



Nurturing Success

BRYN THIS MONTH

The official newsletter for Bryn Celynnog Comprehensive School

Croeso to Bryn Writers

Croeso N'ôl, welcome back to the Bryn Celynnog School newsletter. We have recently rebranded from Bryn This Week to Bryn This Month. This should allow us to include far more content to keep you all entertained and informed.

Firstly, let's introduce the new team: The Bryn Writers creative writing club will be taking control of much of the production of the newsletter, and they will source news stories from all across the school to keep you up-to-date with all things Bryn. In addition to this, there will be some new additions, such as 'Meet the Teacher', and a regular look at the School Council.

Meet (some of) the team:

My name is Phoebe and I joined Bryn Writers because I really enjoy getting lost in books that intrigue me and I would like to develop some of my own stories for others to enjoy.

My favourite genres are murder mystery and fantasy because they are filled with excitement. As well as reading, I also enjoy drawing and listening to music.

Phoebe McDonald, 8D

My name is Ffion and I am a member of Bryn Writers. I joined because I enjoy creating my own stories and can't wait to get started on Bryn This Month.

Ffion Price, 8B

My name is Olivia and I am a member of Bryn Writers. I love romance novels and enjoy creating my own stories too. My favourite things are reading and anything that involves being creative.

Olivia Chivers, 8B

My name is Ffion (I am one of the three Ffions in Bryn Writers). I enjoy art, creative writing and reading romance novels.

Ffion Thomson, 8B

My name is Grace and I joined Bryn Writers because I want to work on my literacy skills and I love the idea of being involved in journalism—I can't wait to interview lots of our school community! Outside of school, enjoy horse riding and reading fantasy and romance novels.

Grace Fraser-Brown, 8D



WANTED:

BUDDING SIXTH FORM JOURNALISTS

You will:

- Collaborate with the Year 8 Bryn Writers and guide them in sourcing school news stories;
- Help Mrs Williams to manage the team of writers;
- Develop your leadership skills and communication skills;
- Work to deadlines;
- Develop your writing and creativity skills.

To apply for this position, you must write a formal letter of application detailing why you are right for the role and what you can bring to the team. Please include any experience you may have in meeting the needs of the role.

Letters must be addressed to Mrs Williams and be delivered to E8 (or emailed to ann.williams@bryncelynnog.org.uk) by 3pm on Friday 15th March.



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BRYN MIS HYN

Cylchlythr Swyddogol Ysgol Gyfun Bryn Celynnog

Meet the TEACHER

Each edition, we will be interviewing two of our wonderful teachers, but this will be no ordinary interview. These questions are odd and will give us an insight into who our teachers really are. This edition's victims (I mean volunteers) are Mrs Williams (English) and Mr John (Maths)...

Mr John:

If you were a cake, what cake would you be?

I would be a key lime pie because it's sour and unusual.

Do you put your milk or cereal first?

Cereal before the milk.

What is your favourite flavour of crisps?

Roast chicken.

What is your favourite type of pasta?

Tagliatelle

An important question: what is your favourite temperature during winter?

Any temperature that brings snow!

If you could be a Disney character, who or what would you be?

Ham from Toy Story.

What is your favourite reptile?

A chameleon.

If you were a dog, what breed would you be?

A Giant Schnauzer.

Your top inspirational quote:

GET ON WITH YOUR WORK!!

Mrs Williams:

If you were a cake, what cake would you be?

I would be an ice cream cake because it's unusual and unexpected.

Do you put your milk or cereal first?

Cereal before the milk.

What is your favourite flavour of crisps?

Salt and Vinegar.

What is your favourite type of pasta?

Rigatoni.

An important question: what is your favourite temperature during winter?

Any temperature that brings snow!

If you could be a Disney character, who or what would you be?

Belle, because she loves books as much as me!

What is your favourite reptile?

Tortoise.

If you were a dog, what breed would you be?

A husky because I would love to have that thick coat to keep me warm.

Your top inspirational quote:

To reach the top, we must stand on the books we have read.



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Victory for Velindre: Challenge Accepted

BRYN CELYNNOG SUMMER EVENT

Bryn Celynnog offers a diverse range of courses allowing learners chance to develop skills in all areas of the curriculum. We aim to provide an environment that empowers students with knowledge and skills to take charge of their learning.

The Skills Challenge Certificate is a course that students begin in Year 9 with a grade awarded in the Summer of Year 11. The Skills Challenge Certificate is made up of 3 Challenges; Enterprise, Community and Global Citizenship along with an Individual Project.

Our Year 9 learners are currently working on the Enterprise Challenge, this encourages students to create and develop a concept, product or event that will positively impact our chosen charity, Wales' Premier Cancer Centre, Velindre.

Students use creativity and innovation in developing an enticing concept,



personal effectiveness in promoting and presenting the idea and their digital literacy in all design aspects and online promotion. In the Summer Term, students will deliver their pitch to a panel of staff from Bryn Celynnog with the support of those from Velindre.



Our Year 9 students will be hosting a Summer Fayre in which students, parents and carers will be invited to school and given the opportunity to purchase some of the products. All proceeds will be donated to our chosen charity 'Victory for Velindre'.



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Charity and Community Council at Bryn



AT BRYN CELYNNOG COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

To inspire and empower young people to take action to make a positive change in society.

Our VISION as a Charity and Community Council is:

Aim 1: To implement the First Give programme with Year 8 pupils supported by Year 10 mentors.

Aim 2: To identify local charities that individual registration groups can begin supporting.

Aim 3: Provide a platform for all registration classes to deliver a 5-minute presentation advocating their charity and reporting on the chosen class social action.

In just one week, Year 8 raised £711.40, collected over 50 articles of clothing for Emmaus South Wales and hundreds of food items weighing 141kg for Taff Ely Food Bank.



LOOK AT WHERE WE ARE NOW

We launched the First Give programme for the first time with our Year 8 learners in September 2023. Since then, our registration classes and form tutors supported by Year 10 representatives have been working hard to identify local charities that would benefit from our support.

During the initial extended registration, classes were given the opportunity to research local charities that they felt they could help support by raising awareness or holding a fundraising activity.

Each class wrote a letter to set up an initial meeting with the charity that they had chosen. After the responses they were able to meet up with the charity organiser face to face, online or by email. This gave the class a chance to understand what the charity was about before they decided on what action they could take to support them.

We have had a very productive term supporting our charities in many different ways.

A visit from Ronald Mc Donald House's Heather Hopkins allowed us to understand the importance of the valuable work being carried out by the charity.





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R2L: Where some of our most vulnerable pupils spend time during the school day.

Some of our R2L attenders are currently finding art very therapeutic and a great way to express themselves. Some of them have never attempted sketching at all, yet, were shocked to discover a hidden talent and the development of a new interest.

These artistic and creative pieces are now being displayed in our R2L rooms. Some of our artist have said:

‘With art we find expression, chat and friendship.’

‘You can do anything!’

This is brilliant, team. We can’t wait to see even more fantastic creations being displayed!

SEBD: another location for some of our vulnerable pupils.

The staff in our Social, Emotional and Behavioural Department would like to congratulate their Year 11 pupils on passing their Maths GCSE.

‘We are so proud of them for working so hard in the provision, attending their formal examinations in an unfamiliar area and having all their hard work pay off.’

Keep up the great work, girls!

Mental Health Matters!

This term, sixteen students across all year groups volunteered to become Student Mental Health Champions. They underwent a day of training in how to support their peers and promote good mental health and well-being. They are currently planning a range of activities aimed at promoting mental and emotional well-being across the school.

If you would like to speak to a fellow student about any well-being / mental health issues, you can drop into the well-being suite (old sixth form floor) during lunch times, where our Student Mental Health Champions are available for a chat, every day.





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BRYN MIS HYN

Cylchlythr Swyddogol Ysgol Gyfun Bryn Celynnog

Year 12 Law Workshop

Last month the Year 12 Law class were fortunate to have a visit from Lucy Beard, a Criminal Prosecutor for the CPS. Lucy started the session off with an introduction of herself, her job role and how she got to where she is now in her successful career. Her friendly and warm personality put the children at ease as they went into a criminal workshop. Sentencing and Criminal Law is a key topic in Year 12 Law and Lucy brought that into the session by firstly dividing pupils into groups. From there pupils were given case studies that contained witness statements and police interviews. The aim of the workshop was for pupils to decide what each defendant could possibly be charged with. The decisions came from pupils weighing up the evidence that was presented to them in the case studies. In addition, pupils looked at the likelihood of prosecution and potential sentencing. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and are looking forward to having Lucy in again soon. Lucy will be accompanying them with myself to the Cardiff Crown Courts in the summer term.





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Charity and Community Council at Bryn

It was lovely to welcome back Gareth Saunders to Bryn Celynnog. He was very keen to share the work of Taff Ely Foodbank and encouraged our year group to help collect food donations to support the local community.

An online meeting with the Gareth Edwards Cancer Charity allowed our year 8 registration groups to understand the work the charity carried out. Mr Maidment organised a day for Year 7 and 8 to attend school wearing sports kit and asked for a donation of £1 which was donated to the charity.



The link we developed with Emmaus South Wales gave us the opportunity to bring in donation of hats, gloves and coats that could be donated to those most in need this winter.

8MP wanted to raise awareness of Motor Neurone Disease, they did this by carrying out a class sponsored silence for a whole day!



8ACP really enjoyed contacting Guide Dogs Cymru 'bring a cuddly dog to school day' was very popular. We even got to meet some working Guide Dogs which was a real treat.



Our charity chosen by 8MDD was 'Little Princess Trust' a charity that makes wigs for children and young adults who have lost their hair following treatment for cancer. I think everyone enjoyed 'crazy hair day'

8ECK spent time raising awareness of Race Equality Wales and asked fellow students to give donations to their 'guess the sweets in the jar'.

8JS were keen to hold a penalty shoot-out which allowed the class to raise money for Ty Hafan. What a great opportunity to use our new PE facilities.

Finally, 8MR forged links with 'ASD Rainbows' a registered charity providing a bespoke learning environment catering for children with autism.



BRYN MIS HYN

Cylchlythr Swyddogol Ysgol Gyfun Bryn Celynnog

TEAM TRIUMPH!

Welsh Cup Semi-Final for Year 11 Boys

(By Josh Pope & Harry Smith)

On the 5th of February Bryn Celynnog played Monmouth High School in the quarter finals of the Welsh cup. It was a highly anticipated game with the Bryn boys desperate for the win to reach the semi-finals, this would be the furthest the school football team has ever gone in a Welsh cup journey. The game was filled with excitement and intensity, but we were goalless at half time. Even though we had the better opportunities and were clearly all over them, we could not find the back of the net. As the second half went on, we kept pushing to find the opener until super subs Chris Skuse and Cory Willicombe made an impact when coming on to the pitch. Almost immediately, Chris scored a bullet header followed by a

brilliant celebration. We finally broke the deadlock. Then Cory followed up with a perfect free kick to kill the game off and this secured the win for Bryn! To stop any thoughts of a comeback from Monmouth, our goalkeeper Beauan Braine pulled off some brilliant last man saves to help us get over the line and win the game. Although we have only mentioned some of the boys, we thought that everyone in the squad played a vital role and that is important to celebrate everybody in such a great squad.

“The boys have worked extremely hard over a number of years to get to where they are. There have been many highs and lows since Year 7, a superb journey overall. I really hope we use this momentum and go one step further in the competition- Da iawn” - Mr Mines.





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BRYN WYTHNOS HYN

Cylchlythr Swyddogol Ysgol Gyfun Bryn Celynnog

Office 365



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.



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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 there 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 Ms Williams on

kathryn.williams@bryncelynnog.org.uk



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Spring Term 2024 - Lunch Time Activities				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Skills Challenge 'Catch up' sessions Years 9 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs C Davies N23</p>	<p>Games Club Years 7 and 8 Lunch Time Mrs C Wright Wellbeing Suite</p>	<p>Computer Science and Digital Technology Club Years 10 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs K Stock N17</p>	<p>Skills Building and Catch-up Club Years 10 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs K Stock N17</p>	<p>YEPS Lunch Club Selected students Lunch Time YEPS Youth Wing</p>
<p>Art and Design 'Catch up' Club GCSE students Lunch Time Mrs E Burke N21</p>	<p>Art and Design 'Catch up' Club GCSE students Lunch Time Mrs E Burke N21</p>	<p>Art and Design 'Catch up' Club GCSE students Lunch Time Mrs E Burke N21</p>	<p>Art and Design 'Catch up' Club GCSE students Lunch Time Mrs E Burke N21</p>	<p>'Form your own band' & Ukulele Group All year groups Lunch Time Mrs M Davies T6</p>
<p>Guitar Group Years 7 and 8 Lunch Time Mrs M Davies T6</p>	<p>School Choir All year groups Lunch Time Mrs M Davies T6</p>	<p>Creative Writing Club All year group Lunch Time Mrs A Williams E8</p>	<p>Games Club Years 9 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs C Wright Wellbeing Suite</p>	<p>Young Carers Invited students in all year groups Lunch Time Mrs P Harrison Wellbeing Suite</p>
<p>Skills Challenge 'Catch up' sessions Years 9 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs C Davies N23</p>	<p>YEPS Lunch Club Year 7 Lunch Time YEPS Youth Wing</p>	<p>YEPS Lunch Club All year groups Lunch Time YEPS Youth Wing</p>	<p>Wind Band, Brass Band & String All year groups Lunch Time Mrs M Davies T6</p>	<p>Touch Rugby Year 10 Lunch Time Mr S Mines 3G</p>
<p>Skills Challenge 'Catch up' sessions Years 9 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs C Davies N23</p>	<p>Skills Challenge 'Catch up' sessions Years 9 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs C Davies N23</p>	<p>Skills Challenge 'Catch up' sessions Years 9 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs C Davies N23</p>	<p>Touch Rugby Year 8 Lunch Time Mr S Mines 3G</p>	<p>Touch Rugby Year 10 Lunch Time Mr S Mines 3G</p>
		<p>Keyboard Club & Scripted Drama Club Years 7 and 8 Lunch Time Mrs M Davies T6</p>	<p>Computer Science and Digital Technology Club Years 10 - 11 Lunch Time Mrs K Stock N17</p>	



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Spring Term 2024 - Afterschool Activities				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Rugby (boys) Years 7 - 10 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.15pm Mr J Stock Mr G Blake & Mr S Mines 3G</p>	<p>Rugby (girls) Years 7 - 10 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.15pm Mrs C Balfry Mr G Howells 3G</p>	<p>Football (boys) Years 7 & 9 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.15pm Mr S Mines 3G</p>	<p>War Hammer All year groups After school: 3.00pm to 4.00pm Mr D Clifford N15</p>	<p>Comic Book Drawing All year groups 5.45pm to 8pm YEPS Youth Wing</p>
<p>Netball Years 8, 9, 10 & 11 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.00pm Miss S Bell Miss E Birch-Hurst Sports-hall</p>	<p>Netball Years 7 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.00pm Miss E Birch-Hurst Sports-hall</p>	<p>DT Cooking Club - YEPS All year groups Afterschool: 3.15pm to 5.00pm Mrs J Howell Food Technology Rooms</p>	<p>Football (boys) Year 8 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.15pm Mr J Walters 3G</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Sporting fixtures often take place after school which will be a priority over scheduled clubs. Updates will appear on X or Microsoft Teams (@BrynCelynnogPE)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> If there are any queries, please speak to the member of staff that is running the activity.</p>
<p>DT 'Catch up' sessions Year 11 After school: 3.00pm to 4.00pm Mr J Williams T3</p>	<p>Performing Arts 'Catch-Up' Club All year groups Afterschool: 3.00 pm to 4.00pm T6</p>	<p>Gaming Club All year groups Afterschool: 2.55pm to 4.25pm YEPS Youth Wing</p>	<p>Basketball Years 7 - 10 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.15pm Miss E Birch-Hurst Sports-hall</p>	
<p>Film Making All year groups Afterschool: 2.55pm to 4.25pm YEPS Youth Wing</p>	<p>GCSE Music 'Catch-Up Club' All year groups Afterschool: 3.00 pm to 4.00pm T6</p>	<p>Youth Club All year groups 5.45pm to 8pm YEPS Youth Wing</p>	<p>Football (girls) Years 7 & 9 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.15pm Mr L Varrall 3G</p>	<p>Art GCSE 'Catch up' Club Years 10 and 11 After school: 3.00pm to 4.00pm Mrs E Burke N23</p>
<p>Youth Club All year groups 5.45pm to 8pm YEPS Youth Wing</p>	<p>Book Club All year groups After school: 3.00 pm to 3.45pm Mrs N Sturbecher Library</p>	<p>Computer Science and Digital Technology Year 11 After school: 3.00 pm to 4.00pm Mrs K Stock N17</p>	<p>Additional information: <input type="checkbox"/> Mathematics Club: KS3 - KS5 Bespoke support offered to pupils who would benefit from it. Need to speak to individual teachers. <input type="checkbox"/> Year 7 Lunch Brunch Club: Invited students in Years 7 and 8 in the lunch time. Nurture room H block</p>	