



Head Teachers Introduction



Mrs Bethan Cartwright - Head Teacher

I can't believe that a whole year has gone by since I started my post as Headteacher at ysgol Glan Clwyd but it is clear that we have achieved a great deal in that time. Following the many successive stages in the building and renovation process we are delighted to be starting the new academic year in our new school. This building offers our pupils excellent facilities and resources to promote their education. We are very grateful to Welsh Government and to the Local Authority for recognising the importance of Welsh medium education and their investment in developing fluent bilingual citizens for the future.

You will also have noticed how smart our pupils from Year 7 to 12 look in their new uniforms, indeed many tell us that their self-confidence has increased as well as their pride in being a pupil at Ysgol Glan Clwyd.

Providing top quality experiences continues to be a priority for us, so we have worked hard over the last year to review our learning programmes to develop those essential skills that our pupils need, in order to prepare them for work and life requirements in the 21st century. Skills such as resilience, resourcefulness, problem solving, communication and collaboration are extremely important and

therefore receive their place deservedly within our curriculum to develop effective independent learners. We are proud of our pupils' success in developing their talents within their educational experiences and extra-curricular.

In order for our pupils to gain the best from the experiences offered, it is vital they feel happy at school. Our main aim is to ensure that the school has a pleasant atmosphere in which every individual, a pupil or a member of staff displays Respect and Willingness by being a proud member of the Ysgol Glan Clwyd family.

We also value our close relationship with our parents and guardians to help develop the lives of our young people. In such an environment, we believe that our pupils will flourish and with that important emphasis on positive collaboration between the school and the home we can achieve our mantra - Achieving Excellence Together.

I would like to, therefore, send you a warm invitation to an Information and Question and Answer session with me and members of my Senior Leadership Team at 5.30pm Thursday 30th November 2017 in the HAFAN. We look forward to seeing you there.

Head – Mrs Bethan Cartwright

Mrs Bethan Cartwright

Starting a new school year

Now the building and restoration work is coming to an end, we'd like to wish a warm welcome to the new students – especially the 224 who are in year 7!

We are very proud to welcome a large number of students to Year 12 and wish every success to all the students who have chosen to attend College or work.

Attendance!

As a school we are committed to working with you as parents/guardians to encourage attendance and punctuality of our pupils. We believe that ensuring a high attendance rate gives the best start possible to the lives of our young people.

We have set an attendance target of 96% for all pupils. There is a clear relationship between attendance and the standards that pupils meet.

If a pupil has an attendance of 95% they will have missed two weeks of education in a school year, which also has an affect on their ability to learn, their welfare and their feeling of belonging.

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School Uniform

We have started the new school year with everyone from years 7-11 and the lower 6th form transferred to the new uniform. There is a real feeling of unity and pride in the uniform with everyone looking very smart. It is necessary that all pupils take responsibility for achieving the highest standards in wearing the full school uniform and we ask for your co-operation to help the school maintain these standards.



YGC Staff

A warm welcome to the new staff members who have joined the team:-

Elena Campbell

Humanities Teacher

Sioned Charters

Mathematics Teacher

Eldrydd Dodd

Expressive Arts Teacher

Alaw Jones

Physical Education Teacher (Maternity)

Sian O Jones

English Teacher

Dafydd Roberts

Welsh Teacher (January 2018)

Garmon Salisbury

Head of Geography

Joe Stoneley

English Teacher

Bedwyr Davies (BLD)

Reprographics Technician

External Examinations

Congratulations to all the students on their success in the external examinations – GCSE and A Level. The results were good again this year.

A Level – all year 13 students received their desired grades to attend their chosen destination. A year of hard work is ahead of the students who sat their AS exams to ensure that everyone reaches their full potential and achieves the best possible grades at the end of year 13.

GCSE – most students reached and passed their personal targets, therefore achieving a very high standard with 88% of pupils achieving A*-C in Welsh (75.9% in Welsh Language). 89% of students achieved A*-C in English (74.7% in English Language) and 70.3% achieved A*-C in a Maths qualification. Congratulations to everyone.

By aiming high, working hard and working together with students, teachers and tutors every child can achieve excellence.



Congratulations to the following pupils who took part in the TIC production of the show

"Half a Sixpence" at The Pavilion Theatre, Rhyl, in August. Brannon Liston-Smith, Ieuan Gittins, Lucie Rhiannon Williams, Rhodri Williams, Nikita Williams, Gethin Roberts, Seth Gamble, Erin Davies, Carwyn Williams, Jake Maxwell, Gregory Williams, Taliesin Liston-Smith, Rhys Bunn a Rose Bunn. A very high standard of performance, showing discipline and true talent.



Head Students

This year's School Head students are Lois Jones and Gwen Williams, and Ruth Roberts and Sion Jones are the Deputy Head students.

Congratulations!



Georgia Henderson a Emily Jones BL13

A huge congratulations to Emily Jones and Georgia Henderson Yr.13 who have been selected as Gold Young Sport Ambassadors for Denbighshire. Only 5 have been chosen from the whole of the County – this is a major achievement to have two from Ysgol Glan Clwyd. They will be promoting the school's sports clubs in addition to working with future ambassadors from Ysgol Glan Clwyd and the primary schools.



Congratulations to the following girls Leah Davies, Beth Evans, Ana Davies, Miriam Owen and Llinos Jones who have been chosen to play for Denbighshire hockey team. A special congratulations to Llinos Jones who has been selected for the North Wales Hockey trials.

A huge congratulations to the following girls who have been selected to play for Denbighshire Netball Team: Swyn Williams, Alys Roberts, Elen Jones, Ceri Vaughan, Olivia Carroll, Megan Howatson, Hanna Jones, Llinos Jones, Annie Winter, Madlen Cooper, Mari Edmunds, Alicia Elliott, Catrin Burgess, Ffion Evans, Catrin Reese-Williams, Siwan Davies, Charlotte Hughes and Sophie Williams.



Eisteddfod

A huge congratulations to a number of our students on their outstanding success in the National Eisteddfod at Anglesey this year.

Scripture Reading under 16 –
3rd Owain John, Llansannan

Girls solo 16 – 19 –
1st Tesni Jones, 2nd Lisa Dafydd

Boys solo 16 – 19 –
1st Dafydd Jones

Folk solo 16 – 21 –
3rd Gwen Esiyllt Williams

Individual Recital 16 – 21 –
2nd Mali Elwy Williams

Cerdd Dant solo 16 – 21 –
2nd Celyn Llwyd Cartwright

Individual Recital 16 and over –
1st Mali Elwy Williams

Cerdd Dant Duet under 21 oed –
Celyn Cartwright a Siriol Elin

Youth Choir under 25 years old –
3rd Côr Cytgan Clwyd

Parti Alaw Werin under 25 –
1st Parti Dyffryn Clwyd

Parti Cerdd Dant under 25 –
1st Parti Dyffryn Clwyd

Composition –
Ruth Erin Roberts

In addition, a number of the school's staff were members of Lleisiau'r Nant who were victorious in the Cerdd Dant open choir and Alawon Gwerin choir under the guidance of Leah Owen. Congratulations to those who took part with other choirs such as Côr Rhuthun and Côr Meibion Colwyn.



Ysgol Glan Clwyd was recently invited to Saughton Hall to receive a certificate from Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex. The certificate certified that Ysgol Glan Clwyd was a direct licensed establishment for the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Tomos Auld and Elen Jones went with Gwawr Meirion and Arwyn Jones to collect the certificate from the Prince.

Hopefully everyone who has signed up for instrumental or vocal lessons are attending their lessons on a weekly basis and enjoying the experience. If there are any difficulties which may arise, you should discuss these with Mr Eames.

Year 7 and 8 – Don't forget that the Ukulele clubs are welcoming new members. Only £2 a session (to be paid through parentpay). For more information see your music teacher. You don't need to own an Ukulele – you may borrow one.



Eldrydd Dodd conducts the school choir during the Thanksgiving Service

On the 3rd of October we had an uplifting thanksgiving service at the Cathedral. Thank you to everyone who participated – soloists, duets, instrumentalists, readers or as a member of the choir. It is not easy to perform in front of your peers and you were all fabulous.



Picture of everyone on the trip to Brittany

Year 8 and 9 Normandy and Brittany trip

In July, 40 pupils from years 8 and 9 experienced an educational trip to Normandy and Brittany. During their stay, they visited the Second World War museum at Mémorial de Caen, Arromanches, St. Malo, Le Mont Saint Michel, the market in Dinan and the fun park – Cobac Parc. The students had the opportunity to practice their French and experience the local culture. Many thanks to all the staff who went on the trip and to Miss Ffion Evans for organising and making the trip a success.

News from the Music Department

North Wales International Music Festival

– The school is very fortunate to see this renowned music festival on our door step every year in September. This year the students who are studying music from year 10 upwards were in their element listening and performing with the percussion quartet "Quartet 19" from Cardiff. The four young, talented musicians were students from The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, and our students were blown away by the performance.

Currently we are preparing for our Christmas Concert which will be held on Thursday night, 21st of December at the Cathedral. The Christmas Concert will consist of a junior choir (years 7 and 8), a youth choir (years 9, 10 and 11) and the sixth form choir (years 12 and 13). We hope that every pupil who enjoys singing is a member of the choir and is dedicated to attend every practice!

Members of the school's choirs received a huge privilege participating in the singing workshop with one of the world's most famous a cappella ensembles - VOCES8. Following a very successful and inspiring workshop, the students shared the stage with the ensemble at the public concert in the Cathedral. An unforgettable experience!



Our Welsh trip to 'Yr Ysgwrn' by Alisha Hoyles

We started our hour and a half journey from St Asaph to Trawsfynydd at half past nine on July 7th. We passed Llŷn Celyn on our way to the Ysgwrn. We travelled by bus, in which everyone at the back were excited and singing Welsh songs along the way.

During our visit to Yr Ysgwrn, the officer kindly showed us around all the rooms

in the home where we saw some amazing things. We saw Hedd Wyn's eisteddfod chair, that he never had the opportunity to see as he was sadly killed, that same summer, during the First World War. Then we went to Bala for our lunch, and on the way we stopped by Llŷn Celyn to remember the history of Tryweryn.

'We ate chips, chicken and gravy at Y Badell Aur which was very tasty. The teachers were very kind and bought us all an ice cream. They also sent a message to BBC Radio Cymru to say that year 8 students were on a Welsh trip visiting Yr Ysgwrn! I had an amazing time on the trip, it was fun and there were a lot of things for us to see and learn about Hedd Wyn and Tryweryn.





Term Time **HOLIDAYS**

We would like to remind you at the beginning of the new school year of the Governors' decision, (first conveyed in September 2015), to follow the Local Authority's directive that no holidays will be approved during the school term.

Holidays will be marked as unauthorised absences (apart from exceptional family circumstances). Unauthorised absences over 10 days can lead to a fixed penalty fine. A full version of Denbighshire's Local Code of Conduct "Education Fixed Penalty Notices" is available on the county council's website.