



BRYN WYTHNOS HYN

Nurturing Success

The official newsletter for Bryn Celynog Comprehensive School

Bryn Students Are Top of the World in Florida

Hello, we are Ellie Parker, Libby Andrews, and Amelia James. We want to share with you the story of our cheerleading club that took us to the very top.

We are a part of a Level 4 Cheerleading Team called Team Wales Adaptive Abilities. Adaptive Abilities refers to a group with a mixture of disabled and able-bodied athletes that all compete together. Team Wales Adaptive was set up in November 2021, since then we have trained twice a month with each training session lasting 4 to 5 hours.

We were very lucky to be given the opportunity to represent Wales in the ICU World Cheerleading Championships in Orlando, Florida, USA in April 2022. The competition was held in the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, a very prestigious venue. A few days before the competition had the chance to train in one of the world's most famous gyms, Topgun. It was such an amazing opportunity. We were fortunate to be able to compete against teams from all over the world, a great experience. We met lots of athletes and watched each other's routines until the day of the competition arrived.

We were very excited but also nervous on the morning of the competition because it was such a big event. When we took the floor for our routine we managed to perform it with the highest level of precision

that we had ever produced. We did so well that we ended up in first place, winning the gold medal and becoming World Champions. We were so shocked, we couldn't believe that we had won, we took the top step of the podium and were presented with our gold medals and the trophy as the crowd cheered and our supporters sang the Welsh



National Anthem, it was fantastic.

It was such an incredible experience to meet so many teams from all over the world and it was amazing to see how they all included people with disabilities without any prejudice or difference – just acceptance and togetherness. Being a part of Team Wales Adaptive has been brilliant and has given us all so much confidence.

We were also given another fantastic opportunity to have a BBC film crew follow our journey to Orlando to make a documentary about us. The film crew have been to every training session also and flew to Florida with us. We can't wait to see the documentary when it comes out chronicling our journey to the top of the Cheerleading world. It will be an experience we will never forget.

Written by Ellie Parker, Year 11.





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Week beginning 6th June 2022

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Leicester Tigers Tour

Amid the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations that swept the nation over last weekend the Yr 8 Rugby Squad, bolstered by a smattering of Year 7 players, travelled to the East Midlands for an end of season trip. The weekend focussed around a visit to train with coaches from the English Premiership Rugby team Leicester Tigers, this year's league winners and to watch them in action later in their final league match against Wasps.



Departure was on a bright and breezy Friday morning and by 7:30am the coach pulled out of Bryn Celynnog with 29 eager tourists ready for a rugby filled weekend, oh, and a trip to Alton Towers.

The journey to Leicester was uneventful and the boys were on best behaviour on the coach. By 11:30am we had arrived in Victoria Park in Leicester for a training session. This session took the form of a touch rugby tournament with teams led by staff members, Mr Mines, Mr Howell, Mr Griffith and the veteran Mr Stock.



It came as no surprise that after about two and a half hours of Turn and Burn, Mr Stock's team were the champions.

After a quick turnaround in the hotel to check in and shower it was time for a trip to a local ten pin bowling venue. The group enjoyed their time on the lanes though it was disappointing to notice that almost every group had their bumpers up to avoid the gutter ball. Well done to Keiron Brown and Luke Hibberd who bowled with the staff on a lane with no bumpers. **Da iawn fechgyn,**





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Saturday was going to be a busy day, and after a reasonable night's sleep the group got through their breakfast fry ups and headed for Leicester Forest Rugby Club. Here they were met by the professional coaching staff from Leicester Tigers Rugby Club and were treated to a 90 minute session aimed at developing skills and spatial awareness. Mr Mines and Mr Stock were very spatially aware and watched the boys from behind the double glazed balcony doors as it was particularly chilly for June.

The group looked very smart in their Bryn Celynnog school Jerseys and their performance levels were equally up to scratch as the coaches were impressed by the readiness of the group to learn new drills and conditioned games. The training session was a big hit with the boys and they will be able to use what they learned in the coming seasons back here at Bryn.

In the clubhouse after training there was a Q & A session with two of the Leicester Tigers' professional players. We learned a lot about a day in the life of a pro player and what it took to get to the top of their chosen sport. Perhaps in the years to come some of our own Bryn Celynnog boys will reach the higher levels of the game also.

The day continued with a short coach ride into Leicester centre and to Wellford Road, the Tigers' home ground. The boys enjoyed the pre-match atmosphere and entered fully in to the spirit of things. They were ready and waiting to cheer on the Leicester team as they took the field in the final



show with New Zealand player Jimmy Gopperth lining up for the visiting wasps and the giant Namani Nadolo of Fiji on the wing for the Tigers. The game was played at a staggering pace with defences proving dominant. Guy Potter sparkled early on with a break in mid-field to open the scoring for the home team after just 5 minutes, but thereafter it was more of a war of attrition worth little running rugby. The pace of the game was relentless however and the collisions were massive. Leicester Tigers proved why they finished the regular season in top spot with their pragmatic approach leading to a 20 points to 10 win. The boys cheered the home team on all the way.



Guinness Premiership league game of the regular season.

Global and domestic superstars of the game were on





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The rugby kept coming though, and straight after the final whistle the coach whisked the group off to Loughborough Rugby Club to play a fixture against the club's Under 13 Squad. The Bryn Celynnog Squad resplendent in their tour strip were more than a match for the hosts who were a little depleted due to the holiday. Bryn ran in try after try with little response from the English club and several players impressed. No one more so than Thomas Parker of Year 7



who was the man of the match. Sunday was a day at Alton Towers and thanks to the Queen's celebrations there were very few people in the park. This

was great news for the Bryn group as we all enjoyed a queue free day on some of the worlds best rides.

The tour was a massive success with boys developing their rugby skills, their social skills and eating a lot of junk food into the bargain. Da iawn fechgyn, a pleasure to spend the weekend taking you all on tour.





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Hay Literary Festival

We were thrilled to be able to take year 9 students to Hay Literary Festival again. It is the English department's favourite trip of the year, and it was wonderful to be able to experience the event in person. This year we also had fantastic weather, meaning that Miss Cross' feet stayed dry, unlike the year she insisted on wearing sandals during a torrential downpour.



Hay Festival, founded in 1988 in the picturesque town of Hay-on-Wye, is arguably the most famous literary festival in the UK. Crowds come from all over the world to experience the cultural smorgasbord that is Hay. The former American President, Bill Clinton, has famously said that Hay Festival is "the Woodstock of the mind." The festival goes on for 10 days, but they have a dedicated day each for both Primary and Secondary schools. So, around 60 year 9 students were shipped off to Hay-on-Wye on the last day of the half-term.

Students took part in 3 workshops throughout the day from well revered authors. Group A listened to Alex Wheatle first, who engaged us with tales of his challenging teenage years, leading to his arrest, but then subsequent return to education and writing. He talked about travelling to Jamaica to meet his father and how he was inspired by histories of Caribbean slaves and female pirates. He even delighted us with a performance of a song he had written. Next was Natasha Bowen who talked about the importance of diverse representation within literature. She said that she wanted to write characters that looked like her and reflected the people around her. Lastly, group A, listened to the extremely well-informed and pertinent words of wisdom from Laura Bates. Bates is a prominent champion of fighting modern sexism. She used clear statistics and double standards in the media to demonstrate that sexism is still very much prevalent today.

For group B, Christine Pillainayagam gave an engaging talk

about her debut novel '*Ellie Pillai is Brown*'. She explained how her love of music hugely impacted her writing, with main character Ellie being an aspiring singer-songwriter. Pillainayagam's love of music and literature shone through, and many students couldn't wait to get their hands on the novel or listen to Ellie Pillai's songs (yes, they've even been recorded) on Spotify.



Next, Louisa Reid talked all about the power of the verse novel and shared some of her favourite examples with our students. She also shared some compelling excerpts from her books '*Gloves off*' and '*Wrecked*' which explore the themes of gender and class through verse. Reid was a firm favourite, demonstrating the powerful impact of word-choice on meaning. Finally, Jeffrey Boakye made a huge impression with his talk titled '*What is masculinity? Why does it matter?*' Exploring harmful gender stereotypes, Boakye touched on the topic of 'toxic masculinity', mental health and even took us to the Marvel Universe to explore how The Avengers may not be as 'masculine' as we first thought. The students loved his entertaining and engaging talk on such a challenging subject.

Hay Festival also has fantastic bookshops, where you can even meet authors and get books signed. Students had some free time in between sessions to explore and enjoy.

Overall, year 9 were a credit to the school and we look forward to going back next year!





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Curriculum for Wales

Curriculum for Wales guidance was published by Welsh Government in January 2020 for roll out from September 2022. In short, it aims to help each school develop its own curriculum, enabling their learners to develop towards the four purposes of education – the starting point and aspiration for every child and young person in Wales.

The four purposes of our curriculum are to support our children and young people to be:

- ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives
- enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world
- healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society

The principles set out in the four purposes of Curriculum for Wales are already central to everything we do at Bryn. We endeavour to ensure we meet all of our pupils' various and evolving needs in a way that will equip them to succeed in leading fulfilling lives as valued members of society. We regularly listen to our learners' views on the academic, social, emotional and physical aspects of their learning experiences and continually look for ways to put their views into practice.

Curriculum for Wales requires schools create a curriculum that covers six Areas of Learning:

- Languages, Literacy and Communication
- Maths and Numeracy
- Science and Technology
- Expressive Arts
- Health and Well-being
- Humanities

At Bryn, teams of staff in each Area of Learning have been working behind the scenes since 2019 to design a rich and varied curriculum which will provide our students with experiences, skills, knowledge and understanding aimed at igniting passions, inspiring a lifelong love of learning and equipping them to flourish in school and beyond.

The Areas of Learning will be underpinned by the cross curricular priorities: Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence. We have long been committed to prioritising skills development in order to provide every pupil with the tools they need to thrive, not just in school but in 21st century society. We feel it is important that pupils are presented with real life, problem solving situations in order for them to develop their literacy, numeracy, reasoning and ICT skills in ways that are relevant to their lives.

These three crucial, transferrable skills form the basis for learning across our current curriculum, and will remain as the basis of our new curriculum. Over the past ten years we have done extensive and successful work in the area of skills development, as evidenced in our results at all Key Stages, which show significant year on year improvement. Our approaches have been highlighted as excellent practice and as such we have been asked to share our them with schools across the region.



Should you have any queries relating to Bryn Celynnog's approach to Curriculum for Wales, please direct them to Laura Glennon, Assistant Headteacher: laura.glennon@bryncelynnog.org.uk



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All pupils at Bryn Celynnog have access to the latest Microsoft Office applications as well as other cloud-based services. Microsoft Office 365 is your Office in the cloud! It will allow you to create, collaborate, edit, communicate and save school work as well as homework on your online space.

You will be able to access work on a range of devices, including PCs, laptops, tablets and smart phones. Microsoft 365 can be accessed at home, in school or on the go, provided you have an internet connection. Students can access their 365 account with their school email via the link on the Bryn Celynnog Home page. [Login Web Page](#)



All students have been invited to a Microsoft Team for each of their subject areas. Teams is used primarily as a communication channel but will also house learning resources and allow teachers to set assignments and homework.



Forms you can use to answer your homework quizzes and receive instant feedback. Develop surveys and quizzes of your own and share with your peers and teachers.

Student email format:
username@bryncelynnog.org.uk

Password is the same as the password used to access the school network.

For help accessing your 365 account please select the link [O365 Help](#)

Or contact Mrs K Stock at Kate.stock@bryncelynnog.org.uk if you have any further queries regarding Office 365.

Parental consent is required for students to access and use 365 applications.

Please do not forget to complete, sign and hand in a consent form to your form tutor or Mrs Stock.



BRYN THIS WEEK



ClassCharts

Pupil Accounts

Pupils have been given access to their own account, which they will be able to log into via a computer/mobile phone app or by speaking with their Form Tutor.

Once a pupil has logged into their account they will be able to see their behaviour points and have access to the Reward Store, where they can purchase rewards online with the positive points they have collected.

Rewards Store

Rewards are an acknowledgement of pupils' hard work and effort both in the classroom and around the school. There is a constant expectation that all pupils will be praised and rewarded. Pupils will be notified when they receive positive points by their classroom teacher and can monitor their score via the ClassCharts website or App. Positive points also link directly to the Rewards Store in ClassCharts. Pupils can purchase their chosen item from the app and collect it in school. The current list of available items is listed in the Rewards Store.

Parent Account

Every child has a unique access code, please use this code to create an account by going to the website below:

<https://www.classcharts.com/parent/login>

or alternatively you can search your app store to download the ClassCharts app free of charge. Once on the ClassCharts website/app we advise that you listen to the short tutorial to assist you in logging in. If you have more than one child at Bryn Celynnog you can use the plus sign in the top right hand corner with the additional access codes you have received.

If you have any queries please contact Miss Jacobs on

Hayley.Jacobs@bryncelynnog.org.uk



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ClassCharts Behaviour Management

We have a very clear behaviour management system in place, which your child should already be aware of. Members of staff follow this system to deal with poor behaviour in lessons to ensure effective learning is able to take place. A range of consequences and sanctions are in place for pupils who do not uphold our simple and achievable expectations:

- D1** - This is issued to a pupil when a member of staff has to speak to them regarding their behaviour in lesson. The pupil is told that they are now on a D1.
- D2** - This is issued when a pupil has been moved to a new seat due to persistent poor behaviour. This is the second time a teacher has had to speak to a pupil during the lesson.
- D3** - This is issued when a pupil has had to be spoken to for the third time about their behaviour. This may be issued if a pupil is consistently disrupting the class/not following instructions or continued poor behaviour. When a D3 is issued the Head of Faculty will remove the pupil from the lesson.
- D4** - Pupils who proceed through sanctions D1 – D3 and fail with the Head of Faculty intervention are sent to the D4L room and issued a D4.

Removal to Discipline for Learning (D4L) room will be immediate for:-

- Serious behaviour out of lessons
- Verbal abuse
- Behaviour towards others which is considered dangerous
- Damage to, or theft of, school property or that of others.



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Extra Curricular Activities

The summer term is here and our extra curricular time table is available right here.

We will be running athletic clubs and attending all the area meetings to compete against other schools. We will also be running baseball and rounders clubs and we plan on adding some cricket fixtures to the provision as well. We are committed to providing safe and exciting opportunities for our students whenever we can and look forward to the times we can develop the skills and broaden the experience of our students.

Day	After school 3 -4:15pm	Staff	Venue
Monday	Athletics	EBH	Track
	All Year Groups	JS	Field
Tuesday	Tennis	BD/SM	Courts
	Girls Rugby	CB/IG	Field
	Year 7,8 & 9 Basketball	EBH	Gym
Wednesday	Rounders	SEB/EG	Field
	Baseball	SEB/IG	Field
	All Year Groups		
Thursday	Cricket	JS	Field

UP COMING EVENTS

Date	Event
Friday 1st July	INSET Day
Monday 4th July	
Monday 27th June	Year 7 Sports day
Tuesday 28th June	Year 8 Sports day
Wednesday 29th June	

If you would like to contact us at Bryn This Week please email kate.stock@bryncelynnog.org.uk

