

BLOG

13th March - 18th March 2026

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

This week at YBA has truly embodied our word of the week: aspiration, the belief that we can always grow, strive and reach further than we ever thought possible. Everywhere I have looked, our students have shown what it means to aim high, support one another and take pride in their achievements.

We are incredibly proud that our School Council has been awarded 'Team of the Year' at the Leader Live Education Awards. This recognition highlights the power of student voice at YBA and the positive impact our young people are having across our community. Their commitment, leadership and drive for improvement perfectly capture the aspirational spirit of our school.

Aspiration has also been shining through in lessons, particularly in Expressive Arts, where students have produced impressive physical theatre work, brimming with creativity and confidence. Our Wellbeing Wednesday sessions brought equal joy: the sunshine, the rhythm of samba drums, students mastering Photoshop, tinkering with bike maintenance, exploring upcycling, and gathering in our Big Shed, toasting marshmallows and learning how to look after their wellbeing. These experiences remind us that aspiration thrives when students are happy, engaged and curious.

Staff too have demonstrated their commitment to excellence, engaging in inspirational training with Mark Byrnes, focused on refining teaching practice and aiming for the top, a message closely tied to aspiration and the belief that every learner can excel.

Our pupils have also taken their aspiration out into the community, delivering beautiful planters around the local area to brighten the days of others, an act of kindness that reflects their character as much as their ambition.

Looking ahead, we are excited for our Year 11 Leavers' Bingo Night on Thursday 26th March, raising funds for their end-of-year trip. This is a wonderful way for our school community to come together to support our students as they prepare for their next steps. As we encourage Year 11 to keep their aspirations high during these final weeks, a reminder that Leavers' Hoodies are now available to order, details have been shared via email.

Finally, please remember to make full use of our excellent extra-curricular offer and the late bus, both of which can be booked through the weekly email link. These opportunities allow students to discover new passions, build new skills and aspire to be the very best version of themselves.

I am immensely proud of all our students this week, their hard work, positivity and desire to achieve truly make YBA a special place to be.

LEADER AWARDS 2026

YBA SCHOOL COUNCIL WIN TEAM OF THE YEAR!
Our fantastic School Council were crowned Team of the Year at the Leader Live Education Awards. They arrived in school on Friday full of excitement and eager to share the news with staff. Their hope is simple: to inspire even more pupils to get involved, make a difference, and play an active role in shaping the future of Ysgol Bryn Alyn.



Pupil voice is a driving force in our school improvement journey, and our School Council continue to show what is possible when young people lead with passion, purpose, and pride.

Well done to every member of our School Council committees — you make us incredibly proud. If you feel inspired to get involved, please see Mrs Cooper for more information. There are a wide number of committees available to join. Here's to even more pupils contributing, collaborating, and ensuring every voice in our community is heard.

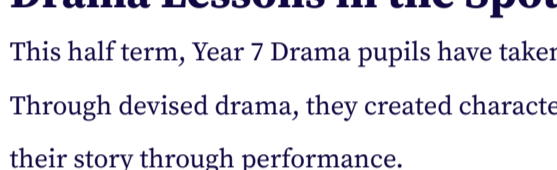


EXPRESSIVE ARTS

A huge well done to 8A3 for their powerful Physical Theatre performances this term! Students explored how to devise their own symbolic work inspired by themes of war, conflict, community, and teamwork—producing some truly thought-provoking and creative pieces.



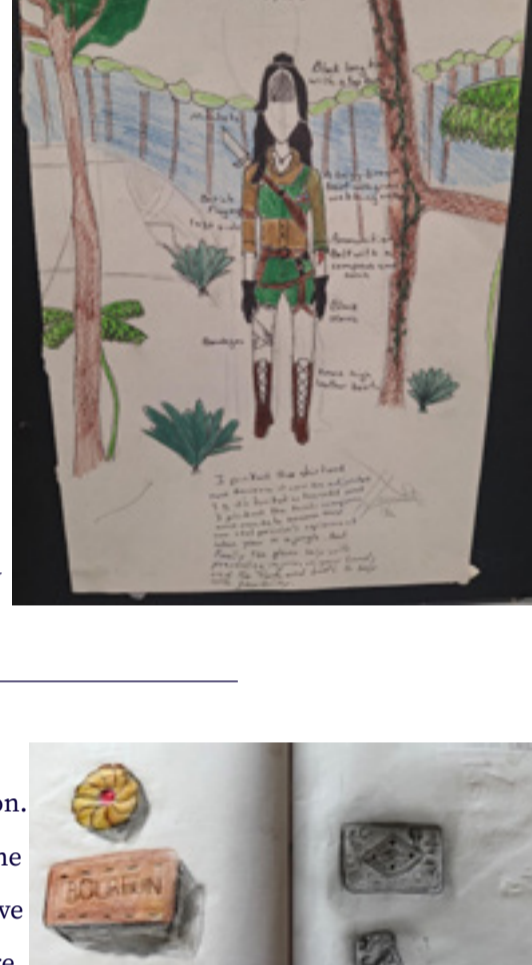
This scheme of work sits within our wider topic of Culture, tackling the big question: How has culture influenced Expressive Arts? Through their performances, learners demonstrated not only their understanding of this but also their ability to communicate meaning through movement, expression, and collaboration.



Mrs Noon is incredibly impressed with the maturity, creativity, and skills development shown across all Year 8 drama lessons this term—an outstanding effort from everyone involved. Di awn pawb!

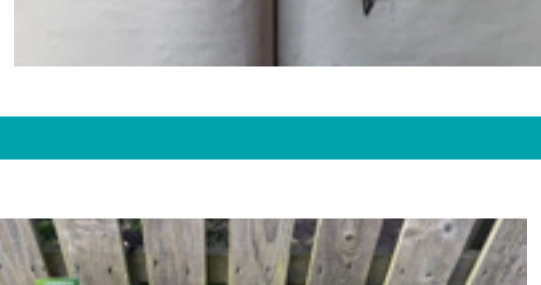
Year 7 have shown fantastic creativity and collaboration throughout. We're very proud of their achievements and excited to see what they create next!

Improvisation and teacher-in-role to launch the mission
Mime and thought-tracking to explore emotions
A teamwork-focused crash-landing sequence
A suspenseful clue-finding expedition using physical theatre



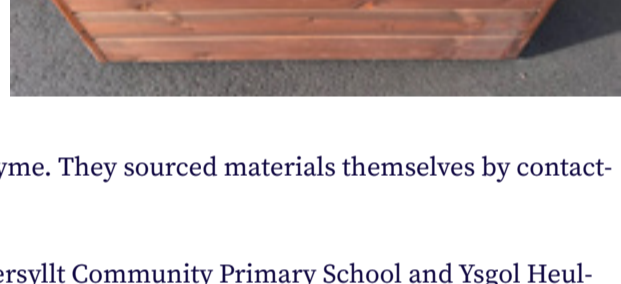
They produced eight key scenes using a range of drama techniques, including:

Year 7 have been practising their technique for observational drawing, using food as our inspiration. Students have explored how shape, texture and tone can be used to develop realism in our work. We have also studied the work of artist, Joel Penkman. Here are two excellent examples by Ossian Roberts 7LL and Isaac Jones 7LL. Da iawn!



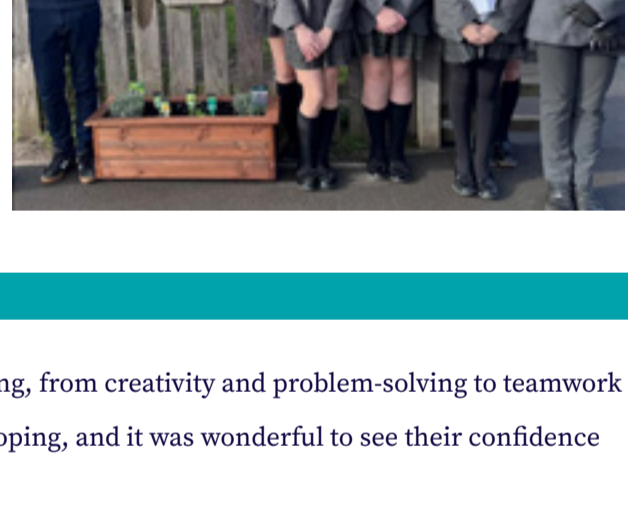
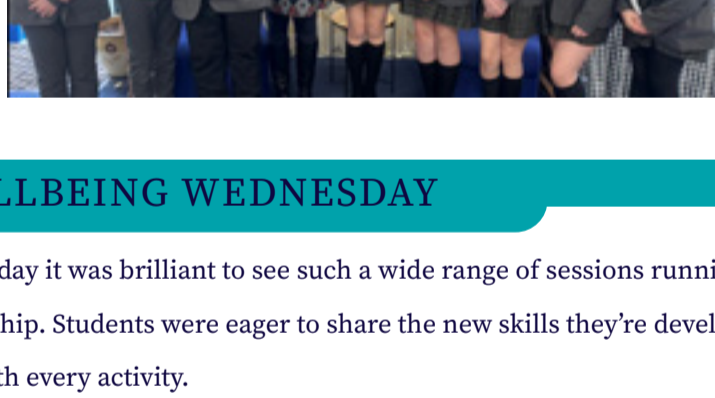
YOUTH CYMRU

YOUTH-LED SOCIAL ACTION BLOOMS AT YBA
YBA pupils completed a Youth Cymru Youth-Led Social Action project, supported by our Youth Worker, Mandy. The project was entirely driven by the students, who wanted to make a positive impact on their community through creativity and teamwork.



With generous support from Bellis Brothers Farm Shop & Garden Centre, the group designed and created colourful, bee-friendly and sensory planters using pollinator plants and herbs such as lavender, mint and thyme. They sourced materials themselves by contacting local garden centres and planning the project from start to finish.

Pupils delivered their finished planters to Pendine Park Care Home, Gwersyllt Community Primary School and Ysgol Heulfan—bringing a little burst of colour and care to each setting. A fantastic achievement and another proud #teamYBA moment.

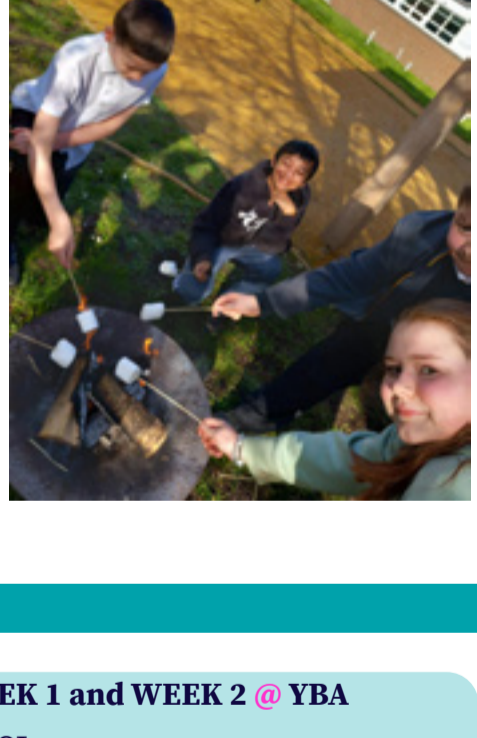
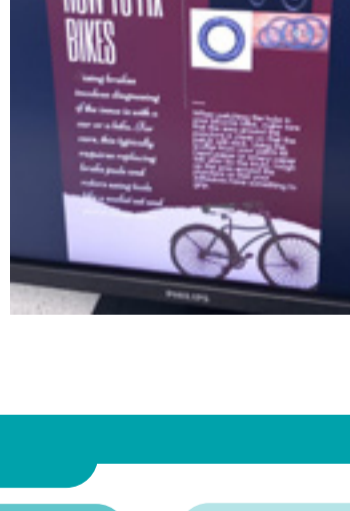
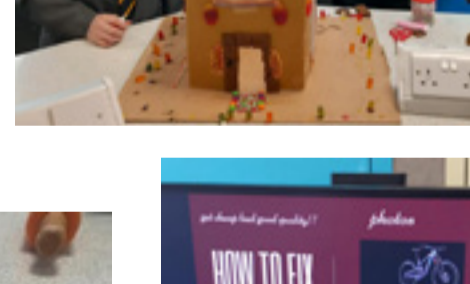
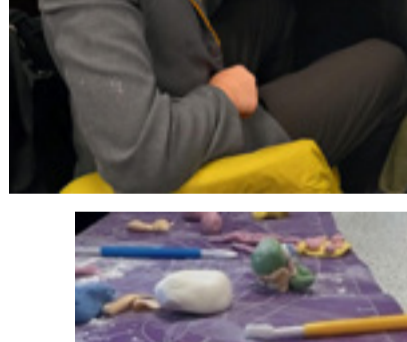


WELLBEING WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday it was brilliant to see such a wide range of sessions running, from creativity and problem-solving to teamwork and leadership. Students were eager to share the new skills they're developing, and it was wonderful to see their confidence growing with every activity.

A huge thank you to our dedicated staff who continue to support this new initiative with enthusiasm and commitment. Your hard work is what makes days like this so meaningful for our young people. Here's to many more uplifting Wednesdays filled with learning, growth, and well-being.

Check out the photos below to see what was happening today.



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
AFTER SCHOOL
All Week - Welsh—arrange with teacher
Monday - Maths and History
Tuesday - Geography and Music/Arts/Media

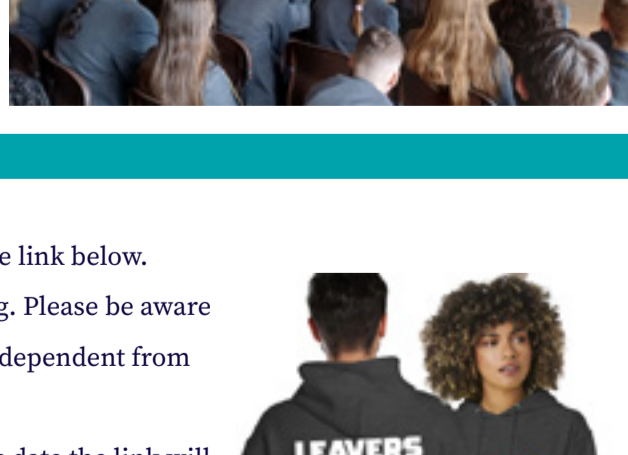
WEEK 1 and WEEK 2 @ YBA
LUNCH
All Week - Welsh—arrange with teacher
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday - Spanish

WEEK 1
Thursday - English
Friday - Intermediate Maths

WEEK 2
Thursday - Science
Friday - Intermediate Maths and A*/A Science

NEURODIVERSITY WEEK

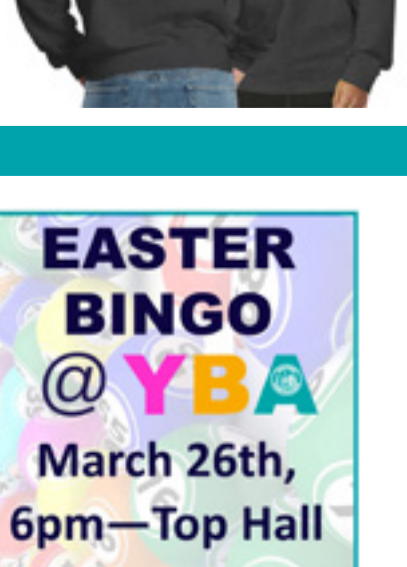
The Culture and Diversity Committee—comprising Divine Bamgbala, Lucas Francis-Jones, Lucas Thomas and Ava Conde delivered assemblies on Tuesday and Wednesday to yr7 and yr8 to mark Neurodiversity Celebration Week. The committee has shown exceptional commitment in preparing these sessions, and we are grateful for their ongoing dedication to promoting inclusivity and understanding across the school.



For all other year groups, a selection of videos on neurodiversity were shared and included on the their Form Time slide.

YR11 HOODIES

If you wish to purchase a Leavers 2026 Hoodie, please can you access the link below. Pupils have had the opportunity to try on a sample size prior to ordering. Please be aware that the school do not order the Leavers Hoodies they are completely independent from us and ordered solely through RAM leisure.



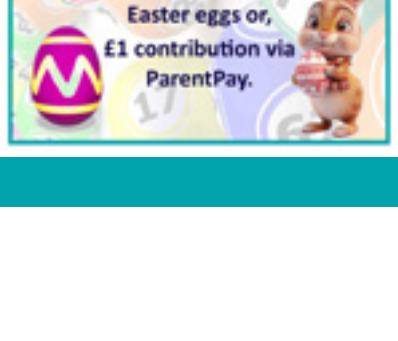
Their cut off date for final orders is THURSDAY 26TH MARCH. After this date the link will no longer be accessible and no further orders will be taken. Once made the hoodies will be delivered to school for distribution.

<https://ourschoolwear.co.uk/collections/ysgol-bryn-alyn-school-wrexham/products/bryn-alyn-leavers-hoodies?variant=57129626894719>

UPCOMING NEWS/EVENTS

Week Commencing 23rd March 2026

- 24/3/26 - Yr10 Assembly - Hope House
- 24/3/26 - 'HAVE A GO LESSONS' - Maths
- 26/3/26 - 'HAVE A GO LESSONS' - Maths
- 26/3/26 - EASTER BINGO
- 27/3/26 - HALF TERM ENDS



WORD OF THE WEEK

Aspiration

Having a goal or dream for your future and working towards it. It's about wanting to achieve something and putting in the effort to make it happen, even when it feels challenging.

