



Elfed High School Newsletter  
July 2018  
Cylchlythyr Ysgol Uwchradd Elfed  
Gorffennaf 2018

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## Prom 2018!

Year 11 students congregated for their final farewell event on a sunny evening in June. The students arrived at the Double Tree Hotel in Chester in a variety of modes of transport that included sports cars, limousines, vintage cars and even a tractor. The staff and students enjoyed

a wonderful evening in which they voted on Prom King and Queen and best dressed students. There was an inspirational speech given by one of our senior students to end their night to remember.

## Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes Cynlluniau Ysgolion Iach - Rhwydwaith Cymru

On 14th and 15th June the National Quality Assessors came to visit the school to look at all aspects of the Healthy Schools Scheme. These included Food and Fitness, Mental and Emotional Health and Wellbeing, Personal Development, substance use and misuse, Environment, Safety and Hygiene.

We are pleased to announce we were very successful with our application. The assessors report included some of the following statements;

*"Elfed is a very inclusive school, with wellbeing at the heart of all aspects of school life"*

*"Communication at Elfed is a strong aspect of the school"*

*"We were very impressed by the contribution the students made during the visit"*



## Year 9 Snowdonia Visit



Year 9 students spent a day at Llechwedd Caverns during Skills Week to investigate the importance of the slate industry.

Under the guidance of Geography and History teachers, the students went on a tour of the caverns and examined how the slate industry was essential to the community of Blaenau Ffestiniog. They took part in a variety of activities to appreciate the hard conditions the workers had to endure, these included rock drilling and wall climbing. The students also examined the process of how the slate was mined and then finally split into working pieces.

Students demonstrated excellent communication skills listening to the tour guides.

## Zoo Trip

Year 8 students visited Chester Zoo recently and had the opportunity to learn about many different species of animals. Pupils completed the task of finding examples of mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians and birds and had to classify them into their correct groups. Pupils enjoyed walking through the bat caves and visiting the baby rhino!



## Year 7 Camping Adventures



Year 7 students had the opportunity to enjoy a camping trip to Llyn Rhys Farm in Llandegla. During their time there they took part in various problem solving activities, orienteering, cooking, welsh bingo, shelter building and an evening walk to watch the sun go down. During their stay they developed various teamwork skills and important life skills. They were all encouraged to engage in a period of silent reflection and mindfulness – despite a timely visit from an excitable puppy and hearing the sheep communicating. The students were fantastic and their conduct and respectfulness was commented on by farm owner Mrs Hughes. Da iawn everyone and thank you for a fantastic week.



## Small Animal Care at Northop College

3 Distinctions!!

A fabulous course has been enjoyed by Year 10 students, Alex Howard, Kieran Stagg and Trinity Jones every Friday at Northop College. They were great ambassadors for Elfed High School displaying enthusiasm, good manners, responsibility and respect to everyone. They were deservedly awarded a Distinction for a Level 1 in Small Animal Care.

They learnt to handle and care for snakes, lizards, rats, mice, cockroaches, stick insects, rabbits, ducks, hens, sheep, goats and many more animals. Also they gained great experience working with other students carrying out specified tasks.



## Puzzle Day

It was another excellent display of problem solving and teamwork during our annual Puzzle Day at Elfed. Throughout the day, over 100 Year 4 pupils from the Buckley primary schools spent their time in teams completing a variety of games and activities in which they had to work together, overcome challenges and demonstrate resilience. A big thank you to our Year 7 helpers as well for managing the teams and evaluating performances. Bendigedig!



## PESS Event

Year 5 students had the opportunity to develop their orienteering and problem solving skills.

All students worked really well in the sunshine. It was lovely to get to know so many students. They worked really hard and had a growth mindset.

Many Year 9 Elfed students helped out and offered excellent support and encouragement.

## Work Experience

Thank you to the employers in our community and beyond who provided excellent work experience placements for Year 10 students. We really appreciate the support you provide in helping to prepare these young people for the World of Work.

## Induction Days

After much anticipation the transition days were finally here! Both days were a real success. Students made an excellent first impression and grew in confidence lesson by lesson. Many students made lots of new friends and adapted well to the new environment. It was so exciting to see all our new students at Elfed ready to learn. Our many transition events had really helped the students feel confident and had prepared the students for some of the differences that they might see between High School and Primary School.

Well done to all students and my thanks to all our families who gave so much support to make the days a great success. We are now really looking forward to a great start in September.



## Sports Day 2018

Sports Day this year began with Year 7 students. The whole year group were around the track in support of their friends. The enthusiasm was clear to see from the outset, highlighted by Mr Pandya leading 7\* through a well planned warm up. The results were very close, Mr Larby's form (7L) beating Mr Woodman's form (7E) by 3 points with the double points earned for the relay being the deciding factor.



Year 8 students were next to compete with Miss Fish's form (8H) winning with 125 points, followed by Miss Royle's form (8D) with 107 points. Again, there was a high number of students taking part and some fantastic performances on show.

Finally, it was the turn of Year 9. The winners with a huge total of 174 points, a long way clear of the rest of the field were Miss Blow's form (9G)! Da iawn to all students who took part!



## Cambridge Trip

It was a glorious weekend on the MAT trip to Cambridge University. The students visited multiple colleges, learned about the history of the university, and had an interactive session about applying to university and experiencing life as a student. All of the students embodied excellent Growth Mindsets and were a credit to Elfed High School. Da iawn pawb!

School is closed for the holidays for the summer, starting on Friday 20th July 2018. School is open again for students on Wednesday 5th September 2018.



## Is your child eligible for free school meals?

The high cost of raising a young family means that everyone could do with some help. Free school meals save you time and money and provide reassurance that your children are eating a healthy, balanced lunch every day. If you are on benefits or unemployed you may be able to claim free school meals for your child. Details are on the website.

## Healthier Lunchboxes

School meals are a great choice, but if you do make a packed lunch for your child then we've got it covered. Get hints and tips on what their lunchbox should contain as well as lots of easy-to-prepare ideas your children will love.

