

MACS NEWSLETTER

MARCH EDITION



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International Women's Day at MACS!



Well done to members of the Senedd and year 13 pupils that promoted and celebrate International Women's day at MACS.

Pupils made the cakes that were sold on the promotional stall and all donations went to the Welsh Women's Refuge.

Key dates for this half term:

- 1st – 4th April Year 11 GCSE Art practical exam.
- 7th April Inset Day
- 8th–10th April Year 10 GCSE Food practical exams.

Fire Fighters for the Day!

A group of year 8 learners were given the opportunity to experience a day in the life of a fire fighter at Merthyr Fire Station. The visit provided learners with careers information as well as the opportunity to ask questions and find out what being a fire fighter is really like.



National Dance Success!

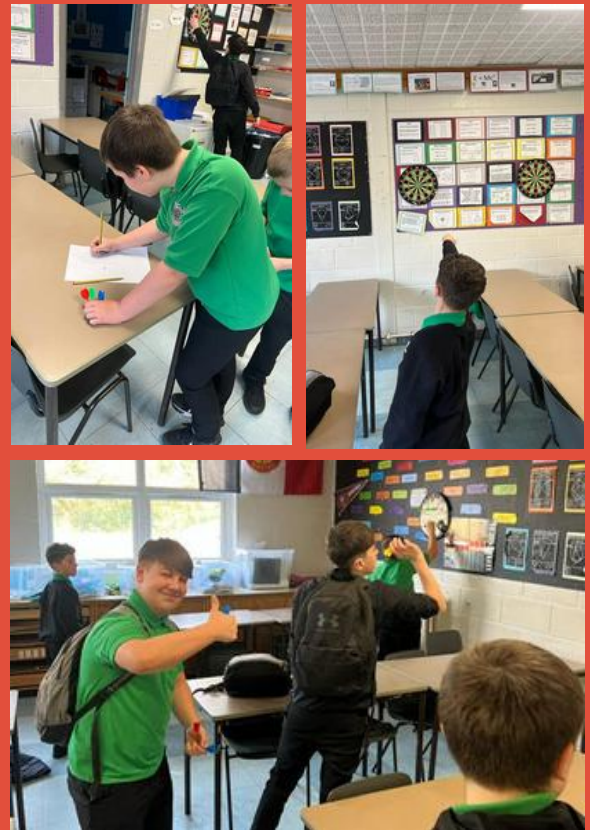
Congratulations to our Year 10, 11 and 13 girls who travelled to the Winter Gardens on March 22nd/23rd to compete in the UDO British Dance Festival. They came away as champions which is an amazing achievement.

The dance school is SFD Street Flyers and the team that won is called Inferno!!



Numeracy Darts Club

Numeracy darts club is up and running and learners are improving both their darts and Numeracy skills through a range of different darts based games. A big thank you to Mr Breeze for the running of this club for our learners.



Girls Football Success!

Well done to the following pupils that took part in the RCT Football Tournament at Rhydywaen on Tuesday 18th March. They won the under 13 and under 15 Cynon Valley Cup and are through to the RCT round. Amazing achievement girls! Da iawn!

Year 8 Team

Lara Ziechmiod, Brooke Elliott, Isabelle Atkinson, Emilia Roberts, Lowri Davies, Keeley Davies, Carys Gilbert and Lily Smith.

Year 9/10 Team

Mya Copley, Casey Carter, Seren Davies, Kaisey Davies, Darcie Thomas, Amy John, Gracie Winder and Teigan Hughes.



Parent ALN Coffee Morning

We are hosting a coffee morning on **3rd April from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m.** for parents of learners with ALN. This is a great opportunity to discuss the support available, ask any questions, and connect with other parents in a relaxed setting. We'd love for you to join us for a chat over a cup of coffee. We look forward to seeing you there!

Wellbeing Dog Mentoring

A huge welcome to our newest dog mentor Jenny! Our dog mentors play a vital role in supporting learner emotional wellbeing, providing comfort, companionship, and a calming presence. We know that Jenny will bring warmth and joy to everyone she meets, helping to create a supportive and nurturing environment. We can't wait to see the positive impact she'll have on our learners!



Year 10 Employer Interviews

Year 10 students recently participated in employer interviews to gain valuable experience and build confidence in real interview scenarios. This initiative was designed to support their career aspirations and help them develop essential interview skills for their future career pathways. Employers from a wide range of industries took part, allowing students to engage in interviews relevant to their interests and chosen sectors. This experience provided them with practical insights and constructive feedback, preparing them for their next steps in education and employment.



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.



World Book Day at MACS

World Book Day was celebrated at MACS with a range of exciting activities, including The Great Footy and Booky Online Quiz, hosted by the National Literacy Trust and the Premier League. Welsh author Kerry Curzon ran a literacy session with a group of learners, inspiring them with her passion for storytelling. Staff also joined in the fun by dressing up as their favorite characters, adding to the excitement of the day and fostering a love for reading across the school.

Achieving the Bronze and Silver Siarter Iaith Awards!

Congratulations to Miss Childs, the Languages department and all learners involved for achieving the Bronze and Silver Award for the Siarter Iaith.

Mrs Evans, Miss Childs, Libby Jex and Morgan Headford attended the Siarter Iaith awards ceremony in the Vale hotel to receive the awards. Da iawn!



Lower School Rewards Morning

Lower School pupils with consistently excellent attendance and attitude towards learning data were invited to a rewards morning, where they received hot chocolate and cake to celebrate their hard work and determination. Bendigedig!

