



Rhydygors News



Spring Term 2

25/03/16

Spring cleaning!

Happy Easter everyone!
I hope you have had a relaxing break so far. This term has been a jam packed one, full of offsite trips far and wide, and onsite MAD (Make a difference) days to clear the site and spruce up our shared areas.

I would like to thank everyone who was able to come and help us on our MAD days including Lea from The Family Foundation, Wales. Your help was much appreciated and don't worry if you weren't able to make those dates as there are definitely some more MAD days to come.

I would also like to thank Mr Rowberry who made sure that pupils received an Easter egg this year with a kind donation from Tesco.

Mr Evans has led on a successful new experience called TNT (Try something New Tuesdays) that all tutor groups have participated in. It has created great opportunities for team work to develop.

This term has also seen the launch of a short course in construction. Six Year 11 students have been developing their skills while revamping our onsite 'family house', which will be running toward the end of the Summer term.

The Summer term will also hold some key events:

- The KS4 Celebration Evening for Yr 10 and 11 (more details to follow)
- The Carmarthen River Festival Saturday 2nd July at 3pm



Miss Corcoran

- The Friends of Rhydygors Summer Fest.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Best wishes



Inside this issue:

Gwaun	2
Dee	2
Severn	3
Ogmore	3
Cothi	4
Ely	4
Usk	5

Special points of interest:

- We are developing a new community hub in the centre of school, which will be the new home for:
 - Paul Williams, our School based Youth Worker,
 - Jane Rees, our School nurse, and;
 - PC Craig Williams and PCSO Sylvia Davies-Morris, our local Police team.

Exciting projects ahead:

Lead Creative School

The Creative Arts faculty, alongside Gwaun and Ogmore, have completed their joint project. The results of the project can be seen in our school

courtyard and has been heavily influenced by the art of Cardiff based graffiti artist SPK.

Y Llwyfan

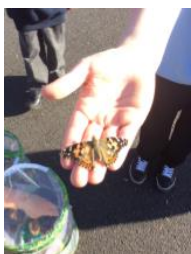
Years 7 and 8 have been working with

actors from a play developed by the Welsh National theatre and practitioners at Y Llwyfan. Pupils will be recycling an old car next term to create instruments for a soundtrack.

- The school council has been considering updated school logo ideas and increasing the range of uniform available to all pupils.
- Ysgol Rhydygors is a no smoking site and e-cigarettes are not permitted onsite.

Stop smoking Wales are working with us to design a support programme for Years 9-11 to start next term.

Gwaun



Gwaun have had great fun learning through the theme of Circus this term. They have been busy learning new circus skills and celebrated these in an in-school event that parents attended.

The class celebrated St. David's day through dressing up, reading traditional Welsh stories, learning interesting Welsh facts and new Welsh songs. They explored themed crafts and finished their day with a traditional Welsh tea.

They have been participating in the Lead creative schools project this half term, working alongside Ogmore on Wednesdays to create and experiment with a range of artistic mediums.

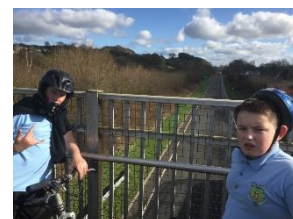
Dee

This term has been a busy time for Dee. Most of the pupils in the class competed in the Carmarthenshire Schools Under-14 football tournament which took place in Llanelli Leisure Centre. The team were unbeaten on the day and have progressed to the regional tournament where they will represent the County. A date for this has yet to be set.

Having conquered Pen-y-Fan Mountain last month, recent TNT Tuesday's have been based around cycling activities. Dee pupils cycled 12.3 miles in total on the Carmarthen cycle path, having crossed the town towards the hospital. All of the pupils enjoyed their lunch in the sunshine whilst sat in Carmarthen Museum grounds before heading back to school.

During the last week of term, the pupils of Dee also had the chance to visit Legoland in Windsor, England. Their trip was linked to the SIMs Faculty (Science, ICT & Maths) with studies carried out prior to the trip and when we come back to class after Easter.

Dee's form room (ICT) has also seen some changes recently. The overalls have been worn several times whilst painting the Green Room even greener! The ideas that have evolved over the last few weeks will see the room completely transformed after Easter when the retro gaming idea becomes a reality.



Severn



It's been a fantastic term for Severn. Firstly, we went to walk up Pen Y Fan, the highest mountain in South Wales, as part of our TNT Tuesdays visits. Nearly everyone managed to make it to the top, despite the horizontal rain and gale-force winds! We also enjoyed a reward trip visiting Llyn Y Fan Fach in the Black Mountains. We looked for the ghost of the Lady in the Lake. Last week then, we got to visit the Margam Discovery Centre as part of our PSE Day, where we got involved in lots of outdoor activities, such as making shelters in the forest and pond-dipping. The catch of the day was a pair of frogs!

Ogmore

Throughout this term our class has taken part in the Lead Creative Schools project. The project has offered a range of exciting creative learning experiences including a fantastic day out in Cardiff organised by Mat. The group looked at Street Art in our capital city and worked with graffiti artist SPK.

SPK then joined the group back at school for a number of workshop sessions. The final outcome is a fantastic work of art, which now brightens up our school courtyard gallery space. Well done Ogmore for making a difference to our school environment and for all your efforts throughout the Lead Creative School project. Project Coordinator Mrs L Morgan said, "Ogmore have led the way with this project. They are using their creative voices to add colour and energy to our school. I have thoroughly enjoyed working alongside the group and watching their determination and passion grow as their confidence develops."



Cothi



Cothi would like to welcome Britany and Kieran to the form group.



Cothi once again has had a highly productive term. Kyle has attended welded sculpture evening classes at Carmarthen Art College. Britany has created a range of exciting textile pattern designs using batik. Cameron is working on a series of colourful self portraits. Bradley has been inspirational as a mentor to our younger pupils. He supported them on their mammoth climb up Penyfan in the Brecon Beacons. Kieran has impressed the tutors with his hard work and motivation on the construction course. Luke has worked really hard this term in all areas of the curriculum. Well done to the crew and we look forward to an exciting Summer Term with new projects planned. We will keep you updated!



Ely

It's been a hectic half term for the pupils in Ely. In science, Hayley, Alex and Jordan have been working hard towards their Entry Level qualification. They have also made time to develop their practical science skills. On a personal level Hayley has shown that she can display mature and generous aspects to her character. Away from school, Alex has been busy with his Skill Start course, developing valuable engineering skills. Back at school, in his options Jordan has made significant progress towards his qualifications. Sam has shown that learning outside the classroom can offer a place for him to succeed – developing his musical interests and outdoor learning with Paddlers and ICY. I hope that Hayley, Alex, Jordan and Sam have a lovely Easter break and return refreshed and ready to try their best at Ysgol Rhydygors.

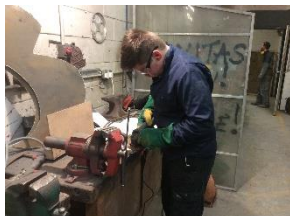


Usk



This term has been a busy one with pupils having the opportunity to visit the local colleges to see what courses are on offer in September. All pupils have recently had interviews at the colleges for subjects that they would like to pursue after leaving Rhydygors.

The Make a Difference Days have been a success with James and Haydn earning hours by power washing areas of the school site and cleaning up the green areas.



After working on an animation project with Paul Williams Haydn was nominated for an award and was successful in attaining first place. A big congratulation to Haydn. Haydn has also enjoyed taking part in a 6 week evening welding and sculpture course held in the Art college in Carmarthen.

Bethan has continued to work well with the Paddlers group and has especially enjoyed the rock climbing.



Shane has been working hard on behalf of the Key Stage 4 pupils in organising a celebration ball at the end of the summer term. He has represented the class on the School Council and has kept the group updated on issues such as uniform, raising funds and ideas to develop the school grounds.

All pupils in Usk are now focusing on their various exams and completing the necessary coursework prior to leaving year 11.

Diary dates:

Monday 11th April
27th April – 2nd May
3rd May – 6th May
13th May – 13th June
Friday 27th May
30th May – 3rd June
Monday 6th June
Wednesday 22nd June
Saturday 2nd July
11th July – 15th July
Friday 15th July
Wednesday 20th July

School INSET day
Secondary Literacy and Numeracy Tests
Primary Literacy and Numeracy Tests
KS4 Examination period
Year 11 study leave starts
May Half Term
School INSET day
Parents' Evening
Carmarthen River Festival – Rhydygors entries welcome!
Adventure week (residential visits week)
Friends of Rhydygors Summer Fest
Last day of Summer term

To be confirmed

Year 9 Option evening
KS4 Celebration evening