



# Heronsbridge News

## Autumn 1 2019



# A Splash of Yellow

On Thursday 10 October, Heronsbridge staff and pupils joined thousands of schools, offices, companies and community groups and wore yellow to raise vital funds for YoungMinds. We said #HelloYellow in school and wore yellow to show that children and young people were not alone when dealing with mental health issues. We raised an amazing £136. Diolch yn fawr



### Primary

- We all had a lovely day on Barry Beach in the sunshine provided by the Variety Club– Thank you!
- An exciting visit from Techniquet introduced us to our fun topic of Marvellous Me, learning about our bodies

- Lots of parents were able to meet their child's new teachers and staff over a cup of tea!
- Some of our sensory learners took part in Sensory Story Telling Day, exploring all of their senses with stimuli linked to Halloween. We will be using this information to create our own sensory story.



### Seniors

#### Herons Football Team

Pupils in the senior department joined with some of the Leavers to participate in the annual football tournament held at Pen Y Bont club and sponsored by Bridgend Rotary Club. Pupils played their socks off and came away with the 'FAIR PLAY' award and a well deserved medal

### Meet our fluffy friends....

The senior department would like to introduce you to Poppy and Rosie who are only 9 weeks old! They have had a very warm welcome from all in the department and lots of pupils around the school have visited them too. The pupils are able to handle the bunnies with permission from parents or guardians.





## Centre for Autism

- Our Primary CFA pupils have been busy learning all about 'Marvellous Me'. We have learnt about parts of our body and how to keep ourselves healthy.
- We had great fun sorting out (and tasting) foods which we thought were healthy and unhealthy.

- We celebrated apple day earlier this year to ensure that we still had apples on the trees!
- The senior pupils learned how to make homemade apple juice and some even loved what they had produced!!



## Leavers

- Welcome to all the new students and staff who have joined the Leavers Department.
- The students have enjoyed their "Induction Fortnight" during which they experienced all the different options open to them this year.

- Performing Arts in Bridgend College has started and they are already practising for their show "Aladdin".
- The students have once again been out and about in the community, shopping, travel training and practicing their road safety. A "busy bunch !!"



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

### Half Termly Attendance

Whole School—**91.8%**

Top Attenders

1. A7—**97.7%**
2. A2—**97.3%**
3. L2—**96.6%**

Please phone school if your child is absent.

### From Rebecca King (SALT)

Following three years working within school, I am leaving the post for a new opportunity. There will be a vacancy within the main body of the school which will be advertised and recruited for. Best wishes to the staff, pupils and families.

## Family Matters

**FAMILY INFORMATION DAY** - A big thank you to the parents, carers and families who attended our event this autumn. This is always a very beneficial and informative morning offering parents and families advice and support from a variety of organisations. This year we included a separate section for careers and feedback was very positive. Our next event will be in April.

**SENSORY SANTA** - Our popular Christmas gift/ideas event is taking place on Thursday November 7th from 10.30—12.30. Everyone welcome.

**CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU** - Our next appointments are Wednesday 6th November. please phone 01656 815725 to book an appointment.

Karen Davies Family Engagement Officer

## Dates for the Diary

### November

- 06 Citizens Advice Bureau  
Please phone for an appointment
- 07 Sensory Santa 10.30—12.30
- 14 Bring & Buy Heron Hall 10 - 12.30
- 18 Bag2School Clothing Collection
- 20 & 21 School Photographer

### December

- 03 Friends Carol Concert
- 04 Citizens Advice Bureau  
Please phone for an appointment
- 10 Senior Christmas Show
- 11 Senior Christmas Show
- 12 Primary Christmas Concert - Church
- 16 Christmas Fete for Pupils
- 17 Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day
- 20 Last day in school

### January

- 06 Inset Day
- 07 First day back for pupils

*If you would like to talk about any aspects of your child's education you can telephone us on 01656 815725 or email [admin.heronbridgeschool@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:admin.heronbridgeschool@bridgend.gov.uk). We have an open door policy and welcome all contact with parents and families.*



# Meet the Heron Squad

Our **Four Values** match the **Four Purposes**

-  **Wellbeing** - Healthy, Confident Individuals
-  **Independence** - Ambitious, Capable Learners
-  **Opportunity** - Enterprising, Creative Contributors
-  **Sustainability** - Ethical, Informed Individuals

We are continuing to respond to the way education in Wales is changing and have recruited some friends to support this. The Four Purposes are at the heart of the new curriculum and luckily they match our four school values. Staff and pupils now have to show how they can learn to be like the Heron Squad and they will be on their way to meeting the Four Purposes.



## Primary

- We have had a busy half term doing lots of practice for our nativity concert 'Ned's Christmas Journey'. We were all amazing and had lots of fun.
- Some pupils have experienced our topic 'Marvellous Me' using the hydro pool. They took part in many exciting activities, including joining in with a skeleton dance.

- Congratulations to Class 2 who had the winning design of all different fish swimming together from 'Rights Respecting Week'!
- The 'primary choir' attended a one off concert at the Health and Wellbeing Centre, Hartshorn House, Maesteg. They sang and played instruments in their annual coffee morning. All visitors said it was very festive.



## 'This is us'.....Show time!

- Lots of preparation for our Christmas performance and lots of lines to learn. Well done to everyone who took part and for those working behind the scenes. There has been some well deserved positive feedback from the audience. Everyone pulled together to show 'Together We Can'.
- It certainly was '*The Greatest Show*'.

## Belonging

- During Rights Respecting week we have thought about the importance of our rights. Each class designed a poster to represent 'belonging'.
- Class 6 won with their original idea showing our potential to achieve. They have been treated with trip to our coffee shop in school Blas Da.





## Centre for Autism

- Our classes have been experiencing a variety of sensory stories and sessions linked to seasonal events such as Halloween, Bonfire Night and Christmas.
- We are 'Brilliant Blue' at taking part in the sessions and can use all of our senses to explore aspects of the story.

## Rights Respecting Week

- One of the tasks during this week was to highlight a 'sense of belonging'.
- The winning poster showed how important PECS is for our pupils and how activities reflect the school's core values and the four purposes. Bendigedig!!!



## Leavers

- Our students continue to undertake work experience and this term has seen them attend Ford, B Leaf and Boots
- The students in the coffee shop have helped at various events, including the Mayor's Charity in the Heronston Hotel and football events in Bryntirion Football Club. They have been praised for their efforts and professionalism.
- Leavers worked hard rehearsing for our Christmas Show 'This is Us' The students were fantastic singing, dancing and performing to a very high level.
- To celebrate, the department went to the Odeon Cinema to see 'Last Christmas'. This was followed by lunch in the Food Court. Everyone enjoyed the film and the Christmas spirit !



ATTENDANCE MATTERS  
...every school day counts!

Half Termly Attendance	Top Attenders
	C12a - 99.3%
<b>91%</b>	A6 - 96.6%
	A4 - 96.4%

## Dates for the Diary

6th January	— Inset Day
7th January	— First day for pupils
8th January	— Citizens Advice
17th—21st February	— Half Term



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