



**Bishop Vaughan Catholic School
Ysgol Gatholig Esgob Vaughan**

**Parents' Newsletter July 2016
Cylchlythyr Rhieni Gorffanaf 2016**



This year's school production—'Beauty and the Beast'

School Term and Holiday Dates 2016-2017

Term	Term begins	HALF TERM HOLIDAYS		Term ends
		Begins	Ends	
Autumn 2016	Thursday 1st September	Monday 24th October	Friday 28th October	Friday 16th December
Spring 2017	Wednesday 4th January	Monday 20th February	Friday 24th February	Friday 7th April
Summer 2017	Monday 24th April	Monday 29th May	Friday 2nd June	Friday 21st July

Dates for your Diary

The last day of half term is Wednesday 20th July 2016; school closes at 3.25pm. All pupils with the exception of Year 13 return to school on Monday 5th September 2016. This will be Week One on the timetable. Year 13 will return on Tuesday 6th September 2016.

Inset Days

Thursday 1st September 2016
 Friday 2nd September 2016
 Thursday 20th October 2016
 Friday 21st October 2016
 Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Year 6 Open Evening will be on Thursday 13th October 2016 from 7.00 - 9.30pm

Examination Results - A2 & AS Results - Thursday 18th August 2016 (9.00 - 12.00)
 - GCSE Results - Thursday 25th August 2016 (9.00 - 12.00)

Please see page 17 for further information about collecting examination results.

The full academic year school calendar is enclosed with this newsletter and is also available to view on our website.

PLEASE NOTE:

The decision was taken by ERW, our regional consortium, that no absences due to holidays during term times will be authorised by Headteachers. This means absences that are due to pupils being taken on holidays during term time will be recorded as unauthorised.

As a school we actively encourage parents not to take holidays during term time so that children can fully benefit from the opportunities their school provides. If children are not in school, they cannot learn.

From the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Bishop Vaughan Newsletter. As we come to the end of another very busy and successful year, I would like to thank staff, pupils and governors for all your hard work and support for the school.

I am also very grateful to our Chaplain, Father John Browne, and to all the Clergy who have given so much time and encouragement to the pupils over the last year.

I am sure you will enjoy reading about how successful our pupils have been in so many different areas of school life. Our recent production of Beauty and the Beast was of the usual extremely high standard and was enjoyed by audiences over three evenings as well as by pupils from our Partner Primary Schools during the day. Thank you, congratulations and well done to all the pupils and staff involved.

Congratulations also to our Geography students who came 1st and 2nd in the Geographical Association Quiz at Cardiff University last week - a tremendous achievement.

Our Year 11 and year 13 students have worked extremely hard in preparation for their examinations, attending regular revision classes. We look forward to some pleasing results in August.

Just some of the many achievements and successes captured in this newsletter.

Yours sincerely



Mr P White
Headteacher

Review/Consultation on New Uniform

I would like to give you advanced notice that the governors are currently reviewing the school uniform with the intention of bringing in any changes for the Academic Year 2017/2018.

Once a shortlist of options for the new uniform have been decided, the governors will consult with pupils, parents and staff before introducing any changes.

Year 11 Football Team



Pictured from Left Right: Back Row: T Davies (PE Teacher), Ross Fender, Ben Scannell, Jake O'Grady, Rhys Evans, Josh Price, Jack Hughes, Morgan Bevan, Connor Beddows, Mike Jones (Assistant Headteacher)
Front Row: Corey Mainwaring, Rhodri Evans, Dylan Symmons, Elliot Smith (captain), Evan Daley, Jay Popham, Brandon Morgan

Bishop Vaughan School would like to formally congratulate the Current Year 11 (2011 - 2016) boys football team and thank them for their efforts and achievements. This group of boys have won the Swansea Schools Cup in all five years that they have played which is an outstanding achievement. They have also reached the latter stages of the Welsh Schools Cup at all levels narrowly losing out in the final of the Under 15 competition last year.

This team also travelled to Paris in 2015 to compete against teams from all over Europe in the International Youth Festival of Football. The trip proved a great success with our team qualifying out of the group stages and going on to win the semi-final and final with Elliot Smith picking up the Official Goal of the Tournament. The boys have always played the game in the spirit which we expect at Bishop Vaughan which embodies the ethos of our school. Hard working, resilient, keen to help each other with a mutual respect for both staff, team-mates and opposition alike, the boys have been a pleasure to watch and develop during their time here.

We would also like to thank Mr Mike Jones and Mr Joe Walters for their efforts in helping the boys continue with their progress.

Swimming Success



Congratulations to Daniel Marotta (year 10) and William Collins (year 9) on being selected for the Welsh swimming squad. The talented and hardworking students both attend early morning training (6am start) several times a week as well as evening pool sessions followed by fitness sessions in the gym. However, the hard work has paid off and both have achieved times that will enable them to compete in the British championships this summer.



Athletics Success



Congratulations to Sebastian Lewis (Year 9) and Osaze Aghedo (Year 12) who were selected to represent Afan Nedd Tawe in the Welsh Schools Athletics Championships in Cardiff.

Both performed extremely well and went on to win their events - Sebastian in the 800m with a time of 2.04m and Osaze who won both the long jump with a distance of 6.46m and the triple jump with a jump of 13.17m.



Congratulations to the new Welsh Champions!!

Fitness

Tara Hammett, a leading local fitness coach, came into school to deliver sessions to all Year 9 pupils on fitness, health and well-being. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Just B Anti-Smoking Campaign



Over the last term thirty-nine pupils from Year 8 have been working as JustB Ambassadors for Public Health Wales. Their role is to promote the anti-smoking message amongst their friends and classmates. The pupils started off with a two day training session in May, where they learnt about facts to do with smoking, such as tobacco smoke contains 4000 chemicals and developed the skills that they would need to be JustB Ambassadors. The pupils then kept a log over the next month of any conversations they had about smoking with their friends or classmates, and reported back to Public Health Wales on their success. The pupils all enjoyed the experience, and are determined to carry on being JustB Ambassadors and keeping themselves and their friends smoke free.



Healthy Eating Club

There is always a steady stream of pupils coming to this club on a Wednesday after school from 3:30-4:30pm.



Earlier in the term we made a tasty carrot cake and this is Brian (9.3) with the result.

Evie (7.1) was also pleased with her carrot cake and she particularly enjoyed the soft cheese topping.

One week we tried orzo pasta, adding mozzarella cheese, cherry tomatoes and spinach.

Although the pupils had not tried some of the ingredients before, they really enjoyed the flavours and textures of this dish!



Healthy Eating Club has been busy this term making Moroccan chicken, lemon meringue cupcakes, orzo pasta, finishing with a classic tea time treat making a Victoria sandwich.



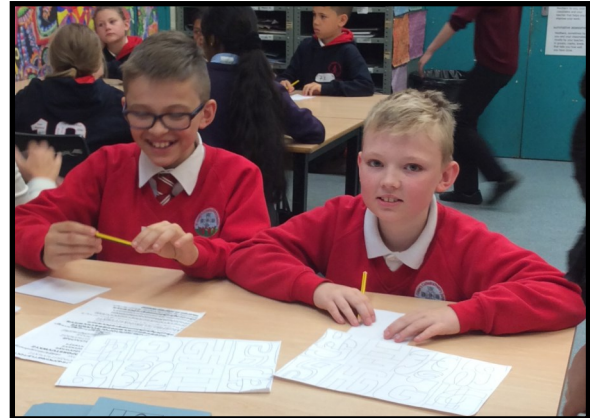
We ended the term with a delicious Victoria sandwich and here are Mia (7.8) and Megan (7.8) with their results.

Join us in September in T2 for Healthy Eating Club after school 3:30-4:30pm.

Mrs P Thomas (T2)



Transition Days



On the 27th and 28th June, Year 6 pupils spent a day in their impending tutor groups for September 2016.

They arrived with excitement and anticipation and their enthusiasm was utilised within the taster sessions that they experienced. These sessions were planned and led by Year 10 Welsh Baccalaureate students who were required to prepare mentoring and coaching activities as part of their GCSE qualification. The two days were jam packed with learning opportunities in many of our subject areas which included: PE, Spanish, Art, Drama, Music and RE. Fun was to be had by all and the pupils left feeling ready to start their new year as Year 7.

They have now familiarised themselves with the layout of the school and made new friends. The feedback from pupils was that they ended their visit feeling reassured about their transition from primary school into part of our community at Bishop Vaughan School.



Beauty and the Beast



The great thing about a school production is the way in which it brings so many pupils together. There is no distinction of year group or age and it creates such a wonderful 'buzz' around the school. This year's production of Beauty and the Beast was no exception. After a short window of rehearsal time the cast rose to the challenge and performed excellently on stage. For some it was their last time to shine as they will be leaving us for university and pastures new, so it was very poignant indeed.

With well-known songs and a fabulous story, the production captured the imagination of all that came to see it. It was wonderful to welcome over three hundred pupils from our feeder primary schools and I am sure it will inspire them to get involved when they come up to BVS. The audiences were very good (even on the night of Wales playing football!) and all thoroughly enjoyed.

We were lucky enough to have representatives from the National Operatic and Dramatic Association at the production including former pupil Leah Collet who is now the Regional Councillor for NODA.

A huge congratulations must go to the entire company and the production team for an outstanding show and we look forward to what next year has to offer!



Santiago Final Training Ride

2016 Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela



In the early hours of Tuesday 12th July a party of twenty-one students and eight staff will commence a cycling pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Western Spain.

We have been preparing for the onerous 560 mile journey since 2015 and have undertaken more than twenty training rides which have become increasingly technical and challenging in preparation for the pilgrimage. We will be averaging between fifty and sixty miles a day and will arrive in Santiago de Compostela in time for the feast of Saint James on July 24th. The first day of cycling will take us from St. Jean Pied de Port in France, across the Pyrenees to Roncesvalles, an extremely strenuous climb. Please bear us in mind in your prayers and support the pilgrims, where possible, by sponsoring them and their chosen charities.



Business Dragons

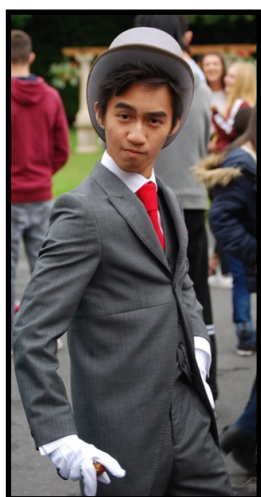
The annual Business Dragons event was recently held at the school. The judges on the day were extremely impressed with the standard of entrepreneurship, skills and ideas shown by the pupils. The team from 9.1 will now go on to represent the school at the next stage of the competition.

Year 11 Prom



Thank you to everyone who made the Year 11 Leavers Day and Prom 2016 so exceptional. Firstly I would like to thank Miss Neucker and Miss Siddika who were the brains behind the staff video of One Direction's 'That's What Makes You Beautiful'. Thanks also to Mr Evans who spent hours editing the video to sync our efforts with the words of the song. Thank you also to Mrs Evans who put up with Mr Evans' hours of editing!

Lastly a HUGE 'Thank You' to all of Year 11. You have made me very proud over the last 5 years but you have really shined over the last few weeks. Your behaviour on the last day was exemplary and it was a pleasure to spend time reflecting on your time in Bishop Vaughan. I was amazed at how much some of you have changed.

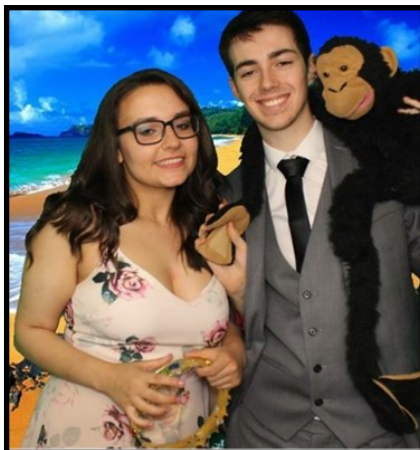


The Prom was awesome. You all looked absolutely amazing! The atmosphere was great. The staff were very impressed by all the dresses, suits and accessories! Congratulations to Jonah Fage and Patricia Dalangin who were worthy recipients of the Prom King and Prom Queen. It was also a moving moment when we released balloons in memory of those we have lost during the last few years. It was a wonderful night that demonstrated why Year 11 was such a fantastic year group. It was a privilege to be your Head of Year.

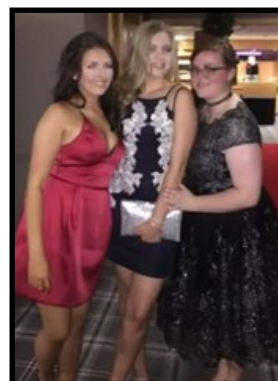
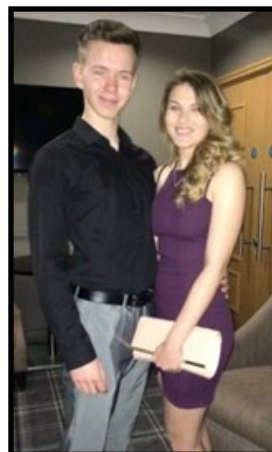
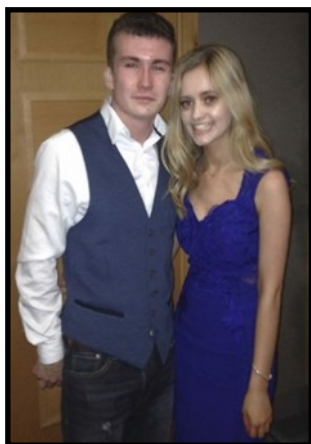
Thank you to all pupils and parents who have sent in photos for the Yearbook. The Yearbook will be available to collect, for those who have paid in full, on results day Thursday 25th August.



Year 13 Prom



On Friday the 1st of July the Year 13 Prom took place in the Village Hotel. It was an opportunity for our year group to have one final celebration together before we all go our separate ways. We were treated to a delicious three course meal followed by a disco where some of the boys showed us all how to dance! A definite highlight of the evening was the photo booth with dozens of props that allowed us to capture some funny photos that will forever remind us of our prom. The evening was filled with laughter and it was a great opportunity to celebrate the friendships we have made over the last few years. Everyone was dressed to impress and it was a lovely way to end our time at Bishop Vaughan!



UKMT Junior Maths Challenge Results

On the 28th April 2016, 80 pupils from years 7 and 8 were invited to take part in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge. In the test, the pupils had to answer 25 multiple choice Maths questions. The pupils did exceptionally well this year with 26 of them gaining a certificate. The following were the best achieving in Bishop Vaughan with Oisín Griffin Barr in year 8 achieving the highest mark in the school. Superb achievement Oisín!

Year 8

1 st	Oisín Griffin Barr	Gold Award
2 nd	Casey Glover	Silver Award
3 rd	Daniel Felton	Silver Award
4 th	Hannah Thomas	Silver Award
5 th	Faye Measday	Silver Award
6 th	Maya Ingham	Bronze Award
7 th	Courtney Hitchings	Bronze Award
8 th	Alex McKnight	Bronze Award
Jt 9 th	Dane Read	Bronze Award
Jt 9 th	Nathan Walsh	Bronze Award
Jt 9 th	Jennifer Parry	Bronze Award
12 th	Eloisa Terora	Bronze Award
13 th	Kristian Morgan	Bronze Award
14 th	Marvel Biju	Bronze Award
15 th	Geo Reji	Bronze Award

Year 7

1 st	Ashwin Sibi	Silver Award
2 nd	Isaac Williams	Silver Award
3 rd	Cadan Jones	Bronze Award
4 th	Luke Taylor	Bronze Award
5 th	Megan Morgan	Bronze Award
6 th	Nirmal De Britto	Bronze Award
7 th	Hannah Crudge	Bronze Award
8 th	Michael Pole	Bronze Award
9 th	Lauren Myles	Bronze Award
Jt 10 th	Alexi Jaimon	Bronze Award
Jt 10 th	Kyle Sawit	Bronze Award

The following pupils also did very well but they just missed out on a certificate: Jovin Jose, Noemi Panaccio, Joshua Manantan and Sam Harvey.

There were some very challenging problem solving questions and only the top 40% in the country receive awards. Well done to everybody that took part.

For more information on this competition or for a copy of the questions visit <http://www.ukmt.org.uk/>

The Young Writers' Squad

Poetry at its best!

The Young Writers' Squad have continued to be very busy and spent a truly inspirational morning with the poet, Paul Henry at the Dylan Thomas Centre. Paul is the author of nine books of verse. Originally a songwriter, he has read and performed his work at literary festivals in Europe, Asia and the USA. A Creative Writing tutor, Paul is a Writing Fellow at the University of South Wales. Our Writing Squad had a great time working with Paul producing some amazing writing while having such a lot of fun. The Young Writers' Squad spent a really entertaining morning working in



The Young Writers' Squad join the Neath Port Talbot Squad

collaboration with the Neath Port Talbot Squad with the writer, Richard Foreman. Richard is a writer and artist; he has written comics; scripted photo stories; written poetry and his latest book of short stories entitled 'Wilful Lies' was published on April 1st. He delighted us with his storytelling and gave many useful tips for us as writers. Our thanks to the Neath and Port Talbot Squad for inviting us to join them.



Scholastic Book Fair

Bishop Vaughan's first 'Scholastic Book Fair' was a great success. Many pupils from Year 7 to Year 12 purchased books, stationery and posters on popular fiction and non-fiction texts. Due to the amount spent by pupils, Bishop Vaughan Library has received over £100 worth of books as a reward for their commitment and enthusiasm! Many thanks to all pupils and staff who supported the fair, especially Mrs Howard, the Librarian, and pupils: Justin Brighton, Jack Gibbins, Liam Wheatley-Williams and James Cornell.



Mullany Fund

Pupils Participate in E-Mentoring Publicity Event



Bishop Vaughan pupils participated in a publicity video for the Mullany Fund earlier this month. The Mullany Fund is a charity that supports pupils enter careers in the healthcare, medicine and life science sectors. The Fund runs an e-mentoring scheme that connects pupils to online mentors in fields such as Medicine, Veterinary Science and Biomedicine to offer careers advice and support. A number of BVS pupils have taken part in the e-mentoring scheme and as a result, the Mullany Fund asked our pupils to be interviewed for a short publicity film. The film will be shown to MPs, AMs and educational organisations. The Mullany Fund have also been nominated for an award and, if they win, sections of the film will feature on BBC News.

MAT Opportunities and Activities

BVS has developed a number of opportunities this year to support our more able pupils in their current studies and future ambitions. A wide range of activities have taken place this term, including the Masterclass Programme with Swansea University. A number of lecturers visited the school over the last few months and offered talks on subjects as diverse as regenerative medicine, astrophysics and the media during WW2. Lecturers from the University of South Wales also held masterclasses for pupils on topics including Law, Sociology and English Literature. The programme will be running again from September.

Pupils have also visited Swansea University for a number of events. Year 12 pupils participated in a Medical Physics Day at the university and Singleton Hospital, where they took part in a number of workshops and practical activities. Year 10 pupils attended a Maths Conference and a Psychology/Criminology Taster Day. These were all fantastic opportunities to develop their subject knowledge and assist them with making informed decisions about their futures.

Meanwhile, Year 9 girls were invited to attend a Saturday Science Club at the university. The Club is designed to encourage girls to consider STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Medical) careers, as females are under-represented in these fields. Five pupils from Year 9 have regularly been attending and benefitting from workshops led by experts from the university in topics including marine biology, biosciences and medicine. The pupils have really enjoyed the sessions and have been praised by the university for their positive attitude and enthusiasm.

Two pupils from the Sixth Form also had the opportunity to visit Cambridge University over Easter as part of the school's partnership with the HE+ and Seren networks. These organisations work to widen participation in top universities through a number of activities, including residential visits to Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Baptin and Cinzia spent three days in Cambridge with other students from South Wales and visited a number of colleges, including the historic Christ's College and Trinity College. They also attended an open day at Churchill College and learned more about the application process for Cambridge. Similar opportunities will be available in the future through the HE+ and Seren Networks.

Bishop Vaughan Pupils Win Medicine Summer School Places

Four pupils in Year 11 have won fully funded places at a prestigious Medicine and Healthcare summer school. Gian Hernandez, Carla Bayliss-Clark, Alisha Moran and James Necrews-Morgan applied for the University College London Hospital summer school through the Mullany Fund, a charity that works to widen access to medical careers.



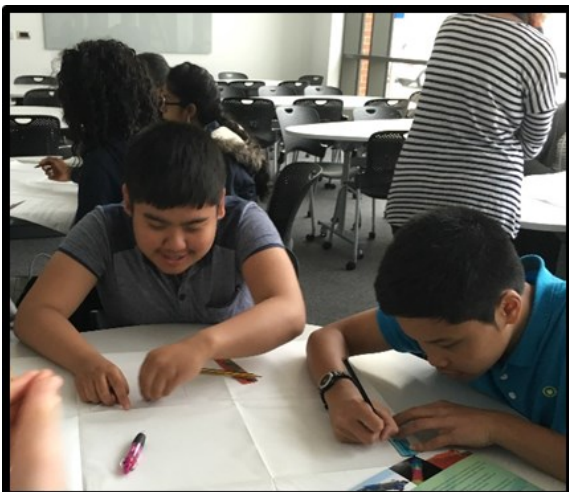
The Mullany Fund has been working closely with BVS over the past year and has offered pupils the opportunity to take part in an e-mentoring scheme which connects pupils with mentors working in healthcare and medicine. The Fund only had six places available in total, which makes the achievement of our pupils even more notable.

Gian, Carla, Alisha and James will be spending a week in London after their exams, based at UCLH. They will participate in a number of practical workshops exploring medical and healthcare careers, including simulated medical scenarios. UCLH is a state-of-the-art training hospital and the pupils will benefit from the latest technology and research during the week. This will be an invaluable experience to support their future ambitions in the field of medicine.

We wish all four pupils the best of luck and look forward to hearing about their experiences on their return.

Year 9 MAT Visit to Swansea University Bay Campus

Year 9 MAT pupils were invited to the new Swansea University Bay Campus in June as part of the Masterclass partnership. The pupils toured the new facilities on the campus, including the Engineering workshops and the new Great Hall. The pupils also participated in an Engineering workshop led by lecturers involved in the Bloodhound Supersonic Car project. The pupils were tasked with working in teams to design and create their own supersonic car, albeit on a far smaller scale and fuelled by rockets. The winning team achieved a top speed of 74 mph with their design, whilst the losing team sadly damaged their car in a small explosion.



The visit was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to gain a taste of university life, as well as develop their team working skills. Kaitlyn, from 9.1 said: 'I really enjoyed the trip. We were given some really helpful advice about how to prepare for university as well as practising wider skills such as communication and team working. Testing the cars was also great fun!'



GA Welsh Wise Quiz 2016



On Monday 4th July, six Year 9 girls took part in the annual Geographical Association Welsh Wise Quiz.

The event took place at the Geography and Planning Department in Cardiff University. Eight teams took part in the event representing four different schools across South Wales. Our girls made up two of the teams.

Their efforts and preparation for the quiz was excellent and their hard work paid off as they came first and second, with only one point between them. This is a huge achievement and as a Geography department we are extremely proud of their success. Da lawn girls!



Examination Results

If you gave a stamped addressed envelope to the office before the end of your exams, your results will be posted on your behalf.

If you cannot collect the results in person you can ask an adult member of your family to collect your results on your behalf. If you do this they **must** bring with them a signed letter from you authorising them to collect your results.

Unfortunately, we cannot give out results over the phone.

CERTIFICATES

Certificates gained during these examinations will be available for collection in December 2016. **It is important that you collect your certificates as they will be returned to the examination board after 12 months**

UK Junior Mathematical Challenge

Here is a Maths Challenge question for you:

Six boys share a flat with two bathrooms which they use every morning beginning at 7:00 am. In each bathroom there is never more than one person at any one time. The times they spend in the bathroom are 8, 10, 12, 17, 21 and 22 minutes. What is the earliest time that they can finish using the bathrooms?

- A 7:45 B 7:46 C 7:47 D 7:48 E 7:50

The solution can be found on page 21

Gower Geography Field Trips 2016



2016 is the national 'Year of Fieldwork' and the Geography Department at Bishop Vaughan has made the most of it this term. We have been on two trips, firstly, Caswell Bay and secondly to Pwll Du Bay, both with GCSE classes investigating coastal processes and landforms on the Gower Peninsular.

Caswell Bay

Eighty-three Year 10 pupils were lucky enough to spend a sunny day in May out of the classroom with not only their geography teachers but also Dawn Thomas, a local fieldwork expert from Nature Days. The pupils learnt about the geology of the bay as well as coastal erosion and its associated landforms. The pupils made models of an Arches, Stacks, Stumps and Caves in the sand as well as being involved in a dance session of coastal kungfu!



Pwll Du Bay

Again, GCSE students visited the Gower to collect essential data for their Controlled Assessment which counts for 10% of their GCSE grade. The pupils were again excellent, however, some were luckier than others with the weather! Students completed transects along the pebble beach at Pwll Du investigating the beach profile and sediment shape. Students also recorded data on wave type and longshore drift.



Classics Department

Swansea University Trip

On Tuesday 15th March, 20 students from Years 10, 11 and 12 were invited to the Classics Department at Swansea University for the day, to attend lectures and workshops on a range of topics from the Classical world. There was death and disaster galore! Subjects such as 'Daemons in Ancient Egypt', 'Death and destruction in Pompeii', and 'Cursing in the Ancient World' (Yes, we really did make curses; No, we weren't allowed to curse anyone we knew!) took us around the different civilisations, and there was also an introduction to the Greek language. Perhaps the most exciting surprise was the lunchtime visit to the ancient astronomy dome, hired for the day by the Classics department especially for the visiting schools' students. Sitting in a tent, pitch-black apart from the constellations rotating across its ceiling, university students used the dome's images to launch into stories of the various Classical myths. Thanks to Mr Rowland for accompanying us, and well done to all for throwing themselves into the activities and making the most of the day!



Ancient Greek Lessons

Some students from Swansea University have been teaching Ancient Greek to a number of our students in Years 10 to 12 on Friday lunchtimes. Four of them made it to the very end, and after sitting an exam prepared by the university, they now have a certificate in beginners' Greek. (That will look great on the UCAS form!) Well done Tom Hutchins, Mary James, Muyembe Mwanza (all Year 12) and Maira Mendes (Year 10).



Latin - Some firsts

For the first time, four students in Year 11 sat the Level 2 (GCSE) Latin language exam early, in January, all scoring A*! Congratulations to Maricci Basa, Ira Go, Gian Hernandez and Alys Williams for braving the early paper, and doing so well! Also for the first time, two of our Year 11 students (Aodhan Griffin-Barr, and Lauren Hutfield) as well as one Year 10 pupil (Johanna Dalangin) have just sat Level 1 Latin, having only attended a weekly lunchtime session. They will of course find out their results in August.



Mrs M Richardson

Cashless and Online Payments System

From 1st September 2016 the school will be introducing a cashless system for paying for school meals. We are also introducing an online payments system with 'ParentPay'. You should have received a pack containing information with regards to the above and there is also a link on the school's website whereby these forms can be downloaded.

As a parent you will need to be registered with ParentPay and you will be given your own account whereby payments can be made using a debit/credit card for:-

- School Trips
- Revision Guides
- Ties
- School Planners
- School Meals

For those parents who do not have a debit/credit card, payments can be made via PayPoint which is an in-store payment service operating in local stores and Post Offices. To find your nearest local store please follow the link below:-

<https://paypoint.com/en-gb>

If you have any queries regarding this please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Biometric fingerprinting takes place in school on Thursday 14th July 2016.

UK Junior Mathematical Challenge Solution

B: 7.46 The total length of time in minutes spent in the two bathrooms is $8+10+12+17+21+22=90$. So, if it can be arranged that one bathroom is being used for exactly 45 minutes at the same time as the other bathroom is also being used for 45 minutes then the boys would be finished at 7:45. Consider the bathroom used by the boy taking 22 minutes. For an optimal solution, the other boys using the same bathroom would need to take 23 minutes in total and it can easily be seen that no such combination of two or more times can give this time. The closest is 22 minutes from the boy who takes 10 minutes and the boy who takes 12 minutes. This would mean one bathroom was in use for 44 minutes and the other for 46 minutes. Hence the earliest time they can finish using the bathrooms is 7:46.

School Uniform September 2016-August 2017

The school colours are based on burgundy for years 7-11.

Three of our suppliers are:- Bergoni, Tower Court, Unit 8, St. Davids Road, Swansea Enterprise Park SA6 8RU Tel: 01792 796880 / 771070 and J&S Products, 74 Tycoch Road, Swansea, SA2 9EQ Tel: 01792 206658 and Teamz Sportswear, 4 Shoppers Walk, Picton Arcade, Swansea, SA1 3AZ, Tel: 01792 655281.

Parents who have any doubts about what is acceptable should contact the school for guidance. The final arbitrary of what constitutes school uniform lies with the Headteacher and Governors of the school. Please do not rely on information obtained from elsewhere.

Year 7-11

- Pullover:** burgundy, v-necked with official school logo.
- Tie:** years 7-11 official school tie.
- Socks:** with skirts, standard grey or white
- Tights:** should be flesh-coloured, medium grey or black, plain and seamless.
NB socks or tights **MUST** be worn.
- Blouse/Shirt:** plain light blue, standard school style. Not denim or fashion.
NB During the summer term only light blue polo shirt with school logo, may be worn (see note on previous page).
- Skirt:** mid-grey or black in material and standard design, knee length
- Trousers:** dark grey or black and standard design, **NOT** fashion or jeans. No denim, leather, flares, leggings, skinny style etc
- Shoes:** black formal school shoes (leather/artificial leather) with flat or low heels. Ankle boots may be worn in winter provided they conform to the above regulations (not with skirts). Trainers are not permitted. Felt/fabric or canvas shoes are not permitted. Heavy boots (military, Ugg etc.) are not permitted. No forms of logo.
- Outer Garments:** pupils may wear standard length coats, anoraks or cagoules. However, all outer garments, of whatever type, must be plain, navy blue/black and single coloured. Pupils may not wear denim, hoodies, leather look jacket, no faux fur, tracksuit tops or cardigans.

No logos, writing, patterns or stripes of any description should be present. Hats e.g. Beanies, Baseball caps are not permitted in any circumstances. Head bands must be plain and dark.

There is no necessity for anorak hoods to be worn at school.
- Jewellery:** A single sleeper or a single metal stud of minimum size in the lobe. No other piercings are permitted e.g. stretchers, spacers, glass, nose or tongue piercing. A medallion or chain may be worn if discreet. It must be removed for PE/Games. All other jewellery is forbidden. It should be noted that tattoos are not permitted.
- Make-up/Hair:** Make-up is not allowed. If hair dye/highlights are used they should be a single natural colour with no extreme contrasts (i.e. purples, reds, dip dyes etc are not permitted), no 'designs' to be shaved into the hair. No 'skin head' type haircuts or shaved patches (not shorter than grade 2). No braiding with a mixture of hair colours. No artificial plaits or braids. No painted nails or nail extensions.

Games Kit

Rugby Shirt (boys):	burgundy with blue/white side panels
T-Shirt (boys):	burgundy with blue/white side panels
T-Shirt (girls):	white polo shirt with blue/white side panels
Shorts (boys):	burgundy with blue/white side panels
Shorts (girls):	burgundy with white trim
Footwear:	soccer, rugby appropriate studded boots and training shoes as applicable
Socks (boys & girls):	burgundy
Hooded Top (girls):	black with school logo (hooded top is optional)
Tracksuit bottoms (girls):	plain black (only to be worn in cold weather).

Shin pads are to be worn for all hockey and football lessons. Gum shields are strongly recommended for hockey and rugby.

All Items of clothing should be clearly marked with the pupil's name.

Sixth Form Uniform

Pullover:	navy, v-necked with official school logo
Tie:	Sixth Form official school tie
Shirt/Blouse:	plain white, standard school style (not fashion) <i>NB During the summer term only navy blue polo shirt with Sixth Form logo, may be worn.</i>
Skirt:	navy blue, knee length
Trousers:	Trousers: navy blue, black, <u>dark grey</u> , standard design. No denim, leather, flares, leggings, corduroy etc
Socks:	with trousers: dark coloured, or white with skirts: navy blue or white
Tights:	plain, seamless, navy tights may be worn
Shoes:	dark coloured with flat or low heels. Ankle boots may be worn in winter and sandals in the summer. Trainers and canvas shoes are not permitted
Topcoat:	dark blue/black/grey – single coloured only

Members of Sixth Form are expected to wear the uniform throughout the school day. A single sleeper or a single stud of minimum size may be worn in the lobe. No other piercings are permitted e.g. stretchers, spacers, nose or tongue piercing. If hair dye/highlights are used they should be a natural colour with no extreme contrasts (i.e. greens etc are not permitted), no 'designs' to be shaved into the hair. No 'skin head' type haircuts. Baseball caps are not permitted in any circumstances.

Any jewellery must be removed if in the judgement of any staff, instructors or technicians it constitutes a health and safety hazard, especially in laboratories, workshops and PE areas.

Attendance

attendance **MATTERS**

The Education (School Day School Year) (Wales) Regulations 2006 states pupils are expected to attend school for 190 days a year. Moreover, there is a strong correlation between good attendance and high achievement as set out below:

95-100% attendance	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
90-95% attendance	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Satisfactory. Your child may have to spend time catching up with work.
85-90% attendance	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child may be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support from you to catch up with work.
80-85% attendance	At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant impact on learning.
Below 80% attendance	At least 7½ weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are at risk of prosecution.

The decision was taken by ERW, our regional education consortium, that no absences due to holidays during term times will be authorised by Head Teachers. This means absences that are due to pupils being taken on holiday during term time will be recorded as unauthorised.

As a school we actively encourage parents not to take holidays during term time so that children can fully benefit from the opportunities their school provides. If children are not in school, they cannot learn.



100% Attendance

Congratulations to the following tutorials for having the highest attendance during this term so far:

7.2	-	96.4%
8.3	-	96.4%
9.7	-	95.3%
10.2	-	96.2%

Parents' Information

It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure their children receive a full time education – THIS IS THE LAW.

Parents must ensure that their children attend school regularly and on time.

It is a parent's responsibility to let the school know if their child is going to be absent by contacting the school using any one of the following methods:

Attendance telephone number (local rate): 0844 239 3548

Attendance text number: 07624 816695

Email: bvs-attendance@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

Alternatively the school's Attendance Office staff are: Mrs E-J Gwyther and Mrs R Aleman and they are available via the school's telephone number 01792 772006 Ext 219.

Remember the **only legally acceptable reasons** for not being in school are:

- Medical related absences
- Religious day of observance

The School Can Help

If you are worried or feel there is a problem with your child's attendance, it is always best to talk to the school first, however, the school can help with a variety of issues such as:

- Bullying
- Exclusions
- Child Protection
- Advice and Support

If you want any help and advice about your child's attendance, please contact

Mrs J Rees (Education Welfare Officer) on 01792 772006 Ext 218 or Mrs E-J Gwyther on 01792 772006 Ext 219.

Pupil Information

If any of your details have changed, please write or email the school so that our records may be updated. This includes any change to address, contact telephone numbers (especially mobile telephone and emergency contacts), place of work, doctor, or any new medical conditions of which we should be aware.

Could you please pass onto the school any relevant email address that we could use to contact you?



Attendance

PENALTY NOTICE FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

The Education (Penalty Notices) (Wales) Regulations 2013 introduced fixed notice penalties for regular non-attendance/lateness at school. This was implemented in Swansea from January 2015.

The Welsh Government states that penalty notices are one option among a number of different interventions available to promote better school attendance.

The introduction of these regulations mean that parents may now be fined for their child(ren)'s regular non-attendance at school.

The local code of conduct, which explains how penalty notices will operate, is available on the Swansea Council website.

Penalty notices can be issued for the following reasons:

- When a pupil has a minimum of 10 sessions or 5 school days lost due to unauthorised absences during the current term and bringing the overall school attendance to below 90% in the school year to date.
- 10 sessions or 5 school days lost due to holidays in term-time if the absence takes the whole school attendance to below 90% in the current school year to date.
- 10 sessions of persistent lateness after the register has closed in a term bringing the attendance to below 90% in the current school year to date, or a combination of the above.



May we remind you to telephone the 24 hour absence line

0844 2393548 (local rate number)

or send a text message to **07624 816695** on a **daily basis**.



DID YOU KNOW ?

*5 minutes late each day amounts to
25 minutes late each week amounts to
16 hours 15 minutes education missed during a school year!*



Bus Passes



Could both parents and pupils be aware that the children should carry their bus pass with them at all times. Pupils could be asked at any time whilst travelling on a school bus, to produce their bus pass as evidence that they are allocated a seat. If pupils have misplaced their bus pass please contact the school office who will organise a replacement.



Also pupils are not allowed to travel on any other bus other than the one that is printed on their bus pass. On several occasions lately pupils have tried to travel on different buses, e.g. to go over to a friend's place after school. This is not allowed and the drivers have the right to refuse entry to pupils who are not allocated to their bus. It is parents' responsibility to collect their children and take them to alternative venues after school.

Getting to School

Parents are politely reminded that pupils who cycle to school must wear a helmet and dismount once they enter school property. Students must not come to school by scooter as this is dangerous to both the user and to pedestrians. We would very much appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Mr P White, Headteacher

Parking Outside Bishop Vaughan

A letter has been received from the School Community Police Officer asking us to pass on the concerns of local residents in relation to parking and vehicles causing obstructions outside the school from 3.00pm every afternoon.

Police Officers will be patrolling regularly outside the school to take positive action regarding any vehicles which are parked in contravention of road traffic legislation.



Parking During Parents' Evenings

Local residents have expressed their concerns in relation to parking outside the school and vehicles causing obstructions. Similarly parents using the school bus bay on Parents' Evenings must ensure that they do not block their car in or obstruct exits or entrances. Please park with due care and consideration at all times.

Mobile Telephones

As referenced on page 6, if pupils have mobile phones they should note that they are **not** to be switched on or in use inside the school. This includes the buildings, playground and playing field areas, before, during and after the school day.



Mobile phones are to be kept out of sight, either on the person or in the school bag. The school can take no responsibility for any loss or theft of mobile phones.

Parents and guardians are asked **not** to contact their children by phone or text during the school day. If an emergency message needs to be conveyed the school office will take the call and pass the message on. Similarly if a pupil needs to make an emergency call home he or she just needs to approach the office.

Failure to comply with these rules will result in the phone being confiscated and kept in the school office for collection by a responsible adult.




School Website

The school website can be found at: www.bishopvaughan.co.uk

Lost Property

We still have a number of items in 'lost property', which is now located in the Main Office.

None of the articles are labelled and cannot, therefore, be returned to their owner. If your child has lost any item, please tell them to come and check with Mrs Hancock or Mrs Stewart in the Main Office. After a period of time items not claimed will be given to a charity shop as there is no room to store them.



Lost property is available for checking at break and lunch-time.

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS OF SCHOOL UNIFORM SO THAT THEY CAN BE EASILY RETURNED IF HANDED IN TO LOST PROPERTY.

Please can all parents and guardians be aware that the school cannot supervise pupils arriving before 8.40 am.



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Fax: 01792 790565
E-mail: bishopvaughanN@hwbmail.net
www.bishopvaughan.co.uk**