

MAJOR NEWS / NEWYDDION MAWR

SPRING TERM / TYMOR Y GWANWYN	
Start / Dechrau:	Monday 8 January 2024 / Dydd Llun Ionawr 8 2024
Half Term / Hanner Tymor:	Monday 12 February 2024 – Friday 16 February 2024 / Dydd Llun Chwefror 12 – Dydd Llun Chwefror 16 2024
End / Diwedd:	Friday 22 March 2024 / Dydd Gwener Mawrth 22 2024
Week Beginning – Monday 26 February 2024 / Dydd Llun Chwefror 26 2024	Week 22 / Wythnos 22

Message from the Headteacher

A very warm welcome to this week's edition of Major News and Happy St David's Day! Today's Eisteddfod has been a resounding success with students and staff alike putting on excellent performances. It was wonderful to see the school community come together for this whole-school event and I extend my heartfelt thanks to all staff that were involved in the organisation and planning.

There has been a significant improvement in punctuality over the last two weeks due to the introduction of late gate. Please continue to discuss the importance of arriving to school on time with your child. We will be having individual conversations with any young person with an attendance record of lower than 90% over the coming weeks and making contact with parents/carers to discuss this. If your child has an attendance record of 90% that means they miss approximately 4 weeks of schooling over the school year, and, research shows, could achieve a grade lower at GCSE than the one which they are capable of. It would therefore be very much appreciated if you could discuss the importance of coming to school with your child/children. If children are not here they cannot engage or learn.

Unfortunately, uniform standards have slipped a little of late with more pupils wearing leggings to school. Please be reminded that leggings are not school uniform, and that if children wear them, they will either be asked to change into items from our uniform store or parents/carers will be invited to bring clothes in so their child may change.

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we have recently finished a big piece of consultation work on feedback and will be streamlining our approach to feedback moving forward. I have been speaking with year groups in assemblies this week and will continue to do so next week to explain what they can expect. I will send a separate communication to parents on Class Charts early next week so that you too are updated.

As ever, many thanks for your continued support and I wish you an enjoyable and relaxing weekend.

Mrs C L Robins

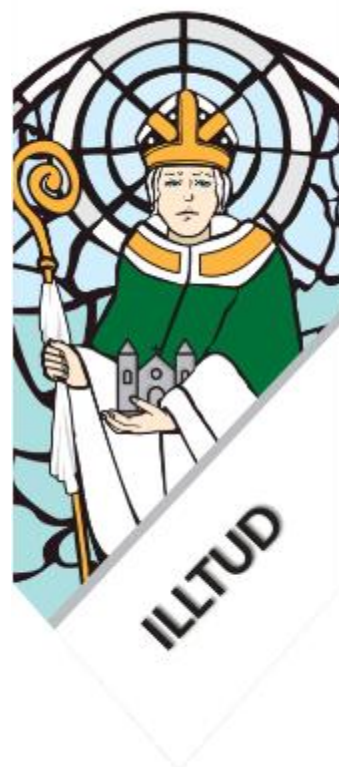
School Calendar

Week Beginning – Monday 26 February 2024 / <i>Dydd Llun Chwefror 19 2024</i>	Week 22/ <i>Wythnos 22</i>
Monday 26 February / <i>Dydd Llun Chwefror 26</i>	
Tuesday 27 February / <i>Dydd Mawrth Chwefror 27</i>	Year 9 Seren Trip – Cardiff
Wednesday 28 February / <i>Dydd Mercher Chwefror 28</i>	
Thursday 29 February / <i>Dydd Iau Chwefror 29</i>	
Friday 1 March / <i>Dydd Gwener Mawrth 1</i>	Eisteddfod
	Coming Up/ <i>I ddod</i>
Monday 4 March / <i>Dydd Llun Mawrth 4</i>	
Tuesday 5 March / <i>Dydd Mawrth Mawrth 5</i>	
Wednesday 6 March / <i>Dydd Mercher Mawrth 6</i>	RS Trip: Year 7 – Senedd
Thursday 7 March / <i>Dydd Iau Mawrth 7</i>	RS Trip: Year 7 – Senedd
Friday 8 March / <i>Dydd Gwener Mawrth 8</i>	

Welsh Department

We have been celebrating our school Eisteddfod today. It has been a huge success with pupils from years 7-10 competing in a variety of on-stage competitions such as singing, instrumental, drama productions and Welsh recitals. Pupils have been competing for weeks, entering off stage competitions in every subject. It has been brilliant to see the excitement growing amongst our pupils. Pupils have been representing their houses Illtud, Branwen and Gelert. So far it has been a very close competition – who will be crowned the overall champion for our Eisteddfod this year? Who will win the prestigious Chair of the Bard award?

We will reveal the results and photos will be shared via X (formerly Twitter) and in next week's newsletter. Pob lwc to every house!



Business Studies Department

We embarked on an educational adventure with our Year 7 pupils as they dived into a Farming Project! They combined Mathematics with real-world application by creating financial plans for the farm, exploring diverse scenarios, and improving their analytical and problem-solving skills.

In this adventure, students delved into the realm of agriculture, investigating cutting-edge farming methods and technologies. They used their creativity to bring their mathematical designs to life through a cooperative Minecraft build, transforming virtual landscapes into sustainable farms.

Finally, Abi Reader, NFU Cymru Deputy President came in to talk to Year 7 about how Maths, Science and Technology is used in farming. The pupils enjoyed seeing the relevance of these curriculum areas within a real-world context.



Year 9 Seren Workshop at Cardiff University

This week, 15 students from the Seren group chose to attend a STEM workshop at Cardiff University with a focus on engineering. A suite of engaging activities were provided by Airbus, Balfour Beatty, and Network Rail to raise aspirations with an engineering focus.

Balfour Beatty

The highlight of this workshop was exploring how technology can be used to benefit society. Spot the dog, a robotic dog that specialises in advanced 3D scanning, is used in areas of nuclear sensitivity and earthquakes and uses groundbreaking technology to complete otherwise potentially dangerous work.



Airbus

I was blown away by the knowledge of our students about aeroplanes! I shouldn't have been so surprised due to our locality to the airport, but they really did know far more about Airbus designs and manufacturing than the Airbus lecturer expected them to. Top marks for this workshop Llantwit!



Network Rail

This workshop investigated bridge making materials, construction and design. Students were challenged to work out which chocolate bar from a range of fillings - would hold the most weight before snapping whilst acting as a bridge between two poles. Calculations were made and design features were examined prior to testing their strength and weak points. Students also got to keep the chocolate!



A week in Sport

Please see the new PE extra-curricular activities that will be on offer this half term. 🏋️ As always, all activities are on offer to all year groups and we welcome new and returning pupils to these clubs. 🙌

PE Extra-Curricular Timetable					
Week 1/Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:00pm – 4:00pm	Football Mr Nunes Netball Mrs Watson Dodgeball Mr Crocker	Fixture Day	Basketball Mr Crocker Self Defense 5x60	Badminton Mrs Watson	

A huge congratulations to Mick Davies and Owen Hignell who competed in London on the weekend in Taekwondo. 🏋️

They had a very successful day with Mick taking bronze in his category 🥉 and Owen taking gold in juniors and silver in his first senior fight. 🥇🥈 Well done from all of us here at [#teamllantwit!](https://www.facebook.com/teamllantwit/)



JUNIOR SERIES RANKINGS

U13 Girls Doubles

1	Poppy Toutt	U13	3365 pts
2	Anne Winston	U11	3170 pts
3	Ailsa Coles	U12	2818 pts
3	Lolo Coles	U13	2818 pts
3	Molly Daniel	U13	2818 pts

Swipe For More
→

A huge congratulations to Poppy Toutt in the most recent U13 Welsh rankings. 🇬🇧 Badminton Wales have released the rankings so far this year and are worked out when attending National Junior Development Squad Camps. Poppy has attended camps in Bangor and Risca with the next located in Haverfordwest. 🏸

Another fixture in the bag for our continually growing year 7 rugby team. 🏆 Unfortunately we lost out to a well drilled Bro Morgannwg side but we showed glimpses of excellent team play and managed to score 2 fantastic team tries 🏆 #teamllantwit

Try scorers: Louis Morris 🏆 Lance Morgan 🏆

🏆 Mr Nunes' Player of the match 🏆🏆 Evan Clayfield 🏆🏆 Lance Morgan 🏆



Welsh Schools' F.A. @WelshSchool... · 2h ·
 Congratulations to the following players who have been selected in the U14 provisional squad to represent their school, county and country when playing against England independent schools later this season. Bendigedig! @WelshSchoolsFA

CARFAN MERCHED DAN U14 YSGOLION 🇨🇾 CYMRU

AIMEE CAKE CAERPHILLY & DISTRICT SFA	HANA EVANS CEREDIGION SFA	PROVISIONAL
ASHA WILLIAMS CARDIFF & VALE SFA	LALITA EGAN CEREDIGION SFA	
BEGW GRUFFYDD CARMARTHENSHIRE SFA	OLIVIA DAWKINS CARDIFF & VALE SFA	
CHARLIE MICHAEL RHONDDA CYNON TAFF SFA	FFION SAUNDERS CARDIFF & VALE SFA	
LIBBY WILLIAMS CAERPHILLY & DISTRICT SFA	NEVE POWELL CAERPHILLY & DISTRICT SFA	
LILY DAVIES CARDIFF & VALE SFA	NYREE LOWTHER CAERPHILLY & DISTRICT SFA	
MALI YIM-JONES CEREDIGION SFA	KATIE MCGRATH NEWPORT & DISTRICT SFA	
ELENI TUCKER CARDIFF & VALE SFA	LAUREN MCKENZIE SWANSEA SFA	
MARTHA APPELBY SWANSEA SFA	LEXI-MARIE COLE CARDIFF & VALE SFA	
SYDNEY BAKER CARDIFF & VALE SFA	TRINITY REAKES CAERPHILLY & DISTRICT SFA	

WELSH SCHOOLS U14 GIRLS SQUAD

Congratulations to Lily Davies and Asha Williams who have been selected in the U14 provisional team to represent the school, county and country. 🇨🇾 There will be 3 warm up games against Gloucester, Plymouth and Birmingham and then the big one against England! 🏈 Well done to Lily and Asha from all of us at #teamllantwit! 🇨🇾🏈🇨🇾

What a fantastic day for a game of rugby today! 🏉🌞 A mixed game for our Year 9 team today, who having had a slow start, put on an incredible defensive display against a very well drilled Bro Morgannwg side. We also showed glimpses of good execution and came up with the reward of two great length of the field tries! A special mention to Year 8 pupils Kyle Paulett-Howe, Rory Edbrooke, Jack Collins and Eddie Mullis who once again stepped to help out the Year 9 team. 🏆 #teamlantwit

Try Scorers: Seb Gant 🏆 Josh Martin 🏆 Conversions: Jack Collins x 1
 Player of the match: 🏆 Archie Owens 🏆



**SELF DEFENCE
TASTER SESSIONS**

← →

FREE TASTER SESSIONS STARTING ON :
Wednesday 6th March 3-4pm
FOR 3 WEEKS

* KIT REQUIRED - DOESN'T HAVE TO BE PE KIT *

Meet in Leisure Centre
ALL YEARS WELCOME!

**BOOK YOUR SPACE WITH YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN
 VIA:**

<https://forms.office.com/e/iNPX8FeYR4>
OR BY SCANNING THE QR CODE:

SCAN ME




Help and support information

If you feel you may need help and support with the cost of living crisis the links below may be of use.

Is my child eligible to receive free school meals?

<https://www.gov.wales/free-school-meals-information-parents-and-carers>

Services and support that help with food costs. Information on food vouchers and food banks.

Penarth food pod:

https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/press_and_communications/latest_news/2022/March/New-Food-Pod-opens-in-Penarth.aspx

Vale Food Bank: <https://vale.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/foodbank-vouchers/#Vale%20foodbank>

Food Vale: <https://foodvale.org/where-can-i-get-support/>

How to get free or cheap food: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/shopping/how-to-get-free-or-cheap-food/>

Find information on grants and benefits available to you such as Council Tax Reduction.

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Cost-of-Living/Grants-and-benefits.aspx>

Get help with household and energy bills.

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Cost-of-Living/Household-and-energy-bills.aspx>

If your child is in receipt of free schools meals and you would like to discuss any aspect of their school life please contact Mrs E Denscombe at denscombe@llantwitschool.org.uk

Classroom Expectations



A poster with a blue background and a dark blue header. The header contains two yellow hexagons, a white square with a red and blue grid pattern, and the text "CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS" in white. Below the header are four horizontal bars of varying shades of blue, each containing a large yellow letter followed by text: "Be Ready", "Engaged", "Safe", and "Take Responsibility". At the bottom, the text "BEING THE BEST WE CAN BE" is written in white and yellow. There are also yellow hexagons at the bottom left and bottom right.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Be Ready

Engaged

Safe

Take Responsibility

BEING THE **BEST** WE CAN BE

Key Academic Dates 2023/2024

Spring 2024:

- **Start:** Monday 8 January 2024
- **Half term:** Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February 2024
- **End:** Friday 22 March 2024

Summer 2024:

- **Start:** Monday 8 April 2024
- **May Day BH:** Monday 6 May 2024
- **Half term:** Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024
- **End:** Monday 22 July 2024 (**INSET**) (Students finish on Friday 19 July 2024)

INSET Days:

- **INSET Day 4:** Monday 19 February 2024
- **INSET Day 5:** Monday 8 July 2024
- **INSET Day 6:** Monday 22 July 2024

General Information

Contacting School

Please refrain from telephoning the school, other than for urgent purposes. For all general enquiries please email llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk. **Please be reminded that we operate an appointments only system for meeting with parents/carers and if you present at school requesting an immediate appointment we will not be able to accommodate you.**

Forgotten Items

We can no longer accept the delivery of forgotten items such as PE kit, books, lunch boxes etc. during the school day. Please ensure your child arrives at school with the equipment needed for the day. In the exceptional case that you do need to bring an item into school for your child, you will be asked to leave it on the desk in the main entrance. This is to reduce traffic on to the school site and ensure student safety during lesson transitions.

Medication

Please note we **do not** stock medication of any kind in school, including paracetamol, and we are not allowed to dispense medication without parental consent. If your child receives prescribed medication a medical form, available from main Reception to be collected by your son/daughter, will be required to be completed and returned to Reception. Should your child need medication throughout the school day please ensure they bring just what is needed for the day to school with them.