



Friday, 23rd January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well. It has been another busy and rewarding week here at Llangatwg Community School, with pupils across the year groups engaging in a wide range of exciting learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom. I am delighted to share some of the highlights with you below.

Year 8 Cwmbrogi Project – Marshmallow Tower Challenge

As part of the ongoing Morgan and Sindall Cwmbrogi sustainable schools project, our Year 8 pupils took part in a hands-on team challenge this week: the Marshmallow Tower Competition. Working in small teams, pupils were tasked with constructing the tallest possible tower in just 20 minutes using only 20 strands of spaghetti and 20 mini marshmallows.

The activity encouraged pupils to practise essential skills such as collaboration, communication, and problem-solving—all of which will be crucial as they move forward with designing their sustainable school of the future. Da iawn pawb!



STEM Enrichment Workshop with MIT Professor

We were thrilled to welcome a visiting professor from MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) this week, who delivered a fascinating workshop

exploring patterns in cells and how these can help scientists predict whether cells are malignant or benign.

Our pupils were highly engaged throughout, asking thoughtful questions about STEM pathways and what it is like to study at a world-leading university such as MIT. This was a truly inspiring opportunity and one that has already sparked great enthusiasm among those who took part.



Year 11 Food Practical Examination Dishes

Our talented Year 11 pupils have recently completed their GCSE practical cooking examinations, producing a fantastic range of high-quality dishes. Staff were incredibly impressed with the standard of work demonstrated and the professionalism pupils displayed throughout the assessment. We are pleased to share a small selection of their creations with you in this newsletter. A huge well done to all involved.



Year 11 Science Practical Examinations

This week, our Year 11 pupils began their science practical examinations, which contribute to their final GCSE Science grade. It has been a pleasure to see how focused and engaged they have been, approaching the assessments with maturity and determination.

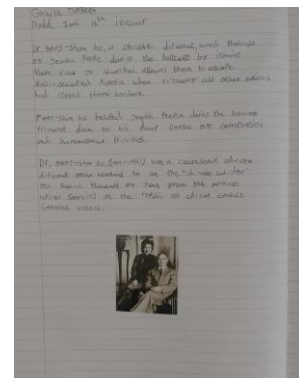
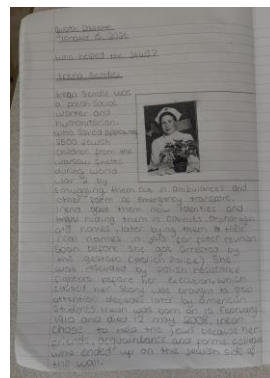
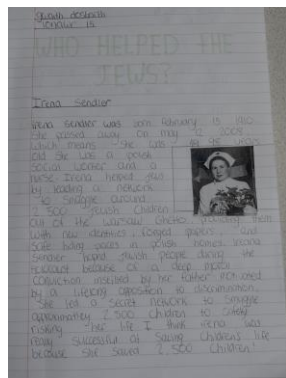
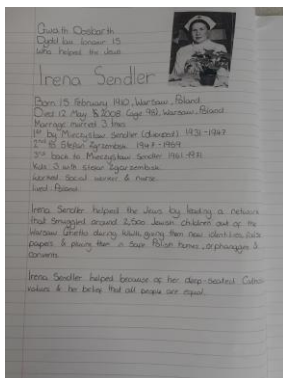


Year 9 Holocaust Project – “Who Helped the Jews?”

As part of their ongoing study of the Holocaust, Year 9 pupils have been investigating the question “Who helped the Jews?” with a focus on individuals and groups who provided rescue, resistance, or support during this period.

The quality of their written reports has been exceptionally high. Pupils demonstrated strong historical understanding, empathy, and critical thinking, drawing on real case studies such as the Kindertransport, the White Rose movement, and the actions of those recognised as Righteous Among the Nations. Many pupils also thoughtfully connected their learning to our school values and the importance of moral courage.

A small sample of this outstanding work has been included for you to view.



Special Achievement – Congratulations, Lily!

We would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Lily, who achieved an incredible success last weekend. After a full day of auditions at Swansea Grand Theatre, where around 130 children competed for a place, Lily was selected as one of the final 12 to join the junior ensemble of the *Lost Children* in this year's Peter Pan Easter production.

This is a remarkable achievement, and we are extremely proud of her. Lily was delighted to receive her letter and certificate, and we are delighted to celebrate her success with our school community.



ClassCharts Superstars

Once again, we're incredibly proud of all our pupils this week, with a fantastic number of positive ClassCharts points awarded across every year group. It's been wonderful to see so many pupils recognised for their hard work, positive attitude, and contributions to school life. A special congratulations goes to our **ClassCharts Superstars**—the pupils who earned the highest number of points this week. Well done to each of you for setting such a brilliant example!

Year 7 ★

Jessica Aldridge, Henry Brown and Freya Jones

Year 8 ★

Romano James, Brody Morris and Rowan Davies

Year 9 ★

Travis Rees, Rory James and Amelia Barnes

Year 10 ★

Amelia Coslett, Joseph Langstaff-Hall and Mason Carpenter

Year 11 ★

Amelia Church, Julian Morgan and Reggie Dovener

Notices:

1. **Year 11 Science Practical examinations: January 27th – 28th** – please ensure your son/daughter attends school during this period as these examinations count towards their final GCSE grade!
2. **Monday, 26th January:** This is a professional learning day for staff. School will be closed to pupils on this day.
3. **Friday, 13th February:** Break up for half term.
4. **Monday, 23rd February:** Return to school after half term.
5. **Monday, 9th March:** Year 10 parent/carer evening
6. **Uniform Reminder:** All pupils are expected to arrive at school in full and correct school uniform. If this is not the case, you will be contacted and asked to bring the appropriate uniform to school. Uniform expectations are as follows:
 - Plain white polo shirt (with or without the school badge).
 - Green V-neck or round-neck jumper with the school badge.
 - Plain black trousers, long length plain black shorts or thick black leggings (no motifs). Skirts may also be worn.
 - Plain black school shoes or plain black trainers.
 - Coats of any colour can be worn around the school site but must be removed in class.
 - *Note:* Hoodies are not permitted.

Uniform Supplier: Branded uniform can be purchased from Sportec (opposite Dŵr-y-Felin School) or online via:

👉 <https://www.sportec.co.uk/products/school-uniform-shop/secondary-schools>

7. **Facebook page:** If you haven't already done so, please follow us on Facebook by searching for Llangatwg Community School:



We'll be using this page to celebrate our pupils' achievements both in and outside of school. If your son or daughter has accomplished something special outside of school—whether in sports, the arts, volunteering, or any other area—we'd love to hear about it! Please feel free to get in touch and share their story. We always enjoy celebrating the successes of our pupils and showcasing their talents.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are so proud of the dedication, curiosity, and resilience shown by our pupils every day. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Best wishes,

Lauren Mackie
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Llangatwg Community School

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