



Welshpool High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Y Trallwng

Raising Achievement By Raising Expectations

Codi Cyrhaeddiad Trwy Godi Disgwyliadau

## Message from the Headteacher

In one of my most read books, 'The Sports Gene; Talent, Practice and the Truth about Success' by David Epstein, the subject of how you can become really good at something, suggests that the process can take up to an average of 10,000 hours. The same can be said for Artists, Musicians and Actors.



Sometimes when we see a performance, or sports match we can fail to see the effort and application that has gone into honing the skills required to produce a high standard.

Over the past few weeks, it has been a privilege for me to be able to observe the growing confidence of the cast of performers in our school production of 'Mary Poppins Junior'. The hours and hours of dedicated practice are astounding and the ability to take and act on persuasive criticism to enhance the end product have been a joy to see.

We are all really excited to see the school show next week and I hope that everyone who wanted a ticket has managed to secure one, it promises to be a fantastic few evenings.

In fact, so excited is my youngest child (who has just turned 7), she has been watching Mary Poppins over and over so that she can join in the songs. I'm confident that she will be inspired and will want to grasp these sorts of opportunities when she gets to secondary school age.

Giving children a chance to showcase their talents is so important and hopefully they will feel as proud of themselves as we all are of them following the shows next week.

I hope you are able to join us & I look forward to the shows providing us with a fantastic way to end a half term and a perfect opportunity to prove that it is so worthwhile to practice developing your talent.

## Upcoming Events

Mary Poppins production takes place Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th February.

**Half term:**

Mon 12th - Fri 16th Feb.

**School begins:**

Monday 19th February.

## Next Week!

**Welshpool High School Expressive Arts Team**  
PROUDLY PRESENT THEIR PRODUCTION OF

Disney and CAMERON MACKINTOSH  
**MARY POPPINS JR.**

Tues 6th & Weds 7th February 2024  
**THEATRE CLERA at 7pm**

© Musical based on the works of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Story.  
Original Music and Lyrics by Richard M. Sherman & Robert G. Sherman.  
Book by Julian Fellowes.  
New Songs and Additional Music and Lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony DiNoia.  
Co-Created by Cameron Mackintosh.  
Adapted by Theatre under the supervision of Timothy Allen (Edinburgh).  
This entire production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International. All authorized performance material are also supplied by M.T.I. www.MTI.com

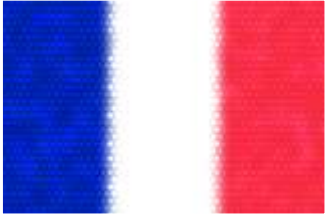
Original London and Broadway Production Credits:  
Produced by Cameron Mackintosh and Thomas Schumacher  
Co-Director/Stage Director  
Co-Choreographer: Shoshana Mann  
Casting: Chicago, Howard Rosenberg  
Set and Costume Design: Bob Crowley  
Casting and Choreography: Malvine Roemer  
Directed by Richard Eyre

**TICKETS: £10 Full Price and £8 All Concessions**

## MFL Dept

Our MFL language ambassadors are setting up a Yr 7 lunchtime French Club, on Mondays in C26. All welcome.

Reminder for Yr 11 French learners that the after school Speaking Exam prep sessions are on Tuesdays at 3:30-4:15



## Reading Challenge

The English department ran a reading challenge entitled 'Twelve Books of Christmas' before the holidays.

Everyone who entered gained five house points per book read with the aim of achieving 60 points in total. We were very pleased with the number of entries and hundreds of house points were awarded!

The most avid readers in Key Stage three are listed below:

Year 7: Aeryn McConnell  
Year 8: Ffion Bennett Wilson  
Year 9: Bronwen Ashworth.

An excellent effort by all involved, da iawn!



## Airbus Broughton Trip

Y10 and Y12 Product design pupils went on a trip this week to Airbus Broughton. Airbus are a world leading international aerospace company based out of Broughton, Chester. You may have seen Beluga aeroplane flying over Welshpool as we are in its flight path every Wednesday. This unique plane was developed to fly the wings from Broughton to other assembly locations in Spain and Germany.

On the trip, the students got an introductory presentation to the company discussing all of their planes, helicopter and space interests. They presented the different sites and what was made there and some of the many techniques and technologies used there. The pupils then got to have a guided tour of one of the manufacturing hangers, seeing first hand how the company put together the wings for the A350 aeroplane. Both the facilities and production were cutting edge using advanced robotic manufacturing and modern materials such as Carbon reinforced polymers. The pupils were exceptionally well behaved and asked some great and challenging questions of the guides.

After the tour, the guide discussed all of the employment opportunities they have within the company, discussing lots of routes in, for all abilities and interests. These included, internships, apprenticeships in both craft and business, degree apprenticeships and graduate schemes.

This was a very successful trip and we will definitely be making this an annual event where we hope to build a lasting relationship with the company.



## Bute Energy

Geography students in year 10 were visited by Catrin from Bute Energy on the 16th January.

The pupils got to hear all about renewable energy and future careers in the renewable energy sector.

The pupils enjoyed the quiz and also got to build their own wind turbines.



## 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: Mrs W Jones

Head of Year 11: Mrs L Frank Head of Year 10: Miss G Charles Head of Year 9: Miss J Haycock

Head of Year 8: Mrs R Aldridge Head of Year 7: Mrs J Loxam and Mrs S Lewis