



## UNIFORM

### ISSUES

This is a reminder to parents and pupils about suitable footwear for school.

This summer a number of pupils has come to school wearing flip flops, open toed sandals and similar footwear. These items are totally unsuitable for a number of reasons:

- They cause problems for teachers of all practical subjects such as Design Technology (including Food Technology), Catering, Science etc. The dangers of spillage or accidents are obvious.
- Pupils are more likely to trip with this footwear thus causing problems for themselves and others, particularly on staircases.

The school will be conducting a full uniform review during the autumn term. The uniform policy has not been reviewed for many years and consultation will take place with pupils, parents, staff and governors of the school.

In the meantime, listed below is the current and correct uniform list that we expect **ALL** our pupils to wear:

#### Year 7-11

Correct school uniform is a white or pale blue polo-shirt with the Penglais logo and a navy sweatshirt with the Penglais logo. Boys must wear grey or black trousers with a conventional design. Girls must wear either a navy or black skirt or navy or black full length trousers of a conventional design.

#### Years 12 and 13

All sixth form pupils must wear a black top in one of the approved styles which displays the school logo and black or grey trousers.

Can we also remind you that if your child is having his or her ears pierced over the holidays that this is done early so that the jewellery can be removed in **all practical lessons** including PE, Design Technology and Science.

## PTA FUND RAISING

The PTA has set itself a huge fund raising target for next year. The intention is to carry out a long overdue renovation of the Main School Hall. The Hall desperately requires new seating, new curtains, a better sound system and furniture. This will create a much better environment for assemblies, meetings, outside speakers and, of course, school events and productions. (See later in the newsletter for news on GREASE)

The PTA has already saved £8,000 to put towards this project and that is after meeting all its targets for this year. The PTA will continue to support school clubs and societies and hopes to raise another £20,000 for the hall project.

**PLEASE** make every effort to support the fund raising events of the PTA in the autumn – every pound will count.

## BUSES

Two years ago the local education authority, at great expense, installed seat belts onto school buses. Despite constant reminders and letters home, pupils are not wearing the seat belts.

We do carry out spot checks every so often but we cannot check every bus, every day and, in any event, what happens after the bus has left school premises is not under our control.

I have asked the local education authority to have the seat belt rule enforced: that is a bus driver does not leave school premises unless all the pupils are sat down with seat belts on. We will support any bus driver who does this.

I understand that from September the law will change and that the seat belt rule will be enforced by the police and the local education authority. **After all the publicity about accidents with school buses I am amazed that this is still an issue. Sooner or later a bus driver will at the very least have to brake sharply. If a child is not wearing a seat belt unnecessary injuries may result.**

# STAFFING

The following colleagues are leaving at the end of the summer term:

Mr. H.G. Andrews is retiring after 17 years' service at the school in the Design Technology and Information Technology departments.

Miss F. Knill, having been both a student teacher and a newly qualified teacher at Penglais leaves after 4 years' service. She will be taking up a new post teaching modern foreign languages at Hanley Castle High School, Worcester.

Mrs. S. Stoppani is retiring after 4 years' service at the school, 3 of which as head of the Learning Support Centre.

Mrs. L. Figures is retiring after 10 years' service as one of our Science technicians.

We wish all these colleagues well in their new posts or their retirements.

The following appointments have been made for September:

Mr. A. Vaughan currently teaching at the Westgate School, Slough has been appointed as Head of ICT.

Mr. C. Evans currently teaching at Sir John Talbot's Technology College, Whitchurch has been appointed as teacher of Music.

Mr. S. Jones currently completing his PGCE at UWA has been appointed as teacher of Mathematics.

Miss K. Davies currently covering Mrs. C. Phillips's timetable returns full time to teach Physical Education and Business Studies.

Mrs. H. Isherwood returns to teach Science full time.

Mrs. J. Elgood returns as a full time teacher of Geography.

Mrs. C. Phillips returns full time as teacher of Physical Education.

Mrs. S. Payne returns as part time teacher of History and Welsh Baccalaureate.

Mrs. K. Carden-Brown returns as part time teacher of Modern Languages.

Mme C. Desforges has been given an additional year's leave of absence from her part-time post.

Mr. G. Jones has been appointed as a part-time teacher of Art.

Dr. A. Minchin will be returning part-time (0.5) in September

Mrs. J. Newbold will be returning with a full time contract for modern foreign languages in September

Mr. R. Owen has been appointed Assistant Site Manager commencing in July and Mrs. S. Bennett has been appointed as a part time Cover Assistant.

## SAFE PARENTING

Before the end of term a booklet 'The Safe Parenting Handbook' will be issued to all pupils in Years 7-10. The handbook is produced by the Ceredigion Area Child Protection Committee. The purpose of the handbook is to offer parents some helpful advice and information about parenting issues and dilemmas, which they may have to deal with at some time.

- ❑ The handbook provides some warning indicators for problems that may arise, and helpful ideas about how to manage them.
- ❑ It should help you find a way through the range of national and local organisations, which provide advice and support for a particular worry or problem.

## THE PAPER CHAIN

No one who visited the prom in Aberystwyth on the evening of 15th June could have failed to notice an enormous paper chain which stretched along the prom up and down several times. This was the result of the joint fundraising appeal between Ysgol Llwyn yr Eos and Penglais to support the S4C appeal for Autism Cymru. During the many activities organised by S4C we were delighted to see two pupils of our schools placing the last gold link in the chain. We achieved our aim of producing a chain long enough to stretch from one school to the other. The most important news is to tell you that we were able to present a cheque for £1071 for Autism Cymru and at the present moment there is still money coming in. A huge thank you to everyone who made this possible, especially Mrs. Anne Davies and the parent and pupil volunteers who helped.

Photo



## LOST PROPERTY

**We are still being overwhelmed with items of lost property. There are currently 30 coats / jackets, 24 sweatshirts and various other items including glasses, jewellery, footballs etc. Parents are reminded that for reasons of safety and limited space we only keep lost property for two weeks. ALL ITEMS MARKED WITH THE PUPILS' NAMES WILL ALWAYS BE RETURNED TO THEIR OWNERS.**

# PENGLAIS FASHION SHOW

On Thursday 13th July Penglais will be hosting its third creative arts fashion show and it promises to be the most spectacular show so far! As well as being able to view the latest collections from Aberystwyth's most exciting fashion outlets including Polly's, Puss in Boots, Gusto and Stormriders, there is the opportunity to see for yourselves how creative pupils at Penglais truly are.

We have all the latest in scuba diving gear and 'what's hot' for Jack Russells in 2006. All proceeds will be used for the planning and preparation for the next fashion show enabling the pupils to be even more inventive next year!



## PUPILS' SUCCESS

Congratulations go to four Penglais pupils who were the winning team in the Air Training Corps Welsh Regional First Aid Championships recently. The team Jamie Morgan, Ben Lloyd, Daniel Owen (Yr 10 pupils) and Mark Leigh (Yr 11) will compete in the National Championships to be held in Sandhurst in October.

Congratulations also to Tom Jones (Yr 10) and Taron Egerton (Yr 11) who successfully auditioned for the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain. Both boys will take part in the National Youth Theatre's productions over the next year.

## GREASE

Rehearsals are already underway for the musical 'Grease' which is to be the next Penglais School production. Auditions have recently been held and the show will take place in November.

A large chorus of Junior and Senior singers will be required for the show. Any Penglais student who would like to be involved in the chorus is very welcome to attend the rehearsals and to take part in the show. No audition is needed for chorus members. Please see Mrs. Leggett or Miss Potter for more information.

## WELSH BAC COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Bronglais Partnership

Around thirty students have been completing their Community Participation through the Bronglais Partnership programme this year. This has involved the setting up of a patient's library and chatting to patients on the general wards. This has proved very successful with students gaining valuable experience in readiness for university applications and some students have been asked back to specific wards due to their hard work and dedication.

Linked with this, students helped with the Carer's Week fun day on 17th June 2006. Students helped publicise the event in town and the organisation described the students as "enthusiastic, polite and hardworking" as well as being a credit to the school.

Well done to all students who participated this year in the Bronglais partnership.

### Reading Scheme.

Students from Year Twelve have been helping students from Year Seven to brush up on their literacy skills. All students who were given the extra help have been retested and all concerned have improved their reading abilities. Well done to both Year Seven and Year Twelve!

### Welsh Bac Enterprise Projects.

Some of the students are steaming ahead in the Enterprise Project this year. All of Year Twelve have been given the task of setting up their own businesses. So far the most successful have been the M&M card making enterprise, led by Mark Kemp and Myfanwy Hallybone, Claire Franklin's Jewels and Gems jewellery business and the Singing Telegrams by Rachel Powell, Hannah Morris, Natalie Duggan and Chenowyth Hodges.

The students have been completing the key skill of Working With Others, something which is very valuable for university, college and future employment.

## CLASSIC FM MUSIC TEACHER OF THE YEAR

As most of you will already know Jane Leggett, our Head of Music, has been shortlisted for the finals of the CLASSIC FM Music Teacher of the Year Award. Winning is now entirely dependent on the number of votes received so **PLEASE, PLEASE** register your vote for this outstanding teacher. To vote log on to [classicfm.com](http://classicfm.com) and click on music teacher of the year 2006.

## MEXICO 2006

Pupils from Year 11 have been fundraising for their trip to Mexico in October 2006. The pupils will be undertaking a six day sea kayaking expedition in the Sea of Cortez, off the Baja peninsula, under the guidance and expertise of Outlook Expeditions instructors. Whilst on expedition they will be camping on deserted beaches, fishing for food and kayaking up to ten miles a day. They will spend the rest of the trip enjoying the food, culture, snorkelling and surf that the area has to offer. In order to go on the trip pupils have had to organise a number of fundraising activities, including bag-packing in the Co-op and Morrisons, as well as washing teachers' cars. They have a number of further activities planned, including car boot sales, auctions and sponsored kayaking trips. Mr. Fisher, the trip organiser, would like to congratulate the pupils for their hard work so far and would encourage pupils, staff and parents to help support them in their opportunity for a trip of a lifetime.



## MUSIC

National Urdd Eisteddfod 2006  
– Congratulations to all the Penglais pupils who represented the school at the National Urdd Eisteddfod at Rhuthun recently – Caroline Davies (Individual Disco Dancing), Kim Gornall (Year 7-9 Recitation), Rachel Varnham (Individual Disco Dancing), the Penglais Disco Dancing Group (trained by Claire Lewis) and the Penglais Cerdd Dant Singing Group.



## DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

### ENGLISH

In May, two Year 12 students, Phillipa Owen and Sean Meachen had the opportunity to attend 'The Beacons' Project – part of the prestigious Hay Festival. The project is open to talented creative writers and is very competitive so we were very pleased to gain two places. These are Phillipa's impressions of the week.

Seamus Heaney, Al Gore, Owen Sheers, Margaret Atwood, Super Furry Animals, David Saul, Claire Asquith, Jo Brand .

Just some of the people that Sean Meachen and I saw when we attended the Hay Festival as members of the Beacons Project, a round up of young writers from Wales and the Borders. It was a wonderful week, with workshops from an author called Tiffany Murray (who was one of Sean's biggest fans by the end of the day!); the poet Owen Sheers and talks from David Crystal and the head of BBC Wales drama.

Seamus Heaney (now re-christened the Hean Bean) was just one of the highlights of the week – shame the Heaney exam was the week before! The round up of eminent poets at the Poetry Gala was awe inspiring, while Jo Brand was hilarious and the Super Furry Animals easily the most fun event.

I came home from the week with a lot of new friends, a reading list as tall as Al Gore's ego and a serious case of sleep deprivation. Sadly you're only allowed to go on the Project once, but maybe if next year I don a false nose, a wig and a lot of fake tan they won't notice who I am . . .

Phillipa Owen

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

One of the department's Year 12 pupils, Robert Rudge, was the mentor for Ysgol Gymraeg's web design entry into this

year's Urdd Eisteddfod. Ysgol Gymraeg came second in Wales and the school is very grateful for Robert's hard work and support.

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Rugby – Congratulations to Joshua Jones (Yr 10) who, having played for Ceredigion U15 all season, has been selected into the Scarlets U16 Regional Squad.

Athletics – Congratulations to the following athletes who competed for Ceredigion in the Dyfed Schools Athletics Championships in May at Carmarthen:

Laura Samuel, Yr 7 – 100m 8th place  
Jack Morris, Yr 7 – 1500m 4th place  
Jonathan Evans, Yr 8 – Hurdles 6th place  
Justin Quin, Yr 7 – Hurdles 2nd place  
Rosie Bailey, Yr 8 – 800m 5th place and Long Jump 9th place  
Kristian Jenkins, Yr 8 – High Jump – 5th place  
Ruth Ashford, Yr 9 – Hurdles – 5th place  
David Griffiths, Yr 9 – 200m 6th place  
Elinor Thorogood, Yr 9 – 800m 4th place, 1500m 3rd  
Dylan Morgan, Yr 9 – Long Jump 5th place  
Kristian Bond, Yr 10 – 800m 6th place, 3000m 4th  
Alex Thorogood, Yr 10 – 1500m 3rd

Congratulations also to the Year 8 boys who won the NASUWT Athletics Cup Competition at Lampeter in June.

Congratulations to Hannah Stevens who competed for Wales in Ireland in Dressage.

Reminder – A reminder that all pupils should wear gum shields for certain PE activities such as rugby and hockey. The wearing of shin pads for football and hockey is also recommended. For competitive football and hockey matches it is compulsory for pupils to wear shin pads and for any rugby matches pupils should always wear a gumshield.

## SCIENCE

Congratulations to Craig Marshall, Year 12, who has been selected to represent Ceredigion at the London International Youth Science Forum. This prestigious conference runs for two weeks in July / August. Young people, from around the world, who are interested in pursuing a career in Science will meet leading scientists and attend a very varied programme of science-related and social events.

Congratulations also to Ben Corbett and Mark Johnson, both Year 10 pupils, who have been selected to attend Salters' Chemistry camps this summer – Ben in Nottingham and Mark in York. The camps will involve practical work in the university labs, visits and a programme of social activities.

## SEN

Recently the pupils from the Learning Support Centre presented a cheque for £700 to the Down's Syndrome Association. Special thanks go to the school's Sixth Form Welsh Baccalaureate students on this Community Participation scheme.



Seen in the photo from left to right are:  
 Front row – Sophie Baird, Mr. Richard Morgan (Down's Syndrome Association), Myfanwy Hallybone.  
 Back row – Mrs. M. Lindsey (teacher), Chris Bouchier, Mark Kemp and Gareth Dally.

## ART

On behalf of the Art Department, Miss Everard would like to thank Stevan and Anna Kelsey most sincerely for the very kind donation of a large collection of art books. The books belonged to their mother, the artist Gwyneth Kelsey, who sadly died in 2005. They are a brilliant acquisition for one department and we are extremely grateful.

(Example of the work of Gwyneth Kelsey)





Oakwood Trip – Pupils from the Learning Support Centre recently enjoyed a day out at Oakwood. Our thanks go to the Rotary Club who organises this event for our pupils every year and, as always, ensured that everyone had a fun filled day.

**COLOUR**  
**Penglais Newsletter**

View the newsletter in full colour on the school website

[www.penglaisschool.org.uk](http://www.penglaisschool.org.uk)

## £1071 for Autism Cymru



Penglais pupils raised £1071 for Autism Cymru.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

On **Friday 21st July** school will close at 1.45 pm for the summer holidays. The buses will depart shortly after **EXCEPT** for the 585 (YP27) service and the 550 (paying passengers) service which will leave at 1.15 pm.

School re-opens for pupils on **TUESDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER**.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my staff and pupils for their hard work this year and wish pupils, parents and staff a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Yours faithfully,

**H.J. DAVEY**  
Headteacher

