

Spring 2022-3rd Edition

YBBA

Newsletter



Summer

2021 - Edition

Ysgol Mawrdd

Ysgol Heulfan

St. Mary's

Gwersyllt Community

Black Lane School

Ysgol Tangfan

BRYNTEG C.P School

Front Cover by Ebrahima Jallow of Ysgol Heulfan

STEM using LEGO

This term our topic has been "Marvellous Machines." As our entry point, we were visited by Nick from Junior Stem. We were challenged to build and programme a Lego car.



Every class from reception to Year 6 were able to take part. The sessions were adapted depending on our age.

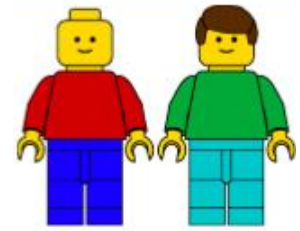


Our first job was to build a Lego model with equipment given. We used the iPad, which gave us a step by step guide of how to build it.





We then used an app on the iPad to program the model to move, make sounds and shine lights.



This was so much fun and we would love to do it again.

The children really enjoyed this activity.



I love playing with Lego and wish we could do this all the time!



A quote from one of our parents:
Thank you to all who made yesterday a huge success. My child came home yesterday buzzing with excitement about Lego and how it can move. She was overwhelmed at the opportunity to play with such expensive equipment and explore how it works. She really gained the essence of how marvellous machines can be.

Welcome

Welcome to our Spring Edition of our Bryn Alyn Cluster Newsletter. It has been another busy term with fantastic opportunities for all our students. Staff at Ysgol Bryn Alyn have enjoyed working with all our Cluster Primary Schools on the New Curriculum for Wales sharing good practice and discussing teaching and learning. We are very excited about our next meeting and ensuring we are creating an amazing curriculum to inspire and enthuse you all. It has also been wonderful to invite our Primary Schools to visit again. I hope you enjoy reading about all the fantastic opportunities and events that have been experienced in each of our schools.



Dream. Reach. Achieve.



Competition

This is our third Newsletter which includes news from YBA and all of its Primary School Cluster. We hope you have enjoyed the first two and thank you for all of your positive feedback.

Ebrahima Jallow was chosen by Mrs Slinn from all of the entries we received and as you can see by our Front Cover for Spring 2022 is brilliant.

Do you think you can do as good as Ebrahima then why not send in your ideas.

It needs to show how you think we should all work together in our community, and the competition is open to anyone with a great idea.

So, send in ideas for the name of the front of the Newsletter. The next one will be for Easter and we already have an entry for the Summer edition.

Your design will be on the front cover of the Easter edition and your school will be on the first 2 pages and there will also be a prize awarded when the Newsletter is given out.

Send your entries to Mrs Dawn Beet, include your name, year group and school name

Email: mailbox@ysgolbrynalyn.wrexham.sch.uk

Post: Ysgol Bryn Alyn, Church Street, Gwersyllt, Wrexham, LL11 4HD



St. David's Day

What a wonderful St David's Day it was! We had the privilege of being involved in the St David's Day event in Wrexham on March 1st

Pupils represented the school in the parade through town and also our GCSE Dancers performed a specially choreographed dance for the Wrexham St David's stage!

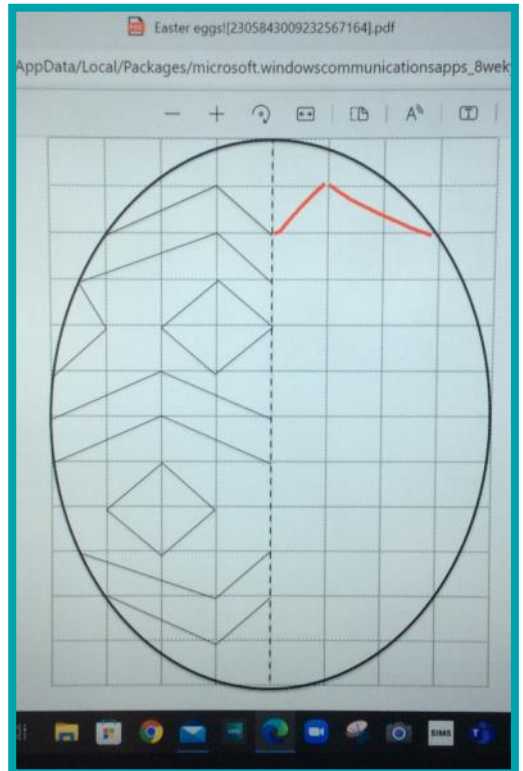
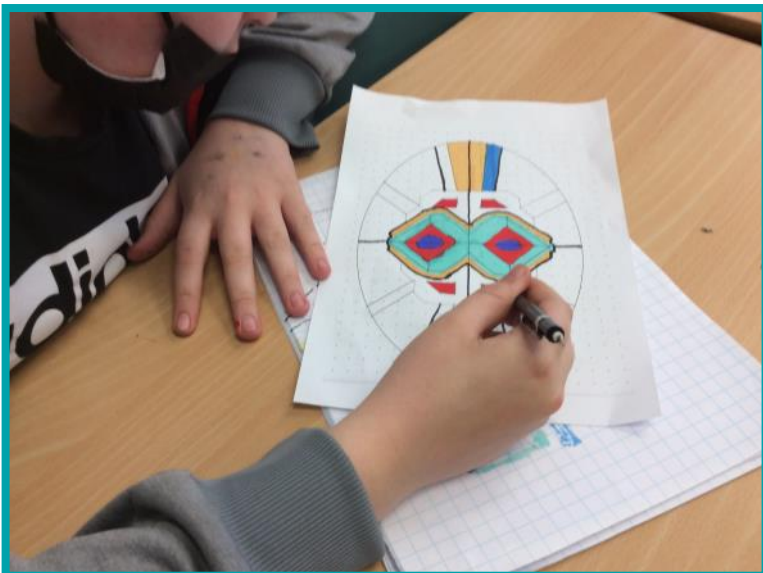
Mr Jez Kent, Governor and Chair of the YBA Student, Staff Wellbeing Committee went along too! Thanks also must go to all the parents and grandparents who supported - lovely to see you all on such a wonderful occasion.



Litter Free Zone

YBA have signed up to being a Litter Free Zone which is a national campaign. On March 18th Shane and Emma kindly delivered our litter picking kits, we were so excited to be launching this initially with our Year 7 pupils, as part of Spring Clean Cymru.

Hope for Humanity Day



Hope for Humanity Day

What a fantastic day the 1st April was! We asked for a sea of blue and yellow.....and guess what?!...we had a sea of blue and yellow! It was fabulous to have a focus day on the issues that we have in our world and raise money for such an important cause at the same time!

Our KS3 pupils really enjoyed their activities and so did the staff who put the tasks together. It allowed our pupils to be empathetic to the plight of the Ukrainians, and also for our pupils to talk about the impact of the Ukrainian war on everyone, and raise much needed funds to support the efforts to help in a country far from our own.



- Maths Faculty worked on symmetry using the humble Easter egg known as a 'Pysanka' in Ukraine
- Expressive Arts had pupils dancing Ukrainian traditional folk dance
- Expressive Arts discussed the occupation of the current President of Ukraine in Drama as he was an actor before he became President.
- Humanities Faculty the pupils had a really interesting discussion on what were the issues facing humanity today and what solutions could be put forward.
- Humanities Faculty, Mr Griffiths had his form pupils researching what Ukraine is facing today and discovering what has happened so far.
- Mrs Ellis baked and iced THE MOST AMAZING CAKE to raffle in a bid to raise £100 to go into the YBA Ukrainian Charity donation pot.
- Prince's Trust team with Mrs Evans-Lea hosted a Coffee and Cake break!

Fundraiser Total- £580.98



Well Done!

Year 11 Fund Raising Day

On March 18th our year 11 pupils held a fantastic charity fundraiser. There were dinosaurs, pink ladies, men in black to name a few of our Year 11 characters! Take a look at the photographs to see the effort that they put in to raising money. Our pupils really enjoyed visiting the Charity Fayre in the top hall where they could take part in the raffles, pin the tail on the donkey, Mario Cart and spin the wheel to name but a few!

Fundraiser total - £921



Year 11 Fund Raising Day



Well Done Year 11

Junior NBA Competition



On the 15th March Mr Holden and the Ysgol Bryn Alyn Pacers travelled to the Brailsford Centre, Bangor University, for the JrNBA Northern Conference.

They were in a pool with schools from Menai and Holywell. They were hoping to win their pool, so they could go through to the finals in Aberystwyth in June. The pupils worked hard on the court but struggled to defend against some more established players and were unable to gain a win in any of their games. They've made great progress in the short time they've been playing and hope to return next year, where there are plans for a WNBA (girls only) competition as well.



Boxing



A fantastic group of students have been attending weekly boxing sessions with Nigel this term and completed their boxing award on February 16th. It has been amazing watching them progress and take on new challenges.



The Politics Project



Mrs Byrne head of our Languages Faculty and a number of the school council were involved in an activity organised by The Politics Project. It was a digital surgery with Councillor Phil Rees. Councillor Rees was really impressed with our school councillors and the questions they asked, questions such as “if you were First Minister, how would you approach the Covid pandemic?” and “Have any of your decisions as councillor had a negative impact, if so how did this affect you?” The Politics Project really enthused our young people to get involved in debate and discussion!

Dissection in Science



Year 5 & 6 from Gwersyllt CP came to YBA on March 8th to visit our Science department. There they did some science investigative work led by Mr Prebble one of our science teachers. The class studied the heart and wanted to learn more about this special organ. They had their first experience of a lesson in dissection! The pupils asked some fantastic questions and really enjoyed their time in the lab.



World of Work Day (WOW Day)

On the 27th of January Year 9 pupils at YBA participated in a World of Work Day (WOW Day). The timing could not have been more perfect as the Year 9 pupils at Ysgol Bryn Alyn were currently in the process of choosing their options. Decisions which could determine their next steps and future aspirations.

The day was funded by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales and delivered by the Reaching Wider North and Mid Wales Partnership. During the day pupils participated in a range of activities and workshops from Careers to Money.

Year 9 pupils really valued the day as it gave them a real insight into the jobs market and key life skills.



Football Tournament

On March 1st Mr. Jones our Head of Health and Wellbeing Faculty Head went with year 7/8 and 9/10 football teams to compete in a football tournament at Cefn Druids.

The year 7/8 were undefeated and won 5 out of 6 games and drew one game against Morgan Llywd. The team kept a clean sheet in all games, not conceding any goals.

The year 9/10 won 3 out of 5 games and managed to beat the favourites Grango 3-2.





Welsh Week



The whole school participated in Welsh week, where children learnt Welsh songs and poems, explored Welsh artists and researched Welsh places. Families engaged in home project competitions, learning about the Welsh culture. We had some amazing entries covering the themes of Welsh castles, cooking, costume, daffodils, love spoons and rugby. We finished off the week with our Eisteddfod, where pupils performed songs and poems to groups and sang the Welsh National Anthem.



Cardiff

Blwyddyn 5 & 6 went on a 2 day residential trip to Cardiff! We had an amazing time and visited The Big Pit to learn about mining, The Principality Stadium, Cardiff Castle, The Senedd and the National Museum. We got to go on a boat trip around Cardiff Bay. The weather was beautiful

Lego Museum

Blwyddyn 5 & 6 visited Wrexham Museum to look at famous landmarks in Wrexham, made out of Lego. They participated in a Lego workshop and exploring the historic landmarks – lots of fun.





World Book Day



We celebrated World Book Day by inviting everyone to dress up as their favourite book character and sharing the stories they love. Mr Davies (our very own storyteller), read a story to each class throughout the day, which they loved. Reception children joined an online workshop with author Nadia Shireen and took part in a guided draw. Children also took part in a 'book swap' and got to swap a book for a new one!



Visit to St. Paul's

Reception children visited the St. Paul's Church in Pentre Broughton to meet Vicar Will and explore features of the church. It was lovely to walk through our village and start making connections within the community again.

Community Litter Pick

Our Eco Council have met with local Councillor Beverley Parry-Jones and MP Simon Baynes to discuss the importance of looking after the environment. They carried out a litter pick around Pentre Broughton and managed to fill 4 bin bags in 1 hour!!



St. David's Day

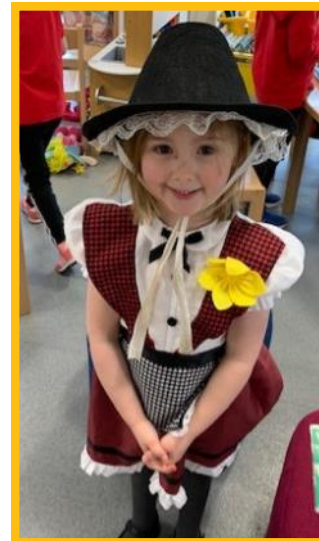


Although it wasn't quite back to normal, the pupil's at Gwersyllt CP celebrated St David's Day with the usual gusto, displaying an array of fantastic costume and hard work.

Foundation Phase performed songs to each other via the magic of teams and it was clear that the pupils and parents had spent much of their half term creating some wonderful Welsh Castles. Da iawn chi!

Our Cwriw Cymraeg continue to go from strength to strength. Just prior to the lockdown they were presented with the Bronze award for their endeavours. They now meet weekly and are aiming their sights on the silver. Frequent videos updating the school on 'Phrase of the week' are created and polls and quizzes are created to question the classes about their favourite aspects of Wales. Recently, we looked at a variety of Welsh music.





Trip to the SeaQuarium in Rhyl

Class 3, as part of their topic, enjoyed a trip to the Sea-Quarium in Rhyl. They explored the beaches, experimented with the nature they found there and, of course, visited the aquarium during their day.

