

the PHOENIX



the newsletter of TREORCHY COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL
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April 2019

'The Wedding Singer' Is a Hilarious Spectacle



Amber and Sydney played best friends



William, Ben and Morgan created an atmosphere of celebration

Of course, the story had a happy ending!

The Parc and Dare Theatre was the appropriate backdrop for Treorchy Comprehensive School's senior production. Word of the show's quality spread through family and friends of the school in the wider community. Those who were lucky enough to obtain tickets thoroughly enjoyed the performances. Teachers and pupils had worked together untiringly since the beginning of the academic year to bring us the fabulous show, rehearsing long into the evenings, on weekends and during school holidays to create the enjoyable production on its three night run.

The cast was ably led by Ben and Amber. It was fabulous to see the talented pupils singing and dancing their way through the musical which was set in the 1980's and based on the film of the same name. The musical and comic talents of Sydney, William,

Morgan, Joseph, Megan, Mia, Rowan, Carys, Charlotte, William and Cieran certainly warmed our community theatre on cold February nights! Congratulations to them, the other performers and the chorus for a performance of a professional standard. The audience loved the music, dance, romance and comedy in a whirlwind of entertainment.

At Treorchy Comprehensive, we offer a wide range of fantastic opportunities in the performing arts of Dance, Drama and Music to all our pupils. It is not surprising that this is recognised time after time nationally. We continue to lead the way in the national focus on the value of expressive arts in the lives of our young people.



Llangrannog - Llawn Hwyl 2019!

Busy Term for Treorchy's Dancers

Dance pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with professional dance companies, perform in the school production, experience working alongside Dance students from University, compete in the Urdd Eisteddfod and showcase their talents across South Wales.

Our Year 10 pupils were invited to perform in the Cardiff Schools Dance Festival held at St. David's Hall in Cardiff, a wonderful experience meeting other dance pupils from across South Wales whilst performing in a magnificent theatre to a sold out audience.

With the introduction of Breakin' to the Olympic Games being announced this month, five of our pupils worked with Avant Cymru and 'Jonzi' on a Hip Hop theatre project held at the Parc and Dare Theatre during work experience week. The pupils worked hard and enjoyed every minute training, rehearsing, choreography and embracing a new style of Dance. The group have made a positive impression on the creators who spoke very highly of their work ethic and passion for performance. The group will now be attending a Dance convention at Sadler's Wells, London as part of the project.

The Dance Department have recently established a partnership with the University of Worcester where future projects and exchanges for our senior dancers are being planned. The University Dance students recently visited our school and delivered intense performance training to all Dance pupils from Year 9 – 13 and then showcased their own end of year work. All pupils got to experience what studying Dance at this level would be like and enjoyed performing together across year groups.

Our MAT group have been working with Ransack Dance Company this term on a performance piece on the theme of 'Space.' Two hour training sessions each week have really paid off and the pupils have created a beautiful contemporary piece based on constellations. This pupils will be performing their new piece at the ARTIS Community show at Coleg Y Cymoedd on Saturday April 6th 2019.

Lastly, this term has seen our younger pupils competing in the RCT Urdd Eisteddfod held at Rhydywaun School in Aberdare. After many lunchtime and after school rehearsals the pupils gave fantastic performances and were successful in progressing through to the finals held in Cardiff Bay in May in The KS3 Hip Hop group, KS4 Hip Hop solo and the Creative group section.



Llangrannog Trip

Once again, the Welsh Department were heading for the Urdd Camp at Llangrannog for the weekend! On the 8th February, 87 pupils from Year 7, as well as swogs from Year 12 and a number of staff from various departments boarded the bus bound for Llangrannog. But, despite the lovely weather all week the heavens opened on the morning of the trip. Thank goodness the rain didn't last long and it was clear skies from Saturday morning onwards.

We participated in many activities including swimming, skiing, tobogganing and horse riding. There were also new activities for the pupils to enjoy, including the new zip wire, which all proved popular. These were followed by various night time entertainment, such as Welsh quizzes, sports activities and a disco (which seemed to be very popular with the staff as well as pupils!)

Thank you to all members of staff and the swogs who gave up their free time to ensure that the weekend was a success, and also thank you to the pupils for their excellent behaviour.

Cafodd ddisgyblion Blwyddyn 7 Ysgol Gyfun Treorci wledd o anturiaethau eleni eto yng ngwersyll Llangrannog. Aethon ni ar yr 8fed o fis Chwefror gyda wyth deg saith o ddisgyblion brwd a nifer o staff cyffrous. Roedd digon o fwrllwm i'w glywed dros y gwerysll drwy'r penwythnos. Roedd y tywydd yn ofnadwy ar y prynhawn dydd Gwener ond, diolch byth, roedd hi'n hyfryd o fore dydd Sadwrn ymlaen. Yn ogystal ag amrywiaeth helaeth o weithgareddau, cafwyd tipyn o hwyl a helynt yn y disgo ar y nos Sadwrn. (Roedd y staff i weld yn mwynhau cymaint a'r plant!) Braf oedd gweld y plant yn ymuno ac yn llwyr ymroi i'r holl gweithgareddau yn y gwerysll a gwelwyd digon o dalent dawnsio yn y disgo i beri cryn ofid i gystadleuwyr 'Stricly Come Dancing'!

Diolch calonnog i'r staff am roi o'u hamser hamdden mor barod, i fynychu'r penwythnos. Diolch hefyd i'r disgyblion am fod mor gwrtais a ddi ffwdan. Pleser oedd cael bod yn eu cwmni.

The 2019 Lord Lieutenant Cadets for Mid Glamorgan



Colour Sergeants Kieran and Cian en route to fulfil their duties as official escorts to Prince Charles part of HRH Prince of Wales' visit to the summit centre.

The Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets are selected by the Cadet Association for Wales for their outstanding service and contributions to their respective unit and organisation.

Each year, the Lord-Lieutenant appoints several young people to serve as his Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets. They are drawn from the Sea Cadets, Army Cadets, the Air Training Corps, the Combined Cadet Force and from the civil uniformed youth organisations – Scouts, Girl Guiding and the St John Ambulance. When on duty, Lord-Lieutenant's Cadets wear a distinctive sash with the badge of their appointment, to denote their role. They assist the Lord-Lieutenant as required – often on parade for Royal visits.

This is very prestigious - the highest Cadet award and the first time the school has had the honour. For two cadets to be selected is very rare especially for CCF.

Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Work

In the last week of March pupils from across year groups attended practice expedition events for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The gold, silver and bronze groups are all avidly practising for expeditions later in the year to help secure this prestigious award. Diolch yn fawr i'r Urdd Awyr Agored (Outdoor Activity Urdd) for their co-operative work on these expeditions. Well done to all the pupils and thank-you to the staff who gave their free time to support our excellent pupils.



Some of our Duke of Edinburgh Award candidates



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Year 10 Public Speaking Team

Our Year 10 team of Lucy, Jac and Noah went to the Welsh Assembly to represent the Central South Consortium area in the English Speaking Union public speaking final. They did brilliantly and represented us to an excellent standard. Congratulations to them for progressing so far in the competition!



Public Speaking Team

VR Experience for Science Students



Year 9 enjoy the virtual reality of space travel

The Science department invited the VR experience tour to visit Treorchy. It gave Year 9 pupils the opportunity to take part in activities that explored Tim Peake's descent from space. The tour included scientific data relating to the descent and a VR experience that enabled pupils to feel as if they were actually sitting next to Tim Peake as he entered the Earth's atmosphere. A truly remarkable experience that our pupils will never forget

Sixth Form visit Bronte Country



Sixth Form visit Bronte Country

Year 12 and 13 English pupils enjoyed a visit to the Bronte Parsonage in February. The sun was shining and they enjoyed three workshops, based on our text Jane Eyre, and exploring where Charlotte Bronte lived and completed her famous novels.

Treorchy Languages Pupils Get a Taste of Oxford University



Language Pupils

As part of a Seren (More Able and Talented) outreach project, at the end of March four talented linguists from Year 9 in Treorchy had the fantastic opportunity to experience life in Oxford University. Staying in Jesus College and working with language experts, Madison, Owen, Jasmine and Gruffydd all had an amazing and life changing experience.

Year 11 Art Visit Oxford

Year 11 Art classes very much enjoyed visiting Oxford in March. They visited Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford to gain lots of inspiration for their exam preparation work. Pupils enjoyed exploring cultural and historical artefacts.



Year 11 visit Oxford

Sailing with Challenge Wales



Sailing with Challenge Wales

During the month of April our Year 13 pupils had a glorious sailing experience with the crew and skipper of the ocean-going racing yacht "Adventure Wales". Adventure Wales; Wales' Tall Ship provided an adventure day voyage to enable our pupils to broaden their horizons allowing them to reach their potential. The pupils sailed on a personal development journey and the Bristol Channel became the classroom. They became the crew of the yacht and did everything; from hoisting the sails, taking the helm, trimming the sails and making the lunch. At the end of the voyage the pupils were awarded with a certificate of achievement by becoming a competent crew members and team players.

International Honours for Cian



Cian represents Wales under 15 football

Congratulations to Cian of Year 9 who recently represented Wales at Under 15 level in football. This was a culmination of Cian's hard work and commitment over the years and he performed very well in the 0-0 draw against Slovakia in March. Llongyfarchiadau Cian! We look forward to hearing more about your exploits in the future.

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Rugby Tours

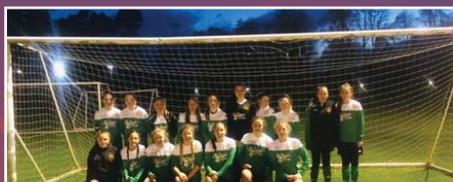


Some of our rugby players in Rosslyn Park

Rugby players from Years 7, 8 and 9 played games against Methodist College Belfast during March. This is an annual fixture and we always look forward to welcoming our fellow Celts to Treorchy Comprehensive. All of the games were fiercely competitive with the Year 8 and 9 combined team losing 30-42, the Year 7 Chiefs losing 15-30 and the year 7 Crusaders drawing 10-10. Several of our players were picked for the Rhondda Schools teams to play them again on the Saturday after our fixtures. The Rhondda Schools won all of their games.

The Year 8 rugby team took part in the Rosslyn Park 7-a-side tournament in London, which is the largest rugby tournament in the world. They played teams from South Wales, London, Yorkshire, Sussex and Berkshire. The standard of the games was superb and our players equipped themselves in this format really well. We also enjoyed the responsibility of staying away for two days as well as the competition. Well done to all the players involved!

Year 9 Girls Footballers Have a Successful Season



The RCT U14 Girls football team

Congratulations to Erin and Casey of Year 9 who have had an excellent season with the Rhondda Cynon Taff Under 14 team this year. Their coaches are proud of the dedication and commitment they have shown to their team and we are sure that both pupils will go on to even greater success with such a positive attitude. Ardderchog!

Year 9 Football



Year 9 Welsh Cup Semi-Final Success

Congratulations to the Year 9 football team who have progressed to the final of the Welsh Cup, following a convincing victory in the semi final.

The team, which has also progressed well in local competitions, made the long journey to Newtown FC worthwhile with an excellent performance to beat the opposition well. The team produced an accomplished performance on the day and will now play the final in May. Good luck to all the players and well done on an excellent campaign so far.

Girls Football Success



Our girls footballers



Enthusiastic players

The Treorchy Comprehensive Under 15 Girls Football team have reached the final of the inaugural Rhondda Cynon Taff Interschools Cup competition. This success was thoroughly deserved after victories against Cwm Rhondda and Tonyrefail Community School. They have been excellent role models for our Under 13 team who, after losing in their first ever match to Garth Olwg, have moved to the Plate competition. They then beat Cardinal Newman to earn a place in the Semi-Final against Ysgol Nantgwyn. These matches will all be played prior to Easter.