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JANUARY 2017

Ysgol Tregŵyr
Gowerton
School



FROM THE HEADTEACHER'S DESK

January is often seen as the month of 'new resolutions' and looking forward to the year ahead. Our pupils in Years 7 – 9 at Gowerton started the year with a 'Step into Fitness' challenge. It raised awareness for health and wellbeing across the school. The goal was to meet a 210,000 step goal across a two week period. Pupils and staff were involved and were quite competitive and followed the 1600m route around the school.



SANTES DWYNWEN

Love was also in the air in January to celebrate 'Santes Dwynwen Day'. This is the patron saint of love in Wales. Pupils learnt about the story of Santes Dwynwen and made cards and gifts to give to their loved ones.

INSTRUMENTAL DAY



The music department had a very busy day when 100 instrumentalists from our partner primary schools visited for a day of rehearsals with our ensembles. In the concert that evening over 200 pupils performed! Our annual instrumental day has become a very popular event with pupils aged from 8 to eighteen taking part.

RECOGNITION OF COMMITMENT

At Gowerton School, in common with a growing number of schools nationally and locally, we have committed to building a sustainable 'Rights Respecting Environment'. We are currently working hard to achieve the Rights Respecting Schools Award.



Recognition of Commitment

The Award is based on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation. The initiative started in 2006 and schools involved in the Award have reported a positive impact on relationships and wellbeing, leading to better learning and behaviour and improved academic standards.

DEVELOPMENT DAY



KS3 pupils participated in a 'Development Day' which consisted of five hours of activities based on a theme. This term the themes included the Year 7 pupils designing a safari park, Year 8 studied the change in living over the last 50 years and Year 9 looked at the musical Hairspray and re-enacted scenes and songs and studied the history of the musical.

SPORTING SUCCESS

The following Year 10 boys were successful in being chosen to play for the Swansea Schoolboys' rugby team:

- Jon Edwards
- Tim Perkins
- Connor Williams
- Matthew Hutchinson (Captain)
- Joel Matuschke
- Matthew Newcombe
- Ben Petherbridge
- Ethan Hall
- Jacob Rees
- Jacob Turatto

Congratulations to the boys and we look forward to seeing how they progress.



INDIVIDUAL SUCCESS

Ellie Carlsen will be representing Gowerton in the National Youth Brass Band of Wales and Eloise Denny is a reserve.

We also reflect on two swimmers that did exceptionally well in the Urdd Swimming Gala in The National Pool in Cardiff in January. Our photo shows the medals won by Antonio Rodriguez and Jessica Dickinson. Both had entered two races in the qualifying gala and came first in both races and against all the other schools entered from Swansea, Neath and Port Talbot. They then went to Cardiff to swim against the 'rest of Wales' and achieved the medals shown. Well done both, ardderchog!



LEAD CREATIVE SCHOOLS

LLANGRANNOG URDD RESIDENTIAL

Year 7 pupils had the opportunity to spend the weekend at Llangrannog and managed to fit in so many activities into one weekend! They enjoyed the indoor climbing facilities, horse riding, skiing, quad biking, team building as well as improving their Welsh language skills.



Back at Gowerton one year 7 class was fortunate to be working with two Creative practitioners, Dave Marchant and Catherine Bennett, as part of being awarded a grant as a Lead Creative School. The pupils worked on animation, making the characters, painting the background and doing 'voice overs' as well as acting out the characters in drama workshops. Each of our partner primary schools have been a part of this award and an exhibition of all the work will be held on March 15th.