



April 2019

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors, Students and Friends of Rhosnesni,

It has been another extremely busy and successful term for 'Team Rhosnesni'. So many visitors have commented on the maturity, enthusiasm and pride shown by our students. In the local community and across North Wales, people are now starting to talk about the Rhosnesni way of doing things. We are becoming well known for smart uniform, high expectations, respect and academic progress.

When Estyn Inspectors visited in April, they again praised the improvements we have made this year. Like me, they believe that all children should be enthusiastic readers, skilful writers, confident mathematicians and passionate scientists. If we build these strong academic foundations, our students can then genuinely choose which path they take in life. My passion for sport and teaching led me to Physical Education, then to Headship. We are currently asking our Year 11 students, who are busy revising for GCSEs, where they hope to be after they have demonstrated examination success. I'm sure you will join me in wishing them the very best of luck.

Have a fantastic Easter break and take care.

Mr Brant
Headteacher



NEWYDDION

Miss School Miss Opportunities Miss Out.....

An important message from our Attendance Officer, Mrs J Evans

I have been the Attendance Officer at Rhosnesni High School for a number of years. As a parent myself, I recognise the importance of children attending school regularly in order to support their academic achievement. Every day I am a visible presence at the school gate and I am readily available if parents/carers wish to contact the school regarding attendance issues or concerns.

We politely request that if your child is unable to attend school the following process is followed:

Absences should be reported by 9.05am, either by:

1. Email - attendance@rhosnesni-high.wrexham.sch.uk
2. Telephone - 01978 340947
3. Free text – 07786 200444. Either text directly to report an absence or reply to an absence text message. Either way, the text is free to send.

In accordance with our Attendance Policy, please note that holidays taken in term time are NOT an entitlement, but are approved at the school's discretion. Holidays will NOT be authorised in any circumstances for pupils in Year 9, 10 and 11. For pupils in Years 7-8 they will only be authorised in extreme and extenuating circumstances.

To encourage and support students, parents and carers, Rhosnesni High School also provides a rewards incentive for high attendance. There are monthly awards for 100% attendance, prizes this term are:

January 2019 -	Tenpin voucher
February 2019 -	Gift card
March 2019 -	Odeon tickets
April 2019 -	Easter Hamper - Most Improved attendance (from previous term)
Pandora and Costa -	98% attendance and above 28/1/19 to 5/4/19
Gift card -	100% attendance 28/1/19 to 24/5/19
Pizza lunch -	Free school meal students with 98% attendance and above 11/2/19 to 23/5/19.

Next term we will be hosting a Coffee Afternoon for all parents of students with 100% attendance, all eligible parents will receive an invitation giving full details.

Finally, attendance is a main school priority and as a parent, you can prepare your child for a lifetime of success by making regular school attendance a priority. Please take advantage of support services available to you and help set your child on the path to a successful future.

Attend to achieve!

Mrs J Evans
Attendance Officer

Road safety, keeping our children safe

Please help us to ensure that every child gets to and from school safely and respect our local residents who also need access to their driveways. To avoid congestion at busy times we request that wherever possible parents/carers avoid drop off/collection on the school premises. This ensures that parents, taxi services and drivers who are collecting pupils who require special transport are able to do so safely. Whilst driving on school premises we ask that you please adhere to the speed limit of 5mph.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and support.

School Council

My name is Holly. I am Head Girl, Associate Student Governor and a pro-active member of our School Council. The School Council meet every Friday during registration time for approximately 20 minutes. At regular intervals we hold an extended meeting which allows students to discuss issues in greater depth.

To aid communication we have set up a School Council Group email account via Hwb. It is our intention to keep in touch on a regular basis, send out minutes and agendas ahead of meetings and to request agenda items for the next meeting.

All School Council members have been issued with School Council note books to note down concerns/matters which members in their form have raised. The notebook allows School Council reps, to record concerns and ensure issues raised are addressed and fed back.

The School Council supported the Christmas Concert event in December, serving refreshments, selling raffle tickets and collecting items to create Christmas Hampers. The School Council raised over £600. The Council decided to donate half of the money to Nightingale House and the remainder was used to sponsor Josh Haynes in Yr 11. He shaved his hair in order to raise money for Macmillan Cancer "Brave the Shave."

To celebrate St David's Day The Council supported a non uniform day on Friday 22nd February. A total of £457.00 was raised. This money will be deployed to develop the school garden as part of the Anti Bullying/Nurture projects.

The School Council has been involved in examining the current school uniform policy and making suggestions on how to improve our uniform. One suggestion has been asking parents/ carers to donate items of uniform that their child has outgrown.

Key Stage 3 School Council representatives have recently participated in a learning walk, looking at the school corridors and grounds and what we need to do to improve the environment. The key points included:

- Perspex to cover notice boards in corridors
- New flooring in the Humanities corridor
- Redevelopment of the garden area by the Hall.

If you are able to support us, please contact Miss V Brown, Deputy Headteacher.

In February, Fin, Seren and Anya met with Wrexham County Councillor Bithell to discuss the recycling initiatives in the school canteen. Ysgol Rhosnesni is the only school in Wrexham trialling a range of recycling bins. The students were filmed discussing the changes and this was shared on the WCBC website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The feedback has been positive and our students were excellent ambassadors for the school.

**Holly
Head Girl**

Re-Cycle School Uniform

We are establishing a stock of uniform to support our students and families. If you have any second-hand uniform, or items of PE clothing in clean and good condition you would like to donate, please drop them off in the school main reception.

Many thanks in advance for your support.

**Miss V Brown
The School Council**

NEWYDDION

Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassador Training

On Wednesday 20th March, ten students from Years 7-10 accompanied by Mr Whitehead, Mrs Payne and Miss Brown, travelled to Burton Borough High School in Telford . The purpose of the visit was to provide students with the opportunity to gain Anti-Bullying Ambassador status and to lead this initiative across the school.

Throughout the event students engaged in a series of interactive activities which focussed upon:

- What is bullying?
- Different types of bullying and the law
- The impact of bullying on individuals' self-esteem and confidence
- Practical strategies to support others experiencing bullying
- Action planning to further develop the school's approach to all types of bullying.



In the next few weeks the Ambassadors will be meeting to consolidate their ideas and share their plans with the whole school community in assemblies.

We look forward to updating our readers in the next edition of the newsletter.

The Anti Bullying Ambassadors

IT Department

Safer Internet Day 2019



The ICT department supported Safer Internet Day from Monday 4th February to Friday 8th February by delivering assemblies to each year group which focused on the theme of "Together for a better internet". The assembly reminded students to ensure they are regularly checking their privacy setting on each social media site as well as considering the impact of what they post online.

Each form tutor classroom has a set of rules which students should remember in order to keep safe online. Please check our school twitter @RhosnesniHigh to keep up to date with new guidance published for parents in regards to keep safe online.

iDEA Award

The ICT department is trialling the iDEA award with Years 7 and 8 as part of their curriculum. The iDea award is a programme that helps young people to develop digital, enterprise and employability skills for free. Through a series of online challenges and events, the students can win career and life enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and ultimately, gain industry recognised awards that help them stand out from the crowd. iDEA is about lifelong learning, for anyone who wants to develop new skills.

Your child will spend one hour a fortnight in school completing a range of challenges with varying difficulty and points. Our aim is for all students in class to achieve a Bronze Award initially and then to work towards the Silver Award, both awards being recognised by the Duke of York. You can find more information on @RhosnesniHigh and <https://idea.org.uk/>

Your support with this great opportunity would be welcomed, by encouraging your child to continue with these challenges at home as part of their ICT homework. All students will create an account in school which is accessible on many modern devices, operating systems and browsers at home.

Miss E Stanley
Head of IT Department

NEWYDDION

Literacy News



“Rhosnesni READS!” is Rhosnesni’s exciting new bespoke reading initiative! Since February half term pupils are encouraged to bring to school books they have read. They engage in a brief, one to one oral ‘book check’ after which each book successfully discussed is logged and counts towards The Rhosnesni Reads Award. Ten books can be read for achievement of the Bronze Award, a further twenty-five for achievement of the Silver Award; and a further fifty books towards the Gold Award. A book list has been compiled to aid reading guidance and the focus is on ‘reading for enjoyment’. It is acknowledged that unless reading is enjoyed it is unlikely to become a recreational activity and pupils will not become ‘real’, lifelong readers. Books may be sourced from home, school library, public library - anywhere! Please support your child by talking about books and encourage reading!

For more information, see the school’s website or contact the school.

On Thursday, 10th January, 2019, the school was delighted to welcome world famous author, Steve Skidmore who spent the day with Year 7 pupils focussing on the importance of reading, proof reading and enjoying books. It was a real privilege to witness their obvious enjoyment of Steve’s visit, about which they still talk.



Mrs G Roberts
Literacy Co-ordinator

English Department

Concise Creativity for a National Competition.

A number of Y7 and Y8 pupils worked furiously in lunchtimes and breaks to develop competition entries for the 500 Words creative writing competition launched by BBC Radio 2. This nationwide competition asks you to write a story on a topic of your choice... but it must be 500 words or less! Students were encouraged to “think outside of the box” and tell a story from an unusual viewpoint in order to capture the attention of the judges. This competition is unique in that it judges stories on character, plot and structure but does not mark pupils on written accuracy such as spellings.

The English department would like to congratulate all those pupils who worked hard to submit their stories... you are all winners to us! Please keep writing stories... as author David Almond says, “*I think stories are living things - among the most important things in the world*”.

Mrs J Rogers
English Department

STOP PRESS! School Writing Competition! Any theme/any length. Entries to the Library/EM2 by Monday 20th May.

NEWYDDION

Maths Department

National UK Maths Challenge – Rhosnesni Sets the Bar at a Record Breaking High

Forty of our Year 9 and 10 pupils sat the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge in January and did themselves proud. Their brains were really put to the test, with thirty incredibly challenging problems to be solved in an hour.

Five of our Year 10 pupils have been recognised nationally for their efforts and we are incredibly proud of them.

Bronze Award:

Ryan

Isobel

Silver Award:

Rodrigo

Gold Award:

Jake

Dimitar



In addition to this, Jake has been invited to attend a Mathematics Summer School in Leeds in July as a result of his exceptional performance. We are all very proud of him and wish him every success.

Mrs E Topliss
Head of Mathematics

Science Department

On Friday 22nd March all Year 7 and some invited Year 6 pupils took part in a whole day of activities in order to earn a CREST award.

CREST is the British Science Association's scheme for STEM project work that inspires young people to think and behave like scientists and engineers. The project encouraged them to think about their own culture, as well as the culture of friends and other students when designing a statue.

The project combined Art, Engineering, Maths and English Skills, as well as the transferable skills of team work, listening, organisation and compromise.

Each form group competed against each other in the first round with the winning team going up against the other forms in the final round. The winning design showed a table with iconic dishes from a variety of cultures. The winning team was from 7R2. All students fully engaged in the day and will receive a Discovery CREST award.



Mrs S Cheetham
Science Department

NEWYDDION

Science department (continued)

On 6th March, eleven Year 8 girls were chosen by Mr Jenkins to visit Chester University to listen to a lecture held by a science journalist named Angela Saini. The lecture was called "What Science got wrong about Women". Angela talked about how, for centuries, the world was male dominated and that females were always thought to do the cooking and cleaning. Listening to what Angela Saini had to say, I felt very inspired by her and her approach to challenge male dominated societies. I definitely enjoyed this trip and feel more informed on this topic. I feel proud to have been chosen to represent Rhosnesni School and I hope that there will be more opportunities to participate and learn. Thank you, Mr Jenkins for organising this trip and allowing us to participate! **Aaliya 8Y1**

Mr P Jenkins
Head of Science



Year 8 Pupils at Chester University
with Science Journalist Angela Saini

Careers

Mrs Taylor, with support from Careers Wales, accepted the offer to be part of a webinar event at school with Pendine Park Social Care. A number of Year 11 students, interested in this sector as a career, took part on March 7th. The aim of the event was to give pupils an idea of the many roles available within the social care sector, the application processes and the importance of inclusivity for all.

The webinar event also included film footage of Pendine Park's homes, including interviews with team members explaining their varied roles. There was an opportunity for students to ask questions to gather information on jobs and roles, understand the world of work and gain first hand advice.



Mrs A Taylor
Careers

NEWYDDION

Newyddion Adran Y Gymraeg

Year 9 have been busy this half term promoting healthy living through the medium of Welsh. In an attempt to promote good health and wellbeing to Year 9, Ysgol Rhosnesni and the wider community of Wreccsam, our Year 9 students have been giving advice on keeping healthy. We hope you enjoy reading some of the excellent pieces of advice produced by Year 9. We also hope that some of Year 9's Welsh articles will appear in Wreccsam's Welsh monthly paper 'Y Clawdd' in the near future!

Cyngor Ansh ar gadw'n iach

Mae'n bwysig cadw'n iach, i gadw'n iach dylech chi fynd i'r gampfa a gwneud mwy o ymarfer, gallech chi rhedeg.

Dylech chi rhoi'r gorau i ysmegu a yfed mwy o ddwr.

Dylech chi fwyta'n iach er enghraifft gallech chi fwyta mwy o salad a bwyta llai o sothach. Penwythnos nesa dylech chi drïo mynd i'r gampfa a rhedeg marathôn.

Dylech chi drïo bwyta llai o fraster a ychwanegiadau.

Rhaid i chi yfed llai o alcohol . Basech chi'n manteisio o fwyta mwy o ffrwythau. Dyna sut i gadw'n iach.

Gan Ansh 9y2

Cyngor Anya ar gadw'n iach

Wel pawb, dylen ni gadw'n iach achos achos mae'n bwysig dros ben! Mae'n anodd i gadw'n iach ond mae'n bwysig.

I gadw'n iach dylech chi fwyta amrwyiaeth o llysiau a ffrwythau. Beth am fwyta salad? Ddylech chi ddim fwyta gormod o sothach fel byrgyrs, sglodion a KFC.

Hefyd, i gadw'n iach dylech chi yfed llawer o ddwr bob dydd achos mae'n bwysig i gadw'n ddyfriedig.

Dylech chi stopio yfed pop a soda fel coca-cola a pepsi achos mae pop yn llawn ychwanegiadau.

Yn ôgystal, dylech chi wneud 30 munud o ymarfer bob dydd i gadw'n heini a iach. Gallech chi stopio eistedd ar y soffa a dechrau mynd i'r gampfa. Beth am rhedeg gyda ffrindiau?

Penwythnos diwethaf, es i rhedeg ar dydd Sadwrn a nofiais i ar ddydd Sul. Hefyd, bwytais i pasta a salad. Mae'n bwysig iawn i rhoi'r gorau i ysmegu a yfed alcohol achos maen nhw'n cynnwys llawer o gemegau drwg.

Ar y cyfan, dylech chi gadw'n iach achos mae'n bwysig iawn. Pob lwc pawb

Gan Anya 9H1

Cyngor Chloe ar gadw'n iach

Wel, pawb, dylech chi gadw'n iach achos mae'n bwysig.

I gadw'n iach dylech chi fwyta pump o ffrwythau a llysiau bob dydd a yfed llawer o ddwr. A sgoi bwydydd fel soicled a creision achos maen nhw'n cynnwys llawer o fraster. Ddylech chi ddim bwyta bwydafiach trwy'r amser achos ddylech chi ddim bwyta bwyd llawn siwgr a dylech chi osgoi alcohol a ysmegu. Beth am fwyta mwy o salad a gwneud mwy o ymarfer?

Gallech chi fynd i rhedeg a mynd i'r gampfa. Gallech chi fwyta llai o sothach. Gallech chi fwyta mwy o gig gwyn na cig coch. Gallech chi rhoi'r gorau i fwyd llawn braster.

Yn olaf, dylech chi fwyta'n iach a aros yn iach.

Gan Chloe 9H1

NEWYDDION

Uniform Expectations

As you are aware, Team Rhosnesni has been working very hard on setting and maintaining high standards of school uniform, which is a vital aspect of the school's ethos.

All students are expected to wear full school uniform correctly at all times and without exception.

Thank you very much to all those parents/carers who have supported the school and ensure their child is dressed in accordance with our uniform policy. However, there are occasions when a small minority of students choose to wear inappropriate skirts, skin tight trousers, trainers/pumps and trainer style socks.

We would ask our parents/carers to ensure that students' uniform complies with the standards outlined in page 4 of the student planner.

Finally, the school allows students to wear a limited amount of jewellery, this includes a pair of plain gold or silver studs in each earlobe. Body or facial piercings are not permitted for health and safety reasons. The school reserves the right to insist the removal of unacceptable items of jewellery. False eye lashes and false nails are not permitted. Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss V Brown
Deputy Headteacher

Speech and Language Resource

Trip to Chester Zoo

This term the pupils from the Speech and Language Resource provision have been studying Brazil. They have been spending a great deal of time studying the Amazon rainforest, the land and animals. This has developed into a number of students researching endangered animals across the world.

We decided to round off our studies by visiting Chester Zoo to look at all the "Endangered" and "Critically Endangered" animals. We had a wonderful visit and took the opportunity to look at a number of other animals we were interested in.

The bats were fun but a little scary, as they kept swooping at our heads. One of our students was even kissed through the glass by an orang-utan! We are now spending time writing up reports about our visit and using our photos to support our final assessments.

Mrs V Brackenbury
Speech & Language

Numeracy Challenge

Every fortnight pupils are given the opportunity to enter the Numeracy Challenge. Pupils from both KS3 and KS4 have been entering and prizes have been awarded to those pupils who have the best worked solutions. Winners have included Ella, Sara, Oliver, Kayleigh, Alfie, Emilia, Rose, Finley, Cerys, Evan, Aaliya, Wioletta, Dimitar, Katie, Natan, Wiktor, Emilia and Wiktor. Congratulations to all those pupils and please keep on entering.

Miss G Wood
Numeracy Co-Ordinator

Library

To celebrate World Book Day, pupils had to find all of the teachers who were wearing a label with character names from books. The winners were 9Y2 and 8Y2. The pupils had a great time trying to find out their teachers' character.

Mrs S Jones
Librarian

NEWYDDION

PE Department

The netball teams have been busy playing fixtures throughout this term. Year 7/8/10&11 teams have all had fixtures against other Wrexham Schools; St Josephs, Penley and Ysgol Morgan Llwyd to name a few.

On Wednesday 20th March years 7&8 attended the Wrexham Schools Netball Tournament held at St Josephs where the year 8 team came 5th overall. The year 7 team came first overall and played superbly. Fantastic achievement girls!

On Thursday 28th March the year 10's attended their Netball Tournament at St Josephs. The standard of play was exceptional. Overall the girls came 4th.

All Rhosnesni girls are a credit to the School...WELL DONE!

Year 7 Team: Amber, Pippa, Lowri, Sara, Liberty, Jessica, Ellie and Lucy.

Year 8 Team: Emily, Charlotte, Carys, Shannon, Ruby, Rose, Lucy, Aimee.

Year 10 Team: Josie, Ffion, Izzy, Holly, Felicity, Caitlin.



Year 8
Wrexham
schools
Team



Year 7
Wrexham
schools Team
Champions!



The Year 8
football
team who
recently
beat
Ruabon 2-1
and
St Joseph's
6-1.



The Year 10
team who
finished
second in the
recent football
tournament
held at Cefn
Druids.

Miss C Hughes & Mr D Roberts
PE Department

International Women's Day

Mrs Taylor and Mr Lang took a group of 20 girls from Year 8,9 and 10 to Coleg Cambria for an event celebrating International Women's Day. The aim of the event was to show girls the opportunities available to them in the construction industry. The pupils listened to a number of key note speakers via video link, including Ruby Bhogal: star of 2018 Great British Bake Off, discussing her role as a Construction Project Manager. Students also took part in interactive tasks run by local construction employers, giving an insight into a number of jobs available in the construction industry.

Mr Whitney Lang
Progress Manager Year 8 & 9

NEWYDDION

5x60 Club

Rhosnesni Primary Federation Netball Tournament

In February and March, Rhosnesni hosted the second and third day of the Wrexham Primary Federation netball tournament. Josie, Ffion, Holly and Isobel represented the school brilliantly by umpiring all of the games. They showed excellent knowledge and skills throughout and were highly commended by the primary schools.

Rhosnesni Primary Cluster Dodgeball Festival – March 2019

On Thursday 14th March, Rhosnesni welcomed over 100 children from 7 of the cluster primary schools to participate in a Dodgeball festival organised by the 5x60 officer. The event was supported by Rhosnesni Year 9 Sport Leaders as well as students from Coleg Cambria. The students represented their school impeccably showing great knowledge and confidence in being able to umpire the games and assist in the running of the event.

Extra-Curricular Activities available this term

So far this year 60% of pupils participated in the 5x60 programme that is running in school. The programme allows pupils to take part in a variety of activities at lunch time and after school. The pupils are encouraged to give their own opinions on what activities they would like to participate in and the timetables are formed on this basis. Epraise points are given to those pupils who have a particularly high attendance at 5x60 clubs. So far this year activities such as jujitsu, basketball, dodgeball, girls football and fitness have been on offer to pupils. A new timetable will be released during the first week of the summer term that looks to feature activities such as rounders, tennis, handball, girls boxercise plus many more. Please keep an eye around school and on twitter for more details.

Visit from the Chief Executive of Sport Wales – Lawrence Conway

On 25th March, Rhosnesni were privileged to be visited by Lawrence Conway – the Chief Executive of Sport Wales. Lawrence saw first-hand the fantastic opportunities that are available to pupils and others in the community as he watched Rhosnesni Netball Club train.



**Miss A Wright
5X60 Officer**

NEWYDDION

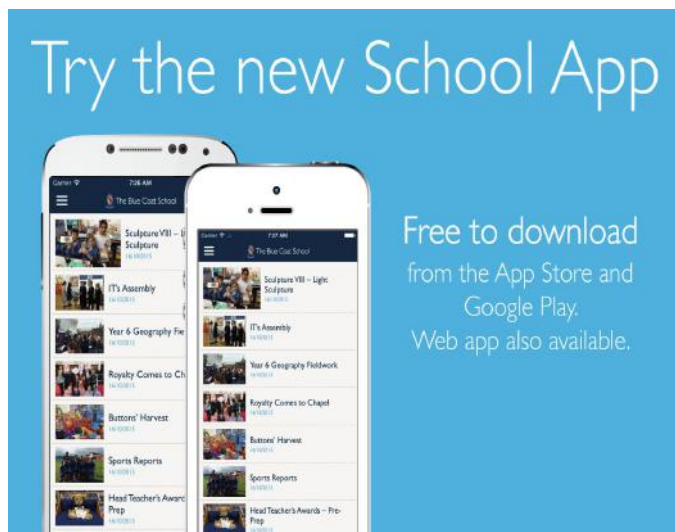
Student Data

We would like to remind all of our Parents/Carers of their responsibility to advise the school of any changes to student contact data e.g new address, change of telephone numbers etc. If you have an email address, please let us know so that we can add this to your child's record. We require this information to ensure that we are able to correspond with you and also to contact you regarding your child and in case of emergency.

Forms are available from school reception to complete in the event of any changes. Alternatively changes can be emailed to the school at the email address below. If you are replacing a phone number we ask that you please let us know which phone number is to be removed.

School meal charges

In line with Wrexham County Borough Council policy on fees and charges, it is the intention to increase the cost of school meals from Monday the 29th April 2019. The cost of the meal of the day and the free meal allowance will be £2.45 there will also be an increase of 2% on all cash cafeteria individually priced items.



Try the new School App

Free to download from the App Store and Google Play. Web app also available.

Diary Dates

Spring Term

Term Closes Friday 12th April 2019

Summer Term

Term Opens Monday 29th April 2019
Term Closes Friday 24th May 2019

Term Opens Monday 3rd June 2019
Term Closes Monday 22nd July 2019

School closes to students on Friday 19th July 2019

Useful Information

Ysgol Rhosnesni High School
Rhosnesni Lane
Wrexham
LL13 9ET

Phone: 01978 340840

E-mail:
mailbox@rhosnesni-high.wrexham.sch.uk

Web site: www.rhosnesni-high.wrexham.sch.uk

Follow as on Twitter: @RhosnesniHigh

Please note the following dates are Training Days for the school and the school will be closed to pupils:

Friday 28th June 2019

School Holidays

Easter School Holidays: 15th-26th April 2019

Mayday Monday 6th May 2019

Whit Holidays: 27th -31st May 2019