



YSGOL RHIWABON
SINCE 1575

YSGOL RHIWABON EASTER 2018



Headteacher
Mrs. M. Ferron-Evans

Neges y Pennaeth Headteacher's Message Pasg 2018 Easter 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

In our last newsletter home to parents I was able to share the excellent news that Ysgol Rhiwabon was judged to have made strong improvements by the last inspection visit, removing us from Special Measures in record time.

This excellent report is so well deserved as students and staff, with your support, have worked so hard to improve and show off pride in our secondary school. This has provided us with a really positive feeling as we have worked through the Spring Term.

Much has been achieved by all year groups in two very short half terms. Despite our snowy weather and interruptions to daily routine, students have been well behaved and continue to make strong progress in their learning. The newsletter shows off the wider life of the school as well which forms such an important part of our work.

Our staff, teaching and support, work tirelessly providing lots of extra activities to enrich our youngster's lives. You can read all about our sporting achievements, trips abroad and educational visits in our latest news home.

Spring is a time to celebrate new beginnings and warmer weather and it seems very fitting therefore that the school moves into a new phase of continued growth and improvement with so much to look forward to.

Thank you so much for your continued support of Ysgol Rhiwabon. Enjoy the Easter Holidays. We look forward to welcoming our students back in the Summer Term.

Diolch.

Melanie Ferron-Evans
Headteacher



**School closes for Easter on
Friday 23rd March 2018
and
re-opens on
Monday 9th April 2018**

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

2018 SUMMER TERM DATES

Monday 9th April:

School re-opens

Monday 7th May

Bank Holiday

Friday 25th May

School Closes

Monday 4th June

School Closed – Training Day

Tuesday 5th June

School re-opens

Thursday 19 July

School closes

Ysgol Rhiwabon is removed from Special Measures



Christmas came early to Ysgol Rhiwabon as was is removed from Special Measures. Just as the snow melted away Ysgol Rhiwabon staff and students celebrated in the cold weather as it received the news that the school had been taken out of special measures following a successful Estyn visit in November. The recent monitoring visit by the Inspection Team commented on the significant improvements that have been made at the school since the time of the original inspection. In fact the school secured a judgement of "Strong Progress" in almost all of the recommendations. The school has been removed from the category in record time following record results for students in the summer. The school is judged to have made such good progress that further Estyn inspection visits are not required.

Headteacher, Mrs Ferron-Evans said: *"I have always been proud of Ysgol Rhiwabon and its local community and never more so than this week as the Estyn Report recognises the hard work of so many people. Throughout the frequent monitoring visits I have reminded students and staff how special they are and we have ensured that we have taken measures to secure sustainable success. Our school has made rapid progress since the time of the core inspection and we will use this as a platform to grow even stronger in the future. I would like to congratulate the students, staff and Governors of the school. They have worked tirelessly over the last five terms and thoroughly deserve this success. I would also like to thank the local community and our primary colleagues for showing their loyalty and belief in the school. It is with great pride that I look forward to working with such a dedicated and professional staff in the future to continue driving improvements in Ysgol Rhiwabon."*

Mr Keith Benning, Chair of Governors said: *"On behalf of the Governors at Ysgol Rhiwabon I would like to congratulate the staff and students for all the hard work that has been undertaken. The school can now look forward to a very positive future in providing excellent educational provision for our students within the local community."*

Cllr Phil Wynn, Lead Member for Education at Wrexham Council, said: *"Having visited Ysgol Rhiwabon on a number of occasions over the last six months I am delighted to learn that Estyn have removed the school from their special measure category. I would especially like to thank and congratulate the Headteacher Mrs Ferron-Evans for all her tireless efforts in raising educational standards at the school, aided by her leadership team, Governors and students."*

Ian Roberts, Head of Education for Wrexham Council, said: *"This is excellent news and testament to dedication and commitment of the whole school community at Ysgol Rhiwabon. The findings within the Estyn report are very encouraging and I'm confident that the school can go to strength to strength from here."*

Year 9 Students Invited to Girls Allowed Event!

On Thursday 25th January, nine Year 9 students were invited to an IT Girls Allowed event, at Barclays Technology Centre in Knutsford. The focus of the day was to showcase the types of exciting careers available within Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. 130 girls attended, from 10 schools across the region.



The first session the girls faced was an innovation workshop, where they were asked to design the future. They could design an app or a device that they'd like to see in the future. They all came up with some fantastic ideas, ranging from remote controlled lawn mowers, to an eye mask you could wear when you slept that allowed you to select your dreams. Jessica Beni (9EMT) was shortlisted and had to give a presentation to the whole group about her self-cleaning rabbit hutch that was powered by poo power. Jessica enjoyed the challenge and was placed as a runner up.

It was a fantastic day enjoyed by both the girls and the staff.

Hope to see you next year Barclays!

We are School of The Week on the PTI Website



We are delighted to announce that Ysgol Rhiwabon is being featured on the PTI (Prince's Teaching Institute) website as the 'School of the week'.

To take a look please use the following link:
princes-ti.org.uk

Visit to Berlin



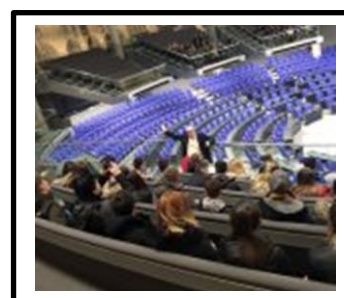
Year 10 to 13 students recently visited Berlin to enhance subject knowledge for the History examinations this summer.

It was extremely valuable to see the level of questioning our students used with each other when looking around the exhibits at the former HQ of the SS, SD and Gestapo, which is now the Topography of Terror Museum, and also at the site of the Wannsee Conference. Our students also visited Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp and here they saw some of the awful conditions that the prisoners had to suffer at the Nazi work camp.

We enjoyed a tour of the Berlin Olympic Stadium, old and new and were able to see some examples of post-war de-Nazification. Finally we had a guided tour of the Bundestag formally known as the Reichstag where we learnt about German politics and the modernisation of the German parliament building.



Visit to Berlin Stadium



Visit to Bundestag

Year 9 NEST Competition Update



In December we reported how Year 9 students had enjoyed taking part in the competition.

The task presented to them was to design and build an energy efficient model.

The winning team from December progressed to the CRE8 Area Finals which were held in Glyndwr University on January 30th.

**Mrs Trudi Meinken,
Welsh Baccalaureate Assistant said,**

'The students had to complete a final task on financial/marketing strategies for the product, targeting maximum audiences within a strict budget, performance and forecast of sales. Students also met with the Cabinet Secretary Leslie Griffiths, where they were asked about their product and its functions. The overall day was excellent and we had a terrific time'.



The team with their designs:
Owen Jones, Molly Harrison, Kayley Davies,
Ruby Evans, Keelan Williams, Kaitlyn Povah



Year 12 Geography Group Quiz Supremos!



Year 12 Geography Group Students

Year 12 Geography group recently attended an enrichment day run by Aberystwyth University.

The lectures covered - rural places: continuity and change, urbanization: managing and adapting to change, causes and impacts of climate change.

The day ended up with a geography quiz against roughly 100 other A-level students....

Ysgol Rhiwabon won!!!!

Amy Wins Attendance Award!

Amy Burton, Year 8, has won this year's attendance award – a bicycle!



Other students who achieved 95% plus attendance throughout the year were also rewarded with chocolate oranges. The awards were presented by Mr Forman, Assistant Headteacher at Attendance Prize Giving on the last day of term.



Christmas 2017 Update



Christmas Carol Concert.... This was held in St. Mary's Church, Ruabon on Thursday December 21st. The students and staff of Ysgol Rhiwabon performed their annual Christmas Carol Concert for the local community, parents and grandparents.

The church was full as the Reverend Kate Tiltman made her opening address to the congregation welcoming everyone to the local church at this special time of year.

Headteacher, Mrs Ferron-Evans said in her address before reading a poem:

'I have always been proud of Ysgol Rhiwabon and its local community and never more so than when we can show the vast talent that our young people have. They have undertaken three major concerts in the last few weeks and have worked tirelessly to ensure that their performances are of the highest calibre. I would also like to thank the local community and our primary colleagues for showing their loyalty to the school and it is with great pride that I look forward to the future at Ysgol Rhiwabon'.

Christmas Fair... This was held on 14th December to support the Hope House Children's Hospice. Students, working in small groups, developed a business idea that would create items that could be used at a Christmas Fair to generate income.

**Welsh Baccalaureate Leader,
Miss Bourhill said:**

'The students have put a tremendous amount of time and energy into this project and it paid dividends on the evening with the wide range of ideas on show. I am very pleased with the enthusiasm that has been shown and would like to thank all staff and students who were involved'.



Carol Concert



Christmas Fair

Ysgol Rhiwabon proud to host the 1251 AIR CADETS - RUABON



We were proud to host the annual presentation and passing out parade of the 1251 Air Cadets, Ruabon.

The ceremony took place in our school hall on Thursday 21st February.



Congratulations to Year 10 student Megan Wright!



Megan Wright of tutor group 10DC S was appointed the Lord Lieutenant Cadet Sergeant for 2018.



PE News.....



Mr Tonks, PE teacher took three Ysgol Rhiwabon teams to represent the Wrexham area in a variety of running events. All teams performed excellently and made an outstanding achievement for the school, performing to the best of their ability in all events. Well done!

Go4SET Airbus STEM Launch Event



A team of eight Year 8 Girls attended the **Go4SET STEM** launch event at Airbus, Broughton on Wednesday 14th March. This girls only event is focused on inspiring students towards STEM related careers by linking education and industry in real life situations using hands on learning and skills development.

The launch event, attended by a number of schools from Wrexham and Flintshire, involved an introduction to EDT, Go4SET and Industrial Cadets, a team building activity where students, with limited resources, had to design and build the tallest helipad in a limited amount of time, a seminar on report writing and project management and finally a team bonding and planning session.

This was the beginning of a 10 weeks project, where the team of 8 Ysgol Rhiwabon students, supported by staff and weekly visits from mentors allocated from professionals at Airbus, will be designing a new eco-friendly factory which uses new, sustainable and environmentally friendly ways to create the energy it need to run. By the end of the project the Ysgol Rhiwabon team will have written a professionally written report, delivered a presentation to a panel of assessors and created an exhibition stand to demonstrate the project visually due to take place back at Airbus on 13th June on the Celebration Assessment Day.

Year 11 Mock Interviews

Our Year 11 Mock Interviews were held in the school hall during the morning of Friday 16 March.

We would like to express our gratitude for the support provided by Careers Wales, many local employers, and our own school Governors.



Mr Elliot Jones,
DTCC, Wrexham
interviewing
Megan Jackson (11JGH)



Mr Keith Benning,
Chair of Governors interviewing
Year 11 student, Corey Johnson

Theatre Group - Upcoming Events....

Shrek

Wednesday 13 June 2018
The Empire Theatre, Liverpool

Dr Dolittle

Wednesday 12 December 2018
The Lowry Theatre, Salford

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

Ysgol Rhiwabon Awarded Top Food Hygiene Rating!



Ysgol Rhiwabon is pleased to have a food hygiene rating of 5 and "very good". Well done to Mr Mark Davies (Cook) and his staff for this achievement!

YSGOL RHIWABON HOT OFF THE PRESS NEWS!

Peppa Pig Found in Ysgol Rhiwabon!



Peppa was found lying in a muddy puddle outside Ysgol Rhiwabon one cold day at the end of February by a member of staff and handed into the school office for safe keeping.

If you know of anyone who has lost Peppa please contact the school office on 01978 822392 but until then the office staff will keep Peppa safe and warm until she is re-united with her owner.

Ysgol Rhiwabon does Sport Relief



The PE department are running lots of activities during the last week of the Spring Term for Sport Relief. Activities will take place during lunchtimes, and after school. They will include penalty shoot-outs, badminton, netball, tug-of-war, and much more. See our Summer Newsletter for details of money raised and photos of events.....



SPRING FAYRE

SATURDAY

24TH MARCH

Craft Stalls

RUABON

St Mary's Church

VILLAGE HALL

Wales Air Ambulance

Bunny Hunt Tickets

Games and Prizes

Refreshments

Fun For All

The Family



FREE ENTRY



Friends Of Ruabon

Easter Egg Bunny Hunt

Saturday March 31st at 10.30 a.m.

Winners draw 12 noon

Ruabon Park Gates

(Opposite St Mary's School behind the gates on Park Street)

All ages welcome!

Join us for fun in the park

Find all the Bunnies for the prize draw

But keep a lookout for lots of little Easter Eggs



Everyone's a winner

£2.50 per entrant when pre-booked at

Spring Fayre 24th March @ Ruabon Village Hall

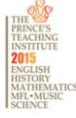
£3.50 per entrant on the day



For more information e-mail info@friendsofruabon.co.uk

~Useful Information~

Follow Ysgol Rhiwabon Events
at



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

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.

Our School Values

At Ysgol Rhiwabon everyone has:

The right to learn
The right to be respected
The right to be safe

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

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, there will be a charge of £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

Uniform may be purchased from RAM Leisure in the following ways:

1. **On Line Ordering**
www.ourschoolwear.co.uk
2. **Telephone/Fax Order**
Telephone: 01978 360360
Fax: 01978 313240
3. **Personal visit to RAM Leisure Shop**
RAM Leisure & Workwear Ltd
Trinity House, Unit 31, Whitegate
Industrial Complex, Wrexham
LL13 8UG