Examination Results Summer 2015

**Croesyceiliog GCSE 2015**

We are thrilled to celebrate yet another strong GCSE performance this year. Over 82% of pupils achieved 5 GCSEs or more at grades A*-C and 60% of pupils achieved 5 or more GCSE grades at A*-C including English and maths. We are particularly pleased that the number of pupils achieving 5 or more A*/A grades has almost doubled this year. There are many individual successes, including outstanding performances by pupils who achieved A*/A grades in all or most of their subjects: Georgia Bailey, Jacob Bridgway, Rhiannon Chilcott, Charlotte Evans, Caitlin Hennessy, Ffion Lewis, Ffion Morgan, Jonny Mundy-Jones, Dewi Taylor, Josh Travers and Gwennan Ward. We are very proud of all our pupils, many of whom have met or exceeded their target grades.

Colin Crick, chair of Governors said “Yet another extremely strong performance across all indicators with real improvements in many areas. On behalf of the governing body, I congratulate all the pupils and staff involved. So many of our pupils will now return to the school to continue their studies and enjoy further success through the school’s excellent post 16 education provision.”

This has been an extremely successful year for Croesyceiliog School. We would like to congratulate all pupils, their families and our hard-working, dedicated staff. We look forward to welcoming many of our students back into our thriving sixth form in September.

**KS 4 Data (Highlights)**

- Pupils gaining at least 5 A*/A grades: **8%** (up from 4% last year)
- 5+ GCSEs (Including English and maths): **60%** (4% higher than Torfaen average)
- 5+ GCSEs (Level 2 threshold): **82%**
- English Language A*-C: **70%**
- Maths A*-C: **66%**
- Science A*-C: **89%**

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**Every Day Counts!**

- **100% Outstanding**
- **98% - 99% Excellent**
- **96 % - 97% Well done**
- **93% - 95% Becoming a concern**
- **Under 92% Serious concern**
2015 A-level Results Day
We are very proud of our A-level students and their teachers for achieving excellent results again this year with a significantly higher number of entries than last year. Overall 30% of qualifications achieved were awarded A*/A grades with 78% at A*-C grades and 97% of students achieved grades A*-E. 93% of students achieved the Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced Diploma. Students who achieved at least 3 A*/A grades in their subjects are Sarah Jones, Esther Deidun, Owain Matthews, Estella Thomas, Amy Gough, Jess Doolan, Lloyd Harris, Abigail Williams, Michael Thomas-Owen, Emily Reynolds, Garwit Rai, Jez Carmock, Sian Chilcott, Charlie Cryer and Natasha Owen.

Currently, 97% of our Year 13 students have successfully gained places on their chosen courses. Our students are going on to study a wide range of degree courses including law, medicine, business studies, criminology, French and Japanese. They have chosen universities around the UK including prestigious institutions such as Exeter University, Durham University, Belfast University, Cardiff University and Swansea University.

Colin Crick, Chair of Governors, congratulated all members of the teaching staff and students on these excellent results which confirmed the Governors support for Sixth Form provision at Croesyceiliog School.

Joel Smith  A*, B, C, Distinction.
Connor McNamara  A*, A*, B
Garwit Rai  A*, A*, A, B
Owain Matthews  A, A, A, Distinction*

Jess Doolan  A*, A*, A, B
Sarah Jones  A*, A*, A*, B

Amy Gough phoning her mum to tell her she has been accepted to study Medicine in Cardiff. A, A, A.

Estella Thomas  A*, A, A, B
Amber McCormack  A*, A, B, B
Emily Bleazard  A, A, B, C
Esther Deidun  A*, A*, A*, A
Amy Gough  A, A, A
Key Stage 3 Results
We are very pleased to announce yet another set of excellent Key Stage 3 results. These results are testament to our conscientious and hardworking students, dedicated teaching staff and supportive parents and carers.

Highlights from this year include:
Record highs in English with 96% of our pupils gaining Level 5+ and 72% gaining Level 6+. These outcomes are above the Local Authority and Wales averages.
In science, the pupils achieved best ever results of 97% at Level 5+ and 74% Level 6+. These results are also above Local Authority and Wales averages.
In mathematics, 90% of pupils achieved Level 5+, 59% achieved L6+ and they achieved a best ever result of 70% at Level 7+.

More pupils than ever achieved Level 5+ in:
- Art
- IT
- MFL
- Welsh

The highest percentage of Croesyceiliog pupils ever achieved Level 6+ in:
- Art
- Geography
- History
- IT
- MFL
- Music
- Welsh

The highest percentage of Croesyceiliog pupils ever achieved Level 7+ in:
- Art
- Geography
- History
- IT
- Music
- Welsh

The pupils at Croesyceiliog exceeded the Local Authority and Wales averages for Level 5+ in:
- Art
- DT
- Geography
- History
- IT
- MFL
- Welsh

The following pupils achieved outstanding Key Stage 3 results by gaining Level 6 or Level 7 in every subject. We are very proud of them and congratulate them on their hard work and commitment to their studies in Key Stage 3.

Georgia BOND
Charlie BOWLER
Georgia BREAKWELL-CRUWYS
Eleanor BROWN
Rachel BULL
Caitlin DAVIES
William DAVIES
Josie DAY
Ashleigh EVANS
Natasha EVANS
Jack FOWLER
Lewis GREENMAN
Millie HODGES
Connor JEWELL
Eloise LARCOMBE
Cariad LEWIS
Ellis NEIL
Arin OZGUL
Grace POWELL
Martha PUGH
Libby SIMS
Griff SPENCER
Paige SYMONDS
Nia TAYLOR
James TRAVERS
Jordanna WILLIAMS
Ellie YOUNG

These pupils have now moved up to Year 10 and have started their chosen GCSE and BTEC courses here at Croesyceiliog School.
We look forward to celebrating a bumper year of GCSE and BTEC results in August 2017!
The Wolf Princess
by Cathryn Constable

The Wolf Princess is a good, old-fashioned adventure story with exotic locations (in Russia), a brave heroine with reliable friends, colourful and intriguing encounters with strangers and lots of unexpected twists and turns.

The central character, Sophie, finds herself whisked away to a crumbling palace but what is the mystery that lies behind her connection to the place, to the mercurial princess who inhabits it and to the wolves that prowl the palace grounds? A fascinating tale and a really excellent first novel from a new writer.

Lonely Planet
To get a good insight into Russia, or any other country for that matter, the Lonely Planet website is a good place to start.

http://www.lonelyplanet.com/russia

If you’re looking for spelling and grammar activities to exercise your brain, visit

http://www.englishforeveryone.org/
and select a ‘topic’ from the bar on the left hand side.

Numeracy Tip of the Term

Ever been in that situation when you’ve lost the code for your mobile phone?
Watch the video to start!
You’ve forgotten your passcode. How many numbers would you have to type to try all the possibilities?

Your passcode only has the digits 0 and 1 in it. How many possibilities are there?

What about if it only has the digits 0, 1 and 2. How many possibilities now?

How can you be sure you’ve covered all the codes?

Welcome back to a new school year!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning families. The teachers and staff have been looking forward to working with you and your children this year.

May we take the opportunity to remind parents and carers to inform the Heads of Year of any changes to their contact details. The school must have a home or work number where a parent or carer can be contacted in the event of an emergency.

Important minutes can be lost calling disconnected numbers. When you change jobs, residence or your telephone number please send a signed note into school with the new information. Thank you.
Art Trip
We welcomed a hard working student teacher, Miss Hodgins to our department, she thoroughly enjoyed her experience here with us. Miss Hodgins, organised a wonderful Art Year 9 trip to Cardiff Museum and Art Gallery. The children were given a fantastic experience looking at awesome works of art and had the opportunity to create some on-site artwork. Students in Year 9 currently have their work being displayed in an exhibition at UWIC. The artwork looks wonderful and we are very proud of the children’s achievements.

Cardiff Museum

Year 9 Cardiff Museum Trip

Year 9 Art Trip to the National Museum by Amy Hodgins

On the Friday 17th of April year nine art enthusiasts travelled to the Nation Museum in Cardiff for an action packed day of learning and fun focused on art inspired by the Welsh landscape.
I joined Croesy art department in February as a student teacher and have been leading a number of art and photography classes. In addition to my time in school I have also spend one day per week working with the museum learning team as part of my training. Year nine art involves really in-depth study of Welsh landscape artists, so I wanted to bring 9MI and other year nine classes to the museum to experience these such artworks in the flesh. With the help of the art department, I organised the excursion to support what the pupils have been studying throughout the year.

Pupils attending the trip discovered the National Museum is home to an outstanding collection of (among others) Welsh landscape artworks, from eighteenth century oil painting to contemporary abstract sculpture. Other highlights included free time in the Nature history section of the museum where the dinosaur exhibit proved particularly popular!
I was really impressed with everyone who took part in the day. Some pupils really amazed me with intelligent comments about the art we saw. Sketchbook work saw learners making lots of beautiful drawings, prompting the gallery staff to comment on the quality of the work they had seen, as well as the great behaviour they had witnessed from the Croesyceiliog pupils.

Back in the classroom 9MI used their sketches from the museum, as well as drawings made ‘in-situ’ in the school grounds to develop landscape artworks of their own. The work was of an extremely high quality and many are currently being shown in an exhibition in Cardiff Metropolitan University, where I have been studying.

Thank you to both the pupils and staff I have worked with during my time at Croesyceiliog School. I have had such an amazing time!
Year 7 Murals

We are close to completing A4 canvas paintings with all pupils in Year 7. These colourful animal paintings will be hung in prominent places around the school as large composite montage murals. They are outstanding. Both staff and pupils are looking forward to seeing them on display in September.

Examples of Year 7 Animal canvas work in progress

Sixth Form Art and Photography Exhibition – End of Year Show

Students, parents, governors and teachers were invited to view the outstanding work by our Year 13 Art and Photography students on 23rd June. Students displayed a selection of their coursework and examination projects. This had to be our best one yet! The variety and technical standard of work from both the artists and photographers was very high. We received such wonderful feedback from guests and students who are currently studying Art and Photography at GCSE. They were certainly inspired!

‘All of the photos were so very unique and varied’
‘All of the artists’ techniques were very well executed and came out incredibly’
‘Great and unique photos edits. This exhibition has given me some great ideas’
‘All of the amazing work was incredible and inspirational for my own personal work’

A big thank you to Carol Davies and her team for providing tasty refreshments for the evening of the ‘Private View’.
**Machen Show Success!**

We selected an array of work from Years 7-13 for entry to the Art and Photography competitions for the annual Machen Agricultural Show, some of which were for the adult competitions! This was held in Caerphilly on Saturday, 4th July. We were hoping to be as successful as last year. We did indeed ‘steal’ the show and did even better! Our students were awarded a plethora of certificates and winning positions in the competitions. Huge congratulations to all students! Your work looked awesome!

1st – India Peploe (2), Thomas Spokes, Rachel Davies (Photography), Nia Pitman (Photography), Sasha Smith
2nd – Carly Bodenham (2)
Kiefer Combstock, Natalie Black (Photography), Georgina Elias (Photography), Tanya Watkins, Paige Leach, Kate Butcher (Photography), Millie Skinner

3rd – Carly Bodenham (Photography), India Peploe (2), Rachel Davies (Photography), Chloe Thompson-Jones

Highly Commended – Olivia Jones (Photography), Shannon Scourfield (2), Charis Higgs

The ‘Best Artist in Show’ was awarded to India Peploe for her outstanding set of drawings in both pencil and charcoal. Mrs Broughton proudly accepted a winner’s cup on behalf of India on the day. Well done India!!!

**Congratulations!**

Laura Coles has graduated from Central St Martins in London with a FIRST CLASS honours degree in textile design. Miss Knight was able to attend the degree show in London last week. Her work was AMAZING! Beautiful pieces woven out of copper and metal. Never resting, she was off to India for 2 weeks to explore textile production after being selected from hundreds of applicants! An amazing opportunity!

She has now been offered a job and will be moving to ITALY to be a junior designer for a textiles company in Lake Como (this after being able to turn down a job working for Zara!!!) We are very proud of her success and are sure amazing things will come in her shining future!
Technology

What a term for the Technology Department. A fantastic array of products were completed for GCSE and A Level courses in Catering, Product Design and Graphics. The results were outstanding and competition was very high to secure a place at the WJEC Innovation Awards. We are very proud to announce that 12 students were nominated for the award from Year 11 and Year 13 and we look forward to September when the results are announced.

Drama

Drama Club
On Monday lunchtimes, a group of us from year 7 attend drama club with Miss Cummins. We have worked on a play about bullying and we have filmed it and it will be played in assembly very soon. At the moment we have auditioned and started to rehearse “A Midsummer Summer Nights Dream.” Soon we will be performing it for friends and family. We love going to drama club. It has improved our confidence and helped us to make new friends.

Nepalese Earthquake Appeal
The Nepalese earthquake inspired one of our pupils to arrange a whole school fundraising event. This particular pupil has family members who live in Nepal. She helped Mrs Spencer to organise the event and to make an awareness raising PowerPoint presentation detailing her personal story. She also asked her friends to help her to make money boxes.
Sunday 28th June 2015 - Miss Biggs was exceptionally proud to attend Llantarnam Poetry Festival to represent Croesyceiliog and watch 3 pupils collect their awards for creative poetry writing on the stimulus ‘changes’.

Tesni Davies 7RB collected 3rd place, Annie May Elliot 8CB collected 2nd and Joshua Obara 8SN collected first prize. Each pupil read their poems to a packed church hall and were lucky enough to meet renowned poet Gillian Clarke.

Poetry Festival

Science

Year 7 election 2015

29 year 10s took part in the Life Sciences challenge which is a Welsh national science quiz

link:  
[www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine/push](http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine/push)

The top team came a very creditable 14th in Wales.

The year 12 physics pupils took part in an Astrophysics workshop run by Professor North from Cardiff University.

Over 40 pupils have currently registered to take part in the SETI challenge which is a code breaking and science challenge for 14-18 year olds linked to the Large Hadron Collider. This takes place from the 6th to 10th of July

link:  
[https://www.seti.soton.ac.uk](https://www.seti.soton.ac.uk)
Trip to the Cardiff Buddhist Centre and Greek Orthodox Church
On Tuesday 30th June, the RE department took a group of 30 year 8 pupils to the Cardiff Buddhist Centre. Staff and pupils entered the shrine room with the ordained monk, Saranasiri. The pupils were given the opportunity to ask questions about Buddhism and then participated in a meditation session. After spending some time in the Buddhist grounds, staff and pupils travelled to Cardiff bay to enjoy some free time and have lunch in the beautiful sunshine. After lunch staff and pupils visited the Greek Orthodox Church, where they were met and given a guided tour of the beautifully ornately decorated Church and again were able to ask questions regarded the religion. The pupils were exceptionally well behaved, respectful and a credit to the school. A very enjoyable day was had by all.

Congratulations Ross Dunn!
Ross is one of our finest musicians and recently he has been travelling overseas with the world famous Cory Band, ranked number 1 in the world. His first outing was the European Brass Band Championships in Freiburg, Germany and his second outing was a concert in Mamers, France.

With his other band Llwydcoed, which is based in Aberdare he has had successes. Llwydcoed have recently been promoted to the championship section and recent results reflect this promotion, with successful results in the Welsh Regionals and Senior Trophy Contest.

Ross is also a member of both National Youth Brass Band of Wales and Great Britain respectively. He has thoroughly enjoyed and is still enjoying his time with both bands, playing under magnificent conductors such as Bramwell Tovey, Nicholas Childs and Robert Childs.

Ross is taught by Owen Farr and Chris Turner. Both are ex members of the Cory Band and they are extremely pleased to see Ross gaining his experience with the band at this very tender age. Chris has been Ross’ teacher for 10 years and Owen is a tenor horn virtuoso that Ross aspires to. Chris has given Ross the opportunity to be the guest soloist at a concert by the Crwbin Band that Chris conducts along with Llwydcoed.

Ross hopes to develop his playing into a true art form like Owen Farr after more hard practice in coming years.
Belmont Abbey Trip
On the 29th June, the RS department had their annual Year 7 visit to Belmont Abbey. Staff and pupils were given a warm welcome by the monks and were shown around the beautiful church and monastic gardens. Much was explained to pupils regarding the monastic routine and its ancient origins. Students were also given the opportunity to witness monastic chanting at Midday Prayer and Joe Langley (7AW) very bravely offered to read during this service.
In the afternoon, pupils asked interesting questions in a “Question and Answer” session with the brothers and were also given taster lessons in calligraphy and brass rubbing. The exceptional behaviour of students helped to make this a very successful and enjoyable day!

Medieval Life
Year 7 have been carrying out investigations into medieval life. They have produced some excellent work and areas such as food, health, law and order along with the working life of a peasant have been covered. Many took the opportunity to further their knowledge with research at home and went to the trouble of making and finding props that would provide interest when they fed their work back to the rest of the class. Amy Taylor in 7AS went as far as making her own stocks and found many volunteers in her class to try out this medieval punishment.

History
Rain, Rain, Rain and more Rain. Believe it or not it rained............
Year 7 were given the opportunity to go to St Fagans to look at the different types of housing and buildings after studying settlements in Geography.
The trip was arranged for the end of term. There is nothing better that strolling around St Fagans in the sunshine taking, in the lovely buildings and the sprawling grounds.
This trip was nothing like that! We anticipated rain. What we didn’t expect was vertical and horizontal rain!
However we managed to see a variety of buildings, and compare the types of buildings that are in Cwmbran. In between showers we walked lots and even got a ride on the land train.
After lunch we congregated in the only dry space, the cock house, where year 7 pupils continued to eat! (and they can eat!!) When they finished their packed lunches, they even went to the café to buy more and some walked to the bakery to buy the most delicious cheese rolls.
I would like to say it was an amazing day but the weather was against us. However, all the pupils were exemplary and even the teachers managed a smile. Next year I think we will go swimming, it might be drier.
GETTING TO DETENTION!
I was a minute late for school, I was full of frustration. I just knew I would have, Another detention. I said to the teacher, “It’s a minute, I’m sure that’s fine!” She said “No it’s certainly not, I’ll see you at lunchtime!” I was eating my lunch; then I remembered detention, I think my memory needs some specialist attention. I stood up quickly and dropped my curry, But I didn’t care I was in a hurry. I had to get to my detention, I didn’t want another one. But I’ve got a big problem, Time is proving hard to outrun. I knocked over a year 7 on my way, I had to take her to the nurse, WHAT A DAY! I left the nurse and off I went, Then I crashed into Mr Trent! His papers erupted into the air, I thought to myself, life’s just not fair! I picked up the papers as quick as I could, My journey to detention wasn’t going as it should. The Headmaster appeared and said “What’s the trouble?” As Mr Trent lay on the floor like a heap of rubble, I helped the teacher up; he had a murderous look in her eye, He’s going to shout at me and I’m going to die! “Child, you’re coming to detention, follow me! We are going to Miss Jones in classroom 3” “But that is where I’m going!” I said through the tears, “To detention, but it’s taking me years!” I explained to the teacher what’d happened so far, And why I was running as fast as a car, He had an understanding look on his face, He said “Go to detention but it’s not a race. I walked towards the door, 40 minutes too late, I have annoyed the teachers today, at an enormous rate. In haste, I got to my final destination, I heard a voice from the class, “YOU’RE LATE! ANOTHER DETENTION!”

By Cerys Gordon 8IR

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Careers Wales Mark

We are proud to have been re-awarded the Careers Wales Mark which recognises our continuous improvement in learning for careers and the world of work. “I’d like to thank Careers Wales for their support and guidance in the process. I’m delighted that we have achieved this honour which reflects our commitment to preparing our pupils for post 16 pathways”, Nick Taylor (Head of Careers).
The Senior Choir were representing the School in the UK National Finals of Music for Youth in Birmingham Symphony Hall on the 7th July 2105. The performance was reported as outstanding and the judges were blown away with the performance. The feedback they received was excellent. As a result the Choir won their sectional award for innovation and will be considered to perform in the Albert Hall in November. This is a nationally recognised performance of the highest order and great credit should be given to these exceptionally talented groups of children and Mr Parker for this achievement. The pupils have worked incredibly hard to produce a fantastic performance. Mr Parker said “They are all enormously talented and what is obvious when working with them is that they enjoy performing and making music together. All of these attributes helped to create a very memorable day in Birmingham. I cannot praise these pupils enough!”

16 pupils went ranging from Year 10 to Year 13:
Year 10
Rhea Morgan
Jamie Davis
Joel Dixon
Harry Brain

Year 11
Bethan Mundy
Alex Jones
Molly Pugh
Geri McNamara

Year 12
Louise Bartle
Gemma Harbour
Lily Sayani
Heather Plow
Faye Phillips
Daniel Greaney

Year 13
Jess Doolan
Chris Davis

The choir rehearsed twice a week for 30 minutes each time. We went to Birmingham on 7th July and performed in Birmingham Town Hall. The award that the choir won was the 'Performance Innovation' award and they were complimented on their huge sound and enthusiastic approach to the music.
Sgwrs Teledu a Sinema  

gan Rosie Merriman 10NH

Seren: Bore da, sut wyt ti? Seren ydw i a dw i’n bwy yng Nghwmarthen gyda’r teulu. Neithiwr, gwyliais i ‘Strictly Come Dancing’. A dweud a gwir, roedd hi’n sbwriel! Beth wyliaist ti ar y teledu neithiwr?

Rosie: Ddoe, gwyliais i ‘You’ve Been Framed’ gyda fy mam. Ar y cyfan, roedd hi’n sbwriel! Beth wyliaist ti ar y teledu neithiwr?

Seren: Faset ti’n dweud bod rhaglenni realiti yn wastraff amser?

Rosie: Baswn. Yn fy marin i, mae’n well gyda fi rhaglenni dogfen achos baswn i’n dweud eu bod nhw’n addysgiadol ond yn ôl fy mam maen nhw’n anniddorol.

Seren: Pwy ydy dy hoff actor Rosie?

Rosie: Fy hoff actor ydy Taylor Lautner achos dw i’n meddwl ei fod e’n olygus dros ben! Mae e’n enwog am ffilmiau fel Twighlight.

Seren: Beth hoffet ti weld yn y sinema, nesa?

Rosie: Yn bersonal, bydd e’n neis i gael mwy o ffilmiau i bobl ifanc yn y sinema nawr ac yn y man. Hoffai fy nghad ddim gweld ffilmiau ditectif yn y sinema o gwbl achos maen nhw’n eithaf hen ffasiwon ond dw i’n anghytunol! Dw i’n dwli ar ffilmiau ditectif achos maen nhw’n codi ofn arna i ac maen nhw’n gyffrous!

Seren: Beth wyliaist ti yn y sinema yn ddiweddar a sut roedd hi?


Seren: Da bo’chi Rosie!

Rosie: Da bo’chi Seren!

Geirfa (vocabulary)

Gwyliais i = I watched
Roedd hi’n = It was
Baswn i’n dweud = I would say
Fy hoff = my favourite
Dw i’n dwli ar = I adore
Hoffai fy nghad = my dad would like
Mae’n well gyda fi = I’d prefer
Diweddar = recently
Codi ofn arna i = scare me

Online Welsh lessons and other resources for learners

BBC Learn Welsh - online lessons, a dictionary and other resources

http://www.bbc.co.uk/learnwelsh/

Online Welsh lessons

http://www.bbc.co.uk/learnwelsh/
http://www.bbc.co.uk/colinandcumberla
nd/

Useful Welsh phrases

http://www.bbc.co.uk/cymru/cymraeg
/yriaith/tudalen/welsh_phrases.shtml
http://www.surfacelanguages.com/lan
guage/Welsh
http://www.heart-of
wales.co.uk/welsh.htm
Physical Literacy Project - funded by the EAS

A group of 12 Year 8 pupils at Croesyceiliog School have been involved in trialling a PLF (Physical Literacy Framework) for the PLPS ‘Physical Literacy Programme for Schools’ (Welsh Government) initiative with a focus on improving confidence and motivation, physical competence and literacy (reading).

The project took place over 12 weeks, with an alternative approach to Physical Education and English lessons. The pupils were given the chance to design their own curriculum through a pupil voice workshop delivered by Young Ambassadors and was a vital part of the project. Based on their input, the curriculum was adapted to include ‘free running’, improving their physical skills and ‘literacy sessions’, linking their practical through the creation of poems. IPads (Digital Literacy) were used to bridge the gap between the two sessions.

The free running sessions were delivered by Kyle Thorne of Valleys Gymnastics Academy. This consisted of gymnastic skills, acrobatic tricks and leaps and was particularly successful in engaging the boys through a physical context. Pupils were given the opportunity to share their work via an online blog:


Shared via Twitter @valueadded, the blog has almost 9000 hits as it generated high interest levels in the education field. This was created by ‘Value Added Education’ (Apple Distinguished Educators and Estyn Inspectors Martin Jones and Ann Roberts) who were highly impressed with the impact they saw during the project.

‘Value Added Education’ also supported digital training for teachers in digital learning, hoping these skills can be used with other groups of similar pupils. The blog has been an eye opener in to sharing good practice and celebrating pupils’ success.

Parents have also been engaged in the project, attending a ‘Free Running Showcase’, where pupils shared both their videos and poems developed throughout the program and performed their free running skills live.

On going pupil assessment, through ‘Dragon Tracker’, has shown a 17.68% increase in Body Management skills (Physical Competency) but pupils have also seen increases in their confidence and motivation and their ability to work as part of a team, plan, evaluate and problem solve. As well as the improvements in skill levels the project also had a positive impact on their social skills. The group developed their communication skills and became a strong team as a result, looking out for and encouraging each other.

As part of the project pupils visited Valleys Gymnastics Academy in Crumlin, where they were able to practice and develop their skills further in a safe and progressive environment. Valleys Gymnastics Academy deliver FreeG (free Style 7+) sessions at Cwmbran Stadium on Friday 6.00pm-6.45pm, where pupils are already looking to increase their physical activity levels outside of school hours.

They also enjoyed a reward trip at the end of the project at BattleSports in Gloucestershire, where they put their teamwork and communication skills to the test in a series of laser combat challenges. This was a great end to the project and showed the progress the pupils had made in their ability to work as part of a team.
Sports Day
Sports Day was another huge success with Year 7, 8 & 9 getting into the spirit of the day. Bran were the overall winners closely followed by Llewelyn then Gwenllian. Thanks to everyone involved.

Athletics
Ffion Wadden - Year 9 selected to represent South East Wales in the Welsh Schools Athletics Championships.

Football
Senior Soccer boys lost to Cross Keys College in the final of the Gwent Cup

Rugby
The Year 8 Rugby team did extremely well last season. Their highlight was reaching the final of the Dragons Cup. There they met Caerleon who were the overwhelming favourites. Despite this Croesy gave a spirited performance and despite conceding early points were within a 5 points with 10 minutes to go. Unfortunately Caerleon prevented us from scoring and we came valiant runners up. Exceptional performances came from Will Reed and Jake Goodland (3 tries). The future looks bright for the team next season. - Mr R Jones

Torfaen’s Got To Dance
All year we have been planning for this year’s Torfaen’s Got To Dance Competition. The pupils have been working very hard to prepare their routines. Our school entered 4 acts overall (2 solos and 1 duo) into the auditions on Tuesday 21st April. I’m pleased to say that all of our acts progressed through to the finals. I am even more delighted to say that one of our acts, Ffion Van year 9, came Runner-Up in the KS3 category.

Skiing Trip to Serre Chevalier
80 pupils from Year 8 & 9 enjoyed the French Alps during term time in March. The trip was a huge success in allowing pupils to experience the sport of skiing at a price which was affordable too many. The slopes were a lot quieter and the instructors superb and were full of praise for the manners and respect in which the pupils displayed. A great trip full of fond memories. Thanks to the following staff - Miss G Cummins, Miss L James, Mr C Jones, Miss M Kostic, Mrs C Lee, Mr M Poyner, Mrs A Pritchard, Mr L Swaffield & Mr N Taylor.