



Issue 5

# The Griffin

Ysgol Uwchradd Darland - Darland High School



December 2024

## *A message from the Headteacher*

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy and productive term, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. It has been a privilege to witness the incredible achievements and efforts of our students this half-term, and I am so proud of all they have accomplished.

Our students have embraced a wide range of exciting opportunities, representing the school in sporting events and participating in moving Remembrance ceremonies. Year 11 students have shown real determination and focus as they have prepared and taken part in their mock exams, while our GCSE students have shown entrepreneurial flair and teamwork as they prepare for the Skills Christmas Fair. Across all year groups, creativity and enthusiasm have been on display through Science and Humanities projects, innovative work in Technology and Languages, and participation in Maths challenges. In the final week of term, many students from across the year groups, participated in our Christmas Concert of Music and Drama, sharing a real sense of teamwork and pride in performance.

I am also delighted to introduce this edition of The Griffin, our half-termly publication filled with articles, stories, and highlights showcasing the incredible talents and efforts of our students. I encourage you to explore it and celebrate their successes with us.

Looking ahead, the New Year promises even more exciting developments. Following a successful planning application, we are thrilled to welcome Wrexham AFC Academy to our site. This powerful partnership will provide our students with unique opportunities, and we are eager to see how this collaboration grows and benefits our school community.

We send our thanks, and warmest wishes to Janice Barnes our Business Manager, we look forward to hearing about her continued adventures as she explores the wonderful world of retirement.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a relaxing and joyful Christmas break, and a very Happy New Year. Thank you for everything you do to support our school it makes such a difference.

Kind regards,

**Joanne Lee**  
**Headteacher**





## *Humanities Department - Geography*

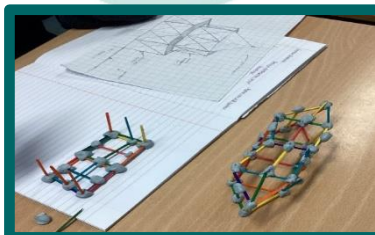
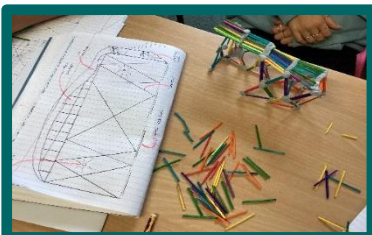
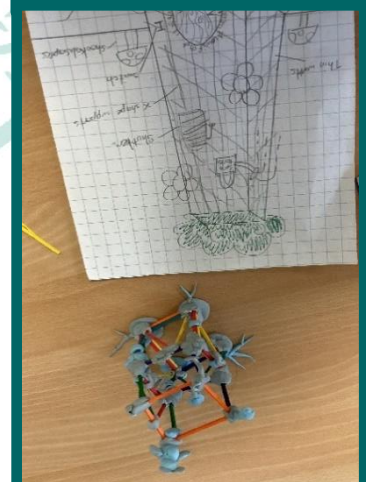
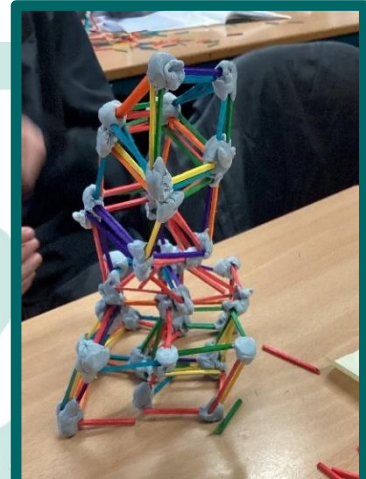
### **Shaking Up Geography:**

#### **Year 9 Students Build Earthquake-Proof Structures**

Darland High School's Humanities team is transforming geography lessons with hands-on learning. Year 9 students recently explored the intersection of geography and engineering by designing earthquake-resistant buildings, blending creativity with practical problem-solving.

The project began with lessons on tectonic activity and the impacts of earthquakes. Students then researched global solutions, from Japan's skyscrapers with shock absorbers to Nepal's effective homes made with local materials. These case studies revealed how cultural, economic, and environmental factors shape architectural choices.

Next, students applied their knowledge to build and test their own models using sticks and clay. Teams tested their designs on "shake tables," simulating earthquake conditions. The trial-and-error process taught them key engineering concepts like weight distribution and flexibility while igniting their excitement for STEM careers.

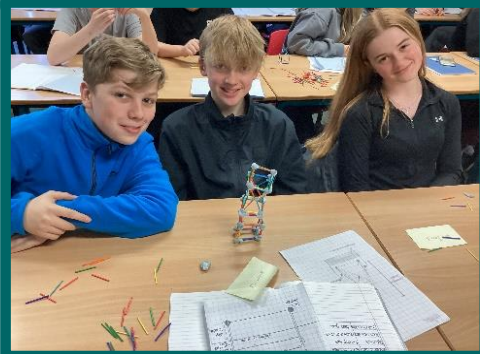
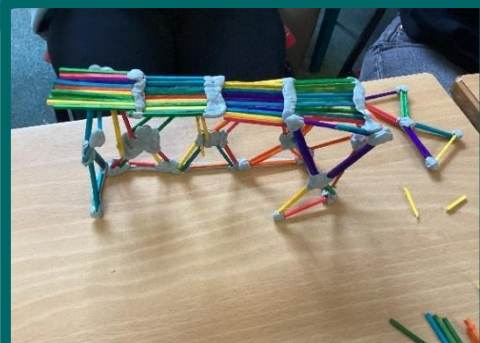
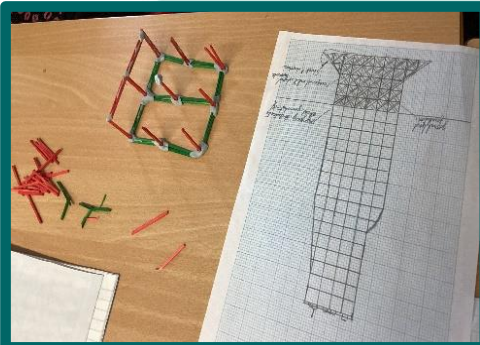




## Humanities Department - Geography

### Shaking Up Geography:

### Year 9 Students Build Earthquake-Proof Structures



“It’s amazing to see the creativity and thought students put into their models,” said Mrs. Leah Garratt, Head of Humanities. “This project might be the start of future careers in engineering or architecture.”

The Humanities team’s innovative approach is preparing students for more than just exams - it’s equipping them with the curiosity, critical thinking skills, and problem-solving abilities they’ll need to tackle global challenges. As these Year 9 students discovered, the principles of geography aren’t just about understanding the earth; they’re about designing a safer and smarter future.

Through projects like this, Darland High School is proving that learning can be interactive, imaginative, and deeply impactful. Who knows? Among these young model builders might be the next generation of engineers and architects, ready to design solutions for the challenges of tomorrow.



## *Humanities Department - Geography*

### **Year 7 and 8 Shine in Creative Geography Competition**

This term, the Geography Department celebrated the creativity and skill of our Year 7 and 8 students in a thrilling competition that turned the school into a hub of artistic and educational innovation. The competition showcased the students' talents in a variety of mediums, bringing the subject of Geography to life in imaginative ways while developing important cross-curricular skills.

Year 8 students amazed everyone with their ecosystem dioramas, crafted using an eclectic mix of materials, including clay, shoeboxes, LEGO, cake, and even digital designs created in Minecraft. These vibrant and imaginative creations demonstrated a deep understanding of ecological concepts alongside art and design skills, ICT proficiency, and even culinary creativity. Each diorama depicted a unique ecosystem, from lush rainforests to coral reefs, with attention to detail that captured the intricate relationships within the natural world.

Meanwhile, Year 7 students showcased their mapping and mathematical skills by constructing detailed contour models. These impressive 3D representations of topography illustrated the students' grasp of geography and spatial awareness, as well as their ability to work with precision and critical thinking.





## *Humanities Department - Geography*

### **Year 7 and 8 Shine in Creative Geography Competition**

The winning entries from both year groups were proudly displayed in the school foyer, where they were admired by students, staff, and visitors alike. During assembly, prizes were awarded to the most outstanding models. Judges commended the winners for their creativity, technical skill, and effort, but it was clear that all participants deserved recognition for their dedication.

The competition also supported the school's commitment to fostering 'Creative, Enterprising Contributors,' one of the four purposes of the Curriculum for Wales. By integrating art, technology, problem-solving, and geographical knowledge, students were encouraged to approach challenges in innovative ways, developing skills that will benefit them across all areas of learning and future careers.

Geography teachers couldn't be more proud of the effort students put into their creations. "The level of imagination and hard work that went into these projects is remarkable," said Mrs Garratt, Head of Humanities. "It's wonderful to see students engaging with Geography in such a hands-on way and building skills that extend far beyond the classroom."

Congratulations to everyone who took part in the competition! The exceptional work displayed serves as a reminder of the power of creativity in education and the amazing potential of our students to become skilled, imaginative, and resourceful contributors to the world.





## Humanities Department - Geography

### Year 7 Students Take Action to Improve School Environment

This term, Year 7 students ventured out around the school grounds to complete an environmental survey as part of their Geography lessons. Equipped with clipboards and a keen eye, they assessed various areas to identify strengths and weaknesses in environmental quality. This hands-on activity not only encouraged responsibility for their surroundings but also supported key learning experiences in the Curriculum for Wales.

Students evaluated factors like litter, biodiversity, noise, and cleanliness. Back in the classroom, they processed the data, creating bar and radar graphs to visualize their findings. These graphs highlighted areas most in need of improvement.

Next, they analysed the results and developed practical solutions to improve the school's environment, such as increasing recycling bins and creating biodiversity-friendly zones. To present their ideas, students wrote formal letters to Mrs. Lee, the Headteacher outlining their findings and suggestions.

This project brought the Curriculum for Wales to life by combining Geography, Mathematics, Science, and English. Students enhanced critical thinking, numeracy, and literacy skills while also developing teamwork and problem-solving abilities.

Mrs Garratt, Head of Humanities, said: *"This activity is a fantastic example of how learning can extend beyond the classroom. The students gained valuable skills and showed great enthusiasm for improving their environment."*

Year 7's efforts have already sparked discussions about implementing their ideas, showing the power of student involvement in shaping their surroundings.





## *Humanities Department - History*

### **Upcoming Trip to Munich**

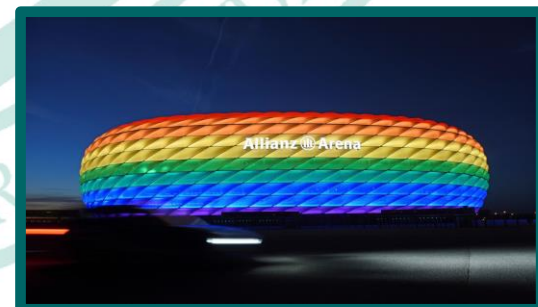
'Excitement is mounting in the History department as planning is well underway for the awesome Humanities trip this year, which will see 35 pupils make an epic journey to the city where Nazism began.



In July 2025, Key Stage 4 Historians will be bringing their learning to life as they embark on what promises to be a fantastic trip to the Bavarian capital, Munich. We will walk the streets that Hitler walked, visit key sites in the story of the Nazis, and soak in the atmosphere of one of Germany's great cities. The trip will include visits to Hitler's Eagle's Nest, Berchtesgaden, Dachau Concentration Camp, and Bayern Munich's Allianz Stadium.



It promises to be an epic adventure.  
Wir lieben Geschichte!





## *Additional Learning Needs Department*

On Saturday 26th October, ALP TA, Lydia Ellis-Roberts attended Carden Park to volunteer as a make-up artist in aid of Nightingale House Hospice. Lydia volunteered to do this, as her mum's friend sadly passed away at Nightingale House Hospice. Lydia wanted to be able to give something back to a wonderful place. This is a message from her parents:

"In June we lost a very dear friend to cancer, thankfully her last few days were spent in Nightingale House, who were amazing. Lydia's dad and I are so proud of our daughter for giving some of her weekend time to help out at a Nightingale House fundraising event, doing something she loves!!! Even though we had to have the heating on full blast to dry all her make-up brushes!"

Well Done Lydia!







## The Griffin

Term 1b



### *Languages Department - Welsh*

The Welsh Club at Darland High School has been a hit with Year 7 students this term! Every Monday, students gather in Room 9 to explore the Welsh language through fun games, puzzles, and activities. It's a great way to learn more about Welsh culture, develop language skills, and meet new friends.

Whether you're a complete beginner or already have some knowledge of Welsh, the club is open to everyone - there's something for everyone to enjoy! Students have been taking part in exciting challenges, from word searches to language quizzes, making learning both fun and interactive. The club offers a relaxed and friendly environment for those interested in discovering the beauty of Welsh language and heritage.

New members are always welcome, so if you're interested in joining the fun, simply come along on Monday lunchtime in Room 9! Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to immerse yourself in Welsh!



### *Student Success*

Congratulations to Year 11 student Brianna M. Andone, who has successfully gained a scholarship at the King's School Chester, Sixth Form.

Brianna's mother Sanda, a TA within our ALP Department has said "Brianna has been a hard-working student throughout her time at Darland, and with the guidance and support of her amazing teachers, she has achieved exceptional results to date, and this has contributed to her success in gaining a place at King's. She will need to continue her hard work of course, to achieve the best GCSE results but with determination and support from Darland staff, she and many more students, can reach whatever goal they wish to achieve."

Very well-done Brianna, an excellent achievement and we wish you all the very best in your next chapter.



## *Design and Technology Department: Inspiring Creativity and Excellence*

At Darland High School, the Technology faculty, under the guidance of Mrs. Tracey Crompton, plays a vital role in fostering creativity and self-expression among students. Year after year, this dedicated team delivers remarkable results in art, textiles, and design technology, helping to shape not only the skills but also the confidence and character of our pupils. Their commitment to engaging, hands-on learning and the creation of visually captivating themed displays at the school entrance brings warmth and inspiration to everyone who enters, setting a vibrant tone for our learning environment.

The faculty's themed displays are more than just decoration; they are a testament to the creative journey our students undertake. Each term, the displays showcase unique artwork and projects crafted by the students, often reflecting topical themes or exploring innovative techniques in design. Recently, themes like Halloween, Easter, and Remembrance have given students opportunities to express themselves in ways that connect with broader cultural and historical ideas.





## *Design and Technology Department*

For Halloween, students used bold colours and textures to create scenes full of character and whimsy, bringing an autumnal atmosphere to the school's entrance. The Easter theme, bright and hopeful, allowed students to experiment with vibrant pastels, nature-inspired motifs, and symbols of renewal. Meanwhile, Remembrance brought a poignant and respectful tone to the space, with students crafting poppies and thoughtful tributes that honoured those who served, helping younger students connect to this important day in a deeply personal way. Mrs Crompton commented "Art and design aren't just subjects - they're opportunities for students to discover their own voices and explore the world around them. Every display in our school is a testament to the talent and dedication of our students."

The impact of these displays is evident as students walk past their own work and that of their peers, sparking inspiration and pride that reinforces their commitment to these subjects. This hands-on, immersive approach offers students the chance to connect with their projects on a deeper level, making learning both relevant and memorable. Through themes like Halloween, Easter, and Remembrance, the Technology faculty shows how art can be both reflective and celebratory, helping students to feel part of larger traditions and community values.

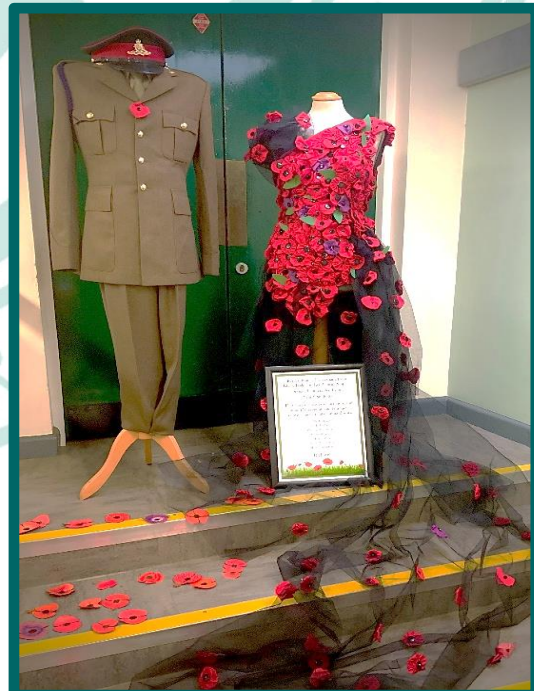




## *Design and Technology Department*

Sara Mann, teacher of textiles knows the importance of students have a say in their own learning - "It's amazing to see the pride students feel when they see their work on display. Projects like these teach them that creativity is more than a skill-it's a way to connect with others and express themselves." The work of Mrs. Crompton and her team exemplifies the value of creative arts in education. A broad curriculum that includes arts and technology subjects is crucial for developing well-rounded individuals. Through art and design, students learn to approach problems with a creative mindset, embracing experimentation and perseverance as they work toward original solutions. These skills are valuable far beyond the classroom, nurturing a generation that is both inventive and adaptable - a key attribute in today's rapidly changing world. Seb Jones, second in faculty is passionate about design - "The Technology faculty has an incredible way of helping students turn their ideas into reality. Each display at our entrance speaks to the hard work, inspiration, and passion that defines our school."

Studies have shown that engagement with the creative arts enhances academic performance across the board, improving focus, boosting cognitive abilities, and increasing motivation. More than that, It cultivates resilience and empathy, as students learn to view challenges from multiple perspectives and to appreciate the diverse talents of others.





## *Design and Technology Department*

Within the vibrant, supportive environment of Darland High School's Technology faculty, students gain the tools to navigate the complexities of modern life and the confidence to make their voices heard. Teacher of Photography, Sarah Cluff- "Our goal is to provide students with a space where their ideas can flourish, and their creativity can take shape. Watching them grow in confidence and skill with every project is incredibly rewarding."

The impact of subjects like art, textiles, and design technology extends well beyond the school setting. In society, these disciplines drive innovation, shape culture, and improve quality of life. Textiles and fashion design, for instance, influence social trends and empower individuals to express their identities. Design technology is the backbone of many industries, from product design and architecture to engineering and digital media. By fostering an early appreciation for these fields, the Technology faculty is preparing students not only for future careers but also for a lifetime of creative engagement.



The advantages of incorporating the creative arts into the curriculum are numerous. These subjects encourage students to explore different materials and techniques, learn from mistakes, and experiment without fear of failure. In doing so, students build resilience, develop fine motor skills, and experience the satisfaction of seeing a project evolve from an idea to a tangible creation. In the Technology faculty, students are encouraged to take ownership of their work, making each project a personal and meaningful experience.



## *Design and Technology Department*

In addition, Mrs. Crompton and her team understand the importance of adapting their teaching to suit the needs and interests of their students. By creating a supportive and flexible learning environment, they allow each student's creativity to flourish, encouraging them to push boundaries and think beyond traditional ideas. Through their efforts, students develop a growth mindset, learning to view challenges as opportunities for growth and innovation. Mrs Crompton added "The Technology faculty believes in playing a vital role in fostering a welcoming environment at Darland High. Our displays bring the school to life and inspire every student who walks through our doors".

Darland High School is incredibly fortunate to have such an inspiring Technology faculty. Mrs. Crompton and her team have created a space where students can explore, imagine, and excel in the creative arts. Their work is more than a testament to their dedication; it is a celebration of the potential within each student, a commitment to fostering a creative spirit that will serve them throughout their lives. The impact of the Technology faculty's work will be felt for years to come as these young minds bring their unique perspectives and talents to the world beyond the school gates.





## The Griffin

Term 1b

### *Music and Performing Arts Department*

We are celebrating the fantastic efforts and creative performances from the whole of Year 7 singing, Elin Pain and Eve Maguire in Year 8 and the Drama Club performing *The Grinch* in the Christmas concert; Darland's Dazzling December Show! It was the first show with Mrs Hughes, who is extremely proud of all the pupils involved. Well done everyone!

In January, the whole of Year 7 and some selected Year 9 pupils will be treated to a drama workshop day with visiting practitioners Box House Theatre.

The theatre company specialise in a new style called Platform Theatre, which is a minimalistic style using mime and vocalisation.



<https://www.boxhouse.uk/>

In the new term, as well as Singer's Club on Tuesday lunch times, Band Club on Thursday lunch times and Drama Club on Wednesday 3:15-4:15pm, Mrs Hughes will also be introducing a new club; **Acting for Screen Club** on Tuesdays 3:15-4:15pm. This will be for people who wish to explore film and television style acting and filming. We will be following the MN Academy's grading as Mrs Hughes is specially trained to teach this course. Those who wish to, can sit the grading exams and gain certificates in Acting for Screen. Grades 6-8 also carry UCAS points, helping for entry into college or university in the future! This club is open to all pupils, Year 7 to Year 11.



*Courage, Honesty, Resilience, Respect, Kindness*

*Dewrder, Gonestrwydd, Dyfalbarhad, Parch, Caredigwydd*



## *Science Department*

On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, five students from Years 8 and 9 attended the Unilever Inspire Showcase Day at Prenton Park to learn about the challenge set by Unilever for this year's Bright Future Inspire Competition.

This annual competition by Unilever and All About STEM involves teams of 5 students creating a product for Personal & Beauty Care or a Home & Hygiene product with social and environmental purpose, which also showcase at least one of Unilever's Sustainable Living Goals in the design of their product (Nature, Climate, Livelihoods or Plastics).

This was an amazing day, with students learning about research and development, importance of consumer opinion, processing and manufacturing, packaging, formulation and total product design. They had the opportunity to find out about global markets for products and how they differ, how AI can help create marketing images and the detail that goes into making everyday products like shampoo and washing detergents!

This year we will have Year 8 and Year 9 teams preparing their products in STEM Club, and one team will be chosen to represent Darland High School at the Unilever/All About STEM showcase in March 2025, presenting their product to the Unilever and All About STEM teams.

There are prizes in several categories such as innovation, communication, digital and sustainability, and the overall competition winners across all entrants will be invited to see their product made at Unilever, Port Sunlight.

We look forward to sharing their ideas with you in the new year.





## *Unilever | All about STEM Inspire Showcase Day*





## Science Department - IET Faraday Challenge

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 36 very excited Year 8 students participated in an IET Faraday Challenge Day at Darland High School, hosted by See Science representative, Katy Johnson. Students participated in a Design Challenge, learning how to use circuits to develop a prototype to specific criteria - using a battery, for a person with a specific need, an educational toy for younger children or someone taking part in a sport, and that used at least one other electrical component.

Students worked on their designs, recording their progress in their logs (just as important for the judges as their finished prototype!), and using their Faraday currency to budget and finance their build. The day was as much about team work and finance as design and engineering.



**Team 1**



**Team 2**



**Team 3**



## Science Department - IET Faraday Challenge



**Team 4**



**Team 5**



**Team 6**

After planning and designing their prototype they presented their concept to the judges and their peers. **Team 2** were pronounced the winners on the day and presented with a trophy. A fantastic effort from all teams, with excellent oracy skills shown in their presentations and their Q&A for their peers - some teams asked excellent questions of the other teams and they all thoroughly deserved their Industrial Cadets Challenger Awards!



It was a pleasure to spend the day with our students and see their potential, and they were very highly praised by both STEM Ambassadors (Phill George and Penny Lancaster) and See Science Host, Katy Johnson.

**Dr Debbie Moore.**



## *P. E. Department*

### **Sporting Achievements**

#### **Football -**

Years 7 -10 boys and girls teams have all been involved in the Welsh Cup football fixtures during the autumn term with varying results. However, a highlight sees the year 8 boys football team reach the fourth round this week, as they face Bryn Hyfryd, Ruthin. They were up against Prestatyn High in the 3rd Round of the Welsh Cup on the seaside school's home pitch. Having already overcome tough challenges from Rhosnesni and Elfed in earlier rounds, Prestatyn would be the toughest test to date. Things looked even tougher after 30 minutes when they were 2-0 down. However, the boys showed excellent composure and resilience, managing to dig out an outstanding second half performance. A Hatrick from Harry Davies and further goals from Jacob Mountain and Finn Jones secured Darland a place in the 4th Round. Prestatyn 3 v 5 Darland. We wish all of them luck in their upcoming match.

#### **Netball -**

We have had many county fixtures this term against Rhosnesni, Morgan Llwyd and the Maelor School, Penley, with more scheduled in the new year. The year 11 Netball team took part in their final tournament on behalf of Darland in the County Competition back in November, the team were outstanding, winning all of their matches bar one, narrowly missing out on first place due to goal difference. We are thoroughly impressed with how much the team have improved since they started in year 7 and hope they continue to play Netball once they leave.

#### **Rugby –**

Both year 8 boys and girls have been accessing coaching sessions through Wrexham rugby club during lesson time this term, with the girls moving from touch Rugby to contact Rugby. All pupils have got stuck in and were even entered into the Wrexham and Flintshire County Competition at the start of December with the girls who some had never played Rugby before placing third overall, well done to all students involved.



## *P.E. Department*

### **Cross Country –**

In November, 40 of Darland's students went to Ruabon High School for the annual cross-country event. We had some outstanding performances with 10 of our runners qualifying in the top 10; progressing to the North East Wales Championships as part of the Wrexham team at Myddleton College. Those pupils were Haydn Hughes, Freya Tansley, Ava Williams, Dexter O'Hagan, Issac Jones, Jack Gee, Zac Campbell, Bryony Jones, Ethan Cooke. A special mention must be given to the final four pupils named who finished in the top three of their race with Zac winning his race, a fantastic achievement!

### **Athletics -**

Back in September, we saw our Year 9 and Year 11 pupils take part in the annual Wrexham Athletics Championships, there was fierce competition on the day, however, Darland came away with a number of victories, with the following pupils winning their events – Ava Williams, Aidan Roberts, Elsa Williams and Tyler Cooper. The four of them will represent the county team in the next round which will be held in May, huge congratulations to them.

### **Leadership in PE**

#### **Chester Marathon**

At the start of October, a number of our year 9 and GCSE students gave up their time early on a Sunday morning to help out with the drinks station for the Chester marathon. As well as issuing water where it was needed, they supported and encouraged the runners to keep on going! The pupils efforts and motivation on the day was superb and we could not have done it without them.



## *P.E. Department*

### **Open Evening**

A number of our pupils linked to our leadership roles (Sports Captain, Bronze Ambassadors and Sports Leaders) did a fantastic job during the open evening of leading sporting displays, competitions and tests in the sports hall, with a number of parents stating how impressed they were with the conduct and enthusiasm they displayed in helping prospective youngsters in the various activities on offer. A special mention should go to our Gymnasts and Dancers who blew everyone away with their skills and performances.

### **Bronze Ambassadors**

Year 9s had the opportunity to apply for a place to train as Bronze Ambassadors, an accreditation overseen by Active Wrexham. We had an overwhelming response to the role, which made the selection process very difficult, however, the following blew us away with the standard of their application and were successful in gaining a place on the course, Olivia Holland, Jemima Edwards, Freya Tansley, OT, Macie Dickens, Nicole Choong, Elsa Williams, Imogen Carman, Elsie McDermott, Liv Althof, Harry Parker, Jamie Dixon and Rhys O'Malley. The group of students have already been involved in their first primary festival, coaching and refereeing at St Peter's Primary School, receiving the highest of praises from the organisers.



## *Year 8 Trip to Glan Llyn*

Sixty excited Year 8 students recently embarked on an unforgettable two-night adventure to Glan Llyn in Bala. The trip was packed with outdoor activities, challenges, and opportunities to build confidence, strengthen friendships, and immerse themselves in the Welsh language. The students returned with stories of courage, teamwork, and plenty of laughter.

Set against the stunning backdrop of Bala Lake (Llyn Tegyd), Glan Llyn provided the perfect environment for our students to push themselves out of their comfort zones and try something new. Over the course of the stay, they took part in activities such as raft building, canoeing, high ropes, archery, and rock climbing. These activities not only tested their physical skills but also encouraged problem-solving, communication, and resilience.

“I loved the high ropes,” shared Alys, one of the students. “I was really nervous at first, but my friends cheered me on, and I felt so proud when I finished it!” Many students echoed Alys’ sentiments, highlighting how the activities helped them overcome personal challenges and support each other.

Raft building was a firm favourite among the group, with plenty of laughter as teams worked together to design and construct their own rafts. Some rafts stayed afloat, while others provided an entertaining plunge into the chilly waters of Llyn Tegyd! “We definitely learned the importance of teamwork during raft building,” said Freddie. “Even though our raft didn’t last long, we had so much fun working together and trying to keep it steady.”



# The Griffin

Term 1b



## *Year 8 Trip to Glan Llyn*

In addition to the physical activities, one of the key aims of the trip was to encourage students to use the Welsh language as much as possible. The immersive environment of Glan Llyn allowed students to practise speaking Welsh in a natural and enjoyable setting. From giving instruction during team challenges to asking for food in the canteen, students embraced the opportunity to improve their language skills.

“It was fantastic to hear so many of our students using Welsh confidently throughout the trip,” said Mrs Evans, one of the accompanying staff members. “Trips like this really bring the language to life and show students how useful and enjoyable it can be.”

The evenings were just as memorable as the daytime activities. Students gathered for games, treasure hunts, and even a bird show!

Ms. Jones, who also accompanied the trip, said, “This experience has been invaluable for our students. It’s wonderful to see them trying new things, encouraging each other, and making memories that will last a lifetime.”

The Glan Llyn trip was undoubtedly a highlight of the year for Year 8. It not only allowed students to explore the outdoors and develop their Welsh language skills but also gave them the chance to grow as individuals and as a team. As one student summed up perfectly, “It was the best trip ever – I’ll never forget it!”



*Courage, Honesty, Resilience, Respect, Kindness*

*Dewrder, Gonestrwydd, Dyfalbarhad, Parch, Caredigwydd*





# The Griffin

Term 1b

## Year 8 Trip to Glan Llyn



*Courage, Honesty, Resilience, Respect, Kindness*

*Dewrder, Gonestrwydd, Dyfalbarhad, Parch, Caredigwydd*



### Dates for the diary

6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - Inset Day (No school for students)  
 7<sup>th</sup> January 2025 - School starts for students  
 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> January - Year 11 Science Controlled Assessments  
 16<sup>th</sup> January - Year 9 Options Evening  
 28<sup>th</sup> January - Immunisations - Year 9  
 29<sup>th</sup> January - Dragons Lair Day - Year 10  
 30<sup>th</sup> January - Year 11 Parents Evening  
 7<sup>th</sup> February - Science Controlled Assessment Catch up Day  
 20<sup>th</sup> February - School closes for half term (21<sup>st</sup> - Inset Day)



### Clubs and Revision

| Club / Revision  | Year Group            | Days                             | Time              | Location   | Teacher            |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|
| STEM Club – an opportunity to do experiments and investigations and to work towards the CREST award                  | All Year Groups       | Thursday                         | 3.10pm – 4.00pm   | G1         | Dr Moore           |
| <i>Science Clinic<br/>Thursday 15:10- 15:40<br/>G3<br/>Students attend with specific areas they want tutoring in</i> | All Year Groups       | Thursday                         | 3.10pm – 3.40pm   | G3         | Miss Green         |
| School Band  | All Year Groups       | Thursday                         | 12.15pm – 12.55pm | Music Room | Mrs Hughes         |
| Drama Club   | All Year Groups       | Wednesday                        | 3.15pm – 4.15pm   | Music Room | Mrs Hughes         |
| Singers' Club  | All Year Groups       | Tuesday                          | 12.15pm – 12.55pm | Music Room | Mrs Hughes         |
| Acting for Screen Club   | All Year Groups       | Tuesday (coming soon)            | 3.15pm – 4.15pm   | Music Room | Mrs Hughes         |
| Language Club  | Language Ambassadors  | Thursday                         | 12.15pm – 12.55pm | Room 23b   | Mrs Wood           |
| Urdd Club  | All Year Groups       | Monday                           | 12.15pm - 12.55pm | Room 9     | Mrs Owens-Jones    |
| Digital Technology Coursework Catchup  | Year 10 and Year 11   | Thursday                         | 3.10pm - 4.10pm   | G17        | Mr Hayes           |
| Art Club   | Year 10 and 11        | Tuesday<br>Wednesday<br>Thursday | 3.10pm - 4.10pm   | Room 8     | Mrs Crompton       |
| Photography Club   | Year 10 and 11        | Tuesday<br>Wednesday<br>Thursday | 3.10pm - 4.10pm   | T1         | Miss Cluff         |
| Warhammer Club   | All Years Groups      | Wednesday                        | 3.10pm - 4.10pm   | T4         | Mr Jones           |
| Pride Club   | All Years Groups      | Friday                           | 12.15pm – 12.55pm | Room 23a   | Mrs Knox-Shoosmith |
| Maths Revision   | Year 11 grade B focus | Wednesday                        | 3.00pm – 4.00pm   | Room 13    | Dr Edwards         |
|  | Year 11 C grade focus | Wednesday                        | 3.00pm – 4.00pm   | Room 4     | Miss Young         |
|  | Year 11 A grade focus | Wednesday                        | 3.00pm- 3.40pm    | Room 2     | Mr Coyne           |
| Maths homework and questions or exam help  | All years             | Every day                        | 10.00am – 10.10am | Room 13    | Dr Edwards         |
| Maths help   | Open to all years     | Monday<br>Wednesday<br>Thursday  | 12.15pm – 12.55pm | Room 13    | Dr Edwards         |

There are many PE extracurricular clubs and opportunities available to students in all year groups, Please check the notice boards in the PE department as well as Class Charts announcement to find out more.