



Welshpool High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Y Trallwng

*Raising Achievement By Raising Expectations*

*Codi Cyrhaeddiad Trwy Godi Disgwyliadau*

## Upcoming Events

Meet the Headteacher Evening —  
Tuesday 8th November at 6.30pm in  
Theatre Clera. Please follow this link:

[https://forms.office.com/r/  
YCsh5wyfD3](https://forms.office.com/r/YCsh5wyfD3)

Year 13 Parents Evening — Thursday  
17th November 4.30-6.30pm

## Good News



On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October, Betsy Mills-Hogg competed in the 'Dancer of the Year' competition at the M & S arena in Liverpool. Betsy had performed at a dance convention in Nottingham in July and had been spotted in all of her dances by different dance choreographers. She was then selected for this prestigious event, judged by Oti Mabuse an ex professional on the BBC's *Strictly Come Dancing*. She danced against 60 dancers aged up to 18 and got down to the last 15 dancers from all over the UK. Oti told her she was amazing and we think so too!!! Well done Betsy!!

## Message from the Headteacher

At the end of a fabulous half-term, it is important to take stock of all the achievements that students have made. It has been a delight to get to know so many students and to see them really embrace school life. One part of this has been their contributions to assemblies. We really believe in celebrating all successes wherever we can, and I have never seen so many certificates been given out to so many students or had so many students receive a round of applause for their tremendous efforts in representing the school in Sports or Arts based activities. I know that there are some students who are nervous about receiving public praise, and this is hopefully something we can work on. In attempting to build a culture where it is 'cool to do well in school', we are striving to celebrate all our students in some way and alongside this there is a need for building resilience, in order for us to arrive at a place where we are confident that ours is a school that strives to be the best it can be.

This is one of the things that I have picked up along my journey in education and I am fortunate enough to have seen it at its best previously, in one of the truly most outstanding school's you could wish to see. I know from experience that even at that school, the ethos of being proud to celebrate took time to arrive at.



During all assemblies in October, we have included a celebration item in reference to Black History Month. It has been a pleasure to view many of these assemblies and find out more about Katherine Johnson, Martin Luther King, Mary Seacole, Derek Redmond, Sadio Mane, Faith Thomas and David Unaipon amongst others. The students have responded excellently to these assemblies. I can remember back to assemblies during my own school years, and they had none of the vibrancy or inspiration that I have seen in the last few months. I am really proud of the planning and imagination that colleagues have put into these and also for the way that students have participated.

I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable half term and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in November.

Mr J Arnold  
Headteacher

# BULLETIN

Friday 28th October 2022

# Curriculum Focus: MFL

## Meet the team:



The MFL Department has 3 teachers – Mrs Winter (Head of MFL), Miss O'Sullivan (Head of Spanish) - and Ms Bridgland (who teaches French along with Maths). We have Language Ambassadors, who are MFL students from years 10 and 12, who represent the Department at Open Evenings and around the school.

## KEY STAGE 3

Students are set for MFL in the Spring Term of Year 7 and are in the same set for Welsh. In Year 7 in French, the emphasis is on Communication and the main themes studied are Myself, My school, Sports and Where I live. These are further developed in Years 8 and 9, along with a variety of new topics. Students are taught for two 50-minute lessons per week, developing their language skills and as well as their knowledge and understanding of France and French-speaking countries. In Spanish in year 9, more able students are introduced the Spanish language. They have one 50-minute lesson per week. Students learn the basics, such as greetings, introducing themselves and others, talking about their family, pets, hobbies and their local area. They also learn about the Spanish speaking world and some of the key differences between the Spanish spoken in mainland Spain and Latin America. The emphasis is on developing their language skills and an authentic Spanish accent. In both

French and Spanish, the More Able and Talented pupils have a number of resources to enhance their language learning, and ALN pupils are supported within the classroom.

## KEY STAGE 4 and 5

Both French and Spanish are an option available at GCSE and A level. The courses continue to develop students' skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Throughout the courses, the emphasis is on the student's ability to communicate effectively in a variety of situations in the Target Language, as well as being able to manipulate the language independently. As in other schools, it is not necessary to have studied Spanish in Year 9 to choose it as a GCSE option.

## Our Language Ambassadors



An outside speaker talking to Year 9 students about the importance of continuing studying a language to GCSE and beyond



# European Day of Languages

The MFL Department celebrated the European Day of Languages on September 26th. All pupils studying a Language from Years 7 to 13 were asked to create a dish from a European Country, and classes did activities in their lessons about the different languages in Europe and beyond.



## Sponsorship Opportunity

If there are any local companies or businesses that would be interested in sponsoring some new kit for our sports teams, we would love to hear from you! Many of the sports kits that are worn by our teams are now outdated. We also lack kits for certain sports or for certain age groups. For any new kits that are sponsored, we will run a press release to advertise your company within the local

media. The kits will then regularly be seen on our Twitter and Instagram pages whenever our teams are in action.

Please get in touch with Mr Humphreys, Head of PE, if you are able to assist on this matter.

aled.humphreys@welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk

## PE

The girls have just competed at the North Powys under 16 hockey tournament.

They played against 3 other schools, and the results were

Welshpool 0 V 4 Llanfair  
Welshpool 9 V 0 Newtown (the scorers were Mackenzie M, Eva G, Bethan B x 3, Hope W & Seren H x 3)  
Welshpool 0 V 0 Llanidloes

The girls came 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. What a great result!

Miss Black  
PE Teacher



Boys results from last week –

U13 boys football won 8-5 vs Caereinion in the Welsh Cup

U14 boys rugby lost 48-22 to Llanfyllin

U16 boys rugby lost 52-7 to Llanfyllin

Mr Humphreys  
Head of PE



## Music Half Term Roundup

Following on from the huge success of our Summer Concert back in July, rehearsals are now well underway for our Christmas end of term events.

We had a fantastic response to being back to live and active music making in the Summer and, as always, the pupils of Welshpool High School really did themselves and the school proud, as was reinforced by the letter that Bethan Scotford sent into the County Times:

“Everyone involved with producing the end product—namely the showcase concert with pupil performers, in Welshpool High is to be thoroughly congratulated on the brilliant final result . . . Well done everybody; warmest congratulations”.

Again this term, our extra-curricular groups have been preparing with enthusiasm for the key events at the end of this term (see key dates below) and should be really proud of the standard they have achieved in such a short space of time.

Singing Group have grown to be double in size and have been working hard on their version of *Don't Stop Believin'*, Live Lounge have been working equally hard on their version of *Let it Go* by Passenger, Concert Band on a James Bond medley and Jazz Band, as ever, working through a wide variety of music as fast as Miss Charles can keep up with!

When can I hear them perform I hear you ask? And the answer is, thankfully, in no time at all! We cannot wait for you to join us to celebrate the best that live music has to offer, and the key dates for the end of this term are highlighted below (more details to follow).

### Music Department Key Dates:

**Sunday 4th December**

RABI Christmas Event

**Wednesday 14th December**

Christmas Concert

**Tuesday 20th December**

Mince Pies and Music Event

Mrs Evans  
Head of Music





## Careers

As part of our careers programme employees are invited into school to create links with subjects and the world of work. In September and October the following organisations have come into school to talk to some of our students:

- Coed-y-dinas
- Morland and Newmor
- Dawson Shanahan
- SWG
- Royal Navy

After half term our annual careers event will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November. Students will receive information regarding this event during the first week back where we will welcome over thirty-five organisations into school.

Mr Loxam  
Assistant Headteacher

## Attendance

Attendance continues to be high profile. After half term we will have special assemblies to discuss our high expectations for every student with regards to attendance. We continue to work with our Educational Welfare Officer, and we will support students and families as best we can to make sure that every student attends school and achieves their full potential. Our students have requested that we revisit the rewards trip to McDonald's in December to recognise good attendance. This will be promoted to the students in November and will sensitively take into consideration genuine medical reasons for any absence.

Mr Loxam  
Assistant Headteacher

## BHM

This October, we have been celebrating Black History Month in Welshpool High School, with assemblies and lessons on the importance of recognising the contributions that Black History has on our society today.

Mrs Winter



## Design and Technology

Moorlands Welshpool came in to talk with Year 11 Design and Technology groups on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October about their company, what it does and offers, and possible career routes.

The speakers were:

Shane Evans (Engineering Manager)  
Phil Jones  
Rachel Jones (Human resource manager)

Mrs Lewis  
Head of Design and Technology



## Key Contacts

**Main switchboard:** 01938  
552014

**Office email:** [office@welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk](mailto:office@welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk)

**Head of Sixth Form:** Mr R Pengelly

**Head of Year 11:** Mrs V Jones

**Head of Year 10:** Mrs M Poulton

**Head of Year 9:** Miss G Charles

**Head of Year 8:** Miss J Haycock

**Head of Year 7:** Mrs R Aldridge