

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 9th December 2024 / *Dydd Llun Rhagfyr 9 2024*

Week 14 / Wythnos 14

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to this week's edition of Major News, our penultimate one before we break for Christmas. Last Thursday evening we enjoyed an absolutely wonderful Christmas concert at St Illtyd's church. We are extremely grateful to have been able to hold the event in this beautiful venue and, as ever, the performance of our pupils was superb. Many thanks to all parents that attended and to the staff who worked tirelessly with the pupils to ensure a fabulous evening.

Please may I respectfully remind you that all pupils are expected to attend school until the afternoon of Friday 20th December when school will finish early at 12.30pm. If you would prefer your child to remain in school until 3pm then please do let us know. It is a key school priority to continue to improve our attendance figures so please do ensure that your child attends, so they do not miss out on vital teaching and learning.

As ever, I wish you an enjoyable weekend and thank you for your continued support.

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

Part of our Online Bullying Series

What you need to know about... SCREENGRABS

NOS

Online Bullying



Brought to you by



www.nationalonlinesafety.com

What are they?

‘Screengrabs’

Phones, tablets, and computers all have a feature that allows you to instantly capture and save still images of the content that's currently displayed on your screen. These images are called screengrabs, though you may also know them as 'screenshots' or 'screencaps'. Screengrabs are incredibly useful for countless reasons. They can let you quickly save a copy of information you might easily forget, like instructions or a number, email address or article, capture a funny still from a video clip, and even get around Twitter's 280-character limit for tweets.

Know the Risks

Cause reputational damage

If somebody screengrabs an intimate picture, personal update or comment taken out of context which was intended to remain private or confidential, it could cause reputational damage if leaked to other people or shared publicly. It could even be used as leverage for bullying or extortion.

Fraud

Never send valuable information such as financial details or passwords to other people or post it online, as it can be saved in a screengrab. That could allow a fraudster to breach your accounts and steal money and other precious information.

Privacy breaches

Many messaging apps use end-to-end encryption to keep conversations private between users which makes them popular to use. However, screengrabs provide an easy way to breach a child's privacy and any conversations they've held in confidence assuming that the app encryption would protect them.

Can be undetected

Apps such as Snapchat will notify you if a post or message has been screengrabbed, but by then the damage may already have been done. Furthermore, some users have discovered ways to take screengrabs without being detected, which means children may never have any idea.

Safety Tips

Block and report

Messaging apps and social media platforms have made it relatively easy to block and report other users, which is one of the first steps you can take to protect a child if they're suffering from any abuse. In some cases, this could result in that person's account being shut down.

Implement privacy setting

Maximising children's privacy settings on social media will provide them with an extra blanket of protection and will ensure that they only communicate with people they know well and trust, such as close friends and family. Ensure they know never to accept friend requests from strangers.

Ask for support

If a child is being subject to bullying behaviour, gather evidence using screengrabs, and report the incidents to the school, designated safeguarding lead and the local authorities if you believe the situation is serious. It may also be wise to seek professional help and support if necessary if you believe a child has been seriously

Conversation Tips

Discuss appropriate messaging

Prevention is always better than cure. Try talking to children to change their attitudes to the digital world. Foster a culture of honesty, maturity, and intelligence with regards to technology and warn them of the risks of sending sensitive information or inappropriate or embarrassing messages which could be used against them.

Talk about their feelings

Be proactive and try to spot changes in children's behaviour. You should look out for some of the tell-tale signs of bullying, which include sadness, isolation, mood swings, a reluctance to socialise or go to school, and a decline in academic performance. Try to encourage children to open up and discuss their feelings and why they might be feeling like this.

Draw on experience

Initiate conversations with children about their use of messaging and social media apps. Be sensitive, and do not judge them. It may also help to share your own experiences - a child might find it easier to talk and better to relate to something coming from your own experience.

Our Expert Aatif Sulleyman



Aatif Sulleyman is an experienced and respected technology journalist who has written about tech and consumer electronics for a broad range of publications including Gizmodo UK, The Independent, Digital Spy and ITProPortal. He is currently the Digital News and Features editor at Trusted Reviews and has written widely across topics such as online streaming, social media platforms and privacy and security online.

Attendance

The attendance prize draw will be held on the morning of Friday 20th December with the winner being notified directly by phone or via ClassCharts. We will attempt to deliver the hamper to the winner that afternoon for them to enjoy over the festive period.



Llantwit Major School's
10 Days of Christmas



Attendance Draw

We are excited to announce our "10 Days of Christmas Attendance Draw". If your child attends school every day for the 10 days leading up to Christmas break, they'll be entered to win a fantastic Marks and Spencer Hamper worth £150 for the whole family to enjoy.

Attendance is particularly important in these last days of term as we reinforce and assess key learning, and celebrate achievements together. Keeping attendance strong ensures students stay on track academically and don't miss out.

Attendance Reward Trip

On Monday 16th December, all the pupils who have qualified for the reward trip prize draw will be invited to the school hall to enjoy a special treat and to witness the draw take place. Winners will then be able to choose a friend who also qualified for the draw to go along with them.

The trip has been booked for 19th December and further details will be provided directly to the parents /careers of the winning pupils via Classcharts.

Prize Draw will take place on Monday 16th December

What you need to achieve to be entered into prize draw:

1. No negative points
2. 95% attendance
3. Attend all assemblies and form periods and good punctuality record



If I win, what prize will I get?

- ✓ An opportunity for you and a friend of your choosing to attend end of year Christmas themed trip
- ✓ (Friend must have achieved criteria too)
- ✓ Trip will take place on Thursday 19th or Friday 20th December
- ✓ 5-10 pupils will be drawn from each year group



What if I don't win a ticket to attend trip?

We want to reward everyone who is trying their best, therefore all students who achieve all **3 criteria** will receive a secret Christmas reward in the last week of term



Parentpay – excess balances

In order to ensure that pupils can always obtain a hot meal from the canteen, the system allows your child to go 'overdrawn' up to -£5.

After they reach this limit, whilst they are never refused food, they are limited in their food choose options until their balance returns to credit.

Each Friday the system generates a report and any parent with a child with a balance is in excess of the minus £5 limit is emailed to advise them of their balance and asks for this to be corrected.

As a gentle reminder, please could you ensure that any negative balances are corrected and brought back into credit as soon as possible. Whilst of course we understand the financial pressure everyone is under right now, especially at this time of the year, we are experiencing a number of balances which continue to grow, rather than reduce.

In the new year additional reports will be sent to those parents where the account remains significantly overdrawn asking that this is corrected. Unfortunately if it is not we may have to ask that your child brings in sandwiches until you are able to settle the account.

If you are experiencing any difficulties, either making a payment or accessing the system, please do not hesitate to contact us via the dedicated email address: parentpay@llantwitschool.org.uk and we will get back in touch with you.

Christmas Concert



Prior to Covid, annually the Expressive Arts department would host a Carol Service for the school community in St. Illtyd's Church.

We were delighted this year to return to this historic venue, where a packed congregation heard a variety of traditional and modern items performed by students of all ages from year 7 through to year 13.

A week in Sports

A great game for the year 9 football team on Monday. 🏈 Thank you to Stanwell who travelled to face us in a friendly under the floodlights. 🌈

It was a very competitive game with both sides having numerous chances. Jonah Hickman was very strong in front of net in very windy conditions which allowed the team to build from the back. 🍷

The end-to-end football led to a very entertaining 3-2 win for Llantwit Major. 🍷 Well done to all involved.
#teamlantwit

Goalscorers:

Dylan Fitchett 🏈
& Kaylum Wilcox. 🏈

Mr Crockers' players of
the game:

Ollie Morris & Kaylum
Wilcox. 🏆



Year 8s played their final game of 2024 against Bro Morgannwg. 🏈 While it wasn't our day, the girls fought hard until the final whistle and should be proud of their effort. 🍷



🏆 Miss Bowens' Seren y gem:
🏆 Indi Ward. 🏆

#teamlantwit

Basketball club in full swing. 🏀



Remember basketball club is every Wednesday lunchtime and open to all year groups. [#teamllantwit](#)

Another fantastic extracurricular rugby session with pupils across all year groups. 🏉
Special mention to year 12 pupil Rhys Bryn leading the session today and continuing to develop their decision-making skills. 🏉

[#teamllantwit](#)



Welsh Bacallaureate Department

Year 10 Welsh Bacallaureate pupils have had an extremely busy term. The Enterprise and Employability Challenge required students to develop an idea for a new creative and innovative wearable technology product. Pupils have worked in groups, completing a variety of tasks in order to pitch the idea to assessors. Students have demonstrated a number of skills when completing tasks including teamwork, communication, organisation and timing and independence to name just a few. They have created informative, eye catching visual displays to support their pitch. Many students have excelled in this task and staff (not only within the department) have been impressed with effort, commitment, quality of work and enthusiasm shown by students while completing this work.

On the day of the pitch students attended their allocated timeslot, were well prepared and delivered pitches with confidence. We are really proud of them and are extremely pleased to include so many photos of some of the fabulous groups and the work presented to us this week.





This work will be worth up to 25% of their final GCSE grade. Well done to all Year 10 students!

New D&D Club

A brand-new Dungeons and Dragons club, led by Sixth Form students will be starting after Christmas for students to enjoy, beginning January 10th 2025. See the poster below for more information.



Llantwit Major School's D&D Club

What is D&D?

D&D, also known as Dungeons and Dragons is a fantasy tabletop roleplaying game where anything can happen and your choices are determined by the dice in front of you.



Date And Times

D&D club is once a fortnight on a Friday from 3-4pm starting from January 10th

Where is the club?

Currently the club is being held in Mrs Gallo's Room [L26]

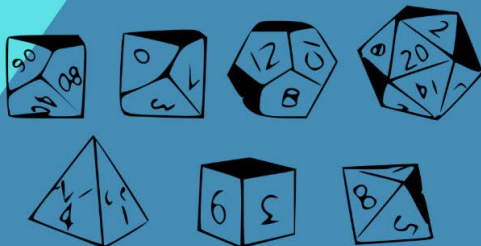


Do I Need To Bring Anything?

If you already have D&D dice, feel free to bring it along! As the school doesn't supply the dice and Cinna supplies them himself. If you also have a character you would like to play please bring along their character sheet.

How Do I Sign up?

You can sign up for the D&D club by arriving on one of the chosen days and then talking to Cinna.



Flu Vaccination Clinics



Nyrso Ysgol | School Nursing
BIP Caerdydd a'r Fro | Cardiff & Vale UHB



CLINIGAU GALW HEIBIO BRECHLYN FFLIW*

Cyn dyfnder y Gaeaf, cyfle olaf eleni i blant Dosbarth Derbyn i Flwyddyn 11 dderbyn y brechlyn ffliw trwynol

2:30pm-5:00pm - Dydd Iau, Rhagfyr 19eg 2024
Hwb Llês Maelfa, Llanedern, Caerdydd CF23 9PN

9am-12pm - Dydd Gwener, Rhagfyr 20fed 2024
Neuadd Chwaraeon Ysgol Tregatwg (tu ôl i'r ysgol), Y Barri, CF63 1JY

**Mae hwn yn glinig galw heibio a bydd brechiadau ar gael ar sail cyntaf i'r felin yn unig ac yn amodol ar argaeledd brechlynnau*

FLU VACCINATION WALK-IN CLINICS*

Before Winter sets in, final chance this year for Reception to Year 11 children to receive the nasal spray flu vaccine

2:30pm-5:00pm - Thursday, 19th December 2024
Maelfa Wellbeing Hub, Llanedeyrn, Cardiff CF23 9PN

9am-12pm - Friday, 20th December 2024
Cadoxton Primary Sports Hall (behind school), Barry, CF63 1JY

**This is a walk-in clinic and vaccinations will only be available on a first come first serve basis and subject to availability*



Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives

Mae imiwneiddio'n bwysicach nag erioed yn ystod pandemig
Immunisations are more important than ever during a pandemic

School Calendar – upcoming events

Week Beginning – Monday 16 th December 2024 / <i>Dydd Llun Rhagfyr 16 2024</i>		Week 15 <i>Wythnos 15</i>
Monday 16 th December / <i>Dydd Llun Rhagfyr 16</i>	Attendance Award Trip – Prize Draw	
Tuesday 17 th December / <i>Dydd Mawrth Rhagfyr 17</i>		
Wednesday 18 th December / <i>Dydd Mercher Rhagfyr 18</i>		
Thursday 19 th December / <i>Dydd Iau Rhagfyr 19</i>	Attendance Award Trip	
Friday 20 th December / <i>Dydd Gwener Rhagfyr 20</i>	Last day of term – school closes 12.30pm Attendance – Hamper Prize Draw	
Week Beginning – Monday 23 rd December / <i>Dydd Llun Rhagfyr 23 2024</i>		Week <i>Wythnos</i>
Monday 23 rd December / <i>Dydd Llun Rhagfyr 23</i>	Christmas Holiday	
Tuesday 24 th December / <i>Dydd Mawrth Rhagfyr 24</i>	Christmas Eve	
Wednesday 25 th December / <i>Dydd Mercher Rhagfyr 25</i>	Christmas Day	
Thursday 26 th December / <i>Dydd Iau Rhagfyr 26</i>	Boxing Day	
Friday 27 th December / <i>Dydd Gwener Rhagfyr 27</i>	Christmas Holiday	

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
Parent Forum	parentforum@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>