

# MACS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY EDITION



February Issue 2025



## Year 10 Careers Fair

We were excited to hold our first careers fair before half term. Year 10 learners met a range of employers on the day, who gave a brief overview of the opportunities for careers in each business sector. Learners had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussions, which helped support their future career choices and pathways.



## Faraday STEM Event



36 Year 8 pupils took part in an interactive STEM workshop. Pupils had to apply their knowledge and skills and develop their teamworking skills to design, make and test a device for either a disabled person, a child's toy or for a sporting application. The winning design was a device to alert a blind person that the bath is full. Well done all!

### Key dates for this half term:

- 18th – 20th March Year 10/11 Welsh oral exams.
- 25th – 27th March Year 10/11 Welsh oral exams.
- 1st – 4th April Year 11 GCSE Art practical exam.
- 7th April Inset Day
- 8th–10th April Year 10 GCSE Food practical exams.



## Year 10 Maths Trip to Cardiff University

Year 10 pupils attended a Maths trip to Cardiff University with the Maths Support Programme Wales (MSPW). Pupils looked at the maths behind coding, shapes, cards and complex numbers and explored Maths related career pathways.



## National Honours at MACS

Congratulations to Alfie Jones and Leo Papirnyk were selected and represented Wales Under 16s against Sweden. A fantastic achievement!

Bendigedig!



## Lawn Bowls

A fantastic achievement from Jorja Crowdey! Jorja recently represented Wales U-18 in lawn bowls. She travelled to Falkirk, where her team won a silver medal. Da iawn Jorja!



## Up and Coming Darts Star!

Jac Davies Year 8 has been recognised for his achievements within Darts. He is currently part of Cwm Taff Arrows and he has been mixing with some darts celebrities. Da iawn Jac!



Watch this space..... Darts Club will be coming soon at MACS with Mr Breeze!



# Parent Forums

A number of parent forums took place in February to gain feedback and opinions of parents on how we can improve our provision and experiences for learners. Following the meetings a number of actions were decided and are included in the table below. Further actions will follow next term.

You Said	We Did
School should make more effort to celebrate the good things that are going on with parents and the wider community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Monthly Newsletter has been introduced to celebrate school events and activities.</li> <li>We are sharing a monthly Information sheet, focusing on key aspects of school – ‘How do we ....?’</li> <li>Our new website will be launching next half term.</li> </ul>
Parents would like more support for parents of children with Additional Learning Needs	Adult Learning Wales will be running sessions at school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Autism Awareness (30th April &amp; 7th May.</li> <li>ADHD Awareness (4th June &amp; 11th June).</li> </ul>
Parents asked for a review of the use of Classcharts to improve consistency and look at the balance of points and wanted to be part of this process	A working party will be set up to review Classcharts to which interested staff and parents will be invited.

## Attendance

A polite reminder that if there are reasons why your child is missing school then please keep us informed. If your child is off school, please contact the school on each day of absence. Wherever possible, let the school know in advance of any planned absences e.g. hospital appointments.

Wherever possible, please make medical/dental appointments out of school hours. Parents/carers should provide reasons for absences and the school must decide whether or not they authorise in line with Government Guidelines.

If you have any concerns about the attendance of your child or are struggling with him/her attending school then please contact the Head of Year or our Family Engagement Officer.

Head of Lower School (Year 7 and 8)

- Mrs J Grashoff

Head of Middle School (Year 9 and 10)

- Mr P Barry

Head of Upper School (Year 11, 12 and 13)

- Miss S Richards

Family Engagement Officer

- Miss B Jones

Blue Zone 98% – 100%	100% Not missing any lessons.
	98% Missing about 20 lessons.
Green Zone 95% – 97%	97% Missing about 30 lessons.
	95% Missing about 2 weeks of school, which is 50 lessons worth of work.
Yellow Zone 93% – 94%	93% – 94% Missing 14 days of school, which is 70 lessons. This is almost three weeks which is a significant amount of education to lose.
Amber Zone 90% – 92%	92% to 90% Missing more than 3 weeks of education. A serious loss of learning which is likely to have a detrimental effect on achievement.
Red Zone Below 90%	Below 90%Missing at least 4 weeks of learning, which is at least 100 hours of education. This is likely to have a detrimental effect on life chances.



## Young Leaders Celebrating Welsh Language and Culture

Our Language ambassadors delivered a number of assemblies to all year groups informing pupils about Santes Dwynwen's Day, celebrating Welsh language, culture and history! Ardderchog pawb!



## Languages in the Workplace!

Year 9 recently took part in the Languages in the Workplace Day on Friday 24th January, where learners had the opportunity to see the benefit of different languages across a range of different careers.



## Celebrating Dydd Santes Dwynwen at MACS

Pupils and staff celebrated Dydd Santes Dwynwen at MACS to promote Welsh language and culture.

