



Newyddion Heronsbridge

Tymor y Gwanwyn 2025



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Know yourself, grow yourself

"No education system is effective unless it promotes the health and well-being of its students, staff, and community" WHO, UNESCO. This is something we cherish, and along with our everyday commitment to health and wellbeing for pupils and staff, our annual celebration of Mental Health Matters week, which centred around the theme 'know yourself, grow yourself' provided many activities for pupils and staff to take part in, which are included in this newsletter. With help from the characters from Inside Out 2 our pupils explored what self-awareness means to them and help them understand that its normal and ok to experience a whole range of different emotions.



Primary

Lots of classes across the department enjoy getting out and about in the community, to develop their literacy and numeracy skills in the real world. The children learn valuable skills such as road safety, following instructions and paying for items in a shop as well as (of course) having a sneaky snack in the café!

Our school council members Jacob, Issy and Harry have been busy working with the Cymru Learning Disability team to help simplify 'The National Vision for Infants, Children and Young People'. They went to Atlantic College and gave their feedback to the important delegates about what was important to them! Da iawn chi!

Primary

During mental health matters week, classes have been busy experiencing different sessions to support their wellbeing. There was something for all, including music therapy, wellbeing walks with Boo the pony and a cinema showing of 'Inside Out' down the hall. Class 6 also put their science skills to the test by creating the own lava lamps and squishy slime! A lovely activity to encourage relaxation and mindfulness.





Secondary

This February a group of pupils across Key stage 3, 4 and Leavers represented our school at the Criced Cymru tournament in Cardiff. Competition was tough, but all pupils have secured a slot in the next stages at either shield or cup level.

As ever our pupils showed what it is to be a Heron, by cheering each other on, looking out for each other and trying their best!

Dai iawn pawb!

Look at this pair! Poppy and Pony!

During Mental Health Matters week, pupils had the opportunity to take part in some amazing activities. They took part in playing board games with friends, using the VR set, smile on your mile walk, express yourself day, Valentines disco and many more exciting things.

Staff had a treat too! Daily breakfast club, yoga and Wednesday evening activities.

Thank you and congratulations go to class 9 for coming 1st place in the 'creating a well-being quote!'

Feelings matter, have a natter!

Feelings do matter and by having a natter we can look at all those big feelings we may be having and share them.

A problem shared is a problem halved!



Centre for Autism

We love our sessions that we have with Boo our therapy horse for our equine therapy sessions. We are able to follow rules when we are working with Boo including using quiet voices, using kind and gentle hands, not running towards Boo and not standing or walking behind Boo. Boo helps us to develop and practise many skills. We work on communication, problem solving, empathy, independence and building our self esteem. We love holding the lead and have Boo join us on our well-being walks.

Centre for Autism

Mental Health Matters at Heronsbridge and we celebrated this term by taking part in a range of activities to look after ourselves. Fitness and movement are very important and we love looking after our regulation by taking part in regular movement breaks. We are able to use the gym equipment in our gym where we can really get our pump on! Healthy minds make healthy bodies and give us the tools to be ready to learn. Da iawn pawb!



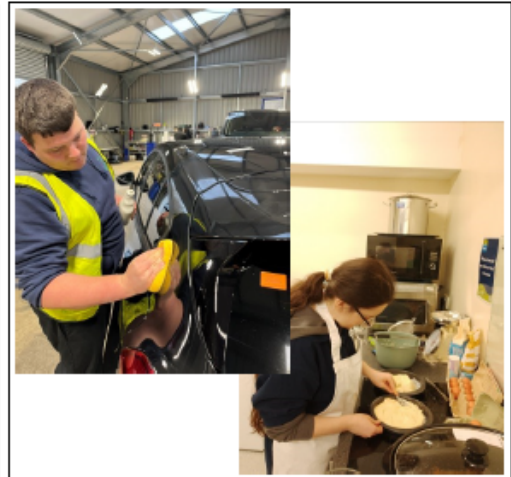


Leavers

Every Monday, Leavers 2 have been accessing their local community. They have visited lots of places including the library, supermarkets, the post office and local green spaces. They also regularly visit Bridgend Resource Centre. This is to support their transition after leaving Heronsbridge. During our latest visit, Miss Devlin led an 'Attention Autism' session to explore Valentine's Day. They made a 'my heart goes pop' picture by popping balloons filled with glitter and paint. They have all enjoyed getting to know the staff and individuals at the resource centre.

Leavers

Our Year 14 students have work experience opportunities before leaving school. Recently, our Car Valeting students visited Bridgend Ford and worked with their staff to clean cars. They were very impressed with our students and have invited them back in the near future. Another fantastic opportunity is visiting The Bridge in Bridgend town centre and working within their kitchen to prepare cakes to sell in their coffee shop. Our students have demonstrated great customer service skills and excellent manners when out and about in the community.



Some members of the school council delivered a very important presentation, which they had prepared, to members of the Welsh Government and NHS executives this month. They talked about children's rights and what they would like the Government and Health to do to support them. We have already received feedback from people telling us how fantastic it was to hear them speaking so confidently about their rights rydym mor falch ohonoch!!!

Pupil Voice



As part of Mental Health Matters week, all classes were invited to design a poster with a motivational wellbeing quote. All posters were carefully thought out, reflecting the needs and interest of all learners. Here are just a few, we are so lucky to have such inspirational pupils!

Family Matters



**FAMILY INFORMATION DAY
HERONSBRIDGE SCHOOL**

Please drop in for a chat and a coffee with over 20 local organisations for advice and support. Light refreshments will be available.

**When: Thursday 27th March
1000 - 1000pm
Heron Hall (main school hall)**

Get in touch with any questions by emailing manleyz2@twbcymru.net or family@heronsbridgebridgend.cymru



OSPREYS YOUTH WHEELCHAIR RUGBY

Weekly Youth Wheelchair Sessions

Launching 12th January 2025
Pencoed Campus
Weekly sessions: 3-5pm
Ages 8-17, siblings welcome
Wheelchairs provided

Contact: Dominic Evans
07580 797269
clrdominicevans@outlook.com

Looking to try something new?!
Check out the Ospreys youth wheelchair sessions, which are free



VoucherCodes

Save this for when you're eating out this half term! Here's everywhere kids can eat free or for £1 🍔

Everywhere kids can eat free or for £1 this half-term

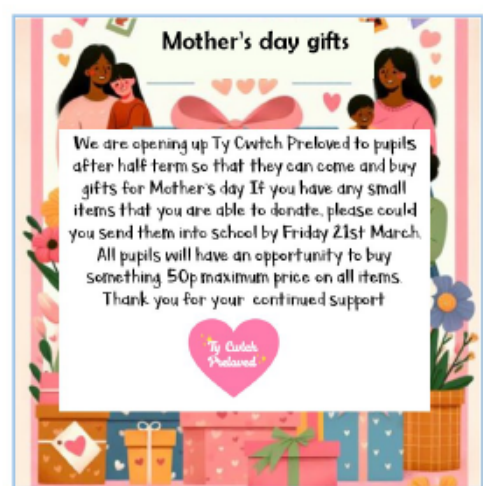
- ASDA Cafes
- Dobbies Garden Centres
- Dunelm Pausa Cafes
- IKEA Restaurants
- Morrisons Cafes
- Sainsbury's Cafes
- Tesco Cafes
- Angus Steakhouse
- Bella Italia
- Bill's
- Burger King
- The Coconut Tree
- Franco Manca
- Gordon Ramsay Restaurants
- Harvester
- Las Iguanas
- OK Diners
- Preto
- Purezza
- The Real Greek
- Zizzi
- Brewdog
- Hungry Horse
- S.A. Brains Pubs
- Sizzling Pubs
- Beefeater
- Brewers Fayre
- Premier Inn
- Table Table



**Gŵyl Llên Plant Pen-y-Bont Ar-Ogwr
Bridgend Children's Literature Festival**

Bridgend Children's Literature Festival from Saturday 22 February to Saturday 1 March with theatre, live music, storytelling, and much more. Click on the link or scan the QR code to book your place!

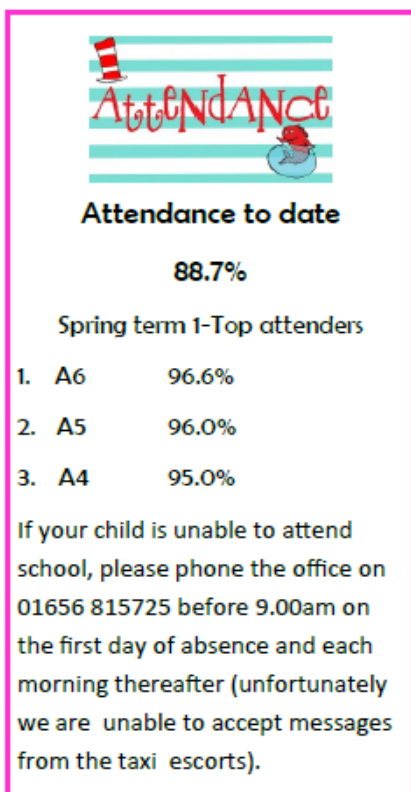
[Bridgend Children's Literature Festival 2025 | Awen Box](#)



Mother's day gifts

We are opening up Ty Cwtch Proloved to pupils after half term so that they can come and buy gifts for Mother's day. If you have any small items that you are able to donate, please could you send them into school by Friday 21st March. All pupils will have an opportunity to buy something 50p maximum price on all items. Thank you for your continued support.

Ty Cwtch Proloved



Attendance to date

88.7%

Spring term 1-Top attenders

- A6 96.6%
- A5 96.0%
- A4 95.0%

If your child is unable to attend school, please phone the office on 01656 815725 before 9.00am on the first day of absence and each morning thereafter (unfortunately we are unable to accept messages from the taxi escorts).

Keeping learners safe

Scan the QR code to access information on keeping learners safe on our school website

This link will also take you to information on how to keep safe online

Out of school hours contact information

Emergency duty team (01443) 743665

Early Help: (01656) 815420 / 0642740 / 815431 **Email:** earlyhelp@bridgend.gov.uk

Information, Advice and Assistance team (IAA): (01656) 642320

Dates for the Diary

HALF TERM
Mon 24th —Fri 28th Feb

Mon 3rd March—Pupils back to school

Wed 5th March—Senior Eisteddfod—am
Primary Eisteddfod—pm

Fri 21st March— Comic Relief

Thurs 27th March— Family Information Day

Thursday 10th April— Primary Easter Bonnet Parade

Friday 11th April—Senior Easter Egg Hunt

EASTER HALF TERM
Mon 14th Apr—Friday 25th Apr
INSET DAY Mon 28th Apr