



Welshpool High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Y Trallwng

Raising Achievement By Raising Expectations

Codi Cyrhaeddiad Trwy Godi Disgwyliadau

Message from the Headteacher

As we approach the end of term, activities have not slowed down in school, they have continued to gather pace and our fantastic students still have the ability to amaze with all of their achievements and the way that they grasp opportunities given to them.



In the last few weeks, it has been a pleasure to watch and hear about so much fantastic sport taking place. There are too many teams to mention them all - but I particularly enjoyed watching the Year 7 boys football team win the Powys Cup final and the U18 girls hockey versus Oswestry School.

Before the end of term, we have our annual Christmas Concert and also the Music and Mince Pies event to look forward to.

Recently I was delighted to speak with four amazing students Ryan Davies, Noah Dearing, Evan Haine and Henry Seddon who had made a fantastic video focusing on what it was like for one family from Ukraine to settle in Powys. This showcased the immense talents that many of our students possess.

All this takes place on top of the endless pursuit of academic growth, and recently all of our students sitting examinations in Years 10 and 11 were an absolute credit to you (and we wish them well).

I hope that all students have an enjoyable last two weeks of term where they can enjoy all of the normal festivities that go on in school.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 11th December

Christmas Concert and Rehearsals

Thursday 12th December

Year 12 Parents Evening (4.30pm - 6.30pm)

Tuesday 17th December

Music and Mince Pie Afternoon

Friday 20th December

Year 11 Rewards Trip, Trafford Centre

Important Message

Just a reminder that we have children with allergies in school and that nuts should not be brought into school if at all possible.

Remembrance Day 2024

Congratulations to all of our pupils that represented various Cadets at the Welshpool and Newtown Parades. It was fantastic to see so many pupils from schools across all years paying their respects. An extra congratulations to Gwen Jones from Year 11 who played the Last Post at two services in Welshpool and represented the school impeccably.

Photographs taken by Gary Williams.



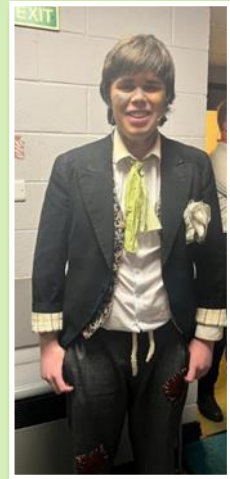
Music

Music Termly Round Up

Another fantastic term of amazing achievements and performances by our talented crew! I think by reaching the end of this article you will agree that there is much to be proud of at Welshpool High School.

Our Artful Dodger

Earlier in the year we were exceptionally proud of the Matthew Pawley's performance as the Artful Dodger in Newtown Musical Theatre Company's performance of Oliver at Theatre Hafren. He really was an amazing ambassador for the school, 'consider us' proud!



Instrument Taster Day

All I can say is WOW ... WHAT a fantastic day! We were lucky enough to receive some funding from the Powys Music Plan to run a String and Brass taster day last half term. Across the day all Year 7 pupils were able to hear performances on the violin and brass instruments and have a go on the instruments themselves. Following this, any pupils interested in learning the instrument could sign up for six free taster sessions. Currently over forty Year 7 pupils are taking advantage of this opportunity, and we cannot be more excited to see where this opportunity might take them. Thank you to all involved for being such fantastic ambassadors for the department and school!



Music

Remembrance Day

We really do need to give a massive thank you to Gwen Jones and the Year 12 Music Group. Gwen played the last post in two events for the wider community: in the Memorial Garden's Ceremony on 8th November and at the Town Hall on Remembrance Day itself. Our Year 12 pupils also joined Gwen on 8th November to lay crosses at the foot of the memorial as part of the service. We received so many positive comments from the public regarding the respectful and professional way that the group conducted themselves.

Really well done all of you!



Thank you!

We must also add a big thank you to Tommy Kaye in Year 11, who has donated a set of drum skins to the department through his role as an Ambassador for Red Cymbals. They will certainly come to very good use!

End of Term Concert

Throughout the term all of our groups and soloists have been working really hard practicing for our end of term Concert on Wednesday, 11th December. The Live Lounge groups, Brass Group, Singing Group, Jazz Band and Concert Band are all looking forward to showcasing their talents.

To purchase tickets for this event (£5 Adults and £3 for all Concessions) please ring the School Office. Alternatively, they can be purchased by pupils at break times, again from the School Office. We really can't wait to see you all there!

Finally, look out for news about some exciting trips we are planning to run in the New Year!

Mrs C Evans
Head of Music



WELSHPOOL HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

PROUDLY PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

11
DECEMBER
7PM

For tickets contact the school office: 01938 552014

Adult £5 Concessions £3

History Ambassadors

The History and Politics Departments offer their students the opportunity to sign up as History Ambassadors, working with the department to support younger students and to enrich the department.

This in turn offers the Sixth Form students an enrichment opportunity that develops their personal, social and organisational skills; giving them responsibility to organise their time effectively, commit to a responsibility and become part of the community of the History Department, whilst displaying their leadership and subject skills.

The History Department would like to thank the following Year 12 Students for their contribution to lessons, supporting Years 7, 8 and 9 students in their History lessons. The History teachers and students really appreciate their invaluable support.

Mrs K Grindley

Head of History



Zak Rogers, Teifi Owen, Josh Evans, Alex Williams, Jake Dillon, Jasper Aldridge, Jack Garaghon-Peate, Lena Grzegorzewska and Cerys Ashworth

Sporting Success

Three pupils from Welshpool High School who are also members of Welshpool Sharks Swimming Club: Teilo Gittins-Turner, Archie Collingridge and Ryan Burnside were selected to swim at the Swim Wales Short Course Regional Championship that took place on 15th – 17th November in Llandudno.

Teilo (Year 13), who was swimming in the 17+ years, won a bronze in the 50 metres back stroke and achieved two personal bests (PBs) in his five races.

Archie (Year 9), swimming in the 13-14 years didn't medal but achieved nine PBs in his nine races. Ryan Burnside (Year 8), swimming in the 11-12 years achieved 3 PBs in his seven races and won bronze medals in the 800 metres freestyle and the 400 metres individual medley.

A huge well done to all three boys!



Teilo Gittins-Turner



Ryan Burnside and Archie Collingridge

Sports News

Boys North Powys Small-Sided Football Tournament

at Latham Park, Newtown

Year 7 Boys finished 2nd

Year 8 Boys finished 1st

Year 9 Boys finished 2nd

Year 7 Team Report - The team displayed exceptional skill and determination throughout the tournament. They stormed through the first four matches, securing dominant 2-0 victories in each, with impressive teamwork and individual brilliance. Their passing, defending, and attacking play were all top-notch, leaving their opponents with little chance to break through. In the final match, the team faced a tough challenge, but despite a strong effort, they were narrowly defeated 2-1. Despite the loss, their overall performance placed them second in the tournament, an outstanding achievement for the Year 7's.

Year 8 Team Report - The Year 8 football team delivered an unforgettable tournament performance, going unbeaten throughout. With three wins and two draws, they displayed excellent consistency and skill. The final game was an intense affair, and with the score tied, a last-second penalty was awarded to Welshpool. As the whistle blew, Alex Howard calmly stepped up to take the crucial spot kick. He drilled the ball into the top right corner, securing a thrilling victory and the Year 8 team's place as tournament champions. The entire squad showed resilience, teamwork, and character, making this a memorable victory for the school.

Year 9 Team Report - The Year 9 football team played some fantastic football in their tournament, winning three out of their first four matches and drawing the other. Their attacking play was fluid, with some spectacular goals being scored. However, in the final game, they faced a formidable challenge. Despite playing well, they were defeated by a powerful volley from midfield that proved impossible to stop. This loss left them second in their group, but their overall performance was impressive, showcasing their technical ability and team spirit. A strong showing from the Year 9's, who should be proud of their efforts.

Overall Tournament Summary - Across the board, Welshpool High School's football teams were exceptional, winning 13 out of 15 matches across the year groups. With such fantastic results, they outperformed all other schools in the tournament, showcasing the talent, determination, and sportsmanship that Welshpool is known for. A massive congratulations to all the players involved and the Sixth Form students who gave up their time to help coach.

Well done to all!

Mr M Jones
PE Department

U14 Girls Rugby - finished 2nd place at the RGC South Tournament.

Our U14 Girls travelled to COBRA, Meifod for the Road to Principality Tournament. This was the first time this team had played together in a competitive environment and managed to play some lovely rugby, beating Llanfyllin and Ysgol Bro Idris (Dolgellau), but losing to Ysgol Godre'r Berwyn (Bala).

Well done to everyone involved.



U18 Boys Football lost 5-1 in the Welsh Cup to Caereinion.

Our U18 Boys got knocked out of the Welsh Cup in the second round away at Ysgol Bro Caereinion. Despite taking the lead and looking good in the opening part of the match, the opposition proved too strong as they progressed

Welsh Inter-Schools Cross Country

We had 12 athletes represent Welshpool High School in the Welsh Inter-Schools Cross Country Championships on Saturday, 16th November at Dolerw Park, Newtown. The standard was very high and it involved club athletes from all over Wales. The event will put our athletes in a strong position for the Powys Cross Country Championships in January.



Sports News

It was great having the Sixth Form students from Ysgol Uwchradd y Trallwng helping us at two of our Urdd football events in the Maldwyn area. The first of which was a mixed Year 3 and 4 and a girls Year 5 and 6 competition in Newtown, where over 60 teams were competing on the day. Having the students help on the day, managing pitches, keeping time, scoring games, working with schools and also refereeing games throughout the day was a great experience for them, and a great help for us.

Many of the students offered to help out in any way they could - even outside the roles given to them at the start of the day. All the students who helped out were a great help, professional throughout and seemed to enjoy the experience! They then helped out at our second competition in the area - an open football competition for Year 5 and 6 students where 40 teams were playing at Welshpool High School, this time the Year 9 and 10 students also came to help us. Again this day, was a great success for us at the Urdd, the schools taking part and also for the students who gained further valuable experience refereeing games, managing pitches - working to a strict time frame all whilst representing their school well, and showing professionalism throughout.

I certainly hope to be able to work closely with the school to offer more opportunities to the students, whilst also giving back to the community. The help they gave us on both days, experience given to local children is so valuable, and I hope they enjoyed it and are ready to do it all again next year!

Marc Thomas, Urdd Gobaith Cymru



Girls Powys Small-Sided Football Tournament at Latham Park, Newtown

Year 7 - 2nd place

Year 8 - 4th place

Year 9 - 2nd place

An excellent day of football for our girls with plenty of goals and lots of positives to take into the next Welsh Cup matches.

Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Sports News

Urdd Primary School Football Tournament - we had approximately 20 pupils helping out with a primary school football tournament on Tuesday, 5th November. This was then followed by an additional tournament that was held in Newtown that some of our LLS Sport Students had been involved with.

The Urdd organisers were very complimentary of our students. As a result, they have offered to put them through a FAW Level 1 Referee course (this would probably cost around £500 or more).



U15 Girls Hockey vs Oswestry school lost 2-1. Well done to the U15 Girls Hockey Team who played in a friendly match against Oswestry School. As a new team that hadn't played together before, they showed great potential for future competitive games. Welshpool's only goal of the game was scored by Tilly Jones.



U16 Girls Netball Team finished 1st place at the North Powys Tournament. Our girls travelled to Machynlleth for the U16s North Powys Tournament and finished the day as champions. These girls have showed continued commitment to training, working hard both in and outside of school, which could be seen throughout their matches. They will now go on to face the winners from South Powys to decide who progresses to the national finals.



U13 Girls Football vs Calon Cymru. Drew 4-4 but then won on penalties. After a thrilling 4-4 draw at full-time against a well-organised Calon Cymru side, the girls showed great composure to win 4-2 in the penalty shoot-out. After being behind for a lot of the game, the team didn't give up and showed great determination. A special mention to Rubie Wygold who had her shooting boots on and scored all four goals in the game. The team now progress through to the Powys final.

Da iawn!



Key Contacts

Main switchboard: 01938 552014

Office email: office@welshpool-hs.powys.sch.uk

Head of Sixth Form: Mrs W Jones/Miss M Jones

Head of Year 11: Miss G Charles Head of Year 10: Mrs L Frank Head of Year 9: Mrs R Aldridge

Head of Year 8: Mrs J Loxam and Mrs S Lewis Head of Year 7: Ms J Haycock

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch Menu 2024

Roast Turkey & Stuffing

or

Vegan Quorn Fillet & Stuffing

Mashed & Roast Potatoes

With a

Cocktail Sausage or Vegan Sausage

Carrots, Garden Peas or Sprouts

Gravy

Christmas Ice Cream Tub

& A

**Iced Christmas Tree Shortbread
Biscuit**

Thursday 12th December