

# Newsletter / Cylchlythyr

King Henry VIII 3-19 School  
December 2023



## Christmas Concert

Our term finished with our wonderful King Henry VIII 3-19 School Christmas Concert, which included orchestra performances, poems, singing, musical items, and choirs. It really was a culmination of fantastic pupil efforts. Our through-school choir also performed for the first time with our six year olds performing with our 18 year olds, a fantastic moment for the development of our school.

Value of the month:-

### Harmony

Living happily with each other.  
Working together.. Striving for peace



### Key Dates for January

- ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> Training Day (school closed)
- ✓ 18<sup>th</sup> Year 11 Parents' Evening



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## Christmas Performances



Nursery and Reception pupils performed their Christmas Nativity to all their families. They shone like stars and the performance was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Year 1 and Year 2 performed 'Everyone Loves a Baby' to a full audience. Their singing was amazing, all pupils performed their lines brilliantly.

## Christingle

Our Years 3-6 pupils performed fantastically in our Christingle Service at St Mary's Priory. They thoroughly enjoyed singing a variety of Christmas songs and performing with their musical instruments. It was wonderful to share this with our families and community.



## Year 7 Festive Celebration

Every Year 7 pupil was involved in our Year 7 Festive celebration. Pupils were challenged to use and develop their leadership skills to create their own Christmas performances. There was a fantastic eclectic mix of singing and humorous sketches. It was fantastic to watch what the pupils have designed and rehearsed themselves.



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## Christmas Lunch and accessory days



Golden ticket prize winners



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Dosbarth Teigr (Year 3) pupils have made tree decorations out of wooden logs and other materials.



Dosbarth Panda (Nursery) had a wonderful time at Kingdom Come having breakfast with Santa!



## Christmas Wishes and Reverse Advent Calendar boxes

We took part in our first Reverse Advent Calendar this year involving all classes from the primary and secondary phases. The pupils kindly brought in lots of essential items which were then placed in boxes and decorated by each class. These boxes were then delivered to the Baptist Church in Abergavenny for the Trussell Trust foodbank on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, just in time for Christmas! We hope these items make a difference for families in our community this Christmas and we are very proud and grateful to all our pupils and staff who contributed this year.

A huge thank you as well to all for the generous gifts from parents, carers, staff and pupils for the Monmouthshire County Council Christmas Wishes Appeal!



We believe in the limitless capacity for everyone to achieve great things

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## WJEC Innovation Awards 2023

Congratulations to last year's Year 13 pupil, Tomas Billington, who came 3<sup>rd</sup> at this year's prestigious WJEC Innovation Awards. His product was nominated by an external moderator, then judged against the top 10 A level projects at the SSE stadium, Cardiff. This year's awards were presented at the Senedd in Cardiff. Tomas has used his A\* in A Level Product Design to go on and study a degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Bath. We wish Tomas all the very best for the future.

## Faraday Challenge Winners

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December, two teams of six girls from our school competed against four mixed teams from Caldicot High School in the 2023 IET Faraday Challenge Day. Congratulations to Alana, Bethany, Cunda, Dolly, Ronnie and Rosie whose team won the competition!

The team now wait to find out where they stand in the top 75 teams in the UK. If they make it through to the top 5 they will be competing in the UK finals.



## Christmas market stall

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December, Year 8 pupils ran a very successful Christmas Market Stall at the Market Hall, Abergavenny. The enthusiastic pupils were selling products that had been designed and/or made by themselves. Products included earrings, coasters, bookmarks and keyrings made in the Plastics Lab, as well as wooden reindeer, snowmen and Christmas Tree decorations made by pupils as part of Enterprise club. Well done to all pupils involved.

## A Level Welsh Workshop

On 18<sup>th</sup> December, the Welsh A-level group travelled to Caerphilly to take part in a day of workshops. We listened to talks from poets and experts on the content of the course in the morning. In the afternoon, we took part in a Q&A session with former A Level Welsh pupils that have now made speaking Welsh part of their everyday life. It was a very helpful day out.

Am ddwirnod wych!

Hyfryd i gael cyfle i gwrdd a phobl eriall sy'n astudio neu yn defnyddio'r iaith Gymraeg bob dydd a siarad Cymraeg tu fas i'r ysgol. Diwrnod helpgar am y cwrs lefel A ac ysbrydoledig iawn.

Wedi mwynhau mas draw!



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## Festive fun at the German Christmas markets



Forty-two pupils from Years 9 and 11 enjoyed a very festive weekend in Cologne this month. Mrs Pearman, Mrs Jones, Miss Davies, Mr Allen and the pupils left Abergavenny in the early hours and after a very long journey arrived safely but rather tired at the youth hostel in Cologne. Friday morning was spent at Der Markt der Engel (The angel Christmas market).

Pupils used their German skills to order their lunch and buy Christmas gifts. We then walked our way over to the famous Kölner Dom and enjoyed the Christmas Market there. We ended the afternoon with a festive boat trip down the Rhein, admiring the scenery whilst tucking into waffles and hot chocolate. Saturday was a guided tour of the chocolate museum and then lunch at the harbour Christmas market. The afternoon was spent watching the ice skaters at Heinzels Märchen market. Evenings were spent soaking up the atmosphere and treating ourselves to a sweet treat or hot chocolate at the Christmas markets. It was fantastic to see and hear the pupils using their German skills and even using some French on the return journey. What a wonderful way to truly get into the festive spirit!

## Visit to Our Lady and St Michael's R.C. School



The first of Mrs E Davies' visits to the feeder schools started this term with a visit to OLSM as part of our transition programme.

Mrs Davies shared an video and images of the new school which year 6 were very excited about. The class then went on to discuss their thoughts and feelings regarding moving up to secondary school.

## English Department Competitions

Well done to the winners of the English department's writing competitions this term!

### Autumn Writing Competition

Year 7 – Alyssia

Year 8 – Rosie

Year 9 – Joshua

Overall winner for KS3 – Rosie



### Christmas Poetry Competition

Year 7 – Tia and Alice

Year 8 - Arthur

Thank you for all the fantastic entries. Everyone who entered has received a 'Special Mention' merit point, and the results have been added to the school's house competition total.



Thank you to Abergavenny Pride for their wonderful donation of books to our Library - the "Heartstopper" books will be flying off the shelves!!

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## Last day of Term Assembly



On Friday we held our end of term assemblies. These assemblies recognise the efforts and values our pupils have displayed throughout the year.

## Boyzonly



Members of the Year 9 vocal group 'Boyzonly' attended a rehearsal with the Ebbw Vale Male voice Choir in preparation for the Christmas Concert at Abertillery Metropole Theatre.

## Exeter University



Representatives from Exeter University visited King Henry VIII 3-19 School and gave a presentation to Years 11 and 12 on university applications.

## Thank you cards for Morgan Sindall

Our ALN Cross-Phase officer has been producing thank you cards with the pupils, for all the staff working at Morgan Sindall.



A copy of the latest Sustainable Communities for Learning Newsletter can be viewed here.

<https://rb.gy/rmi30k>



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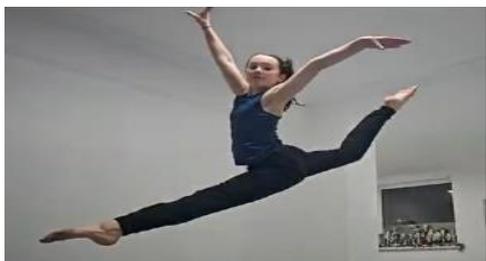


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## Sporting Achievements



Well done to Joe in Year 7. He competed in the South Wales Junior Fell Series of races at Pen-y-fan, Llanthony Show and Fan Fawr, winning the U13 boys' category at Llanthony and Fan Fawr and the Series overall.



Well done to Georgia in Year 7 on her recent selection to perform representing Wales in contemporary Dance. Georgia dances with Fusion House of Dance, based in Blackwood. Georgia, alongside seven of her dance team mates have qualified to represent Team Wales in the Dance World Cup being held in Prague next June.



Well done to the pupils that have been involved in the supporting and taking part in the Crickhowell Santa Dash Fun Run. The run was aimed at raising money for Cancer Research Wales charity and getting people active in the festive period.



Alicia has been selected for the Welsh U18 Golf squad. Alicia has been training all over Wales, including the Celtic Manor in preparation for the competition season in the Spring.



Well done to Zach (Captain and try scorer), Zach, Will, Oliver and Cain on their representation honours for U15s Blaenau Gwent Schools in their recent fixture against Islwyn Schools.



Goodluck to Joseph in the Senior National Championships team sprint in Manchester and the Appledore Next Generation international competition.



The under 13 Girls Football team have completed an excellent block of training and won both games this season.



It was amazing to see Jayden and Keegan on BBC Sports Personality of the Year. They were supporting their coach Melvyn for the unsung hero award. For more than fifty years, Melvyn Hamer has been the life and soul of the Heads of the Valleys boxing gym in Ebbw Vale.

