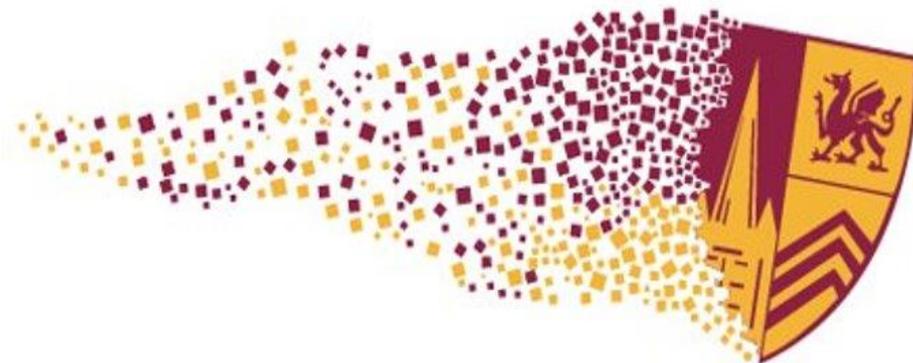


Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr

Annual Report of the Governing Body 2021 - 2022



Plasmawr's aim is to strive for excellence:
through maintaining an innovative community
based on respect, whose language and culture is Welsh,
is disciplined in behaviour and has a broad outlook on life.
A community which develops the skills of its learners
and which values all of its members equally.



Dear Parent/Guardian

It is with great pleasure that I, on behalf of the governors, thank the whole school community for persevering with the difficult and complex work achieved over this last year.

The school had to respond to a multitude of changes as the Covid restrictions were lifted incrementally. It is due to the wise leadership of John Hayes, the Headteacher, along with his Senior Management Team that a route through all the complexities was negotiated, culminating in this year's superb A-level and GCSE results. This was achieved without once losing sight of the needs of the pupils or the welfare of the staff.

Congratulations to all involved in Plasmawr's success. We are extremely proud of our pupils' successes, be they academic, vocational or extracurricular.

Mr Hayes will be greatly missed. He has played a crucial role at the school for over a quarter of a century as both Deputy and Headteacher.

There will be many opportunities to thank him for his pastoral care throughout the period – putting pupil welfare foremost and doing so with dignity, respect and humour!

It will be very odd not to see Mr Hayes on the school corridors and playing fields/yard! We wish both he and Beth all the best as they enjoy their retirement.

Looking ahead, it is an honour to welcome Dr Rhodri Thomas as John's successor. Dr Thomas is currently the Headteacher of Ysgol Penweddig, Aberystwyth although his home is here in Cardiff. I wish him and the whole school well under the guidance of Mrs Sara Williams, the newly elected Chair of the Governing Body, as we embark on a new stage in the journey of Ysgol Plasmawr.

I wish the school well for the forthcoming year.

Mair Parry-Jones
Chair of the Governing Body

Introduction by John Hayes, Headteacher.

Firstly, I would like to thank Mair Parry-Jones, Chair of the Governing Body for her support for all the school's work during the past year, and for her skilful leadership of the Governing Body. The contents of the remainder of the report is a concise picture of some of our highlights and achievements during the past academic year and I am delighted that we have been able to offer so many activities and opportunities despite the continuing COVID-19 restrictions which remained in place. Staff and pupils have had to show an immense amount of fortitude, creativity, and resilience to be able to continue with these activities.

It is quite a surreal experience to write my 15th and final Headteachers introduction to this year's annual report to parents as I will be retiring at the end of the autumn term. Ysgol Plasmawr has been a significant part of my life since its inception 25 years ago, and it has been an honour and a privilege to serve the Welsh medium sector in Cardiff for the past thirty-four years. I will retire, proud of the fact that Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr has contributed immensely in assisting Cardiff progress towards fulfilling its vision of becoming a bilingual capital city.

It has been a huge privilege to work with so many talented and committed colleagues over the years who have supported me in my work as Headteacher and I am extremely grateful to members of the Governing Body who have been wholly supportive of the work of the school. I would like to thank the Chairs of the Governing Body who have given me their total support during my tenure as Headteacher and to whom I owe a huge debt of gratitude; Dan Roberts, Teleri Bevan (sadly passed away last year), Catrin Redknap and Mair Parry-Jones.

I am extremely proud of the achievements of the school and its talented pupils, and it has been an honour to serve the school through the good times and also in navigating the school through some challenging times. I am proud that the school has played its part in shaping and moulding generations of talented, broad-minded, and bilingual young people who in time will reflect on their time in school and appreciate with pride and happy memories, the important values which are the cornerstones of the school's ethos.

A personal highlight during the past 25 years was the visit of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu who visited the school on October 25th, 2012. The Archbishop was visiting Wales to hear more about the Welsh Government's 'Wales for Africa' initiative, and the visit to Ysgol Plasmawr in the company of the Welsh First Minister, Carwyn Jones was arranged for him to hear of our strong links with Mosheoshoe II school in Lesotho. His visit proved to be a huge success and lifelong memories were forged that day for all who were fortunate to hear Archbishop Tutu speak in the school hall.

He spoke to the pupils that morning about the important role and influence young people have in ensuring equal opportunities for all, irrespective of colour, creed, ethnicity, sexuality, gender



or socio-economic backgrounds. He thanked the school for its affiliation with schools in Lesotho and he thanked the Welsh people for their support for Africa.

His mantra was, "think global, act local" and he commended the school on its inclusion agenda through the work of our peer mentor inclusion groups; 'Digon', our anti-homophobic group, 'Newid Ffem', our feminist group and 'Balch', our anti-racist group.

Archbishop Tutu said in his speech that it did not matter how small the project, its impact could inspire others which could ultimately inspire more and more people which would spread the message across the globe. He said that individuals have the potential to make a huge difference on a large scale, something that he epitomised himself.

It was with sadness that we learnt of the passing of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu in December 2021. Cherished memories returned of the day the diminutive, charismatic figure of Desmond Tutu with his broad smile and infectious laugh, but huge in stature and greatness visited Ysgol Plasmawr and praised us for our inclusion work. Praise indeed!!



I am delighted to report that our strong links with Lesotho which began with Mrs Elin Boyle's close collaboration with the charity Dolen Cymru continues to develop and another group of 6th form students will visit Lesotho next year.

It has been a busy year in school and it has been good to see the school return to a semblance of normality following the COVID-19 crisis. I would like to thank and commend the staff for offering a range of extra-curricular opportunities; the pupils for their participation and to our parents who have been wonderfully supportive of their children and the school. Participating in extra-curricular activities, clubs and games is an excellent opportunity for pupils to use their Welsh language skills in a relaxed and informal atmosphere and allows them to develop their confidence in speaking Welsh in a positive and supportive environment.

Learning Experiences

The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum that meets statutory requirements and fulfils pupils' interests and aspirations. In key stage 3, there are valuable opportunities for pupils to develop their literacy skills and extend their learning experiences by studying a modern second language in Year 9. At key stage 4 and key stage 5 the school offers a wide range of vocational and general courses that meet the needs of pupils and local employers, for example a public services course. The school provides valuable learning opportunities for pupils who require additional learning support. We have been experimenting and piloting new schemes of work in Year 7 this year based on a curriculum which follows the guiding principles of the new Curriculum for Wales. At the heart of the new curriculum are the 4 core purposes which will create successful learners and responsible citizens.

The school offers an extensive and stimulating programme of activities for pupils outside of school hours. The school has a productive relationship with a range of local businesses in order to ensure work-related education which is of benefit to the pupils. The school responds positively to the requirements of the national Literacy, Numeracy and Digital competency

Framework. Provision for developing literacy across the subjects is comprehensive, and provision for numeracy across the curriculum is developing appropriately. Through a range of appropriate interventions, the school successfully supports pupils with weak skills. The school's transition strategies are comprehensive and lead to smooth curricular progression.

The school provides a full curriculum through the medium of Welsh and offers a range of imaginative opportunities to ensure that Welsh language skills, as well as pupils' awareness of our country's culture and history, flourish. The provision for citizenship is strong and is reinforced through the valuable links with Lesotho and Japan, and through the work of the 'Globe' group, although these activities have been restricted this year.

Provision for sustainability issues is developing appropriately with the active support of the *Eco-Amgylch* (Eco-Environment) group. Over the past few years, the *Amgylch* group has been responsible for reducing the sale of plastic bottles at the school, both in the canteen and 6th form shop, and has contributed to exciting projects including planning a housing estate with Wates Group and Pda Architects.

The group successfully campaigned for a grant for a new cycle shed for the 6th form, and the group led a successful 'switch off for 10 days' campaign, which resulted in a 10% reduction in our electricity consumption. Members also have had the opportunity to contribute to a joint Active Travel scheme with Cardiff Council.

It is a privilege to report that Plasmawr is the lead school for the Consortium in the following areas; Health and Wellbeing and Computing.



The Sixth Form

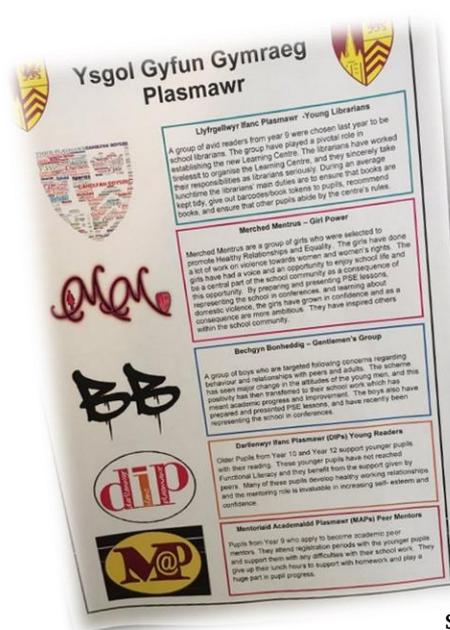
The contribution of Sixth Form students to all aspects of the School's work is invaluable and provides an additional valuable dimension to School life e.g. supporting our 'Celebrating Welshness days'. This year's Sixth Form have been as active as possible and have led many initiatives within the School. Evidence of the Sixth Form's innovation is evident throughout the School, including coaching and mentoring younger pupils with their school work as well as more social and personal issues. A new initiative was launched this year with the 6th form students mentoring younger pupils in essential skills, literacy, numeracy and digital skills. Other 6th form students were coached and trained as 'Near Peer Coaches' to be wellbeing mentors who would support younger pupils during registration periods. Following a successful inaugural year, the aim is to develop these initiatives further next year. The Sixth Form annually support a variety of charities by arranging various extra-curricular activities.

An exciting and fulfilling 6th form project during the year was the support offered to the Afghanistan refugees that were temporarily housed at the Urdd centre in Cardiff Bay. A number of 6th form students visited the refugees during the autumn term on a weekly basis to play with the children and to offer art and craft and other creative workshops. The 6th form students raised funds to purchase activities and games for the refugee children and hosted a memorable Christmas party for the children and their families. Everybody involved benefited hugely from this unique experience.

I would particularly like to thank our head pupils this year; Harri Samuel and Katie Mutyambizi and their deputies, Manon Clarke and Rhiannon Morris, they have been great ambassadors for the school on a number of occasions during the year and have represented Plasmawr pupils with dignity on the full Governing Body.

We wish the new head pupils well for 2022-23, Awen Roberts and Owen Jones, and their deputies, Eban Lawrence and Lois Owen.

Congratulations to the pupils who have served on the National Youth Parliament and in particular to Ffred Hayes who is representing 'Digon' one of the partner organisations and congratulations to Efan Williams who is a representative on the Children's commissioner for Wales youth panel.



Leadership Development

Our peer mentoring and leadership schemes continue to develop and thrive, and we are often asked by other schools and external agencies to share our vision with them. All of the mentoring and leadership schemes we offer are committed to providing opportunities for pupils to develop their own leadership skills and qualities. The peer mentors receive training from Karen Evans (school counsellor) before they start their work. Our Academic Peer Mentors support the homework club and Personal Tutor sessions (MAPs). The Anti-Bullying Mentors (CCCs) are available at break and lunch time to listen to other pupils' concerns and we have a team of volunteers who assist with our reading plans (DIPs). 'Merched Mentrus' and 'Bechgyn Bonheddig' are peer groups aimed at improving pupils' self-image and developing healthy relationships towards each

other and towards school life. 'Digon' is supporting LGBT+ pupils by running various activities throughout the year and one of the calendar highlights for the group is 'Rainbow Week' in February. Members of Digon, Balch and Newid Ffem presented 'equality' themed workshops to all the Year 6 pupils in our feeder primary schools during the summer term as part of their transition experience. The essence of the messages presented was the importance of language around equality matters and for everyone to consider their choice of language to ensure that everyone feels welcome, respected and valued within the school community.

We are extremely proud of Ffred Hayes (Yr 11) who delivered a speech to the National Youth Parliament on the importance of educating pupils about LGBTQ+ issues, and Nia Fajeyisan (Yr 11) who contributed to the #FelMerch, Urdd conference promoting gender equality issues. We celebrated International Women's day in our assemblies, our 'Newid Ffem' group raised awareness of the importance of gender equality in all aspects of society.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Every year a tremendous effort is made to offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities, but due to the COVID-19 restrictions many of these activities had to be curtailed this year. Despite the limitations, many departments developed incredible creative initiatives to offer a range of virtual extra-curricular activities. I am indebted to those members of staff who were willing to

offer these activities and I am delighted with the tremendous response from pupils to the activities. When former pupils reflect on their time at school, it is often the extra-curricular experiences that come to mind.



Duke of Edinburgh award scheme:

I am delighted that the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme is so successfully embedded in school and that despite the COVID restrictions that our gold and silver award expeditions managed to take place towards the end of the summer term. The bronze award expedition will be held in September. I am hugely indebted to Mr Aled Morgan for coordinating the gold and bronze award schemes and the team of staff that volunteer to support the students on expedition.

Engineering and STEM activities:

A series of STEM activities were organized again this year to raise the awareness of pupils, especially girls, of employment opportunities in the fields of Mathematics, Science and Engineering. A group of students successfully completed the EESW Stem Cymru engineering project. Congratulations to the 6th form team who were awarded a gold medal in the CREST engineering project. Congratulations to Katy Knoyle who won student of the year at the National EESW STEM awards for her project in association with ARUP.



The music department:

The music department managed to continue with all their usual extra-curricular activities and events this year for our pupils which is testimony of the passion, energy and enthusiasm and skills of Mrs Angharad Evans and Mr Rhydian Lake. Amongst the memorable events were an evening of musical entertainment, our young singer and young musician of the year competitions, a fabulous Christmas concert and a summer concert. Many of the virtual concerts and performances are to be seen on the departments 'youtube' channel. Our pupils performed at the Tafwyl festival in June and the 'Blas o'r Plas' concert in May was an opportunity for our pupils to perform to an audience of family and friends before they travelled to North Wales a week later to compete at the Urdd National Eisteddfod.

Hannah Edwards won the school's junior singer competition and the senior competition was won by Gruff Charles. The adjudicators, Buddug James and Lisa Angharad enjoyed the experience of judging and were impressed with the high standard of the competition. Congratulations to everyone else who competed: Ela Mai Williams, Alaw Charles and Tryfan Goldsmith in the junior section, Ifan Coyle, Martha Davies, Celyn Stewart, Elan Davies in the senior section. Special thanks to last year's winner Lefi Jo Hughes, who performed during the evening and to Mr Rhydian Lake for accompanying the singers.

The Plasmawr Young Musician competition was held in early February. The standard of competition was extremely high according to the judge, Owain Griffydd Roberts; the accompanist was Mr Rhydian Lake. The competition was again sponsored by Mrs Ruth Lewis, and we thank her for her generosity and support for a very special occasion. Aidan Dorrington was the winner of the junior musician competition, and Iestyn Ellis won the senior competition. Congratulations to all involved:

Junior section: Pegi Wigley, Adam Ashton and Ioan Brooks.

Senior section: Rhian Evans, Morus Jones and Dewi Thistlewood.

Special thanks to last year's winners, Alys Webb, Erin Jardine, and Manon Neale. who performed during the evening.



Senior boys choir: Following their success at the Urdd National Eisteddfod, the senior boys choir were invited by the Welsh Government to sing a medley of Welsh songs at the British and Irish conference held in San Ffagan museum in November 2021. Attending the conference were senior politicians from across the British Isles including; Mark Drakeford, Nicola Sturgeon, Michael Gove and Irish political leaders. Performing at such a prestigious event was quite an experience and an honour for all involved. The

choir were also invited to sing at the national teaching awards, another prestigious event in Cardiff Bay.

The choir were awarded 2nd prize in the youth choir competition at the Ceredigion National Eisteddfod.

Congratulations to the following pupils have proven musical success and achievement during the year:

Efan Williams, Yr 9 – National youth boys choir (British).

Sophie Jones - National youth girls choir (British).

Erin Jardine Yr 9 – National Youth orchestra (British) – harp.

'Only kids aloud' choir: Mabli Rogers, Nel Williams, Sophie Jones and Poppy Mohammad.

'Only Girls Aloud choir' - Alaw Charles, Ela-Mai Williams, Nel Williams and Poppy Mohammad.

'Only Boys Aloud' choir - Efan Williams, Lefi Jo Hughes and Reuben Gray.

National Urdd Eisteddfod, Denbigh:

Poetry under 23 years: Morus Jones: 3rd

Poetry under 19 years: Morus Jones: 3rd

Ela Mai Williams, 1st and Efan Williams, 2nd in the musical composition competition, years 7-9.

Mathematics competition winner: Ella Gaudet.

Senior boys choir: 2nd.

Senior S.A.T.B. choir: 2nd.

Piano solo Yrs 7,8, 9: Erin Fflur Jardine: 2nd.

Multi media dance competition – group: 1st.

Recitation – senior: Iestyn Jones: 3rd.





The art department at the Urdd National Eisteddfod:

A number of pupils competed at the Urdd National Eisteddfod this year. The following pupils were commended for their work at a regional level before competing at the National level - Gruff Williams Yr12, Mali McAleavey Yr8, Nia Ambrose and Mia Owen Yr9 and Isobel Snow Yr7. Three pupils were awarded prizes at the National level; congratulations to Ellie Lloyd Jones Yr9 who won 1st prize for her photographic composition.

Siriol ap Rhys Yr10 was awarded 1st prize for her ceramic composition.

We are extremely proud of Nel Thomas Yr11 who won the gold award and Art and Design medal at the Urdd National Eisteddfod for her 2D composition in the 10 – 19 age group.



UK Maths Challenge Bl.8: The following pupils gained success this year attaining high commendation: Jac Evans and Noah Morgan. Taliesin Blockwell won the gold medal.

Sports: Congratulations to everyone who has represented the school during the past year, either as individuals or as a member of a team. The department strives to offer as many opportunities as possible for pupils to participate within the department and in extra-curricular activities but has found it difficult this year with COVID restrictions in effect. Thank you to all the staff who have coached, supported or have assisted with any extra-curricular activities during the year.

Football: The school's football teams have gone from strength to strength and many pupils play to a high standard. A big thank you to Mr Iwan Rowlands for his passion and enthusiasm and for arranging coaching sessions in the mornings and every afternoon.

Congratulations to the following pupils have attained representative honours this year:

Wales under 17: Dan Watts (games against Scotland, Slovenia and Turkey).

Welsh schools under16: Nia Fajeyisan, Arwen Williams.

Cardiff and the Vale schools:

Under 16: Andrew Dyban Sully, Kyron Pithers, Nia Fajeyisan, Arwen Williams, Elen Edwards.

Under 15: Dafydd Ball. Joseff Jones, Fin Richards.

Under 14: Rhys Jenkins, Steffan Amos, Emilia Ashun.

Under 13: Cassius Tanhai. Jack Sykes, Macey James.

Yr 7 girls: Cardiff and the Vale cup finalists.

Year 8 girls (B team): Cardiff and the Vale cup finalists (B final).

Year 8 girls: Welsh cup semi finalists.

Year 8 boys: Welsh cup finalists.



Cardiff and the Vale schools honours:

Rhys Jenkins – Under 14 player of the year.

Dafydd Ball – Vanguard trophy winner, u-15. An award for effort and dedication.



An exciting new development this year which proved extremely popular was football training as part of our transition process for our prospective Year 7 pupils in June and July. There were sessions for boys and girls and it proved to be a great way for our new pupils to make new friends before the beginning of the new year in September.

Rugby:

Cardiff Under 15 Schools Dewar Shield Rugby Squad: Sion Hill, Harvey Jones, Joseff Jones, Ryan Watts, Finn Barrett.

1st XV: Welsh cup quarter finalists.

Yr 11: Cardiff schools semi-finalists.

Yr 10/11 girls: Cardiff schools regional champions. Welsh cup finalists.

Yr 8/9 girls: Cardiff schools regional champions.

County 7's cup:

Yr 7: Team A – plate winners.

Yr 8: Team A – plate winners.



Yr 9: Plate finalists.

National 7's tournament:

Yr 11 girls: Cup finalists.

Yr 8 girls: Cup winners.

Netball: 6th form team: County finals.

Yr 10: Urdd national competition: quarter finalists.

Hockey: Seren Bean; Wales u-16. Fin Fergusson represented South Wales.

Cricket: Caio Brewster, Yr 9: East Wales squad u-14.

Boxing: Rudi Pika and Jake Edwards (Yr 11) – Welsh championships.

Power lifting: Tegan Eason (Yr 10) British, European and World champion (Under 48kg).

Tae Kwon Do: Oliver Tobin (Yr 11): British champion (ITF) under 50kg. Bronze medal at the European championships in Spain. Aled Crane (Yr 12) attained 2nd Dan Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do.



Mountain biking: Elin Berry (Yr 11) – 3rd in Wales.

Ice skating: Lowri Cotterall, British team.

Skiing: Lily – Welsh champion u-14.

Tennis: Awen Gwilym-Davies Yr 7, Welsh champion under 12. Welsh honours.

Basketball: Rudi Ewart, Yr 8. Welsh honours.

Cross-country: Soffia - Welsh honours.

Sophie Knoyle - Welsh honours.

Swimming: Maccsen Walters is in the top 5 in Wales for his age group.

Gymnastics: It has been an extremely busy year for our gymnasts who have competed in several categories and several competitions. Congratulations to Nel Lewis, Mia-Lou Carter and Nia Holmes for competing for Cardiff and the Vale in the Welsh championships. Some of our gymnasts went forward to compete in the British championships in Stoke in April.



Ruby Evans is an elite gymnast who is currently the junior women's artistic British champion and junior women's all round British champion, for the second year in succession. Ruby regularly represents the junior Team GB as an individual and as part of a team. At the Team Gymnastics British championships in Sheffield in April, team 'Evolve' from Cardiff which included Samara Haines won two silver medals. The following gymnasts competed in the Welsh schools' championships; Martha Fisher, Emsee Fisher,

Nia Helliyer, Nia Holmes, Mia Lou Carter, Soffia Walters, Katie Dovey, Samara Haines, Lili Bean, Nel Darwin Lewis, Megan Williams and Erin Lois Williams.

Dance: It has also been an incredibly busy year for our dancers. Over 70 girls regularly practice in school under the guidance of Miss Owen and some of our senior pupils which has led to a multitude of successes during the year in locations such as Barry, Sophia Gardens, Essex, Liverpool, Coventry and the Celtic Manor conference centre in Newport.



The dance teams have performed to a high standard all year and have regularly competed against bespoke 'dance schools'. Two gold, one silver and two bronze medals were won at the Welsh schools championships, which led to the British championships in Coventry in July at which another gold medal was won.



Mia Owen was awarded a scholarship to spend a week at a dance school in Cornwall in the summer following her performances at a masterclass in Coventry.

There was another 1st and 3rd place at the Urdd National Eisteddfod in Denbigh. The final competition of the year was the prestigious DC12UK at the ICC Arena which led to a clean sweep of awards and prizes for our dance groups.



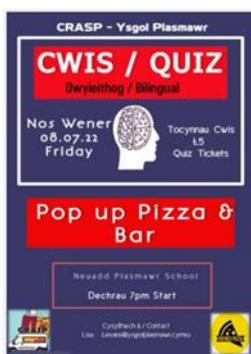


The dancers finished the year in style with our first dance showcase event at the school. It was a fantastic way to end the year through performing to friends and family in a packed school hall. We look forward to next year!

Nia Fajeyison, Yr 11 was chosen as a 'Fel Merch' ambassador for the Urdd this year. She is a fantastic sporting role model for younger girls and contributed to several high profile events during the year to promote sport for girls. As a talented athlete excelling in football and rugby, Nia was a natural in the role and experienced a busy year inspiring, supporting and empowering girls in several events. Nia was a fantastic ambassador for the school and we are extremely proud of her achievements.



Guests and visitors: In May 2002, Jeremy Miles (Education Minister) visited the school to hear more about the work of 'Digon' our anti-homophobic peer group and 'Balch', our peer mentoring group which highlights ethnicity and racial issues in school. The minister was eager that every school in Wales should have such important groups to promote inclusion within schools. Our guest for our exam certificate presentation (summer 2020 and 2021) in July was Ian Gwyn Hughes (Head of communications at the Football Association of Wales).



Plasmawr Parents, Teachers and Staff Association (CRASP)

The School is indebted to the PTA for organizing fund-raising activities during the year including quizzes and an auction. Every penny from the fund-raising campaign goes towards buying resources such as new computers and running the school minibuses, things which all pupils benefit from. CRASP is now registered as a charity, which allows access to a variety of grants for the school as well as being able to claim Gift Aid where possible. There are a number of schemes in the pipeline; if you would like to know more, please get in touch.

Charitable work

Our pupils' response to charity work is amazing, and again this year the pupils raised money for charity in a variety of different ways. Pupils who are members of the charity committee have ensured that regular collections take place during the year to support local, regional and national charities. The generosity of our families is to be commended, having contributed to a very worthy total for the school again this year. The charities that have benefited from the generosity of members of the Plasmawr community this year are:

'Balch': show racism the red card:	£1,054
Children in need:	over £1,000
Christmas – our own social inclusion agenda:	£1,900.00
Velindre cancer hospital:	£1,030.00
Ukraine:	£2,326.00



The schools values and vision: The School Improvement Plan for 2022-23 focuses on our response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the education reform agenda in Wales. Our vision and values have been refined in consultation with some of the school's stakeholders.

Our vision is to create an inclusive environment which ensures that every member of the school community is important. Our emphasis is on wellbeing and preparing to learn, ensuring that every learner develops the necessary values, skills and attributes to succeed in a world that is constantly changing. We hope to inspire everybody to be the best they possibly can, through developing resilience and perseverance.

We will evaluate our current provision and make informed decisions as we prepare to transition to the new curriculum. We will investigate and adopt good practice from across the country as we plan a curriculum that is unique to our own context and that will meet the needs of our pupils. We aim to provide rich, challenging learning experiences to improve our pupil's ability to overcome challenges and problems.

Our aim is to improve learning skills and personal development and to improve links with our community partners. We'll endeavour to ensure that everyone has the best opportunity to succeed in a happy, safe, caring and inclusive environment.

Our vision is to ensure success through offering exciting learning opportunities for our learners and quality professional development opportunities for our staff which will lead to excellent teaching and learning opportunities.

The aims of the school are to ensure excellence through:

Planning a unique and innovative curriculum which will meet the needs of our learners.

Ensuring that pupil wellbeing is at the heart of learning.

Nurturing respect and passion for the Welsh language, our culture, history and heritage.

Celebrating cultural diversity and promoting equality.

Giving our young people the skills, values and experiences that they will require to flourish in a world that is constantly changing.

Inspiring everyone to be the best that they can through developing independence, perseverance and resilience.

Providing rich, challenging and exciting learning experiences.

Listening to the voice of the whole school community.

Promoting positive communication at all times.

Developing strong relationships with all our stakeholders and the extended school community.

Summary: I am extremely proud of what the school has managed to achieve this year. I would like to wish the whole school community every success over the coming months and years. I am confident that the school will continue to flourish as it is built on firm and clear principles and values; it has a caring, supportive and dedicated staff who are prepared to go the extra mile for their pupils; talented and committed pupils; supportive parents and a high calibre governing body. I would like to thank you as parents for your continued support and for establishing such a strong partnership with the school.

John Hayes
Headteacher

Membership of the Governing Body 2021-22:

Community	Local Authority	Parents	Staff
Ms Rebecca Leach	Mr. John Hayes Headteacher	Ms Lynette Thomas	Mrs Catrin Pallot Deputy Head
Dr Catrin Redknap	Mrs Mair Parry-Jones	Mrs Lowri Griffiths	Mr Aled James
Mr John Griffiths	Mrs Caroline Cooksley	Mrs. Kate Oprava	Mr Dion Davies
Mrs Sara Williams	Dr. Arun Midha	Mrs Nia Land	Mrs Lisa Evans
Dr Kathryn Walters	Dr Huw Onllwyn Jones	Ms Lisa Tiplady	Pupil representatives
Ms Angelique Bullen	Mr Arwyn Jones	Ms Ffion Buckland-Williams	Hari Samuel Katie Mutyambizi

Mr Eryl Samuel has been the school's Challenge Adviser for the South Wales Central Consortium during 2021-212 We thank him for his support during the past year in our efforts to continue to raise the school's standards.

The Clerk to the Governors is **Eve Carron** who works at County Hall. If you want to contact her, you can do so on 029 20872 915.

The Chair of Governors can be contacted through the school office.

IN SERVICE TEACHER TRAINING (INSET)

The funding set annually for INSET is ring-fenced to assist teachers in the provision of national priorities, namely literacy, numeracy, digital competency, support for pupils who may be disadvantaged by poverty and deprivation and new curricular developments.

These developments include sharing one of our INSET days with primary school staff; a second INSET day is shared with all other Welsh-medium secondary schools in south Wales in sharing good practice. A third INSET day was devoted to the introduction of the new SEN bill. The remaining three INSET days focussed on different aspects of the school improvement plan. The school continues to support the professional development of Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs) and trainee teachers.

IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS POLICY

Provision for Additional Learning Needs continues to have a high profile within the school. The learning support block (M Block) is used effectively as a resource, and the team continues to do excellent work in offering support to pupils who have a wide range of needs. Our Nurture Class is developing well with a specialist team of staff supporting our most vulnerable pupils.

Awareness of Additional Learning Needs, including More Able and Talented Pupils, is high among staff, and the school has had success with the initiatives that have been introduced.

There are excellent links with parents and external agencies; a strong focus on links between years 6 and 7 which includes an Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinators' Forum; effective co-

operation with departments and a prompt and direct response to a high percentage of pupils who have additional learning needs.

The Learning Support Block, led by Mr Trystan Williams (Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator) is a haven for pupils who require an intensive level of support with their learning needs, which can range from general learning needs, specific learning needs and emotional needs, to behavioural, social, medical, physical, or sensory needs. The school has forged strong links with other partners within Cardiff Local Education Authority and we receive direct support from specialist teachers including teachers who specialise in Emotional wellbeing, autism, sensory deficiencies and educational psychologists.

All staff are responsible for implementing the Additional Learning Needs policy and the policy aimed at More Able and Talented Pupils. The individual learning plans, and where necessary, the individual behaviour plans, are live documents that are regularly monitored. Teachers in all departments receive all the necessary information regarding any additional needs that pupils have, and they make good use of the information when planning pupils' work.

Effective use is made of all available resources: specialist and subject staff, support teachers, learning support assistants, external agencies and partnerships, reading schemes, home and school spelling schemes and the contribution of parents and friends for the benefit of pupils. As a result, pupils with Additional Learning Needs are making good progress.

During the past year a great deal of work has been done in transferring pupils from the old Special Educational Needs bill to the new Additional Special Needs bill. By the end of the year, pupils in Years 10 and 11 with statements of Additional Learning Needs will be moved to the new statutory Individual Development Plan (IDP).

Summary of priorities for School Improvement, 2022-23:

Whole-school strategy: Respect / Willingness / Belonging (PPP):

- Emphasise PPP connections with the new curriculum for Year 7.
- Co-operate with the primary schools to prepare a consistent PPP strategy.
- An opportunity to re-launch the school rules.
- An opportunity to reinforce the Welsh language.

New Additional Learning Needs legislation:

- Further develop the Nurture Class and wellbeing provision.
- Develop departmental data tracking system.
- Continue to transfer pupils to the new Individual Development Plans (IDP).
- Develop graduated response approach to dealing with the needs of pupils; dovetail strategies and interventions between M block and the progress area.

Learning and teaching, and staff professional development:

- Embed 4C principles and pedagogy to enhance learning experiences; emphasis on creativity, communication, co-operation and critical scrutiny.
- Embed 'Teaching to the top' differentiation strategy.
- Develop consistent reading strategies across the school.
- Focus on NACE resources to support our More Able and Talented pupils.

- Promote Consortium led, 'leadership' development opportunities.
- Re-establish performance management practices and focus on the professional standards.
- Develop a more consistent approach to literacy (oracy and vocabulary) through Welsh as a second language teaching strategies and develop a whole-school approach to teaching basic numeracy.

Health and wellbeing:

- Collect and analyse data – SHRN, PERMA. Respond to findings with suitable interventions.
- Monitor and evaluate assemblies and form tutor time.
- Cluster school inquiry – family engagement opportunities.
- Enhance learner voice projects.
- Further support our most deprived families.

New curriculum and skills:

- Embed new statutory frameworks; Values, ethics and religion; Healthy relationships education.
- Assessment and reporting on attitudes to learning and subject progress in Years 7 and 8.
- Develop career-based approaches and links to the world of work.
- Cross-curricular skills mapping in KS3.
- Further adaptations to KS3 schemes of work.
- Joint planning with the primary schools.

Marking, assessment and reporting:

- Introduce revised marking, assessment, and reporting policy.
- Re-launch homework policy.
- Monitor homework and pupil use of handbook.

Funding, resources and staffing:

- Preparing for Estyn inspection.
- Focus on increasing the casual use of the Welsh language in school amongst pupils.
- Staffing and budgeting for 2022-23. Early appointments for key posts for September 2023.

Appendix A: Final financial figures for 2021-22.

Appendix B: Dates for the 2022-23 academic year.

Appendix C: Parents' right to call for a meeting.

Appendix A:

CARDIFF COUNCIL/GYNGOR CAERDYDD				
SCHOOLS OUTTURN OF EXPENDITURE/CANLYNIAD GWARIANT YSGOLION 2021-2022				
Governing Body/Corff Llywodraethu of: Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr				
	Governor Approved Budget/Cyllideb a Gymeradwywyd gan y Llywodraethwyr		Actual Expenditure/ Gwariant Cyflawnedig	
	£	£	£	£
Staffing costs/Costau Staff				
Teaching Costs/Costau Addysgu	4,200,837		4,264,610	
Special Needs Teachers/Athrawon Anghenion Arbennig	136,433		137,900	
Teachers for statemented pupils/Athrawon ar gyfer disgyblion sy'n destun datganiad	0		0	
Short Term Supply/Llanw Byr Dymor	20,000		38,432	
Long Term Supply/Llanw Hir Dymor	51,000		22,575	
Special Needs Support Staff/Staff Cymorth Anghenion Arbennig	334,907		415,781	
Nursery Assts/ Teachers Aides / Adult Helpers/Cynorthwyyr Meithrinfa/ Cymhorthion Athrawon / Cynorthwyyr	208,281		178,852	
Foreign Language Assistants/Cynorthwyyr Ieithoedd Tramor	0		0	
Technicians/Technegwyr	92,247		94,363	
Mid Day Supervisors/Gorychwylywyr Canol Dydd	0		1,387	
Library Staff / Attend Officer/Staff Llyfrgell / Swyddog Presenoldeb	0		0	
Administrative Staff/Staff Gweinyddol	213,994		207,248	
Non teaching supply costs/Costau llanw staff heb fod yn athrawon	0		0	
Training Costs/Costau hyfforddi	64,717		145,669	
Other Staff Costs/Costau staff eraill	66,149		82,818	
Performance Management/Rheoli Perfformiad	0		0	
Total Staffing Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Staff		5,388,565		5,589,633
Premises Related Costs/Costau Eiddo				
Caretaking Staff/Staff Gofalwyr	97,820		97,500	
Domestic Staff/Staff Domestig	0		15,805	
Grounds Staff/Staff y Tir	6,600		6,639	
Cleaning Costs/Costau Glanhau	203,696		201,901	
Energy Costs/Costau Ynni	97,000		88,689	
Rates/Cyfraddau	137,763		137,763	
Repairs and Maintenance/Atgyweiriau a Chynhaliath	13,477		69,350	
Water/Dŵr	51,688		9,657	
Total Premises Related Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Eiddo		608,044		627,304
Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant				
Pupil Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant Disgyblion	20,250		9,450	
Staff Transport Costs/Costau Cludiant Staff	300		0	
Vehicle Costs/Costau Cerbydau	12,700		26,500	
Total Transport Costs/Cyfanswm Costau Cludiant		33,250		35,949
Supplies and Services/Cyflenwadau a Gwasanaethau				
Teaching Materials/Adnoddau Addysgu	104,360		110,015	
Equipment, Furniture, Materials & music tuition/Offer, Dodrefn, Deunyddiau a hyfforddiant cerddoriaeth	6,500		8,575	
Library Books & Materials/Llyfrau a Deunyddiau Llyfrgell	0		0	
Catering Costs/Costau Arlwyio	0		0	
Unallocated / Savings to be found/Arian heb ei ddosbarthu / Cynilion	35,431		0	
Communications Equipment and Services/Offer a Gwasanaethau Cyfathrebu	56,500		71,774	
Consultants Fees/Ffioedd Ymgynghorwyr	0		0	
Examinations Fees/Ffioedd Arholiadau	101,250		100,255	
Games & School Activities/Gemau a Gweithgareddau Ysgol	12,500		8,667	
Clerk to Governing Body/Clerc y Corff Llywodraethu	1,000		1,472	
Other office costs/Costau swyddfa eraill	800		0	
Printing & Stationery/Argraffu a Deunydd Ysgrifennu	0		-749	
Pupil Exclusions/Gwaharddiadau Disgyblion	0		0	
Subsistence and expenses/Cynhaliath a threuliau	6,000		1,315	
Total Supplies and Services/Cyfanswm Cyflenwadau a Gwasanaethau		324,341		301,324
Central Services/Gwasanaethau Canolog				
School Meals/Prydau Ysgol	37,500		37,988	
Service Level Agreements/Trefniadau Lefel Gwasanaeth	26,661		28,793	
Total for Central Services/Cyfanswm ar gyfer Gwasanaethau Canolog		64,161		66,782

Appendix B:

Dates for the 2022-23 academic year.

Autumn term:

Start: 05.09.22

Half term: 31.10.22 - 04.11.22

Finish: 23.12.22

Spring term:

Start: 09.01.23

Half term: 20.02.23 – 24.02.23

Finish: 31.03.23

Summer term:

Start: 17.04.23

Bank Holiday: 01.05.23

Half term: 29.05.23 – 02.06.23

Finish: 24.07.23

Appendix C:

Your right to request a meeting with the school's governing body

Dear Parent

I am writing to you on behalf of the governing body to inform you of changes to the regulations and new arrangements for holding a meeting with the school governing body.

The School Standards and Organization (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act) removes the requirement for school governing bodies to hold an annual meeting with parents, and new arrangements have been introduced instead to enable parents to request up to 3 meetings with the school's governing body during any school year about issues that are causing them concern. Under the Act, four conditions will need to be met if parents wish to exercise their rights to hold a meeting.

1. Parents will need to draw up a petition in favour of holding a meeting.

Parents of at least 30 pupils registered at the school are required to sign the petition. If it is a paper petition, a written signature must be provided as well as the name and class of each child registered at the school. If it is an electronic petition, the 'signature' required is the typed name of the parent as well as the name and class of each child registered at the school and the email address of each parent who has 'signed' the electronic petition.

2. The meeting must be called to discuss issues affecting the school. The meeting cannot be called to discuss matters such as the progress of individual pupils, or to make a complaint against a member of staff or the school's governing body. The petition should include brief details of the issue(s) to be discussed, and the reasons for calling the meeting. This information should be clearly marked at the top of the petition, with the parents' signatures appearing below it.

3. Up to three meetings can be held during the school year. The law enables parents to exercise their rights to request up to three meetings with the governing body of a school during the school year.

4. There must be at least 25 school days remaining in the school year. One of the conditions of the law is that there must be at least 25 school days remaining in the school year when the petition is submitted to the school in order for the meeting to be held. "School day" means a day when the school is open to pupils: This does not include weekends, public holidays, school holidays or INSET days.

The address for submitting a petition requesting a meeting with the school's governing body is:

Chair of Governors,

c/o Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Plasmawr, Pentrebane Road, Fairwater, Cardiff CF5 3PZ.

Further information on how parents can request a meeting with the governing body is available on the Welsh Government website at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/parents-meetings-statutoryguidance/?lang=en>

Yours sincerely,

Ysgol Plasmawr Chair of Governors