

The Governors' Annual Report to Parents



2018 / 2019

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Governors' Report

Dear Parent / Guardian,

It is a privilege and a pleasure to greet you as Chair of the Governing Body of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin in kindly presenting this report of the school's activities for the past year. It has been another year full of activities. Every governor considers it a privilege to be part of the family of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin and take pride in all its achievements.

I would like to sincerely thank all members of staff for their total commitment to all aspects of school life. Without their tireless work the academic and extra-curricular life of the pupils would be much poorer.

As well as praising the staff, we also praise the pupils for their various achievements, and for responding so positively to all the opportunities offered to them. The range of activities within the school is astonishing, and it is always a pleasure to read the Headteacher's report at our meetings. We are constantly filled with wonder and pride.

I am also indebted to you, parents and guardians for your support to the young people and the school. Raising youth in this age is not an easy task as the expectations are so high, and the pressure on their shoulders from different directions can be very heavy at times, but we know as a school, when working with your parents and guardians, that together we can guide and encourage the pupils to grow into polite and mature young adults, setting the best possible educational basis for them.

We are very fortunate in the support of the Parent and Teacher Association. Their work is key to the school and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them sincerely for their work in running activities of all kinds that not only provide opportunities for socializing, but also raise significant funds for the pupils' education.

In my last year as Chairperson and as a member of the governing body I would also like to thank my fellow governors for their invaluable contribution to the life of the school. I thank them for their loyalty to the meetings and their frequent visits to the school. It plays a key role in education today.

Finally, thank you to the Headteacher for guiding the school through another wonderful year of education, sometimes in difficult circumstances, with changes in the education sector. Thanks also to the Senior Leadership Team for their support and strong and dedicated leadership.

We look forward to continuing and building again into the future on the firm foundations that are continuously laid by Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin.

Thank you for your time.

Yours faithfully

Rev Beti Wyn James BD
Chairperson of the Governing Body

Headteacher's Report

This year is yet another successful academic year. Very strong examination results have seen us reach the top for the County's schools, and the schools within our family and Wales. It has been a particularly challenging year with all the changes to the GCSE exams but overall there has been an improvement in each of the performance indicators. I would especially like to thank pupils, parents and staff for their hard work and commitment. Teachers and students have continued to work hard to maintain the high standards set at Ysgol Bro Myrddin over the last decade. We are one of Wales' new 'Pioneer Schools' under the Welsh Assembly Government scheme and many new schemes have been introduced. Currently we provide Humanities lessons for year 7, special Health and Wellbeing lessons for years 7 and 8 and preparations are underway to teach Financial Education lessons and First Aid lessons. We have now been awarded the Fairtrade Flag and continue with pioneering new initiatives in that area. We are also accredited as a Financial Education school. We are now part of the Institute's partnership with Aberystwyth University in training new teachers.

It was also a very special year for us with the school celebrating the 40th anniversary of the opening of the building at the school's old site in the town. There was a special celebration with a grand concert of the school choirs, Rhys Meirion and Heledd Cynwal at the Lyric Theatr and a CD was also recorded to commemorate the occasion. There have also been many successes recorded on the school website and in our local papers and through Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. You will also see a list of successes and events as part of this report. We are proud to be able to report on a wide range of achievements achieved by our talented pupils and staff.

Our annual aim is to maintain and raise the school's high standards by offering an option of a broad curriculum and extensive extra-curricular experiences. To achieve this, it is important that we remain open and honest about all aspects of school improvement and in our view, the views of pupils and parents are integral to that. We develop the Pupil Voice in all aspects of school life and act on the outcomes. We are planning to strengthen the voice of the School Council by improving our year councils as we are keen to ensure that we are aware of the views of everyone associated with the school. We therefore ask you to use the questionnaire distributed during parents' evenings so that we can find out what you think of our performance.

Communication is key to us and we update our website daily to ensure usability. Our new website is certainly more user-friendly and provides all the latest school details. We also have an app that can be used on any smartphone. Our digital journey is developing, and we look forward to working with pupil digital leaders in the next academic year.

In conclusion, we would like to especially thank the Governors who give freely of their time to regularly attend various committees to discuss school policies and activities. Thanks also to all the staff and to you parents.

Dr Llinos Jones
Headteacher

Progress on Estyn recommendations in the 2015 Inspection Report

A1. Raising the standards of achievement in boys

Raising boys' standards of achievement has been a priority of our School Development Plan since 2015. Overall, the increase in boys' performance has been very good in both key stages in 2018/2019, including all the performance indicators at KS4. The gap between the performance of boys and girls has narrowed significantly in most indicators.

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

The School Development Plan since 2015 prioritises this recommendation and detailed plans are already underway. The work of the Teaching and Learning Working Group has developed tremendously and as a result there has been a clear increase in the quality of teaching.

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

The recommendation has been a priority for the 2016-17 Development Plan and specific targets have been set. A series of bespoke data documents has been created to improve the awareness of teachers, middle managers and governors of the school's performance data. In addition to the usual comparisons – the government data family, free school meals (FSM) benchmarking group and LA and Wales average – analyses include comparison of school performance (over four years) against schools with the lowest FSM percentages. They also highlight the school's position in a range of indicators and in a wide range of ways, including the ERW Regression Line and the Welsh Government. Ongoing in-house training has been provided for teachers, middle managers and governors and as a result, school managers and governors' awareness of school performance data in general, and the school situation, has improved significantly. Since 2016 this includes Heads of Department awareness of the importance of AS / A Level results and therefore our use of ALPS data information.

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

The recommendation has been one of the priorities of the 2016-17 Development Plan and a new School Development Plan and Departmental Development Plan have been formulated which provides firm foundations for its targets. These targets are also highlighted in the school's self-evaluation and there is a very clear link between the SDP and the new-look self-evaluation.

Members of the Governing Body 2018-2019

Chairperson: Reverend Beti Wyn James

Vice Chair-chairperson: Mrs Anne Loughran

Clerk: Miss Siân Thomas, Clerk to the Governors, Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin, swyddfa@bromyrddin.org

The Governing Body has 20 members:

Headteacher

6 Parent Governors

5 LA Representatives

2 Teacher Representatives

1 Staff Representative

5 Co-opted Representatives who are community members

Parents Governors (term ending)

Mr Nigel Cooke (04.10.19)
 Mr Mydrian Harries (09.11.20)
 Mrs Sian Davies (09.11.20)
 Mrs Iola Wyn (04.12.20)
 Ms Catrin James (20.11.21)
 Mrs Nerys Defis (07.10.22)

Community Governors (term ending)

Mr Elfed Davies (18.01.21)
 Mrs Anne Loughran (18.01.21)
 Mrs Luned Thomas (29.03.21)
 Reverend Beti Wyn James (29.03.21)
 Mrs Angharad Jones-Leefe (25.03.22)

Teacher Representatives (term ending)

Mr Aled Williams (31.08.21)
 Mr Steffan Davies (01.09.23)

Staff Representative (term ending)

Mrs Lonwen Bowen (26.05.23)

LA Governors (term ending)

Reverend Tom Defis (28.01.23)
 Councillor Cefin Campbell (28.01.23)
 Councillor Peter Hughes-Griffiths (25.09.20)
 Councillor Mair Stephens (25.09.20)
 Mr Arwel Lloyd (09.04.21)

Report on 2018-2019 priorities

YBM Strategic Priority	Action Steps in School Development Plan
Raising standards (with a particular focus on boys' achievement)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigating boys' attitude to various subjects and school experience at KS4 Ensure a suitable curriculum for boys and girls by adding various courses to the curriculum provision Develop our tracking and monitoring systems Departments to respond to the priority through their QDP and monitoring Meetings Raise the standards of individual departments identified in the departmental self-evaluations and ERW Support visit 1. Raise 6th form standards through various schemes Create a new development plan for the additional Learning Needs Department
Strengthening and harmonizing the quality of teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teaching and Learning working group to continue to develop pedagogy within the school Investigate reporting on new assessment methods Ensure high expectations of pupils across lessons and provide opportunities to extend the most-able pupils Develop differentiation strategies across mixed ability lessons Share good practice in effective questioning Further develop cross cutting trials Develop the whole school model of Learning and Teaching and pass the model on to the primary, parents and governors Share good pedagogical practice to the rest of the school staff Self-evaluation of departments following the Self-evaluation calendar Create an action plan following the 2017-18 KS3 departmental self-evaluation
Responding to national priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing the school as a curriculum innovative school through joint working with WAG and ERW on modernization plans Ensure effective CPD for all staff within the school Continue the digital journey Procurement of leadership capacity Develop the Welshness of the school
Develop the school's suspensory environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the County to improve site security Develop the school environment Respond to the growing problems of emotional health and well-being Develop the voice of the pupil and parents

Order of the day in Bro Myrddin

The timetable is arranged on a pattern of 5 lessons per day over a period of 10 days. The session times are noted below.

8.55-9.05	Registration		10.20-10.35	Breaktime		12.35-1.35	Lunchtime
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

Dates of the School Holidays for 2018-19

Term	Begins	Half Term		Ends
		Begins	Ends	
Autum 2019	3 September	28 October	1 November	20 December
Spring 2020	6 January	17 February	21 February	3 April
Summer 2020	21 April	25 May	29 May	20 July
Specific INSET Days – Monday September 2, Monday April 20 INSET Days at the school's discretion – Friday October 25; Monday December 9; Monday January 6; Monday July 20.				

New staff appointments for September 2018:

Mrs Sian Taylor – Part-time Business Teacher

Mrs Melanie Rees – Part-time Business Teacher

Miss Gwenno Thomas – Teaching Assistant

Miss Sioned Jones – Teaching Assistant

Links with the community

The school is used regularly by outside clubs and societies. We have worked closely with the Urdd, our 5x60 officer and our youth officer to deliver programs of provision through the medium of Welsh out of school hours or during school holidays. Our pupils contribute a great deal in the community by holding special evenings and assisting.

We also have close links 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 Senior Leadership Team. Her ready advice and work have been invaluable to us. Every year a host of guest speakers come to the school to offer help including representatives from local banks, local businesses and colleges.

Our humanitarian committee works hard annually to raise significant sums of money for local and national humanitarian causes.

Annual report – Finance

The Governors have a Finance and Buildings sub-committee which meets once a term to discuss these specific topics. In 2018-19 the school again managed to finish the financial year within budget. The outlook for 2019-20 is more worrying and we are forecasting a deficit for the first time.

The School's Financial Report 2018-19

Expenditure		Budget	Actual
	Salaries	3,393,138	3,267,900
	Buildings	371,997	375,842

	Stock and Services	440,020	426,183
		4,205,156	4,169,925
Income		Budget	Actual
	Customer Receipts	323,010	254,027
	Government Grants	3,867,698	3,893,713
	Other Grants	14,548	55,934
		4,205,256	4,203,673
Surplus / Deficit		-100	-33,748

Pupil Performance

As noted, excellent results were seen again this year

	2016	2017	2018	2019
L2 Welsh	83%	84.1%	85.2%	87.2%
L2 English	83%	76.6%	69.1%	81%
L2 Mathematics	86%	80.5%	77.9	85.8%
L2 Science	82%	93.8%	77.2	82.8%
L1	99%	99.2%	100	98.5%
L2	88%	79.7%	81.2	86.6%
L2+	82%	72.7%	75.2	84.3%
CSI	80%	73.4%	72.5	72.5
Points (capped 9)		390	405.8	410.8
5 A* to A				35.8%
Baccalaureate		64.8%	85.2%	91.8%
Numeracy		44.4	46	46.1
Literacy		45.8	46.3	46.2
Science		44.3	44.6	43.6

Summary of Secondary School Performance

Summary of Secondary School Achievements					
	Percentage of 15 year old pupils who:				
	Entered for at least 1 qualification	Achieved Level 1 Threshold	Achieved Level 2 Inclusive Threshold	Average points score 9 per capped pupil	5 A* to A score
	Number of 15 year old pupils on the register in January 2019:				
School 2018/19	100%	98.5%	84.3%	411	35.8%
LA Area 2018/19	100%	94.5%	58.5%	367	19.7%
Wales 2018/19	99%	92.7%	53.8%	353	18.1%

	Number of 15 year old boys on the register in January 2019:				
School 2018/19	100%	97.3%	81.3%	399	33%
LA Area 2018/19	100%	94.2%	54.7%	356	15.5%
Wales 2018/19	99%	90.9%	48.9%	336	14%

	Number of 15 year old girls on the register in January 2019:				
School 2018/19	100%	100%	88.1%	426	39%
LA Area 2018/19	100%	94.9%	62.5%	378	24.1%
Wales 2018/19	99%	94.6%	59%	365	22.5%

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.

Pupil Destinations

Pupils	Yr 11		Yr 12		Yr 13	
	Quantity	%	Quantity	%	Quantity	%
	135		96		79	
In full time education – in this school	91	67%	95	99%		
In full time education – in another school	6	4%				
In full time education – college	32	24%	1	1%	9	11%
In full time education – Higher Education Course					59	75%
Gap Year					7	9%
In part time education						
Youth training including apprenticeship	3	2%				
Unemployed and registered with Careers Wales						
Unemployed and not registered with Careers Wales						
Failed to start Employment/Higher Education due to illness						
Let the area	2	2%				
Not responding to follow-up steps therefore unknown						
Job	1	1%			4	5%

Attendance

The attendance percentage for Ysgol Bro Myrddin is very high on an annual basis.

Pupil attendance	2016/2017	2017/2018	2017/2018
Authorised absences %	4.3%	4%	4.7%
Unauthorised absences %	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Attendance %	95.5%	95.8%	95.2%

Governing Body's targets for attendance	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
Attendance %	96.1%	96.2%	96.3%

Toilet Facilities

Toilet Facilities are regularly inspected and form part of the cleaning contract with the Authority. Pupils, through the completion of a questionnaire and the work of the School Council, contribute to monitoring 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 the Healthy Eating and Drinking in Schools Bill which incorporates the 'Appetite for Life' guidance. This came into effect in September 2013. It sets out the strategic direction and actions needed to improve the nutritional standards of food and drink sold in our school. We have taken this forward with the support of the Catering service to ensure that all food and drink in our school complies with the measure. Healthy eating is promoted through Food Technology, Biology and PSE lessons. Regular messages are provided by staff regarding food and drink at school and off site. We are now aiming to reach Stage 5 of Healthy Schools.

Discipline

School rules are required to safeguard order 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 tutorials and all pupils are expected to comply. High standards of discipline are maintained through the implementation of a clear system of pupil discipline who do not comply. The subject teacher deals with the pupil first and if this does not alleviate the situation the matter is discussed within the Department. If the pupil needs to be dealt with further, he / she will be referred to the Head of Year for further discussions before discussing lunchtime detention. If a pupil misbehaves regularly and is placed in lunchtime detention more than three times, then parents will be informed that their pupil will be detained in an after-school detention. A pupil may be prevented from coming to school in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines. A policy of promoting positive behaviour is implemented in the school and as such, there is very little misbehaviour within and outside the school walls.

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

Health and safety

The school's Health and Safety policy reflects the Governing Body's aspiration to ensure a safe site for both pupils and staff. All employment categories of staff are represented on the staff Health and Safety Committee. This committee reports back to the Governors Health and Safety Committee. It is emphasized to staff that any defects / hazards should be reported immediately to the Health and Safety Officer. The school has been fitted with new protective fencing since September 2018 which ensures the security of the site.

Special accessibility arrangements for pupils, staff and parents with disabilities

The Governing Body has adopted the School's Strategic Equality Plan. This scheme ensures that pupils (or someone else who is a stakeholder of the school) with disabilities are not treated less favourably than others.

School Prospectus

The School Prospectus is modified annually to include any changes required by the Welsh Government and other relevant bodies. Copies are available on the school website or by email or if there are problems with that, a hard copy is provided on request to the school office.

Medium of Teaching and Language Policy

All National Curriculum subjects are taught and assessed through the medium of Welsh in Bro Myrddin and this teaching medium, Welsh, is of course the norm for most pupils who choose Bro Myrddin as a secondary school. All pupils in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 study all subjects, except English, through the medium of Welsh. Regarding Science in years 11 to 13, language choice exists but with the establishment of the current language policy on an annual basis this will change with the current years 7, 8, 9 and 10 continuing their education through the medium of Welsh. All pupils in KS3, KS4 and KS5 study Mathematics through the medium of Welsh. In Science and Mathematics at KS3, glossaries and subject vocabulary are provided in English and Welsh. In addition, English-medium resources, books and ICT as well as Welsh are used regularly to enhance pupils' linguistic, scientific and mathematical development. This ensures that all pupils will be able to discuss the subjects through the medium of Welsh and English, and removes any anxiety that may exist among those who believe that scientific and mathematical education through the medium of Welsh alone can make it difficult for pupils to adapt to the English-medium science and mathematics context after leaving school.

The Welsh Language

Welsh is the official language of the school for extra-curricular activities and most academic lessons. The school is proud of its Welsh ethos and acts to ensure that this is maintained for all new cohorts of pupils. Pupils who choose to attend school are encouraged to speak Welsh around the school, in extra-curricular activities and in lessons taught through the medium of Welsh. Parents are asked to support the school in this regard by encouraging their children to speak Welsh, to respect the Welshness of the school and to encourage them to do their best to promote this always. The school has acted on the targets of the Carmarthenshire Language Strategic Plan to move the school along the linguistic continuum. As a result, since September 2016 the school has changed language category from 2A to NC. This means that all subjects except English are taught through the medium of Welsh.

Policies

During the year one new policy was adopted by the Governing Body, the Teachers' Pay Policy 2018 and several other policies were updated.

Special Educational Needs Report 2018-19

Our aim at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin is to educate pupils with Special Educational Needs alongside their mainstream peers as far as practicable. Although children receive a differentiated curriculum, there will be occasions when pupils will be temporarily withdrawn, in order to focus on some key aspects of the work such as basic literacy and numeracy skills. This is done based on standardized tests and reports received from education authority officers and primary school headteachers and after discussion with parents.

Mr Dyfed James, the school's Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator is responsible for planning and co-ordinating provisions for pupils with special educational needs and arranging the work of support staff. The statements are reviewed annually, at a meeting arranged with individual parents and county support services.

Mrs Anne Loughran who has been named associate governor of the department. There are 79 pupils on the SEN register classified as follows.

Year	Statements	School Action Plus	School Action
7	1	7	12
8	3	9	11
9	1	1	10
10	1	4	7
11	3		4
12	1	1	1
13		1	1
Total	10	23	46

A profile has been created for each pupil on the SEN register known as the PCP (Person Centered Plan). The PCP shows the views of the individual pupil, the factors that affect their learning in lessons, the results of any standardized tests and teachers' targets.

Many pupils on the SEN Register now receive admission arrangements in their external and internal examinations. Pupils who are entitled to a reader were introduced to a computer reader. This enables pupils who sit Welsh or English Language exams to hear the text being read aloud. Therefore, pupils with poor reading skills but good reading and comprehension skills can access Welsh and English language papers for the first time.

The Department holds several specialist workshops including a handwriting workshop; a Fresh Start workshop; RockStars TT workshop; Literacy Toolbox workshop and Letters and Sounds workshop.

Pupil welfare

We have a team of people working for the benefit of the pupils. Five members of staff have been trained as child protection officers – Dr Llinos Jones, the headteacher; Mr Euryrn Madoc Jones, deputy headteacher; Miss Zelda Williams, Mr Jonathan Thomas and Mrs Rhian Carruthers, assistant headteachers. Heads of year play a vital role, as do the youth officer, attendance, health and welfare officer, school health nurse and counsellors. The school counsellors Mrs Netta Thomas and Miss Alex Davies saw 55 pupils this year. The Peer Mentoring scheme, a scheme to train sixth formers to work with vulnerable children is going from strength to strength.

Sports

The Governors are of the opinion that the main aims of the school sport have been realized, namely:

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

The department and the 5x60 officer offer a host of activities 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 the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award annually. The success of our pupils is on the playing fields at the school and extra-curricular especially with many individuals reaching a national standard. The school now has a Sports council that was voted on by the pupils. The role of the Sports Council will be to guide and advise the SLT on any issues relating to the field.

Successes

The school also prides itself on the academic and extra-curricular achievements of our pupils, not only on the playing fields but on national platforms and in the world of acting and the media.

Extra-curricular activities

Each year our pupils are offered a host of extra-curricular experiences to complement their academic studies. There are numerous tours, various workshops, interesting competitions, guest speakers, annual conferences and all sorts of opportunities.

Humanitarian committee

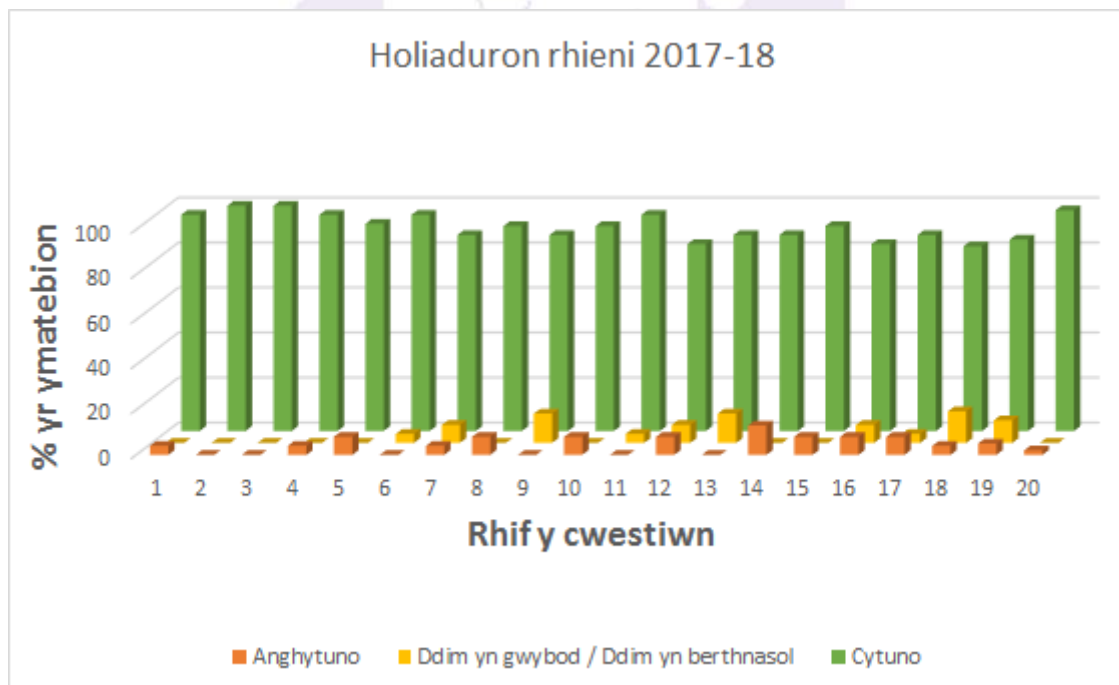
We have an active humanitarian committee of 70 sixth form pupils. This year £2,720 was raised for various good causes.

Annual Parents Meeting

Since May 2013 new arrangements have been in place for the full annual governors / parents meeting. Instead of a governing body having to hold an annual meeting with parents, parents have the right to request a meeting with a governing body on issues of concern. Parents can exercise this right up to three times during a school year, if the purpose of the meetings is to discuss school-related issues, not individual pupil progress and achievement or complaints about a member of staff or a member of staff governing body. Therefore, a meeting will be arranged with the Governors if 10% or 30 parents request in writing for a meeting using section 94 of the School Standards and Organization (Wales) Act 2013.

Questionnaire for Parents

Please use the questionnaire distributed during parents' evenings so that we can find out your views on our performance and, if appropriate, to suggest ideas that we can adopt for the benefit of the school. During the 2018-19 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 2018-19 trips, events and achievements

September – November 2018

Trips

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Myrddin Senior Girls' Choir trip to Belfast – in June the Senior Girls' Choir travelled to Gaelcháistí Dhoire in Dungiven, Northern Ireland, following a visit by Diarmaid Ua Bruadair, the school's headmaster to Carmarthen. The choir was there for four days tasting the culture and history of the country. The highlight of the trip was a special concert at Gaelcháistí Dhoire's Irish school.

Visiting Carmarthen Fire Station – 5 pupils from year 9 visited Carmarthen Fire Station as part of the Prince's Trust course in June. The pupils followed the program First Firefighter for the day. They had the opportunity to use equipment, work as a team and solve practical problems.

Trip to visit Tabernacle Church and Priory Chapel – On the morning of the 25th of June, year 7 pupils went on a Religious Studies tour to visit Tabernacle Church and Priory Chapel as they were studying reception rituals as part of their studies.

Bro Myrddin's success at the Urdd Brecknock and Radnor Eisteddfod 2018 – It was a very successful Eisteddfod for Ysgol Bro Myrddin again this year with 34 items traveling to the Showground in Brecon and Radnor during Whitsun week. Of the 34 items, 17 were very successful and received first, second or third prize. 9 first prizes were won: Alaw Grug Evans Presents Solo Folk Song Yr. 10 and under 19, Bro Myrddin Vocal Ensemble Yr. 10 and under 19 years old, Cerdd Dant Choir Yr. 13 and under Bro Myrddin, Cerdd Dant Yr. 10 and under 19 Bro Myrddin, Yr. Public Speaking Team 10 and under 19 Bro Myrddin and Choir S.A.T.B. Yr. 13 and under Bro Myrddin. Ffion Lewis came out on top with her 2D Design Yr 7-9, Daniel Griffiths won the Yr 9 Poetry competition and Anell Dyfri won the first prize for Original Script Composition (Yr 10 and U19). The second prize was won by Betsan Campbell in the Individual Folk Dance competition for Yr. 9 and under, Alaw Grug and Elin Fflur in the Yr. 10 and under 19s and Bro Myrddin Cerdd Dant Party Yr. 7, 8 and 9. We also received several 3rd prizes including Bryn Richards playing the drums in the Percussion Solo Yr. 7-9, Siwan Mair in the Cerdd Dant Solo Yr. 7-9, Celyn and Hanna in the Cerdd Dant Duet Yr. 10 and under 19 years of age, our Yr. 10 and under 19, and Llew Richards on the Year 9 Poetry competition.

Divine Poetry Competition 2018 – Congratulations to Elis Roderick who won the national Divine Poetry Competition 2018.

Year 7 trip to the Synagogue and Gurdwara – On Thursday 11th October 2018 year 7 went on a trip to the Gurdwara and Synagogue in Cardiff.

Year 8 visit to St David's Cathedral – Thursday morning, 27th September year 8 went on a Religious Studies trip to St David's Cathedral, Pembrokeshire. They were welcomed by Mrs Janet Ingram and Canon Leigh Richardson who had organized various activities around the Cathedral.

Paris Trip – Many year 8 pupils went on the school trip to Paris for three days at the end of July.

Year 7 in Llangrannog – Year 7 pupils and their teachers spent three days at the Urdd camp in Llangrannog at the end of September. This is a great opportunity for the pupils to get to know each other and work together.

School events:

Maes B Bach 2017 – At the end of the Summer term a special day was organized by the school's Welshness Committee (Project4Cymraeg) and the Sixth Form on the school fields to celebrate Welshness in style. The sun was shining, and everyone was delighted with the various stalls. There were numerous games at the courts and to entertain all pupils and staff, a visit from the immortal Mr Urdd himself. A lovely afternoon was spent listening to Welsh music, socializing and enjoying.

Yr 6 transition days – Year 6 pupils in the catchment area schools spent two days on the 6th and 7th of July at the school. There were opportunities to take part in language lessons and financial education and a chance to socialize and work together.

Contributions – During the year, £4,600 was donated to various charities by the philanthropic committee. Charities included Christian Aid, Talking Books for the Blind, MacMillan, Carmarthen Food Bank and Children in Need.

Head Prefects 2018-2019 – Congratulations to Efa Jones and Harri Jones on being elected head boy and head girl. Assisting them are Catrin Lewis, Cadi Evans, Christopher Evans and Iestyn McAvoy.

School Council Members 2018-2019 – Congratulations to the following who are members of the 2018-2019 school council. Yr 7 – India Skone and Tomos Lewis, Yr 8 – Mati Morgan and Steffan Huw Davies, Yr 9 – Emma Mackay and Alex Mote, Yr 10 – Elen Davies and Sion Jones, Yr 11 – Mabli Jones and Cai Phillips, Yr 12 – Emily Williams, Mali Hughes, Mabon Evans and Harry Williams-Potter, Yr 13 – Efa Jones, Ella Parmenter, Holly Cleaton, Harri Jones and Iestyn McAvoy.

Only Men Aloud Workshop – It was great to have Aled Powys Williams and Aled Owen crosses to school on Monday morning, September 10th for a workshop with a group of older school boys. They had an excellent opportunity to practice their rhythmic skills.

Re-opening of the newly refurbished Morrisons Store in Carmarthen – The Senior Girls' Choir performed at the reopening of the Morrisons Store on Thursday morning, September 13th, with some of the girls taking the opportunity to enjoy a full breakfast at eight in the morning, and that before the singing!

Young Composer of Dyfed 2018 / 19 – The Yr 10 – 13 Music group had the opportunity to attend a workshop at Ysgol Maes y Gwendraeth on Thursday, September 20th and hear performances by the experimental group 'Hermes Experiment', where an interesting combination of ensemble includes voice, clarinet, harp and double bass. We now look forward to composer in residence's visit – Lynne Plowman to work further with the pupils back at school.

World Peace Day – Friday, September 21st – One of the most important events in the Carmarthen Town calendar is the raising of a peace flag on World Peace Day. For several years now, the school's Senior Girls'

Choir has had the opportunity to perform outside St Peter's Hall at this ceremony, and it was great to receive the invitation to sing there again this year.

MacMillan Coffee Morning – Every year for a quarter of a century the MacMillan Charity has encouraged people to join the World's Biggest Coffee Bar by hosting an event at their place of work. The Coffee Morning was organized at the school on Friday morning, September 28th for staff and the sixth form. The tables were packed with delicious cakes ready for the morning. The effort was particularly well supported, and the room was buzzing with the extended break time. With an admission charge including a cup of tea or coffee and delicious cakes, plus a raffle the incredible £800 was raised. Thanks to everyone for their support.

Thanksgiving Service – To conclude the autumn half term the annual Thanksgiving Service was held in the company of the Reverend Beti Wyn James on the 23rd of October.

Carmarthen Food Bank – Following our thanksgiving service, the school received several donations towards Carmarthen food bank. The donations were distributed to the food bank by the school pupils on the morning of the assembly.

Open Evening 2018 – Once again this year, Ysgol Bro Myrddin opened its doors to the public on Thursday 18th October. There was a variety of activities and activities in every department around the school. To open the evening there was a bespoke talk by head teacher Dr Llinos Jones.

Crafts evening – The Parents Association held a craft evening at the school on September 27th. Profit of £669.50 was made with 35 various stalls.

Successes

Business Class Plan – Congratulations to Sara Jones who won a competition across Carmarthenshire schools for writing an article on the Scarlets to Dragons match on 'Judgment Day'. The competition was sponsored by the Principality as part of the Business Class Plan and the prize was an iPad presented to her by James Harper of the Principality.

Welsh Heritage Schools Enterprise Trust Competition – Congratulations to the school for winning 3rd prize of £700 in the Welsh Heritage Schools Enterprise Trust competition last week. The school was awarded at a special ceremony held in Cardiff by the Welsh Assembly Government. The school's project was 'Origins and Wings – developing the Cwricwlwm Cymreig across the school.' The school's KS3 pupils developed innovative approaches and resources, mainly in the fields of History, Science, Design and Technology and Welsh to support Curriculum. They have developed over 600 resources to develop their knowledge and understanding of the significant work of many Welsh people and famous events in the country.

Special awards – Annually, WJEC awards the best, most innovative Design and Technology projects. It is an honour to receive one nomination and this year 11 of the school's pupils were selected. Following this, a shortlist was selected and the work of that list on display at Swalec Stadium in Cardiff. This year, three projects were displayed and given the opportunity to win the best project across Wales. Congratulations to Owain Gibbin, Christopher Evans and Sam Silverthorne on reaching this exhibition. Certificates were also received for the excellent standard of the work of: Harri Griffiths, Wendy Owen, Cian Woodward, Rhodri Griffiths, Harri Jones, Sam Reynolds, Rhodri Lewis and Wil Garrard.

Cookery success – Congratulations to Millie Hughes-Butterfield of year 12 who has been awarded the best work in the British Nutrition Foundation's Food and Nutrition course across Britain.

Sporting achievements

Representing Wales – Huge congratulations to Betsan Thomas of Year 10 who played hockey for the Wales Under 15 team in the Future's Cup over the summer. Betsan won the tournament player. Congratulations also to her for receiving the player of the year trophy in the South Wales women's hockey league.

Welsh Athletics Team – Congratulations to Iwan Glynn of Yr 11 on his success over the summer with the Welsh Athletics Team. He came second in the Under 18 race and is now the fastest of his age in Wales in the 400 meters. Iwan has now won Welsh vests in cross country, on the road and on the track.

Wimbledon Success – Congratulations to Daniel Griffiths on his success at Wimbledon over the summer. Daniel and his partner won the doubles competition and came a close second in the singles competition.

Cycling – Congratulations to Morgan Lloyd of Yr 9 on winning the recent Under 13 British cycling race in Norwich.

Cricket – Congratulations to Gruffudd Owen, Yr 7, who has been invited to join the Glamorgan Cricket Club Junior Academy in 2018-19. He was selected based on his outstanding performances during the summer for the Wales Under 11 and Under 12 teams where he scored over a thousand runs for his country.

Congratulations to Owen Bailey of Year 9 on his recent success with the Wales cricket team. He has now been given his 50th cap and selected to the under 14 in every match this year.

Skiing – Congratulations to Rhys Owen of Yr 9 on winning a bronze medal in the Welsh schools skiing competition on October 14th.

Baton Twirling – Congratulations to Cerys Davies on winning two first prizes with the team and 3rd, 4th and 5th in the recent Torbay individual competition.

September and October games – it has been a very busy time at school with 40 different games.

The rugby teams won 6 games, lost 2 and 1 draw. The football teams won 7 games and lost one. There were 11 games won by the netball teams, one loss and one draw. We won 5 hockey games, lost 4 and had one draw.

Horse Riding – Congratulations to the school riding team on progressing to the final of the British national competition at Stoneleigh on the 8th and 10th of August. They were chosen as they have been ranked in the top 3 schools in the UK. The successful team was Celyn and Taran Yate, Rufus and Rogan Cox, Molly, Deryn and Ioan Cressey-Rodgers and Heidi Lewis.

November 2018 - February 2019

Trips

Maths Trip – On Tuesday 11th December, several year 10 pupils went on a trip to listen to the "Maths Inspiration" lectures in Cardiff. They had a very interesting morning listening to different presentations from several fun and lively speakers including Rob Eastaway and Ben Sparks.

Skiing trip to Austria – On the morning of Friday 28th December a double-decker bus left Bro Myrddin car park for St Anton, in Austria. 63 year 8 and 9 pupils were excited and looking forward to a week of fun and skiing. The weather forecast was promising with plenty of snow. After a long journey they arrived safely at the hotel.

Trip to London – For many years, the Music Department has been organizing a trip for school pupils to the West End to enjoy the buzz of theatre dancing and singing. This year, on Wednesday, January 30th, it was

again time for around 150 pupils to travel to London to watch one of the most popular musicals ever composed, The Lion King.

The Vacant Chair – On the afternoon of the 14th of February, Yr 12 Welsh group went to Yr Egin in Carmarthen to watch the poetry show 'Y Gadair Wag'. It was a multimedia show that told the story of the poet Hedd Wyn.

Religious Studies trip to the Buddhist Centre in Cardiff – Monday 4th February a group of year 9 and 11 pupils went on a Religious Studies trip to a Buddhist Centre in Cardiff.

Remembering Greenham Common – On Monday the 11th of February a group of Year 12 Welsh class went to Tabernacle Chapel Vestry in Carmarthen to hear a talk by two members of the Carmarthen Fellowship of Reconciliation, Guto Prys ap Gwynfor and Sian ap Gwynfor.

School events:

Celebrating 40 years of Ysgol Bro Myrddin – It was a pleasure to welcome a full theater of parents, former parents, pupils, ex-pupils and friends on the evening of Saturday 1st December to celebrate the school's 40th birthday. We enjoyed a feast of singing with Rhys Meirion and various school choirs. The evening was presented by former pupil Heledd Cynwal and three former headteachers of the school, the presidents, Mr Gareth Evans, the first headteacher, his successor Mr Eric Jones and his successor Mr Dorian Williams. It was a pleasure to listen to the comments and fond memories of Mr Gareth Evans who spoke on behalf of the three former headteachers. It was also a pleasure to hear, for the first time, a celebration commission poem written by the poet and former teacher and parent Tudor Dylan and composed by Mr Eric Jones. The celebration CD was also launched on the night.

Enjoying poetry with Eurig – It was great to welcome Eurig Salisbury to the Welsh Department to address classes from years 10 to 13. The pupils had a wonderful experience listening to the poet discussing poems. The Sixth Form took a step back in history as they studied the poem Gwennllian by Myrddin ap Dafydd and one of the earliest poems in the Welsh language, Argoed Llwyfain by Taliesin.

Children in Need – On Friday the 16th of November we celebrated Children in Need day at the school. They managed to raise an incredible £800 and everyone in their stripes and we also managed to add 850 Pawen Lawens to Aled Hughes' Children in Need campaign, Radio Cymru. It was also great to welcome Mr Urdd himself to the service to contribute to the campaign.

Wales Young People's Conference – On the 13th November 6 members of the school council attended the Wales young people's conference at Parc y Scarlets. It was an opportunity to discuss the new curriculum and the aspects that need to be considered in order to safeguard the welfare and development of the young people of Wales. During the workshops the pupils discussed the decline in the emotional well-being of young people and discussed possible actions for the schools. Our mentoring scheme within the school has been highly praised which ensures that the pupils have a listening ear.

Principality Award – Congratulations to Robert and Rosalin Day on receiving the Principality achievement award. Their prize was 4 tickets to the Wales v Tonga match.

Anti-bullying week – During the special week between November 12th and 16th all pupils at the school had the opportunity to design a poster for the corridors. The winners were Elan Thomas and Charlie-Jaye and their work will soon be displayed around the school. Congratulations.

Eco Committee – Congratulations to the school for receiving our second green flag now following the work of the Eco committee and the whole school community. The flag was presented to the Eco committee at a special assembly on Wednesday 21st November by Bethan Evans-Phillips, the County's healthy schools officer.

Art Achievement – Congratulations to Ceri Lewis and Catrin Lewis from year 8 and Amity Evans from year 9 on being accepted onto Carmarthenshire's More Able and Talented Art scheme.

Eisteddfod Ddwl – Congratulations to the school on winning the twelfth Eisteddfod Ddwl on November 20th organized between Strade, Maesygwendraeth and Bro Myrddin schools.

Lighting the Morrisons Christmas Tree – On Friday the 1st of December a group of girls from years 7,8 and 9 went to sing carols outside the Morrisons store to celebrate the lighting of the tree.

School Band playing in the Morrisons store – Thirty of the school's brass and woodwind pupils had an enjoyable experience on the last Monday morning of the term, December 17th entertaining the busy Morrisons shopkeepers.

Visit the Elderly Home, Caeglas, Ffairfach, Llandeilo – Wednesday morning, December 19th – It is now custom for the Music Department to visit the Elderly's home at Christmas, and it was lovely this year to take a group of Year 12 and 13 pupils to present a Christmas program to the Elderly Home at Caeglas, Ffairfach, Llandeilo.

Last Day of the Term Service – On the day of the term, Friday the 21st of December, it was lovely to hold a Christmas Service in the school hall. The Service was led by the head prefects: Efa Jones and Harri Jones and it was nice to welcome Rev Beti Wyn James to join us. There were a variety of readings, prayers and carols. There was also a recital of some items performed at the School's 40th Celebration Concert at the Lyric Theatre. The assembly ended with the whole school singing 'Merry Christmas to you all'.

Welsh Youth Parliament – Warmest congratulations to Lois Campbell and Cai Phillips on being elected members of the Youth Parliament. Over 450 candidates from across Wales competed for 60 seats. Lois was elected as a member for Carmarthen East and Dinefwr and Cai as a member for Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire. It is indeed an honour to have two pupils from the school sit on this new, innovative parliament.

Centre for Excellence in Financial Education – The school received the 'Centre for Excellence in Financial Education' accreditation from Young Money, a financial education charity at a conference in Birmingham on 13th November. The overarching aim of the Centers of Excellence program is to support practical, effective and sustainable financial education for young people in schools. Ysgol Bro Myrddin is the first Secondary school in Wales to achieve the accreditation.

Winter Fair in Builth Wells – Congratulations to Gilbert Roberts on winning the champion prize in the Young Guides competition at the Winter Fair in Builth Wells.

Shepherd of the Year 2018 – Congratulations to Sara Brown of year 11 for winning the 2018 Shepherd of the Year title.

Drummond Education Award 2018 – On November 20th Millie Hughes-Butterfield from year 12 traveled with her teacher Mrs Non Knott to the Royal College of Physicians in London to receive the British Nutrition Foundation Drummond Education Award 2018. Millie was recognized and rewarded for the best work in

Britain in the GCSE Food and Nutrition course on behalf of the WJEC board of education. Millie was presented with a certificate and a cash prize by Princess Anne.

School Eisteddfod – On Thursday, February 15th the annual school eisteddfod was held. Again this year we had a fun day and keen competition. The winner of the Welsh chair was Lois Campbell of Llwydiarth and the English chair was also Laurie Thomas also from Llwydiarth. The Welsh crown was won by Prial Dyfri from Llwydiarth and the English crown was won by Carina Sidhu from Peniarth. The winners of this year's choir competition were Hengwrt. The folk dancing trophy was won by Hergest with the stage competitions trophy won by Llwydiarth and the homework trophy by Peniarth. But the winners of this year's eisteddfod in the following order were Peniarth with 1,049 points, Llwydiarth with 945 points, Hergest with 883 points and Hengwrt with 680 points. The two judges were Mr Geraint Hughes and Mrs Siw Hughes.

Pupils on their way to Oxford – Congratulations to the school's head girl, Efa Jones and Andrea Chang Jones on receiving a place at Jesus College, Oxford for September 2019.

Music Workshop – On Friday the 13th of January, Year 8 pupils had a workshop with 'Bongo Clive'. The morning was great fun as the pupils had the opportunity to work together and experiment with their rhythmic ideas.

Bro Myrddin PTA – Over the past few months the school's PTA has been very busy collecting money. A cheque for £1,000 was received from the school to buy new benches for the pupils and another check was received from the 500 Club for the school fund. All money raised by the society is used for the benefit of the children – thank you for your support.

Sixth Form Mentors – It was great to be recognized in the School service recently Sixth Form Mentors. Since 2010, the peer mentoring scheme at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin has been in place under the guidance of Mrs Judith Al-Rawazik and Mrs Morwen Hughes. Year 12 pupils are trained to act as mentors to the school's younger pupils; the role of the mentor is very important in ensuring that the school's younger pupils settle in happily and have older pupils as their support if needed. 58 pupils were trained this year; the greatest number ever! Thank you to everyone for their valuable work.

Cricket Wales Star of the Year – Congratulations to Gruffydd Owen from year 7 who won the Welsh Cricket Star of the Year award for the second time for the Welsh Under 11's cricket team.

Tryweryn – It was a pleasure to welcome Emyr Llewelyn Jones to the school to talk to Year 8 pupils about the history of Tryweryn. He spoke passionately about his experiences campaigning and protesting the drowning of Capel Celyn. A very valuable experience! We thank him for bringing the history to life for our pupils.

Litter picking – On the morning of the 13th of February, year 7 volunteers and members of the eco committee picked up litter from the school grounds. The school is now a plastic-free school; as a result, therefore, it was pleasing to see that only a small amount of rubbish was eventually collected by the pupils. The important thing now is that everyone in school continues to use multi-use bottles and use the correct bins for their rubbish. Thank you everyone for volunteering!

Financial contribution to purchase 'Chromebooks' – Thanks to Mr Robert George of RG Fencing Ltd, Castell Howell, Acstro Ltd and Gomer Press for their generous contributions towards the purchase of chromebooks for the school. They will be very helpful.

Contribute to Welsh music day – On Music Day Wales members of the school choirs went to some of the town's elderly homes to present a copy of the school's 40th Celebration CD so that the residents of the homes could listen to the music.

F1 Competition – On Tuesday 19th February a schools F1 competition was held at Cardiff City stadium. Congratulations to the school teams: Gator Racing for winning the best presentation award; Team Vulcan for winning a team identity award and coming third in all competitions and Sonic Speed for winning the star of the future award.

Sporting achievements.

Rugby teams – 13 games have been played recently by the teams. We managed to win 7, lose 5 and 1 draw.

Netball teams – A total of 33 netball games were played by the teams. Successfully won 26, lost 6 and 1 draw.

Hockey teams – A total of 24 games were played. We won 15, lost 7 and 2 games. The under 14s and under 18s are now County champions and the under 18s are Dyfed champions.

Cross Country – Congratulations to the following for reaching the Welsh cross-country championships – Cerys Davies, Eva Edwards, Daisy Thompson, Erin Morgan, Liam Edwards, Dafydd Jones, Frank Morgan, Ioan Cressey Rogers, Ifan Bowen

Netball – Congratulations to Efa Jones and Cadi Evans of Year 13 for being selected to the Welsh Under-21 Netball squad and Lucy Davies and Awen Gower of Year 10 for being selected to the Under 17 squad.

Football – all schools' cup schools in Wales were played by all teams and the year 7 boys team and the year 9 and 10 girls team have reached the semi-finals.

March 2019 – July 2019

Trips

Religious Studies Trip to the Islamic Centre – On 8th April 2019, year 8 pupils from Ysgol Bro Myrddin had the opportunity to visit the Islamic Centre in Carmarthen.

School events and achievements:

Eisteddfod success – Congratulations to Steffan Jones from year 12 who came 2nd in the Llangadog Eisteddfod Literature Trophy and Lois Campbell who came 3rd.

Skilled writer – Congratulations to Evan Burke of year 12 for coming second in the national Keep Wales Tidy competition with his journal article on environmental protection.

Design and Technology innovation awards – congratulations to the Design and Technology Department and to the pupils whose work has been nominated for the Welsh Joint Education Committee's innovation awards. The work of Henry Jones, Iestyn McAvoy and Cian Woodward of Yr 13 was nominated; the work of Harri Griffiths and Alisha Davies of year 12 and the work of Laurie Thomas, Bedwyr Thomas and Steffan Howells of year 11.

Awards Night 2019 – An evening to remember in the company of Mr Steffan Griffiths (former pupil and weather presenter on S4C) was held on Thursday the 11th of April celebrating the achievements of the academic pupils of 2018. The evening was opened by the head boy and head girl of the Harri and Efa Jones,

before being entertained by the school's senior choirs. After a talk by Headteacher Dr Llinos Jones, Steffan Griffiths inspired the audience with his bespoke message about the privilege of being Welsh.

The winners of this year's awards were:

Ysgol Bro Myrddin Award: Mared Owen;

Beti Hughes Memorial Prize: Garmon Dyfri;

Gareth Evans Trophy (bl.13) (contribution to the cultural life of the school): Sian Elin Rees;

Gareth Evans Trophy (yr.11 / 13) (constant effort in year 11 or 13): Wendy Owen;

St. Peter's Players Award: Hannah Richards;

Megan and Myfanwy Memorial Trophy: Ailsa Fearn;

Rhian Denby Jones Memorial Trophy: Ffion Wyn Jones / Alaw Evans;

Business Department Trophy: Mari Wyn Thomas;

Andrew Rees Trophy: Daniel O'Callaghan;

Music Department Trophy: Alaw Evans;

Hugh Griffiths Trophy: Ffion Wyn Jones;

Margaret Morris Memorial Trophy: Jessica Thomas;

Physical Education Trophy: Eva Edwards;

Elin Ruth Jenkins Trophy: Efa Jones / Cadi Evans;

Non Jenkins Trophy: Josh Jones;

Peter Hughes Griffiths Trophy: Lewis Rocke;

Emlyn Schiavone Trophy: Sam Icke;

Rheon and Eiliw James Trophy: Iwan Glynn;

Modern Languages Award (yr.11 / 13) (Best performance in MFL): Gwen Page Gibby;

Pupil Award – Second Mile (Yr.11): Ania Quiros

5k walk – fundraising for Mind and the School Fund – On the wintery day, April 5th the whole school went out to close School Mental Health Week. Thank you to everyone for their contributions with the school raising over £7,000 on the day to be shared equally between Mind and the school fund.

Profile morning – on the 2nd of May the year 11 annual profile morning was held. Following a welcome and a brief word from Dr Jones a tailor made speech was given by Mr Edward Morgan of Castell Howell. The morning was followed by an afternoon of celebration.

Urdd Eisteddfod – Over the half term, 29 competitors traveled to Cardiff to compete in a variety of competitions. Congratulations to the following for their success.

1st – Elin Fflur – Cerdd Dant Solo 10-13;

Alaw Grug and Elin Fflur – Cerdd dant duo;

Cerdd dant group 10-13;

Cerdd dant choir Yr 13 and under;

Mali Lima cogurdd y 7-9;

Annell Dyfri – composing Yr 12/13.

2nd – Bryn Richards – Percussion solo 7-9;

Elin Fflur – Girls Solo 10-13;

SATB Choir Yr 13 and under;

Vocal Ensemble 10-13;

Elin Fflur – Folk tune solo 10-13;

Recitation party 10-13.

3rd – TB boys choir Yr 13 and under;

Cerdd Dant Party 7-9;

Public Speaking Team;

Siwan Mair Jones – Girls Solo 7-9.

Bro Myrddin Monsters – Eurig Salisbury and Gruffydd Owen were welcomed to the Welsh Department this season to meet our Bro Myrddin Beast Poets team. The young group of year 9 and 9 pupils will be competing against Ysgol y Preseli, Ysgol Llangefni and Ysgol Glan Clwyd at the end of June.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award – Congratulations to 90 year 11 pupils on receiving their Duke of Edinburgh award Bronze certificates at Queen Elizabeth High School recently.

South Wales Volunteer / Good Neighbour 2019 – Congratulations to Sioned Tattersall of Year 13 for winning the 2019 Good Volunteer / Neighbour award.

Sporting achievements

Principality Success – Congratulations to the school's senior rugby team on their 46 to 12 win against a Bassaleg school in the Welsh schools vase final. Many thanks to the sponsors, Ffoshelig Buses and Castell Howell. It was nice to see nearly 600 pupils and a host of parents traveling to support the boys. Thanks also to Aled Griffiths, our former rugby officer for coaching his final game for the school.

Welsh Champions – On Saturday the 11th of May a group of girls traveled to the New Saints Stadium in Oswestry to play the Welsh schools cup final. The under 15's team beat Pencoed school by 4 goals to 0. Therefore, the school's under 15 girls are the Welsh Champions. It was great to see the girls in a brand new kit sponsored by Teifi Forge.

Welsh Champion – Congratulations to Amelia Dawber of Yr 9 for being Welsh Champion in the Taekwondo yellow belt for 2019.

Cricket – Congratulations to the year 10 cricket team for winning the Lord Taverner competition recently.

Bro Myrddin Sports – The school has been very fortunate to have a dry day for the sports this year. There was intense competition between individuals and between the courts with a number of dazzling solo performances. Llwydiarth was victorious on the day with a score of 927, Hergest 2nd with 684 points, Hengwrt 3rd with 658 points and Peniarth 4th with 576. Following the annual routine trophies were awarded to the girls and boys with the most points in the competitions.

The individual winners this year were:-

Yr.7 Girls – Efa Nicholas Vardill;

Boys - Dion James;

Yr.8 Girls – Gwenllian Llwyd Jones;

Boys - Zack Elvy;

Year 9 Girls – Scarlett Mackenzie;

Boys – Frank Morgan;

Yr.10 Girls – Daisy Thompson;

Boys – Dafydd Jones.

Dyfed Sports – pupils at the school have been busy competing in Dyfed Sports recently; results as follows; 1st – 16 awards; 2nd – 14 prizes; 3rd – 13 awards; 4th – 10 prizes.