

## Criw Cymraeg Spring/Gwanwyn 1 half-term update



Helo, wyt ti'n iawn? The first half of the Spring term has flown by! Criw Cymraeg have been working hard to continue moving the school towards the Gwobr Arian / Silver Award for Cymraeg Campus.

- We continued our weekly Welsh assemblies, with Criw Cymraeg introducing our Welsh song each week, leading our Welsh prayer alongside introducing the Welsh phrase of the fortnight and giving out the Welsh speaker of the week certificates.
- Criw Cymraeg decided to take their **Brawddeg Cymraeg yr Wythnos** / Welsh Phrase of the Week back to basics after the Christmas break with a big emphasis on **'Start every conversation in Welsh'** for the whole school. This included lots of discussion about the use of 'Wenglish' and how we can celebrate using our Welsh patterns and naturally transferring between Welsh and English where we need to with confidence. Some of the patterns this term included **'Sut wyt ti?' , 'Sut mae'r tywydd heddiw?' and 'Beth wyt ti'n hoffi?'** with a push on extending answers using **'achos'** / 'because'.
- During our Welsh assemblies, we enjoyed learning about **Hen Galan** and the **Mari Lwyd** traditions (Welsh New Year) and **Dydd Santes Dwynwen** through the medium of Welsh using videos from Mewn Cymeriad and other resources to support our learning.
- Dosbarth Melyn (Foundation class) used their learning about **Santes Dwynwen** to create Dydd Santes Dwynwen cards and to bake cookies following instructions step by step through the medium of Welsh which they enjoyed taking home to share with families.
- We enjoyed a monitoring visit from our **Welsh Governor Mrs Ann Rowlands** where Criw Cymraeg were able to practice using their Welsh vocabulary to talk to our visitor, share their work as a school towards the Arian targets and show our visitor around the school sharing work we have completed in class and showing displays whilst talking to other children in Welsh too.
- Dosbarth Glas (KS2) enjoyed another visit from Jan Meaden from the Welsh in Education Team who works closely with Ysgol Maes Garmon. Jan Meaden has been working with Dosbarth Glas by completing a few sessions per term over the last couple of years to support their Welsh language development and to give them opportunities to practice their Welsh language conversation skills. She is also able to support them with information and answering any questions about possible transition into Welsh medium secondary education via the **'Cynllun Trochi'** or 'Immersion Scheme' at Ysgol Maes Garmon which we have had previous pupils attend.
- We celebrated **Dydd Miwsig Cymru** by learning about it in our Welsh assemblies and through a morning/afternoon of activities organised by Criw Cymraeg. This

included listening to a range of Welsh language songs and songs by Welsh artists, discussing our favourites, taking class votes, enjoying a quiz and writing about what we liked and disliked using our Welsh language skills.

- We worked on revising some Welsh songs that we hadn't sung for a while in our assemblies each week including **Mae Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau** / The Welsh National Anthem and **Dwi'n Gymro Dwi'n Gymraes** / I'm Welsh ready to share them with our families at the Eisteddfod after half term. These songs prompted us to spend a few of our Welsh assemblies discussing the vocabulary in these songs and discussing what our Welsh identity meant to each of us and what we thought was important about being Welsh or living in Wales. There were some excellent ideas shared in these discussions!
  - Dosbarth Melyn shared their learning from this half term with us all by organising their own 'Wedding celebration' in Capel Y Berthen/ Berthen Chapel, Llicswm. Families and friends joined us all to learn about weddings and other celebrations within our local community, across Wales and from around the world in an informative service led by the children. They also shared songs in both English and Welsh and included a Welsh prayer as part of their ceremony. The following 'Reception' back at school included a Disco with children taking it in turns to play their favourite songs that they had made into a playlist. This included some of their favourite Welsh language songs that they had enjoyed on Dydd Miwsig Cymru.
- Teaching staff met to share good practice for Welsh guided reading within the school and to further develop our plan for Welsh guided reading as a whole school with a consistent approach to allow for better progression as the children move up through the school.
- Criw Cymraeg have also been working alongside the teachers to begin planning and preparing our Saint David's Day celebrations and our school Eisteddfod after half term.

We are looking forward to the second half of the Spring term and enjoying our Eisteddfod.

Hwyl Fawr - Criw Cymraeg

