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FEBRUARY 2018

Ysgol Tregŵyr
Gowerton
School



FROM THE HEADTEACHER'S DESK

February has been another busy month of visitors and visits, Henry VIII called in to be interviewed by one class! As I write this article I can hear the Year 8 Eisteddfod and the wonderful singing of 'Calon Lan' from our main hall. I attended the Eisteddfod earlier this morning and am so pleased to see and hear the range of talent from our year 8 pupils. You will have to wait until next month's newsletter to have further details on this as we have the Year 7 Eisteddfod tomorrow to look forward to and to celebrate St David's Day.

YEAR 10 VISIT SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

The GCSE PE pupils have linked up with PHD students at Swansea University to take part in a number of research projects. These have included gaining information about their VO2 Max as well as their ability to carry our fundamental movement skills.

All pupils thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and they must be commended for the hard work and effort they displayed throughout each session. We would like to pass on our thanks to Maeve, Adam and Phil at the University for enabling our pupils to engage in such a beneficial experience.



GIVING SOMETHING BACK

Pupils were busy baking cookies for Fairtrade fortnight. The cookies baked were then donated to Swansea's overnight churches to give something back to those less fortunate in our community.



Swansea Churches are teaming up to provide night shelters for the homeless during the cold winter nights. It's all part of a project, called Swansea Night Shelter, organised by Swansea Hope (a network of local churches), being delivered in partnership with a number of local homelessness organisations and charities.

Churches across the city offer a hot meal, a warm bed and breakfast over a 3 month period. Mandy Harvey, who is heading the project said that 'The Churches feel that the problem of homelessness is something that we can and should be helping with. We believe we can make a positive difference to the lives of rough sleepers by offering them shelter, food, and most importantly, hope.' In our photo above Charlie, from our 6th form, is presenting the cookies. We are grateful to Tesco, Gowerton for providing the ingredients to enable us to bake the cookies.

Newsletter

FEBRUARY

Article of
the Month

Article 2: All children have rights



WELSH GOVERNMENT CATEGORISATION

We are proud of our pupils, staff, parents, governors and the wider community working hard together to succeed. It is particularly pleasing for our achievements to have been recognised by Welsh Government by being awarded Green A status for the fourth consecutive year. A Green category school is 'highly effective, knows how to improve and is capable of helping others to improve'. Diolch yn fawr iawn i bawb.



SAM DAVIES RETURNS TO GOWERTON

We recently were privileged to have a visit from an ex pupil Sam Davies, Ospreys and Wales rugby player. Sam spoke to year 9 pupils that have been studying the history of rugby and particularly rugby success from ex Gowerton pupils. Sam was inspirational when talking to the pupils, answering questions they had prepared for the interview. Sam also spoke to the year 11 rugby players and gave them excellent advice on the hard work, dedication and commitment needed in his career. He also emphasised the importance of getting the best GCSE qualifications possible and being focused on education and sport. Thanks to Sam for finding time in his busy schedule to speak to our pupils and visit his ex teachers



SIXTH FORM VISIT NEW YORK

During the February half-term holiday, Mrs. Tanya Long, Mr. Will Thomas and Mrs. Medina Evans accompanied 31 6th form students to Washington and New York.

Our first day in Washington was spent sightseeing – the White House, the National Archives, the Natural History Museum, the Air & Space Museum, the Capitol and the Lincoln Memorial. The following day we visited Arlington cemetery in Washington before journeying to New York where we spent 4 nights at a mid-town hotel - a perfect base from which to explore Manhattan. The trip was very busy as we tried to see as many sights as possible – and go into as many shops as Mrs. Long allowed!

Highlights included wandering through Central Park, visiting the 'Top of the Rock' – the top floors of the Rockefeller Building, Times Square, seeing the Statue of Liberty, visiting the 9/11 Memorial on the site of Ground Zero, walking across the Brooklyn Bridge and shopping on 5th Avenue. Some students saw a Broadway show, and viewed the bright lights of Manhattan from the 87th floor of the Empire State Building.



HENRY VIII VISITS GOWERTON!

7C and 8C have experienced a real-life King in Gowerton School this month! They are studying British history this half term and are beginning with the Tudors. Henry VIII came into class to be questioned about his life and, of course, his many wives.

