

July Newsletter



Here we are, at the end of what has been another brilliant academic year at Ysgol Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant. Looking back, it is quite incredible to see how much has been achieved in the past 11 months. The staff have worked extremely hard, the parents and governors have been very supportive and most of all, the pupils have been amazing!

But before I reflect on the year, it's worth looking back at how much has happened in the past 3 weeks.

We have had a number of successful **transition** sessions involving our new intake, year 2 and year 6. Our new starters for September have had two mornings and a full day in order to get used to what school life is like. We look forward to welcoming our new starters in September. Year 6 had a very enjoyable time at the high school, spending 2 days taking part in normal high school sessions before spending the third day working on a transition project with other schools, based on the Dolydd Workhouse in Llanfyllin. Whilst year 6 were away, year 2 also enjoyed a successful day, experiencing what it is like to be in year 3.

A few weeks ago, we were extremely lucky to be invited to Sarah and Steve's farm at **Banhadla**. The pupils received a tour of the farm, looking at; the newly born calves; the milking cows; the feeding routines; vegetable garden and finally, the milking parlour where the pupils were able to watch the cows being milked before tasting some milk and cheese. A huge thank you to the Suckley-Jones family for letting us visit the farm. A huge thank you also to Tanat Valley who provided their new double decker bus free of charge.

On the penultimate day of term, we were visited by Darren Mayor and Huw Ellis of the **Impact School Team**. The pupils were invited on board the iconic bus and were taught about the link between science and God's creation of the earth.

The **foundation phase** classes successfully adopted a dolphin and a turtle with the money raised at their coffee morning. They have decided to donate the rest of the money to Sarah Dulson's fundraiser, 'The Ocean Cleanup'. A lovely idea! Also, their Plastic Free Friday has been a success. Their graphs created in class show that staff and pupils now throw away a lot less plastic waste from their lunch boxes.

Dosbarth Mrs Turner and Mr Richards have completed their **Roman villa project**. Each pupil used maths to design a Roman villa and years 5 and 6 used Minecraft to bring their designs to life. They then used their language skills to create a persuasive poster to advertise the villa for sale.

On Friday 12th July, all of key stage 2 went to Llanfyllin High School to take part in a **multi-sports day** organised by year 10 as part of their Welsh Baccalaureate. Everyone had a great day with all the other schools from the cluster.

On the final Tuesday of term, 31 key stage 2 pupils took part in **area sports**, again at the high school. Everyone represented the school well in flat sprints, relay races and in the 800m.

This month has also been filled with exciting news about **past pupils**. Congratulations to James Burgess who has been made head boy at Llanfyllin high school, a second year in a row for Llanrhaeadr, as Iolo Jones steps down for James to take over. Well done also to Freya Roberts and Cadi Davies for speaking so well on S4C recently about 'Bobby the Dog'. There has also been some impressive sporting news too. Congratulations to Garmon Evans who won the North Wales road to Wimbledon competition and will now get the chance to play tennis at the famous venue in London. Well done also to Tom Williams and David Vaughan who were part of the Under 16 boys' athletics team that came 5th in the national finals. Finally, also in athletics, well done to Abbie Jones who came 7th in the year 9 shot put in the Welsh Athletics finals in Cardiff, representing Powys.

Year 6 held a brilliant leaver's assembly on the final Thursday of term. Unbelievably for me, most of this group started school the same time as I started here in Llanrhaeadr, eight years ago. It has been a pleasure to watch them develop into the wonderful pupils that each of them has become. Congratulations to those who won the awards, which have been kindly donated to the school; Evan (Sporting Excellence), Dewi (Culture), William and Henry (2nd Language Welsh) and Ifan (General Disposition). I wish Awel, Evan, Dewi, Nia, Will, Henry, William, Evie, Amelia, Rebecca and Ifan all the best for high school and in the future beyond that. I look forward to hearing about their future successes. Thank you also to those parents who have now ended their time as parents at the school. Your help and support is much appreciated.

A huge thank you to the **PTA** once again for all their support and fundraising efforts during the year. The Dragon Bag charity collections raised an amazing £483, thank you for your clothing donations. The PTA have now raised well over £6500 during the past 12 months, an amazing total. We have recently ordered a new iPad for each class, new tennis nets, two recycled plastic picnic benches and staging for the school hall. All useful items, which we are very grateful for.

The total above doesn't include any money made during a very enjoyable **celebration evening** held at the end of term. Before holding a gameshow evening in the hall, the PTA served some delicious food and it was lovely to see so many families and friends in attendance. A special thank you to our chairperson, Nerys Davies for organising the food and thank you to all those who helped her to prepare it and serve the food on the evening. The gameshow was a great success, thank you all for your enthusiastic participation. It was a brilliant way to end the year.

The main reason for the celebration evening was to say goodbye and thank you to **Mrs Nerys Roberts-Law** who is leaving the school to pursue a new career in France after two years in Llanrhaeadr. I'd like to personally thank Mrs Roberts-Law for all her hard work during her time here. Her positivity, commitment and enthusiasm has been excellent, and she will be dearly missed. As well as a number of other roles, Mrs Roberts-Law has been Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator for a year, and she has done an amazing job in that time. The interventions she has put in place and the support she has organised for parents has been much appreciated. Miss Watkins will now take over as ALNCo for the new year and continue the good work started by Mrs Roberts-Law.

Finally, can I thank all parents and friends of the school for your support during the past 11 months, especially during the past 8 months during my time in charge. Your kind comments during the past few weeks have been much appreciated and I have very much enjoyed the role. It is a team effort though and I would like to thank the governors and every member of staff for their hard work and support, without them, it would have been far more challenging.

I hope you all have an amazing summer holiday, filled with fun together as families. Enjoy the break and we will see you back on **Tuesday 3rd September 2019**.

Regards,



Mr Jonathan Richards

Mon 2nd Sep	Non-pupil day	Notices DISABLED PARKING – Please make sure that the two nearest parking bays to the school are left for pupils needing disabled access. The two spaces are clearly marked with the disabled logo. Please check your ParentPay for any debts owing. Thank you. Please contact us with any queries on 01691 780352 or at office@llanrhaeadr.powys.sch.uk
Tue 3rd Sep	Back to school	
Sun 8th Sep	Lake Vyrnwy Marathon PTA Water Stops	
Tue 10th Sep	PTA Meeting 7pm	
Wed 11th Sep	Year 6 Cycling proficiency	
Mon 16th Sep	Year 6 Lifeline @ Oswestry	
Wed 18th Sep	COBRA Tag Rugby @ Meifod	
Wed 25th Sep	Cardiff Trip – Years 5 and 6	