

Governors Annual Report to Parents

2024-2025



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Governors' Report

Without Learning, Without Understanding

Dear Parent or Guardian,

It is both a privilege and a pleasure to greet you, for the final time, as Chair of the Governing Body of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin, and to present for your kind attention this report on the school's activities over the past year.

The past year has been one full of energy and activity — in the classroom, on the sports fields, and within the wider community.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to every member of staff for their total dedication to all aspects of school life. Without their tireless efforts, the academic and extracurricular life of the pupils would be much poorer. I am sure you will agree that the pupils receive the very best possible education, together with exceptional pastoral care — something clearly reflected in this report.

A special word of thanks is due to the Headteacher and the senior leadership team for guiding the school through another successful year. Balancing the school's high academic standards with the pressures on budgets, time, and staff resources is by no means an easy task.

Thank you is also due to the school's administrative and caretaking staff for their meticulous work in maintaining the school's organisation, buildings, and grounds. Their contribution is essential in ensuring the safety and well-being of your child or children.

In addition to commending the staff, it is also important to praise the pupils for their many achievements and for their consistently positive response to the wide range of opportunities offered to them.

On behalf of the governing body, it is a real pleasure to thank you — the parents and guardians — for your continued support of the young people and the school. Your willingness to assist and collaborate with the school and its staff provides the strongest possible foundation for your children to grow into mature and responsible citizens.

We are also very fortunate to have the support of the Parents' Association. Their work is vital to the life of the school, and we wish to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for all they do.

In my final year as Chair, and as a member of the governing body, I would also like to thank my fellow governors for their invaluable contribution to the life of the school. I am deeply grateful for their commitment to meetings and their regular visits to the school.

Every governor considers it a privilege to be part of the Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin family and takes great pride in all of its achievements.

We extend our very best wishes to the staff and pupils, with the promise of our continued support in all that they do.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Catrin James
Chair of the Governing Body

Headteacher's Report

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is a great pleasure to write this report for you as parents and carers, to share some of the many achievements of our pupils, staff, and the wider school community. It has been a truly rewarding year, full of hard work, determination, and a strong sense of pride in everything we accomplish together.

Once again this year, we have seen excellent academic results, placing our school third in Wales — an outstanding achievement which reflects the dedication of both our pupils and staff. Our learners have demonstrated notable progress in every area, and their enthusiasm for learning remains evident in every classroom.

Beyond the classroom, we have celebrated many successes in sport, music, and the arts. Our sports teams have performed superbly in local, regional, and national competitions, demonstrating teamwork and resilience. Our choirs also continue to be a great source of pride, performing at community and national events and representing the school with excellence.

We are also extremely proud of how our pupils have shown kindness and empathy throughout the year. Through their hard work, we have raised a significant sum of money for a variety of good causes, including both local and national charities. It is heartening to see such a strong sense of community spirit and global responsibility among our students.

This year, our pupils have also enjoyed a wide range of exciting opportunities, competitions, and visits. From educational trips and residential experiences to creative projects and community events, the children have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and maturity. These experiences have not only enriched their learning but have also helped them to develop confidence, independence, and a deeper understanding of the world around them.

None of this would be possible without the commitment and professionalism of our staff, who continually go the extra mile to ensure that every child achieves their personal best. They are central to every aspect of school life.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to our school governors, who give their time, expertise, and support to ensure strong strategic direction for the school. Their dedication is invaluable and contributes greatly to our continued success.

We are equally grateful for the strong relationship we share with you, our parents and carers. Your ongoing support, encouragement, and involvement play a vital role in our success. By working together, we create a community where every child feels valued, supported, and inspired to aim high.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we do so with confidence and optimism about the opportunities that lie before us. Thank you once again for your continued support — it truly makes a difference.

With best wishes,

Dr Llinos Jones
Headteacher

Progress on Estyn Recommendations – Inspection Report 2022

A1. Ensure that leaders re-engage with a broad range of rigorous quality assurance activities.

A2. Strengthen leaders' ability to evaluate the quality of provision in terms of its impact.

A3. Share effective teaching practices to ensure consistency in the quality of teaching across the school.

Our School Improvement Plan, Departmental Improvement Plans, and self-evaluation calendar have been amended to address these recommendations. Following Estyn's interim visit last year to review progress against the recommendations, a broader range of self-evaluation methods has been implemented. This has provided greater opportunities for middle leaders to engage in quality assurance activities to plan effectively for improvement. Lesson observations and book scrutiny now focus more clearly on standards of learning and pupil progress, while our professional learning programme offers meaningful opportunities for leaders to develop their understanding of how provision impacts on pupils' standards and achievement.

Members of the Governing Body

Chair: Ms Catrin James

Vice-Chair: Mrs Nerys Defis

Clerk: Miss Siân Thomas

Contact details: sian.thomas@bromyrrddin.org / swyddfa@bromyrrddin.org

The Governing Body is made up of **20 members**:

Headteacher

6 Parent Governors

5 Community Representatives

2 Teacher Representatives

5 Local Authority Representatives

1 Staff Representative

Local Authority Governors (term of office ends)

Rev. Tom Defis (01.02.27)

Cllr Peter Hughes-Griffiths (25.09.24)

Mr Arwel Lloyd (31.05.25)

Cllr Meinir James (31.08.26)

Mr Rhys Jones (09.10.27)

Community Governors (term of office ends)

Mr Elfed Davies (18.01.25)

Rev. Beti Wyn James (29.03.25)

Mrs Luned Thomas (29.03.25)

Mrs Angharad Jones-Leefe (30.03.26)

Mrs Catrin James (31.12.24)

Parent Governors (term of office ends)

Mrs Adele Davies (31.12.24)

Mrs Michelle Llewelyn (31.12.24)

Mrs Tanja Neumayer-James (31.12.24)

Mrs Catrin Reading (01.12.25)

Mr Eirian Rees (17.07.24)

Mrs Nerys Defis (16.12.26)

Teacher Representatives (term of office ends)

Mrs Tracy Jenkins (31.08.25)

Mrs Helen Evans (01.09.27)

Staff Representative (term of office ends)

Mrs Karen John (26.09.28)

School Improvement Plan 2024–25

Strategic Priorities

The following outlines the key priorities, actions, and progress made under the School Improvement Plan for the academic year 2024–25.

Blaenoriaeth strategol YBM	Camau gweithredu yn y Cynllun Gwella Ysgol	Cynnydd
Key Area 1: Learning Priority 1: Providing purposeful opportunities to improve pupils' skills across the curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literacy – to develop pupils' higher-order reading skills across the curriculum. Numeracy – to develop pupils' ability to select and construct appropriate charts, diagrams and graphs with suitable scales, and to enhance their skills in representing and comparing numerical relationships and quantities. Digital Competence – to develop a range of opportunities enabling pupils to produce purposeful digital assets suited to a target audience. Lesson observations – to focus on the use of effective questioning and techniques to challenge Key Stage 4 pupils in order to raise standards. Mapping of Literacy, Numeracy and Digital Competence tasks – across Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLEs) using the tool developed collaboratively with the digital lead. 	Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school has responded fully to all aspects of this priority. Through involvement in the school's self-evaluation processes, such as lesson observations and book scrutiny, coordinators now have a better overview not only of the provision for numeracy, literacy and digital competence, but also of pupils' progress in these skills across the AoLEs. In terms of literacy, there is clear evidence of the development of higher-order reading skills, particularly in Welsh, English and Humanities books across Key Stage 3. Guidance outlining higher-order reading skills has been shared with all departments, along with a collection of relevant resources for each skill. Following book scrutiny, whole-staff training was arranged with Lowri Davies from the Partnership, focusing on developing higher-order reading skills. These resources were subsequently shared with all staff. The skills coordinators have worked individually with heads of department to discuss opportunities for implementation. In numeracy, improvement has been observed compared with previous years, particularly as pupils are now not only constructing graphs but also interpreting them and drawing mathematical conclusions within a subject context. Evidence of this was seen in Humanities, Science and Technology AoLE books. Pupils have been given purposeful opportunities to develop their graphical skills in high-demand subjects. Areas for Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce reliance on reading tasks that focus solely on skimming and scanning and develop tasks that enable learners to build higher-order reading skills — particularly in the Arts, Design and Technology, and Drama. Following the Partnership training, departments should pilot tasks using the shared templates. Ensure that the development of higher-order reading skills is set as a specific target for the coming year and is a clear focus within learning journeys and scrutiny activities. In numeracy, ensure there is not an over-reliance on graphical work, as this can result in a lack of evidence of other numeracy strands within pupils' books.
Key Area 1: Learning Priority 2: Embed progression and learner development within the Curriculum for Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map the elements of the Curriculum for Wales. Share the school and AoLE vision by updating the digital Curriculum for Wales platform. Prepare and publish a summary of the school's curriculum. Develop staff understanding and confidence in planning for and reporting on pupil progress. Embed effective whole-school strategies to ensure a clear and focused emphasis on learner effectiveness, enabling pupils to understand how to make progress. Embed the Curriculum for Wales within Year 9, ensuring that the mandatory elements (including the principles of progression) and the fundamentals of learning form the foundation of planning. Continuously refine and adapt Year 7 and 8 schemes of work to ensure progression and challenge, using the 12 	Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All AoLEs have mapped the Four Purposes, Cross-Curricular Skills, and Disciplinary Skills for Years 7, 8, and 9. The Mathematics and Numeracy Working Group has met and focused on pedagogy. AoLE teachers across the cluster have agreed on teaching and learning strategies, and shared resources via the cluster's Teams channel to support this work. The Languages, Literacy and Communication Working Group has met, with a focus on agreeing forms of writing across the continuum to ensure consistency across the cluster.

	<p>Pedagogical Principles and the school's Teaching and Learning Model.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish AoLE working groups across the cluster, collaborating to share good practice and to develop curriculum continuity through discussions on pedagogy and assessment. 	<p>Areas for Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to develop staff understanding and confidence in planning for and reporting on pupil progress. Embed effective whole-school strategies that focus clearly on learner effectiveness so that pupils understand how to make progress. Evaluate the work of the cluster using stakeholder voice and establish cluster priorities for September.
<p>Key Area 2: Well-being and Attitudes to Learning</p> <p>Priority 3: Improve pupil attendance across the school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse whole-school and learner-group attendance data from the Welsh Government core database to identify priority areas or groups requiring targeted improvement. Appoint an interim Strategic Lead for Attendance to monitor all pupils' attendance and follow school procedures when concerns arise – including discussions with pupils and parents, issuing letters, arranging meetings, and making referrals to the county safeguarding and attendance teams and other relevant agencies. Strengthen collaboration between the new attendance lead, the Pastoral Team (PB), and the Inclusion Officer to identify, track, and target pupils causing concern. Ensure that unexplained absences are identified as early as possible and develop the use of Edulink One to notify parents. Identify alternative learning opportunities or curriculum pathways for pupils with low attendance or barriers to learning. Promote the importance of attendance among parents and learners through a county-wide attendance campaign. Hold focus groups with pupils whose attendance is below 90% to develop effective strategies for improving punctuality. 	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More consistent communication with individuals and targeted groups regarding attendance. Attendance has improved during the year and is on target to be 1% higher overall than the previous year. Individual interviews have been conducted, though focus groups have not yet been established. <p>Areas for Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure unexplained absences are identified as early as possible and enhance the use of Edulink One to keep parents informed. Hold focus groups with pupils whose attendance is below 90% and use the findings to inform improvement strategies. Improve the targeting of FSM (Free School Meals) and ALN (Additional Learning Needs) learners.
<p>Key Area 2: Well-being and Attitudes to Learning</p> <p>Priority 4: Behaviour – Develop positive attitudes towards learning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide trauma-awareness training for all teaching and support staff across the school and cluster. Following a year of using Edulink One, the pastoral team will develop a clear behaviour points system within the platform to address low-level disruption. Introduce and use a digital report card system via Edulink One for pupils who reach behaviour or incident thresholds. Strengthen collaboration with the County Behaviour Support Team to assist pupils with significant behavioural needs. Hold multi-agency meetings to ensure specialist support is provided. Further develop the role of the Inclusion Officer to deliver specific behavioural interventions and ensure identified pupils receive appropriate in-school support, with a clear timetable in place. Identify curriculum opportunities to meet the needs of learners with negative attitudes towards learning, ensuring all pupils access meaningful learning experiences that promote engagement and motivation. 	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Heads of Year and Senior Leaders have now completed Team Teach training, enabling them to intervene effectively with pupils displaying serious behavioural difficulties. The number of parents using Edulink One has risen significantly, with almost all responding positively in supporting improved behaviour. Improved collaboration between the school and the County Behaviour Support Team. A wider range of agencies now work with the school on behaviour-related matters. The Inclusion Officer has received further training to deliver targeted behavioural interventions, ensuring appropriate in-school support for pupils in need. <p>Areas for Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the behaviour points system again based on staff, parent, and pupil feedback to ensure a fairer approach to behaviour and praise. Improve the use of the report card system.
<p>Key Area 3: Leadership and Improvement</p> <p>Priority 5: Develop leaders to drive whole-school improvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a new marking strategy for September 2024 based on previous trial work and feedback following Estyn's interim visit. Revise reporting systems for Key Stage 3 parents, ensuring reports on pupil progress meet the statutory Curriculum for Wales requirements and are consistent in content and format across departments. Update tracking systems to monitor KS3 pupil progress in line with Curriculum for Wales requirements, using this data to create interim reports for parents and to identify and support pupils not making expected progress. Revise the School Improvement Plan and Departmental Improvement Plans 2024–25 to respond to feedback from Estyn's June 2024 interim report. 	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PAG quality assurance process has been completed, and the report submitted to the Local Authority and Governors. Four teachers have completed the joint internal professional development programme with PAG. Learning walks and scrutiny activities have been valuable to all involved, with detailed reports leading to meaningful changes. Middle leaders have developed significantly over the course of the year. The performance development policy is operational, ensuring all staff have access to professional development opportunities. New comment banks for pupil reports have been completed for Year 7.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce a new performance development cycle in September 2024, following county policy, and implement it consistently across the school. Align high expectations and strengthen middle leaders' understanding of strengths and areas for development within their departments to address these thoroughly and clearly. Strengthen accountability and understanding by ensuring middle leaders play an active role in whole-school quality assurance processes, including learning walks and whole-school scrutiny. Enhance the quality assurance processes for Welsh-medium Partnership Education (PAG) courses to ensure consistently high standards of teaching and learning, using pupil focus groups and surveys. Establish internal and joint professional development programmes with PAG and CYDAG to further develop leadership capacity across the school. 	Areas for Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop the PAG quality assurance processes and strategic collaboration between the three schools to realise the county's post-16 strategy. Strengthen accountability and deepen middle leaders' understanding through more formal review meetings between middle leaders and LA/PAG officers. Develop report comment banks for Years 8 and 9 early in September, before progressing to Key Stage 4 later in the year.
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Order of the day at Bro Myrddin

The school timetable operates on a ten-day cycle, with five lessons per day. The daily schedule is as follows:

8:55-9:05	Registration		10:20-10:35	Breaktime		12:35-1:35	Lunchtime
9:05-9:20	Assembly		10:35-11:35	Lesson 2		1:35-2:35	Lesson 4
9:20-10:20	Lesson 1		11:35-12:35	Lesson 3		2:35-3:35	Lesson 5

School Holiday Dates 2025-26

Term	Begins	Half Term		Ends
		Begins	Ends	
Autumn 2025	2 September	27 October	31 October	19 December
Spring 2026	5 January	16 February	20 February	27 March
Summer 2026	13 April	25 May	29 May	20 July
INSET Days: 2 & 3 September 2025; 24 October 2025; 23 February 2026; 27 March 2026; 1 May 2026 Bank Holidays: Good Friday – 18 April 2025 May Day – 5 May 2026				

New Staff Appointments for September 2023 and During the Year

Staff appointed in September:

- Mrs Siwan Rees – Head of English Department
- Miss Sara Griffiths – Teacher of English
- Mrs Donna Thomas, Dr Lois Slaymaker-Jones, and Dr Hefin ap Llwyd Dafydd – Welsh Government Transition Scheme
- Mrs Ffion Evans, Miss Amy Rand, Miss Cadi Clark (from 4 November) – Teaching Assistants

Staff appointed in January 2024:

- Miss Rhianwen Davies – Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo)
- Mr Gwyn Rosser – Teacher of Humanities
- Mrs Branwen Rhys – Teaching Assistant

Links with the Community

We continue to make good use of the school building for a variety of community events. During the year, the Carmarthenshire Urdd Eisteddfod, the Carmarthenshire Young Farmers' Eisteddfod, and the Wales Young Farmers' Eisteddfod were all held on the school site. Our hall and playing fields are also used periodically by community groups. We have maintained strong links with our School Community Police Officer, PC Cath Williams, who has provided excellent support for our PSE (Personal and Social Education) programme and worked closely with our Heads of Year and Senior Leadership Team. Her advice and input have been invaluable to the school.

Throughout the year, a large number of guest speakers have visited the school to offer guidance and inspiration, including representatives from local businesses, language organisations, colleges, the Urdd, and the Rotary Club, among others.

Charitable Work

Our Charity Committee continues to work hard each year to raise significant amounts of money for both local and national causes. During the 2024–25 academic year, the committee successfully raised £4,000 through various events and activities.

Annual Report – Finance

The Governors' Finance and Premises Sub-Committee meets once each term to discuss these specific areas. During the 2024–25 financial year, the school once again successfully completed the year within its allocated budget.

School Financial Statement 2024–25

Expenditure		Budget	Actual
	Salaries	4,858,009	4,739,821
	Buildings	468,584	475,827
	Supplies and Services	640,423	700,490
Income		5,967,016	5,916,139
		Budget	Actual
	Customer Receipts	649,996	656,249.29
	Government Grants	5,313,917	5,633,052.99
	Other grants	58,518	90,374
Surplus / Deficit	Total	6,022,431	6,379,677
		55,414	463,538

Pupil Performance

The school's academic results continue to be a source of great pride. The following tables summarise pupil performance at GCSE and A Level. (Please note that results for pandemic years are excluded, as schools were not required to report them.)

Summary of Secondary School Performance – GCSE

	2018	2019	2023	2024	2025
L2 Welsh	85.2%	87.2%	91.5%	87.1%	85.6%
L2 Englishg	69.1%	81.0%	86.2%	71.1%	72.2%
L2 Maths	77.9%	85.8%	88.9%	77.9%	72.2%
L2 Science	77.2%	82.8%	85.0%	71.8%	62.3%
L1	100%	98.5%	98.6%	97.3%	96.7%
L2	81.2%	86.6%	90.3%	83.2%	81.5%

L2+	75.2%	84.3%	86.2%	73.8%	70.2%
Points (cap 9)	405.8	410.8	405.1	401	392
5 A* to A		35.8%	27.2%	32.9%	26.5%
Challenge Certificate	44.0	44.0	40	43	42
Numeracy	46	46.1	45.4	43	43
Literacy	46.3	46.2	47.6	46	45
Science	44.6	43.6	42.1	41	39

A Level Results

	Grades A*	Grades A* to A	Grades A* to E
School 2024/25	6.8%	30.1%	96%
School 2023/24	11.2%	39.3%	96.8%
Wales 2022/23	10.4%	29.8%	97.8%

Pupil Destinations

Disgyblion	Yr.11		Yr.12		Yr.13	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
	152		104		87	
Continue in full time education – at this school	80	53	94	90	1	1
Continue in full time education – at another school	3	2			1	1
Continue in full time education – college	55	36	2	2	3	3
Continuing in full time education – Higher education course					57	66
Continue in part time education						
Youth training including apprenticeship	9	5	2	2	4	5
Unemployed and registered with Careers Wales	1	1			3	3
Unemployed and not registered with Careers Wales						
Unable to enter Employment, Higher Education due to illness	1	1				
Left the area						
Not responding to follow-up actions and therefore not knowing						
Job	3	2	6	6	18	21

Attendance

There has been a marked change in attendance patterns since the pre-pandemic years. Attendance during 2023–24 was disappointing, with long-term absences significantly affecting percentages. Family holidays during term time also continue to be a concern. Although attendance improved slightly in 2024–25, we remain unsatisfied with the rate of progress.

- 91.2% Overall Attendance
- 7.1% Authorised Absences
- 1.7% Unauthorised Absences

Discipline

School rules are essential to maintaining order and high standards within the school. Our rules are based on the core principles of self-respect, respect for others, and common sense. They are discussed within PSE (Personal and Social Education) lessons, and all pupils are expected to comply.

High standards of discipline are maintained through a clear system of behaviour management. In the first instance, the subject teacher addresses any misbehaviour. If the issue is not resolved, it is referred to the Head of Department. Should further action be required, the matter is escalated to the Head of Year, who may arrange a discussion and implement a lunchtime reflection session.

If a pupil misbehaves repeatedly and receives three lunchtime reflection sessions, parents are informed, and the pupil may be kept in after school. In serious or persistent cases, pupils may be suspended from school in accordance with Welsh Government guidelines.

The school operates a positive behaviour policy, and as a result, incidents of misbehaviour within and outside school remain rare. Clear procedures are also in place for dealing with bullying and related issues — any concerns are dealt with promptly and thoroughly.

Health and Safety

The school's Health and Safety Policy reflects the Governing Body's commitment to ensuring a safe environment for both pupils and staff.

All employment categories are represented on the Staff Health and Safety Committee, which reports directly to the Governors' Health and Safety Committee. Staff are reminded of the importance of reporting any hazards or deficiencies immediately to the Health and Safety Officer.

Protective fencing was installed around the school site in September 2018, greatly improving site security, and additional measures are added annually to maintain a safe environment.

Special arrangements in terms of accessibility for pupils, staff, and parents with disabilities

The Governing Body has adopted the school's Strategic Equality Plan, ensuring that pupils (and any other school stakeholders) with disabilities are not treated less favourably than others. The plan promotes inclusivity, accessibility, and equality of opportunity across all areas of school life.

School Prospectus

The School Prospectus is updated annually to include any changes required by the Welsh Government or other relevant bodies. Copies are available via the school website or by email request. If a digital version cannot be accessed, a printed copy can be provided upon request from the school office.

Medium of Teaching and Language Policy

The school's language category is CC.

All National Curriculum subjects are taught and assessed through the medium of Welsh, and the Welsh language is the normal medium of instruction for all pupils who choose Bro Myrddin as their secondary school.

All pupils study every subject, with the exception of English, through the medium of Welsh. In subjects such as Science and Mathematics, bilingual terminology lists and subject glossaries (Welsh–English) are provided. English and Welsh-language resources, books, and ICT materials are regularly used to enrich pupils' linguistic, scientific, and mathematical understanding.

This approach ensures that pupils can discuss topics confidently in both Welsh and English and removes any concerns that Welsh-medium education might limit scientific or mathematical adaptability in English-speaking contexts after leaving school.

The Welsh Language

Welsh is the official language of the school for all curricular and extra-curricular activities, and the school takes pride in its Welsh ethos.

Pupils are encouraged to speak Welsh in and around the school, during extra-curricular activities, and in all Welsh-medium lessons. Parents are asked to support the school in this regard by encouraging their children to use Welsh, respect the school's Welsh identity, and promote it at every opportunity.

The school continues to work towards the targets set out in Carmarthenshire's Welsh Language Strategy, which aims to move schools further along the language continuum. As a result, since September 2016, Bro Myrddin has moved from Category 2A to Category CC, meaning that all subjects except English are now taught through the medium of Welsh.

Policies

All school policies have been reviewed and updated during the academic year.

Special Educational Needs Report 2024-25

At Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Myrddin, our aim is to educate pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) alongside their peers through whole-school provision.

Although these pupils follow a differentiated curriculum, there are occasions when some individuals are withdrawn from class temporarily to focus on particular areas, such as emotional and social skills, physiotherapy, organisation and prioritisation, or literacy.

These interventions are based on standardised testing, information from primary schools, teacher and parent feedback, and reports from education authority officers or health services.

Where progress is insufficient, despite good teaching, differentiation, and targeted interventions, the school may identify the learner as having Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and provide different or additional support to ensure adequate progress.

A learner has ALN if they have a learning difficulty or disability requiring Additional Learning Provision (ALP).

A child of compulsory school age or older is considered to have a learning difficulty or disability if:

they experience significantly greater difficulty in learning than most others of the same age, or they have a disability (as defined in the Equality Act 2010) that prevents or hinders them from accessing the educational facilities normally available to their peers.

Under the new ALN system, for every identified learner with ALN, the school must create and maintain an Individual Development Plan (IDP) and take all reasonable steps to ensure the necessary provision is made.

The ALN department's expertise continues to grow, with many Learning Support Assistants attending specialist training and placements in special schools as part of their professional development.

There has been a significant increase in demand for alternative timetables for individual learners this year. The team provides a range of support programmes, including *Talkabout for Teenagers*, *physiotherapy sessions*, *Fresh Start literacy and processing programmes*, organisation and prioritisation training, and strategies for stress reduction and mindfulness.

A large number of pupils receive access arrangements for both internal and external examinations. These reflect their normal way of working in class and are based on standardised test results, teacher assessments, external agency reports, and pupil evidence.

Access arrangements this year have included:

Reader or computer reader

25% extra time

Alternative room

Supervised breaks

Chromebook as normal method of recording work

Prompter

Scribe

Enlarged font

Pupil Welfare

We have a dedicated team of staff working to promote the wellbeing of all pupils. Three members of staff are trained as Designated Child Protection Officers – Dr Llinos Jones (Headteacher), Mr Jonathan Thomas (Deputy Headteacher), and Mr Steffan Davies (Assistant Headteacher).

The Heads of Year play an essential role, as do the Youth Officer, Inclusion, Health and Wellbeing Officer, the School Nurse, and the School Counsellors. This year, 87 pupils received counselling from Mrs Helen Bytheway, Mr Gareth Jones, and Miss Ellie Hanley, who together provided a total of 399 hours of counselling support.

The Peer Mentoring Scheme, which trains Sixth Form pupils to work with vulnerable younger learners, continues to go from strength to strength.

We continue to use the MyConcern system to record wellbeing issues, which enables us to maintain detailed records and analyse the wellbeing needs of our learners. This information is shared with all staff during our annual INSET day in September.

Every other autumn term, all pupils complete the SHRN Wellbeing Questionnaire, and the results are analysed during the spring term. Our wellbeing provision is then adapted accordingly in response to the findings.

Sport

The Governing Body believes that the school has achieved its main sporting aims, which are to:

Provide a safe and stimulating environment where pupils can work towards overall maturity.

Develop physical skills.

Promote an awareness of the importance of health through exercise.

The department offers a wide range of activities, including rugby, football, athletics, cricket, tennis, gymnastics, orienteering, badminton, aerobics, cross-country, netball, creative dance, canoeing, rafting, rounders, skiing, outdoor activities, hockey, basketball, touch rugby, volleyball, circuit training, weight training, climbing, mountain biking, and mountaineering.

In addition, many pupils successfully complete the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award each year.

Our pupils' sporting achievements both in school and in external competitions have been exceptional, with several individuals reaching national standard.

We have managed to maintain a full timetable of sporting activities throughout the past year.

Successes

The school also takes great pride in the academic and extracurricular successes of its pupils — not only on the sports field but also on national stages and in the fields of drama and media.

Extracurricular Activities

Each year, pupils are offered a wide range of extracurricular experiences to complement their academic studies. These typically include numerous trips, a variety of workshops, interesting competitions, guest speakers, annual conferences, and many other opportunities.

Some of these activities are highlighted on our social media platforms and at the end of this report.

Humanitarian Committee

We have an active Charity Committee made up of 70 Sixth Form pupils. This year, they successfully raised £4,000 through various fundraising activities.

Toilet Facilities

Toilet facilities are inspected regularly and form part of the cleaning contract with the Local Authority.

Pupils contribute to the monitoring of these facilities through questionnaires and the work of the School Council.

In response to feedback, we appointed a daytime cleaner to focus specifically on maintaining toilet hygiene throughout the day.

Two toilet blocks were refurbished in summer 2021, providing open-access facilities and full accessibility for pupils with disabilities.

Notes on Healthy Schools

We are fully committed to the Healthy Eating in Schools (Nutritional Standards and Requirements) (Wales) Regulations, which incorporate the 'Appetite for Life' guidance introduced in September 2013. These set out the strategic direction and actions required to improve the nutritional standards of food and drink sold in schools.

Working with the Catering Service, we have ensured that all food and drink provided in school complies fully with the regulations. Healthy eating is actively promoted through Food Technology, Biology, and PSE (Personal and Social Education) lessons. Consistent messages about food and drink are reinforced by staff both on and off the school site.

Annual Parents Meeting

Since May 2013, new arrangements have been in force regarding the annual general meeting of governors and parents. Rather than governing bodies being required to hold an annual meeting with parents, parents have the right to request a meeting with the governing body on matters of concern. Parents may exercise this right up to three times during a school year, provided that the purpose of the meetings is to discuss issues relating to the school, and not the progress or attainment of individual pupils, nor complaints about a member of staff or a member of the governing body.

A meeting with the governors will therefore be arranged if 10% or 30 of parents submit a written request for a meeting, in accordance with Section 94 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

List of trips, events and achievements 2024-25

Autumn Term Report 2024

End of Summer Term

During the end-of-year services, Dr Jones had the opportunity to bid farewell to every pupil, wishing everyone a happy and safe summer holiday. At the end of another busy year, we said goodbye to several staff members:

Mrs Carys Jones – teacher in the English and Art Department. We wished her every success in her new post at Ysgol Griffith Jones.

Miss Sara Hughes – teaching assistant, who left to work for the County Council.

Mrs Hayley Kent – teacher in the Science Department. Best wishes to her in her new role at Ysgol Bro Dinefwr.

Mrs Elin Smith – teacher in the English Department. Thanks were extended to her for her work, and we wished her well in her retirement.

Mrs Siân Roberts Jones – teacher in the Welsh and Drama Department. Best wishes to her as she embarks on a new career.

Mr Dyfed James – Additional Learning Needs Coordinator. We wished him all the best in his new post at Ysgol Aberteifi.

Mrs Judith Al-Rawazik – English teacher, who had been with us for 18 years. We wished her a happy retirement.

We also bid farewell to our Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Eirlys Thomas, and wished her well in her new role as Deputy Headteacher at Ysgol Bro Teifi after 18 years of dedicated service at Bro Myrddin.

Mrs Ina Evans, who had worked with us for 22 years—first as a librarian and later as reprographics assistant—was also thanked for her work and wished a happy retirement.

Following 37 years of service as Science Technician, Mrs Lonwen Bowen retired this year. We thanked her warmly for her long-standing contribution.

GCSE and A-Level Results

It was a pleasure to congratulate our pupils on their excellent results, which reflected their commitment and resilience. Thanks were also extended to everyone who supported them to achieve success.

Start of the Autumn Term

After bidding farewell to many staff at the end of the summer, it was lovely to welcome a new team to the school:

Head of English – Mrs Siwan Rees

English Teacher – Miss Sara Griffiths

Transition Teachers – Dr Lois Slaymaker-Jones, Mrs Donna Thomas and Dr Hefin ap Llwyd Dafydd

Teaching Assistant – Mrs Ffion Evans

Llangrannog

Year 7 pupils, Year 13 prefects and tutors travelled to Llangrannog for a three-day transition course in September — a valuable opportunity to get to know each other better through a range of activities.

Head Pupils

After the previous team of senior officers moved on, it was a pleasure to announce the new pupil leadership team for 2024–25:

Head Girl: Siwan Matthews

Head Boy: Harri Gibbon

Deputies: Anest Elias, Erin Roderick, Tomos Lewis, and Ifan Bowen

School Council

Congratulations to the following pupils elected to the School Council for 2024–25:

Year 7: Lois Douch and Jac Evans

Year 8: Neli Rees and Morgan Baker

Year 9: Phebe Power and Frankie Richards

Year 10: Cadi Davies and Tomos Jones

Year 11: Maisie Layton and Gruffydd Evans

Year 12: Sara Davies, Rhys Thomas, Luned Defis, and Josh Cramb

Year 13: Siwan Matthews, Harri Gibbon, Enlli James, Mia Evans, and Harrison Taylor

Visit from the Dyfed-Powys Police and Crime Commissioner

Some Year 8 pupils had the opportunity to speak on camera following a visit by Dafydd Llywelyn, as part of the ongoing Schools Programme for young people in the region.

Prospective Parents' Evening

At the end of the term, the school canteen was filled with Year 6 pupils and their parents as we welcomed them to learn more about Year 7 and arrangements for the new academic year.

Year 10 World of Work Day

Before embarking on their work experience week, Year 10 pupils enjoyed a day of workshops and talks arranged by Menter Gorllewin Sir Gâr. Our thanks to them for their support, and to the many companies who kindly hosted our Year 10 and Year 12 students during the final week of term — giving them valuable insight into the world of work.

Year 5 and 6 Transition

We welcomed Year 5 and 6 pupils to the school before the summer holidays to give them a taste of lessons and school life. In addition to the Year 6 transition days, we were delighted to welcome a large crowd of parents to the hall in July for an evening of introductions, uniform sales, and the chance to meet the new Head Pupils. Thanks to all who contributed to the success of this event.

Open Evening

It was a privilege to welcome many prospective pupils and their families to the school on Thursday 10th October for our Open Evening. The lively atmosphere throughout the corridors and classrooms was wonderful — visitors enjoyed listening to the school choirs rehearse, taking part in science experiments, language games, and more.

Town Centre Festival

A group of pupils entertained the crowds at the 2024 Town Centre Festival.

Music Department Trip to See *Wicked* in London

Continuing the annual tradition, around 150 pupils travelled to London on 12th July to watch the West End production of *Wicked*.

Heatherton

All Year 7 pupils, along with some from Year 8, enjoyed a memorable end-of-term trip to Heatherton.

Paris Trip

Most of Year 8 pupils and their teachers travelled to Paris for three days in warm summer weather. They had an unforgettable experience — thanks to all who helped organise it.

Biology Week

This year's Biology Week saw a range of exciting events, including guest speakers and a "Biological Bake-Off" competition with creative specimen-themed bakes!

Special thanks to Kevin Stephens from Agroceutical for his talk about research into using galantamine from daffodils to treat Alzheimer's.

Year 12 Medical Science pupils also hosted visitors as part of their course. Thanks to Lynne and Fiona from Hywel Dda Health Board, and to former pupil Dr Mererid Price for supporting the students in their coursework.

Music Workshop

GCSE and A-Level Music students took part in the Dyfed Young Composer Workshop held at Neuadd y Gwendraeth.

Sad News

A shadow fell over our school community in early October with the sad passing of our much-loved Network Manager, Mr Robert Gibbard. After a short but brave battle with cancer, Robert's death left a deep void in our hearts after 28 years of service to the school.

A touching tribute was paid to him at his funeral in Pen-y-graig Chapel, attended by many current and former members of our school community.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning remains a key event in the school calendar. Over 150 sixth formers and staff gathered in the Design Studio to enjoy coffee, cake, and conversation — raising an amazing £1,200 for a worthy cause. Thanks to our Charity Committee for organising another successful event and to all who donated prizes for the auction.

Hello Yellow Day

To mark World Mental Health Day on 10th October, it was wonderful to see so many staff showing support in a cheerful sea of yellow!

Year 12 Mentors

Once again, the school has trained a new team of Year 12 pupils to act as mentors for younger students.

Celebrating 50 Years of *Pobol y Cwm*

A group from the school choir took part in the special anniversary celebrations at the Lyric Theatre.

Eco Committee

Members of the school's Eco Committee went on a litter-picking walk from Bro Myrddin to Bensarn — no piece of litter escaped their attention!

Clay Shooting

Congratulations to Gethin (Year 12) on his recent success in clay shooting, qualifying for county rounds and achieving a score high enough to qualify for the Welsh Team.

Design & Technology Innovation Awards

Congratulations to Lili and Sophie whose Design & Technology work was selected for display at the 2024 WJEC Innovation Awards in Cardiff.

Lili Haf (AS Level): Compressed Drum

Sophie (GCSE): Prosthetic Dog Leg

Youth Ambassador

Congratulations to Luke (Year 9) on being appointed as an ambassador for IntoFilm Cymru's Youth Council. He also won the *Arts Star* award for his short film on *Global Warming*.

Musical Success

Congratulations to Gruffydd, Tomos and Gwilym, who released the song *Dyddie Gorau* with their band *Iwtopia*, written and composed by Gruffydd. Well done also to *Penne Orenne* on releasing their own music video.

John Muir Award

Congratulations to members of the Gardening Club on receiving this award for their environmental work.

Young Farmers' Eisteddfod

We were delighted to host the Carmarthenshire County Young Farmers' Eisteddfod at the school for the first time — and later the National Young Farmers' Eisteddfod of Wales. The school looked magnificent on television, with transformed spaces throughout. Congratulations to the many pupils who competed successfully.

Matches Between September and Half Term

Since September:

Football: 7 matches played — 3 won and 4 lost

Rugby: 13 matches played — 11 won and 2 lost

Netball: 28 matches played — 13 won, 13 lost, and 2 drawn

Hockey: 10 matches played — 8 won and 2 lost

Spring Term Report 2025

Carmarthen Food Bank

It was wonderful to be able to collect goods for Carmarthen Food Bank during the Harvest period.

Our thanks to the Reverend Beti-Wyn James for preparing the service, and to everyone who contributed towards such a vital cause within our community.

House Captains

Following a vote, it is a pleasure to announce the names of those who will lead the Houses during 2024–2025.

Congratulations to all involved:

Hengwrt:

Captains — Celyn Richards and Ilan Dafydd

Vice-Captains — Sara Davies and Max Flint

Hergest:

Captains — Meg Lewis and Harry Thomas

Vice-Captains — Nerys Howells and Ellis Davies

Llwydiarth:

Captains — Betsan Jones and Thomas Parry

Vice-Captains — Cate Davies and Tomos Axford

Peniarth:

Captains — Luned Davies and Josh Cramb

Vice-Captains — Gwenan Morris and Tomos Charles

USA Trip

During the October half-term holidays, a group of Year 13 pupils and staff travelled to the United States of America. It was an incredible experience and a chance to see and enjoy many of the country's major attractions. Thank you to the staff for organising and giving their time to accompany the pupils.

Ski Trip

A group of pupils and staff enjoyed a skiing trip to Austria over the Christmas holidays.

Christmas Concert

On a wet and blustery December evening, it was a privilege to welcome parents and friends of the school to the beautiful and historic surroundings of Capel Heol Awst for our Christmas Concert on Tuesday, 17th December.

The packed chapel provided a magnificent setting as Dr Llinos Jones opened the evening with a warm word of welcome. The audience was led through a rich variety of musical pieces connected with Christmas — a combination of readings, traditional and contemporary musical performances, and carols — creating a moving and reverent atmosphere.

Before the audience joined in the carol *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*, the Senior Mixed Choir performed *Mary, Did You Know?* by Mark Lowry. The service concluded with a Blessing offered by the Reverend Beti Wyn James.

A collection was held for Carmarthen Food Bank, and thanks go to all for their generous donations. Sincere thanks to everyone who trained and supported the pupils, to Reverend Beti Wyn James and the officers of Capel Heol Awst for welcoming us, to Mr Meirion Wynn Jones for his service on the organ, Mrs Kim Lloyd-Jones for her accompaniment on the harp, the peripatetic teachers from Carmarthenshire Music Service, and all school staff involved in preparing the pupils.

Christmas Service

On the morning of Thursday, 19th December, as the term drew to a close, it was lovely to see all pupils and staff gathered in the school hall for the annual Christmas Service.

The Head Pupils led the proceedings and were thanked for presenting the items with dignity. The school choirs performed a variety of musical pieces under the direction of Mr Berian Lewis and Miss Nia Evans.

Thank you to all who coordinated the event and ensured a purposeful conclusion to the term.

During the service, Dr Llinos Jones took the opportunity to bid farewell to two members of staff leaving at the end of term:

Mr Iestyn Phillips, who begins a new post at QEH School in January, and

Miss Charlotte Doyle, who is travelling and working in Australia.

We wish them both the very best of luck for the future.

Carmarthen Food Bank

Following the generous collection during our Christmas Concert, a cheque for £691.19 was presented to Carmarthen Food Bank to support their work providing food for families over Christmas.

National Youth Ensembles of Wales

Congratulations to:

Celyn, Luned and Erin – accepted into the National Youth Choir of Wales

Cerys Angharad – accepted into the National Youth Orchestra of Wales

Ffion – accepted into the National Youth Brass Band of Wales

School Christmas Fair

A successful Christmas Fair was held in the school hall on Thursday, 5th December. The various stalls were filled with goods, and everyone was busy snapping up pre-Christmas bargains. Thank you to all for your support.

Crazy Eisteddfod

Year 7 pupils took part in a light-hearted “*Crazy Eisteddfod*” organised by Year 12 pupils before the end of term. After a morning of entertaining competitions, Llwydiarth House emerged victorious.

Design and Technology Trip

Sixth Form Design and Technology students visited London to explore the city’s striking buildings and attractions — an inspiring experience.

STEM Trip

Thanks to Swansea University and *FMSPW* for organising a series of lectures in Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Mathematics, and Engineering for our Year 12 pupils.

Skills Development Workshops

A fantastic experience for Sixth Form Science students, who took part in practical upskilling workshops run by Swansea University at the National Botanic Garden of Wales.

Trip to the Synagogue and Gurdwara

Year 7 and Year 10 Religious Studies pupils visited the Synagogue and Gurdwara in Cardiff — a valuable learning experience.

Music

It's been a busy term for the Music Department, with pupils taking part in a variety of activities. The Wind Band performed at Morrisons, and a group of pupils joined county performances at Theatrau y Ffwrnes. Enlli and Ffion also performed at *Plas Rhosygilwen* as part of the *Dyfed Young Musician Masterclasses* — a truly special experience.

Instrumental Eisteddfod

After a busy day of competitions at Neuadd y Gwendraeth, congratulations to all participants on their achievements:

String Solo (Years 7–9): Elena Jones – 2nd

Brass Solo (Years 7–9): Tomos Hill – 2nd

Piano Solo (Years 10–Under 19): Enlli James – 1st

Instrumental Ensemble (Years 10–Under 19): Bro Myrddin – 1st

Instrumental Ensemble (Years 7–9): Bro Myrddin – 1st

Rotary Public Speaking

Congratulations to the school's Public Speaking team on winning the Rotary West competition. After an afternoon of high-quality performances, the results were:

Best Team: Bro Myrddin

Best Proposer: Celyn Richards

Best Chair: Gwenan Morris

The team went on to compete in the final round and were warmly congratulated for finishing third overall.

Seren Competition

Congratulations to the Year 9 pupils who took part in the Seren public speaking competition at *Yr Egin*. The Welsh team came second, and the English team third — excellent results!

Tasty Careers Competition

Well done to the winning group from class 9-5 for their creative idea of a *Welsh Cheesecake* in the Careers competition. Following this success, the team "Mynydd Melys" went on to represent the school in the final at Parc y Scarlets, achieving second place overall.

Guest Speaker

Thanks to Aled Williams, who has worked at Apple Headquarters in the USA, for speaking to the Sixth Form. His message — "*Don't do NOTHING – do SOMETHING!*" — was powerful and inspiring advice!

Insight Day

Sixth Form Politics students attended the *Carmarthenshire County Council Insight Day 2025* at County Hall — an informative and engaging experience.

Eco-Schools Platinum Award

Congratulations to the school on achieving the Eco-Schools Platinum Flag for our environmentally friendly activities and adaptations.

It was an honour to welcome Bethan Evans-Phillips from *Keep Wales Tidy*, who was shown the many ways our school promotes sustainability and strives to become even more eco-friendly. The dedication of both staff and pupils across the school is exemplary — may their unwavering commitment continue.

Remembrance Day

To commemorate those lost in the World Wars, a special service was held in school on the morning of 11th November. Mr Steffan Davies led the service, with thanks to Miss Elin Jones for preparing the presentation. We were guided into two minutes of silence by the haunting sound of *The Last Post*, beautifully played by Ffion (Year 13).

Carmarthenshire and Wales YFC Eisteddfods

Congratulations to our pupils and former pupils on their success in the recent *Young Farmers' Club Eisteddfods*. It was a pleasure to host this special event at Bro Myrddin this year.

Year 11 Mock Interviews

Year 11 pupils took part in mock interviews to help prepare for life beyond school. Thanks to representatives from *University of Wales Trinity Saint David*, *Careers Wales*, *NHS*, *Theatr Genedlaethol*, *Menter Gorllewin Sir Gâr*, and *Bouygues UK* for volunteering their time to help our pupils develop and refine their interview skills.

Gardening Club

Members of the Gardening Club meet weekly and work hard maintaining the school garden throughout the year. Recently, they have been planting daffodil bulbs for spring and clearing leaves from the school pathways. For updates and photos, be sure to follow the club on social media!

Children in Need Day

This year's theme was "*Dress as a Hero*", and it was wonderful to see the heroic efforts of so many staff members as they paraded the corridors in a variety of costumes! Thank you to everyone for your generous donations — a fantastic total of over £1,100 was raised for local *Children in Need* charities.

Carmarthen Town Sports Awards

Congratulations to the following for their outstanding achievements at the Carmarthen Town Sports Awards evening:

Winners: Gwion Williams and Nia Seren

Runners-up: Manon Phillips, Tomos Cai Davies, and Ifan Bowen

Athletics

Congratulations to Manon on winning the *Welsh Indoor Junior Championships* (Under 13 and Under 15), and to Beca for coming 3rd in the 300m final, setting a new personal best.

Well done also to Cerys, who travelled to Sheffield to compete in the 1000m Walk at the *Welsh Combined Events Championships (Under 20)* — crowned Under 15 Girls Champion with a new personal best time.

Scarlets

Congratulations to Tomos (Year 13) on being selected for the Scarlets Under 18 squad.

Well done also to the Year 11 boys — Harri, Ben, Gwion, Gruff, Macsen, and Cai — chosen to represent the Scarlets East Under 16 team.

West Wales Netball

Congratulations to Martha, Jess, and Cerys (Year 11), Cate (Year 12), and Emilie, Mia, and Cristyn (Year 9) on being selected for the West Wales Netball Team.

Cross Country

There was great success at the *Brianne Cross Country Championships* with 10 pupils representing the school. Eight pupils — Bethan, Cai, Jac, Beca, Jimmy, Sion, Macy, and Anna — qualified for the National Race in Brecon. An outstanding achievement!

Netball

Congratulations to the *Ann Smart Netball Team (Years 10/11)* on winning the West Wales round, defeating Haverfordwest, Strade, and Bro Teifi.

Exciting games throughout — trailing 4–3 at half-time against Haverfordwest, and 7–3 against Strade, Bro Myrddin fought back to draw 10–10 with Strade.

Both schools finished on 13 points, but Bro Myrddin advanced on goal difference ($44/16 = 2.75$ vs Strade's $45/17 = 2.65$).

Fantastic performances — good luck in the National Finals!

Senior Rugby Team Success

There was great excitement throughout the school corridors on Tuesday, 10th December, as pupils and staff wished good luck to the Senior Rugby Team ahead of their journey to the Principality Stadium for the *Champions Cup Final*.

Three coachloads of enthusiastic supporters travelled to cheer the boys on. Following their 19–15 win over Haverfordwest in the West Final, anticipation was high for the national decider against the East.

After a thrilling match, congratulations to the team on their 35–34 victory over Ysgol Cwm Rhymni. It has been an exceptionally successful season — in the last three terms, the team has competed in six tournaments and won five trophies, including:

Scarlets U16 Cup Champions 2022–23

West Wales U18 League Champions 2023–24

WRSU Plate Winners at the Principality Stadium 2023–24

West Wales U18 Premier League Champions 2024–25

Representing Great Britain

Congratulations to Gwion (Year 13) on being selected for the World Class Programme in Canoe Slalom and Kayak Cross, representing Great Britain.

The first training camp will take place in the Pyrenees in the New Year.

He also won the Youth Category at the Carmarthenshire Sports Awards — a remarkable double achievement.

Squash

Congratulations to Nia Seren, who recently travelled to Zurich to compete in the Swiss Junior Open Championships. Following her earlier success at the Irish Open in early November, Nia is now the Swiss Open Champion, earning two European titles in one month — an outstanding accomplishment.

Carmarthenshire Schools Team

A group of Bro Myrddin pupils represented the Carmarthenshire District Schools Team in a recent match against Cwm Cynon.

Well done to all involved!

Karate Wales

Congratulations to Ruben, who won a bronze medal at the Karate Wales Championships, and to Ruben and Ethan for taking gold in the team competition. Ruben also competed at the European Championships in Edinburgh and has been invited to join the Wales Squad for next year's competition in Belgium.

Games Played

Rugby: 13 won, 7 lost

Football: 12 won, 1 lost, 4 drawn

Netball: 9 won, 9 lost, 1 drawn

Hockey: 22 won, 11 lost, 7 drawn

Summer term report 2025

School Eisteddfod 2025

After three weeks of rehearsals, the day of the school Eisteddfod dawned on Friday 21st of February. The critiques were delivered by Dr Llinos Jones and Mrs Siwan Rees and thanks to both for their work this year again. It was nice to be able to declare that there was merit and following a very close competition, the names of the winners were announced;

The Welsh Crown – Miriam Williams, Llys Llydiarth

The English Chair – Zach Davis, Llwydiarth Court The English Crown – Gwenno Davies, Peniarth Court

The Welsh Chair – Celyn Richards, Llys Hengwrt

Following a day full of keen competition on stage, the winners of the main shields were announced;

Homework Shield – Hergest Court

Stage Competitions Shield – Peniarth Court

Folk Dancing Shield – Llys Hergest

The Choir Cup – Llys Llwydiarth

The Winning Court of the day who won the Eisteddfod shield was Peniarth with Hergest in 2nd very close to them within 3 points only, Llwydiarth in 3rd and Hengwrt in 4th.

Thank you to everyone who was part of the organizing and preparation work and for contributing to the success of the day and to Dai Baker for coming to us to judge the competitions.

Formula 1 Competition

Two teams from the school took part in a Formula 1 competition in Cardiff - a great experience for the pupils. Congratulations to the boys' team for getting two second places and winning the award for the team with the best brand.

Football success

Congratulations to Ifan Harding on his recent football success. He scored a goal in the Welsh Regional match in Newtown and two goals in the Welsh Schools trials in Newtown.

St David's Parade

The chief officers of Bro Myrddin led the St David's Day parade in the town of Carmarthen this year.

Lesotho tour

Half term was a very exciting time for Miss Nia Williams when she traveled to Lesotho. The theme of this year's trip was 'Health and Wellbeing' and when visiting secondary and primary schools in Thaba - Tseka, including Ntaote High School, Thaba-Tseka High School, Thaba - Tseka Primary School and Katlehong Primary School, there was an opportunity to work together as teachers across the schools to provide Wellbeing lessons to hundreds of Thaba - Tseka pupils. The purpose of this visit was to collaborate and share ideas in order to facilitate and develop this element in the schools but of course, we also had the opportunity to celebrate our unique cultures by dancing, singing and celebrating St David's Day. There was a warm welcome from the pupils and staff at Thaba - Tseka and we are really looking forward to welcoming a teacher and pupils from Ysgol Ntaote back to Wales and to Fro Myrddin at the end of June this year.

Gallery Murals

A group of pupils from the school had the opportunity to collaborate with the artist Rhys Padarn from the Oriolodl company to create a collection of murals for the school. The murals are displayed around the school to indicate important areas for the pupils.

Delicious careers challenge 2025

For the final round of the Delicious Careers Challenge, teams from 11 schools in south-west Wales came together at Marc y Scarlets. Following a polished presentation, the team responded confidently to the judges' questions and received praise for its strong branding and use of local produce. In a spirited competition, the Bro Myrddin team came 2nd with its innovative dessert, 'Mynydd Melys'. Big congratulations to Beca, Miriam, Dewi, Rowan, Efa and Elen from 9-5.

Star Network Workshop

Thank you to Rwydwaith Seren for giving a group of year 9 pupils the opportunity to complete a 'Confident Communicators' Workshop with Richard Hull. There was a successful day full of excitement and excitement in developing the pupils' oral communication skills.

Ann Smart netball competition

This year the year 11 netball team reached the Ann Smart national tournament. On Tuesday the 11th of March a word of encouragement was presented by Mr Steffan Davies when presenting a new kit to the squad. The tournament was held in Haverfordwest on the 15th of March and after a day of playing games the girls reached 4th in their group based on points but lost in the quarters. Congratulations ladies.

Medical Science Tour

Year 13 Medical Science pupils visited the Pathology Laboratories at Glangwili Hospital.

Apprenticeship Tour

On Tuesday 18th February 41 pupils studying construction, engineering and car engineering traveled to Cardiff City Stadium to attend a national apprenticeship event. The pupils had the opportunity to interact and discuss with a number of businesses and various companies discussing future career possibilities. A very valuable and convenient day.

Utopia

The band Utopia competed in the Richard and Wyn Jones Memorial Award Night, Second Movement and Cwmni Fflach in Pembrokeshire.

Awards Night 2025

The Awards Night has been an annual event in the School calendar for many years now; this is an opportunity for us to welcome former pupils and their families back to the School as we come together in the School hall at the end of the Spring Term in order to recognize the academic and extracurricular success of our students. It was lovely to welcome pupils, former pupils, families and school staff together on the evening of Wednesday, 9th April. The guest speaker for the evening was actor Steffan Cennydd, a former pupil, and it was a pleasure to welcome him back to Bro Myrddin. We thank him for his thoughtful words and for inspiring those pupils now facing examinations and decisions about their future, reminding them that things happen for a reason and that success comes in the end.

Thanks also go to Siwan Matthews and Harri Gibbon, the school's Head Officers, and to Dr Llinos Jones for leading the evening from the stage with their meaningful words, and to the senior girls for their musical performances.

This year's award winners were as follows:

Bro Myrddin Financial Award for academic success in A Level examinations – *Iwan Bryer*

Beti Hughes Financial Award for academic success at A Level and contribution to the school's cultural life – *Gwenllian Jones and Steffan Huw Davies*

Gareth Evans Trophy for contribution to the school's cultural life – *Gwenllian Llwyd Jones*

Gareth Evans Trophy for consistent effort in Year 11 or 13 – *Megan Thomas*

St Peter's Players Award for contribution to drama activities – *Siwan Jones*

Megan and Myfanwy Trophy for high-quality creative work – *Celyn Williams*

Rhian Denby Jones Trophy for best effort in GCSE History – *Ffion Ennis*

Business Department Trophy – *Elin Harries*

Hugh Griffiths Trophy for best effort in GCSE Science – *Megan Thomas and Sophie Evans*

Modern Foreign Languages Award for best performance in Modern Foreign Languages in Year 11 or 13 – *Felicity James*

Pupils' Pupil Award for the pupil who made the greatest impression on their peers – *Luned Defis*

Capel y Priordy Award for special effort in Religious Education – *Isabelle Phillips*

Grav Award for Welsh Spirit – *Siwan Jones*

Andrew Rees Trophy for the school's best musician(s) – *Bryn Richards*

Music Department Trophy for best performance in GCSE Music – *Celyn Richards*

Margaret Morris Trophy for best performance in Physical Education in Year 13 – *Megan Roberts*

Physical Education Department Trophy for best performance in GCSE PE – *Ffion Norgrove*

Elin Ruth Jenkins Trophy for best performance in netball – *Sophia Reid-Thomas*

Non Jenkins Trophy for best performance in swimming – *Millie Patterson*

Peter Hughes Griffiths Trophy for service to football within the school – *Gwenllian Llwyd Jones*

Emlyn Schiavone Trophy for service to rugby within the school – *Osian Jones and Steffan Jones*

Rheon and Elliw James Trophy for contribution to athletics within the school – *Ifan Bowen*

Congratulations to all! We take great pride in our pupils' achievements and wish them every success in the future.

Urdd Regional Eisteddfod

Following a busy and successful day of competitions at Pontyberem Hall, the results were as follows:

Individual Recitation Years 7–9 – 1st *Gwilym*

Group Recitation Years 7–9 – 2nd

Group Recitation Years 10–Under 19 – 1st

Individual Recitation Years 10–Under 19 – 3rd *Alaw*

Individual Theatrical Performance Years 7–9 – 1st *Gwen*

Scene Performance Years 7–9 – 2nd

Scene Performance Years 10–Under 19 – 1st

Monologue Years 10–Under 19 – 1st *Alaw*

Girls' Solo Years 7–9 – 1st *Miriam*

Duet Years 7–9 – 2nd *Miriam and Beca*

Duet Years 10–Under 19 – 2nd *Luned and Celyn*

S.A. Solo Years 10–Under 19 – 1st *Celyn*

Musical Theatre Song Years 10–Under 19 – 2nd *Celyn*

Solo Folk Song Presentation Years 7–9 – 2nd *Miriam*

Folk Song Presentation Years 10–Under 19 – 1st *Celyn*

Girls' Party Years 7–9 – 1st

Boys' Party Years 7–9 – 2nd

S.A. Choir Years 7–9 – 1st

S.A. Choir Years 10–Under 19 – 1st

S.A.T.B. Choir Year 13 and under – 1st

Vocal Ensemble Years 10–Under 19 – 1st/2nd

Three-Part Folk Choir Year 13 and under – 1st

Harp Solo Years 10–Under 19 – 1st

Cerdd Dant Solo Years 7–9 – 1st *Miriam* / 2nd *Beca*

Cerdd Dant Duet Years 7–9 – 1st *Miriam* and *Beca*

Cerdd Dant Solo Years 10–Under 19 – 1st *Celyn*

Cerdd Dant Duet/Trio Years 10–Under 19 – 1st

Cerdd Dant Group Years 10–Under 19 – 1st

Cerdd Dant Party Years 7–9 – 1st

Cerdd Dant Choir Year 13 and under – 1st

Music Composition Years 7–8 – *Elen Lisle*, 1st

Music Composition Year 10 – *Mabli Callaghan Edwards*, 2nd

Digital Content, Year 7 – *Luke Taylor*, 2nd

Film Creation, Years 7–9 – *Luke Taylor*, 1st

Original Scriptwriting – *Mabli Callaghan Edwards*, 2nd

Good luck to all of the above, as well as the public speaking team and the school band, at the Eisteddfod in Margam.

Urdd Highlights Concert

It was a pleasure to hold an evening showcasing a selection of the items representing the school on the Margam Eisteddfod stage this year, on Thursday, 1st May.

The concert featured a choice selection from the 30 items that will compete at Margam Park.

Thanks to all coaches for giving their time to prepare the pupils for what promises to be a very busy week at the Eisteddfod of Steel and Sea.

Eisteddfod Steel and Sea Results

Traditional Style Girls' Folk Dance, Years 10–Under 25 – *Luned Defis*, 3rd

Public Speaking – 3rd

Piano Solo Years 10–Under 19 – *Enlli James*, 1st

Instrumental Ensemble Years 10–Under 19 – 2nd

Cerdd Dant Group Years 10–Under 19 – 2nd

Cerdd Dant Choir Year 13 and under – 3rd

Cerdd Dant Duet/Trio Years 10–Under 19 – 3rd

S.A. Choir Years 7–9 – 2nd

Cerdd Dant Party Years 7–9 – 3rd

Individual Theatrical Performance Years 7–9 – *Gwen Richards*, 3rd

Music Awards

Congratulations to Enlli on receiving the Terry Jones Award for best overall contribution, and to Ffion on winning Jazz Musician of the Year with the County Music Service.

Music Workshop

The band Penne Orenne recently took part in a workshop with Mei Gwynedd – congratulations to them on their participation in the Sŵn Sir Gâr competition.

Team GB

Congratulations to Gwion (Year 13) on gaining a place in the Great Britain Under-18 Canoe Slalom and Kayak Cross Team.

He will compete in the World and European Junior Canoe Slalom Championships this summer in France and Slovenia.

Farewell to Pupils

On Thursday afternoon, 1st May, the Year 11 pupils' time in school came to an end as they prepared for their GCSE examinations.

After a hall ceremony and photos, they enjoyed an outdoor day at Heatherton Park with their form tutors and Head of Year on 2nd May.

On 6th May, the Head Officers delivered their final service during morning assembly before the exam period began, sharing memories from their years at school.

Following tradition and under the warmth of the sun, the Year 13 leavers' day took place on Friday 16th May before A Level exams began. There were presentations from Mr Tim Hayes, Mrs Alwen Owen and Dr Llinos Jones, who emphasised that each member of the year group shares something very special – they are part of the school family, and they should never forget that as they move on in life.

Head Officers Siwan and Harri thanked their fellow pupils and the staff who had journeyed with them over the past seven years.

They also had the chance to wear their colourful hoodies as a keepsake of their time at school.

The celebrations continued in the traditional way with a hog roast and other treats in the courtyard. It was a pleasure to capture photos and sign shirts before the group departed the school walls in a rainbow of colours. We wish them all the best in the next stage of their lives – the examination period!

BEM Medal Ceremony

Congratulations to Cerys Angharad, who was invited over the Easter holidays to play the harp at a BEM Medal Presentation Ceremony by The Honourable Sara Edwards (High Sheriff of Dyfed), The Honourable Ann Jones (Deputy High Sheriff of Dyfed) and Mr Keith Evans (Chair of Ceredigion County Council).

The Garden

Members of the Gardening Club have been busy every Wednesday after school planting and maintaining the garden. Thanks to Chris from The John Burns Foundation for visiting the school and donating a variety of plants.

RTS Wales Awards

Congratulations to Amelie on her role as an actress in the film *Sol*, which was nominated for an award at the RTS Cymru Wales Awards 2025 at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff.

Cap for Wales

Congratulations to Ifan Harding (Year 9) on winning his first cap for Welsh Schools, with the team securing a 4–0 victory against English Schools.

Scarlets Cup

Congratulations to the Year 8 boys who were part of the Carmarthen Athletic Under-13 team, winners of the Scarlets Cup by 47–17 against Pembrokeshire Schools.

Year 10 Rugby Team

Following their success this season, the Year 10 rugby team and 200 enthusiastic supporters travelled to the Arms Park on 4th April for the Welsh Schools Cup Final.

Before departure, the team received words of encouragement from Mr Steffan Davies and Ken Owens as they were presented with their shirts.

After a very close game, the final result was a narrow 15–14 loss, but the boys earned admiration and pride from everyone for their efforts.

Football Tournament

Over recent weeks, pupils from Years 11–13 have competed against each other in a football tournament.

Year 13 were the winners, beating Year 11 in the final.

Thanks to all pupils who made the tournament such a success!

Winners – *Year 13*

Player of the Tournament – *Dylan Bevan (Year 13)*

Top Scorers – *Gruff Collier (Year 11), Owen Jones (Year 12), and Gruffudd Ellis-Jones (Year 13)*

Rugby Success

Congratulations to Rhys (Year 12) for representing the Crawshays Wales Rugby Team against the Independent Wales Schools XV at Christ College, Brecon on Wednesday evening.
The Crawshays were victorious, winning 42–19.

Year 7 Girls

Congratulations to the Year 7 girls on winning the National Plate Championship in the Urdd competition.
Here's a natural, formal English translation of your Welsh text — ready for use in a school report or publication, keeping the original structure and headings:

Carmarthenshire Schools

The Under 15 Carmarthenshire Schools' Girls' Football Team reached the final, with the match against Caerphilly played in Oswestry on 18 May.

Congratulations to the girls who were part of the team – Beca and Ellie.

Similarly, the Year 9 Boys' Team, which included some of our pupils – Jac, Frankie, Ifan and Osian – reached the final of the Welsh Schools' Cup against Newport Schools.

Urdd National Girls' Football Competition – Years 9–10

The girls were narrowly defeated in the semi-final of the cup against Penweddig on penalties. A tremendous effort!

Welsh Schools' National Cross-Country Championships

There was considerable success for Bro Myrddin, but these were our two top performers:

Senior Boys – Ifan – 1st place – Welsh Champion

Intermediate Boys – Sam – 3rd place – Welsh Podium

Best of luck to Ifan and Sam in the British Schools' National Cross-Country Championships 2025.

Games Played

Rugby – Won 8, lost 3, and drew 4.

Football – Won 1 and lost 1.

Netball – Won 12, lost 11, and drew 2.

Hockey – Won 12, lost 15, and drew 5.

Brianne Athletics

Girls

Year 7 – 1500m – Gwenno Jones 3rd, Seren Jennings 4th; 800m – Bethan Hampshire 2nd;

High Jump – Beca Morris 5th, Milla Evans 6th; Long Jump – Bethan Hampshire 8th;

Javelin – Lois Douch 2nd; Shot – Holly Brazier 1st.

Year 8 – 1500m – Manon Phillips 1st, Cerys Fitzpatrick 7th; 800m – Mabli King 2nd, Hollie Patterson 3rd;

300m – Megan Evans 1st; 200m – Megan Evans 2nd, Alys Morgan 3rd;

100m – Mabli King 4th, Leah Defis 5th; Triple Jump – Olwen Williams 6th, Gwen Richards 8th;

High Jump – Lois Rees 3rd; Long Jump – Leah Defis 4th, Lois Rees 6th;

Discus – Caitlyn Davies 2nd, Elan James 4th; Javelin – Lotti Pemberton 5th, Neli Rees 6th;

Shot – Beca Saer 4th.

Year 9 – 1500m – Gwenno Powell 2nd; 800m – Miriam Williams 3rd;

300m – Beca Elfyn 1st; 200m – Beca Elfyn 1st, Manon Davies 5th;

100m – Cristyn Bendle 1st; Triple Jump – Miriam Williams 2nd, Alys Lewis 3rd;

High Jump – Gwenno Rees 2nd; Long Jump – Cristyn Bendle 3rd;

Discus – Seren Bowen 1st, Alys Lewis 4th; Javelin – Cristyn Bendle 1st, Non Thomas 5th;

Shot – Seren Bowen 1st, Celyn Thomas 5th.

Year 10 – 800m – Anna Jones 2nd; 300m – Anna Jones 3rd;

100m – Tia Thomas 4th; High Jump – Gwenan Jones 2nd, Millie Percey 5th;

Long Jump – Gwenan Jones 4th; Discus – Erin Wilkins-Jones 7th;

Javelin – Erin Wilkins-Jones 3rd.

Boys

Year 7 – Shot – Harri Morris 7th; Javelin – Paddy Dunne 3rd, Tiian Smith 4th;

Long Jump – Iago Jones 7th; High Jump – Iwan Thomas 2nd;

Hurdles – Paddy Dunne 2nd; 200m – Steffan Soanes 2nd, Owen Davies 6th;

800m – Steffan Soanes 1st; 1500m – Iwan Morris 2nd, Steffan Griffiths 4th.

Year 8 – Javelin – Noa Jones 3rd, Tomos Davies 6th;

Discus – Cayden Laycock 6th; Long Jump – Owen Jones 4th, Leo Moore 8th;

Triple Jump – Gruff Jones 8th; Hurdles – Seb Gibbon 1st;

100m – Oliver Horne 2nd; 200m – Oliver Horne 1st; 300m – Gwion James 7th;

800m – Cai Davies 1st, Leo Moore 4th; 1500m – Gwion James 5th.

Year 9 – Shot – Henry Davies 3rd; Javelin – Harri Blue 4th, Rhys Jones 5th;

Discus – Alffi Harley 2nd; Long Jump – Fraser Harry 3rd, Ifan Harding 4th;

High Jump – Aiden Saer 2nd, Fraser Harry 5th; Triple Jump – Aiden Saer 2nd;

Hurdles – Fraser Harry 4th; 100m – Frankie Richards 1st;

200m – Frankie Richards 1st; 300m – Jac Howells-Arnold 1st;

800m – Osian Thomas 4th; 1500m – Jac Howells-Arnold 1st.

Year 10 – Shot – Abel Rees 1st, Finley Kelly 2nd;

Discus – Finley Kelly 1st, Caleb Morris 3rd;

Long Jump – Rhys James 2nd, Jac Johnson 3rd;

High Jump – Jac Morris 6th, Ioan Jones 7th;

Triple Jump – Macs Morgan 7th; 200m – Macs Hastings 1st;

800m – Rhun James 7th.

NASUWT Athletics

Girls Years 7 & 8 – 3rd place

Boys Years 7 & 8 – 4th place

Girls Years 9 & 10 – 2nd place – progressed to the Dyfed round

Boys Years 9 & 10 – 2nd place – progressed to the Dyfed round

