

## MAJOR NEWS / NEWYDDION MAWR

<b>AUTUMN TERM / TYMOR YR HYDREF</b>	
<b>Start / Dechrau:</b>	<b>Monday 4 September 2023 / Dydd Llun Medi 4 2023</b>
<b>Half Term / Hanner Tymor:</b>	<b>Monday 30 October 2023 – Friday 3 November 2023/ Dydd Llun Hydref 30 – Dydd Gwener Tachwedd 3 2023</b>
<b>End / Diwedd:</b>	<b>Friday 22 December 2023 / Dydd Gwener Rhagfyr 22 2023</b>
<b>Week Beginning – Monday 20 November 2023 / Dydd Llyn Tachwedd 20 2023</b>	<b>Week 11/ Wythnos 11</b>

### Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to the final November edition of Major News. Christmas is nearly here- that's come around quickly!

We were delighted to welcome so many current Year 11 pupils and their parents/carers to our sixth form open evening last night. It was also encouraging to see some new faces from other schools that are considering joining us. The evening was a great success and I'm immensely grateful to all staff and students that took part. If you were unable to attend, the presentation delivered is on the school website.

We have a number of events coming up over the next few weeks that we would love you to attend. Our next Parent Forum meeting takes place on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023** and is a fantastic way for parents/carers to get involved in school improvement. In addition, our Christmas Fayre will be held on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023** and we would encourage you all to come along in order to make some Christmas purchases and get in the festive spirit in general!

In the meantime, I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable weekend and thank you as ever for your continued support.

**Mrs C L Robins**

## **Music and Performing Arts Department**

### **Music Exam Success**

Congratulations to Emmy Saddler on achieving her Grade 3 Musical Theatre Singing and to Lloyd Gardiner for achieving Grade 4 Piano this month!

Thank you to Mrs Arscott for all her hard work supporting these students to success.

Considering music lessons at Llantwit Major School? Get in touch now. [Tomsh@llantwitschool.org.uk](mailto:Tomsh@llantwitschool.org.uk)

### **Drama Exam Success**

Another year another set of fantastic GCSE Drama Exams. 🙌 For a number of years the drama department have nurtured and encouraged vertical working where sixth form support year 11 giving direction and feedback and year 9 and 10 provide a supportive and creative audience.

We are super proud of our creative family who worked to encourage the year 11 students to perform to their best ability last week.



## **Mathematics Department**

This week saw the [meeting](#) of STEM club, a joint maths and science club where pupils from year 9 are embarking on a project to gain a bronze CREST award.

They are very excited to be completing a project looking at fraud detection of coins and gold.



On Thursday, 70 year 11 pupils enjoyed a reward lunch as an appreciation of the hard work that they put into their maths revision last term.

We are so proud of the effort you put into your numeracy exam preparation, we hope you enjoyed the pizza!



### **Religious Studies Department**

This week, we have had the external assessor in to check books 3, 4 and 5 of our Year 11 SWEET qualification pupils. This qualification is 100% coursework and relies upon our pupils working hard every lesson and completing 8 different booklets over years 10 and 11. She was very pleased with the quality of work we had to show her and I am thrilled to say that so far, all books that have been seen have passed. Keep working hard year 11. The double award is in your reach!



**Information Technology Department**

**Digital Technology – Year 7**

We are happy to announce that starting next week we will be launching two new clubs for Year 7s to take part in.

'Code Wizards' will be on every Week 1 Thursday at lunch time with Mr Bell in M8. This will be a coding club where you can develop your programming ability.

'Block and Roll Roboteers' will be running consecutively on Week 2 Thursday, lunch time, with Mr Craven in M1. This will be a robotics club using Lego Spike Prime kits.

We will continue to run our usual ICT homework club every Wednesday lunch time in M1.



**A week in Sport**



A huge congratulations to year 8 pupil Nancy Thomas who competed in the Welsh schools trampoline competition at Sports Wales Centre on Saturday. Nancy placed silver in the Elite year 7-14 CAT 2 Female category. 🙌

She will go on to compete in Solihull in the zonal finals in January. 🏆 Well done from all of us at [#teamllantwit](https://twitter.com/teamllantwit)



Well done to year 13 pupil and health and wellbeing leader Seren Woolley Thomas who today delivered and introduced her health, fitness and wellbeing challenge to year 7 this morning. 🍌

It's so pleasing to see Seren set such a positive example and role model healthy behaviours. 🏆 We look forward to see some of the homework projects soon. 📖 [#teamlantwit](#)

A great game of rugby this afternoon saw [#teamlantwit](#) take on local rivals Cowbridge. 🍌 With Cowbridge struggling for numbers, several Llantwit boys stepped up with Ethan Rogers, Max Reed, Timothy Balbach, Kai Connor Parker, Haydn Whitelam and Jacob Puddick all playing a half for the visitors. 🍌 It's very pleasing to see strength and depth in this squad!

Cowbridge showed great offloads in the contact area and came out victors winning 36-14. 🍌 Another special mention to the year 10 pupils who helped with the warm up and organising of the fixture. 🍌

Try scorers:

Tommy Roberts 🍌

Jac Collins 🍌

Conversions: Jac Collins x2 🎯

Man of the Match: Tommy Roberts 🏆



Away trip for the year 7 rugby team today and thankfully the weather held out nicely for the whole game.

☀️ A tough encounter against a well drilled St Cyres side. The defence from the team was impeccable at times, putting an incredible amount of tackles from start to finish. Sadly, a lack of possession for a majority of the game cost us with the final score finishing 42-5 to the home side. We go again next Monday against Pencoedtre at home. 🍌

🍌 Try Scorers: Evan Clayfield 🍌 🏆

🍌 Mr Nunes' Player of the match: Joe James 🏆



Basketball club this afternoon in full flow. 🏀 Great attendance once again. 🏀 [#teamllantwit](https://twitter.com/teamllantwit)



### Student Council Update



Hi! My name is Lyla McGuinness, and I am one of the year 12 representatives of our 2023/24 school council. So far the Student Council has had four meetings where we have discussed several topics that we would like to address. Some of the things that we are looking at doing as a council are:

- Making a student guide on how to use class charts
- Finding spots for students to revise to improve academic achievements
- Exploring life skills courses
- Promoting Extra Curricular Clubs
- Working with Big Fresh our Catering Provider to improve the canteen service

These are only a few of the things that the council are planning to achieve over this academic year.

Last week we presented to the whole school about tackling bullying too as we want to work with the teachers and support staff in our school to #makeanoiseaboutbullying. We have also had a meeting with the Mayor of Llantwit to talk about ways we can link ourselves to the community better, engaged in student ambassador training with the Vale of Glamorgan and took a trip to the Barry Civic Offices to meet with other schools in the Vale. We discussed what the other school councils had talked about, if there were similar issues within the schools, and ways that we can resolve them. Here we learnt about #whiteribbonday, which is a National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November. To help tackle and end violence against women Rizik has created a presentation which shares with students the impacts and dangers of peer on peer sexual harassment through online platforms and in school and encourages young men to call it out when safe and able.

The students of the school council can guarantee that we will do our BEST to create a thriving pupil voice in our school community as we want the BEST for our students and staff.



### Christmas Community Fayre



## **Schoolbeat.Cymru Session**

Last week, PC Thomas came into school and took lessons with our year 7 students. She talked to them about the risks involved in the taking and the sending of photos without consent. PC Thomas went through many examples of when it may or may not be appropriate to do so and how to get help and support if someone take and shares photos without consent.

To find out more about the session, click on the following link:

<https://schoolbeat.cymru/croeso/partners/think-b4-u-share>

We are very grateful to PC Laura for coming in and helping to raise awareness of this issue to help enable our young people to make better and informed choices.



## **Parent Forum**

**Next Meeting Date: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 6pm**

If you would like to suggest an agenda item prior to the meeting, please email [tomsh@llantwitschool.org.uk](mailto:tomsh@llantwitschool.org.uk)

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** [http://www.llantwitschool.org.uk/docs/Parent\\_Forum\\_16th\\_October\\_2023.pdf](http://www.llantwitschool.org.uk/docs/Parent_Forum_16th_October_2023.pdf)

### **What is the Parent Forum?**

The Parent Forum is a partnership between parents and the school. It is a valuable way to share ideas, views, and concerns and make suggestions for improvement.

### **The aims of the Parent Forum will be to:**

- work together to improve the education provided for our children
- share information, knowledge and skills
- meet in a mutually supportive environment
- further improve communications between parents/carers and staff/governors



The parent forum does not have any statutory responsibilities, duties or powers in the school.

**Who can be part of the parent forum?**

Any parent/carer of children currently at Llantwit Major School is welcome to join any parent forum meeting. The forum will be chaired by Miss Toms. At times other members of the school community will also attend the meetings depending on the agenda items and what the school feels they would like to share with the parents, such as new initiatives.

**ParentPay**

We are continuing to move towards a 'cash-less' school. All trips and items for purchase will now be set up via ParentPay, allowing you to pay online without the need to send money into us.

Please use the ParentPay system to make any required payments, and avoid sending in cash payments into the school. If you have not already set up a ParentPay account, please contact us and we will be happy to send you the relevant link and details to put this in place.

Using ParentPay not only allows you to make payments, it provides a list of all the payments you have made and provides details of any balances due and when they are required.

As you know ParentPay is also used by our pupils to pay for their school meal. Please remember to check your child's balance regularly to ensure they have sufficient funds available to purchase their meal. For those pupils who do go 'overdrawn' letters will now be sent to parents/careers to advise them of any negative balances.

School Calendar

Week Beginning – Monday 27 November 2023 / <i>Dydd Llyn Tachwedd 27 2023</i>	Week 12/ <i>Wythnos 12</i>
Monday 27 November / <i>Dydd Llun Tachwedd 27</i>	
Tuesday 28 November / <i>Dydd Mawrth Tachwedd 28</i>	<b>Flu Vaccines – Years 7 - 11</b>
Wednesday 29 November / <i>Dydd Mercher Tachwedd 29</i>	<b>Year 8 Team Building – Royal Navy</b>
Thursday 30 November / <i>Dydd Iau Tachwedd 30</i>	<b>Year 8 Team Building – Royal Navy</b>
Friday 1 December / <i>Dydd Gwener Rhagfyr 1</i>	
	<i>Coming Up/ I ddod</i>
Monday 4 December / <i>Dydd Llun Rhagfyr 4</i>	<b>Parent Forum Meeting</b>
Tuesday 5 December / <i>Dydd Mawrth Rhagfyr 5</i>	
Wednesday 6 December / <i>Dydd Mercher Rhagfyr 6</i>	
Thursday 7 December / <i>Dydd Iau Rhagfyr 7</i>	<b>Years 12 and 13 Art and Design Trip – Cardiff.</b>  <b>School Christmas Fayre</b>
Friday 8 December / <i>Dydd Gwener Rhagfyr 8</i>	<b>Years 12 and 13 Geography Trip – Cardiff</b>

## **Key Academic Dates 2023/2024**

### **Autumn 2023:**

- **Term End:** Friday 22 December 2023

### **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](mailto:llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk). **Please be reminded that we operate an appointments only system for meeting with parents 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.