

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter! We've got plenty of success stories in this issue, sharing many of our students' achievements from this term and indeed this year. Enjoy reading it and we hope you have a well deserved Summer break. See you in September!

An Aberconwy First



Year 12 student April Ehlke-West recently sat the HSK Chinese proficiency test Level 1. One of Ysgol Aberconwy's most advanced students in Mandarin Chinese, April was awarded full marks - 100/100 - which is a superb achievement!

China's Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi, known as the "HSK" or the Chinese Proficiency Test, is a standardized test developed to assess the Chinese language proficiency of non-native speakers. It provides a global standard that can be used in university and job applications.

The first student from Ysgol Aberconwy to sit the HSK test, April travelled to Manchester University in March to take her exam. April's attainment is made still more special because she learns Mandarin in her spare time in addition to studying full-time for her A-levels. We are very proud of her success. Zhùhè April!

Our next school production...is Billy Elliot

Ysgol Aberconwy is the first school in North Wales to have been awarded performing rights for the wonderful musical Billy Elliot. We're delighted to announce that we've chosen it as our next school production.

Auditions have recently been held and the cast for this fabulous musical selected. We're anticipating an exciting production next term!



Treading the boards at Venue Cymru

We are delighted to have been asked to share our Lead Creative Schools project at the Let's Celebrate! Creative Learning through the Arts event at Venue Cymru this month. What a brilliant opportunity to showcase our work!

D of E Bronze Awards



Congratulations to Archie Benjamin, Marnie Cockrill, Rose Krol, Ewan Marshall, Olivia Hender, Natalie Lewis, Ben Davies and Caitlin Owen in Yr11 and Erin Hughes in Yr10. All have worked hard to successfully complete their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Total Warrior

Adele Hughes completed her first Total Warrior 6K event in June, in Leeds. Well done!



Sponsored Walk



The whole school enjoyed this year's Sponsored Walk which took place on 17th July in partnership with Mind Aberconwy.



Let's Dance!



Llion Hughes and Osian Humphreys, 9HC, Nathaniel Malpas 9DC and Morgan Hughes 7LLC all attend SB Entertainment's dance and musical theatre.

They are members of the senior competition team of dancers who reached the Juste Dance finals at Rhyl Pavilion in June and the finals of the Dreammakers Dance Challenge UK at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool taking place in November 2019. Well done boys! We are all very proud of your achievements.

Taming the Wild Garden...

As part of their Welsh Bacc, Year 10 students have been working hard to tame our Wild Garden.

Under the watchful eye of Mr Misiak and Miss Williamson, they have been planting a new hedge of maple, hazel, rose, hawthorn and cherry trees to protect the vegetable bed. This year's crops include potatoes, beans, peas, leeks and broccoli along with tomatoes, corn and cucumbers in the 'secret garden'.

A fantastic opportunity to learn timeless practical skills.



Ysgol Aberconwy wins film competition



Year 12 and 13 media and film students have won an exciting award with The Iris Prize, a national competition offering the opportunity to make a short film.

Through Iris Education, students will now work with professional filmmakers to create a short film with an LGBT+ theme. Sixth Form Students have also been invited to attend the Iris Prize Festival, a worldwide film festival celebrating and supporting LGBTQ+, in Cardiff in October. Their film will be showcased in January 2020 in the 'Iris on the Move' tour and also entered into competitions following its production.



Sporting Achievements

FOOTBALL

Five boys and two girls teams competed in the Welsh School Football Tournament.

U13 Girls made the quarter finals

U13 Boys made the 3rd round

U18 boys made the last 16.

Sophie Rawling represented Wales Girls Football team during this season and Erin Doran has trained with the Wales Girls Development Team.

We've enjoyed some first-rate student performances in a wide variety of sports over the course of this school year. Well done to everyone who has been involved!

RUGBY

Hayden Burrows was part of the RGC West Gold Squad and Ethan Arkell was part of the RGC West Red Squad

BOXING

Luke Corcoran won a Gold Medal at the European Boxing Championships in November 2018.

He also competed in the Tri-Nations Boxing Championship in May 2019, winning a Silver Medal.

CROSS COUNTRY

Caitlin Owen, Elin Watson, Ceri Watson, Sylwester Ruszkowski, Bradley Farrar, Jacob Edghill, Scarlett Chance and Emily Roberts all qualified for the Conwy Schools Cross Country Team and represented Conwy in Dolgellau.

Ceri Watson qualified for the Eryri School Cross Country Team and represented the team in Brecon.

Cai Rowlands won the North Wales Championships for Cross Country. He was also placed 4th in the Welsh Inter Regional event in Swansea, representing North Wales.

NETBALL

U14 and U16 Girls Netball Teams were County Champions.

Their teams were placed 4th and 3rd respectively in the Eryri Ann Smart tournament.

Mia Rawling, Rebecca Freestone, Elin Watson and Hannah Partington were part of the North Wales squad.

GOLF

Joe Williams is in the Eryri & Welsh Schoolboy Golf Team and part of the North Wales Clubs Team.



Sporting Achievements continued...

WEIGHTLIFTING

Several school pupils have competed and won medals at a variety of weightlifting championships over the course of this year:

Jaydon Parry - U15 Boys Welsh Weightlifting
Silver Medallist

Tom Roberts - U15 Boys Welsh Weightlifting
Silver Medallist

Sophie Maloney - U15 Girls Welsh
Weightlifting Silver Medallist

Jack Parry - U15 Boys Welsh Weightlifting
Silver Medallist.

Sam Roberts is a multiple Welsh Weightlifting Gold & Silver Medallist; British Silver Medallist, European Junior Battle Silver Medallist and represented Wales at the Celtic Games.

Ben Foggo is a multiple Welsh Weightlifting Junior and Senior Gold Medallist, British Junior and Senior Gold Medallist and Double European Junior Battle Gold Medallist. He also represented Wales at the Celtic Games.

SWIMMING

Sylwester Ruzzkowski - 4th place In 50m & 100m Freestyle at the Welsh Swimming Championship. He also qualified for the Welsh Swimming Championships Finals In four other events.

Ceri Watson qualified for the Welsh Swimming Championships In four events.

Caitlin Owen qualified for the Welsh Swimming Championships.

BOWLS

Ryan Williams won the Welsh Merit in bowls.

ATHLETICS

Caitlin Owen, Sophie Maloney, Jacobo Edghill, Tom Roberts, Kiesha Carnwell, Owen Mcilwraith, Amelie Partington, Luke Corcoran and Christian West all qualified and represented Conwy School Athletics Team at Treborth in the Eryri Championships.

Key Term Dates For The Diary...

To keep up to date with Ysgol Aberconwy term dates and staff training days, please visit our calendar on the school's website and our term dates web page, which give you all the information for the academic year.



Key dates coming up:

- **School opens:** Wednesday 4th September
- **Last day before half term:** Friday 25th October
- **School opens:** Monday 4th November
- **Last day of term:** Friday 20th December