

Dear Parent/Carers,

What a lovely sunny and busy week we have had in Ysgol Afon Wen. There have been four sports days, with pupils across the school competing in events, supported by the PE team and GCSE PE students. It was wonderful to see everyone taking part and thank you so much to everyone who gave up their time to come and support the event. In addition, the pupils in Year 5-8 have been involved in the Summer Showcase, performing for an audience on Wednesday as well as during the Year 5 Open Evening on Thursday. Reception, Nursery and Year 2 performed an end of year assembly for their family members and Year 10 pupils have been on a trip to Bryn Celynnog Sixth form in preparation for further education choices.

Next week we look forward to running the school trips, Activate experience day, the Year 11 Prom and some more celebration assemblies.

Once again, thank you to all members of the school community who have been a huge presence in the schools this week, with many family members coming through the school gates for multiple sports days and celebration assemblies. I know your children loved having you, but the school also really value your support,

Please note that there are three INSET days planned for the start of the next academic year. These will be Monday 1st September, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd September 2025. Pupils will return to school on Thursday 4th September 2025.

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Monday 7th July 2025	Year 7 & 8 Trip to Drayton Manor Year 3 Celebration Assembly 2.30pm
Tuesday 8th July 2025	Activate Experience Day Year 9 & 10 Trip to Drayton Manor
Wednesday 9th July 2025	Year 1 Celebration Assembly 9.10am Year 11 Prom 7pm
Friday 11th July 2025	Year 4, 5, 6 Trip to the cinema
Monday 14 th July 2025	Year 6 leavers day activities and celebration assembly @2pm Moving up trial morning for Nursery to Year 5
Tuesday 15 th July 2025	Activate and Advance reports published
Wednesday 16 th July 2025	End of year reward assemblies
Thursday 17 th July 2025	End of year reward assemblies
Friday 18 th July 2025	Last day of term



Newsletter 04.07.25

Right of the month: Article 31: I have a right to relax and play.

Diversity Week: This is Me



Throughout this week, our school community came together to celebrate School Diversity Week. Highlights included a vibrant Culture Fayre, a special themed menu in the canteen, and engaging curriculum-wide lessons focused on diversity and inclusion.

We ended the week on a high with 'This is Me' Day on Friday — a joyful celebration of individuality and identity.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part and helped make this week so meaningful.

Culture Fayre



Diversity and Inclusion lessons





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Diversity Week





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Diversity Week

'This is Me' Day



This young man sang a Vietnamese song about love to classmates today during "This is Me" day.

It was amazing to hear a reception pupil sharing their experiences of a different culture and language.

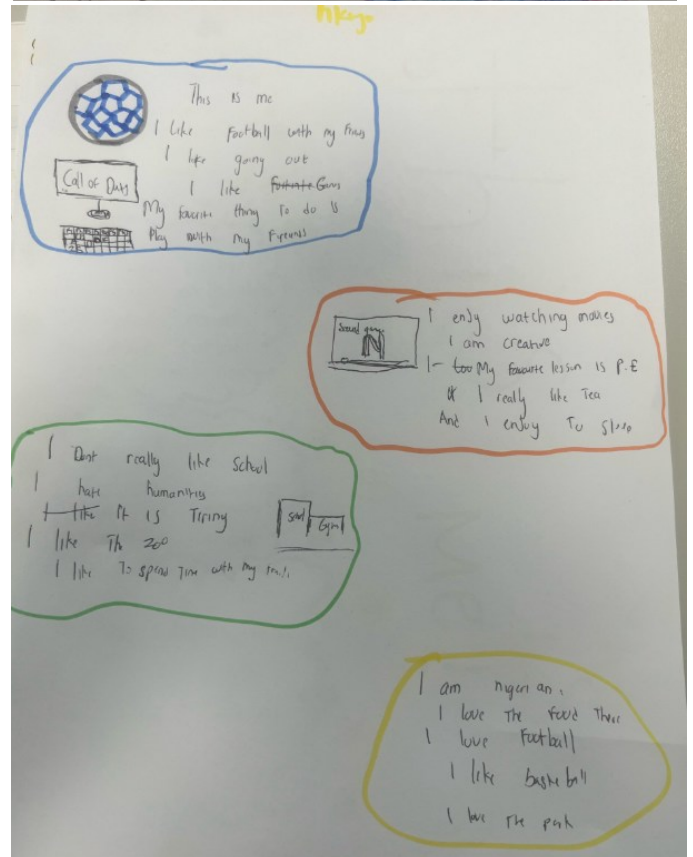
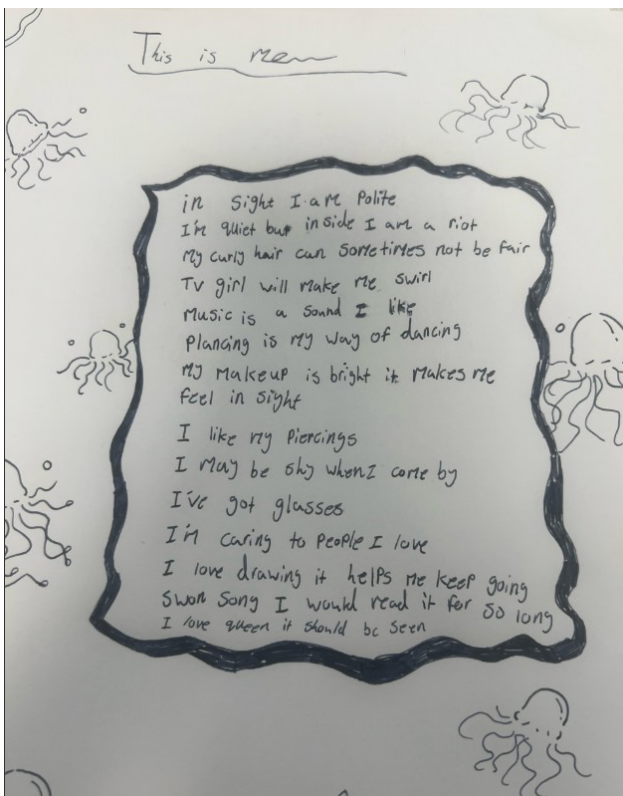
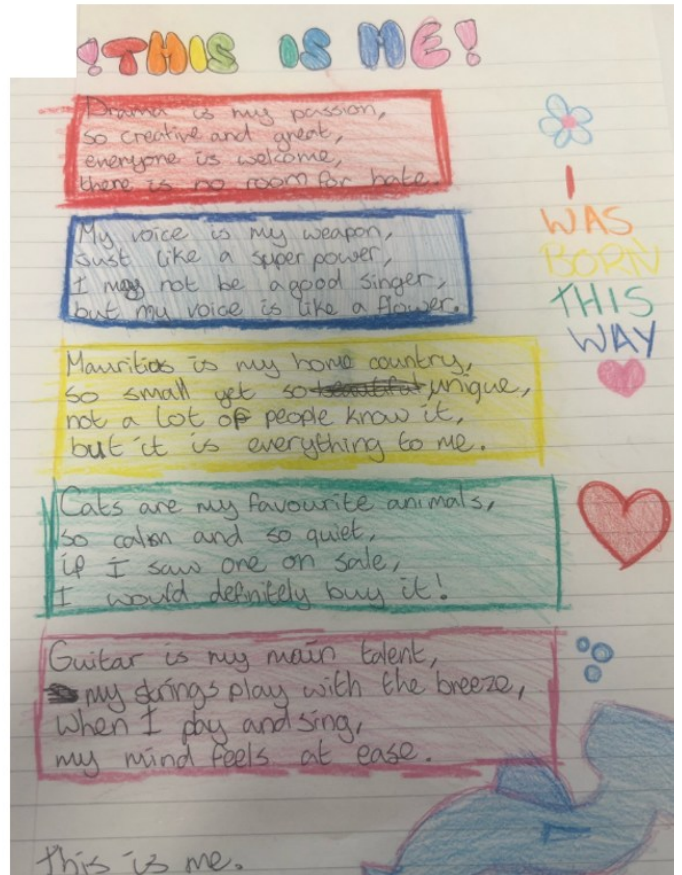
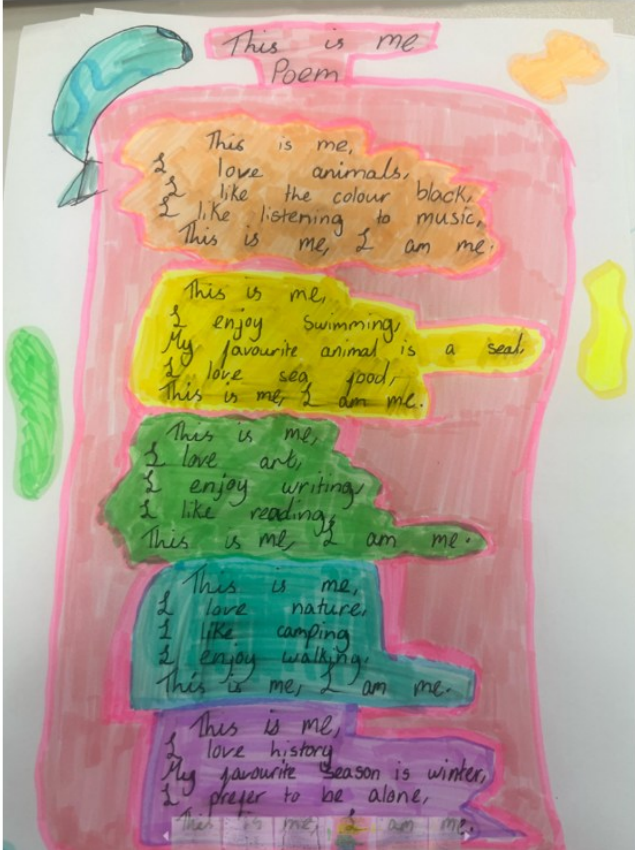




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Diversity Week: This is Me poems



Year 10 Work Experience Week

We're delighted to share how successful our Year 10 work experience week was. Pupils represented the school with confidence and maturity, receiving glowing feedback from employers. One employer said, *"I would give her a job,"* while another described a pupil as, *"an absolute delight,"* adding that she will be returning to volunteer at their summer fair. Pupils were praised for being eager to learn and fitting in well with staff teams both externally and internally at Ysgol Afon Wen. The experience was also eye-opening for pupils themselves. One reflected, *"I learned what was done with X-rays and CT scans after they had been taken,"* while another said, *"I realised how much doing a small thing can help other people."* Thank you to all families who supported by securing placements and encouraged pupils throughout the process – they did themselves, and the school, proud.



"I really enjoyed work experience. I learned how important being an MP is and what kind of things they do in the office every day. Before I did work experience I had no idea what an MP did in their constituency but now I do. I got to meet the MP who is really nice. I thought she would be a bit scary but she is just like every other person. Work experience was really fun and I'm glad I got the chance to do it."

Year 8 Careers event

This week, our Year 8 pupils have been exploring opportunities and widening their horizons by taking part in an exciting careers carousel event. This was designed to broaden their understanding of the world of work and spark curiosity about future possibilities. In small groups, pupils rotated between a variety of employer stations, including representatives from the police, Specsavers, and local construction companies.

During each session, pupils asked pre-prepared questions about the skills required, types of roles available, and salary expectations across different industries. The experience was both informative and inspiring, with many pupils commenting on how it helped clarify their thoughts about the future. One pupil shared, *"It has put so many new ideas into my head and gave reassurance about the things I was worried about."*

We're proud of how engaged and respectful our pupils were throughout the event. Experiences like this are key to building confidence, raising aspirations, and helping young people make informed choices as they start thinking about their next steps.



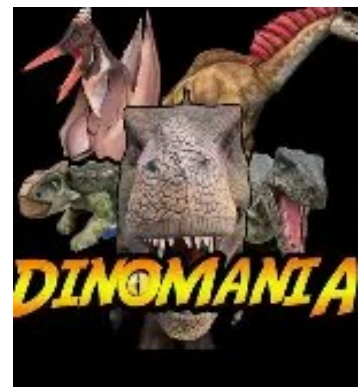
Pylon to Power Event



Fifteen Year 9 girls were selected to take part in a “girls into STEM” day. They conducted an engineering project as well as science experiments. They were given information about STEM careers. They were also taken into the “Coal is King” exhibition. The day was at Big Pit and run in conjunction with the National Museum. I was then treated to a sing song on the way home in the minibus. Mrs Leach.

Activate Experience Day

On Tuesday 8th July all pupils in Nursery to Year 3 will have an experience day. The sessions will include an animal encounter, circus skills session, Dinomania, a disco and a teddy bears picnic. Please bring a healthy snack/food for the teddy bears picnic. This food will be for your child to eat and needs to be labelled with their full name and class. Please ensure your child has a water bottle clearly labelled with their names. Pupils can wear their PE kit as they will be activate all day.





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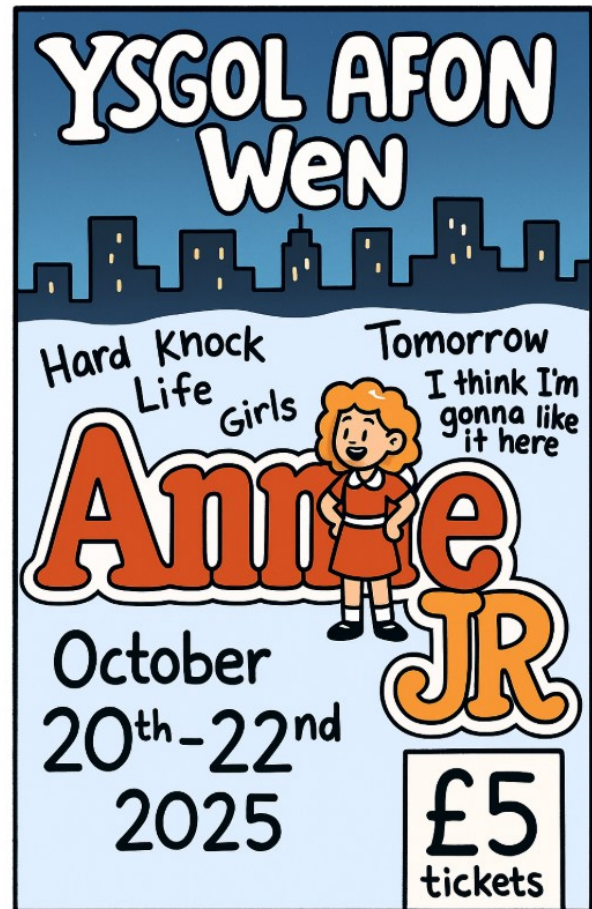
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Right of the month: Article

School Production

Congratulations to everyone who auditioned for a part in Annie. We are delighted to announce our cast list this evening, so can all pupils pay attention to Google Classroom to see where they will be successfully representing the school.

Every pupil that has auditioned will be allocated a role! Congratulations to you all!



Transition visit to Bryn Celynnog

This week, a group of our Year 10 learners Wen took part in a successful transition visit to Bryn Celynnog Sixth Form. The visit formed a key part of our ongoing commitment to helping learners make informed decisions about their post-16 pathways.

The day began with a warm welcome and brief tour of the Sixth Form centre. Learners had the chance to ask questions about Sixth Form life, explore the facilities, and begin to visualise themselves as future post-16 students.

Learners then took part in a carousel of taster sessions based on their subject preferences. The sessions, which spanned five option columns, gave students valuable insights into the post-16 curriculum offered by Bryn Celynnog. From Law and Media Studies to Criminology, Biology, and the Uniformed Protective Services, the range of subjects sparked real interest and enthusiasm.

The maturity and engagement shown by our learners throughout the day was impressive. It was clear that the experience helped build confidence, raise aspirations, and strengthen their understanding of the opportunities that lie ahead.

Ysgol Afon Wen remains committed to supporting all learners as they prepare for life beyond Year 11. We will continue to work closely with partner institutions like Bryn Celynnog to ensure our Year 10 pupils receive a rich and varied post-16 transition experience. We look forward to offering a similar opportunity at Coleg y Cymoedd in the next academic year, helping learners explore a wider range of pathways and plan with confidence for their future.



Family Assemblies

Thank you to all parents who came to support the Nursery, Reception and Year 2 family assemblies that have taken place this week. The pupils were excellent and really enjoyed performing a summary of the academic year for you all.

Year 3 and 1 assemblies are planned for next week as well as a leavers assembly for Year 6 the week after (see diary dates).



Year 5 Open Evening



Thank you for all of the support for Year 5 open evening, the pupils made shortbread cookies in Technology, in Science adults held fire and it was a great opportunity to show prospective pupils around the school and subject areas.



Sports Days

Thank you very much to Mr Campbell (Subject leader for PE), Mr Dwight and the PE team for all of the effort that had been put into making the four sports days held this week extremely memorable and really good fun for all pupils. The days would not have been complete without the help and support of the group of pupils below. They ran the events alongside the PE team and it was wonderful to see the younger pupils listening to their advice and being rewarded by the older pupils. The staff believe that they could have run the Year 7 and 8 sports day without adult supervision!

Thank you to all families members who came to support the children, for some numerous times this week. We hope you enjoyed watching them compete in different events and work as members of a team and individually. They all learnt a lot and their sporting prowess was impressive.



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Celebration of Success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been commended by their Progress leader or teachers. Well done!

Nursery	Oaklee Evans	Year 4	Olivia Bogocz	Year 9	Shi Nicholas
	Harrison Quarman-Chandler		Ella Dunn		Ffion Elliot
Reception	Olivia Holt	Year 5	Rahmatullah Karo Khil	Year 10	Ruby Pearce
	Ivy Herbert		Pako Malebye		Lucas Parsons
Year 1	Oliver Powell	Year 6	Seren-Gwen Jones		Connor Knight
	Evelyn Vaughan		Amelia Findlay		
Year 2	Melisa Randyte	Year 7	Aimee Horton		
	Logan Powderhill		Austin Parker		
Year 3	Phenyo Malebye	Year 8	Logan Samuels		
	Lexi-May Johnson		Seren Wilks		

Year 7 Sporting success

Year 7 6-a-side plate finalists





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Community Event

PONTYPRIDD TOWN COUNCIL'S
TYMOR YR HAF

linktr.ee/TYMORYRHAF

FANTASTIC EVENTS FOR ALL!
TALKS | FOREST SCHOOL | ROADSHOWS
DARLITHOEDD | YSGOL GOEDWIG | TAITH HWYL HAF
ARTS & CRAFTS | ILLUSTRATION WORKSHOP | PLANETARIUM
CELF A CHREFFT | GWEITHDY LLUNIADU | PLANEDARIWM
HWYL FFANTASTIG I BAWB!

TYMOR YR HAF
CYNGOR TREF
PONTYPRIDD
TOWN COUNCIL

AMGUEDDFA
PONTYPRIDD
MUSEUM

MEADOW STREET
COMMUNITY
CYMUNED
STRYD Y DDOL