



YSGOL
AFON WEN

Newsletter 15.11.24

Right of the month: Article 12 - To say what you think should happen and be listened to .

Dear Parents & Carers,

Over the past half term, our School Council has been actively working to strengthen student representation and ensure that Ysgol Afon Wen provides 'A Voice for All'. A major milestone was reached with the establishment of our first team of Lead Learners from Year 11. Following a rigorous application and presentation process to the Senior Leadership Team, a select group of students was chosen to take on this pivotal role, representing their peers and helping shape the direction of our new school community.

Additionally, each class and form group participated in a democratic election to select a Class Representative and Deputy, ensuring fair and inclusive representation across all year groups.

Class Reps, Deputies, and teachers collaborated in week-long discussions, gathering valuable input to shape the agenda for the first our termly Senedd meetings. These meetings brought together representatives from our Advance, Achieve and even our Activate phases to discuss key issues and ideas raised by their classmates, with action points addressed across our four sub-committees. We're proud of the dedication shown by our School Council members and look forward to the positive changes they'll champion this year. Watch out for updates in future editions of the newsletter.



Social Media

Social media is an excellent tool if used appropriately. Please can the school remind all parents to be respectful of one another and not to post message that incite fear, assign blame, or undermine the trust of the school. This can create a divisive atmosphere and negatively impact the very children we aim to support.

If you have any issues or concerns please address them by contacting the school.



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Dates for your diary

- ⇒ Thursday 21st November: ACE Day (more information below)
- ⇒ Friday 22nd November : Flu vaccinations Reception to Year 6
- ⇒ Monday 25th November (for 4 nights): School production of High School Musical (see other page)
- ⇒ Monday 2nd December: Year 11 Mock exam week

Christmas in YAW

| Date | What's happening? |
|-------------------------|--|
| Wednesday 4th December | Visit from Santa |
| Wednesday 11th December | Christmas Dinner Reception/Year 1 Wiggly Nativity Performance 1 (9.30am) Year 2/3 Christmas Counts Performance 1 (2.15pm) |
| Thursday 12th December | Reception/Year 1 Wiggly Nativity Performance 2 (9.30am) Year 2/3 Christmas Counts Performance 2 (2.15pm) |
| Friday 13th December | (Yr 4-6) "No one raps like an elf" Nativity performance 1 (10.00am) (Yr 4-6) "No one raps like an elf" Nativity performance 2(2.00pm) |
| Saturday 14th December | Pontypridd Festive Town Takeover |
| Monday 16th December | Christmas Carol Concert 6pm |
| Tuesday 17th December | "No one raps like an elf" (Yr 4-6) Nativity performance 3 (10am) "No one raps like an elf" (Yr 4-6) Nativity performance 4 (2pm) |
| Wednesday 18th December | Nursery Christmas Nativity Performance 1 (1.00pm) |
| Thursday 19th December | Nursery Christmas Nativity Performance 2 (1.00pm) and Performance 3 (2.00pm) |
| Friday 20th December | Jolly jumper day |

The school will communicate with you in due course about booking tickets for your children's performances.
All information about parts and costumes will be communicated early next week. Please speak to the class teacher if you have any questions.

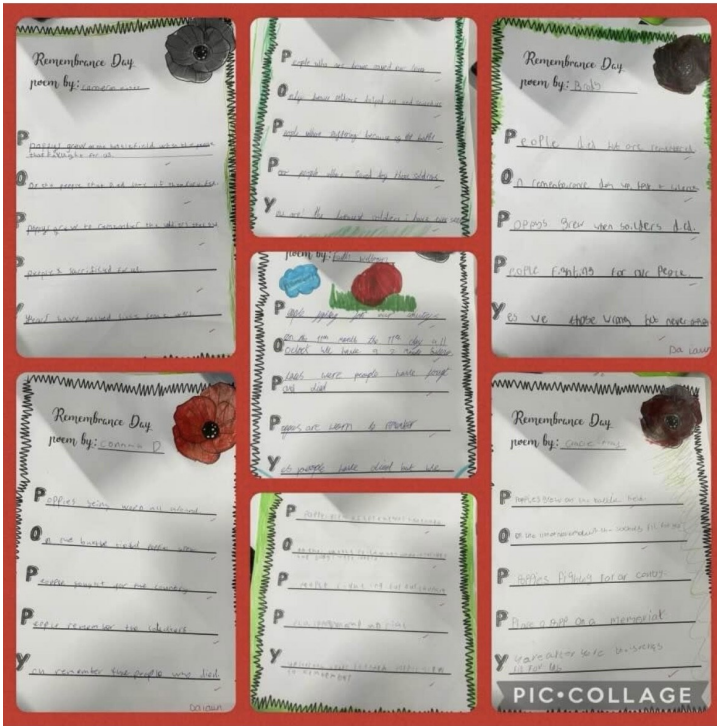


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Remembrance Work

Poppy poems in Year 5 today to remember



Year 4 Remembrance day craft



Remembrance Day marks the actual day World War 1 ended, at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, in 1918.

Ysgol Afon Wen completed different activities to help the children across the school understand and joined the people in the UK and around the world pause for a moment to remember those who gave their life for their country.



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Anti-bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week Highlights: Faculty Focus on Respect and Empathy

During Anti-Bullying Week, each faculty designed a range of activities across year groups to encourage respect, kindness, and empathy in our school community. Here's a snapshot of what our students experienced:

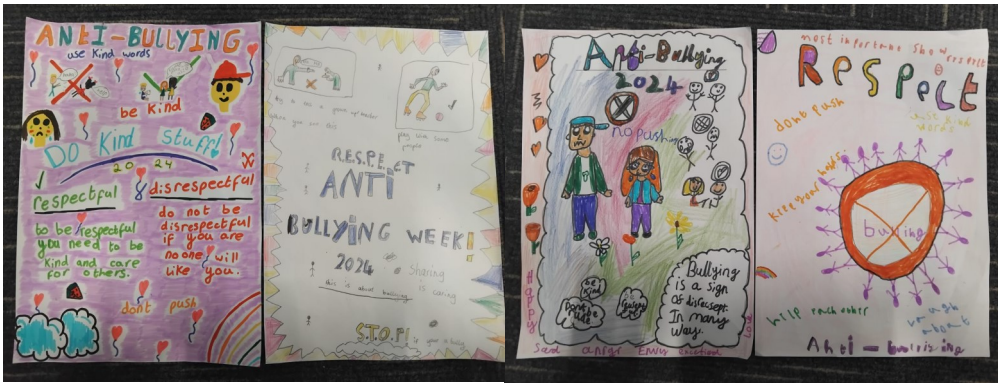
Life Faculty: Pupils discussed why respect is essential in relationships, watched a video with follow-up Q&A, and shared ideas on how "Respect is a Two-Way Street." This activity emphasised empathy in everyday interactions.

Innovation Faculty: Pupils watched a video clarifying the difference between bullying and banter, then analysed scenarios through focused questions to recognise healthy, respectful interactions.

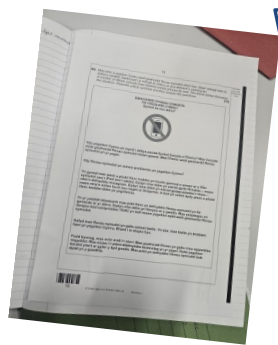
Creativity Faculty: Pupils completed a range of activities from writing poems about respect, speech writing, guide writing encouraging their peers to choose respect and designed photomontages on bullying themes, inspired by the work of Hannah Höch.

In Activate and Advance, pupils talked about being kind to one another and designed anti-bullying posters.

These activities helped pupils reflect on respect in personal relationships, community actions, and even in art, building a stronger, more supportive school environment for everyone.



Year 4 pupils made posters.



Wythnos Anti-Bwlio



If you or your child have any concerns about bullying in Ysgol Afon Wen, please speak to their class teacher, form teacher or Progress Leader who will help to address any issue.

I Choose
You Choose
We Choose Respect

Choose Respect, it's Fundamental, Essential in life and elemental, Without it, relationships can be temperamental, Which can end up being detrimental.

Choose to Respect everyone's perspective, A difference in opinion, that's our prerogative. Listen to others and be appreciative, Rather than inconsiderate and argumentative.

Choose to respect the disrespectful, Don't allow them to feel powerful. Don't fight back with words that are hurtful, Or act impulsively and end up regretful.

Choose to respect the disrespected, Respect is something that is reflected. Respect can prevent someone from feeling rejected. Respect is a cycle that is interconnected.

Choose to make respect an easy decision.

I Choose
You Choose
We Choose Respect





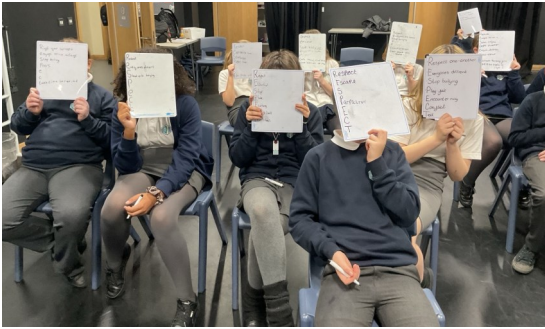
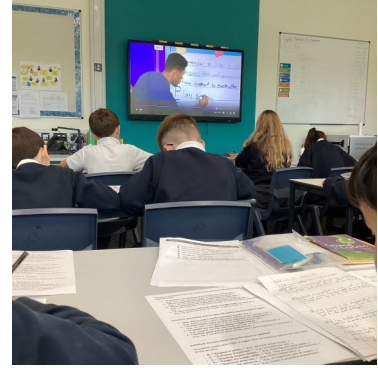
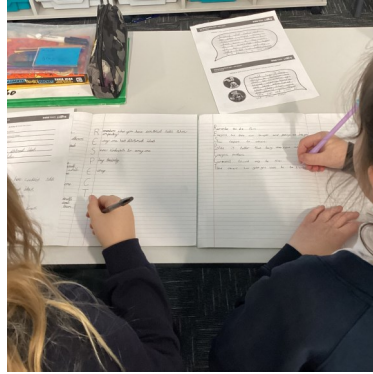
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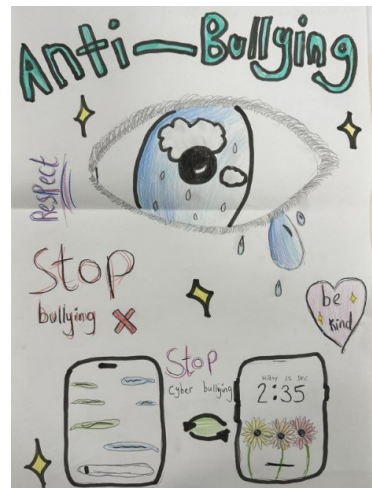
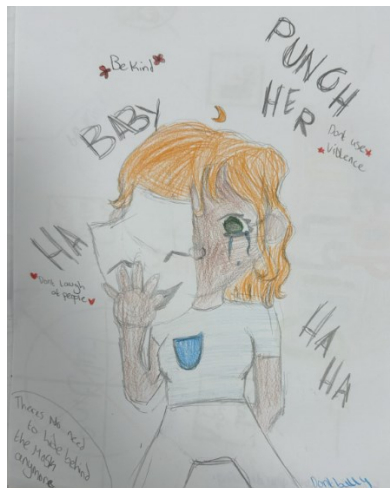
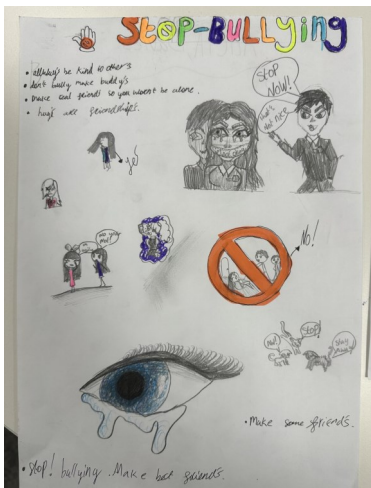
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Anti-bullying Week

Pupils in Year 4-9 participated in the BBC live Antibullying lesson across the school.



Activate pupils completed Anti-bullying lessons both inside and outside of the classroom.



If you or your child have any concerns about bullying in Ysgol Afon Wen, please speak to their class teacher, form teacher or Progress Leader who will help to address any issue.





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Attendance

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|--------|-----|---------|-----|
| Nursery | 75% | Year 4 | 88% | Year 9 | 81% |
| Reception | 84% | Year 5 | 97% | Year 10 | 84% |
| Year 1 | 91% | Year 6 | 90% | Year 11 | 81% |
| Year 2 | 92% | Year 7 | 87% | | |
| Year 3 | 90% | Year 8 | 85% | | |

Congratulations to **Year 5** who have the highest attendance this week.

Celebration of Success

Alfie Warner, Hawthorn High School alumnus, visited Ysgol Afon Wen this week to deliver assemblies to current students about his candidacy for Welsh Youth Parliament at the Senned. Alfie, who is currently a Student Governor at Coleg y Cymoedd, hopes to win the Youth Parliament election so he can highlight his three chosen areas: public transport for young people attending RCT schools and colleges, youth activities and life skills education across the curriculum. Alfie is running for Youth Parliament Member for South Wales - West, Pontypridd. If you'd like to support Alfie, you should register to vote by 20th November 2024 using the QR code below. Voting closes on 25th November 2024.



Children in Need

Thank you very much to all pupils and parents who helped to support Children in Need today. We have raised £341.82 for the charity so far.



ACE Days

Our ACE Day (Alternative Curriculum Experience Day) next week will immerse pupils in the fascinating world of Fibonacci, the 13th-century mathematician known for his remarkable contributions to mathematics. Fibonacci introduced the famous sequence where each number is the sum of the two preceding it (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8...), a pattern that appears throughout nature, art, and design.

On the day, all pupils in Nursery to Year 9 will engage in a range of exciting activities, from patternmaking and exploring number sequences to storytelling and nature walks to discover Fibonacci patterns in and around our school environment. This cross-faculty day promises to spark curiosity, creativity, and a deeper appreciation for the mathematical beauty that surrounds us.




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Celebration of Success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have achieved the most positive points this week. Well done!

| | | | | | |
|------------------|--|---------------|--|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Nursery | Bobbi Jones Harrison Quarman-Chandler | Year 4 | Josie Withers Isabelle Harris | Year 9 | Eloise Edwards Mia Webb |
| Reception | Albi Williams Ivy Herbert | Year 5 | Ivy Alger Seren Jorgie Phillips | Year 10 | Emma Davies Tristan Lowbridge |
| Year 1 | Ada Collins a Gracie Axiak | Year 6 | Tyler Hughes Salisa Williams Justin Usar | Year 11 | Kieron Burgwyn Kaffy Fadoju |
| Year 2 | Kyrian Ugochukwu Keelan O'Brien | Year 7 | Sophia Williams Freya Hughes | | |
| Year 3 | Skylah Elston Lowen Llewellyn | Year 8 | Harry Sheldon Lilly-Mai King | | |

Young Artists

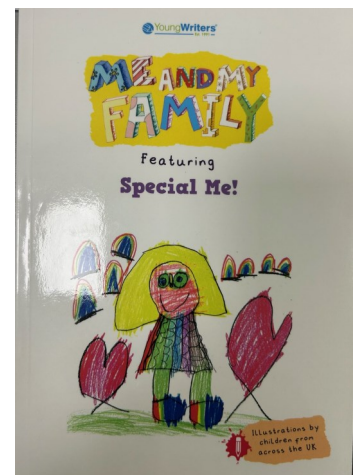


**Hawthorn Primary School,
Pontypridd**

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Oliver Baker (5) | 2 |
| Ava-Gwen Smith (5) | 3 |
| Alba Edwards (5) | 4 |
| Quinn Driscoll (4) | 5 |
| Eddie McFadden (5) | 6 |
| Jenson Pugh (5) | 7 |
| Miya Powell (5) | 8 |
| Bobby Kizmus (5) | 9 |
| Dottie Andrews (5) | 10 |
| Elsie King (4) | 12 |
| Roma Sharp (5) | 13 |
| Isabelle Biggs (5) | 14 |
| Tommy O'Leary (4) | 15 |
| Kingsley Pascoe (5) | 16 |
| Ella Davies (5) | 17 |
| Violet Williams (5) | 18 |
| Evelyn Vaughan (5) | 19 |
| Austin Loveridge (5) | 20 |
| Chester Lucas (5) | 22 |
| Rohan Biggs (5) | 23 |
| Josie-Anna Fodjo (4) | 24 |

Last year, the Reception children from Hawthorn Primary School took part in a fantastic drawing competition - 'Me and My Family', hosted by Young Artists in partnership with Young Writers. They were invited to draw a picture of their family members or carers, with a chance of their pictures being published in the bright, colourful Me and My Family book series! 21 of our pupils' work, alongside others from different schools, were selected, and the book has now been published! Copies are available to purchase by contacting info@youngwriters.co.uk.

A huge round of applause and congratulations to all the pupils from Hawthorn Primary School. Their creativity and effort has truly shined! We are extremely proud of you!





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Parental Voice Survey

Thank you very much to all parents/carers for completing the parental voice survey below. If you have not completed it yet, the survey will close on Monday 18th November.



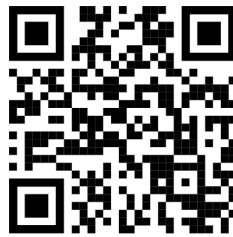
Activate (Nursery—Year 3)

Advance (Year 4—Year 8)

Achieve (Year 9—Year 11)



<https://forms.gle/8gZeJQbNa>



<https://forms.gle/BH7VmHzkU9fNZm8o9>



<https://forms.gle/BsB6aB4Man4xHbMG7>

Ysgol Afon Wen endeavours to deliver a 'voice for all'. Your opinion matters to us.

YSGOL AFON WEN

CROESO I EIN
CRIW CYMRAEG

If you're interested in...

- Welsh and Welsh culture
- Having a leadership role within the school and presenting in assemblies and to SLT
- Judging Eisteddfod's
- Planning events in school and outside of school

Croeso i Gymru
Welcome to Wales

Speak to Mrs Holland
in
A22
for an application
form

Cymraeg

Upcoming assemblies and applications for the new Criw Cymraeg group who will have a lot of responsibility in spreading Cymraeg throughout the school and into the wider community. They will be supporting in organising the Eisteddfod and judging as well as presenting to SLT and governors and meeting business owners.

Gwaith gwyh gan ddsbarthiadau Cymraeg. Students have been working on different pieces of work for anti-bullying week including looking at GCSE Unit 3 examples of the use of mobile phones in school and bullying.





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Tickets have been sold to cast and crew and now available to the general public.

Please use the event links below and then £3 in cash will be taken on the door
MONDAY [Ysgol Afon Wen School Production of High School Musical - £3:00 on the door Tickets, Mon, Nov 25, 2024 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

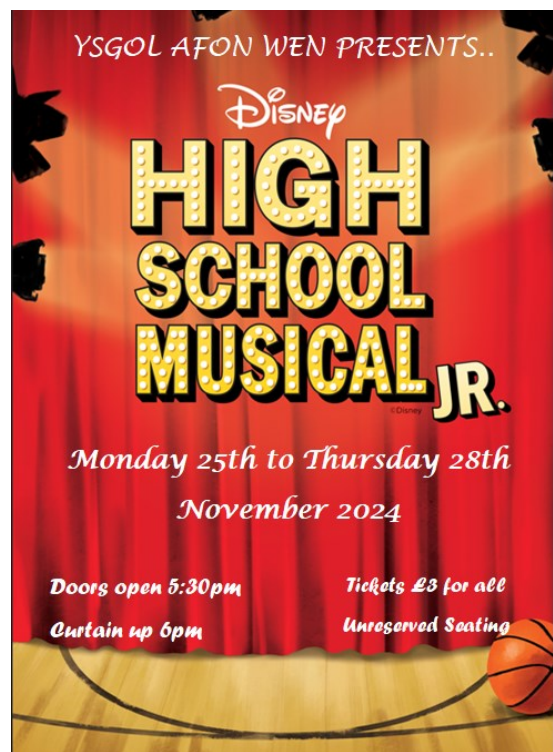
TUESDAY :[Ysgol Afon Wen School Production of High School Musical - £3:00 on the door Tickets, Tue, Nov 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

WEDNESDAY: [Ysgol Afon Wen School Production of High School Musical - £3:00 on the door Tickets, Wed, Nov 27, 2024 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

THURSDAY :[Afon Wen School Production of High School Musical - £3:00 on the door Tickets, Thu, Nov 28, 2024 at 6:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)



"Rehearsals are going really well, I'm so excited for my mum and dad to come and see me on the stage dressed as a basketball player" Florence Year 4



"This is the first time I've been brave enough to audition for a show of this size, I will be quite nervous but very excited at the same time" Sophia Year 7





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Faculty of LiFE

Subject shout outs! Da iawn for all your hard work this year so far!

| Subject | Year | Pupil name |
|----------------------|------|---|
| Humanities | 7 | Alicia Davies, Naveah Evans |
| | 8 | Phoebe Grant, Izzy Mardon-Hughes |
| | 9 | Ava Ryan, Sesandi Wickramasinghe Mudiyansele |
| | 10 | Ethics – Finley Christo, Xavier Warner & Emma Davies Geography – Karen Lee, Daniel Agbo & Sophie Speed History – Lexie Hughes |
| | 11 | Religious Studies – Rebecca Roberts, Ruby Ford & Chloe Williams Ethics – Caleb Allan, Colton Conner, Amir Muibi & Zachary Thomas Geography – Kaitlynn Martin History – Declan Ward |
| PE | 7 | Autumn Jones, Poppy Jeans-Gunn, Catherine Abodunrin, Alhazem Alyasin |
| | 8 | Sofia McFarlane-Baxter Ava Emerson, Darcie Brickell, Harley Godfrey |
| | 9 | Hanna Kudelka, Piotr Kudelka, Olivier Mason |
| | 10 | Hala Mosalem |
| | 11 | Declan Ward, Connor Gregory & Keiron Burgwyn |
| Health & Social Care | 10 | Evie Webber, Tehila Goje, Lily Jones, Fola Sanu, Lydia Lewis, Ruby Pearce & Paige Morgans |
| WBQ | 10 | Ruby Spear, Alfie Harris, Dale Williams, Abree Pontin & Kayla Webley-Curtis |



Dates for your diary:

- Upcoming U15's Girl's **football** tournament 29th November. If you would like to attend please come to training on 21/11 meet at sports hall at 3pm.
- Upcoming **netball** fixtures:
19th November (H) Cardinal Newman Y7 & 8
19th November (H) Ysgol Bro Taf
27th November (H) Y Pant 9 & 10

Played netball fixtures:

12/11/24 (A) against Y Pant (Y7 & 8).

Year 7 POM: Ava

Y8 POM: Darcy & Roimot

24/10/24 (H) against Cardinal Newman for year 9&10 teams.

Year 9 POM: Jersey

Y10 POM: Kayla



In Humanities this week, pupils have been marking Remembrance Day by creating an Ysgol Afon Wen poppy display.



Year 4 took their wellbeing topic of 'Self-care' and practised being present. They headed out into the crisp autumn afternoon for some challenges using only leaves!

