



PUPIL NEWSLETTER

July 2024



This newsletter is written by pupils for pupils!

So much has happened in our school this year and we've asked each year group to contribute to this end of year celebration newsletter.

A NOTE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It never ceases to amaze me how much learning takes place here every single lesson of every single day for every single pupil; this can be seen just walking through the school. From nursery learning about 'textures' outdoors and getting really messy in doing so to year 1 and 2 being panda nannies, year four dissecting a heart, year 8 learning how to manipulate algebra and year 11 debating moral and ethical themes while reading 'Of mice and men'...all in just one walk. Being a through school brings a special aspect to this when you consider a small aspect of learning too. For example, with reading, how staff work with pupils to extend their sentences at age 3 all the way through to age 16 but how much you see them make progress in that time. Watching pupils learn their first sounds in nursery (for example, t and k) to learning how to blend sounds in reception onwards (p - o - t) to reading those words confidently and working their way through so many 'tricky' word collections, into years 5 to 8 and pupils are discussing synonyms and which of them best highlights the mood to the audience, to listening to upper school read texts confidently, draw inferences and debate why their character inferences are different to those sat next to them.

This pupil newsletter is written by pupils for pupils and I hope that you feel it represents you, your learning and your school well. We are so very proud of each and every one of you for being ready, responsible and respectful and working towards the very best outcomes and qualifications, becoming and being an amazing human being and working together as #teamnantgwyn to have a nice day, every day.

With warm wishes,

**Ms Laura Morris
Headteacher**



Nursery



Planting seeds in nursery

We had a cup first. Then we put mud in there, but it wasn't called mud, it was called soil. I poured water in and then put seeds in there. They are going to turn into flowers. I am so excited to see them grow. I love coming to school and playing with my friends.

by Hadley Blake

Reception



I love reading!

When I started reception I couldn't read. Now I know all of the words! I love reading and it's the best thing I like doing. My favourite book is The Frog Prince because the frog goes to live in the palace and then becomes a prince! I love reading in school with my teacher and my friends.

by Elora-Mae Webb

Year one



Learning about fair trade

We learnt all about fair trade. It means when someone makes something they get the money for it and it's fair! We went to the Co-op to buy some fair trade things, We bought Maltesers, caramels and coffee. We made chocolate cornflake cakes so we could measure the things and use the fair trade chocolate.

by Maxwell Egwemi

Year two



World Book Day

On World Book Day we sat in a circle and all said our favourite book. My favourite book is called Cuddle Bear. In the story when someone is hurt he always comes to save the day. On World Book Day I dressed up as Stitch. All of the teachers dressed up as people from Alice in wonderland. It was so cool!

by Aria Griffiths

Year three

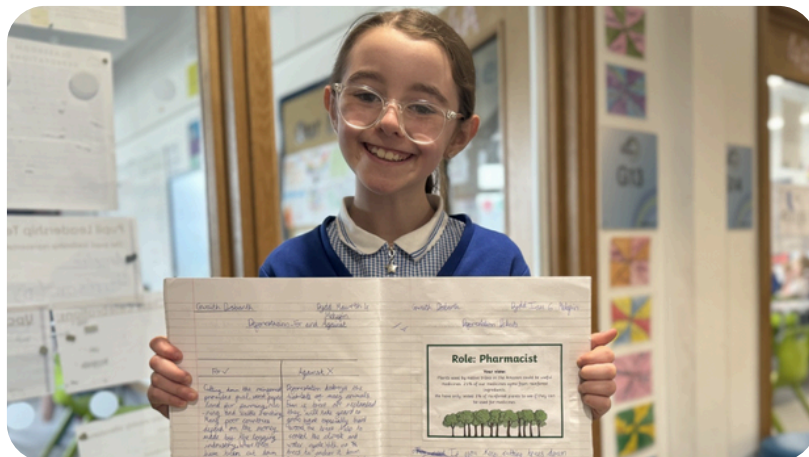


Swimming Lessons

We had swimming lessons every Friday at the start of year 3. In swimming I went in the little pool. I couldn't go in the deep pool because I couldn't touch the floor. One Friday we had playing time and we could use the floats. It was so much fun! I could swim a little bit before the lessons, but now I am so much more confident and I learnt to swim in the deep pool too!

by Aliyah Evans

Year four



Learning about deforestation

I have enjoyed learning about deforestation as part of our theme of systems. I have enjoyed learning this because it's helped me to understand the problem with trees being cut down and that it's important for us to save trees. Trees produce oxygen and they are good for the planet. When we learnt about this we did role-play where we played different characters- sometimes we were the tribes in the forest, sometimes we were the companies that wanted to cut down the trees. This helped us understand each other's opinions.

by Megan Shallish

Year five



Learning the Haka

First we learnt about the Haka and the important tradition for people in New Zealand. We went into groups and we created our own version. We added in some of our own moves but also used some traditional ones. At the end we watched everyone else's. We loved it because it was fun and it was interesting to learn about another culture.

by Lucas and Sienna

Year six



Going to Llangrannog!

This year we went to Llangrannog in June. When we first got there we had some time to explore and play football. Then we did lots of activities like skiing, tobogganning and racing in go karts. All of the instructors were speaking in Welsh, and it was cool to experience so much Welsh being spoken. I had the chance to practice my Welsh when I was asking for my dinner. It was an amazing experience. It was so nice because we got to go to the beach as well and we went in the ocean- it was freezing!

by Oliver Filmer

Year seven



Presenting at Swansea University

We had the chance to go to Swansea University to present at a research conference. We were presenting all about our trip to Iceland and what we found out. I was so nervous and excited. When we first got there they gave us a hot chocolate and biscuits. We went into the room and there were maybe 150 people in there. There were lots of presentations about research. We then did our part and I think all of us did a really good job! Then they showed us lots of posters about research they've done- I was so interested about the one about autism. We then drove home and I was so excited because on the way home we saw 40 Hondas and Honda is my favourite car make. It was such a fun and exciting experience!

by Amelia Phillips

Year eight



Painting with our mouths!

We were learning about equality and diversity in expressive arts. We were talking a lot about equality for people with disabilities. We learnt about an artist called Tom Yendell who was born with no arms. He paints using his mouth and his feet. His art is amazing! We had a go to see what it was like. We all had our own paintbrushes and used our mouths to paint nature paintings. It was fun and interesting, but also tricky. It made us appreciate how good his artwork is and also how grateful we are to be able to use our hands and arms!

by Darcie and Bella

Year nine



Samba drumming

We did a workshop over a number of months learning Samba drumming. We are planning on playing in the Eisteddfod in Pontypridd so Mrs Pearce invited in an organisation to teach us. We did the workshop once a week. During these sessions they taught us new things and we had the chance to rehearse. I really enjoyed the workshops because we learnt how to be more co-ordinated. It made me feel good and loved being a part of it! I am excited to perform in the Eisteddfod.

by David Okorie

Year ten



Singing with Sophie Evans

We are going to be performing, as a school choir, in the Parc and Dare in the summer. We are singing as part of Sophie Evans' *Coming Home* show. So, in preparation, Sophie Evans came into school to do a singing workshop with us. First we started with warm ups to warm our vocals, then we progressively went into singing songs. First we sang "somewhere over the rainbow". In the show we are going to be singing a mash up melody for four songs, so we sang that for Sophie Evans for her to see how we are doing. Sophie also sang to us which was an amazing experience! I am feeling confident and excited for the show.

by Keira Owen

Year eleven

Year eleven have had a wonderful year finishing their time at Ysgol Nantgwyn. It has been a busy year of learning, progress, trips and lots of different experiences.

Our pupil leadership team, of Tyler, Lily and Eli, has worked hard all year to ensure pupils' views are sought and acted upon. This has seen them have a close working relationship with the leadership team, Ms Morris and our governors. We are looking forward to seeing our new pupil leadership team take over this role in September!

The summer exam season was very busy with lots of examinations taking place across the school. Year eleven were a credit to our school in how they conducted themselves during this time and we are looking forward to celebrating with them all as they receive their results in August.

The year ended with the leavers' assembly on the day of the last full cohort exam. At the end of the exam pupils from Gwyn lined the corridors with congratulations signs and cheered as year eleven made their way into their end of year assembly.

We then celebrated together at prom! It was such a special night to see all of year group dressed up and enjoying the celebrations.

It has been a pleasure working with you all throughout your time in Ysgol Nantgwyn and we wish you all the best for the future!

