



# Newvadion Darland

*Aspire, Apply, Achieve – Ymgeisio, Gweithredu, Cyflawni*



Issue 10: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018



Dear Parents,

Christmas week is always a special time at Darland, owing to our twin traditions of the Performing Arts evening on Wednesday 19th December and our cinema trip and final assembly on Friday 21st. We have an amazing array of talent for our show this year and should you have the opportunity to come along and support us, the evening starts at 6.30pm and costs just £2 for over two hours of entertainment.

Our Year 11 pupils have just completed their trial GCSE exams and should be complemented on the mature and sensible way they have approached this important milestone of the year. Parents will receive the results of these exams in the Progress Reviews which will be issued in time for the Year 11 parents evening on Tuesday January 15th. Following on from the success of our new on-line booking system for parents' evenings, which saw 86% attendance for Year 8 and 82% for Year 10, can I highlight the importance of the evening on January 15th in helping our Year 11s to achieve the best possible grades in the summer.

All parents and carers should have received a letter from me last week, informing you that an Estyn inspection team will be visiting the school in the week starting 14th January. I do hope you have had chance to complete the on-line questionnaire which Estyn are requesting and apologise for the initial confusion over log-ins which was caused by an administrative error at Estyn. The survey closes at the end of this week, so if you are having difficulty accessing the survey, please check our website for the letters with the relevant codes. I would also like to appeal to any parents who are available for work in the middle of the day, to join our team of Midday Supervisors. Hours of work are 7.5 hrs per week and from 1pm to 2.30pm, with lunch included. This is a very rewarding job and you will know that you will be making a difference to our pupils. Please may I remind parents / carers that the last day of term is Friday 21st December. Following our tradition of many years, we will be taking the majority of our students on a reward trip to the cinema in the morning. In the afternoon we will be holding our school carol service in the sports hall. This will be a non-uniform day. School will open again for all pupils on Monday 7th January.

**May I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.**

Darland High School, Chester Road  
Rossett, Wrexham, LL12 0DL

Website  
[www.darland.wrexham.sch.uk](http://www.darland.wrexham.sch.uk)

Visit [schoolsays.co.uk/darland](http://schoolsays.co.uk/darland) with your android or apple device and download the Darland App to stay updated.

If your child is absent from school please call the Absence Line on:

**01244 570588  
on each day of absence.**

## Key Dates:



**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
Year 11 Photographs

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December**  
Whole School Cinema Trip  
School closes for Christmas

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January**  
School Opens

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January**  
Year 11 parents Evening

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January**  
Year 7 Crucial Crew

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January**  
Year 9 Options Evening

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February**  
School closes for Half Term

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**  
Ski Trip

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**  
Yr 9 Photographs

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March**  
Eisteddfod  
French Trip

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March**  
Year 7 Big Bang Event

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**  
Red Nose Day

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March**  
Year 9 Parents Evening

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March**  
Yr9 Health and Wellbeing  
Morning

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**  
Autism Awareness Day

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**  
Yr 8 Health and Wellbeing  
Morning

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**  
School Closes for Easter



# Achievements at Darland

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## Congratulations fortnightly award recipients

### KEY STAGE 3

#### Students of the Week

Dylan Renouf – Yr 8  
Sabri Turan – Yr 7

#### Headteacher Phone Calls Home

Vicky Redman – Yr 9  
Ellie Smith – Yr 9  
Charlie Tushingham – Yr 9  
Rufus Edwards – Yr 9  
David Watkins – Yr 8  
Nicole Taylor – Yr 9

#### Positive Text Home

Kane Roberts – Yr 7  
Luke Edwards – Yr 9  
Grace Rodgers – Yr 8  
Josh Head – Yr 7  
Tyler Edwards – Yr 9  
Owen Hall – Yr 9  
Millie Holland – Yr 7  
Rico Cupit – Yr 9

Esme Hewitt – Yr 7  
Rachel Willis – Yr 8  
Benji Taylor-Edwards – Yr 8  
Sophie Di-Francesco Kampermans  
Yasmin Akbas – Yr 8  
Emily Powell – Yr 7

Ella Lloyd – Yr 10  
Toby Armstrong – Yr 10  
Jacob Kersey-Smith – Yr 11  
Olivia Spiers – Yr 11  
Emily Walls – Yr 10  
Sophie Mossom – Yr 10  
Catherine Williams – Yr 11  
Oliver Jones – Yr 10  
Keisha Wood – Yr 11  
Paris Povey – Yr 10

Tom Steven – Yr 10  
Louie Roberts – Yr 10  
Grace Ganci – Yr 11  
Charlie Evans – Yr 11  
Bethan Williams – Yr 11  
Ryan Williams – Yr 11  
Sam Choudhry – Yr 11  
Rachel McLean – Yr 10  
Louisa Hallam – Yr 10  
Jess Owen – Yr 10

#### Treat Friday

Calum felgate-Davis – Yr 9  
Alec Rigby – Yr 8  
Kate Reddy – Yr 9

Abigail Wilson – Yr 8  
Allannah Bellingham – Yr 8  
Lucy Moore – Yr 9

#### Treat Friday

Liz Wilkinson – Yr 10  
Megan Adcock – Yr 10  
Ben Purcell – Yr 10  
Meg Royce – Yr 10

## Attendance Matters

Well done to the top tutor groups in each year, for their excellent attendance over past two weeks.

7R – 96.2%  
8F – 97.0%  
9A – 94.5%



10R – 95.6%  
11E – 96.4%

**Welsh word/phrase of the fortnight**  
**Dyfalbarhad - Perseverance**

# In the headlines...

## YEAR 11 SCIENCE REVISION EVENT

On Thursday 29th November the Science Department held a revision event for year 11 students.

We invited 2018 school leavers who achieved exceptionally well in science to come and speak to our current year 11 about tips and methods they used that enabled them to be successful.

It was a really positive atmosphere and our year 11's left feeling motivated and focused, safe in the knowledge they too could achieve great things in science



## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD

### SCHOLARS PROGRAMME – LAUNCH EVENT:

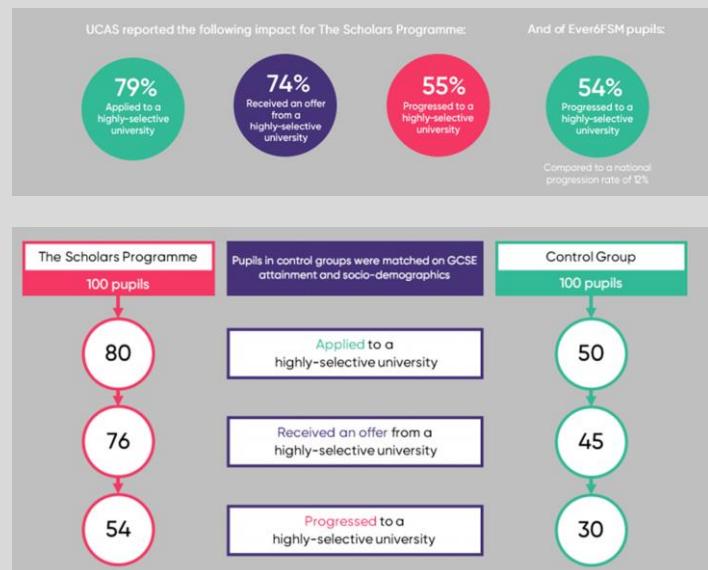
On 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 12 students identified by Darland teaching staff for having a particular interest/academic strength in the area of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) attended their Scholars Programme launch event.

Despite an arduous journey which took almost five hours on a minibus, we arrived to the incredible University College campus with spirits remaining high.

The day began with a tour of the campus. It's fair to say that the group were astounded by the sheer beauty of the buildings and grounds – it's quite obvious that the staff and students within the university are proud to be there and strive to maintain nothing but perfection.

We met our student host for the day, Rosie, who was in her second year studying engineering. Rosie guided us around the campus, taking in the grounds, student accommodation, statues (yes, statues!), the old library and the great hall. It was like being in the film set of Harry Potter.

The group then came together to be welcomed by the programme leader, Dr Claire Harrill, who is herself a professor at the university. Dr Harrill explained the format of the course and told how The Scholars Programme is designed to widen participation to the UK's most selective universities; to date the university-style programme has had positive impact on those who complete it. According to an independent impact evaluation carried out by UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service), the impact was significant:



The day was busy but purposeful; after the programme introduction, students received information, advice and guidance for future courses and careers prospects, study skills (note taking and revision) and an introduction to their assignment 'Cosmic Giants' – a study into the formation and death of galaxies in our universe.

Upon successful completion of their university-style research project, students will be invited to attend a graduation ceremony in February 2019 at the University of Liverpool; watch this space!



# In the headlines...

## SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD

Show Racism the Red Card is an anti-racism education charity, which has been working with young people and adults across Wales since 2006.

On 29th November the newest member of the team, Eryl Jones, visited Darland High School to carry out workshops with our Year 7 students.

Throughout the day students engaged in conversation about racism and focused on the topic of immigration. They learned to understand the injustice and the senselessness of racism and gained a full understanding of its damaging effect. They were also able to evaluate language and the power words can have.

The workshops involved activities to challenge stereotypes and encourage discussion around some famous figures and their journey to the UK, such as Rita Ora and Mo Farah.

An enjoyable day was had by all of our students. With thanks to The Red card for their help and support throughout the day. ([www.theredcard.org](http://www.theredcard.org))



## TECHNIQUEST CELL DOME

On Thursday the 6th of December, the Science Department were lucky enough to have Techniquest Glyndwr visit with their Cell Dome. This offered our Year 10 pupils with a very unique and interactive learning experience.

Year 10 had the opportunity to enter the dome and engaged really well with a virtual tour through a plant and animal cell, seeing different organelles in action as well as discussing some specialised cells. All of this will help Year 10 to prepare for their Biology GCSE exam in the summer.

## WREXHAM FOOTBALL IN THE COMMUNITY

Gemma Owen, Joint Business Development Manager and Head of Female Football at The Racecourse Community Foundation, attended Darland recently along with numerous first-team players to be part of our school assemblies.

We contacted Commercial Manager, Mr Geoff Scott and asked if they could raise awareness and get a powerful message across that no-one despite their differences or difficulties should be treated any differently, everyone is equal. Each and every child that attends school all have the right to an excellent education, and children need to feel happy and content during their time at school.

The week was a huge success and we have had some fantastic feedback from The Racecourse Community Foundation. The players who attended were fantastic and made a very good job of helping us make an impact on such an important issue.

Another great example of good work in the community.



## Did you know?

**Tigers have striped skin,  
not just striped fur**

## Thunk of the Fortnight

**Is it better to play well and lose,  
or play badly and win!**



# Darland High School

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## E-Safety Advice

### Gaming - What parents and Carers need to know

#### Chatting within gaming

Gaming is a type of social network. Many games have a chat function enabling users to interact with one another. Dependent on the privacy settings chosen, gamers can be contacted by people they may or may not know, or play against 'bots'. A bot is a character or player that is controlled by a computer, created by external sources, to send messages to gamers. Often, these messages contain links to external websites which are inappropriate for children and young people; showing violent or sexual content. Bots can sometimes be hard to spot as their messages can seem very realistic. If your child receives a message from an unknown user, ask them to not respond or click on any links contained within the message. Report these users directly to the site.

#### Gaming can offer offenders a platform to communicate with children:

This communication can present as a risk to young people as gaming platforms can be used by adults seeking to harm young people. Playing games can be exciting and consuming and sometimes this can mean that children can become a little less guarded when considering who they talk to and what they share. It may also be seen as 'normal' to talk to adults in a game – especially if children can learn from them – than it would be to talk to an adult on another social media platform. Some offenders seek to exploit this and encourage children to chat with the aim of building a relationship with them. Offenders may also try to encourage a child to move from a game to a private messenger platform to have one-to-one conversations with them. These platforms help offenders to build a relationship with a young person quickly, and are often harder to moderate than group chat within games.

The precise functionality of each game varies however there are some ways to support children to stay safe if they chat whilst gaming:

\* Have ongoing conversations with your child about who they are talking to online. Questions about whether they know them in real life and what they share are vital to support your child to be safer in gaming.

\* Take time to explore games with your children. Ask them to show you what they like about the game and take an interest. Speak with them about making their profile private if possible and talk with them about information that is safe to share e.g. nicknames as opposed to full names. Be aware of the chat platforms your child is using. Ask your child about what they would do if someone within a game asked to talk to them in private, whether that's on another platform or within the game. Help your child to identify this warning sign and explain what they can do can help them to keep safe.



- \* All young people need support to make safe decisions online. It is recommended that primary aged children remain under adult supervision whilst gaming, for example ensuring an adult is within earshot of VoIP conversations and able to see any chat taking place.

#### Offenders can give 'gifts' via gaming platforms:

Some games and apps allow users to make purchases. Gamers can buy tools that can be used in the game to give them an advantage such as weapons, coins or cheats. Many children do not have access to money to make purchases in games, so it can be tempting to accept 'in game currency' to help them progress. Offenders use gifts in gaming to encourage children to trust them. They may offer gifts asking for nothing in return, this can be part of the grooming process and can help to build a close relationship with a young person. Others may try to use gifts as 'leverage' to persuade young people to do something such as moving to a different online platform, going on webcam or taking a photo of themselves.

#### Talking to your child about gifts within gaming:

\* Speak with your child about bribery and 'too-good to be true' offers. Encourage them to question anything they are offered online from someone they do not know offline, and remind them that it's always better to check in with a parent or carer if they are unsure what to do if offered a reward or gift.

\* Speak to your child about 'warning signs'. Talk to your child about the feelings they might get when something doesn't feel right, or be specific with examples.

\* Young people can sometimes feel complicit in abuse if they have chatted with someone they feel they shouldn't have or accepted a gift and something has gone wrong.

##### Top tips for gaming:

- Explore parental controls on games consoles. Most games consoles enable parents to apply settings that can help to manage a child's online activities. For more information on enabling parental controls visit [Internet Matters](#).
- Familiarise yourself with the blocking and reporting functions on the games your child plays, and ensure they know how to use these. It's helpful to sit with your child and go through this together.
- Continue to have conversations with your child about gaming and their online activity. Reassure your child that they can always talk to you about anything that makes them feel uncomfortable- whether it's the game content or something they've heard when chatting with other users.
- Learn more about gaming and the [PEGI age ratings](#).
- Bullying is never okay. If your child is experiencing name calling or harassment while gaming, visit [Childline](#) for helpful advice on getting help and support.

Source: Thinkuknow.co.uk

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

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<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

# Careers in Focus...

Spotlight on

## STEM

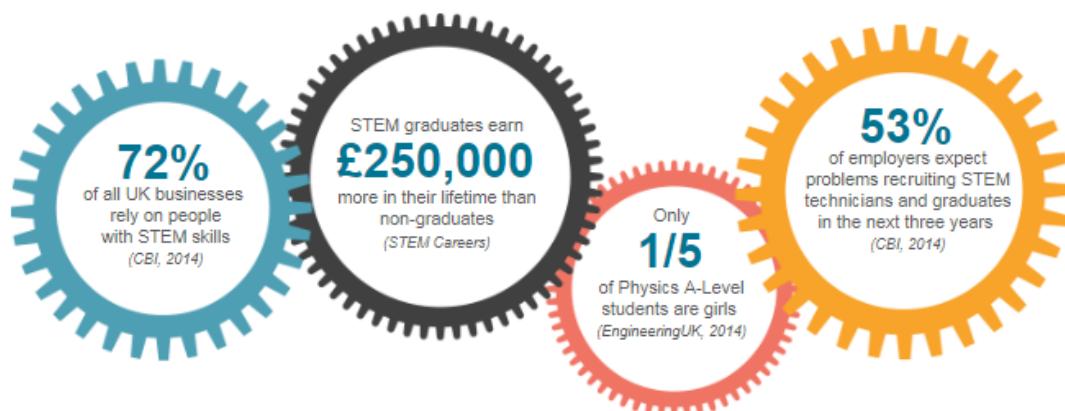
Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.

### ***More opportunities and better prospects***

Can you see yourself designing a wind turbine or building the next Airbus; developing new drugs or a high performance textile; or maybe, filming the next Doctor Who?

There are lots of exciting job opportunities for people with STEM skills (that's Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and not just at degree level.

People with STEM skills enjoy better career prospects and can earn more!



### ***STEM skills in high demand***

Wales needs skilled technicians as well as STEM graduates. It's not only STEM employers that want STEM skills. All employers look for the skills that studying a STEM subject can give you; skills like problem solving and numeracy.



Wales needs more..

Geneticists, Therapists, Chemists,

Engineers, **Nurses**, Skilled Technicians,

Textile Technologists, Marine Biologists, Doctors,

Accountants, **Skilled Construction Trades**,

Designers, STEM Teachers, Environmental Scientists,

Computer programmers.

# Why study a STEM subject or course?



1 in 5 new jobs in the UK by 2022, will be STEM jobs.

By 2022 Wales needs..



Source:

<http://www.careerswales.com/en/spotlight-on-stem/> (Date Accessed 12-2018)

# Sport headlines...

The PE department had a very successful day yesterday with both the North East Wales Urdd Gymnastics competition and the girls Football.

Results as follows -



## Gymnastics

**KS4 Pair** - Jess Owen and Meg Royce - 1st

**KS4 Trio** - Jess Owen, Meg Royce, Frankie Thomas - 1st

**KS4 Solo** - Frankie Thomas - 2nd

**KS3 Group** - (Izzy Jones, Katie Norgrove, Esme Hewitt, Bethan McCarthy (Year 7's), Eve Wilde (Year 8), Grace Halford and Bonnie Silman Monks (Year9) - 3rd

**KS3 trio** - Izzy Jones, Katie Norgrove and Eve Wilde - 3rd.

**KS3 trio** - Bella Jones, Abbie Thompson and Danielle Edwards - 4th.

16 girls competed altogether with 11 routines between them, they were amazing throughout and extremely committed; training 2-3 times a week including the last couple of Sundays.



## Football

Mixed year 7 & 8 girls football team beat Rhosnesni 12-3 away. (Team - Lily Whitefoot, Emily Loudon, Lola Prince, Emily Powell, Rebecca Bellingham, Emily Collins and Lowri Holdsworth)



## Rugby

Year 7&8 rugby team finished 2nd in the Wrexham 10 a side tournament. Well done to all of the boys who took part.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### House of Secrets by Chris Columbus and Ned Vizzini

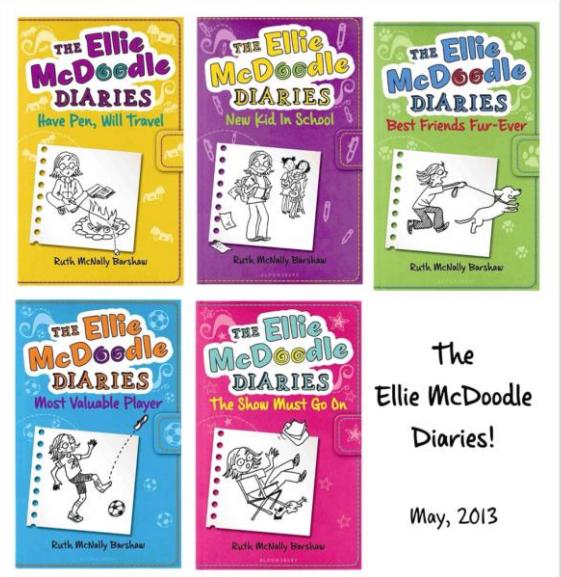
I really enjoyed this book and it is one of those books where you enjoy it so much, you want to read it again and again. The book had the power to engulf me into the story. There was always action around the corner and it never spent too much time on one scene or dialogue. The cliffhangers always encourage you to read on and find out more. Even J.K. Rowling (the author of Harry Potter) says: 'A breakneck, jam-packed, roller coaster of an adventure.' Chris Columbus has certainly written an awesome book and I give it 10/10 rating. I recommend this book to those who enjoy fantasy and action books. One of the best I have ever read.



Evan M Smith – 8F

### The Ellie McDoodle Diaries By Ruth McNally Barshaw

This book is about a girl called Ellie who looks after Mrs. Morrow's bird Alix. One day Alix and Ben-Ben were playing in Mrs Morrow's house and they made a mess in the living room. Ben-Ben ran outside and Alix followed but Ellie couldn't close the door soon enough so Alix flew out. If you want to find out what happened to Alix read the book. I recommend this book to all ages, a great comedy read.



The  
Ellie McDoodle  
Diaries!

May, 2013

By Ffion Hughes – 8F

# Darland High School

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## Do you qualify for free school meals?

If you receive the following you do not have to pay for your children's school lunches:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The 'Guarantee' element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190

Parents that receive working tax credit are **not** entitled to claim free school meals for their children.

A child over the age of 16 in receipt of any of these qualifying benefits in their own right is also eligible to receive free school meals.

### Do you have any questions?

Speak to **Mrs Elaine Hughes** (Reception) at school 01244 570588, or contact Wrexham Support Services on 01978 297413.

Download a free school meal form:

[http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/assets/pdfs/education/free\\_schoolmeals.pdf](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/assets/pdfs/education/free_schoolmeals.pdf)

Free School Meal forms are also available from your schools reception

Further information can be found at:

[http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/english/education/school\\_meals/free\\_school\\_meals.htm](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk/english/education/school_meals/free_school_meals.htm)

### Anonymous Pupils –

*Did you know that in Wrexham schools, pupils pay for school dinner anonymously – no money is ever exchanged at lunch time regardless of how they pay. This means that Free School Meal pupils cannot be distinguished from paying pupils, reducing any stigma that may be attached to receiving Free School Meals.*

