



Welshpool High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Y Trallwng

*Raising Achievement By Raising Expectations*

*Codi Cyrhaeddiad Trwy Godi Disgwyliadau*

## Message from the Headteacher

It was a very proud day for all of us last week, when the year 10 boys football team travelled to Bala to play in the Welsh National Cup Semi-final.

Despite the defeat, it was superb to see the team pull together; respond to instructions and most importantly, never give up.

There is, on this occasion, always next year.

So much effort goes into helping a group of students succeed in the way that the Year 10 boys have done this year. The positivity that has built up around this team has come from the praise that they have received in assemblies, the casual conversations in the corridor or on entering classrooms to wish them luck and the response has been a real togetherness as a team and a school community.

A similar sense of pride was felt recently when the Netball squads performed so well in the Powys tournament. The manner in which the U12 & U14 teams successfully won all five of their matches was extremely impressive.

There are so many groups of students in school who work together and form strong bonds in order to achieve a common goal.

The Eco Group and the Student Council are included in this.

As we enter the annual examination season next week all of our hopes and best wishes are with our students and we are confident that all of their hard work and effort will pay off. Recently, especially our Year 11 students have been amazing, and this is borne out by the incredible attendance and concentration at the additional revision sessions.

Good luck everyone!



## Upcoming Events

School examination season begins next week...



## Mini Marathon

On Saturday 22nd April 2023 Mackenzie McCourt and Maddie Griffiths were running in the TCS Mini London Marathon Championships representing Wales; which they qualified for in the Welsh schools' cross-country championships held in Brecon. Mackenzie competed in the U15 girls race which was a 2.6km course and came 34th out of 207 competitors. Maddie came 63rd out of around 200 runners in UK; representing Wales in the U17's. What amazing achievements... Great job. Well done to you both.



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## Judo Championships



Rhys and his coach Alan Jones MBE of AJ Judo.

Last month Rhys Handel (11PW) travelled to the Northern Ireland Open Judo Championships in the Foyle Area in Derry.

This is a British ranking event so was well attended with over 500 judo players attending over the whole weekend.

Rhys competed in the -73 Kg cadet category and came home with a very credible bronze medal.

Rhys smashed all expectations at this tough event and did himself, his Club and Country proud.

Congratulations Rhys!

## Fire Safety

Thank you to Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service for an excellent talk this morning to our Year 7 pupils regarding Fire Safety at home. Families can request a free fire alarm and a free safe and well visit by using this contact link: [www.mawwfire.gov.uk](http://www.mawwfire.gov.uk)



## Netball

On Wednesday 26th April Welshpool High School hosted the North Powys Under 12, 13 and 14 netball tournaments. All 6 high schools attended with nearly 180 pupils taking part plus a number of helpers/umpires. It was a very successful day with our pupils.

The U12(Yr. 7) played 5 games and won all 5 games, which meant they became North Powys champions.

Great job girls. The U13 (Yr. 8) played 5 games, 3 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss.

They came 3rd in North Powys.

Well done girls. The U14(Yr9) played 5 games and won all their games, which meant they became the North Powys champions.

Great job girls. What an amazing day and great effort by every pupil taking part. Well done!

I would also like to thank the year 10 girls, Year 12/13 girls and not forgetting Sam C and Freddie M-J for looking after the score table.

(S Black)

## Places For Nature Grant

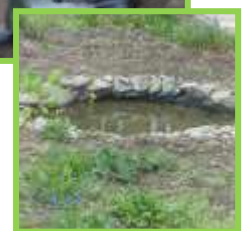
The school has been awarded a Places for Nature grant from Powys County Council and on Thursday 27th April Ezra Tattersall, Biodiversity Officer from Powys came to inspect the work which has been carried out.

He said, "I'm really impressed with the project and what you've achieved with the funding."

We have created three separate areas - The Orchard, The Food Garden and The Biodiversity Garden. The project could not have been completed without the willing contributions of many members of staff and also pupils. It is hoped that staff and pupils will all benefit from and enjoy watching nature return to some parts of our school. The project should lead to an increase in biodiversity around our site as we have provided homes and food for pollinators, birds, butterflies and pondlife. Changes in mowing practices in the orchard have already seen wild flowers return and Ezra spotted several unusual plants in our unown area. In addition to this we are hoping to have food to share with pupils or for use in the Technology Department (think apple crumble!) and to involve some of the pupils in learning about growing their own food.



Ezra pictured with Mrs Bartley and Mr Bass.





## DLS Coronation Lunch



In true DLS style we celebrated the Coronation of our new King. All the staff contributed food to replace our usual lunchbreak with a little tea party. Once the children had finished their dinner, we offered them some of the delicious cakes for them to enjoy as well. It was a wonderful start to the bank holiday weekend and enjoyed by all.



## Key Contacts

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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