



# GWYN NEWS

Ysgol Uwchradd Catholig

ST RICHARD GWYN

Catholic High School

30 September 2019/ Medi 2019

## Open Evening 2019 Noson Agored 2019

On Thursday 19 September, we opened our doors to Year 5 and Year 6 students and their families to start to get to know our wonderful school. The evening began with a brief address from Ms McCormack and our new Head Boy and Head Girl. There was a buzz around the school with the gym full to the brim with excited future pupils. The atmosphere around the school for the evening was brilliant, showing the high level of engagement that we have within the wider community following year on year exam successes at both GCSE and A Level.



## Head Boy and Head Girl Appointment

We would like to congratulate our newly chosen Head Boy, Justin Romero-Edwards, and Head Girl, Rebecca Owen, on their first public duties in the role. We look forward to seeing them grow and develop further in their final year at St Richard Gwyn, and we know they will do a fantastic job.



## Laudato Si Whole School Focus Day



Throughout the week staff and students focused on the invitation from Pope Francis in Laudato Si to be good stewards and take care of the world in which we live for ourselves and for others. We have been challenged during form prayer and assemblies to consider how much we use and how much we waste. We have considered in more detail the impact our actions have on the poorest of people and perhaps most importantly what we can do to help the world.

*We are holding a MacMillan coffee 'morning' this Friday, 4th October, 12:30 to 13:30 in the Sixth Form Study Centre. Please bring some pennies to help support this amazing charity and also if any*

*of you are keen bakers feel free to bake some goodies for us.*



On Wednesday all departments focused on Laudato Si and pupils spent the day exploring different aspects of Pope Francis' letter. Students spent the day doing a whole host of different activities from writing awareness songs, drama, writing bidding prayers and creating art work about our Plastic Ocean. What a busy day we had. Over the coming weeks and months we will be exploring how we can make SRG a more environmentally friendly place as we continue to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters all over the world.



## Year 7 Church Visit

Last week, all Year 7 classes went to visit the Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception in Flint where RE teachers and Father Adrian explained to them the main features of a Catholic church. Students had the opportunity to look round, to ask questions and to speak honestly about the things they didn't know or were confused about. This visit will help them with their first unit of work in RE but more importantly help them understand the Catholic ethos of the school, especially during worship.

## Church visits student voice

"I thought it was good because I like singing and I found out new things like the different baptismal oils."

"I liked exploring the church because I never knew what the features were and now I do."

"During mass we don't get chance to walk around and explore the altar and sacristy but we got the time to."



## Malaysia - 2020

Over the weekend of Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd, myself and 7 other students went to Snowdonia National Park to engage in team building exercises, trekking and a lot of cooking in preparation for our trip to Malaysia next year. On the Friday that we arrived, we went on a 6 mile hike starting in the forest by the lake Llyn Cwellyn, through the village of Rhyd-Ddu and past the old slate quarry on the side of Snowdon. That evening we cooked our very first tea which was a very lengthy and eventful process. This really brought the group together (accompanied with a lot of complaining!) but luckily none of our group got food poisoning!

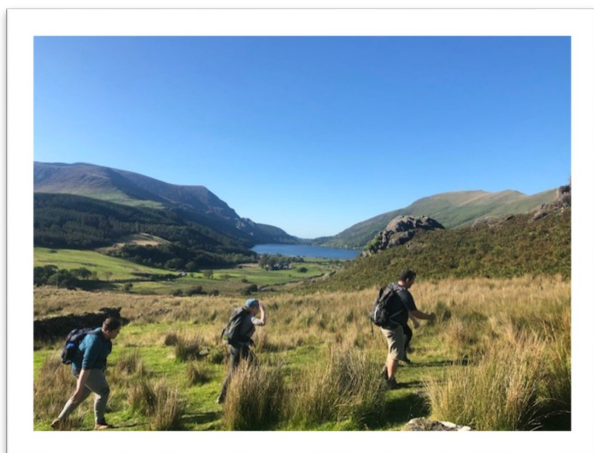
The second day started bright and early, except the sun had barely risen by six in the morning. Our instructor let us make breakfast and then bluntly told us that we would be walking to the peak of Snowdon itself! We set off by 8.30am with our day bags packed with lunch and the emergency equipment that we would be taking to Malaysia. We took the Rhyd-Ddu Path which was very rocky for most of the duration up to the peak of Snowdon. The view from the top was spectacular as there were no clouds blocking any of the other mountains or lakes, although it was very windy so we had to go around the other side to eat our lunch. We walked down a different path which felt a lot quicker and then when we got back to base camp we had a little time to freshen up before cooking tea on an open fire. This was a very independent night because we made a Malaysian themed meal that we had to find our own recipe for the week previously. We all agreed that the meal was an explosion of taste in our mouths and that it was a shop worthy meal!

Yet again we started our day off before the sun had risen! The morning was very quiet because we were all tired from Snowdon the day before but our instructor made us take down our tents, put up hammocks and make a temporary shelter before it was even lunch. Our final day was filled with fun and helped to conclude our extended weekend to Snowdon even though we were sad to be leaving.

Our 2020 trip to Malaysia with World Challenge will start in early July and will be filled with amazing adventures and helping communities in different parts of the country. We have made an emphasis on spending time with and getting to know some of the people and educate ourselves on their culture while we are in Malaysia. Our primary aim is to help the Bubble Dive Resort which takes the meaning of conservation to a new level in its pioneering work for helping the turtle population around the North East of the country (Twitter-#savetheturtles). Working to conserve marine fauna around the world is more important than ever because the most litter in the world is dumped into the sea which threatens the lives of all sea creatures.

All members of our group are looking forward to visiting Malaysia and experiencing the culture, lifestyle and getting to know the people.

We would also like to thank anyone who has donated any money that we will use to help less-advantaged communities throughout Malaysia.



*Isaac Lewis - Year 11*