




WILLOWS HIGH SCHOOL



BELONG, believe, ACHIEVE
PERTHYN, CREDU, LLWYDDO

 Use Google Translate to change to your preferred language.

Weekly Newsletter – 05.02.21

Hello! مرحباً! Ahoj! Ola! Dzień dobry! Bon Jour! Hello!

Belong:

The word 'belong' has been at the forefront of our school motto for a number of years. This is because we strongly believe that all members of our school should feel that they are valued in our community, in Wales and in the wider world.

This week features a number of special days and the start of events, which help us to celebrate our diversity, promote inclusivity and foster our sense of belonging.

February is LGBT+ History Month. Please see the events promoted by 'Proud Councils' attached.



On February 5th 2021, we join the rest of Wales in celebrating 'Welsh Language Music Day.' We have included some information and a suggested playlist below. Many of these acts are becoming internationally famous or are tipped to be renowned in the next few years. Why not give them your support by listening to them today? You'll be able to say you were there from the start!

Cardiff Libraries also start their online English conversation club on Feb 5th 2021. For more information and to make new friends, go to: www.cardiffhubs.co.uk.



We know that many members of our neighbourhood have pulled together recently and we are proud of the strong community spirit shown. By working together and helping one another we can achieve great things.

Date	Top Merits in Year Group
Friday – 29.01.21	Taylor-Leigh Shellard Selma Asumang Kaltoum Chafik Sabeen Omer Aimee Langmead Minahil Mahmood Evie Power Enimiah Jarvis Sama Al-Battat Shantaya Williams Lataya Marden Ayad Mohamed Hasan Islam Morgan Uphill Madison Morris
Monday – 01.02.21	Lisa Inganda Zukuraf Subhani Sadia Sadia Christelle Tala Arslan Sharieff Ellie Powell
Tuesday – 02.02.21	Lisa Inganda Iestyn Britten Sophie Russ Yosan Yeibiyo Sajida Benmbarek Kennedy Wesley-Williams Yalda Hashemi Kritika Chandel Samiya Mohamed
Wednesday – 03.02.21	Amal Hersi Iestyn Britten Christelle Tala Sophie Jaafar Yosan Yeibiyo Emma Albinus
Thursday – 04.02.21	Tomos Slisko Sama Al- Battat Bilal Muhammed Morgan Uphill Nyah Davies Jasmine Kirby Chomchanok Donsamak Ange Santima

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School News:

Introducing myON digital library:

We are pleased to announce that all of our pupils now have access to a personalised digital library so that they can continue their reading journey at home. myON is a pupil centred literacy website that works in harmony with Star Reading and Accelerated Reader- the platforms that we use to track our pupils' reading ages. Our pupils now have access to more than 6,000 digital books and the titles are dynamically matched to the pupil's interests, year group and reading level.



Using myON both teachers and parents can monitor a child's reading and the progress of their reading age. This will ensure that we see continued improvement. With a little encouragement and a positive attitude, we know that this will help our pupils become lifelong readers.

Your child will have been sent their unique password by their English teacher. Please encourage them to log on and explore this new resource. If you have any problems with logging in etc, please contact Jane.Crawshaw@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

English Competition:

Please find attached the details of a poetry competition suitable for our pupils and pupils in our feeder primaries to enter. Our English teachers will be inspiring and encouraging our pupils with this next week.

Magical Maths:

From our department of Mathemagicians, comes Magical Maths! Pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6 (and their parents) are invited to join Mr. Batchelor for this free online event on 24.02.21. Register on Eventbrite here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/magical-maths-tickets-139861853569>

MFL Mentoring starts up again this week:

MFL Mentoring is an award-winning scheme run by the Modern Foreign Languages Department at Cardiff University. It pairs our Year 9 pupils with an undergraduate currently studying at the University.



We have been lucky enough to take part in the scheme since 2017 and during that time have welcomed some truly inspirational mentors to school to work with our pupils. The scheme has also allowed us to forge closer links with the languages department at the University which has benefited our wider school community by supporting our Year 10 and 11 pupils taking language exams from Chinese to Portuguese via German, Persian and Polish.

This year, due to the Covid 19 pandemic, things have changed a little but Cardiff University have embraced this change and provided online mentoring to our pupils enabling even more of them to benefit than in a normal year. Our mentors, Lily and Ella, have been full of praise for the way in which our pupils have engaged in the sessions that have been provided for them covering topics such as Languages and Culture, Translation, Performance and Communication.

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If you want to find out more about the scheme then please visit www.mflmentoring.co.uk or contact Joanne.Brace@willows.cardiff.sch.uk

Additionally, we now have a subscription to Linguascope to help with your language learning in both French and Welsh. If you have not yet had the log in please email your French or Welsh teacher or ask in your next online lesson.



Coding Fun!

Thanks to our innovative pupil, Jake Dunnett for the following message:

Just to tell everyone there's a free weekend this week on a coding website for multiple things like improving productivity or enhancing skills the link is www.pluralsight.com. Sign up on weekend for free trial – from Fri 5th to Sunday 7th February.

Great sharing, Jake!

Health and Well-being:

This week the pupils have had an assembly for Children's Mental Health week based on the theme of expressing yourself. Mr. Sage talked us through the reasons why we should have fun and experience things we have never tried before. We were inspired to show our feelings through creativity such as art, poetry and dance.

We learnt the importance of making an effort to help people feel that they belong – even if this is just a friendly wave or gesture at this time.

We learnt the importance of relaxing and slowing our mind down to recharge. Mr. Sage re-iterated the importance of a good night's sleep.

Please remember that all of the above advice is just as important for parents too.



Cardiff Youth Service:

Here is a link by Cardiff Youth Service to a Padlet featuring links to a number of services that may benefit young people at this time:

<https://padlet.com/CardiffYouthService/m278o4xvsqziwao3>

More resources, including a handy planner for families, can be found here: <http://cardiffyouthservices.wales/>

Here is a reminder of some of the key services available for young people and their families:

- **School nurse** – pupils can text 07520615718 or 'chat' on 'Chathealth.NHS.UK' for confidential advice and support.
- **Family Gateway** – 03000133133 – provides advice for families no matter how big or small the problem.
- **Food Bank** - our nearest food bank can be found at St. Saviours Church on Splott Road. For dates

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and times, go to <https://cardiff.foodbank.org.uk/>

- **Period Poverty** – Please e-mail Mrs. Bubbins at Kelly.Bubbins@willows.cardiff.sch.uk if you need feminine hygiene products and we'll do our best to help.

Community:

Railway Gardens:

Green Squirrel have been working with the community in Splott and Adamsdown to design and develop an exciting new community space on a disused piece of land on Railway Street. We are pleased that members of our school community, headed by Miss. Treble have a chance to be involved with such a worthwhile project.

This will be a space for community action on the issues that matter to local people. It will provide facilities, training, activities, and support for Splott and Adamsdown residents to develop local solutions to inequality, food poverty, climate breakdown, biodiversity loss, and other challenges affecting our community and beyond. We are so excited about this project!

For those of you that are new to the project you can visit the [Railway Gardens website](#) here to find out more about what the site will include and how you can get involved.

We are grateful for support from The Co-op Foundation's Community Spaces programme and the Welsh Government's Landfill Disposal Tax Grant.

Railway Gardens will be holding their next Community Catch-up event on 11.02.21 from 6.30 – 8.00 pm. Why not join their friendly and informal zoom session to ...

- find out the latest news and updates from the project.
- [Play Wales](#) will be joining us to share some simple but awesome play ideas to keep everyone happy and healthy during lockdown, as well as introducing an exciting opportunity to become part of a local Play Action Group and receive free accredited training.
- find out about opportunities to support the project and volunteer
- And get involved in our next creative community challenge to help us design the Railway Gardens logo!

Splott Albion:

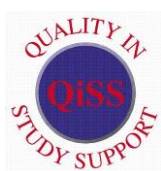
Congratulations to Splott Albion for nearing the £1,00 mark in their fundraising efforts. However, there is more to be done to safeguard Splott Park from any further damage. Please read their Go Fund Me story, share as much as possible and please donate what you can. Viva La Splott!

https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-splott-albion-protect-splott-park?sharetype=teams&member=8302932&rcid=r01-161174950363-64bd6c907e714ada&pc=tw_co_campmgmt_m&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&utm_campaign=p_lico+share-sheet

Tremorfa Community Pantry:

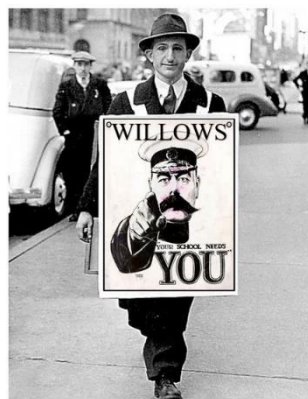
Why not enter Tremorfa Community Pantry's design a logo competition? E-mail your design to tremorfapantry@outlook.com by 28.02.21 to be in with the chance of winning a £30 Amazon Gift Card.

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Community Governor Vacancy:

We want to hear from people in our local community who would like to support our school and our pupils as a Community Governor. Some experience in Marketing and/or Premises, Health & Safety Management would be ideal. We currently have two vacancies. If this is not for you, but you know someone who might be interested, please forward this to them. The link for the application form is here: <https://www.willowshigh.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Application-Form-Community-Governor-Willows-High-Jan-2021.doc>.



"A FASCINATING & WORTHWHILE EXPERIENCE"

Your school needs you...we would like to hear from people in the local community who have a few hours a year to support our school and its pupils as a Community Governor.

Ideally people with some experience in Marketing, Premises or Health and Safety to compliment the skills of the existing Governing body and could bring valuable knowledge to the team.

For further information contact Anne Cullen, Clerk to the Governing Body:

T: 02920872912 / 07815995152
E: anne.cullen2@cardiff.gov.uk

Welsh Language Music Day – 05.02.21:



Thanks to Ms. Rees for telling us all about Welsh Language Music Day:

Historically, Wales has always had a strong connection with music. A large part of our culture and heritage is formed by folk music, choirs and brass bands. We also have a famous jazz festival held annually in Brecon. There is also no shortage of successful Welsh music artists thanks to the likes of Tom Jones, Shirley Bassey, Shakin' Stevens, Catherine Jenkins and the Stereophonics. Even the Go Compare man is Welsh!

This Friday we will celebrate Welsh language Music Day. Founded by the BBC DJ Huw Stephens in 2013 and held annually on the first weekend in February. The day aims to encourage people who don't speak the language, to embrace the vibrant Welsh language music scene. Ordinarily, the day would be marked with live music events being held over the city. This year, why not celebrate at home by listening to the following suggestions on YouTube?

- Sosej Bins a Chips by Rocyn - Fab rock song. No points for guessing what the title means....
- Sosban Fach – Welsh folk song – An oldie, but a goodie. Everyone has shouted this in primary school! Get nostalgic and get shouting.
- Myfanwy – A traditional Welsh folk song. Many versions are subtitled in English so you can follow the enchanting lyrics.
- Calon Lan – Cerys Mathews – A great cover by a talented singer.
- Yma o Hyd – An empowering and patriotic song to celebrate Welsh people and the Welsh language.
- O Nefoedd! By Bandicoot – Indie song with a mixture of Welsh and English lyrics. It sounds strange- but it works!
- Swnamí – Gwreiddiau (roots) – A Welsh indie rock band. Previous winners of the Welsh album of the year.

Here are links to our latest favourite tracks:

'Rhedeg I Baris' gan Candelas - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FfJCBEvOPk>

'Mynd a Dod' gan Wigwam - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZMoHXm-f6g>

'Sefa Da Fi' gan Bronwen Lewis - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2fREO6A06k>

'Taran' gan Wigwam - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsI47_k32Jw

Mei Gwynedd - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9zwONMt8R4>

Enjoy discovering some new music. Ddydd miwsig Cymru hapus!

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Have your Say:

We are incredibly proud of our online learning provision but would welcome your input into enhancing this. Please ask your child to complete the pupil survey below:

Link to the Pupil Survey:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=UjHFHGu57UqoBhCg1HzkvdfegnXw8CpNqsmDYDd0bc9UNDBDVVhOU0IRWE44TU4wSzBTMIhPMDIRWi4u>

Link to the Parent Survey:

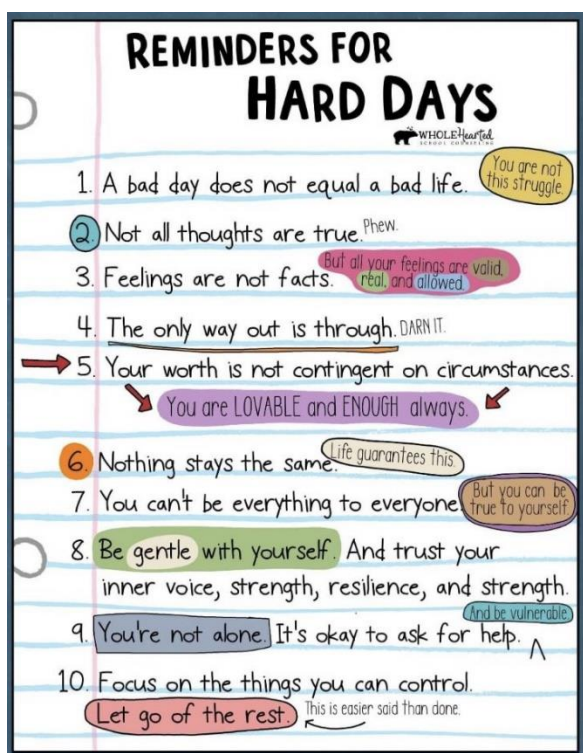
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=UjHFHGu57UqoBhCg1HzkvYaUea4-S71BtxFOHda9Bi1UQlhJTE1BMjREN1FGUFRCU09BOE1VVzQzTS4u>

Thank you in advance for your feedback.

Diolch:

Thank you, as always, for all of your support with our online learning. We remain very grateful to those have passed on their kind comments to our teachers and Welfare Officers. If you have any further pupil specific questions, your first point of contact should be contact@willows.cardiff.sch.uk or you can ring the school reception on 029 20414243 who can put you in touch with the relevant member of staff.

Team Willows



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Cystadleuaeth ysgrifennu: Cynradd ac Uwchradd

Writing Competition: Primary and Secondary

Ydych chi'n dysgu'r Dylan Thomas nesaf, ydy eich dosbarth yn llawn meddyliau creadigol a fydd yn caru'r siawns i ddisgleirio?

Rydym yn cynnig y cyfle i ennill talebau rhodd Hope Education gwerth £100 i wario ar eich ysgol (a thaleb rhodd Amazon gwerth £20 am yr ysgrifennydd buddugol o bob categori). Yn syml, gofynnwch eich disgyblion i ddisgrifio mewn stori fer o ddim mwy na 500 gair neu gerdd, eu profiadau o fyw trwy bandemig Covid-19.

Mae yna dau gategori; Cynradd ac Uwchradd, i sicrhau bod gan disgyblion cyfle teg i ennill a chystadlu.

Nodwch trwy ebostio'ch cais i **Daphne.lansbury@hope-education.co.uk** gyda'ch categori a ddewiswyd, enw ysgol a rhif ffon cyswllt.

Dyddiad cau y cystadleuaeth yw hanner nos 22/02/21. Ni chynigir unrhyw gyfwerth a'r gwobr ac mae penderfyniad y beirniad yn derfynol. Mae ysgolion yn gallu gwneud nifer o geisiadau, does dim terfyn uchaf.

Are you teaching the next Dylan Thomas, is your classroom filled with creative minds who would love their chance to shine?

We are offering you the chance to win £100 Hope Education gift vouchers to spend in your school (and a £20 Amazon gift voucher for the winning writer of each category!). Simply ask your pupils to tell us in a short story of no more than 500 words or a poem, about their experience of living through the Covid-19 pandemic.

There are two categories, primary and secondary, to ensure all pupils have a fair chance to win and enter.

Enter by emailing your entry to **Daphne.lansbury@hope-education.co.uk** with your chosen category, school name and contact telephone number.

Competition closing date is midnight 22/02/2021. No prize equivalent will be offered and judges decision is final. Schools can send in multiple entries, there is no upper limit.



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RHOI'R GWERTH GORAU YNG NGHYMRU**

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LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH

February '21

Follow the links each day to access resources and events

MONDAY

1 Y-POP
LGBTQ+ and Ally
Youth Group
5-6pm Zoom
Join at
[Y-POP Facebook](#)

TUESDAY

2 Crown
Prosecution Service:
Let's talk LGBT+
2-3.30pm
[Book here](#)

WEDNESDAY

3

THURSDAY

4 My Generation:
Lewis, a trans man
from Wales
[Watch video here](#)

FRIDAY

5 Crown
Prosecution Service:
Let's talk LGBT+
2-3.30pm
[Book here](#)

SATURDAY

6

SUNDAY

7 The story of
queer country music
and its message
of hope
[Read here](#)

8 Y-POP
LGBTQ+ and Ally
Youth Group
5-6pm Zoom
Join at
[Y-POP Facebook](#)

9

10 Pride Cymru
Event sponsored by
Proud Councils
[Pride: The Rainbow
United](#)

11

12

13 LGBTQ+ History
Month Launch 2021:
Body, Mind and Spirit
[See launch here](#)

14

15 Y-POP
LGBTQ+ and Ally
Youth Group
5-6pm Zoom
Join at
[Y-POP Facebook](#)

16

17 My Generation:
This Is What Non
Binary Looks Like
[Watch video here](#)

18

19 BBC: How much
do you know about
LGBT+ History?
[Watch video here](#)

20 Norena Shopland
*The Past at Your
Finger Tips*
11am-12pm
[Book here](#)

21

22 Y-POP
LGBTQ+ and Ally
Youth Group
5-6pm Zoom
Join at
[Y-POP Facebook](#)

23

24 Stonewall
Workshop:
Delivering LGBT
Inclusive services
2-4pm
[Book here](#)

25

26 LGBTQ+
Global History
Paul Davies
Coleg y Cymoedd
[@ProudCouncils](#)

27 How to be a
trans ally: Workshop
for Council staff only
11am-1.30pm
[Book here](#)

28



Proud Councils supporting **LGBT+ HISTORY MONTH 2021**
'Body, Mind, Spirit'

