

September 2022

Newsletter



From the Headteacher's Desk

Gowerton School wishes Mr Nigel Jones a long and happy retirement and we thank him for the excellent work he has done over the last 6 years as Headteacher. I am honoured to take on the Headship and to continue to share our news with you every month. My name is Kathleen Lawlor. I have had the privilege of teaching at Gowerton School for the last 30 years and am excited to take on the role of Headteacher.

The first month is always a time for the whole school community to settle back into routines. Year 7 were very excited and looked wonderful in their new uniform. All year groups enjoyed the start of extra-curricular activities and getting involved in lunchtime clubs.

Our Head boy, Marley Bushell and Head girl, Olivia Short are keen to organise events for the young students. We wish them all the very best for the year ahead and their work with the Senior Prefect Team.

We wish to congratulate all our pupils from years 10 – 13 on their GCSE, AS and A level results. They have worked hard and we wish them all the very best for the next part of their educational journey.

At Gowerton School we marked the sad occasion of the death of Queen Elizabeth II with a 'moment of silence'. The whole school remained silent for 2 minutes to reflect on the life and long reign of the Queen. Assemblies for each year group were held in the week leading up to the funeral. The assemblies focused on the Queen's strength, resilience and calm throughout her reign.

Every month we like to share some of our news and information. Here are some of the many events that took place at the end of the Summer term:

UK Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the year 7 and 8 pupils that took place in the UK Maths Challenge. Mrs Parsons, Head of the Maths Department, was very proud of the pupils for achieving silver awards in this competition. Da iawn pawb!



Siarter Iaith Arian



Llongyfarchiadau i'r ysgol am gael Siarter Iaith Arian. Mae'r 'Cryw Cymraeg' a'r athrawes Gymraeg, Ms Ellie Thomas, wedi bod yn gweithio'n galed iawn y flwyddyn yma.

Congratulations to the school for being awarded the 'Silver' Siarter Iaith. This year Ms Ellie Thomas and the 'Cryw Cymraeg' have been working hard to promote the Welsh language and culture of the locality. From learning about Gowerton's railway history, visiting 'Selwyn's' Cockle factory in Penclawdd and Llanrhidian church's interesting past the group has learnt so much and shared this fascinating history with the other pupils. Information about their visits and some of the videos on Wales' history can be found on our school website under 'about us: siarter iaith'



The governors also enjoyed a visit to the school to improve their Welsh language skills in a coffee morning. Pupils from the A level Welsh class and some of the Cryw Cymraeg helped with the lesson.

September: Right of the month: ARTICLE 28: Right to an education.



European Swimming Success



Congratulations to Antonio R Year 13 for his recent outstanding result in the European junior swimming championships. Antonio was part of the gold winning 4x 100m Medley British Relay Team, swimming the 'fly' leg. Antonio has kindly donated the framed certificate and swimming cap to the school which we proudly display to inspire our next generation of swimmers.

Welsh Athletics Success

Jemimah from year 9 gained third place in the pole vault with a height of 2m 30cm in the Welsh Schools Athletics Championships. Da iawn Jemimah!



Year 12 Team Building Day

The year 12 had an excellent start to the term with a day organised by the Army. Various team building events were held, some particularly competitive, with everyone enjoying their day. The activity in the main hall that involved building the tallest tower had each group being ambitious, creative and competitive.



Sixth Form Visit to Court



A group of 6th formers interested in studying law at University recently had the opportunity to visit Swansea Crown Court thanks to Judge Paul Thomas, the Chairman of the Gowertonian Society. The students had a Q&A session and then experienced the court in action. Huge thanks to Judge Paul Thomas for providing this great insight for our students.

Owain Glyndwr Day



To commemorate 'Owain Glyndwr day' on September 16th the school governors enjoyed a coffee morning and Welsh lesson. That afternoon 'Mei Gwynedd' a famous Welsh performer sang for year 7 and the governors in an exciting, enjoyable concert. Caln lan, Yma o Hyd and the Anthem could be heard throughout the school. Roedd pawb yna wedi mwynhau.

Further Successes

Congratulations to Ben H (year 10) and Tristan J (year 11) for being two of only twelve selected to compete in the British National Teams Judo Championships for Team Cymru. Well done Ben and Tristan.

Congratulations to Scott B (year 11) for being selected to represent Wales in the European Touch Rugby Junior Championships in the U18 mixed division. The event was held in France in August. Da iawn Scott.

Year 7 & 10 Lunchtime Football

Year 7 and year 10 have different lunch times and they are lucky to have the front of the school as their 'zone'. The football matches are very competitive between the 'turned up' and the 'tucked in'. A tradition started by our previous headteacher Mr Jones. One team turns up their trouser legs and the other team tucks in their jumpers! Miss Lawlor has taken over the role of referee and each Friday is a 'cup game'. As can be seen from the photo the first cup game this month for year 10 was very exciting for the winners.



Bronze Medal for James

Huge congratulations to James Wells on winning a bronze medal for Wales in the Youth International Mixed Martial Arts Federation World Championships in Abu Dhabi at the end of August. An outstanding achievement. Well done James!



Man of the match

Congratulations to Jayden Grey as he played for the Bridgend Blue Bulls in August. They became the South Wales under 16 champions. Jayden was awarded 'man of the match' and scored 2 tries in the process as captain.



Positive Mindset with 'Can do Kanga'

At the start of each year we remind pupils of the importance of a positive mindset. Pupils are encouraged to follow the 'Kanga Code'.

K represents Kindness. How often in our day can an act of kindness make a difference?

Saying 'good morning / bore da', smiling, holding a door open for someone, being polite, every act can have a positive impact.

