

CCYD NEWSLETTER

CELEBRATING OUR LEARNERS

"Taking Pride"

MARCH 2026 / Issue 17



CCYD YEAR 13 LEARNER FFION ROSSITER WINS MENTEE OF THE YEAR AWARD.

We are delighted to share some wonderful news about one of our Year 13 students, Ffion Rossiter. Ffion has been an active participant in the Step-Up Programme at Swansea University, an initiative designed to support students as they transition into higher education. The programme offers access to undergraduate-level learning and provides invaluable guidance, encouragement, and opportunities for young people preparing for university life. This week, Ffion's hard work and commitment were recognised at a prestigious awards ceremony held on Wednesday 11th March, where she was named Mentee of the Year. This is an exceptional accomplishment and a true testament to her determination, resilience, and dedication to her future aspirations. This award is thoroughly deserved, and we are immensely proud to celebrate her success. Well done, Ffion—keep shining!



CCYD SAFER INTERNET DAY

A group of Year 10 and 11 learners had a fantastic time attending the Welsh Government Safer Internet Day event on Tuesday at the Principality Stadium, exploring how AI can be used safely, responsibly and positively. They took part in interactive workshops and discussions focused on making smart choices online and building strong digital resilience and were also involved in a Q and A session with Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Education, Lynne Neagle. They were excellently behaved throughout the day and represented CCYD brilliantly. Da iawn!



CCYD YEAR 11 OXFORD EXPERIENCE

This term, a group of our Year 11 learners travelled to Oxford to gain first-hand insight into further education at one of the world's most prestigious universities. Learners were given a tour of the city, life at the university and a sample of lectures.



CCYD CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

A proud day today! 2 talented CCYD learners getting their Glamorgan Schools cross country vests at the Welsh schools x country championship at Brecon. Well done to Layla Fletcher-James (yr 7) and Joseph Littlewood (year 8) outstanding!



CCYD WORLD BOOK DAY

At Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen, we believe that literacy is the foundation of every learner's success. Strong reading skills not only support academic achievement across all subjects, but also open doors to imagination, creativity, confidence, and lifelong learning. That's why World Book Day is such an important date in our school calendar - a chance to celebrate stories, spark curiosity, and remind learners that reading is for everyone. This year, CCYD marked the occasion with a very special gift: every learner in Year 7 received a FREE book to take home and enjoy. This initiative aims to support reading for pleasure, which research consistently shows has a positive impact on vocabulary development, well-being, and overall attainment. To make the day even more memorable, our theme this year was "Where's Wally?". Staff across the school enthusiastically dressed up as the iconic red-and-white-striped character, creating plenty of fun and excitement as learners tried to "spot the Wallys" around the building. The costumes served a purpose beyond entertainment - they created a warm, welcoming atmosphere that encouraged students to engage, participate, and dive wholeheartedly into the day's activities. Throughout World Book Day, learners took part in a range of literacy-rich tasks designed to inspire a love of reading. From interactive challenges to creative writing and storytelling sessions, every activity helped reinforce the message that reading is not just a school skill—it's a powerful tool for enjoyment, exploration, and personal growth. Events like World Book Day highlight the vibrant culture of literacy at CCYD, and we are proud of the enthusiasm shown by both learners and staff. By celebrating the joy of reading together, we hope to nurture confident, curious readers who will carry their love of books with them long after they leave our school.



CCYD YEAR 8 RUGBY

Congratulations to Year 8 CCYD learner Ioan Hart who represented his club Pencoed RFC and competed in the inaugural South Wales U13 Regional Cup Competition at Cardiff Arms Park on Sunday, 22nd March. Facing Caerau Ely RFC, his team delivered an outstanding performance, securing a 31-10 victory and proudly taking home the plate. Well Ioan, we are all Super Proud! You are an inspiration to your peers and hopefully we'll see you in a Welsh jersey one day holding your first cap.



NEW CCYD GIRLS' FOOTBALL HOME KIT!

We are incredibly proud to unveil the brand-new home kit for our CCYD Girls' Football Team—an exciting moment that marks a new chapter for our players and for our school community. This stunning new kit not only showcases our school colours with pride, but also reinforces the unity, determination, and confidence of our team every time they step onto the pitch. It's more than just a uniform—it's a statement. A statement that our girls are ready, focused, and a formidable force against any competition. This fantastic new kit would not have been possible without the generous support of Green Elevator Services. Their sponsorship has helped us provide our players with professional-quality kit that reflects the spirit and ambition of CCYD. We are truly grateful for their commitment to supporting youth sport and empowering our learners. Partnerships like this make a real difference—not just in how our team looks, but in how they feel when they represent our school. Thank you, Green Elevator Services!



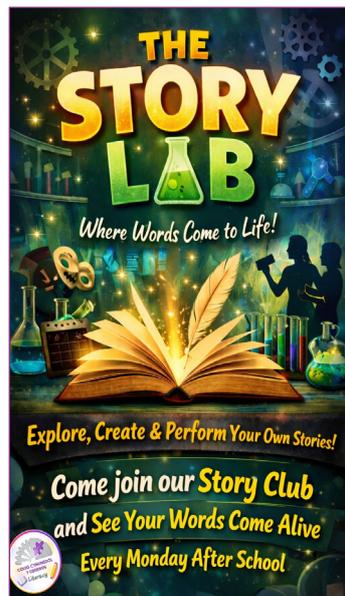
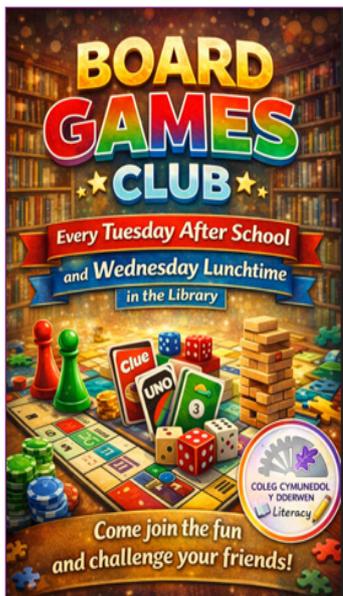
FLORENCE SELECTED FOR WALES

Year 7 learner Florence Price took part in the Welsh Mounted Games trials over the weekend, held at David Broome's Equestrian Centre. The day began with individual games in the morning, where she performed brilliantly and qualified in 5th place, securing her place in the afternoon team selection phase. We are delighted to share that Florence has been selected to ride in the Under 12 Welsh Mounted Games Team, representing Wales at the Home International in Northern Ireland. The competition will take place on the 6th and 7th of June. Congratulations to Florence, Well done.



CCYD LITERACY

Do you enjoy board games or storytelling? Then come along and be part of our friendly, weekly clubs in the Library with Ms Trevelyan! What you can do? Play a wide range of fun board games, Join the creative Story Lab, make new friends and relax in a safe, comfortable environment Everyone is welcome! Come every week and get involved!



SCHOOL PROM RAFFLE

Year 13 have been raising money for their school prom through an Easter raffle. The raffle was drawn on Thursday 26th March with Mrs Gemma Keane and Mrs Jennifer Williams the lucky winners. The Head Team send a big thank you to everyone who bought a ticket!



REVISION OLYMPICS

Year 11 students have been busy taking part in our exciting "Revision Olympics," a fun and engaging initiative designed to support them as they prepare for their GCSEs. Learners are completing a wide range of revision activities across their subjects, building confidence and developing effective study habits along the way.

Those who complete the most activities will be entered into a prize draw, with some fantastic rewards kindly donated by local businesses in the Bridgend area. A special thank you goes to Nathan & Lisa Ballinger LKF Automotive in Bridgend for their generous donation of two £100 gift vouchers. We are also grateful for their support in helping to draw our Valentine's raffle, where the lucky winner was Mrs Claire Griffiths. Finally, thank you to our wonderful school community for your continued support in helping Year 11 learners raise funds for their Prom. Your encouragement and generosity make a real difference as our students approach this important milestone.



CCYD is now using ClassCharts software to improve communication, make announcements, manage behaviours, track attendance and celebrate success.

Please download the App and contact the school for your login codes.

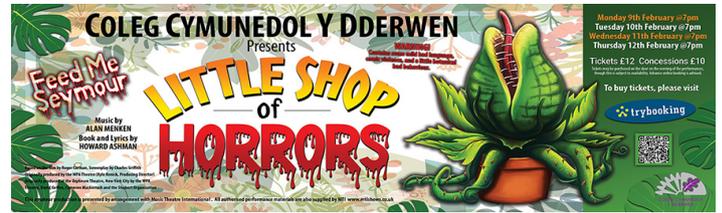
Tel: 01656 815920 / admin@ccyd.bridgend.cymru





CCYD MOTIVATIONAL WORKSHOPS

We had the privilege today of welcoming Josh Paul @fit_4_football who gave up his own time to travel from England to CCYD. Josh, an elite coach, is the founder of Fit4Football, which is not just a coaching platform — it's a growing global community of players and coaches who share one goal: to be the best they can be, on and off the pitch. With over 15 years of coaching experience and a dedicated online following, Josh has helped thousands of footballers develop the skills, fitness, mindset, and tactical understanding they need to succeed. What started as 1-2-1 sessions and group coaching has now evolved into a comprehensive online ecosystem — bringing world-class coaching, expert advice, and peer support to players and coaches everywhere. Josh delivered inspirational leadership, motivation and confidence sessions to a selected group of CCYD year 7, 8 and 9 learners. We would like to give Josh the biggest thank you for his time, the learners thoroughly enjoyed the sessions.



CCYD SCHOOL SHOW- LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

The CCYD Music & Drama department has once again raised the bar for school productions - this year's performance of Little Shop of Horrors has been widely celebrated as the best musical the school has ever staged. Across four unforgettable evenings, our talented learners delivered performances that were nothing short of exceptional. Each show played to a packed audience, and every night ended the same way - thunderous applause and standing ovations that echoed the hard work, energy and heart poured into every moment on stage. The cast and crew demonstrated outstanding professionalism, passion, and teamwork. Their commitment to long rehearsal hours, their determination to perfect each scene, and the unwavering support they gave one another were truly inspiring. From powerful vocals and comedic timing to dramatic storytelling, they brought the world of Mushnik's Flower Shop to life with infectious enthusiasm. A huge and heartfelt thank you goes to the Art Department, whose creativity and craftsmanship transformed the stage into a vibrant, immersive world - complete with an awe-inspiring Audrey II that became a star in its own right! Their behind-the-scenes vision helped elevate the entire production. We also extend our gratitude to all members of staff who supported the show - whether through directing people to their seats, manning the tuck shop, supervising the learners, or simply offering encouragement along the way. This production was a shining example of what can be achieved when a school community comes together. Little Shop of Horrors will be remembered not only for its incredible musical numbers and dazzling performances, but also as a celebration of creativity, dedication, and community spirit at CCYD. To everyone involved - thank you for making magic happen.



YEAR 7 RECYCLING WORKSHOP

Year 7 recently took part in an engaging recycling workshop and competition in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council. During the session, learners explored the lifecycle of different materials, from their extraction in the environment through to disposal, gaining a deeper understanding of sustainability. They also enjoyed taking part in the interactive “Cash It, Don’t Trash It” activity, where they raced to correctly recycle items and identify what could be reused. As part of the competition, pupils have begun designing a potential new artwork for Bridgend’s recycling lorries. Entries are now underway, and learners have until the first week back after Easter to submit their designs to Miss Wonklyn.



CCYD YOUNG CARERS

A group of our learners recently attended a Young Carers event at Offgrid to help raise awareness of Young Carers and give them a well-deserved break from their usual routines. The event provided a fantastic opportunity for learners to relax, socialise, and learn more about the support available to Young Carers. The day was filled with fun activities and treats, including pizza, doughnuts, free goodies, mini golf, a 360° camera experience, retro gaming, and hair and nail sessions. Learners also listened to an inspiring presentation from Young Carers ambassadors, including a former pupil who continues to dedicate his time to supporting Young Carers Bridgend. The event was both enjoyable and inspiring, helping to highlight the importance of recognising and supporting Young Carers in our community.



CCYD FOOTBALL NEWS

Our U18 football team lost 5-2 recently in the Cwpan Pen Y Bont (Bridgend Cup) to Pencoed. A tough game for our boys who had too much to do in the end. Good luck to Pencoed in the next round.



WELSH NATIONAL TANG SOO DO TEAM

We are thrilled to celebrate the fantastic achievement of Alfie Jones, a Year 8 learner at CCYD, who will be travelling to France this October to compete as part of the Welsh National Tang Soo Do Team. Alfie's dedication, discipline, and hard work have truly paid off, and representing Wales at such a young age is an outstanding accomplishment. Well done, Alfie - we are incredibly proud of you!

CCYD DUNGEONS & DRAGONS CLUB

The club will continue in the new term for current members on Monday & Tuesday after school. If you are interested in joining please see Mr Nanda for more information.



DO YOU NEED ANYTHING?

giveusashout@ccyd.org.uk



Do You Need
UNIFORM,
FOOD or
EQUIPMENT

If you need support then "give us a shout" via the email address above

This is our new discrete access point for any of your requests for support.

IF YOU NEED TO RAISE A CONCERN PLEASE EMAIL YOUR CHILD'S PASTORAL LEAD.

Year 7: Andrea.stockton@ccyd.org.uk

Year 8: Sara.williams@ccyd.org.uk

Year 9: Rob.Philips@ccyd.org.uk

Year 10: Paul.Franklyn@ccyd.org.uk

Year 11: Beverley.Hill@ccyd.org.uk

Year 12/13: Rhian.Wilson@ccyd.org.uk

<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Taiya Withey Year 11</p>	<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Carrie Edwards Year 7</p>	<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Scarlett Watts Year 8</p>	<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Neve Gardner Year 10</p>	<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Seren Davies Year 11</p>
<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Ava Symons Year 8</p>	<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Olivia Thomas Year 9</p>	<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Chloe Matthews Year 8</p>	<p>HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT POINTS OF THE WEEK</p> <p>CONGRATULATIONS</p> <p>Ava Hitchings Year 10</p>	

TRACEY WELLINGTON - HEADTEACHER

As we reach the end of another busy and rewarding term at CCYD, it has been wonderful to celebrate the many achievements of our learners. A particular highlight was our spectacular school production of Little Shop of Horrors, where learners from across the year groups showcased exceptional talent, teamwork and creativity—an unforgettable performance that truly brought the whole community together. Our sporting teams have also enjoyed an outstanding term, with impressive victories and a level of determination that reflects the very best of CCYD. Whether on stage, on the pitch or in the classroom, our learners continue to make us incredibly proud. Wishing everyone a wonderful Easter break, and the very best of luck with revision over the holiday. Enjoy a well-earned rest, and we look forward to welcoming learners and staff back refreshed and ready for the new term.

Warm Regards, Tracey Wellington.