

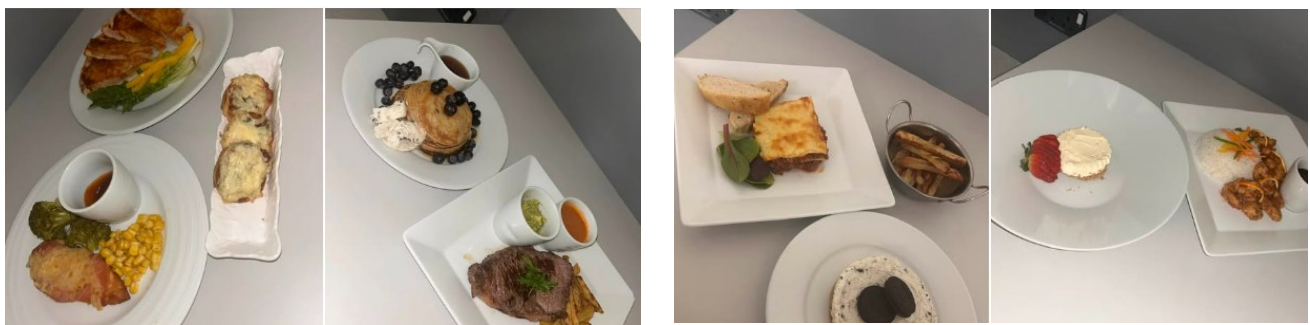


# Newsletter 14.02.25

Right of the month: Article 7: I have a right to a name and to belong to a country

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a very busy week in Ysgol Afon Wen. Today we have had a photographer on site taking photographs for our new website which is currently being designed . The health services have been on site checking on the Activate pupils eye sight, teeth and growth. The pupils were exemplary as they always are with guests. The Year 11 cooking examinations have taken place all week and the smell coming out of the technology department has been divine. The staff have thoroughly enjoyed checking the taste for pupils as well!



The trip to Llanrannog was extremely successful for Year 6 and it has been wonderful watching their adventures. Thank you to the staff who took them, hopefully it will be an overnight trip to remember.



## Dates for your diary

Date	What's happening?
Friday 21st February	Eisteddfod
Monday 24th February	Half term
Wednesday 26th February	Ski trip departs
Monday 3rd March	All pupils return to school after half term
Wednesday 5th March	Ski trip returns
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Thursday 6th March	Year 9 Option Evening
Tuesday 18th March	Nursing service on site for vaccinations (Yr9)



## Senior Deputy Headteacher, Mrs K Gwyn

It's with great pleasure that I share my return to Ysgol Afon Wen. The past few weeks have been a whirlwind of excitement, filled with warm reunions and new beginnings. I've had the pleasure of reconnecting with familiar faces from Hawthorn High School and have enjoyed the opportunity to meet our fantastic younger pupils and their families, as well as the dedicated staff of Ysgol Afon Wen.



I want to remind everyone of my role as Designated Safeguarding Person for the school. Your child's wellbeing is our utmost priority. Should you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We're here to support and nurture every pupil in our care.

I am looking forward to contributing to our vibrant school community and helping to ensure that every member of Ysgol Afon Wen is able to be the best version of themselves.

Mrs Gwyn

## Governing Body

We are very fortunate at Ysgol Afon Wen to have committed governors who give freely of their time and provide support and challenge to our school with the overall aim to raise standards of wellbeing and achievement.

Governor Name	Status
Cllr Carl Thomas	LEA
Cllr J Bonetto	LEA
Cllr C Lises	LEA
Mrs H Cook	LEA
Christine Ward	LEA
Mr Owain Davies	Community
Mrs Jayne Edwards	Community
Mr Alan Minton	Community
Ms Jodie Llewellyn	Community
Mr M Reilly	Community
Ms Zaina Ajumma	Parent
Ms Donna Marshall	Parent
Christopher Gibbins	Parent
Rochelle Parker	Parent
Charlotte Michaud-Pugh	Parent
Mrs Marion Saunders	Parent
Maria Bolderson	Staff
Clare O'Carroll	Teacher
James Cox	Teacher
Claire Crockett	H/T





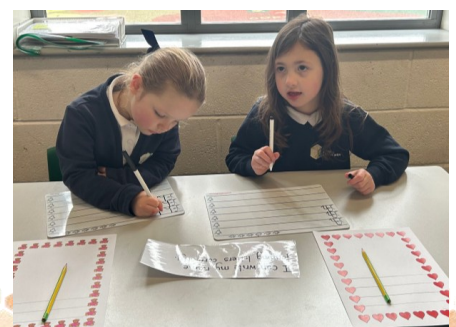
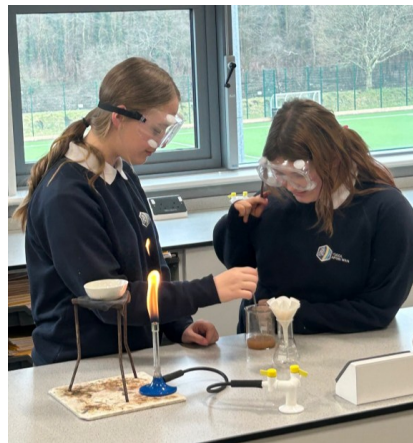
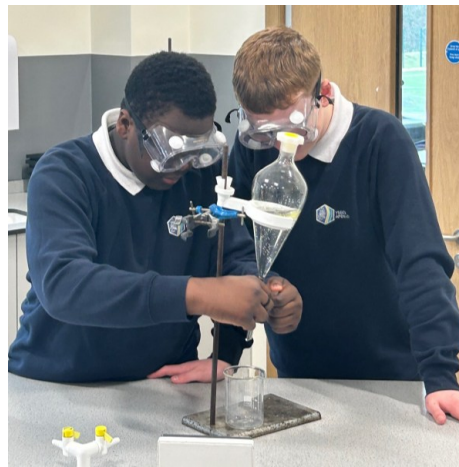
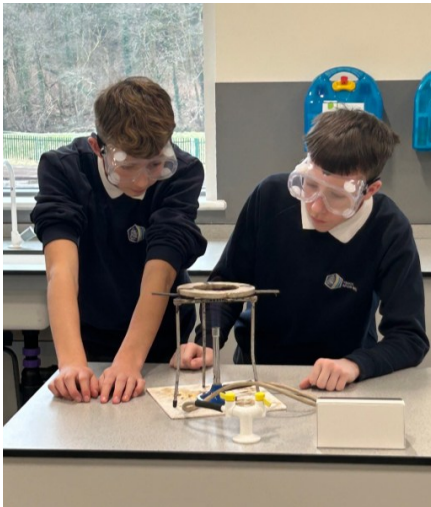
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## Photography today

A small selection of the photographs taken today whilst the professional photographer was working with the pupils. These ones taken on a mobile phone are lovely, so we cannot wait to see the professional ones. Thank you to all pupils and staff involved. We look forward to sharing the outcomes with you.





## Attendance

Nursery	82%	Year 4	88%	Year 9	82%
Reception	86%	Year 5	92%	Year 10	82%
Year 1	95%	Year 6	93%	Year 11	84%
Year 2	93%	Year 7	92%		
Year 3	93%	Year 8	90%		

Congratulations to **Year 5** who have the highest attendance this week. The school expects every pupil to have at least 90% attendance to school. A high level of attendance to school supports high levels of attainment and wellbeing.

## Eisteddfod: Friday 21st February 2025

We are thrilled to announce that we will be holding our annual Eisteddfod on Friday 21st February 2025.

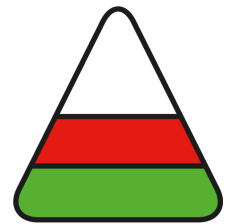
Our four houses are:

Rhondda (Green), Cynon (Yellow), Taf (Blue)  
& Elia (Red)

On the day Year 4 to Year 9 will be asked to wear a top of their house colour and appropriate PE bottoms and trainers as there will be some active events.

Nursery to Year 3 are welcome to do the same or dress in Welsh costumes or rugby shirts.

Form teachers and class teachers will confirm the houses for individual pupils and the colour.



Urdd





## Randon Act of Kindness Day

# MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY



RANDOM ACTS  
OF **KINDNESS**  
DAY



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Say hello and smile to  
people when you pass  
them today

Hold the door open for  
the person walking  
behind you

Say thank you to your  
teachers after your  
lessons today

Ask someone how they  
are feeling and listen to  
the reply

Tidy up around the school-  
put things away and put  
rubbish in the bin - even if  
it isn't yours

Help someone out by  
passing them something  
they need or helping them  
with their work



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## Community information

### Police Youth Volunteer Open Day



South Wales Police are holding an open day to provide further information on our Police Youth Volunteer Scheme on **Thursday 27th February 2025** at Pontypridd Library between 11am and 1pm for the Taff Area. Youths need to be aged between 14-17 years old and meet every Thursday at Pontypridd Museum. Please come along if you are interested for an exciting opportunity if interested in the police.

Mae Heddlu De Cymru yn cynnal diwrnod agored i ddarparu rhagor o wybodaeth am ein Cynllun Gwirfoddoli Ieuenctid yr Heddlu ddydd Iau 27 Chwefror 2025 yn Llyfrgell Pontypridd rhwng 11am a 1pm ar gyfer Ardal Taf. Mae angen i bobl ifanc fod rhwng 14-17 oed a chyfarfod bob dydd Iau yn Amgueddfa Pontypridd. Dewch draw os oes gennych ddiddordeb am gyfle cyffrous os oes gennych ddiddordeb yn yr heddlu.

**PCSO Warren Williams 07469 907850**

**warren.williams2@south-wales.police.uk**

**PCSO Samantha Evans 07970 444697**

**samantha.evans3@south-wales.police.uk**

**PCSO Liam Jones 07779 990753**



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## Community information

**HAWTHORN & LOWER RHYDYFELIN KIDS' CLUB PRESENTS**

**FRIDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2025**  
**6PM - 9PM**

# GAMES NIGHT

**HAWTHORN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

A safe space to hang out, play old favourites and find new ones. Suitable for anyone of any age who likes to sit and play board games!

**TUCK SHOP AVAILABLE!**

FOR MORE INFO SEARCH 'HAWTHORN AND LOWER RHYDYFELIN KIDS CLUB!' ON FACEBOOK

All children must be accompanied by an adult



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## Catering

**RYGBI'R CHEWCH GWLAD  
SIX NATIONS RUGBY**

**Bygyr Coron  
Driphlyg,  
Sglodion a  
Salad Bach/  
Colsiô  
&  
Cacen Mwd  
Siocled Oren**

**£3.10**

**Triple Crown  
Burger, Chips,  
Side Salad/  
Coleslaw  
&  
Chocolate  
Orange  
Mud Cake**

**DDYDD IAU 20 CHWFROR  
THURSDAY 20TH FEBRUARY**

**Dydd San Ffolant  
Valentine's Day**

Ddydd Gwener 14 Chwefror  
Friday 14th February

**Pelenni cig gyda sbageti  
mewn saws tomato, a  
salad bach  
&  
Brownis Siocled a Ma'fon  
£3.10**

**Meatballs with Spaghetti  
in a Rich Tomato Sauce  
served with Side Salad  
&  
Dreamy Raspberry  
Chocolate Brownies  
£3.10**

**Bagét Poeth wedi'i  
lenwi â Pheleini Cig  
£2.21**

**Hot Mighty Meatball  
Baguette  
£2.21**

Today the pupils in Year 7—11 had a special menu specifically designed around Valentines Day.

On the 20th February, there will be another themed menu linked to the six nations rugby.

## Sensory Packs



Caudwell Children's Autism Sensory Packs are specifically designed to support these children with affordable, fun, educational, and durable tools that help manage sensory experiences. Many items are compact and suitable for travel or use in school environments.

**For eligible families, Caudwell Children will cover 80% of the pack's cost, requiring only a £22 contribution from the family.** These packs provide great value and support for children on the autism spectrum, offering both enjoyment and sensory relief.

[www.caudwellchildren.com/](http://www.caudwellchildren.com/)



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## Celebration of Success



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

<b>Nursery</b>	Jimmy Hughes	<b>Year 4</b>	Katie Davies	<b>Year 9</b>	Ava Whitfield
	Mellina Driai		Bradley Davies		Jack Rees
<b>Reception</b>	Eira Lloyd	<b>Year 5</b>	Allayah-Grace Jones	<b>Year 10</b>	Finnley Williams
	Eliza de Abreu		Georgie King		Abree Pontin
<b>Year 1</b>	Harmony Fletcher-Slocombe	<b>Year 6</b>	James Chipps	<b>Year 11</b>	Deme-Jane Williams
	Roma-Faith Sharp				Jayden Lewis
<b>Year 2</b>	Paislee Harris	<b>Year 7</b>	Lilly Thorngate		
<b>Year 3</b>	Destiny Opedare	<b>Year 8</b>	Jake Moon		
	Caleb Harley		Isabella Reardon	Noah Westacott	

## UKMT

Congratulations to the UK Maths Challenge participants this academic year. This is a 60 minute, 25 multiple choice Challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think. The problems on the Intermediate Maths Challenge are designed to make students think, most are accessible yet still challenge those with more experience.

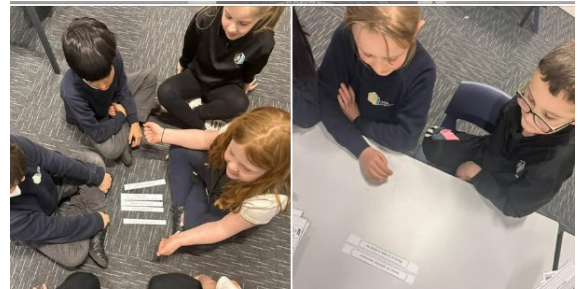
The school are very proud of all pupils who took part and the pupils achieving bronze and silver awards should be very proud of themselves.





## Internet Safety

To support the work that the pupils have been completing on internet safety, please see a parent/carer factsheet below.



## Eye to Eye Counselling Service

"Sometimes we all need someone to talk to"



### Cyber Safety:

The internet is a great way for young people to access information, support, entertainment and stay connected with friends and family, but it also has its risks.

#### What are the risks of internet/social media use?

- Content which maybe inappropriate or unreliable, such as self-harming material or sexually explicit images/videos.
- Being a victim of, or be involved in, inappropriate or harmful behaviour such as cyber bullying, sexting, misuse of personal and private information.
- Other people having access to their personal information
- Being a target for online scams
- [Online grooming](#)\*

#### How to keep myself safe online?

- Think before you post, be mindful of who will see or view the content you share/post
- Don't share login details to your social media and online accounts
- Be careful of unknown links, these could be scams or phishing where others can gain access to your accounts and personal information
- Be mindful of who you are speaking to online, only accept friend/follow request of people you may know.
- Talk to a trusted adult if you receive any threatening or hurtful comments/messages online
- Don't share any personal details, including photos that may contain identifying information (such as school logos and house numbers)

#### How to keep my child safe online?

With the online world being a big part of young peoples everyday lives it can be difficult to monitor exactly what they get up to online, but there are thing you can do to help keep them safe.

- Talk about it, communication is key to keeping them safe online
- Talk with them about what they like to do online, this can help you have a better understanding of the safety talks they need
- Have them check their privacy settings (e.g. social media profiles set to private)
- Help them to manage what they see and do online
- Set up parental controls on devices
- Connect with them on their social media accounts
- Establish trust, this way they may be more open on the issues they maybe having online
- Educate yourself on the [signs](#) of online grooming

\* If you are concerned that your young person or another child is **being groomed** online it is important that you **report this** to the police via 101. You can also make a report online through the [safety centre \(CEOP\)](#).



[www.eyetoeye.wales](http://www.eyetoeye.wales)

#### Useful Contacts

Eye to Eye Counselling Service:  
01443 202940  
Email: [info@eyetoeye.wales](mailto:info@eyetoeye.wales)

ChildLine  
0800 1111  
[www.childline.org](http://www.childline.org)  
(online chat available)

NSPCC  
0808 800 5000  
Email: [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)  
[www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

#### Helpful Resources

[NSPCC: Keeping children safe online](#)

[Raising Children: Internet Safety, Teens](#)

[Parents Protect: Online safety](#)



Eye to Eye Counselling Service  
Parish Hall, Main Road,  
Llantwit Fardre  
Pontypridd, CF38 1PY

Tel: 01443 202940  
Email: [info@eyetoeye.wales](mailto:info@eyetoeye.wales)

Charity No. 1170631