

MAJOR NEWS / NEWYDDION MAWR

AUTUMN TERM / TYMOR YR HYDREF

Start / Dechrau:	Wednesday 4th September 2024 / Dydd Mercher Medi 4 2024
Half Term / Hanner Tymor:	Monday 28 October 2024 – Friday 1 November 2024/ Dydd Llun Hydref 28 2024 – Dydd Gwener Tachwedd 1 2024
End / Diwedd:	Friday 20 December 2024 / Dydd Gwener Rhagfyr 20 2024

Week Beginning – Monday 14th October 2024 / *Dydd Llun Hydref 7 2024*

Week 7 / Wythnos 7

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to this week's edition of Major News.

As we approach the end of a busy half term, it is pertinent to reflect on some of the changes that have been introduced here at Llantwit Major since September. As you all know, we launched our values based system this year based around the Llantwit Ark of Ambition, Respect and Kindness. After an extensive consultation process, these have been identified as our three core school values and all stakeholders aim to uphold these values at all times. Our rewards system has also been aligned to with the values system, so pupils can achieve point for demonstrating those values in lessons and around the school.

Those of you who have children in Year 11 will undoubtedly be having conversations at home about the plan at the end of Year 11. We offer a range of academic and vocational qualifications here at Llantwit Major and obviously want to encourage as many of our learners to stay on with us as possible. As such, we will be holding a sixth form marketplace for all Year 11 students next Monday morning. Your children will be given an allocated timeslot to visit the marketplace and find out more about any subjects/ qualifications from Year 12 and 13 students who will lead all the sessions.

Please may I also remind you that next Friday is an INSET day so learners will not be in school. We very much hope that after the longest half term of the school year this provides the opportunity for pupils to relax and recharge so they may return to school after the half term break refreshed and ready for learning.

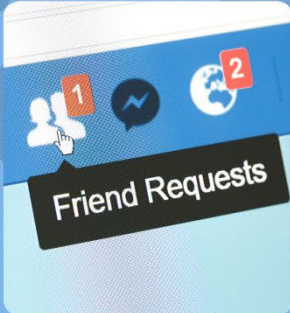
As ever, many thanks for your continued support and I wish you a restful weekend.

Mrs C L Robins
Headteacher/Pennaeth
Llantwit Major School/ Ysgol Llanilltud Fawr

Safeguarding



The whole concept of social media relies upon users having friends and/or followers. 'Friends' tend to be those with whom users will share their own personal profile. It's usually a mutual relationship with both parties able to engage and interact with everything their friends post online. 'Followers' on the other hand can typically be just one-way relationships and, dependent on the platform, only provide access to certain aspects of an individual's profile, such as a person's content feed. A common trait that often exists between the two however is the desire to gather as many friends or followers as possible.



What parents need to know about SOCIAL PRESSURES LINKED TO 'FRIENDS & FOLLOWERS'



POSSIBLE 'FRIEND ENVY'

Children may compare the number of friends or followers that they have with their own online friends and people they know. In some cases, this could lead to 'friend envy', particularly if they see this as a sign of popularity. This could lead to your child showing signs of jealousy and resorting to sending friend requests to people they don't know that well, or even strangers, in a desperate bid to increase their own status online.



OPEN DOOR POLICY

Another way that children can increase their following is by leaving their accounts open so that they can be easily found, and anybody can view their posts. This is in the hope that other users will like their posts and decide to follow them, therefore increasing their numbers. Once again, this can leave your child vulnerable to being followed by strangers or people who have dishonest intentions.



COLLECTING 'FAKE' FRIENDS

Children who feel under pressure to increase their friend count or want to increase their following as quickly as possible can be vulnerable to collecting 'fake' friends. They may, for example, accept friend requests from people they don't know very well or from complete strangers, inadvertently leaving themselves open to online bullies, trolls or even the possibility of being groomed.



CONSTANT NEED TO PLEASE

As children start to gain more friends or an increasing number of followers, they might start to feel an added level of pressure to provide them with more interesting and likeable content. Almost as if they now have an audience waiting, this constant need to please may be an extra burden that pushes your child into oversharing personal information or posting material that is inappropriate or offensive, inaccurately portraying what they're actually like in the offline world.



FEELINGS OF REJECTION

Just like increasing friends and followers can bring a sense of happiness and satisfaction, so the loss of friends and followers can cause children to suffer feelings of sadness and rejection. Depending on how invested your child is in their social media activities, this could influence their attitude and behaviour offline and potentially have a negative impact on their mental health and wellbeing.

Safety Tips For Parents

BE THEIR FRIEND OR FOLLOWER

The best way to know who your child is friends with online or who follows them is to be their friend or follower yourself. This will allow you to see who your child is engaging with most online or open up discussions about how they know certain people they've added to their network who you haven't heard them speak about before or you yourself don't know.

TURN ON PRIVACY CONTROLS

All social media platforms have their own privacy controls which can be used to help protect children online. For instance, removing the ability for strangers to comment on public posts or having a screening process for friend or follow requests is good practice which can help to ensure your child's experience online is a safer one.

TALK ABOUT STRANGERS

If privacy measures have been put in place, then usually your child will receive a notification if somebody tries to befriend them online. Talk to your child about making sure they don't open up their personal life to people they don't know and that if they are ever in any doubt, they should never accept a friend request from a stranger.

BEHAVE ONLINE AS THEY WOULD OFFLINE

Your child's behaviour online should always be treated as an extension of their behaviour offline. Discuss with your child the pitfalls of trying to be somebody they're not and that trying to please everybody will only make them unhappy. Tell them that they should be proud of who they are and that they should always behave in an appropriate and responsible way when posting content online.



TALK TO THEM ABOUT THE VALUE OF REAL FRIENDSHIP

Social media can often distort what true relationships and friendships should actually be like. It's important to teach your child the value of true friendships and that meeting and speaking to people face to face in the real world, offline, is often a better way to build a more trusting and confident relationship with someone rather than just speaking to them online.



DISCUSS WHAT BEING POPULAR ACTUALLY IS

A higher number of followers can be a measure of popularity but can also lack substance beyond just the number itself. Discuss with your child that popularity can come and go and that a large number of followers doesn't necessarily mean a large number of friends, particularly online where the real value in a relationship cannot be accurately determined.



Meet our expert

Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.



A Week in Sport



A great performance from the year 7 rugby team this evening in their first game representing [#teamlantwit](#). Stanwell started fast with 2 early tries on a very big pitch, but Llantwit showed grit and determination in their fight back. 🏈 Llantwit started to believe and began dominating the tackle area and pushing on for a try. Great running from the forwards gave the backs a platform to play from, and Llantwit hit back with 2 tries of their own. Unfortunately, the game finished 17-10 to Stanwell but all involved should be extremely proud of themselves. 🏈 Try scorers: Dougie Mullis 🏈 & Max Albrighton. 🏈 Mr Crocker's men of the match: Max Gallagher 🏆 & Finn Morgan. 🏆



A wet and windy one for the year 9 team in their second Welsh cup group game. 🏈 The team pulled together against a raw put powerful St Richard Gwyn team who never gave up! 🏈 Full time score 50-5. [#teamlantwit](#) Try scorers: Tyler Sansome, 🏈 Joao Clark, 🏈 Ollie Morris, 🏈 Jonah Hickman, 🏈 Jack Collins, 🏈 Kaylum Wilcox 🏈 & Lucas Glover. 🏈 Mr Crocker's man of the match: Jonah Hickman. 🏆



What a spectacle in the year 8 football game against Stanwell. ⚽ Throughout the game, there were excellent passages of play from Llantwit. Multiple dangerous attacks, lots of possession and key chances created. Great to see floods of parental support for the team on the side-line. 🟡 Sadly, we just lost out 5-3.

Goal Scorers: ⚽ Bethan Thomas ⚽ & Louis Morris. ⚽⚽

🏆 Mr Nunes' players of the match 🏆🏆 Tomos Curtis 🏆🏆🏆 & Ethan Stockwell. 🏆🏆



A huge well done to Mick Davies, Morgan Coles and Owen Hignell, who all competed in the British Taekwondo National Championships in Sheffield last weekend. 🥉 Well done to both Morgan and Owen for winning bronze. 🏆 Well done also to quarter finalist Mick, who had a tough draw and fought well despite an ankle injury. 🥰

We are all very proud of your continued achievements! [#teamllantwit](https://www.instagram.com/teamllantwit)



Well done too all those who took part in this afternoons cross country 🏃 [#teamlantwit](#)

YEAR 9 RUGBY SQUAD ANNOUNCEMENT

Pupils have been selected and told of their place for the final Welsh cup group stage game against Stanwell

key information:

🆚: STANWELL

📍: HOME

📅: MONDAY 21ST OCTOBER

🕒: 3:15 - 5:30

If for any reason you child cannot play, please let Mr Crocker know ASAP!

RBL Poppy Appeal



Every year Llantwit Major School supports the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal by selling poppy memorabilia, with all proceeds going to the RBL.

This year we have paper poppies, poppy stickers and reflective keyrings available for a minimum 50p donation via ParentPay.

There will also be opportunities for cash donations during form time, when our 6th Form pupils will visit classrooms with the memorabilia.

Thank you for your support.

Performing Arts News

We are delighted to announce that the casting for the main characters for the annual school production is complete, and all the successful pupils have been told about their roles.



A Llantwit Major School Production
by special arrangement with **Cameron Mackintosh**

OLIVER! Lionel Bart's

Book, Music & Lyrics by **LIONEL BART**
freely adapted from 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens

Tuesday 8th - Friday 11th July 2025

Doors Open 6pm Show Starts 7pm
Tickets Available Soon!

Oliver!
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International.
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.MTIShows.co.uk

This year we will be performing Oliver!

Oliver! takes audiences on a wild adventure through Victorian England. Join young, orphaned Oliver Twist as he navigates the London underworld of theft and violence, searching for a home, a family, and - most importantly - for love. When Oliver is picked up on the street by a boy named the Artful Dodger, he is welcomed into a gang of child pickpockets led by the conniving but charismatic Fagin. When Oliver is falsely accused of a theft he didn't commit, he is rescued by a kind and wealthy gentleman, to the dismay of Fagin's violent sidekick, Bill Sikes. Caught in the middle is the warm-hearted Nancy, who is trapped under Bill's thumb, but desperate to help Oliver, with tragic results. With spirited, timeless songs like "As Long as He Needs Me," "Food, Glorious Food," and "Where Is Love," Oliver! is a musical classic.

The audition standard was exceptionally high as always and we are super excited to put on this classic tale. While lots of parts have been cast, this a huge ensemble show and we can't wait to see what students offer in the rehearsal room to filling in more of the featured ensemble roles. Good luck, everyone!

School Calendar – upcoming events

Week Beginning – Monday 21 st October 2024 / <i>Dydd Llun Hydref 21 2024</i>		Week 8 <i>Wythnos 8</i>
Monday 21 st October / <i>Dydd Llun Hydref 21</i>		
Tuesday 22 nd October / <i>Dydd Mawrth Hydref 22</i>		
Wednesday 23 rd October / <i>Dydd Mercher Hydref 23</i>		
Thursday 24 th October / <i>Dydd Iau Hydref 24</i>		
Friday 25 th October / <i>Dydd Gwener Hydref 25</i>	INSET Day 3 – school closed to pupils	
Week Beginning – Monday 28 th October 2024 / <i>Dydd Llun Hydref 28 2023</i>		Week 9 <i>Wythnos 9</i>
Monday 28 th October / <i>Dydd Llun Hydref 21</i>	Half-term	
Tuesday 29 th October / <i>Dydd Mawrth Hydref 22</i>	Half-term	
Wednesday 30 th October / <i>Dydd Mercher Hydref 23</i>	Half-term	
Thursday 31 st October / <i>Dydd Iau Hydref 31</i>	Half-term	
Friday 1 st November / <i>Dydd Gwener Tachwedd 1</i>	Half-term	

Key Academic Dates 2024/2025

Autumn 2024:

- **Start:** Wednesday 4th September 2024
- **Half term:** Monday 28th October 2024 to Friday 1st November 2024
- **End:** Friday 20th December 2024

INSET Days:

- **INSET Day 3:** Friday 25th October 2024
- **INSET Day 4:** Friday 6th December 2024

General Information

Contacting School

Please refrain from telephoning the school, other than for urgent purposes.

Email is the preferred means of communication, and all the relevant email addresses are listed on the following page to allow you to directly contact either your child 'subject' department teacher, their progress teams or other areas of the school for assistance.

Please be reminded that we operate an appointment only system for meetings with parents/carers and if you present at school requesting an immediate appointment, we will not be able to accommodate you.

Forgotten Items

We can no longer accept the delivery of forgotten items such as PE kit, books, lunch boxes etc. during the school day. Please ensure your child arrives at school with the equipment needed for the day.

In the exceptional case where you do need to bring an item into school for your child, you will be asked to leave it with reception located in the school's main entrance. This is to reduce traffic on to the school site and ensure student safety during lesson transitions.

Medication

Please note we **do not** stock medication of any kind in school, including paracetamol, and we are not allowed to dispense medication without parental consent.

If your child receives prescribed medication a medical form, available from main Reception to be collected by your son/daughter, will be required to be completed and returned to Reception.

Should your child need medication throughout the school day please ensure they bring only what is needed for that day.

If your child is in receipt of free school meals and you would like to discuss any aspect of their school life, please contact Mrs L Pownall at pownalll@llantwitschool.org.uk

Primary Contact - email addresses

Progress Leader Team	Email Address
Progress Leader Yr7	Year7ProgTeam@llantwitschool.org.uk
Progress Leader Yr8	Year8ProgTeam@llantwitschool.org.uk
Progress Leader Yr9	Year9ProgTeam@llantwitschool.org.uk
Progress Leader Yr10	Year10ProgTeam@llantwitschool.org.uk
Progress Leader Yr11	Year11ProgTeam@llantwitschool.org.uk
Progress Leader 6th Form	Year1213ProgTeam@llantwitschool.org.uk
Headteacher	headteacher@llantwitschool.org.uk

Department	Email Address
Additional Learning Needs Department	ALN@llantwitschool.org.uk
Art Department	ArtDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Business/Careers Department	CareersDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Cymraeg Department	CymraegDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
D&T Department	DTDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
English Department	EnglishDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Geography Department	GeogDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
History Department	HistoryDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Home Economics	HomeEcDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
ICT Department	ICTDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Maths Department	MathsDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
MFL Department	MFLDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
PE Department	PEDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Performing Arts Department	PerformingArtsDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
RS Department	RSDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Science Department	ScienceDepartment@llantwitschool.org.uk
Welsh Bacc Department	WelshBacc@llantwitschool.org.uk

Generic Email Accounts	Email Address
ParentPay Enquiries	parentpay@llantwitschool.org.uk
General School Enquiries	llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Help and Support Information – outside of school

Schools Essentials Grant/School Uniform

Welsh Government have informed us that the School Essentials Grant remains open until 31st May 2025. Removing barriers to participating in education, including helping families with the cost of the school day, including school uniform, is so vital, especially in the current climate.

Registering as eligible for free school meals with your Local Authority unlocks access to the School Essentials Grant. It also means schools get more funding. With the introduction of free school meals for primary pupils, many parents/carers do not realise that schools will lose out unless they continue to register as eligible.

Please click on the link below for more information on both the grant and free school meals:

<https://www.gov.wales/get-help-school-costs>

Services and support that help with food costs. Information on food vouchers and food banks.

Penarth food pod:

https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/our_council/press_and_communications/latest_news/2022/March/New-Food-Pod-opens-in-Penarth.aspx

Vale Food Bank: <https://vale.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/foodbank-vouchers/#Vale%20foodbank>

Food Vale: <https://foodvale.org/where-can-i-get-support/>

How to get free or cheap food: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/shopping/how-to-get-free-or-cheap-food/>

Find information on grants and benefits available to you such as Council Tax Reduction.

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Cost-of-Living/Grants-and-benefits.aspx>

Get help with household and energy bills.

<https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/living/Cost-of-Living/Household-and-energy-bills.aspx>