

# RUMBON NEWS LETTER 489

The Wrexham Community Choir Concert on 23<sup>rd</sup> is going to be amazing.



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## **The First Minister Mark Drayford says the UK Government should 'get on' with banning the American bully XL dogs**

The UK Government should "get on" with banning American bully XL dogs "as fast possible", First Minister Mark Drakeford has said. After the latest attack over the weekend.

Home Secretary Suella Braverman has called for the breed to be banned.

Footage was posted of an 11-year-old girl being attacked in Birmingham, along with the two men who stepped in to help her. All three of them were treated in hospital. Ms Braverman said the breed was a particular danger to children.

Ms Braverman posted on X: "This is appalling. The American XL bully is a clear and lethal danger to our communities, particularly to children. We can't go on like this. I have commissioned urgent advice on banning them."

### **American Bully XL dogs - should they be banned?**



The mother of 10-year-old Jack Lis from Caerphilly, who was killed by an American XL bully, has slammed the UK Government for not acting sooner. She said: "Where were you when other innocent people were killed? Where were you when I was at Parliament asking for change? "NOWHERE"

Speaking at a press conference today, First Minister urged the UK Government to act quickly on the non-devolved matter. Joining calls for the breed to be banned, the First Minister said: "I think the UK Government should get on with it, and as fast as possible".

"Some people here will remember that a 10-year-old child died in Caerphilly back in 2021. I attended the Police Federation National Bravery awards in London at the start of the recess, and the team of police officers who attended that absolutely awful incident were nominated for a national bravery award and I was fortunate enough to

be able to talk with them about what they had witnessed that night and how they had helped others to deal with it.

"You cannot imagine how awful that must have been. We wrote to the UK government then, urging them to strengthen protections in law against what we had seen. The Dangerous Dogs Act of 1991 is not devolved. It's in the hands of the UK Government, I think it should have acted already."

In North Wales two escaped American XLs savaged a flock of pregnant sheep before being shot dead. A farmer turned his gun on the escaped animals after [they killed 22 pregnant sheep and injured another 48](#) on a farm near Wrexham.

However it is understood a ban may not be straightforward, as the dog is not recognised as a specific breed by the Royal Kennel Club.

As it stands there are four banned dog breeds in the UK – “The Pit Bull Terrier”, “Japanese Tosa”, “Dogo Argentino” and “Fila Brasileiro”.

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## [Your chance to host a Macmillan Coffee Morning.](#)

Sign up to host a Macmillan Coffee Morning and help us do whatever it takes to help people living with cancer.

Get together with friends, with family, or anyone you fancy, to share bakes, cakes and money for a great cause. laughs, and raise cause.



## [Please Help People Living With Cancer](#)

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### Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in education establishments in Wales

Following new information over the weekend, all 22 local authorities in Wales are assessing RAAC in education buildings.

First published: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Last updated: 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Two schools on Anglesey have been identified as having RAAC,

Ysgol David Hughes and Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi:

There are no immediate risks or concerns. Both schools will now temporarily close so that further safety inspections can be carried out and that alternative planning can take place.

We are undertaking further work to verify the position across Wales and a review of the latest information held by local authorities is underway. We expect to have the results of that within a week.

**The Minister for Education and Welsh Language, Jeremy Miles** said: "Our main concern is the safety of pupils and staff.

Since we became aware of these developments, we have been working urgently with Local Authorities and WLGA to make sure pupils and staff can go back to school safely."

Some of the new evidence regarding the usage of RAAC was provided to Welsh Government.

This was immediately shared with Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn to support them in their decision making process.

"We're making these decisions together to keep staff and pupils safe. Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn and the schools are doing everything they can to minimise the impact on pupils. If any of this action affects you, you will hear directly from your school."

Councillor Ian Roberts (Flintshire), WLGA Education Spokesperson said: "The WLGA continues to work closely and in regular dialogue with the Welsh Government and local authorities on this issue, teachers, staff, and pupils' safety is our paramount priority as we seek to establish the full position across Wales".

Anglesey Council Leader, Cllr Llinos Medi said:

"This is an evolving and emerging national issue. We appreciate this will be disappointing for all staff and pupils.

However, their safety is our main priority. We are putting plans in place for Ysgol David Hughes and Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi to minimise any disruption to children's education.

We are working closely with the Headteachers and staff at the affected schools.

The schools will communicate further updates with parents/guardians and young people. Again, our main priority is to ensure the safety of all our staff and young people.

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## **Ruabon's last Game of Bowls for this Season**

### **Oswestry League Division 2**

**Ruabon A. 8 v. Ellesmere A. 2**

**Final league position: 6<sup>th</sup>**

Thank you to Brian Davies for the information above



**Cut off dates for Funded Early Education 2024**

January intake - Children who have their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday on or before - 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

January intake - Online opens 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 and closes 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

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April intake - Children who have their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday on or before 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

April intake - Online opens 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and closes 29<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

## Participant Recruitment for Early Years Policies in a Post-Pandemic Wales:

### Mixed Methods Study Stage 3

Miller Research have been commissioned by Welsh Government to conduct research into the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on families and young people across Wales.

We have been asked to help recruit participants for the third stage of their study and are hoping that you/your stakeholders may be willing to take part.

In this third stage, Miller Research would like to send out a survey to a range of professionals who work with young children aged 0-7 and their families in Wales –

for example: health visitors, nursery nurses, speech and language therapists, staff in childcare settings, etc.

The aim of this research is to gather the views of as many practitioners as possible with “on the ground” experience of the early years system in Wales.

**The document below explains more about the research and how to contact Miller Research if you/your stakeholders are interested in taking part.**

Information Pack - Early Years Practitioner Survey - Background  
Miller Research has been commissioned by the Welsh Government to identify what has worked well in terms of supporting babies, children and young people between the ages of 0 and 7, as well as their families, throughout the pandemic, aiming to understand how early years policies and programmes in Wales continue or adapt to meet the needs of children and their families when looking forward to a post-pandemic future.

#### Why are you being contacted?

In this stage of the research, we are seeking to gather the views of professionals with “on the ground” experience of the Welsh early years system via an online survey. This survey builds on recent focus groups we have carried out with early years professionals as part of the same research project. As part of the survey, we are looking to test some of

the ideas suggested by practitioners in the focus groups. Please note, that the statements posed in some of the questions in the survey are based on qualitative feedback from a small sample (<100) of early years practitioners and reflect neither the views or policy intentions of Welsh Government nor the views of Miller Research.

Given your experience, we would like to ask about specific impacts of the pandemic on young children and their families and your views on the effectiveness of Welsh policies, programmes, and interventions in mitigating these impacts and the relevance of these policies and programmes going forward.

The link to the survey is here:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/EMFWTG/>

How will your survey contributions be used?

Your contribution will be anonymised through the analysis process, and you can find out more about how your data will be processed in the privacy notices attached.

Thank you for participating in this research.

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## Online Safety Bill

The UK Government have published details of the Online Safety Bill. The Online Safety Bill is a new set of laws to protect children and adults online. It will make social media companies more responsible for their users' safety on their platforms.

Details include:

- A guide to the Online Safety Bill
- How the online safety bill will protect children
- How the online safety bill will protect adults
- Types of content that will be tackled
- Underage children will be kept off social media platforms
- Adults will have more control over the content they see
- The Bill will tackle repeat offenders
- How the Bill will be enforced
- How these UK laws impact international companies
- The next steps for the Bill

For further information please select the following link:

A guide to the Online Safety Bill: - GOV.UK [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Ken Skates MS | Clwyd South

13/09/23

*for immediate publication*



## **UK Government should pay for RAAC repairs in Wales, says Ken Skates MS**

**A Member of the Senedd says the UK Government should be footing the bill for repairs to Welsh buildings affected by at-risk RAAC.**

The use of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete in Welsh schools and other public buildings was signed off by UK Ministers before the Welsh Parliament was created in 1999.

So far, RAAC has only been identified in two Welsh schools, with further checks ongoing. The Welsh Government expects to have a full picture of what remedial work is required by Friday.

Mr Skates, MS for Clwyd South, says Welsh Ministers shouldn't have to find money for repairs for 'mistakes' made by their Westminster counterparts.

During First Minister's Questions yesterday (Tuesday) he asked Mark Drakeford for a statement on RAAC in Welsh buildings, and was told: "Officials are currently undertaking a comprehensive review of all buildings on the Welsh Government estate, as well as the wider public domain, to establish whether RAAC is present or likely to be present. Plans are being developed to remediate risk where necessary, and the returns received to date indicate only isolated instances of RAAC identified so far in Wales."

Mr Skates said the low number of schools identified in Wales was 'in no small part due to the huge sums of money that Welsh Labour has invested in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme'.

The ongoing Welsh Government initiative is the biggest school modernisation programme in Wales since the 1960s and more than



£20m has been spent on improving school buildings in Clwyd South alone, including Ysgol Penycae and Ysgol yr Hafod in Johnstown.

Mr Skates asked the First Minister: “Given that the issue predates devolution, and the use of RAAC in Welsh public buildings was signed off by UK Government departments, can we assume that it will be UK Government that will foot the repair bills and that it won’t fall on Welsh Government to put those mistakes right?”

Mr Drakeford told the Senedd: “It’s a very important point that Ken Skates raises.

“We ought to be confident of that because the fiscal framework and the rules that underpin the relationship between devolved governments and the UK Government on these matters is clear – that liabilities that are incurred because of decisions made prior to devolution remain the responsibility of the UK Government.

“It’s not been a responsibility that they have been willing to shoulder in more recent times. I’ve had this discussion a number of times now with UK Ministers in relation to coal tip safety, where the liabilities that we see today are the result of actions taken far before devolution ever began.

“I believe that in this case the same principle should apply in just the way that Ken Skates set out. Thankfully, so far – and the work is still ongoing, and we’re making sure that it’s done carefully and comprehensively – the impact of RAAC in public buildings in Wales is at the modest end of the spectrum.

“But, in the longer run, these buildings are not going to get any better, are they? That’s what we know about RAAC, that it is a progressive condition, and while we keep it carefully under review, more buildings in future are going to need to be attended to. And that’s why establishing that principle that the body who pays should be the body that made those decisions in the first place is the one that we will pursue in discussions with the Treasury.”

**-Ends-**

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**[Weeks of bin strikes by North Wales council workers will cause 'absolute chaos'](#)**

Weeks of industrial action by refuse workers will cause "absolute chaos" and see rubbish piling up in parts of North Wales, a local resident fears. Members of the union Unite staged a walk-out on Monday in [Gwynedd](#) and Wrexham and they will be striking in both counties until Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> September, after rejecting a below inflation pay offer from the local authorities. Action is also taking place in Cardiff. In [Wrexham](#) they are also planning a further three weeks of strike action from 25<sup>th</sup> September to 15<sup>th</sup> October. A resident of New [Broughton](#) near Wrexham said the impact of this week's action is already being felt.

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## It's gold for Wrexham at Wales in Bloom Awards



It's been a nervous wait but we've now found out how we did in Wales in Bloom and it's "Gold" for Wrexham city.

The announcement was made at this year's Wales in Bloom Awards Ceremony hosted in Denbigh.

When the judges visited Wrexham they started their route in Holt where residents made a fantastic effort to impress the judges, then onto the Industrial Estate to see the fantastic work that FCC had done around their waste site creating ponds, bee hives, installing solar panels even finding a rare orchid variety. From there they went on to Rhosnesni High School where they saw their sensory garden and newly built allotment before finishing in the City centre.

As well as Holt being included in the City Category Holt itself were awarded the top Gold Award in the Large Village category in the 2023 Wales in Bloom competition. Bob Campbell from the Holt Community Gardens said that it had been a fantastic community effort in which our whole village can be proud of.

They also entered other categories in the It's your Neighbourhood scheme: The Cross – Level 4, thriving, Village Entrance and Copse – Level 5, Outstanding, Allotments – Level 5, Outstanding and they were also awarded The National Certificate of Distinction.

Along with other categories there were also 6 Wales in Bloom Community Champion Certificates awarded one of which was given to Kevin Whitehead of Rhosnesni High School, judges were impressed with the Sensory Garden at Rhosnesni High School and said it was an outstanding highlight during the Wrexham judging tour this summer. Judges stated that Kevin had played an exceptional role in both inspiring, and supporting the pupils, with the design and delivery of this remarkable garden.

### **“Another successful year for Wales in Bloom”**

In closing, Peter Barton Price, Chair of Wales in Bloom said, ‘2023 has been another successful year for Wales in Bloom with us seeing even more entries and ever increasing standards.

“Our judges and Assessors have certainly been kept busy this year traveling the length and breadth of Wales, meeting with a diverse range of people and amazing groups throughout their visits. You are all to be congratulated in the success and triumphs you have achieved and continue to deliver.

Cllr Hugh Jones, Lead Member for Environment, said, “I would like to thank the team of Council staff that worked hard to ensure the floral displays looked their best and that the City centre was clean and tidy.

“We would also like to thank Holt Community Gardeners, Rhosnesni High School, FCC and the Wrexham Litter Pickers for all of their hard work.”

Cllr Nigel Williams, Lead Member for Economy and Regeneration, said, The city looked ablaze with colour and the planting schemes have had a very positive impact making it a great experience for visitors shopping, socialising or coming to the many city centre events that are held during the summer months. It has also made the city a more bright and welcoming experience to our many tourists who visit from the UK and across the world.

My personal thanks go out to everyone involved for their achievements who have worked tirelessly on this resulting in a very worthy Gold award

and best overall in category from the wales in bloom judges who were very complimentary towards our work undertaken.

You might also like to read [Can you spare 10 minutes? Help us develop health and social care hubs in Wrexham.](#)

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A reminder that the UK Space Agency's "Space for Everyone" rocket tour lands in Wrexham, at Queens Square, 14th September – 18th September. You can support by promoting the event and encouraging students to attend over the weekend. Follow the link for additional information -> <https://spaceperson.co.uk/rocket-tour/>

The event is a STEAM Outreach Programme with a mission to inspire the next generation to pursue careers in the UK space industry, particularly those from under-represented groups.



The event is free entry and open to anyone and everyone. No tickets required, just turn up! Event features include:

- 🚀 A colossal 72 ft replica of the Launcher One rocket
- 🚀 Virtual reality experiences
- 🚀 Careers advice from local space professionals
- 🚀 Space-related activities

Opening Event – There is an awesome opening event planned for Wrexham, 10am Thursday 14th September, with local government, media, and businesses in attendance. This would be a great experience to be a part of!

**Directions By Foot:** From Town Centre, make sure you travel up Queens Street instead of Hope Street, which should be the northernmost pedestrian road from the centre of town.

This will bring you straight out to Queens Square which is opposite Cafe Nero.

More information: [Space for Everyone – Event Toolkit](#)

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# TEST IT TUESDAY

Make sure you test your smoke alarm every week.

If you don't have an alarm, or your alarm doesn't work - contact us



Call

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Text

**07507303678**

# Llyfrgell Rhiwabon



## Library

**Be sy 'mlaen! What's on!**

### Dydd Llun/Mondays

Stori a Chaân/Story and Rhyme 1.15

Clwb Teulu Lego/ Family Lego 3.30 - 4.30

**Open – Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12 - 5, Thursday 9 – 1.15**



The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer school holidays.

You can sign up at your local library, then all you have to do is read six library books of your choice over three visits to complete 'The Challenge'.

There are exclusive rewards to collect along the way, and it's FREE to take part! You can also keep track of your reading by visiting the Summer Reading Challenge website [www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk) where you can find new books to read, take part in competitions and mini challenges, and play games. Don't delay – join today!

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## Wrexham Library



[Wireless Printing at our Libraries](#)

Wrexham Libraries now offer a print from anywhere service. You can print .pdf files and Microsoft Office files from anywhere and collect at your local library. You need a current and valid library card and pin to use this service. If you do not have a membership card please join online at [www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries) . To print documents simply visit <https://wrexham.docprint.uk/> and follow the instruction on the screen. You will have 48 hours to collect your prints from your chosen library. The printing fees are 20p per A4 page in black and white and 40p per A4 page in colour.

\*Please note: we cannot print any other size through this system.

### Friendship Groups

Friendship Groups are a great way to prevent isolation and loneliness and offer you a chance to find companionship, too. Friends can also increase your sense of belonging and purpose, boost your happiness and reduce your stress. Many of our libraries hold Friendship Groups and each library offers a different activity or arrangement every week. So if you feel you need company or just want to make new friends why not come and join one of our groups. You will find them at Brynteg, Coedpoeth, Llay, Rhos and Wrexham Libraries. Please contact them directly for more information. Contact detail can be found [www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries)

### After School Lego Clubs



### **BorrowBox**

**Please note, from the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 new loan periods will apply to everything which you borrow from BorrowBox. You will still have access to all of the wonderful eBooks and eAudio Books which are available but you will only be able to borrow them for two weeks from the 18<sup>th</sup> September. If you haven't finished with the books then please can you make sure you renew them? This is a hugely popular service and BorrowBox want to make sure as many people as possible can access their stock. To borrow e-book/e-audio books via this service please visit [www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries) and follow the online services link.**

### Rugby World Cup at Coedpoeth Library

We're excited about the Rugby World Cup and to show our support for Wales and the home nations we have a promotion of books at



Coedpoeth library for you to borrow. There are books by Welsh players such as Jamie Roberts, Warren Gatland, Lee Byrne, Alun Wyn Jones as well as books by other international players such as Rob Burrow and Brian O'Driscoll. Included in the collection are narrative books on the game of rugby too, everything under one roof! Why not visit the library to see what's on offer? Are you looking for something for your children to do after school? If you've ever played with Lego, you know how much fun it can be to build and create. But did you know that Lego can also be an excellent tool for early childhood learning? With its endless possibilities for creativity and problem-solving, Lego is a great source of fun and learning. All of our libraries offer after school Lego Clubs, please contact your local \*

library for more details. Contact details can be found on

[www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/libraries)

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# RECRUITMENT EVENT

## HOSPITALITY - LEISURE - TOURISM



Wrexham Communities for Work Plus in partnership with DWP & Wrexham County Borough Councils Regeneration Department are holding a sector specific recruitment event in **Ty Pawb** on **Monday 25th September** between **10am - 2pm**. This event will host various employers from across Wrexham City who currently have some exciting career opportunities within the local Hospitality, Leisure & Recruitment sectors.

All welcome, please bring along copies of your CV if you have one.

Keep a look out on our social media for more news & information about this event.



If you are currently recruiting in this sector and would like to book a FREE stand please contact Chloe Farr on - 07824 320529 or [chloe.farr@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:chloe.farr@wrexham.gov.uk)

Not able to attend? You can send details of vacancies and we will advertise them on our job board for you



# Voices for Peace



## A WORLD PEACE DAY SPECTACLE

featuring George Borowski, Igloo Hearts  
and The Wrexham Community Choir

23.09.23 / 7:30pm  
**ST GILES CHURCH, WREXHAM**

Tickets £15 or what you can afford

[www.wegotickets.com/event/588635](http://www.wegotickets.com/event/588635) or in person from Howell, Morris & Cole Accountants

Email [music@igloohearts.com](mailto:music@igloohearts.com) for more info

3 - 14 YEARS  
(18  
ADDITIONAL  
NEEDS)

# Jumping Jack's OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS

After School Club:  
Mon-Fri 3 till 6

Holiday Club: Mon-Fri  
8 till 6 (closed  
Christmas holidays)

CIW Registered,  
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Based in Ruabon High  
School

Always lots of fun!

Contact us → 07543455965



Tom Hughes Lloyd 9 hrs



# FREESTYLE CONNECT PROFESSIONALS NETWORK

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## SCAN TO SIGN UP



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Ispwdddi Cymru  
Sponsored by  
Welsh Government

@tom\_kaiba\_hl

Theory is when you know everything but nothing works.  
 Practice is when everything works but no one knows why.  
 In our lab, theory and practice are combined: nothing works and nobody knows why.



John Short

**10th September at 9:04 PM** .  
 Only managed to capture one bolt of lightning.



The adventures of Mr Brodie

think we must have got lost in the mist  
 Dad, I can't see any runners and I don't think that the GNR comes this way.

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A week of some surprising information.  
 Sybil (Bremner)