BLOG

8th May - 14th May 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE ....

It has been another busy and rewarding week here at Ysgol Bryn Alyn, with many examples of our school community working together to Dream, Reach and Achieve. A particular highlight has been the strong sense of collaboration shown across the school, with pupils supporting one another, engaging positively in their learning and striving for success.

Our Year 11 pupils continue to demonstrate excellent commitment as they approach their examinations. It has been wonderful to see the range of revision opportunities being fully utilised, both before and after school, and the positive attitude shown throughout. The recent practical Food revision session is a fantastic example of learning in action, combining teamwork, organisation and subject knowledge to a very high standard. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and determination during this important time.

Across the school, there has also been much to celebrate. Our Reading Buddies programme continues to flourish, strengthening links with our partner primary school and fostering a love of reading, confidence and friendship among pupils. These moments truly capture the spirit of our school community and the importance of supporting one another.

We also remain committed to listening to pupil voice. It is great to see our School Council making a real difference, with practical improvements such as the installation of new clocks in the canteen. Small changes like this show how working together can enhance everyday school life.

At the same time, we recognise the importance of wellbeing. Supporting young people's mental health remains a priority, and we encourage everyone to take the time to check in with each other, offering kindness, understanding and reassurance. Finally, I would like to thank our staff, pupils and families for their continued dedication and support. As we move towards the half-term break, let us maintain our focus, resilience and positivity.

Diolch yn fawr – keep up the excellent work.

YR11 FOOD REVISION

A year 11 food group took part in a highly productive practical revision lesson, where they were challenged to plan and prepare a full cooked breakfast. The activity required them to draw on a range of skills, including time management, organisation, and safe food preparation. Once cooking was complete, pupils moved on to the next stage of the task, demonstrating their subject knowledge by identifying and labelling each ingredient. They used accurate scientific terminology throughout, successfully linking their practical work to the theoretical understanding needed for their exams.

The group worked exceptionally well together, showing confidence, focus, and strong teamwork throughout the lesson. Their positive attitude and engagement were evident, and Mrs Evans was very proud of the high standard of work produced.

Overall, it was a fantastic effort from everyone involved, and a great example of revision in practice.

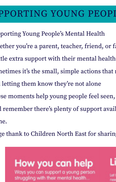
Well done, Year 11.

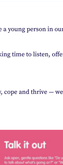
YR11 HOODIE DAY

Today, our Year 11 students were excited to receive their hoodies, handed out by Mr (Geography) Jones. There was a real buzz as everyone collected theirs and saw the finished design for the first time — and Mr Jones even got his own hoodie too. Each student had the chance to choose their preferred colour, making every hoodie feel personal and unique to them.

On the back, each hoodie features the number 26, filled with the names of all Year 11 students — a meaningful design that represents the entire year group and the friendships and memories they've built over the years. It's a small detail that carries a lot of significance as they approach the end of their school journey.

A fantastic moment to mark their final year at school. Wear them with pride, Yr11!





SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

Supporting Young People's Mental Health

Whether you're a parent, teacher, friend, or family member, many of us have a young person in our lives who might need a little extra support with their mental health.

Sometimes it's the small, simple actions that make the biggest difference, taking time to listen, offering reassurance and letting them know they're not alone

These moments help young people feel seen, heard and truly cared for.

And remember there's plenty of support available to help young people grow, cope and thrive — we don't have to do it alone.

Huge thank to Children North East for sharing these strategies.

READING BUDDIES

Our Reading Buddies reciprocal reading scheme with our wonderful feeder school, Gwersyllt Community Primary School, continues to go from strength to strength - and honestly, it's inspiring to watch.

Pupils from both schools have been diving into stories together, building confidence, sharpening reading skills and forming brilliant cross-school friendships along the way. Da iawn i bawb am eich ymdrech, eich brwdfrydedd a'ch timwaith arbennig - you're all smashing it! Seeing older and younger learners supporting one another, celebrating progress and discovering the joy of reading is exactly what makes this partnership so special. The energy, the smiles, the teamwork.... it's pure magic.

We're incredibly proud of every single child involved and can't wait for many more exciting shared reading sessions ahead. Keep shining, keep supporting, and keep turning those pages!

SCHOOL COUNCIL

You Asked, We Did: School Council in Action

We value the voice of our pupils, and our School Council suggestion box continues to be a brilliant way for students to share their ideas and help improve school life.

Recently, you told us that having a clock in the canteen would be really helpful at lunchtime. We listened! Thanks to our fantastic caretaker, Kelvin, a new clock is being installed in the canteen today.

To make things even clearer, there will also be a digital clock displayed on the TV screen near the attendance area, so everyone can keep an eye on the time.

Thank you to the School Council for representing pupil views so thoughtfully – keep those ideas coming!

'SHOUT OUT'

Mrs S. Roberts
For doing a great job photo-copying so many resources in the run-up to the exams!

Miss S. Bourhill
For using her own time to support two students in Y11 studying for the GCSE Literature course!

Felicity Perry Yr10
Congratulations, Felicity's stunning artwork has caught the attention of Anglesey Sea Zoo and will be exhibited to support marine conservation awareness.

Mrs J. Williams - Attendance Officer
Special shout-out to Mrs Williams, our amazing Attendance Officer at Ysgol Bryn Alyn.
A huge asset to our school, Jan shows care, professionalism and empathy every day, always putting pupils first.
We're so lucky to have her in #TeamYBA.

REVISION SESSIONS

WEEK 1 and WEEK 2 @ YBA
BEFORE SCHOOL AND FORM TIME
All Week - Welsh—arrange with teacher
Wednesday - Targeted Science
Thursday - English C/D Borderline Intervention & Revision
Friday - English A grade Intervention and Revision

WEEK 1 and WEEK 2 @ YBA
LUNCH
All Week - Welsh—arrange with teacher
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday - Spanish

WEEK 1 and WEEK 2 @ YBA
AFTER SCHOOL
All Week - Welsh—arrange with teacher
Monday - Maths and History
Tuesday - Geography and Music/Arts/Media
WEEK 1
Thursday - English
Friday - Intermediate Maths
WEEK 2
Thursday - Science
Friday - Intermediate Maths and A*/A Science

UPCOMING NEWS/EVENTS ....

Week Commencing 18th May 2026

Knife Awareness Week

- 19/5/26 - Wrexham Schools Athletics
- 20/5/26 - Enhanced Transition Session 1
- 22/5/26 - MAY HALF TERM

WELSH PHRASE OF THE WEEK

Tynna dy gôt - Take off your coat

e.g. Tynna dy gôt os gwelwch yn dda - Take off your coat please

WORD OF THE WEEK ....

Collaboration

The act of working together with one or more people to achieve a shared goal, often involving active participation and contribution from all involved.

YBA
Dream. Reach. Achieve.