



# YSGOL RHIWABON

## Rhagfyr 2015

### DECEMBER 2015

[www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk](http://www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk)



Neges y Pennaeth Mewn Gofal  
Acting Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we come to the end of the first busy term of this academic year I would like to thank you personally for all your support for Ysgol Rhiwabon.

We began September with our new Year 7 who have settled in well and have continued to impress us with high standards of behaviour, uniform and attendance. Our new School App was launched and with it a new look for our School Website. The design symbolises the way we lay down firm traditional values in school which leads to happiness and success. This, and our classroom 'Golden Rules', have helped us to remind our young people of important values which will help them in school and later life. Our new App has allowed us to use ParentMail to keep in regular touch with you, sending important good news messages and information about key events.

It has been a very busy, but successful term. We received a fantastic response to our School Open Evening with lots of positive comments from visitors and the potential for growing numbers next year. We have worked very closely with our primary schools and have really enjoyed welcoming younger students into our school to enjoy a range of activities across lots of subjects. Our Key Stage 4 students are busy preparing for important examinations and our Year 13 students are already receiving offers from universities ready for 2016. We have also won a number of prestigious competitions which helps to promote our students in the local and wider community.

I know that the hard work of teachers, support staff and the students in school will lead to more success next year. We are all very proud of Ysgol Rhiwabon and its place in the local community.

On behalf of all the staff, students and governors of the school I would like to wish you all a very happy, peaceful Christmas and to send our best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Nadolig Llawn.

**Melanie Ferron-Evans**  
**Headteacher**

**Follow the school on Twitter**  
**@ysgolrhiwabon and download our school**  
**App @**

[www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk](http://www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk)

Our website and Twitter account cover a wide range of school events and includes a gallery of photographs for parents to view.

Please could parents direct any messages about student absences to the main office and not via the website.

#### **2016 WINTER TERM DATES FOR PARENTS**

Tuesday 5 January - Term starts  
Friday 12 February – Half Term close  
Monday 22 February – School re-opens  
Thursday 24 March – Winter Term closes (NB: Good Friday is 25 March)

#### **School Ties loaned to students**

Please note if your child borrows a tie from the school office, they will be expected to return it at the end of that school day. If the tie is not returned within two weeks, you will be charged £5.50 for a new one.

#### **School Ties**

School ties are available from the school office at a cost of £5.50 each, or from

**RAM LEISURE**

Simply log onto [www.ourschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.ourschoolwear.co.uk)

#### **YSGOL RHIWABON GOVERNING BODY** **Election of Parent Governor – 12 October 2015**

One valid nomination was received for the vacancy on the Governing Body:

Mr Mervyn Thomas  
(Parent of Cameron Thomas 7WN)

Since there was only one vacancy on the Governing Body it was unnecessary to hold an election. The person named above was duly elected and unopposed as a member of the Governing Body.

**New Arrivals in the School Office!**

**Mrs Dodd and Mrs Davies** retired from the school administration team this summer after a combined total of over 30 years' service.

**Mrs Hough and Miss Simoes** replaced them in September and are settling in well!

**A reminder please:**  
**If your child is absent you should:**

- Contact the school on 01978 822392 as soon as possible on the first day of absence, preferably before 9 am
- Send a note in on the first day they return with an explanation of the absence if you haven't had contact with the school

**If your child is absent we will:**

- Call you on the first day of absence if we have not heard from you
- Invite you in to discuss the situation with our Pastoral Support Worker or your child's Lead Learner if absences persist

**Year 8 Tudor Day at Speke Hall**



Students in Year 8 enjoyed a Tudor themed day at Speke Hall, near Liverpool on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November with the History department. Students had a tour of the Tudor Manor House, and learnt about the Norris family who once lived there during the reign

of Henry VIII. Year 8 students, Toby Green and Jessica Riley were transformed into Tudor children!

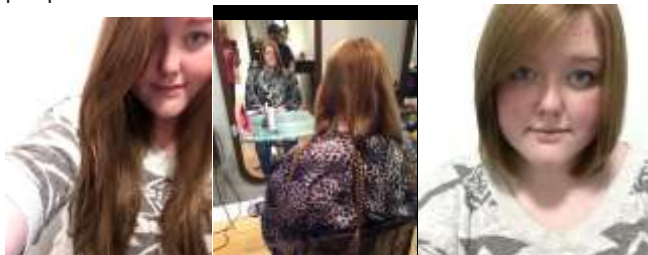
**Charity Hairazor!**

**Emily Wright from our Sixth Form has made a dramatic change for charity!**

Emily had very long hair and was proud of the length, until she felt that it would be better served as a charitable donation to The Little Princess Trust Charity. The Little Princess Trust was launched in 2006 and is a charity dedicated to providing real hair to be used for children's wigs.

Emily has donated her long hair; in fact it was 11 inches worth to the charity and at the same time raised £285 for Cancer Research from sponsorship.

Mrs Ferron-Evans, Headteacher said, "What Emily has undertaken is remarkable and we can all only applaud her efforts in donating her own hair and also raising money at the same time for charity. Emily is a shining example of our young people".



**Children in Need**

On 13<sup>th</sup> November staff and students raised a total of £510.01 for this year's Children in Need by dressing up as childhood heroes and by baking and selling cakes!

**Year 10 Toyota/Welsh Rally/Big Bang Trip**

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 24 Year 10 Engineer students had the opportunity to do 3 visits in one day. Firstly they visited the Toyota Engine Plant on Deeside Industrial Park and saw their new Hybrid engines being made. The plant makes over 400 engines per day and they are exported all around the world. Some of their engines power the new Lotus sports cars. The students walked the length of the production line and were able to see the robots and people working together. At the same time the Welsh Rally was based outside and they were able to see many of the cars and the teams preparing the cars for the rally. All of the top drivers and teams were there and there was the opportunity to meet Elfyn Evans who finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the rally. As part of the rally there was also the Big Bang Exhibition of Technology where they saw a range of hi-tech machinery including several virtual tours, 3D printers, robots and also the Bloodhound car which will be attempting the world land speed record next year. Students were able to operate robots, take virtual tours and race rocket cars.



**Year 12 Geography Trip**



The Year 12 Geography group visited Minera Mountain to study the long profile of a river. They took readings regarding width, depth, velocity, gradient and size of bedload. Every year it seems to rain but they collected the results nevertheless!



### **Ysgol Rhiwabon Charity Concert**

Ysgol Rhiwabon commenced its seasonal programme on 3<sup>rd</sup> December with a Charity Concert to raise money for Hope House Children's Hospice.

At an overflowing Methodist Church in Ruabon, where even standing room was non-existent, the students of Ysgol Rhiwabon, under the musical production of Mr Gareth Erlandson and Mrs Sandra Tarver, gave an 'Evening of Song and Cheer'.

There were performances from over 25 students ranging from solo singing, choral recitation, girl groups, piano, wood and brass recitals.

Some notable performances on the night were from Ryan Shickell who gave a f Moves, Tom Sinclair's sole performance of White Christmas and the Girls Group from Years 8 and 9 with Let It Snow.



Mr Erlandson said,



"Over £365 was raised for Hope House Children's Charity on the evening, which was an excellent achievement. The students' performances were a credit to them and every performance was of the high



Mrs Ferron-Evans, in her closing thank you address said, "Credit must be given to the students' performances; they were of the highest order and reflect the work our Music Department undertakes.

As a school steeped in the tradition of the local area for song, we should all be very proud of what we witnessed here tonight. Many performances were of concert hall standard and we are very proud of our students' talents".

### **Chistmas Lunch at Ysgol Rhiwabon!**

It was Christmas lunchtime at Ysgol Rhiwabon on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December.

The Wrexham Catering Service Team, led by Cook in Charge on site, Mark Davies, prepared a sumptuous feast and served hundreds of Christmas lunches to hungry students and staff in school.

The Dining Hall was decorated in a festive theme and school staff waited on the tables to ensure that students had an enjoyable lunchtime.

Mrs Ferron-Evans, Headteacher said, "It is really important to make sure that school celebrates special times in the year for students as it adds to their all-round learning experience whilst in school".

Mrs Ferron-Evans, Mrs Jones, Office Manager, Miss Simoes, Office Administrator and Mr Evans, Business Manager all provided the team of waiters for the day.



**Christingle Service at St Mary's Church, Ruabon**  
**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

The Service included St Mary's Primary School and Ysgol Rhiwabon students as part of the Church service to celebrate Christingle.



**Community Carols and Mince Pies**  
**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

This Event was very well supported by the local community. Ken Skates, Welsh Assembly Member, opened the Event and congratulated the school on its inclusive and community approach.

Year 12 students waited on the tables and Year 10 students provided the carols.



Mrs Ferron-Evans and  
Ken Sakes, AM



**Ysgol Rhiwabon**  
Ysgol Rhiwabon cordially invite you to join them at their annual  
**Community Carols & Mince Pies**  
**Friday 11th December 2015**  
**10.45 am - 12.00 pm**  
**in the School Library**  
Musical items will be performed by  
**Ysgol Rhiwabon's students**  
RSVP: Wenger Cox,  
PA to Headteacher on 01978 622392  
mailto:rc@rhiwabon-high.wrexham.sch.uk