

Gowerton School
Cecil Road
Gowerton
Swansea

Ysgol Tregŵyr

Gowerton School



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@gowertonschool

JANUARY 2020

FROM THE HEADTEACHER'S DESK

At the start of a New Year we like to reflect on successes from the past year but also look forward with excitement to the many events planned for the coming year. Recently our year 7 pupils enjoyed a weekend of fun and learning in Llangrannog. Year 7 and 8 are already preparing for the Eisteddfod and we look forward to these competitions in March. Here are a few of the events already held this year.

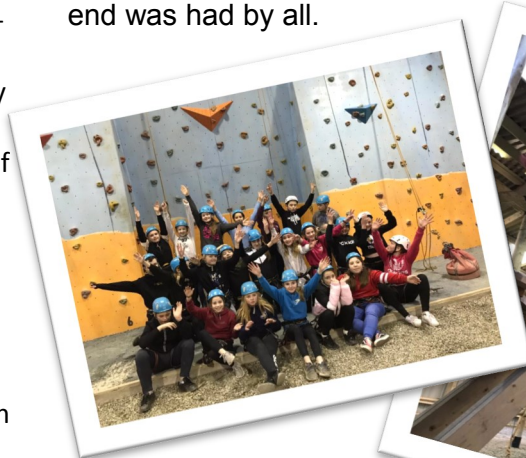
CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE

Our year 10 construction pupils were recently lucky enough to visit Singleton Hospital where main contractor Wilmott Dixon are working on the Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) as part of the £9.7 million upgrade of neonatal care. In their visit they were inducted onto site, a very important process for safety and security on site, whisked up the hoist to the SCBU and shown around the ward where a variety of the phases of work were being worked on. There was a quiz at the end with some great prizes awarded to the winner, much was learnt and it was good to shift the learning environment to a busy building site that had many technical and logistical challenges. The Level 1/2 Vocational Award in 'Constructing the Built Environment' that the group are involved in was developed in collaboration with Construction Industry Training Board and is primarily designed for learners aged 14-16 who want to learn about the construction industry from the build perspective. It provides learners with a broad introduction to the different trades involved in the sector and the types of career opportunities available. We are very grateful to this kind help from firms like Wilmott Dixon, it helps to give a true representation of the sector. These visits are important to candidates to make the theory 'real' and help them make their career decisions. A massive thankyou from all on the course at Gowerton.



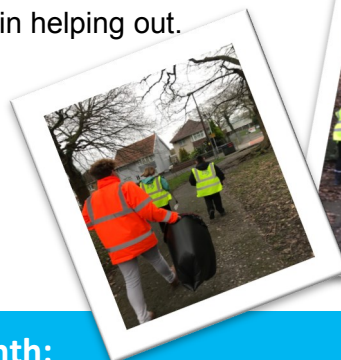
LLANGRANNOG

100 year 7 pupils recently visited the Urdd activities centre at Llangrannog for an exciting, fun packed weekend. The wind and rain failed to dampen their spirits and pupils participated with the utmost enthusiasm. The most popular activities were the high rope course and toboggans. Pupils conquered their fears to complete the course with their classmates and 'Can do Kanga'. On an academic level the visit gave the pupils the opportunity to hear Welsh being spoken outside the classroom and to use their language skills in practical situations. Da iawn pawb - bendigedig. A wonderful weekend was had by all.



TRASH ALLIGATORS

The 'trash alligators walking group' has celebrated a year of excellent work. Every lunchtime the group walks locally and using littler pickers (nick-named 'trash alligators') they pick up litter from the paths. The group was asked recently to help in Dunvant community centre and enjoyed clearing leaves from the path. This is a voluntary group and all involved feel a sense of community in helping out.



JANUARY

Right of the month:

ARTICLE 29: The right to be the best you can be.



unicef UNITED KINGDOM

CHARITY NEWS

Last month we mentioned our Christmas jumper day. The charity we donated to was the 'The Roots Foundation' which is based in Ravenhill, Swansea. Abigail, Year 9, presented the foundation with a cheque for £500 which pupils and staff raised from wearing Christmas jumpers. Staff from the foundation were overwhelmed by the support from our school and the money will make a big difference to their provision.



SWIMMING EXCELLENCE

Three Gowerton school pupils competed at the recent Open Winter Welsh Short Course (SC) Swimming Championships 2019. Dairhys Leckonby in the 13-14 yr boys age group (13), Jessica Dickinson in the 13-14 yr girls age group (14) and Antonio Rodriguez in the 15-16 yr boys age group (15). Following tough qualifying heats, they achieved the following results: Dairhys Leckonby got three personal best times in the 50m, 100m and 200m freestyle, breaking the minute for the 100m freestyle. Jessica Dickinson qualified for four finals, winning Gold in the 200m Freestyle, 200m Individual Medley and 200m Butterfly (against the 200m Butterfly British Age Group Champion) as well as a Silver in the 100m Butterfly. Jessica also won individual Gold in the 400m Freestyle. Antonio Rodriguez qualified for seven finals, winning Gold in the 100m and 200m Butterfly as well as Bronze in the 200m Butterfly Open category (All age groups), 50m Butterfly, 200m Freestyle and 200m Backstroke. Antonio also broke the Welsh Junior Short Course Record in the heats then bettered his new record by going a further 2+ secs faster in the final. Truly outstanding sporting performance from three talented young Gowerton School swimmers. Long may their successes continue.

Pob lwc I Elen, Antonio a Jess. These pupils are competing at the National Urdd swimming gala this month. We wish them all the very best.

LEGO COMPETITION SUCCESS

Two teams of pupils from year 7 and 8 competed in the "First Lego League" competition at Swansea's Waterfront Museum today (17th January 2020).

Having worked tirelessly over the last few months to prepare for the day, pupils competed against 17 other teams and were challenged to:

1. Design and build a robot
2. Program the robot to complete a series of difficult challenges
3. Produce and deliver a presentation
4. Under go interviews
5. Display their teamwork skills during a team Lego building challenge

Both teams showed excellent determination, resilience, problem solving skills and of course team work.

We are very proud of all of the individuals who took part!



Message to the pupils this week:

Kanga says 'Carpe Diem' – 'Seize the day'.

Make the most of every moment to live and learn.

This week try to be positive like 'Can Do Kanga'.

Don't say..... 'I can't do it'

Instead Say 'I can't do it YET'