

Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



King Henry VIII 3-19 School
November 2023



Swimathon

A big Well done to the 26 pupils involved in the Swimathon: swimming a total of 417 lengths in 1 hour. They raised over £100 to be put towards the purchase of kit for the PE teams.

Children in Need

On Friday 17th November, the school held a joint Odd Socks and Non-Uniform Day. Donations made now total £501.92. Thank you for your positivity and support.



Drop Everything and Read

In our school we regularly drop everything and read. This is Dosbarth Dolffin (Year 4) enjoying their reading session.



Value of the month:- Courage

*Being willing to confront difficult situations.
Carrying on when you find something hard.*



Key Dates for December

- 4th INSET Day
- 6th Primary Christmas lunch/accessory day
- 7th Reception Open Evening 4pm
- 14th Year 12 Parents Evening
- 13th Years 1-2 Christmas concert 10am
- 14th Years 3-6 Christingle Service 6pm St Marys
- 15th Nursery Nativity play 10am
- 20th Year 7 Christmas Celebration 9am
- 20th Secondary Christmas lunch and accessory day
- 21st Christmas Carol Concert 3.30pm and 7pm
- 22nd End of term – school finishes at 1pm

Nursery Rhyme Week



Last week Dosbarth Panda (Nursery) celebrated World Nursery Rhyme Week! We really enjoyed singing different Nursery Rhymes and learning through our play. Our favourite activities included designing an obstacle course for Jack and Jill, making our own boats to test if they float or sink, and creating our own bus. Ffantastig!



Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



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November 2023

Ancient Egyptians

Years 3 and 4 have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians in their Humanities lessons. Pupils have been studying ancient artefacts and posing research questions to inform their future learning.



Monmouthshire Sustainable Foods Programme

Dolffin (Year 4) have taken part in a Monmouthshire sustainable foods programme, linking schools with local growers to learn about sustainable growing practices. Pupils had a fantastic time sewing and harvesting organic vegetables, and were even provided with produce to take home to cook potato and leek soup.



History Debate

Year 8 History pupils put King Charles 1 on trial! They studied the reasons for and against executing him, and then worked in groups to form arguments and questions that they used in a debate.

There was even a special appearance from Judge John Bradshaw and King Charles 1 himself!



Diwrnod Shwmae

To celebrate Diwrnod Shwmae the children participated in various Welsh activities throughout the day. The children enjoyed singing songs, playing games and making posters to promote the Welsh language. It was great to hear the children using Shwmae around the school. We made a video to share with the community of our staff using Shwmae to greet people. Gwaith ffantastig! [Please click here to view the video.](#)



Branwen the Musical



On the 8th November the Year 10 AS Welsh class travelled to the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff Bay. We saw a musical version of Branwen, one of the traditional stories from the Mabinogi. The pupils enjoyed the production, which was the largest Welsh language production to date. It also gave us a chance to catch up with friends from other schools and former teachers.



Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



King Henry VIII 3-19 School
November 2023

Chess Club

Pupils have been enjoying taking part in Chess Club. It is a friendly, fun club which gives pupils the opportunity to play against different year groups. Starting in December all pupils will be able to join the after school Chess club which takes place every Wednesday in the Library.



Book Fair

November saw the return of the highly popular "Scholastic Book Fair". A wonderful selection of books were available and a large number of pupils came in to buy books, earning the school more reward points than ever before! Many thanks to all the pupils who helped with the running of the fair-you were amazing!!

<https://www.scholastic.co.uk/>



The Library web app dashboard is currently "Non Fiction November" where you can listen to Dara O'Briain talking about why he writes non-fiction books. <https://uk.accessit.online/kng24/#/dashboard> (log in as GUEST)

AR Highest Word Count Competition

Year 7 and Year 8 form groups have been challenged to become the group with the highest reading word count each term, and the winning forms will receive a certificate and a class prize. In addition to this, pupils can aim for the prestigious millionaire's certificate which is awarded to all pupils who reach a million words. As you can see from our November snapshot, our school is swiftly becoming a school of curious, enthusiastic readers.

King Henry VIII Comprehensive School Reads!

In November 2023, students have read...

302 Books

14,928,464 Words

for 61 minutes/day!
(individual student average)

RENAISSANCE
Accelerated Reader

Author visit

Author Tracey Corderoy recently came in to visit Year 1 and 2. It was really successful and the children (and staff!) loved it. Tracey ran a story time and a draw along. We received a lovely message from Tracey complimenting the children on their passion and enthusiasm. We also received two signed copies of her books.



[Picture Books-Tracey Corderoy](#)

Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



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November 2023

Anti-Bullying Week



The school used anti-bullying week to launch its new strategies around positive relationships with others. We wanted all pupils to learn our school definition of bullying, and how reporting unkind behaviour linked to our theme of the month, **Courage**. Pupils learnt about these strategies through assemblies, in form time, and across the school.

At 9.55am on Monday 13th November 2023, at the start of Anti-Bullying week, our whole school made a stand against bullying. This was everyone from Nursery to Year 13. We all pledged to make sure that it does not happen in our school.

This was a powerful moment. [Please click here](#) to watch our school's 'Stand Against Bullying'.



The SRB class have been helping to make bullying extinct by stomping dinosaur footprints.



Self Defence Workshop

In Health and Wellbeing lessons, Year 11 pupils took part in a safety awareness and self-defence workshop delivered by KICKFIT. The group looked at how to keep themselves safe and also were taught self defence moves.



BBC Bitesize

The BBC Bitesize Roadshow was in town on Friday 17th November to speak with all pupils from Years 7-10. The presenters discussed the theme of **Courage** linking in with our value of the month. Pupils were inspired and enthused by their stories.



Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



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November 2023

Remembrance Service



King Henry VIII 3-19 School marked Remembrance Day on Friday 10th November, with services being held on both the Primary and Secondary School sites. Canon John Connell led the service on the secondary site, with readings being given by the school's Lead pupils and Year 9 pupils, who also led The Prayers of the Faithful. The whole of Year 7 were in attendance, accompanied by the school orchestra and members of the school choir as they sang the congregational hymns. Also in attendance were the Mayor, school governors and members of the Former Pupils' Association who, at the end of the service laid a wreath at each of the memorials for former pupils and teachers who lost their lives during the World Wars. The Last Post was played in both Lower and Upper School at 11:00 a.m.



Year 3/4 made Poppy biscuits and Poppies for Remembrance day.

Year 5 and 6 delivered a wonderful Remembrance Service. They made clay poppies for the assembly display, and each Year 6 pupil had a speaking role. Year 5 also recited the poem of Flanders Field.

The whole school paused for a two minute silence to pay respects for those lost in wars in the past and present.

World War 1 Day

As part of the school's Remembrance celebrations this year, Years 7-9 took part in a WW1 day. Pupils studied WW1 themed lessons across the school including:

- ✓ Investigating who we remember on Remembrance Day in History
- ✓ The Geography of the trenches in Geography
- ✓ Key dates and their translations in French
- ✓ Rationing in Food Tech
- ✓ Women at war and equality in PSE
- ✓ The Muslim contribution to the war effort in RVE
- ✓ Dazzle military design in Art
- ✓ Hedd Wyn in Welsh
- ✓ War Horse in Drama



Post 16 Taster Day and Open Evening

Our school Post-16 Taster Day and Open Evening took place on the 9th November. Pupils took part in taster lessons ranging from Maths and Science to Media and Psychology. This was followed by the opportunity to meet staff and talk about courses.. Applications to our Senior Phase (Sixth Form) have now opened.

Many pupils also chose to find out more about vocational options, investigating job choices with Careers Wales and our advisor Dianna Macias. They also heard from Coleg Gwent and ITEC, a Level 2 training provider.



Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



King Henry VIII 3-19 School
November 2023

Sporting Achievements:

- ✓ Congratulations to Alex - Player of the match at a recent Dragons Rugby Camp training session
- ✓ This year Darcie has qualified for dance nationals in Blackpool which takes place in January 2024. Darcie has qualified for 1 Acro solo and 3 Acro groups.
- ✓ Congratulations to Anya - regional winner of the Hotshot Dance Competition 23/24, pictured here with her trophy, medals and certificates.
- ✓ Erin in Year 12 is having a fantastic running season and recently won first junior in the Severn Bridge Night Race, completing the 5-mile course in 36 mins and securing the gold for fastest junior female.
- ✓ Congratulations to Anwen in year 8 on being selected for the Girls Wales Under 13 Cricket Development Programme
- ✓ Well done to Year 9 pupil Ella on her recent performance in Horse Show of the Year – placing 7th in the pinnacle of her discipline.
- ✓ A fantastic achievement for Oly placing second in round 5 of the Welsh Cylco-cross Championships held at Bryn Bach Park



Newsletter / Cylchlythyr



King Henry VIII 3-19 School
November 2023

Sporting Achievements:

Boys Dance

This month we have been lucky enough to welcome Liam from Dance Blast into our year 7 PE lessons. The boys really got stuck in and were excellent in the learning and performing of new moves.



Netball

Well done to Under 16 Netball team who placed 4th in the South East Wales Anne Smart Netball tournament.

The Senior Phase Netball team had their first game v Gwynllw and were able to win with some excellent passages of play throughout the game, a brilliant game for player of the match Seren.

Well done to Seren and Ayla on their selection to represent South East Wales Netball Teams, they were a credit to the school and beat Cardiff and the Vale in their first county game.



Hockey

Our Hockey teams had a great start to the year with two wins at our Hockey fixtures against Croesyceiliog Well done to everyone involved.



Newsletter / Cylchlythyr

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November 2023



House Cup update

The new House Cup year has kicked off as Aragon look to defend their title. It's been great to run competitions as a whole school running right from Reception up to Year 13.



There were some fantastic entries from pupils across all age ranges in the Pumpkin Carving Competition. The Secondary Phase winner was Evie of Parr House. In fact, Parr took the top three slots and that gave them a convincing win overall, scoring a total of twenty-seven points with Aragon coming second with twelve points in total.

Congratulations to Parr who also won the attendance competition in the Autumn term.

The term leading up to Christmas is always a busy and exciting time in terms of House Events with the House Christmas Card competition, Sustainable Tree Competition, and House Christmas Karaoke.

Current standings:

Parr - 19 Pts
Howard - 18 Pts
Seymour - 9 Pts
Aragon - 9 Pts

Year 5 and 6 Science lessons



Years 5 and 6 have been thoroughly enjoying their Science lessons in our specialist Science laboratories on the secondary site. They have been learning lots about chemical processes and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in all the experiments.

New Computer Suite

Dosbarth Teigr had a great first time in our new computer suite. They learnt how to log in to the computers and experimented with different texts, fonts, and colours on Microsoft Word. The new computer suite will support pupils Computing and Digital Competency skills.



Study Skills Year 10 and 11

Years 10 and 11 pupils took part in an interactive presentation from Study Skills Zone. Lead presenter Sean Moses went through a variety of strategies to help pupils organise and prepare revision material for their examinations. Pupils were thoroughly engaged and feedback from pupils, particularly in Year 11, expressed how much the presentation will help them as they approach their mock examinations over the next fortnight.

Following this session, Sean delivered an online session to parents and carers explaining how they can help support their children at home. Many parents commented on how valuable the evening was and that they felt more comfortable in supporting their children at home.

Morgan Sindall Construction Film

To go alongside the launch of the brand-new construction course, Morgan Sindall, who are the construction company responsible for construction of the new school build, have filmed this very professional video which highlights their commitment to support the D&T department via sponsorship of tools, equipment, PPE and vouchers. [Please click here](#) or scan the QR code:-

**MORGAN
SINDALL**
CONSTRUCTION



<https://www.kinghenryviii3to19school.co.uk>

<https://twitter.com/KingHenrySchool>