



Dylan Thomas Newsletter February and March 2023

Dear Community,

I normally used my newsletter introduction as a means of spreading good news and praising those who have done well and there is always a great deal to report given how successful our school has become.

On this occasion I wanted to ask for your support and backing on some aspects of life that are concerning me that I feel we can and must improve. These being:

Social Media – I have been alarmed by the way in which some young people speak to each other and I have even witnessed threats against each other on certain platforms. The language is often disgusting and children just don't seem to realise that their words and actions have consequences. I really need all parents/carers to rally around and speak with their children about the importance of kindness in life and especially on their phones, social media platforms etc. and if they have nothing nice to say then don't say it!

Vaping – It is illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to buy or use a Vape, simple! We have seen an increase in the number of children attempting to use them on site and this worries me. It worries me not only as its illegal but also because of the consequences to their long term health and lifestyles.

I promise that my next newsletter won't be a whinge and a moan but these are important points that need addressing and I know that you the parents/carers of our pupils will continue to support me in my work as your Headteacher as you have for the last 5 years!

Mr P Davies (Headteacher)

Attendance and Rewards

We are extremely proud of the attendance of so many of the pupils at our school. Since we came back in January, we are very impressed to see pupils with 100% attendance.. We are looking forward to celebrating the attendance of those with 100% attendance by entering them into the prize draw to win new laptops. Please remember that we are counting your attendance from January onwards for this prize draw, the prize draw will happen the first week back after Easter. Please ensure you are coming to school every day to take part in these rewards.

We also want to celebrate the excellent behaviour of the pupils at Dylan Thomas who go above and beyond every day. A massive well done to all of you. The top Class Charts points scorers in each year group are as follows:

Year 7

1. Zachary Hawkins
2. Freya-Leigh Davies-Hinder
3. Grace Pearce

Year 8

1. Skye Davies-Hinder
2. Elnathan Okhae
3. Jayden Hayward

Year 9

1. Levi Thomas
2. Jay Ford
3. Aimee Blank

Year 10

1. Samantha Blank
2. Karol Kaliszewski
3. Kalem Williams-Murray

Year 11

1. Bradley Claringbold
2. Mohammed Khanjar
3. Jack Loughlin



Basketball Tournament

Excellent game for the school's basketball team in February! Final score was 25-16 to Dylan Thomas. Well done boys!



BAME Language Lessons

This term, we saw another two brilliant language lessons! These included Italian, which was held in February on the very appropriate day of Valentine's Day, being the language of love, and was delivered by Diana Mita. Then in March, we also saw a Polish lesson by Sebastian Włodarczyk. Which also featured Miss Morgan's 4-year-old daughter, Daisy, who taught us how to count to 10 in Polish. Well done both, and we can't wait for the next language lesson, which will be Hindi by Misthi!



The LGBTQIA+ Stonewall Challenge

During the month of March, pupils from the LGBTQIA+ Steering Group and school council have taken the Stonewall challenge of walking 10,000 steps a day. There is also a link to our JustGiving page on our Dylan Thomas Community School Facebook page if you would like to contribute.



World Book Day 2023

This year we celebrated World Book Day twice! Our lovely Year 7's read stories to Year 5 pupils from Gors Primary School and they loved listening to our amazing readers! We also hosted a World Book Day Quiz and gave out lots of chocolatey prizes. We also welcomed Mrs Penn-Thomas who taught all our Year 7s about literary villains. All of the Year 7s created their own super villain and enjoyed spotting which staff had dressed up as baddies for the day!



Rookie Rugby Festival

The Year 7 girls that attended the Rookie Rugby Festival on Friday, March 3, really enjoyed themselves and again behaved excellently. They also took part in all the activities with great enthusiasm. Performing excellently in the touch rugby games, they won 2 out of the 3 matches played, and a number of the girls joined in with Birchgrove to take on Bryn Tawe in a contact game, which they really excelled in. A brilliant day was had by all, and hopefully it will lead to a number of girls taking up the sport.



Year 8 Swansea University Trip

Year 8 have had a great day down at Swansea University attending a Reaching Wider course. All students engaged really well with the staff and gained valuable experiences.



Year 7 Swansea Enterprise

The boys presented their idea for a game that they could create from re-usable materials and that could be incorporated into match-day activities. They were by far the youngest group of pupils, and they presented and answered questions confidently. A real credit to the school, and their behaviour was fantastic.



Wheelchair Basketball

Our pupils have loved trying out Wheelchair Basketball this term. Zahry Sharjoon loved showing the boys all of his tricks that he has learnt from the Welsh Squad.



KS3 DRC Techniquest Trip

The KS3 pupils from the DRC visited Techniquest as part of their science curriculum. A tour of the solar system in the planetarium, where pupils activated their prior knowledge and asked questions linked to what they had heard, was the key purpose of the visit, but pupils also had the opportunity to spend time in the exhibitions. A day of learning, exploring, and lots of experimenting led to fun for all!



Congratulations to Mrs Ebden!

Congratulations to our very own Mrs Ebden for her role in delivering a key note speech at the International School Leadership Conference in Sydney, Australia. The school was invited to send a representative to the event based on our outstanding teaching and learning programme. Just another example of the reputation of the school growing even further!



BMX Session

Big thank you to Evan Pritchard Contractors Ltd and the councils road safety for the BMX stunt show we have had this morning. The pupils loved watching Matty Turner! Swansea Council #activetravel



Announcements

31st March 2023 - Last day of term.

17th April 2023 - Pupils are back in school.

Newsletter made by Sebastian Włodarczyk in Year 10.