

# Quay

December 2024

# Matters

## Creating Success *Creu Llwyddiant*



# A Message from the Headteacher

Our school community has much to celebrate this month!

Congratulations to our KS3 boys' football teams for their success in the Welsh Cup, and commiserations to our KS3 girls' football team, who were narrowly defeated by a strong Rhyl side – a tremendous effort by all involved.

We're thrilled to share that our KS4 learners triumphed in the Quadcopter Challenge, winning the Welsh heats and representing the school in the national finals. Huge congratulations to Mr. Jennings and the Technology team for this fantastic achievement, showcasing the growing excellence in our Technology department.

Our Lead Learners recently visited the Flintshire Council Chambers to present the progress of our school council. This was a proud moment that highlighted the importance of learner voice in shaping our school's plans and direction. Ensuring our students play an active role in decision-making remains a priority for us.

Looking ahead, we're eagerly preparing for our Japan trip in July 2025 with 18 learners. This incredible experience will include visits to Japanese schools and the Toyota factory, strengthening our global connections and enhancing our focus on engineering excellence and future employment opportunities.

Finally, I'd like to thank Year 11 learners and families for their dedication during mock exams and invite everyone to our Christmas Market on 17th December. Our recent Estyn report recognised the strides we've made, and with your ongoing support, we'll continue our journey to becoming the best school in Wales.

Thank you to our amazing staff for their tireless work to provide the very best for our children.

Best regards,

**James Forber**  
Headteacher



# From the

## Deputy's Desk

### A Reflection on My First Term as Deputy Headteacher at Connah's Quay High School

As the end of my first term as Deputy Headteacher at Connah's Quay High School approaches, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly positive and fulfilling start to this exciting journey. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the staff, learners, and parents for the warm welcome I have received. It has been a privilege to become part of such a vibrant and dedicated community, and your support has been instrumental in making this transition so rewarding.

My role is centred on ensuring that teaching and learning remain at the heart of everything we do. Our teachers are already highly capable and passionate, and I am committed to supporting them further through collaborative innovation and research. Together, we are driving towards delivering the highest quality lessons that inspire our learners and prepare them for the challenges ahead.

One of my key priorities will be working with our lead practitioners to further advance the development of literacy, numeracy and Welsh language skills. These are critical areas not only for academic success but also for equipping our learners with the tools they need to thrive in an ever-evolving world. We have already seen promising progress, and I am confident that our collective efforts will yield even greater achievements.

Setting high standards and high aspirations for all learners, regardless of their background, is a value I hold deeply. Having experienced first-hand the transformative power of education, I am passionate about ensuring that every learner here at Connah's Quay High School feels supported and encouraged to reach their full potential. With this in mind, I am committed to working collaboratively with learners and parents to achieve the very best outcomes and enable our young people to go onto their next steps, be that to Sixth Form, College or a work-based apprenticeship.

For our Year 11 learners, this term has been particularly significant due to their mock examinations. These assessments have provided invaluable insights into their progress, and I am impressed by the maturity and commitment many of our students have shown in their routines. However, there is more to be done as we turn our attention to developing effective revision skills and fostering consistent revision habits at home. Together, we can ensure that every learner feels confident and prepared for their examinations.

As I look back on this term, I feel immense pride in what we have already accomplished and great anticipation for what lies ahead. Together, we will continue to build on our successes, striving for excellence and creating a school environment where every learner can thrive.

Thank you once again for your support and collaboration. For those of you whom I haven't met yet, I hope to see you at the Connah's Quay Christmas Markets on December 17th.

Warm regards,

**Mrs Laura Cook**  
Deputy Headteacher

# International Work with Global School Alliance

From this series of Quay Matters, you will see the significant strides we have made to promote international work at Connah's Quay High School. From embedding global, cultural, and ethical elements into our curriculum to expanding opportunities for learners to travel abroad, it is a very exciting time for the school. These efforts reflect our commitment to preparing our learners for a world that is increasingly interconnected and diverse.

At the heart of our vision at Connah's Quay High School is the drive to create an inclusive and supportive environment where every learner aspires to achieve their full academic, moral, and social potential. Core to this ethos are the values of **Responsibility** – equipping learners with the skills and ethics needed to navigate an evolving world – and **Care**, which ensures that every learner is supported in their health, welfare, and overall wellbeing. Our ultimate goal is for learners to leave us as confident young adults, enriched by knowledge and experiences that prepare them for a bright and fulfilling future.

In today's climate of division, conflict, and uncertainty, international exposure has never been more critical in fostering global awareness and understanding. These experiences encourage learners to appreciate the shared humanity that underpins cultural differences and empower them to act as empathetic, informed global citizens.

International travel is a cornerstone of this vision. It broadens learners' perspectives, challenging assumptions shaped by limited experiences and allowing them to engage deeply with the lives of others around the world. For instance, understanding the daily experiences of young people in Japan can inspire empathy and open-mindedness while encouraging learners to think critically about global issues. Such opportunities nurture the emotional intelligence and problem-solving skills essential for

navigating complex challenges in a connected world.

This focus aligns seamlessly with the **Curriculum for Wales**, which prioritizes global citizenship as an essential element of education. Thanks to our partnership with the **Global School Alliance**, our learners and staff have access to transformative opportunities, including upcoming trips to Japan—one for learners in June and another for our leadership delegation. Additionally, the Alliance has provided an invaluable platform for collaboration with schools across the country through its online portal and key networking events.

A recent highlight was our attendance at the Global School Alliance's five-year celebration on Friday 29th November. Mr Forber, Mrs Threadgold, and I were honoured to represent Connah's Quay High School, sharing our vision and the significant work underway at our school. We showcased initiatives ranging from our curriculum development to the fundraising and cultural exchange projects led by our International Club. It was an incredibly proud moment to celebrate the progress we are making and to highlight the opportunities we provide for our learners.

The event also featured inspiring guest speakers who shared innovative practices and insights that we are excited to implement back at Connah's Quay. These international collaborations not only enrich our learners' experiences but also reinforce our commitment to helping them thrive as compassionate, forward-thinking global citizens.

**Mrs Kelly Davis**  
Senior Assistant  
Headteacher





# Safeguarding

North Wales Safeguarding Board have created this informative document about some of the common Social Media Apps to help parents keep young people safe online.

We thought that it would be worthwhile to share this again at the start of the school year.

#NWPCyberSafe

## Fifteen Apps Parents Should Know About



**ASKFM**  
is known for cyber bullying. The app encourages users to allow anonymous people to ask them questions.



**KIK.**  
allows anyone to contact and direct message your child. Kids can bypass traditional text messaging features. Kik gives users unlimited access to anyone, anywhere, anytime.



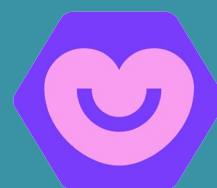
**HOLLA**  
is a self-proclaimed 'addicting' video chat app that allows users to meet people all over the world in just seconds. Reviewers say they have been confronted with racial slurs, explicit content and more.



**CALCULATOR%**  
is only one of secret apps used to hide photos, videos, files and browser history.



**GRINDR**  
is a dating app geared towards Gay, Bi and Transgender people. The app gives users options to chat, share photos and meet up based on a smart phones GPS location.



**BADDOO**  
is a dating and social networking app where users can chat, share photos and videos and connect based on location. While the app is intended for adults only, teens are known to create profiles.



**HOT OR NOT**  
encourages people to rate your profile, check out people in their area, and chat with strangers. The goal of this app is to hook up.



**SNAPCHAT**  
is one of the most popular apps in recent years. While the app promises users can take a photo/video and it will disappear. New features including 'stories' allow users to view content for up to 24 hours.



**TIKTOK**  
is a new mobile device app popular with kids used for creating and sharing short videos. With very limited privacy controls, users are vulnerable to bullying and explicit content.



**BUMBLE**  
is similar to the popular dating app 'Tinder', however it requires women to make the first contact. Kids have been known to use Bumble to create fake accounts and falsify their age.



**LIVE.ME**  
is a live video streaming app that uses geolocation to share videos so users can find out a broadcasters exact location. Users can earn 'coins' as a way to 'pay' minors for photos.



**WHATSAPP**  
is a popular messaging app that allows users to send texts, photos, make calls and video chats worldwide. Whatsapp uses an internet connection on smart phones and computers.



**SKOUT**  
is a location-based dating app and website. While users under 17 years old are unable to share private photos, kids can easily create an account using a different age.



**MEET.ME**  
is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. As the apps name suggests, users are encouraged to meet each other in person.



**WHISPER**  
is an anonymous social network that promotes sharing secrets with strangers. It also reveals a users location so people can meet up.

# CQHS Christmas Markets

## – A Festive

## Community Event

We are thrilled to announce our first-ever CQHS Christmas Markets, a wonderful opportunity to bring our school and community together! Taking place soon, this festive event will raise funds for local charities chosen by each year group, reflecting the true spirit of Christmas – giving back and showing gratitude.

A special thank you goes to Miss Claire Thompson (Assistant Head), as well as our dedicated staff and learners, whose hard work has made this event possible. We are also excited to welcome external stallholders to our school, adding even more variety to the markets.

The event will be cash only, with a focus on keeping prices affordable for families during the holiday season. We hope to see you there to enjoy the festivities and support our community.

Look out for a full update in January's Quay Matters!

**Mrs Kelly Davis**  
Senior Assistant  
Headteacher



**CQHS Christmas Markets** ★

17<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
4-6pm

We look forward to welcoming the whole community.

All money made on the night will go towards our chosen local charities.

Entrance is free but we would like you to bring a donation for the food bank to show our support for our local community at Christmas time.

**CASH ONLY ON THE NIGHT!**

Merry Christmas



Merry Christmas

What can you expect to from our Christmas Markets?

- Hot chocolate
- Raffle
- Entertainment
- Stalls with last minute Christmas gifts
- Tombola
- Santa's Grotto
- Make your own reindeer food.
- Make your own Christmas cards and Christmas decorations.

And more!



# English

## Claire Thompson

This term, our dedicated Lead Learners have been actively engaging with families by visiting our feeder primary schools during their parents' evenings. These visits provide a fantastic opportunity to connect with parents and carers, answer questions, and share the many reasons why Connah's Quay High School is an excellent choice for the next stage of their children's education. By promoting our school in these welcoming settings, we aim to showcase the vibrant learning environment, supportive community, and exceptional opportunities available to every student who joins us.

Additionally, our Year 10 and 11 learners have been busy delivering assemblies and facilitating meaningful discussions at our feeder primary schools. These sessions were designed to ease any anxieties younger students might have about transitioning to high school. Through relatable stories and helpful advice, our learners shared their own experiences, answered questions, and showcased the supportive, inclusive environment at Connah's Quay High School. Their confidence and enthusiasm left a lasting impression, highlighting the strong community spirit that awaits our future Year 7s.



## Democracy in Action

We are thrilled to celebrate our learners' participation in the inspiring Democracy in Action Day at Coleg Cambria Business School in Northop, which took place on Friday 27th September. This enriching event offered a unique opportunity for our learners to engage in meaningful discussions about issues affecting young people and their local community. Meeting and questioning prominent Members of the Senedd, Jack Sargeant MS and Hannah Blythin MS, was a standout highlight, giving our learners a platform to express their views, learn about the democratic process, and gain valuable insights into how decisions are made.

The experience not only deepened their understanding of political engagement but also empowered them to become active voices for their generation and beyond.





# Flintshire Food and Drink

We are delighted to celebrate our learners' participation in the Flintshire's Food and Drink Learner Workshop at County Hall, Mold, which took place on Tuesday 12th November. This exciting event provided a unique opportunity for our learners to engage directly with representatives from the Welsh Government as part of their consultation on the Healthy Eating Regulations. Not only did our learners contribute their valuable perspectives on this important issue, but they also enjoyed a hands-on experience of tasting a variety of foods. This workshop empowered our students to have their voices heard on matters that impact their community, showcasing their commitment to creating a healthier future for all.

## Open Day

On Thursday 19th September, we were absolutely thrilled to open our doors to the community and welcome our future learners and their families during our Open Day! It was a fantastic opportunity to showcase everything that makes our school special – from our vibrant learning spaces and dedicated staff to the incredible range of opportunities that await every student who joins us. Open Days are invaluable

for helping families feel confident about this exciting next step, as they allow prospective learners to explore the school, meet their future teachers, and experience a taste of the dynamic and supportive environment we offer. After seeing their enthusiasm and curiosity, we can't wait to help these young minds thrive and grow as part of our Connah's Quay High School family!

## Battlefields Trip

On the 25th of October the Humanities department took 38 CQHS learners and five staff to visit the battlefields and war cemeteries of the First World War.

We took a bus and ferry over the English Channel to visit key sites in France and Belgium, including Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, the Passchendaele Museum, the Lochnagar Crater and Thiepval Memorial, among others.

The trip was an opportunity to learn about the history and sacrifices of the Great War at cemeteries like Tyne Cot and take part in the moving Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate.

This was a deeply educational and reflective journey through the battlefields of WWI that ensures the memory of those who fought and fell 'will not be forgotten'.



Graves of unknown soldiers



**Tyne Cot Cemetery**

The largest commonwealth cemetery in the world, with 11,956 servicepeople of the First World War buried or commemorated here – 8,369 of the burials are unidentified.



Beaumont-Hamel Newfoundland Memorial of a caribou.



**Langemark German Military Cemetery**

Here, 44,061 German soldiers are buried. 3000 of them were cadets and student volunteers who fell in October 1914, during attempts to capture Ypres.



Group photo at Beaumont-Hamel, where British and Canadian forces fought and fell.



Actual trench system that was the British frontline at Beaumont-Hamel, facing No Man's Land.

# Stay Connected with Us!

Don't forget to follow us on Instagram at:

**@cqhshumanities**

Stay updated on all the exciting events, achievements, and activities within the Humanities subjects. Come engage with our school community!

# Acrostic Poems

## – Our Planet

**O**ur planet is our home and needs care

**U**nfortunately our planet is dying

**R**emember to save it

**P**ick up after yourself and do something to save it

**L**ead others to help save our home

**A**ssist to help and be greener

**N**ature will die if we don't help

**E**mpower others to help

**T**oxic will be what's left if we don't help.

— OE, Year 8

**O**ur planet needs help

**U**nited through beauty and threw away with litter

**R**ivers and mountains still a beautiful sight

**P**lants growing and creating pretty views

**L**ife growing more each day

**A**ll creatures unique in different ways

**N**ature's embrace a delicate sight

**E**veryone working to make it a better place

**T**ogether we achieve and thrive.

— EH, Year 8

**O**ur Planet

**U**niting life both old and new

**R**adiant forests, lush and green

**P**rotecting creatures, seen and unseen

**L**ife thrives in every nook and cranny

**A** delicate balance, nature's life

**N**urtured by sun and rain's embrace

**E**very heartbeat, a sacred space

**T**he planet we live on.

— BJ, Year 8

**O**ur planet needs to be kept tidy

**U**ndulating mountains, in sunlight they play

**R**adiant skies, beautiful and bright

**P**lanet or wonders, a breath-taking sight

**L**ush forests whisper, inviting a glance

**A**mong all the beauty, we must end the strife

**N**ature's a gift we must save

**E**arth our home, a vibrant embrace

**T**ogether we cherish the beautiful space.

— HHJ, Year 8

**O**ur beautiful planet  
**U**nique, wonderful nature  
**R**oaming around the world

**P**retty landscapes  
**L**ong lakes and rivers everywhere  
**A**nd we need to keep it that way  
**N**othing can stop us  
**E**veryone work together  
**T**o make a difference.

— EW, Year 8

**O**ur amazing planet  
**U**nderneath all of us  
**R**eally exciting

**P**lanets orbiting space  
**L**ooping around each other  
**A**mazing bright stars  
**N**o oxygen up in space  
**E**veryone likes space  
**T**ell your friends to have a look at the stars at night.

— KJ, Year 8

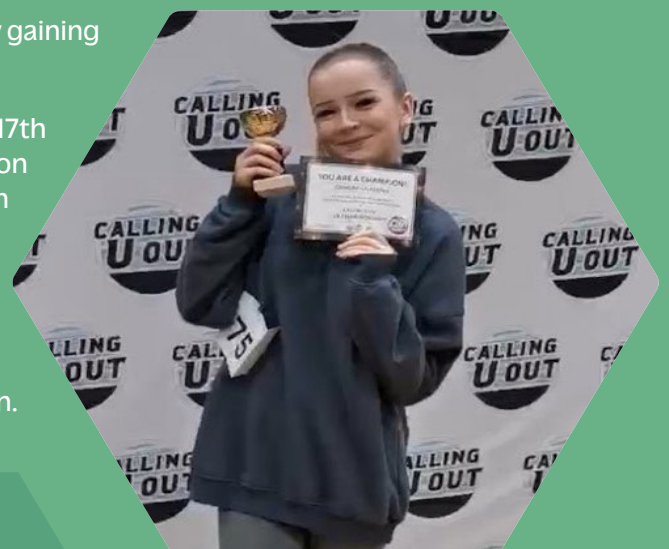
# Dancing Success

## – Blackpool awaits!

We wish to congratulate Year 10 dancer Wiktoria on successfully gaining a place in the Blackpool Dance Championships in 2025.

Wiktoria travelled to Stoke over the weekend of 16th and 17th November to compete in a regional Street Dance competition called 'Calling U Out'. Her group was awarded second position and will go on to perform in the Blackpool Championships next year.

Wiktoria is currently studying BTEC Dance with us at Connah's Quay High School. We are really proud of her achievements and excited to support her in the next stage of the competition.



# Creative Arts Day

Creative Arts Day was a lively celebration of creativity, and the International Languages session brought a modern and dynamic flair to the event. The Lead Learners – alongside teachers – led a lively workshop where learners explored language through music and dance, including Just Dance routines to Waka Waka, the upbeat Fliegerlied song on YouTube, and the popular TikTok sensation Barbara.

Our Lead Learners played a vital role in the day, earning high praise from both primary school staff and the Year 5 pupils they supported. Their enthusiasm and ability to engage with younger learners showcased the collaborative and inclusive spirit of our school. The event was also a fantastic opportunity for our primary feeder schools to experience the unique and supportive environment at CQHS.

Year 5 learners had the chance to practise speaking German, French, and Spanish through fun, interactive activities. It was a wonderful introduction to the exciting opportunities that await them at secondary school.



# Celebrating European

# Day of Languages

# at CQHS

This year, CQHS brought vibrant energy to European Day of Languages with a week-long celebration packed full of creativity, culture, and competition!

From the rhythmic steps of Spanish dancing to rapping in German, learners embraced the diversity of languages through activities that inspired both fun and learning. The week featured a bingo language challenge, where learners worked to uncover fun facts about different languages and cultures, and an exciting interactive Language App, brimming with challenges designed by the European Centre for Modern Languages and the Council of Europe.

One of the most entertaining events was the tongue-twister challenge, where 21 teachers read out tricky tongue twisters in foreign languages, and learners competed to guess the teacher's identity by hearing just their voices.

The laughter and engagement during academic review in this activity highlighted the joy of exploring languages in a creative way.

Another highlight was our green screen photo sessions, allowing learners to visually immerse themselves in the cultures they explored. These fun photos are available to view on our Instagram account [@CQHS.International\\_Languages](#) and our Facebook page, [CQHS Languages](#).

We look forward to next year's celebrations!



# MFL Mentoring Event

We were delighted to welcome Daniel, our MFL Mentor, to CQHS as part of the MFL Mentoring programme. Daniel, a second-year Law student at Bangor University, brought a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to his six sessions with our year 9 learners. Daniel has a diverse academic background spanning Educational Psychology, Political Science, Youth and Development Work, and Law. He is not only knowledgeable but also passionate about inspiring young minds.

During his time with us, Daniel engaged learners with thought-provoking discussions and interactive activities designed to spark an interest in language learning and cultural appreciation. His sessions focused on building confidence, enhancing communication skills, and exploring the real-world applications of languages in careers and global contexts.

Learners responded enthusiastically to Daniel's mentoring, with many expressing newfound motivation to explore languages further. His unique perspectives and approachable manner created a positive and engaging environment that resonated deeply with our Year 9 cohort. This partnership highlights our commitment to providing opportunities that enrich our learners' educational journeys and prepare them for a globalised future.



## GHLC National

# Language Competition

GCHQ's National Language Competition (NLC) is a 5-day event taking place from 18 November to 22 November 2024. We are thrilled to have several teams in Year 9 take part in the prestigious GHLC National Language Competition, organised by GCHQ, one of the UK's intelligence agencies.

This exciting event ran from 18–22 November 2024 and challenges learners from across the UK to showcase their language skills in a series of fun and engaging tasks. Working in teams of four, our learners tackled a variety of puzzles involving European, less commonly taught, and even made-up languages! The competition operates on an online platform where teams capture 'flags' to score points and climb the national leaderboard. At the end of

the five-day event, the top-scoring team will be invited to GCHQ's Headquarters in Cheltenham to receive their trophy.

This unique opportunity not only allows learners to apply their language knowledge in a practical setting but also introduces them to the exciting world of languages in intelligence and security. The competition fosters teamwork, problem-solving, and a passion for language learning, all while providing insight into real-world applications of multilingual skills. We are immensely proud of our Year 9 learners for stepping up to this challenge.





# Pupil Language

## Ambassadors:

# Promoting Languages at CQHS

We are proud to announce the launch of our Year 10 Pupil Language Ambassadors programme, an initiative aimed at inspiring a love for languages both within our school and in our wider community.

This enthusiastic group of learners will play a pivotal role in promoting the importance and joy of language learning through a variety of exciting activities. Our Language Ambassadors will connect with primary feeder schools by offering visits to CQHS, where younger learners can experience the vibrant opportunities available in secondary education. They will also take their passion for languages directly to primary schools, delivering engaging carousel sessions and leading the learning in small groups. This approach allows them to provide focused and personalised support to younger learners, making language learning accessible and enjoyable. We are so proud of what they have achieved!



# CQHS International Film Festival Club

Our International Film Festival Club is thrilled to be participating in this year's events hosted by the French Film Festival UK. This exciting partnership allows our learners to engage with the richness of French cinema, exploring films that showcase the diversity and creativity of French culture.

The club will be attending a variety of screenings and events as part of the festival in school, offering learners a unique opportunity to enhance their language skills and cultural understanding. Through these immersive experiences, they will gain insight into the art of French filmmaking and the themes that resonate within French-speaking communities around the world.

We are proud to provide our learners with opportunities to connect with international cinema, broadening their perspectives and fostering a deeper appreciation for global cultures. Keep an eye on our updates as we share reflections and highlights from this year's festival!

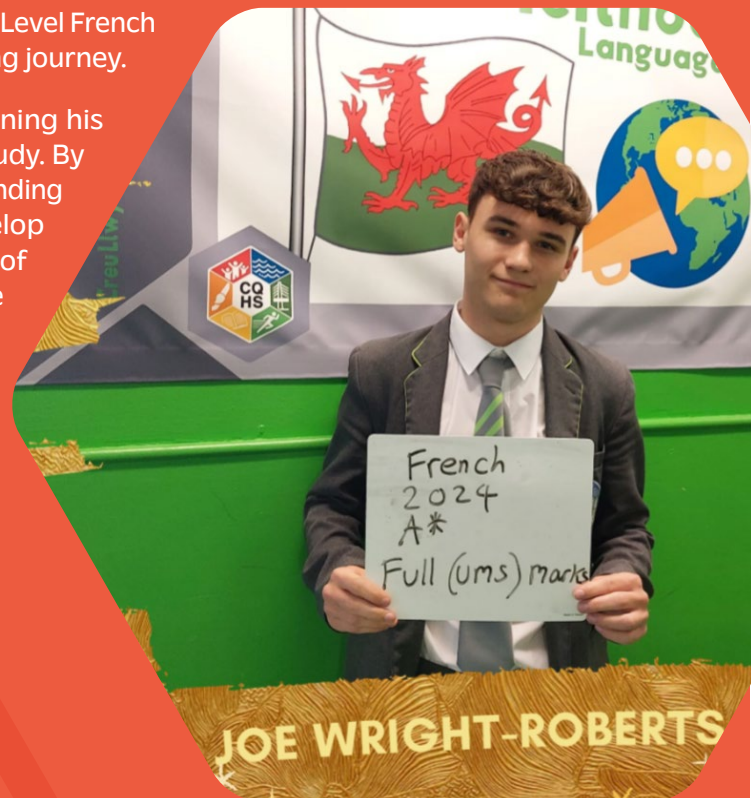


# Celebrating Joe's Achievement in AS Level French

We are thrilled to celebrate Joe's acceptance onto an online AS Level French course, marking an exciting new step in his language-learning journey.

This opportunity demonstrates Joe's dedication to broadening his linguistic skills and embracing the challenge of advanced study. By embarking on this course, Joe will not only deepen his understanding of French grammar, vocabulary, and culture but also develop valuable independent learning skills through the flexibility of online study. His commitment to mastering a modern language sets a fantastic example for his peers, highlighting the benefits of lifelong learning and the doors that language proficiency can open.

We are incredibly proud of Joe's achievement and can't wait to see his progress as he excels in this new academic endeavour. Félicitations, Joe, et bonne chance!



## International Languages Celebrations

Learning an international language is a journey that requires dedication, patience, and resilience. We deeply value the commitment our learners make to expand their horizons and develop vital digital and language skills. Recognising these efforts is not just about acknowledging progress – it's about celebrating the determination to embrace new opportunities and overcome challenges.

To honour this commitment, we are thrilled to announce an ongoing initiative to reward our learners. Learners of the month and our top Languagegenut learners will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win a £25 gift card. This reward system, running until June 2025, is our way of saying "thank you" for your hard work and perseverance.

**Congratulations to the below**

**who have aspired to be more.**



**Mr Sweeney**

Curriculum Leader for International Languages

## NEA Fieldwork

Our Year 11 Geography learners completed their NEA fieldwork visits in September. The learners visited the Albert Dock in Liverpool and Loggerheads Country Park to collect data for the NEA exam.

Learners represented the school really

well, with members of the public commenting on how well the group behaved and their politeness. Da iawn!

**Mrs Parry Roberts**



# Shwmae Su'mae

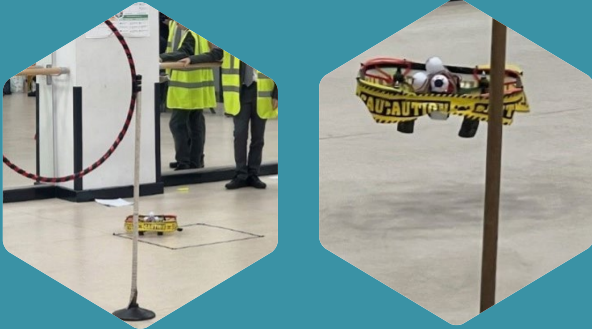
Learners celebrated Diwrnod Shwmae/Su'mae by greeting each other in Welsh and learning about the day during their Academic Review session.

Year 7 learners discussed their favourite Welsh words and created a poster to display them.



# STEM Success

## Raytheon Quadcopter 2024



Team members Jacob Jones, Rowan Entwistle, Alex Davies and Noel Morris have successfully completed the three initial stages of the competition by winning their regional heat. They have now been invited to represent Raytheon (Broughton) and North Wales at the National Final, held at RAF Cosford on the 3rd December 2024.

The team have worked hard building and modifying their drone to monitor nuclear sites, develop a presentation and fly the drone around a series of obstacles. The theme for this year's competition has allowed the team to conduct well-structured research and present this in front of a panel of judges.

Good Luck at the National Final.

# Swedish Trainee Teacher Visit

For the second year running, Connah's Quay High School welcomed a group of trainee teachers from Linköping University in Sweden as part of a joint project with Chester University Education Department.

The six students were a truly international group with members from Sweden, Azerbaijan, Palestine, North Macedonia and Cuba. Our visitors spent their timing observing lessons in History, RS, Drama, English and Dance and delivered a very interesting and interactive assembly to Year 9.

During their feedback presentation at Chester University, the group were very complimentary about our school and their experience here. They were surprised to find that we don't use chromebooks for all of our lessons, that teachers and learners have an equal input into lessons and how much work happens during an hour-long lesson. The visitors thought that uniform was a good idea and were impressed that our learners followed the rules regarding mobile phones – apparently, mobile phones cause a lot of

problems in Swedish schools. They especially enjoyed Drama and Dance lessons as these are not on the Swedish school curriculum.

The visit was made possible thanks to the hard work of Mrs Davis, and especially Mrs Henderson, Miss Maltby, Mr Moller, Mrs Cox, Ms Brown, Ms Shorthouse and Miss Hoar who welcomed the visitors into lots of their lessons



# Global School Alliance Leadership – Japan Visit

On Sunday, 24th November Mr Forber, Mrs Davis and I returned from a life-changing visit to Japan as part of the Leadership Delegation visit organised by the Global School Alliance.

We were part of a small group with three other teachers from schools near London and Toni Camilleri from GSA, the company that facilitates our international partner schools.

The purpose of the visit was to examine the educational practices in our partner schools and participate in a conference about education and our international activities.

We managed to cram a lot into our week-long visit. We visited Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka, spent time in four different schools, took part in an international conference and managed to fit in some sightseeing too. We went to some amazing restaurants and had lots of opportunities to practise using chopsticks.

It was fascinating to see how Japanese children learn and engage in their lessons. Some schools we visited had the most amazing facilities but, without a doubt, our favourite visit was to our partner school, Takamori-dai Junior High.

We spent a morning there and had fun participating in lessons, eating our lunch with the learners and discussing how they organise their curriculum. Both the staff and learners in Takamori-dai J.H welcomed us warmly. It was wonderful to see some familiar faces from the live lesson we held in June with members of the International Club and to meet old friends again. The learners at Takamori-dai learn collaboratively and use chromebooks for most of their lessons. They were happy to share what they had been learning with us and we saw English, Science, Geography and Computer Programming classes.

As part of the visit, we visited temples in Tokyo and Nara Park and experienced the peace of Buddhist shrines. We felt the buzz of the busy Shibuya Scramble crossing at night and the lively atmosphere of downtown Dotonburi in Osaka. In Dotonburi, we watched live TikToks on the bridge, saw all of the amazing neon advertising displays and tasted Japanese 'Pizza' street food. We went to Osaka Castle and walked around the marina at night.

One particular highlight of our visit was feeding the wild deer in Nara Park, who bow to you for a deer cracker! This beautiful park is full of friendly wild deer and the largest and oldest Buddhist shrine in Japan. There is a 15-metre-high Buddha—you can even climb through 'Buddha's Nostril' for enlightenment!

This visit has given me a good insight into what we can expect when we visit Japan again next June with a party of learners. While much of what we saw and did felt very different, meeting with our Japanese partner students felt very familiar. I am very excited to return to Takamori-dai and to share these amazing experiences with learners from CQHS.



# Connah's Quay High School

## Target Card

### Connah's Quay High School — Target Card

Name:	
Tutor Group:	
Date:	

PLEASE INDICATE WHETHER TARGETS WERE MET (✓) OR NOT (X)

DAY	COMMENTS	PARENT / CARER SIGNATURE
MON		
TUE		
WED		
THUR		
FRI		



	Lesson 1	Lesson 2		Lesson 3	Lesson 4		Lesson 5	Lesson 6
Subject								
Monday								
Signature								
Subject								
Tuesday								
Signature								
Subject								
Wednesday								
Signature								
Subject								
Thursday								
Signature								
Subject								
Friday								
Signature								

Quay

December 2024

Matters



**CONNAH'S QUAY  
HIGH SCHOOL**

Creu Llwyddiant | Creating Success