

Music News

Congratulations to Harvey Rees who was runner up in the Margam Young Musician Competition.
Congratulations to Rebecca Burgess who has passed her Grade 6 violin exam.

Youth Speaks

Year 12 students, Naomi Edwards, Saran Sayce and Morgan Williams represented the school in the recent Youth Speaks Competition. They run out district winners and competed at the regional heat of the Competition in March.

Pen Y Fan

Our fantastic Year 13 students scaled the dizzy heights of Pen Y Fan on the 12th and 13th March – a very health conscious way of raising money for the annual Year 13 Ball.



Beauty and the Beast

The School production of Beauty and the Beast is fast approaching. This is the first whole school production of a musical that the school has produced for many years, and everyone has worked so hard to ensure such a professional performance. Performances start early in the week with a matinee for pupils from the local primary schools, with the main performances taking place in the evening on Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th March. Good luck to such a deserving group of hardworking teachers and students. It's going to be a knock out!

Year 8 Premier League Reading Scheme



Nathan Pitman
Brogan Everett
Ben Finnemore
Cameron Pearce
Iestyn Smith
Iestyn Powell
Rhys Kurnock
Dominic Gibbons
Evan Drummond
Stepan Kalko...

...visited the Liberty Stadium with Miss Hodge where they had a tour of the stadium and interviewed Swans legend Lee Trundle. The boys will be having a training session with Swans after the Easter Holidays.

Well Done!

Congratulations to Katie Rees who was a finalist in the Edinburgh University Medical Competition 'Can surgeons be virtually trained?'



YSGOL MAESTEG SCHOOL



NEWSLETTER

Dear parents,

I am delighted to share with you the first of many 'Ysgol Maesteg' newsletters to keep you up to date with new developments, celebrate success and share information. Our simple motto is 'Motivated to Strive' to promote a disciplined environment where everyone is expected to work hard and make a contribution to Maesteg school life. We expect our students to work hard at school and at home. We want them to acquire a love of learning, deep knowledge and skills that will equip them to survive and succeed in life after school

Last year the school achieved its best ever results and due to the hard work of staff and students, we were awarded 'Green' status by Welsh Government. We are one of only 39 secondary schools across Wales and only 3 in Bridgend Local Authority to be awarded this status. Green schools are considered to be 'Highly Effective' due to the following factors:

- Track record in achieving high levels of learner outcomes
- Demonstrates resilience at all levels
- Challenged to move towards excellence
- Have the capacity to lead others effectively and participate in school to school support

We relish the challenge of continuing to build on this success to improve standards for your children. I feel privileged and honoured to lead Maesteg school and I am proud of the many and varied achievements of our staff and students. I look forward to working with our parents and families now and in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Helen Jones

Street Dancing

Ellie Meek, Robyn Hanbury, Shannel Mort, Chloe Lock, Channelle Peters, Ashton Goldsworthy, Amy Williams and Josie Lewis came 1st in the Street Dance Championship for under 14's. The girls won a massive trophy and received medals for their excellent performance. They were up against some tough competition and did the school proud. Well done girls!

Visit to Poland

Saran Sayce and Naomi Edwards from year 12 had the huge honour of visiting both Krakov and Auschwitz Concentration Camp.

STOP Racism

As part of the STOP racism competition we have three winners from the school competition and our fingers are crossed in the hope that one of them will win the Wales competition. The Maesteg School winners are:

- Megan Lewis for a fantastic T-shirt design
- Courtney Buchanan for an innovative poster which included Arabic writing
- Emily Wager for an excellent poem.

Year 10 Trip to Glan Llyn

A wonderful weekend was had by all at Glan Llyn in January. Year 10 pupils had the opportunity to embrace Welsh culture with activities through the medium of Welsh. Pupils took part in; ten pin bowling, raft building, canoeing, wall climbing, orienteering, a high ropes course, quiz and bingo night, swimming and a disco. We were so thrilled to see pupils engaging through the medium of Welsh and we were really impressed with the way pupils conducted themselves over the weekend. This trip really encouraged pupils to work closely with our Urdd representative, Jordan Morgan-Hughes and as a result we now have Welsh Ambassadors who are working hard to promote the language within the school.

Visit to Prague

Back in February 30 students from across year 11, 12 and 13 came along for the 3 night visit to Prague.



Whilst there, as well as seeing the sites and taking part in all the usual tourist activities we visited the Staropramen Brewery, the Skoda factory and the O2 arena to find out more about how the businesses operated.



Congratulations!

Brandon James in year 7 has won an award for Judo.



Bri Lambert and Mia McErlean in year 7 have won awards for dance.



Congratulations to all!

Judo Championship

Congratulations to Jasmine Hacker – Jones who finished 9th in the European Judo Championships - a fantastic achievement!

Winners!

100 Club winners : February 2016

£25 L C Brocklebank
£15 T Carpenter
£10 R & A E Jones

100 Club winners : March 2016

£25 W O White
£15 P & C A Davies
£10 K Howard

St. David's Day Celebrations at Disneyland Paris

To celebrate St. David's Day 45 pupils from Year 9 visited Disneyland Paris from the 3rd to the 6th March for the St. David's Day Weekend Festival. Despite some inclement weather on our day of arrival, pupils enjoyed meeting Mickey and his friends in their Welsh costumes.



There was a Welsh market in Disney Village and there was also face painting on Main Street. We couldn't have taken a better group of students who behaved fantastically throughout the whole weekend and who are real ambassadors for the school. We had the best time and we're looking forward to the St David's Day festival weekend being on the school calendar for a long time to come.

Oxbridge Conference

Year 12 Students have been busy attending an Oxbridge Conference at The Liberty Stadium Swansea. Students learnt about student life at both Oxford and Cambridge. Information was shared on application and admission procedures, including tips on how to prepare for the assessments and interviews. There were also a variety of subject-based seminars where our students learnt about the course structure, career prospects and the unique teaching style at Oxford and Cambridge. There was also the opportunity to speak to admissions tutors, academics and current undergraduate students from both universities, which proved to be an invaluable experience.

Bronze Crest Award

We are very proud to announce that 50 of our students received a BRONZE CREST award which is recognised achievement from the British Science Association. The Bronze Award focused on fun and transferable skills. By completing the CREST Bronze Award, students experienced the project process; improving their enquiry, problem solving and communication skills. They also developed their ability to improve their capabilities to create a project using their own ideas and making decisions to make a car that could run using electricity.

Euro 2016



Congratulations to Natalia Frankowska and Viroshni Mangra from year 12 who have become poster ambassadors for the Wales Football Team for Euro 2016. If you are visiting Cardiff during the holidays, look out for them on bill boards and the city's buses!

