



YSGOL RHIWABON
SINCE 1575

YSGOL RHIWABON CHRISTMAS 2019



Headteacher
Mrs. M. Ferron-Evans

Neges y Pennaeth Headteacher's Message Nadolig 2019 Christmas 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter 2019. This has been an extremely busy and successful year for Ysgol Rhiwabon, as we have continued to develop in so many ways, something which we can all be proud of.

The year began with confirmation that our rapid school improvement placed us in the Yellow band of the Welsh Government Categorisation. This recognised all our hard work and achievements and our ability to continue school improvement in the future. Further evidence of this was shown through the students' GCSE results in the summer where we celebrated our best results ever in key areas. This was thanks to the commitment of students and staff and with support from our families and the local community.

Our new Year 7 intake contributes to a significant rise in school numbers and this is set to be repeated in 2020.

In addition, the local authority has invested in the school's future through major projects and new resources as you will have seen throughout the year.

Christmas is a time to celebrate and appreciate all that we have. For this reason we admire the way Ysgol Rhiwabon students and staff continue to think of those less fortunate than ourselves. We continue to plan a range of activities which help us to make a significant donation to Hope House at Christmas Time. Our charity work this year includes a number of concerts and projects to raise money for those in need. The school will be raising funds for the hospice through its annual musical event in the Methodist Chapel on 12th December and the Christmas Fair on the last day of term.

In the last weeks of the Autumn Term, as always, there is a packed calendar full of Christmas related celebrations including visits to local homes, Community Carols and Mince Pies, School Christmas Dinner, Christmas Jumper Day and our grand finale the School Christmas Concert in St Mary's Church on Thursday, 19th December. We hope many of you will be able to attend such a special concert to enjoy the Christmas spirit with us.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the School's place at the heart of the local community and to thank you on behalf of our Governors, staff and students for all the support we have received throughout 2019. We wish you a peaceful and happy family Christmas and we look forward to working together for even greater success in 2020.

Nadolig Llawen
Diolch yn fawr.

M Ferron-Evans
Headteacher



Ysgol Rhiwabon closes
Friday 20 December 2019
and re-opens
Tuesday 7 January 2020

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.

2020 SPRING TERM DATES

Monday 6 January 2020

Training Day

Tuesday 7 January 2020

School re-opens

Friday 14 February 2020

School closes

Monday 24 February 2020

School re-opens

Friday 3 April 2020

School closes

Monday 20 April 2020

Training Day

Tuesday 21 April 2020

School re-opens

Ysgol Rhiwabon's Open Evening



Our main hall full to overflowing!

It was standing room only at our Open Evening on Thursday 20 September! This special event in our calendar allows families the opportunity to meet staff, students, and governors, and to judge first-hand the excellence of the school. The high level of interest in the school, and all its achievements, is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, governors and students, who are rightly very proud of their school.

We work very closely with the local primary schools to provide excellent transition and induction for Year 6 students. A key highlight of the evening had to be the enthusiastic speeches delivered by four new Year 7 students. All the parents commented on the enthusiasm of the student volunteers, who took great pride in showcasing their work. Our Headteacher, Mrs Ferron-Evans, gave a presentation at the start of the evening. As a former student of the school herself, Mrs Ferron-Evans was keen to emphasise the importance of tradition, hard work and community links in ensuring every young person achieves the very best they can. She discussed all the exciting initiatives in the school, which have contributed to the school's success. Emphasis was also placed on the future, and the opportunities Ysgol Rhiwabon has to offer, both in the school, and its local community.

Mrs Ferron-Evans said:

"I am really pleased with how our Open Evening went. The level of interest shown in our school has been fantastic and I now look forward to meeting our new intake again. The school website reflects the historic links we have to the area and I've used this to show our strong community focus and how successful our students have been over time. I was delighted to be able to speak to so many parents, grandparents and friends of the school, face to face during the evening; it was a pleasure, and I would like to thank everyone for their extremely positive comments about the school, and in particular about our students".

Year 11 Mock Interviews

Mock Interviews were held at Ysgol Rhiwabon on October 18th, 2019, for all students in Year 11.

The event was facilitated by Careers Wales who had organised for over 16 different companies to be present on the day to undertake mock interviews.



Year 11 had completed their individual Curriculum Vitae and were prepared to answer searching questions on their current and future goals.



Mrs Ferron-Evans, Headteacher, said,

'The feedback received from all employers present was wonderful and I am so proud of the students today in how they looked and conducted themselves'

Comments received from members of the local business community included;

'These were the best examples of CVs I have seen from any school I have attended. They were clearly proofread as they were well set out, detailed, very relevant with very few mistakes'.

'Working with the young people was a pleasure and these are the employees of the future. It also enhances the reputation of young people today as they were so very capable, interesting and a delight to be with'.

SEVERE WEATHER

In the event of adverse weather conditions please check the following for information:

Wrexham Council – School Status

www.wrexham.gov.uk/english/education/school_status.cfm

Ysgol Rhiwabon

www.ysgolrhiwabon.uk

Twitter

@ysgolrhiwabon

Dragons Lair

There were some truly impressive presentations from our Year 10 students as part of their Skills Challenge Dragons Lair Programme which took place on Wednesday 20th November 2019.



Small Business Owners from the local area came into school to listen to various group presentations. Each group of Year 10 students presented a business pitch, hoping to secure funding from the 'Dragons' to purchase items to run their stalls at the School Christmas Fair. This skills activity helps to raise money for Hope House Hospice.



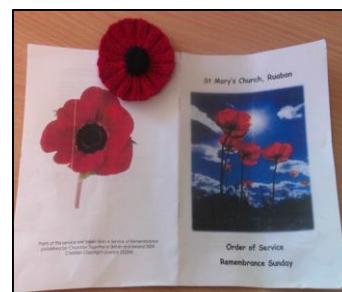
Fundraising thanks

We have received an extremely kind donation of £100 from Friends of Fron Thai Chi Group towards our school Minibus fund. This was organised by Mrs Davies who has also raised £86 by selling her delicious cakes at St Mary's Church School Christmas Fair and homemade chutney at



Remembrance Services

On Sunday November 10th, Lucy Jones, Charlie Tilston & Mrs Ferron-Evans laid a wreath at St Mary's Church, Ruabon as part of the Remembrance Day ceremony. It was a tremendous turnout in the village and we are very proud to be part of the community.



Mrs Wright Davies and our Head Girl and Head Boy, Ruby Evans and Rhys Jones attended the Cefn Mawr Remembrance Ceremony.



Students and staff raised **£62.01** from the sale of Poppies for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Well done to everyone who contributed to this worthy cause.

S4C CYW

The S4C CYW Welsh Language Christmas Show came to Ysgol Rhiwabon on Thursday 12th December. The actors were fantastic throughout their three performances and the show was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal & Cake sale



As part of our Christmas Shoebox Appeal, Year 11 students and Mrs Savva held a cake sale to raise funds to post all shoe boxes created by students from across all year groups. Over 35 shoe boxes were created and posted to be delivered to children all over the world who would otherwise receive no gifts this Christmas.

Hope House Carol Concert



Ysgol Rhiwabon Students along with Friends of Hope House, took part in 'An Evening of Song and Cheer' at The Methodist Chapel on Thursday 12th December. This event helped to raise £188. Students performed carols and songs and a great time was had by all.

Ysgol Rhiwabon Carol Service



Our annual Carol Service will be held on Thursday December 19th at 7.00 pm in St Mary's Shared Parish Church, Ruabon.

All Welcome

Christmas Fair

Our annual school Christmas Fair will be held for students on Friday 20th December in the Upper School Gym.

Dot to Dot Cafe, Wrexham have very generously donated Afternoon Tea for Two and a £5 gift voucher for our Christmas raffle. This event is open to the public from 10am - 11am. All welcome. All proceeds will go to Hope House.

Christmas Community Carol & Mince Pies Morning

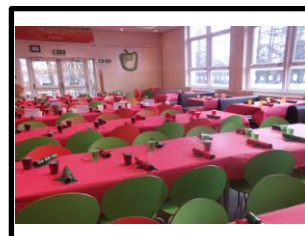


Ysgol Rhiwabon continued its seasonal programme on December 13th with a Carols and Mince Pies Concert for all members of the local community. An overflowing Library saw the students of Ysgol Rhiwabon, under the musical production of Mrs Sandra Tarver, provide a wonderful selection of Christmas entertainment. There were performances from over 25 students ranging from solo singing to choral recitation.

Mrs Melanie Ferron-Evans, Headteacher, in her closing 'Thank You Address', said:

'We are delighted to welcome so many of our members of our local community to this important occasion. It allows us to thank you for all your support during the year and to showcase the wonderful talents, of so many of our students led by Mrs S Tarver.'

Ysgol Rhiwabon Student & Staff Christmas Lunch



Christmas Lunch was served to Students and Staff on Tuesday 12th December in the school Dining Hall. The students and staff all thank Mark Davies, Head Cook, and his team for all their hard work on that day (and every day) in preparing the lunch.

More photographs available on our school website

PE NEWS



Welsh Schools Youth Cup

Well done to the Year 10 Team who beat Ysgol Glan Clwyd on Thursday 17th October 5-1, to progress to the next round of the Welsh Schools Youth Cup. The match was played at 'The Rock', the home of Cefn Druids AFC, who support the school in the local community.

Fixtures

Students have been involved in lots of fixtures this term including netball, football, rugby and table tennis. We have played matches against Penley, Morgan Llwyd, Grango, St Josephs and Clwydog where all students played to a very high standard and made the school proud.

Cross Country

Congratulations to all the students who ran in our annual cross country competition. The top ten finishes then went on to represent the school in the Wrexham Area Cross Country Championships in Morgan Llwyd.

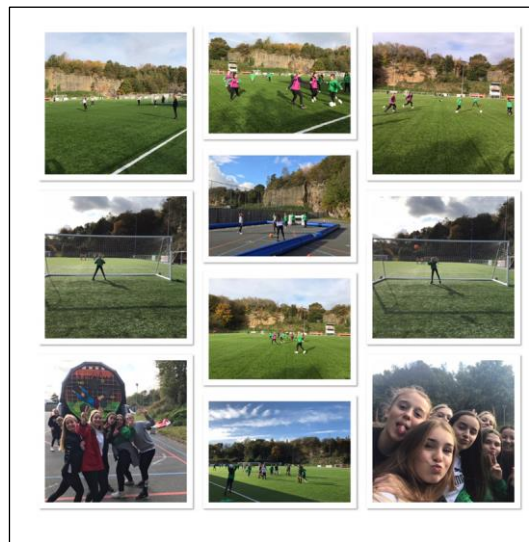
A special congratulations to **Lucy Jones and Ellis Brocklesby** who both finished 4th and will now go onto represent Wrexham in the North East Wales Championships

Good luck from us all!



Girls Football

Year 9 and 10 girls were involved in a recent Girl's Football Festival at The Rock. This was organised by Active Wrexham in the hope of encouraging more girls to participate in the sport. A fantastic day was had by all with some excellent performances and a lot of fun!



Sports Leaders

Our Sports Leaders have been very busy this term. They have been responsible for developing sport and extra-curricular activities within school, however, alongside this they have assisted in the running of Primary School Football and Rugby tournaments and gained a Rugby leadership qualification.

Extra-curricular Timetable

Please see our current extra-curricular timetable and ask PE staff for more information.

Ysgol Rhiwabon – 5x60 Winter 2019				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning – Time – 7:30 – 8:45				
	Breakfast Club Sports Hall Liam Years 7 + 8			Breakfast Club Sports Hall Liam All Years
Lunch Time session 13:10 – 13:35				
Sports Leaders Session Sports Hall Liam All years	Dodgeball Liam Jones Sports Hall Year 7, 8 + 9 All years	Sports Leaders Session Sports Hall Liam All years	Year 10/11 Sports Session Liam Sports Hall All years	Basketball Sports Hall Liam Years 7 + 8
After School Sessions 15:05 – 16:05				
Girls Only Football Training Jayson Starkey All years		School Training PE Staff Varied Venues	School Training PE Staff Varied Venues	Trampolining All years Mr Tonks

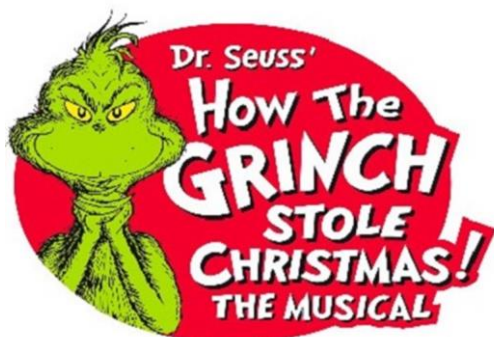
**Next time you think of booking a holiday...
Please think Minibus Appeal!**



Did you know you could raise over £50 for Ysgol Rhiwabon when you book your family holiday this year? Use @easyuk to book flights, hotels and travel extras with 250+ travel operators & you'll raise BIG donations for us at no additional cost to you.

**You can find more information on our
School website:
ysgolrhiwabon.co.uk**

**Visit to the theatre
'The Grinch'**



On 11th December a group of students and staff went to watch the production of 'The Grinch' in the Lowry Theatre, Manchester. Everyone agreed that they had an amazing time!

Our next theatre show is

**'We Will Rock You'
Tuesday 31 March 2020**

Please contact the school office
for further details.....

**Helping to Save Lives
at Ysgol Rhiwabon**

In partnership with the Welsh Governments "Save a life Cymru" campaign, Ysgol Rhiwabon have secured an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Together with an external cabinet, this will form part of the PADS strategy to improve out of hospital cardiac arrest in Wales. The school will support the wider community by placing the cabinet in an area that is accessible to the wider community 24 hours a day all year round.



To this end we have located the cabinet and AED to the rear of the school by the left hand side of the main sports centre entrance doors. It is available 24 hours a day / 365 days a year to all the community.

We have registered the AED on the Welsh Ambulance Command and Control database and it is live.

**Just a Reminder for
Year 9 Parents**



**Year 9 Options Evening
Thursday 16th January 2020**

**Year 9 Parents Evening
Thursday 23rd January 2020
Further details to follow**