



**YSGOL RHIWABON**  
SINCE 1575



## Neges y Pennaeth Headteacher's Message Haf 2017 Summer 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

The Summer Term is always an excellent time to review our academic year and celebrate all the achievements of our Students and Staff here at Ysgol Rhiwabon.

This year we have continued to work hard to secure rapid improvements, building on the success of 2015-16. This has been evidenced through our highest attendance rate ever thanks to you as families who support the school. We have used this as an opportunity to praise our youngsters and reward them throughout the year. Last year saw a significant improvement in Key Stage 4 results. This year our Year 11 students have attended workshops, revisions sessions, even attending in the holidays thanks to their own commitment and the dedication of staff. We are predicting results even higher than last year.

Ysgol Rhiwabon has continued to enjoy close links with our Primary Schools and we have welcomed younger members of the local community into school for our highly effective transition which has run throughout the year.

Our recent Record of Achievement Celebration and Prom was superb and we were happy to welcome the new Lead for Education, Mr Ian Roberts to present our Year 11 with their Certificate of Achievement.

Ysgol Rhiwabon is about more than academic results. We believe in recognising successes across Sport, The Arts, Clubs, Charity Work and through good behaviour. We have welcomed many visitors to the school this year, including inspectors. All of them comment on our caring family ethos and the good behaviour of our young people.

At this time of year our sense of pride and achievement is tinged with sadness as we say goodbye to Year 11 and 13 students and some of our staff who leave to take up new opportunities. I know you would want me to wish them well and to thank them for their loyalty and complete commitment to our school.

On July 10<sup>th</sup> Ysgol Rhiwabon's doors are open to our local community from 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm. We think it is very important for families to visit the school to experience first hand its exciting resources and opportunities. Some of you may be ex-students yourselves and curious to see how the school has developed over time. Please visit us on that evening as we want to share our successes and sense of pride in our young people with you, our local families.

The Summer Newsletter allows me to send a personal thanks to you as parents/guardians for all the support shown to Ysgol Rhiwabon this year.

We wish all our young people a happy and safe summer holiday and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another successful year.

Diolch yn fawr.  
Kind regards.

**M Ferron-Evans**  
Headteacher



**Ysgol Rhiwabon closes  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017  
and  
re-opens  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

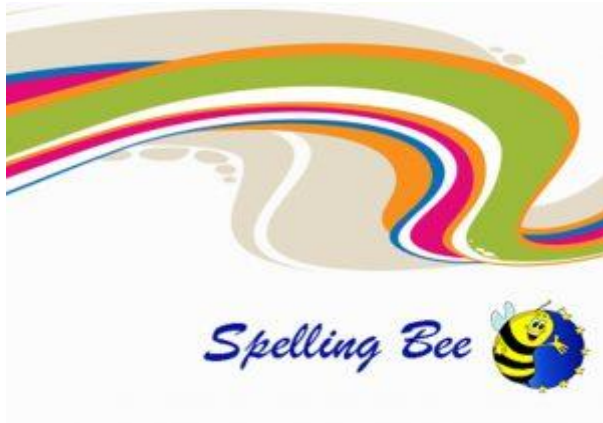
**Follow the school on Twitter  
@ysgolrhiwabon and download  
our school App @  
[www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk](http://www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk)**

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.

### 2017 AUTUMN TERM DATES

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September:**  
Training Day  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September:**  
Training Day  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September:**  
School re-opens  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October:**  
School closes  
**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November:**  
School re-opens  
**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December:**  
School closes



## National Spelling Bee Competition

The Spelling Bee is organised by 'Routes into Languages, Cymru' and is a yearly competition.

The aim is to encourage pupils to practise and improve their vocabulary, spelling and memory skills in French, Spanish, Welsh Second Language, and German.

Three of our Year 7 students were in the finals of the competition for French, and two of those are now advancing to the National Finals, with the third as reserve finalist.

**Our finalists were.....**

**Lily Jones (7EPR)**  
**Wiktorja Kobylka (7MTJ)**  
**Eleanor Dymant (7MTJ)**

The National finals were held at Aberystwyth University on Wednesday 5th July 2017.

Eleanor came 6th out of 12 spellers from schools all over Wales. She was clear, confident and graceful.

Lily won both rounds of her competition and came second overall. She was absolutely fantastic and her pronunciation was perfect. One of the judges commented on how brilliant she was. The organisers said they were very impressed that it was the first time our school was entering the competition and we had such good spellers.

## Year 12 Geography Field Trip



Year 12 Geography students recently embarked on a fieldwork data collection trip.

The data collected was to enable a study of a long profile of the River Clywedog.



## Year 11 Shirt Signing

This year's Year 11 leavers said farewell to the school, and their friends, via the traditional shirt-signing ceremony.







## Phoenix Project at Chirk Fire Station

Ysgol Rhiwabon students recently took part in the Phoenix Project at Chirk Fire Station. The project, which is organised by North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, educates 13 to 17 year olds about the importance of fire safety and the consequences of emergencies for the various services.

The Phoenix Project is a great example of a multi-agency approach to encourage positive behaviour among young people. During the five day course young people engage in fire and rescue service activities such as hose running drills, fighting fires and search and rescue. They also learn useful day to day skills such as the consequences of their actions, manual handling, risk management and fire safety.

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service has joined up with North Wales Police to create a film aimed at 10 to 16 year olds to raise awareness of the dangers and consequences of the impact of emergencies in the Wrexham area. The Fire and Rescue Service has a powerful draw for young people and gives the opportunity to try to influence behaviour. Mr Bingham, Assistant Headteacher at Ysgol Rhiwabon said,

*"The Phoenix project offers a unique experience to build on qualities such as service, work respect, communication and trust. The week involves a blend of classroom learning where the youngsters are taught safety in the home, then drill yard activity where the Fire Service promotes working together as a team, assessing risk and adhering to instructions. The aim of the course is to assist the youngsters in becoming more motivated and positive about themselves, which in turn has the effect of making them better citizens. We are hoping these young people will feel they have gained something positive from the Phoenix project and feel it will be of benefit to them in the future".*





## Summer Holiday Programme 2017



We are pleased to be able to offer again the School Holiday Enrichment Programme to all of our Year 6 students. This was a huge success last year when we ran it for the first time.

The programme is planned to run for a four week period over the summer holidays based at our site. Each week involves a three day programme, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

<b>Week 1</b>	Tuesday 1 August	Wednesday 2 August	Thursday 3 August
<b>Week 2</b>	Tuesday 8 August	Wednesday 9 August	Thursday 10 August
<b>Week 3</b>	Tuesday 15 August	Wednesday 16 August	Thursday 17 August
<b>Week 4</b>	Tuesday 22 August	Wednesday 23 August	Thursday 24 August

- The programme will offer outside providers for sports and activities, plus nutritional and educational sessions.
- There will be a free breakfast provided from 9.00 am – 9.30 am.
- A free lunch from 12.00 pm – 1.00 pm.
- A free lunch for parents and siblings every Thursday.

This is a great opportunity for Year 6 to meet new friends and to join the school early so as to be established for September. We particularly like Thursday lunchtimes where whole families are invited to school to sample our canteen lunch and hear about all the exciting activities.

## Successful Summer Holiday Programme 2016





## Year 6 into Year 7 Ysgol Rhiwabon Transition

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June - Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June we welcomed the Year 6 students who have chosen to attend Ysgol Rhiwabon in September 2017. Over three days the children enjoyed a mixture of practical, enjoyable activities giving them the opportunity to meet new friends as well as the chance to get to know the school building. The comments from the children were very positive with many saying how they had made new friends and enjoyed meeting some of the teachers they will have in September.

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June, parents and guardians were invited to school for an Information Evening which was very well attended. Comments from parents were very positive, with many commenting on how the transition had made their child very confident and excited about the September start in Ysgol Rhiwabon.

**Below is a selection of pictures of students enjoying activities during their Transition**



## Black Death!



Class 7EPR recently took part in an oracy lesson, creating the 6 stages of the Black Death using Playdoh.

Students created each stage of the Black Death using Playdoh. They then used these creations as prompts when they described to a peer how the Black Death spread.



## Year 7 trip to Eagles Meadow

As a reward for good behaviour and excellent attendance since September, Year 7 went on a trip to Eagles Meadow for bowling and a short visit to the shopping area.

Mrs Paull, Lead Learner for Year 7, has been delighted with the attendance, behaviour and positive attitude to secondary school life for her year group, and felt a reward was required for such a special group. Since the trip the school has had some amazing feedback that we felt had to be shared widely.

**Starbucks in Wrexham sent a Twitter message....**

**Starbucks Wrexham @SbuxWrexham**  
@YsgolRhiwabon It was a pleasure to serve your pupils today on a school trip! Such wonderful, polite children! They're welcome back anytime!

## Technifest Workshop



Techniquet recently visited Ysgol Rhiwabon, and delivered a Technifest workshop to our students.

During the workshop the students worked a number of maths and logic problems based on the music industry.



The tasks accomplished by the students were to:-

- Organise the bands for a festival line up following a set of rules about who, where and when they should play.
- Work out the royalty payment for an artist for a song over a month given the number of sales, downloads, streaming and physical sales of the song.
- Use number patterns to play music, ending in the playing of the Welsh National Anthem on hand bells.





# Year 11 Prom 2017

The Ysgol Rhiwabon Year 11 Personal Profile Ceremony was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June with the Prom following the ceremony at Llyndir Hall Hotel.

On a warm evening, the Year 11 students met at the school, with just over 350 parents and family members waiting to greet them, where they had plenty of time for photographs in the immaculate school grounds.

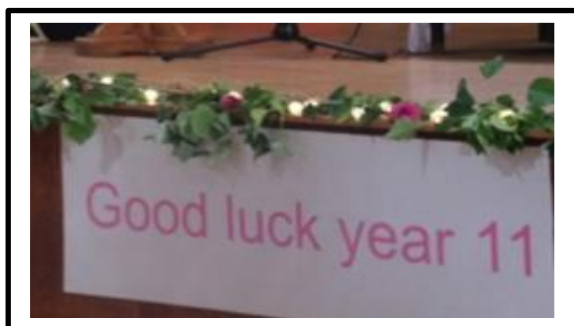
The Personal Profile ceremony was hosted by Mrs Sharon Cooper, Lead Learner for Year 11, with the Profiles presented by the new Director of Education for Wrexham County Borough Council, Mr Ian Roberts, and Headteacher, Mrs Melanie Ferron-Evans.

The musical interlude was provided by Year 13 student Aymee Brooke-Jones who gave a stunning version of Adele's 'When We Were Young'.

Mr Keith Benning, Chair of Governors said,

*'It is a privilege to see our Year 11 students and recognise the journey that they have been on since their time with Ysgol Rhiwabon began. The Governors and staff wish them well as they venture into the wider world and the school sends their best wishes to all of them for the future'.*

The students then travelled to Llyndir hall Hotel for their Prom.



# YSGOL RHIWABON

## HOT OFF THE PRESS

### NEWS!

#### Sports News>>>

Another great day out at the Year 7 and 8 Wrexham area athletics. Excellent effort put in from all students with a few stand out performers!

Josh Edwards	.....	1 <sup>st</sup> Shotput
Luis Hughes	.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Javelin
Rhys Thornley	.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> 300m
Ethan Chard	.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> High Jump
Seren Morris	.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> 800m
Lily-May Jones	.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Discus

Congratulations to Scott Butler who came 4<sup>th</sup> in the 200m at the Welsh Championships! An excellent sportsman and ambassador for Ysgol Rhiwabon.



**Scott Butler (9VWD)**

An excellent afternoon out on 15<sup>th</sup> June at the U13 and U15 Wrexham Area Athletics! Students performed well and behaved excellently. Some great solo performances.

Adam Evans	.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Shotput
Tom Edwards	.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Triple Jump
Scott Bulter	.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> 200m
Lily-May Jones	.....	3 <sup>rd</sup> Shotput
Rhys Thornley	.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> 300m
Luis Hughes	.....	2 <sup>nd</sup> Javelin

Well done to all involved. Great to see all students enjoying their athletics!

#### Farm-To-Fork Visit>>>



Year 10 students at Ysgol Rhiwabon recently had an opportunity to visit Home Farm in Overton and learn how sausages are made from 'Farm to Fork'. The visit combined work activities on sustainability, genetically modified and organic foods along with food and religion. Students produced sausages from scratch, choosing ingredients and learning about HACCP/COSHH regulations.

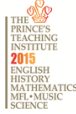




## ~Useful Information~

Follow Ysgol Rhiwabon Events

at



twitter: [@ysgolrhiwabon](https://twitter.com/ysgolrhiwabon)  
website: [www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk](http://www.ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk)

### 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 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)

### **Theatre Group Up Coming Events**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017  
**War Horse (Liverpool Empire)**  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017  
**Elf (Lowry Theatre, Salford)**

**Please See:**  
**Mrs P Williams (English Department)**  
**for further details**

### **Clwb Ieuenctid yr Urdd Urdd Youth Club**

Ymunwch a ni/ Join us, Pob Dydd Mawrth  
3:05 – 4:20pm  
Dechrau 6ed o Fehefin  
Starting 6th of June

Ystafell Mrs Tomos-Jones Room



### **A reminder please:** **If your child is ill you should:**

- Contact the school on 01978 822392 as soon possible on the first day of absence, preferably before 9.00 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 an absences persist
- Refer the matter to Hayley Roberts, our Educational Social Worker (ESW) if attendance falls below 85% or if you fail to engage with the support offered by the school

### **Message Service Change**

The school will soon be changing its text message service from Parentmail to a company called 'The Contact Group'.

The new text and email service is branded 'Call Parents' and we have also invested in an additional service for attendance.

As Parent/Guardian you **do not have to do anything** as all information will automatically be updated.

As currently, if you have changed your mobile or landline telephone number please let school know.

The text message will show up as **RhiwabonSch** on your telephone so you know clearly who it is from.

For attendance the new service will be able to issue a text/email to you to indicate if your child is absent from school and it will allow you to respond directly with the reason for absence.

This will make reporting any absence much quicker and easier for you and is **free of charge** to you.