



## COMMUNITY SPIRIT



**Lauren Robinson in Year 12, her mum and sister have been using their time productively and despite all the concerns are putting themselves at risk on a regular basis by helping others in their local community.**

They have been making trips to the Royal Glamorgan Hospital to deliver food donations to share between staff and patients. These were provided by local shop keeper, Vish Patel at Oakland Stores in Cilfynydd and transported by Nick who works for Hughes Forrest.



These multiple generous donations were to support the patients who were not allowed visitors and could not receive essential items. Last month Lauren and her family also delivered Easter Eggs to patients in the Children's Ward during the Easter holidays with Easter eggs, drinks and sweets.

All departments of both Royal Glamorgan and YCR were included during these difficult times. This highlights the amazing community spirit in Cilfynydd.

## ACHIEVERS

**Excellent Home Learning in English:** Ceri Palmer, Cai Phillips, Jac Jones, Daniel Hill, Evelyn Cartlidge, Tomos Jones, Courtney Burton, Georgia Parker Brown, Calum Sharp, Tillie Read, Layla Thomas, Sarah Beth Phillips, Kate Leeworthy, Arwen Thomas, Logan Woodford, Ruby Brookman, Ffion Davey, Ella-Rose Price, Ellie-May Davidson, Taylor Vincent, Adam Harries, Josh Thomas, Megan Mahoney, Leanne Humphries, Mackenzie Jones, Aisha Malik, Charlie Nash, Rhys Humphries, Ella Hunt, Joshua Lewis, Jack Greig, Charlie Stott, Alisha Hernandez, Mia Howells, Cally Morgan, Florence Morgan Welch, Ffion Rowe, Alexa Taylor, Naiya Partington, Nia Monk, Rosie-Mae Mahoney, Rory Beckley, Jayden Cleary, Ashlee Edwards, Ella Hyde, Iwan Bedgood, Shakira Duggan, Ffion Davies, Carys Lewis, Thea Davies, Steffan David, Jack Kirby, Cody Jones, Sasha Bond, Lowri Thomas, Alisha Galea, Molly Davies, Daniyal Malik and Scott Bishop.

**Excellent Home Learning in Welsh:** Ruby Brookman, Sophie Burton, Ffion Davey, Evan Davies, Ella-Rose Price, Kali Thomas, Logan Woodford, Courtney Chopping, Abbie Edmunds, Chloe Hayward, Jac Jones, Harry Hughes, Maddie Rees, Tomos Jones, Caitlin Cartlidge, Mason Riley, Jack Phillips, Ellie Mitchell, Jack Greig, Joshua Lewis, Charlie Stott, Millie Davies, Alisha Hernandez, Cally Morgan, Ffion Rowe, Courtney Burton, Millie Jones, Sasha Bond, Molly Davies, Briar Rose Allen, Sophie Evans and Conor Whiles.

**Excellent Home Learning in Maths:** Sasha Bond, Ben Dackins, Jack Davies, Sophie Edmunds, Sam Greening, Joseph Griffiths, Jacob Jones, Carys Lewis, Oliver Lloyd - Thomas, Connor Whiles, Jack Grieg, Mulena Dudek, Mason Riley, Ethan Nurton, Charlie Stott, Connah Evans, Ceri Palmer, Caitlyn Howells, Jack Thomas, Owynn Dixon, Aron Lewis, Maddison Jasper, Cai Phillips, Ellie Mitchell, Kiy Ellis, Callum Instrell, Florence Morgan-Wood, Lili Griffiths, Isabelle Davis, Lilia Fortt, Mia Thorne, Evelyn Cartlidge, Mia Crockett, Evan Davies, Emilie Doxsey, Sadie

Howe, Tomos Jones, Eva Lewis, Iwan Lewis, Seren Owen, Cole Saunders, Solomon Thomas, Joshua Warren, Mollie-Rose Davies, Poppy Pritchard, Mya Stapleton, Daniyal Malik, Caitlin Powell, Sophia Hughes, Caitlin Powell, Ellie Walker and Sampreet Kaur.

**Excellent Home Learning in Science:** Brooke Rattray, Tomos Jones, Ellie-May Davidson, Daisy Moon, Cai Phillips, Jack Thomas, Megan Mahoney, Poppy Pritchard, Leanna Humphries, Sophie Burton, Ffion Davey, Ella-Rose Price, Kali Thomas, Tilly Warne, Evan Davies, Josh Lewis, Fiona Stacey, Ellie Mitchell, Megan Barry-Smith, Mason Rowley, Joshua Leach, Mia Thorne, Cally Morgan, Nathan Jones, Nathan Batten, Ashlee Edwards, Kayleigh Suminski, Lewis Jordan, Dylan Langmead, Teegan Gillard, Nia Monk, Oliver Needs, Demi Samuel, Daniyal Malik, Katie-Lea Weeks, Cole Marshall, Jay Morgan, Jae Neck, Molly Davies, Jack Green, Millie Jones, Sampreet Kaur, Ellie May Mann, Katie McKenna, Sophia Hughes, Alisha Jones, Kate Baynham, Oliwia Urbanska, Gemma Jones, Hannah Okon, Gethin Williams, Scott Dumphy-Wise, Ellis Holvey, Alysha Howells and Leon Williams.

### Scientist of the Week:

**Year 7** Danny Webster

**Year 8** Alfie Fear and Morgan Fear

**Year 9** Iwan Bedgood

**Year 10** Sasha Bond

**Excellent Home Learning in Product Design:** Emilie Doxsey, Mia Crockett, Alexia Bindczus, Estelle Highgate, Joseph Griffiths, Sarah-Beth Phillips, Florence Morgan-Wood and Briar-Rose Allen.

**Excellent Home Learning in Humanities:** Abbie Edmunds, Omaina Khalid, Ffion Davey, Lilia Fortt, Florence Morgan-Wood, Cara Peplow, Oliver Lloyd Thomas, Naseeb Randhawa and Ffion Rowe



**ClassCharts**



## STAFF BLOG

**Not many people know about my obsession: blackberries. I mean the fruit, not the phone.**

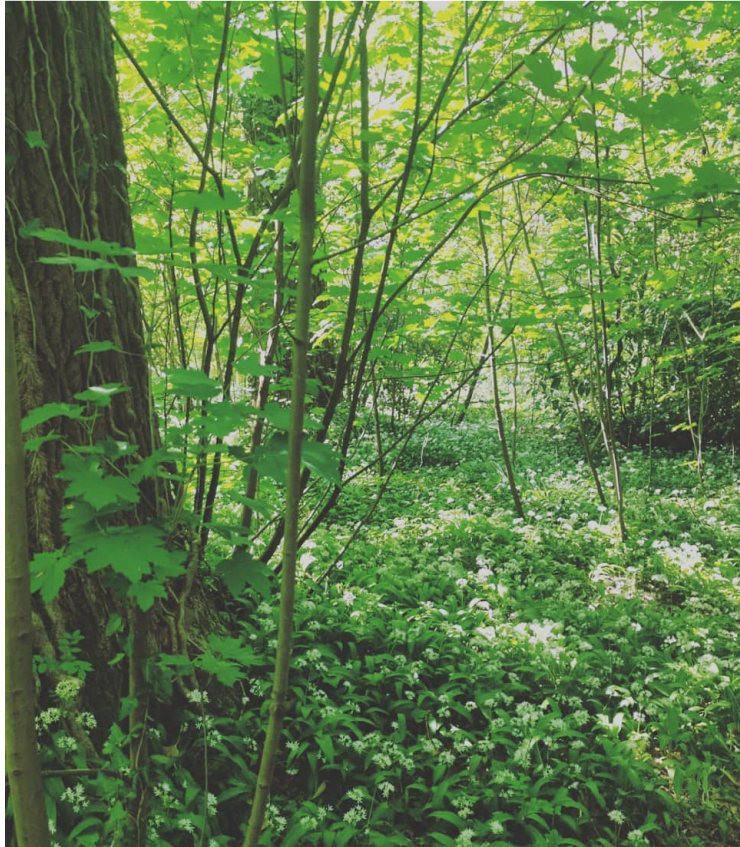
This obsession stems from childhood and has permeated into adulthood. Between August and September, my blackberry hunting instincts take over. I cannot leave the house without a plastic tub in my handbag, just in case an unexpected blackberry bush appears in the vicinity. My eyes are constantly narrowed and focused, sweeping from side to side to ensure no blackberry goes unpicked.

Outside of these months, I am usually able to function like a normal human being. Unfortunately, lockdown has brought me a new obsession: wild garlic. Roath park is full of it. The plastic tub of August is now a carrier bag

into which I pile mounds of wild garlic leaves at least twice a week. My lockdown menus include: wild garlic soup, wild garlic scones, wild garlic pesto, wild garlic butter, wild garlic cake...the last one is a joke.

What positives can I draw from this lockdown obsession? It's forced me to spend more of my day outdoors. In the quest for garlic, I've discovered new woodlands near my home. I've mastered new recipes (even if they're largely garlic based). Finally, I feel healthy.

Stay safe, Jess Williams.



## 'DISCOVER MORE' TASKS

By Miss Griffiths

**The Discover More challenge 7 was for our Year 7 and 8 pupils to create something to share their experience of lock down in the making history task.**

Pupils created poems, diary entries, artwork, videos and even letters to their future selves. I was really impressed to see such positivity with our pupils in terms of lock

down and home learning during these difficult times.

I am pleased that pupils are taking ownership of their home learning and managing their time too, whilst making memories with family. I was particularly impressed with the poem 'A Virtual Virus' written by Logan Woodford in Year 7. Please continue to stay home and stay safe!

### A Viral Virus!

As we scramble for masks like toiletry supplies,  
To the world of nightmares and infectious skies,  
We wait to await anymore resolutions,  
But yesterday weren't we simply worrying about pollution.

Home is now a school wreck because everything's a mess,  
Challenge upon challenge, but thank god for the internet,  
I can't wait for school to see all my friends,  
But please god Boris, when will it end!

We have all had to change and adapt to a new life,  
My dad is now my teacher and is causing me strife,  
My mother is my hairdresser you don't want to see what she's done,  
According to her she's only done a number one!

Keeping myself occupied with the Xbox game,  
Also playing with my hamster 'Hammy' he is finally tame,  
Who knows what is around the corner or which politician to follow,  
We could be stuck at home until they find a pill for us to swallow.

Money or money lots of that's being borrowed,  
I really hope the restrictions are being followed.

Stay safe everyone!

by Logan Woodford



## WEEKLY CHALLENGE 8

By Miss Griffiths

**As you may have heard on the news or seen on social media about the positive impact lockdown has had on our planet. From cleaner air to liberated wildlife, coronavirus lockdowns across the world appear to have had a number of positive effects on the environment.**

Your challenge is to create something new from recycled plastic you would usually put in your recycle waste. Use your creativity to reduce, reuse and recycle and play your part in helping the environment.

Please send in your work to: [griffithsr@pontyhigh.co.uk](mailto:griffithsr@pontyhigh.co.uk)



## TRANSITION

By Mrs Enos and Mr Griffiths

**Hello everyone, we hope that you are all safe and well. This week, we would like to give you some information on the school buses.**

Most of our pupils travel to and from school by bus. If you come on the bus you must have a bus pass. If you don't have one you will not be allowed on the bus. Arrangements are being made to ensure that you have your bus pass, ready for your first day.

To catch the bus in the morning, you must go to the nearest bus stop. Remember to get there in plenty of time. The bus then picks you up, and others along the route, before dropping you off at school.

The bus will drop you off in the main car park and will pick you up from the same place at the end of the day. Don't worry about finding the right bus—it's easy! Each bus has it's own number in the front window, your bus number will match the number on your bus pass. There will also be plenty of staff in the car park at the end of the day to help you.

For further information on free home to school transport including full routes and pick-up times please search 'School Bus Routes' on the RCT website.

No.	Route	First Stop	Time
107/01	Old Ynysybwł	Ynysybwł Terminus	7:35am
107/02	Ynysybwł	Heol-Y-Plwyf / Church Street	7:35am
107/04	Glyncoch Boys	Craig-Yr-Hesg School	7:40am
107/05	Trehafod	Trehafod Playground	7:43am
107/06	Maesycoed	Maesycoed Primary School	7:50am
107/07	Ynysybwł	Dan Y Cribyn	7:35am
107/08	Glyncoch Girls	Derwendeg Avenue	7:40am
107/09	Graigwen	Penygrraigwen Terminus	7:51am
107/10	Maesycoed	Merlin Close	7:54am
107/12	Tyntetown	Pentwyn Avenue	7:49am
107/18	Abercynon	Carne Park	7:59am



# STAY SAFE STAY HOME

Unfortunately some pupils are not entitled to free transport. Therefore, our school has arranged transport for pupils who live in Penycoedcae, the Graig, the Common and Trallwn. You must buy a bus pass for these buses every term. They are available from Pupil Services.

The cost of our paid for buses are currently £127.95 for the academic year. Alternatively, you can pay termly at £42.65. Please note that the seats are sold on a first come, first served basis each year.

Our paid for bus pick ups and times are:

## Bus One

Highlands 8:00am Graig General Store 8:04am  
Danycoedcae 8:02am Rose and Crown Pub 8:05am

## Bus Two

Junction of Common Road and Hospital Road 8:05am  
The Square—Trallwn 8:10am

If you forget your bus pass you must go to Pupil Services where you can get a temporary bus pass so that you can get home. If you have any questions regarding the school bus, please contact Mr Nathan Griffiths – [griffithsn@pontyhigh.co.uk](mailto:griffithsn@pontyhigh.co.uk)

# NUMERACY INTERVENTIONS

By Miss Lee

**All our staff are committed to improving the numeracy skills of our pupils.**

Numeracy skills include more than basic arithmetic, they also include being able to read charts and graphs, make measurements, understanding how to collect and interpret data, applying numerical knowledge to everyday problems, and much more. It is vitally important that pupils develop the ability and confidence to use these skills in all subjects. Whilst many make good progress, some will be better positioned to make progress if they have targeted interventions in place, alongside their lessons.

Those pupils identified as needing numeracy support complete a baseline test, and their results are used to set targets and monitor progress throughout the intervention sessions. We review pupil progress regularly and use this to set targets and plan their next steps. Those pupils selected for maths intervention sessions spend time working in informal small groups in our DEN provision. Appropriately differentiated tasks are delivered using a variety of different, interactive

teaching styles, to promote independent learning skills and boost confidence. Pupils will also have access to a range of Apps and web-based resources that they can use at home. For example, our current year 7 pupils really enjoy using the Doodle Maths and Doodle times tables Apps.

We very much look forward to working with next year's year 7 pupils and their families. If you have any questions, please contact [leec@pontyhigh.co.uk](mailto:leec@pontyhigh.co.uk) – Emerging leader ALN [finneyc@Pontyhigh.co.uk](mailto:finneyc@Pontyhigh.co.uk) – ALNCO







## CORNER



By Mrs Sidoli

**The ultimate treat, make your own Swiss roll sponge with fruity strawberry jam filling. Perfect for birthdays or as a special after dinner treat.**

### Ingredients

- 75g Self Raising Flour
- 75g Caster Sugar
- 3 Eggs
- 2-3 tablespoons jam

### Method

1. Preheat oven to Gas mark 7, 220°C.
2. Line a baking tray with greaseproof paper and grease.
3. Whisk the sugar and eggs together with an electric hand whisk until pale and thick enough for the mixture to leave a trail when the whisk is lifted.
4. Sieve the flour into the mixture and gently fold in the flour with a metal spoon.
5. Pour the mixture onto the baking tray and spread out evenly, bake for 8-10 minutes.
6. Lay a piece of greaseproof paper on the surface and dust with sugar. Run a knife around the edge of the warm sponge and turn out on to the sugared paper. Peel the paper off the base of the sponge. Trim off the edges and spread a light layer of jam over the sponge.
8. Using the sugared paper to help, roll the sponge up.

## iDEA BADGES

By Mr Eldridge

**A few weeks ago I wrote about the new opportunity you have to strengthen and broaden your digital and enterprise skills through completing challenges in a variety of 'digital badges'. Badges are designed to help set you up for success in the world of work. Completing badges earns you points towards your Bronze, Silver or Gold Award which you can add to your CV.**

I am delighted that 134 learners have engaged with the iDEA website achieving a total of 422 digital badges so far to date. Badges have been gained in a variety

of digital areas such as, What is the cloud? Fake News, Digital Ethics, Cyber Spies, BAFTA Game Concept and many more.

Some learners have gone above and beyond and have achieved more than 10 badges each. I'd like to congratulate Tomas Dakins of 7Y for being the first pupil to achieve the Bronze Award. This involves picking up 250 points, these points must include 50 from each of these categories: Citizen, Worker, Maker, Entrepreneur. Excellent work Tomas!

If you are not part of an ICT class you may still register to achieve digital badges, please email [eldridgem@pontyhigh.co.uk](mailto:eldridgem@pontyhigh.co.uk) for registration details and a link to the correct page for your year group.

Learners of the week from me are: Kate Leeworthy (90), Tomas Dackins (7Y) and Ryan Hill (7T). Top 3 pupils being awarded digital badges.



## PUPIL BLOG



**My name is Mia and I went to Cilfynydd Primary school. Even though moving to high school is very frightening, it is very fun and enjoyable.**

When I first was moving to high school, I was very nervous as I wanted to be in classes with all my friends but I have met so many people in

my classes and lots of people who are not even in my classes! When we arrived, we had to go into the hall for our first morning assembly, when the head of year explained all of our classes and how the day was going to go, I was relieved.

The lessons were not difficult as the teachers got to

know us and were very polite and kind but there were countless times, I was nervous that I would get lost. At first I did struggle on how to find my classes on the first day but being with my friends made it easier. On the second day, it was very easy.

Walking to school was very fun because me and my friends could talk about everything and get the nerves out of our system. Also, it was very easy to make friends with anyone in my classes and even out of my classes, everyone felt the same on the first day of school so it was nothing to be worried about.

I signed up to play netball and it was really nice being with my friends doing things we love. I also signed up for the school show, we did Hairspray. I loved Hairspray because it was really exciting and I got to do it with my best friends and I even got to meet people in older years who were very sweet and funny.

I am enjoying my time in Pontypridd High School, it is very fun and very easy going so when coming to Pontypridd High, there is nothing to worry about. All you have to do is be hardworking in class and if you are kind and polite to every staff member and student, high school will be nice and easy.



# STAY SAFE STAY HOME

## weekly UPDATE

**Please regularly check the school website for any new information. Below are just a few things that we would like to remind you about this week:**

### Health and Wellbeing

As a school we are going to try and walk the 'Welsh Coastal Path' which is 870 miles = 1,740,000 steps.

In order to achieve this, we'd like you to send us your steps each day via email or social media and at the end of each week we will update the pupils where we are on the map.

We have set ourselves a target of 1 month to achieve this and so this will begin tomorrow 1st of May. We would be really grateful if you could promote this on your social media pages and more importantly to send us your steps.

### Whole School

Remote registration classes will continue running this week. Please access these at 9am Monday and Friday, access will be from the school website.

### Login Details

If you still need login details such as Class Charts, MathsWatch, Accelerated Reading or Office 365 usernames, please email Mr Nathan Griffiths and he will reply directly with any information you need.

[griffithsn@pontyhigh.co.uk](mailto:griffithsn@pontyhigh.co.uk)

### Whole School

All pupils in Years 7-11 should have received a message about their remote registration this week, please log in and have a chat with your form tutors. This will be done

## Pontypridd High School



*Bringing a voice to our education.*

We are calling for pupils to take part in our blog as part of their home learning. The blog does not need to be long and can be about anything you like.

Blog Ideas could include positive messages, thoughts and Feelings, book review, film/TV review, physical activity review, cooking recipe you have tried, activities you think your peers may enjoy. You can add images, videos and links to your blog. Send your blog to Miss Griffiths - [griffithsr@pontyhigh.co.uk](mailto:griffithsr@pontyhigh.co.uk)



**Solving logic problems boosts brain power and keeps your memory strong. Answer to the following brain teasers in the next newsletter.**

Last weeks answer: Top left number - 3.5, top right number - 4.5, bottom left number - 9.5, bottom right number - 3.5.

This weeks riddle... I had a some money in my pocket. I gave half away and of what remained, I spent half. Then, I lost five pounds. That left me with just five pounds. How much money did I start with?





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