butterworth and Tom Butterworth on winning the Wales' skiing recently and they came 6th in Britain. The school will compete in France in March.

Welsh champions cross country running

Congratulations to the following who have become Wales' champions in cross country for boys under 13 years old—Bedwyr Thomas, Liam Edwards, Joseff Rhys-Ellis and Iwan Glynn.
The girls team was Maddie Morgan and Daisy Thompson.

Netball

Year 7 - Won 14, lost 0

Year 8 - Won 5, lost 6 and 1 draw

Year 9 - Won 9, lost 3

Year 10 - Won 9, lost 1

Year 11 - Won 1

Year 12/13 - Lost 2.

West Wales U16 - Won 3 games - so the year 10 girls are the netball champions in West Wales.

Hockey

Year 7 - Two draw games

Year 8 - Lost 3 and 1 draw

Year 9 - Lost 2 and 1 draw

Year 10 - Won 9, lost 4

Year 12/13 - Won 1, lost 5.

U16 South Carmarthenshire - Win 2 games; Carmarthenshire finals - lost.

Rugby

Year 7 - Won 5, lost 0

Year 8 - Won 2, lost 0. Losing in the 7s semi-final competition against Glantaf.

Year 9 - Won 3, lost 1

Year 10 - Won 1, lost 1

1st team - Lost 3.

Football

Year 8 - Won 1, Carmarthenshire champions

2015-16 Region Swimming Results - The school had considerable success in the region's swimming competition recently. They managed to get 12 first prizes, 5 second prizes and 1 third prize.



Carmarthen Hwb Basketball Competition

Year 9 team - 3rd

Year 11 team - Carmarthen Hub Champions

Championship Wales 'cyclo-cross'

Congratulations to Guto Dafydd 9-2 for winning the cyclo-cross championship with Towy Riders held in Colwyn Bay recently.

Cricket Cap for Wales

Congratulations to Owen Bailey 7.4 for winning his cricket cap. He played in the under 11 squad. He has already played 15 games for Wales during the year.

He was presented with his cap in the Swalec Stadium in Cardiff on Saturday 5th December and the second cap was presented to him in a special school assembly.

Gold Award to the British team and Mrs Nerys Blue

Congratulations to Mrs Nerys Blue who was competing with the GB Team in the British rafting competition in Indonesia. The team won the Gold Medal in the 'head to head' rafting competition and 3rd in the Sprint.

Carmarthen Town Sports Awards - On Friday the 29th January the town sports' annual awards were held. Daisy Thompson yr.7 was awarded the young girl under 13, Iwan Glyn of yr.8 as the young boy under 13, Huw Butterworth from yr.11 as the intermediate boy under 16 and Aiden Jones yr.12 as a young boy under 19. The school's ski team finished second in the junior team category.

Summer 2016

The Music Department - On Wednesday, April 13, Year 13 pupils from the Department of Music visited QEH School to listen to a performance of compositions of two pupils in Year 13 who were Angharad Perkins-Thomas and William Pritchard. The morning is the result of a competition organized by a project of Young Composer, and pupils' compositions are performed by a professional ensemble, Red Priest; a delightful experience for Angharad and William. William had the opportunity to perform at a public concert in Rhosygilwen Mansion in Boncath on April 17. To add to their experience and education, a trip was organized in conjunction with Preseli and Strede schools to the Barbican Theatre in London on Thursday, April 21 to hear a live performance of this particular work.

The professional pianist, Iwan Llewelyn Jones visited the school on April 14. It was nice to congratulate the following pupils on their success in being chosen to the Six Counties Orchestra - William Pritchard, Bronwen Lewis, Sophie McLaughlin, Aled Rosser, Owen Llewellyn Jones, Ffion Richardson, Greta Llŷr, Gwenno Accaioli, Beth Jones, Daniel O'Callaghan, Manon Dafydd Jones, Andrea Jones, Nia James, Mali Hughes, Lowri Davies and Catrin Owen.