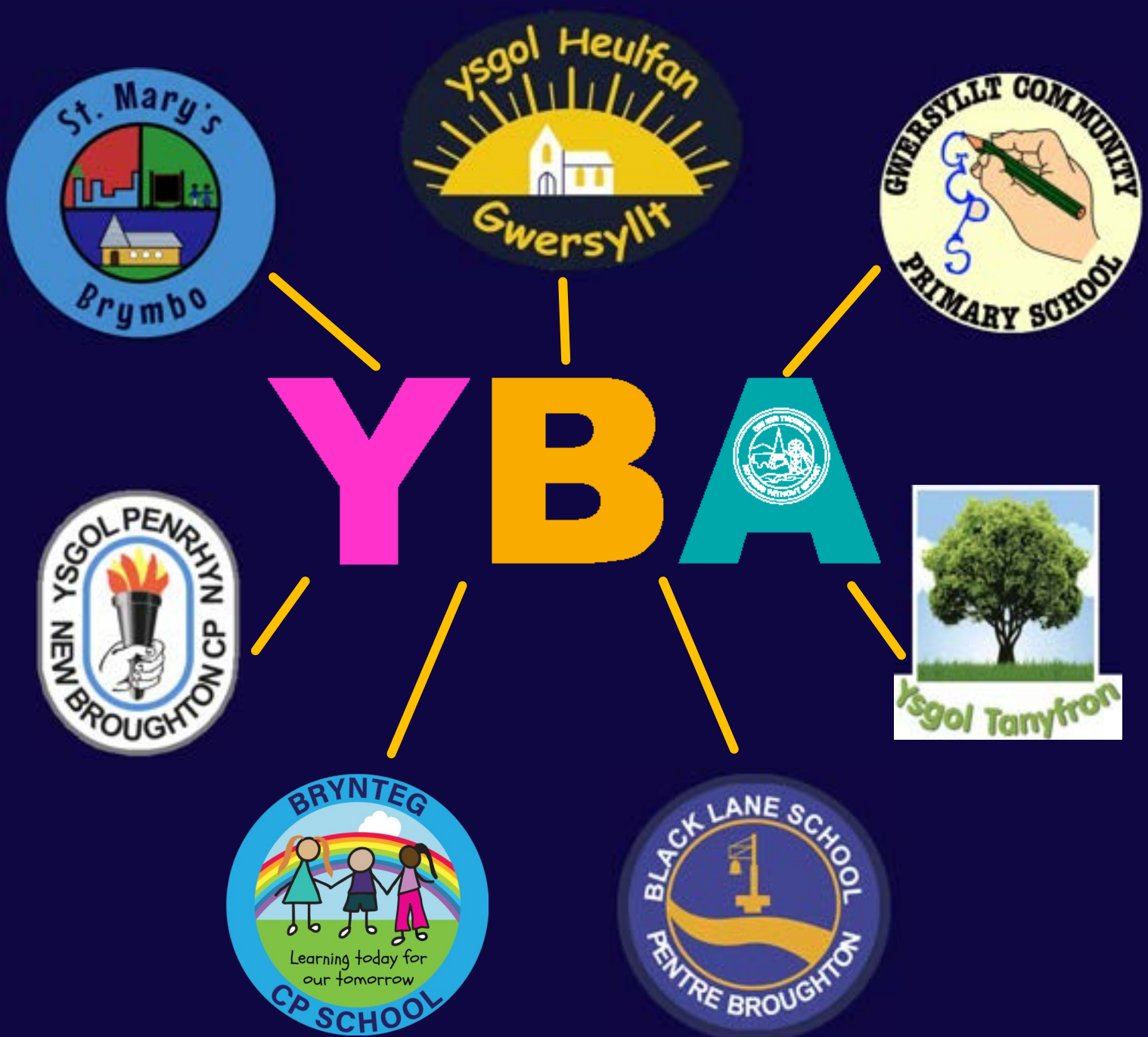


Newsletter

Easter 2025 – 12th Edition



Leader Education Awards 2025

Ysgol Bryn Alyn Triumphs at Evening Leader Awards

In late January, Ysgol Bryn Alyn celebrated an incredible achievement as it was nominated and shortlisted for the third consecutive year for the prestigious Secondary School of the Year at the Evening Leader awards. This recognition is a testament to the unwavering dedication and hard work of the entire YBA community.

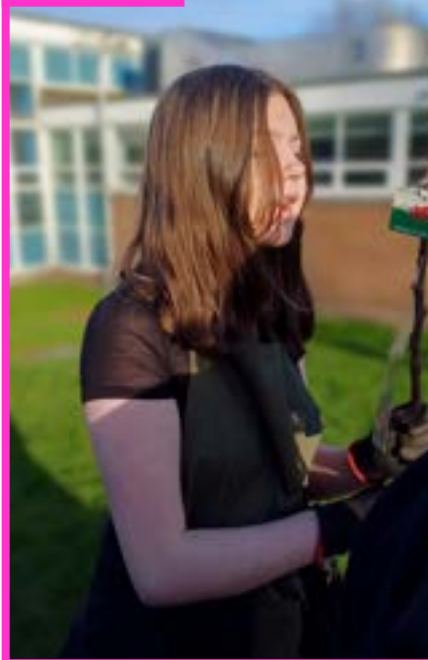
Mrs. Slinn, Mr. Ransome, Miss Williams and Mrs. Ebrey proudly represented our school at the ceremony, embodying the spirit of excellence that Ysgol Bryn Alyn stands for. In a thrilling reveal, we are ecstatic to announce that Ysgol Bryn Alyn clinched the coveted title, showcasing the commitment and support of our fantastic community! Additionally, Mrs. Ebrey was honored as a finalist for the Best Professional Leader Award, further highlighting the exceptional leadership within our school.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone for your constant support — together, we create an environment where students can thrive and achieve greatness!



Dream. Reach. Achieve.

Community Garden



Our pupils have been diligently engaged in a rewarding project, planting fruit trees alongside Tracey and Mandy, our dedicated youth workers, to prepare the Community Garden for its highly anticipated grand opening. This initiative is not just about gardening; it underscores the vital role of community involvement and the importance of education in fostering environmental issues. The excitement and hard work put in by the children have fostered a profound sense of pride and accomplishment. Through their hands-on experience in nurturing these young trees, they have developed a deeper understanding of the connection between nature and the community.



We eagerly anticipate watching these fruit trees grow and flourish in the coming years, and we look forward to the moment when the students can relish the literal fruits of their labour. This project is more than just planting trees; it is cultivating a lasting relationship between our youth and the environment, promoting sustainability, and inspiring future generations to care for their surroundings. Join us in celebrating this significant milestone and the bright future of our Community Garden!

YBA International Trip — Greece

In March Miss Kipping and Mrs Noon and a group of our year 9 pupils went to Xanthi in Greece as part of our International Project.

What an amazing experience and one they will never forget.

We know that travel has a huge influence in shaping us as individuals. With our visits that have been funded by Taith and organised by the amazing Mr Mick Boyle, who works closely with YBA to arrange these once in a lifetime trips, our pupils are having a fantastic insight into countries that they know but generally don't visit places that are 'off the beaten' tourist trail. They get to link up with pupils from our host schools and can gain a real insight into life in these places through being hosted by families.



The pupils enjoyed a drive up into the mountains and a visit to an ancient monument



YBA pupils performed their drama work alongside their new Greek friends, and they were presented with certificates of participation at the end.

Dream. Reach. Achieve.

YBA International Trip — Poland

Another YBA International trip left for Poland in January, Mr Jones and Mr Eames were the lucky YBA staff who accompanied our fabulous pupils. The group were really looking forward to visiting our partner school in Slupsk for the week after some sightseeing in Gdansk.



One day everyone was awake and ready at 7am for an early start to REDZIKOWO school to experience some Polish military training



Our pupils were taught how to play chess by a year 3 master!!!



After completing their collaborative final performance they had a lovely meal out with all involved with the project.

School Council



Early February, the school council met SLT to feedback on concerns, questions and issues the pupil body has raised. They put forward solutions and ideas on these and they will be discussed further by SLT.

SLT appreciated the time the council gave to this and were impressed, as always, by their maturity and articulacy.

In early February the School Council joined a nationwide TEAM's meeting with Keep Wales Tidy and other Eco-Schools in Wales, focusing on what impact we are making. During the session ideas were shared and through some fun activities.



Visit by Andrew Ranger MP



In early April We were thrilled to welcome our local MP, Andrew Ranger - MP for Wrexham! His visit demonstrated the importance of ensuring that our pupils' voices are heard—because at YBA, we are passionate about empowering young people to have the confidence to make change where it's needed.

Mr. Ranger wrapped up his visit by discussing the importance of reading with Year 7 students. He shared his own experiences and encouraged our pupils to read for both learning and enjoyment—because books have the power to open minds and shape futures!

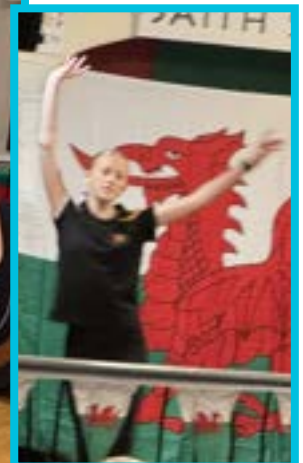


St David's Day Festival

We finished our first half term of 2025 with our students performing at the Saith Seren in Wrexham for the St David's festival. We are so proud of Judah Leslie (Year 7, a member of our Welsh club) who recited a poem, Callum Plevin who sang a beautiful Welsh song and Nicole Hughes (Year 11) who performed a moving, expressive contemporary dance. We were warmly welcomed and it was fantastic to be part of the afternoon.

Thank you to Mr Geography Jones, Ms Byrne and Mr Humphreys for supporting with the organisation and to all the parents for bringing the pupils to the event and supporting them.

Well done to our fabulous three who performed.



Primary Visits—'Have A Go Lesson'



At the end of January a group of enthusiastic pupils from Gwersyllt CP participated in an exciting 'Have a Go' lesson led by Mrs. Ebrey. The activity aimed to promote teamwork and communication skills among the students, all while having a blast in the gym.

Mrs. Ebrey divided the participants into four dynamic teams. The challenge was to navigate across a cleverly designed Mad Maze made up of gym mats spread across the floor. Each team had to strategize on a white board and work together to figure out the best way to guide their teammates through the maze without stepping on any wrong mats.

As the students navigated through the challenges, the gymnasium filled with energy, laughter, and lots of enthusiastic shouting. The excitement in the air was palpable as teammates encouraged one another and shouted directions to help their peers successfully cross the maze.

Well done Gwersyllt CP



Open Evening Competition

Mrs. Slinn, paid a special visit to Gwersyllt Community Primary School in January to give Year 6 student Noah Francis an exciting reward. Noah was the proud winner of the Open Evening Competition held in October last year, and his impressive entry earned him a Kindle as a prize.

Mrs. Slinn's visit underscored the strong connection between local schools and the commitment to nurturing young students in the area.

Well done Noah!



Dream. Reach. Achieve.

Lego League Team

In an inspiring initiative aimed at raising awareness about recycling, a group of enthusiastic Year 8 pupils recently visited AO's recycling centre in Telford. Their visit was not just a tour, but a creative challenge: to produce an Instagram-friendly video that captures the vital processes occurring at the site and highlights the importance of recycling in our communities.

After filming and editing their videos, the entries were posted online, inviting AO's Instagram audience to vote for their favorite. The response was overwhelming, and excitement built as the votes were tallied. Ultimately, the winners emerged, each taking home a £75 gift voucher as recognition for their hard work and creativity!



As part of Science Week in March the Lego League Team travelled to Llanduduno's Venue Cymru to compete in the challenge and came back with a trophy and a personal best!

The team made up of pupils from years 7 and 8 have been building and programming Lego Robots to take part in this year's First Lego League Challenge called "Submerged".

As part of the competition AO kindly funded the team's Lego Board where they had to construct a series of Lego Challenges for their robot to complete including; release the shark, rescue the octopus and construct an artificial reef. This year the theme was oceans. The team also produced a presentation on the oceans theme. They chose to express their worry over the amount of plastic waste in the oceans and the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

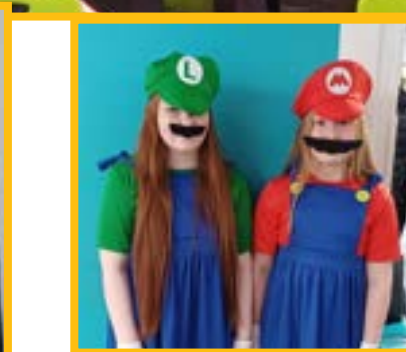
The team came up with ideas about how to address this, including their trip to AO to see how they are recycling white goods waste, including how they separate plastics from other waste. They were delighted to have beaten their score from last year's competition and came away with a Lego trophy for the team that showed the most promise in the future.

Well done to the 'Magnificent Seven', onwards and upwards for next year.

World Book Day

World Book Day is a joyous celebration of reading and stories, and this year, Ysgol Bryn Alyn fully embraced the occasion with a vibrant array of activities that united students and staff in their love for literature. From imaginative costumes to engaging competitions, it was a day overflowing with creativity and excitement.

The festivities kicked off with students and staff dressing as their favourite book characters, transforming the school into a colourful tapestry of literary figures. Whether portraying iconic heroes like Harry Potter or whimsical characters like the Chipmunks, everyone got into the spirit. A special shout-out goes to the Science and Technology Faculty, who synchronously dressed as Star Wars characters, complete with lightsabers!



Dance Project

At the beginning of March our wonderful Youth Workers, Mandy and Tracey, were again uplifting our pupils with their actions! Following on from the successful Dance project last year, they once again organised pupils to be involved in a bespoke Dance project to promote self-expression, build confidence and foster social connections for our pupils.

Engagement in Dance helps to develop essential skills such as teamwork, discipline and resilience and allows those involved to experience the importance of 'belonging', reducing feelings of isolation and promoting inclusivity.

Pupils involved in this project proved how amazing they are with a fantastic performance to invited guests, including their families! Mrs Slinn was so very proud of them as they performed choreographies created with the help of our visiting dance specialist, Sophie.



Attendance



Early February, yr7 and Yr8 had an Attendance Assembly with lots of pupils receiving certificates for their excellent attendance, and some received 100% attendance badges.



Fossil Forest Afterschool Club

This half term, a small group of children in Y4,5,6 were the first children in Wales to begin a Fossil Forest afterschool club at the local development site 'Stori Brymbo'. The children were given the opportunity to cast their own fossils, as well as, unearthing more treasures from around 300 millions years ago! The prospect of our school working closely with the team at Stori Brymbo has got everyone connected to the school very excited. Our next plans are to work closely with the curriculum design team at Stori Brymbo, and to help them create a series of interactive sessions to deliver when they open the doors to the public and other schools nationally.



Predict, Investigate and Record



Buoyancy: Pupils followed instructions to make a tin foil boat.
Design 1 . How many coins will your boat hold before sinking? Predict, investigate and record.



Xplore!

End of last terms visit to Explore in Wrexham City centre - Investigating our Science topic- Extreme weather

There was a workshop all about Wild Weather and then pupils had time in the Centre.



Number Day



Glan Llyn



The Year 6 pupils enjoyed their annual trip to Glan Llyn this term. Roedden nhw'n siarad llawer o gymraeg and they enjoyed a variety of activities. As always they did us proud, excellent behaviour, fantastic effort, trying new experiences and collaborating with a variety of different schools.

Da iawn pawb!

Woodland Trust Award



Dosbarth Onnen and Derwen have been taking part in the Woodland Trust Green Tree Award which encourages outdoor learning and inspires pupils to learn about trees, woods and wildlife. We have been awarded points for doing environmental projects such as tree planting, reducing CO2 emissions, wildlife surveys and visiting local woods. We have now collected 18 points and have just been awarded the prestigious Gold award! The children have learnt lots about our local area including the species of trees we have on our local field, the tree equity of Gwersyllt and why trees are important to our world.

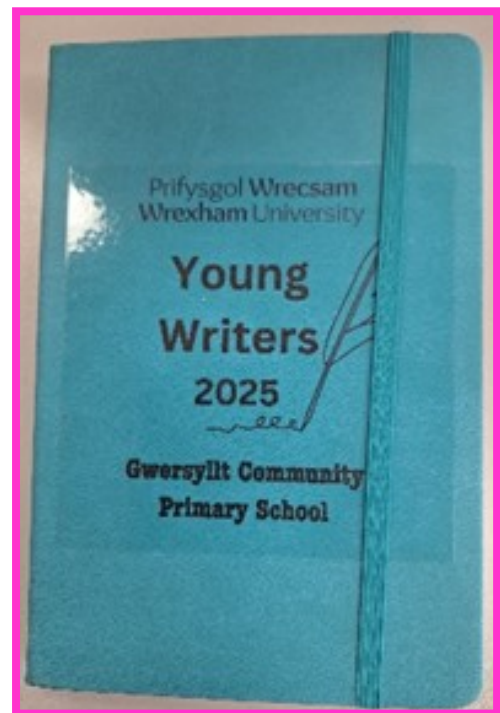


Young Writer's Event

Mrs O'Toole worked with Wrexham University to create an event involving pupils with a passion for writing. The event took place on the 13th March at Wrexham University and was attended by schools from Wrexham and Flintshire. The writers attending were offered inspiration from the author, Simon Hunt. The pupils were given lots of methods to develop their writing and were presented with a Writing Journal to record their thoughts and story ideas. The pupils also shared some of their own ideas during the event and what wonderful ideas they were! There was lots of positive feedback during and following the morning and a gallery evening for the families of the pupils involved will take place in June.



A pupil busily writing in her journal



The journal presented to all who attended

A shared event between Gwersyllt CP and Wrexham University



World Maths Day



On Friday 28th March 2025 we celebrated World Maths Day in school. Everyone dressed up and participated in lots of Maths activities!

A special well done to Liam and Maya for their fantastic costumes

Easter Eggstravaganza Competition

Staff and children are looking forward to our Easter Eggstravaganza Competitions. The Infants have been asked to make an Easter bonnet for our Annual Easter Bonnet Parade and the Juniors have to decorate a hard boiled egg and place it in a special location or scene.

There are prizes for the most creative entries!



World Book Day

Everyone enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day!

We celebrated with our very own Extreme Reading presentation designed by Mrs Speed and we had a special Assembly. Everyone enjoyed a range of class activities to celebrate the day. We have already had a group of children who have read over 100 books since September and the children are looking forward to having an invitation for the Headteacher's Lunch.



Dydd Cymraeg

St David's Day in Ysgol Heulfan – we had a fantastic day celebrating our Welsh culture. Children from the infants decorated the window in the Welsh Air Ambulance shop . It was so fabulous that they were awarded second place and were presented with a prize while on the St David's Day parade.



Panathlon Multi Sports Event

Pupils from the juniors took part in a multi sport event in St Christopher's School. They participated in a variety of activities including New Age Kurling, Boccia Blast and Table Cricket and were delighted when they clinched second place.



Croeso i Wrecsam

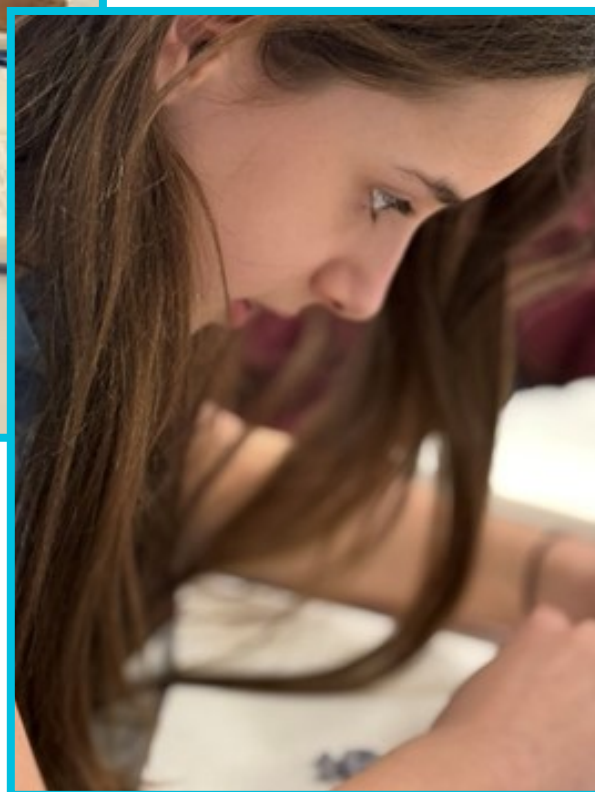


The whole school has been working on a topic to learn more about where we live. The infant pupils designed and created their own model village and welcomed their parents to school to see their work.

Creative Writing Workshop



Three of our Year 6 pupils were invited to a literacy event in Wrexham University. They listened to Simon James Hunt read one of his books and had a go at writing their own stories. The girls had a wonderful time and are looking forward to the celebration event in the summer term.



happy
EASTER

YBA

TRANSITION WELCOME NEWSLETTER

April 2025

CLASS OF 2030
CRESO

Dear Year 9 Students,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of you as you prepare to join us here at Ysgol Bryn Alyn in September 2025! This is an exciting time for each and every one of you, and we are thrilled to be part of your journey as you transition to the next stage of your education.

At Ysgol Bryn Alyn, we take great pride in providing a supportive and inclusive environment where every student can flourish. Our dedicated staff are here to guide, challenge, and encourage you to reach your full potential, both academically and personally. We believe that every student has unique talents and abilities, and it's our mission to help you discover and develop them.

Throughout your time with us, you will have the opportunity to make new friends, explore exciting subjects, and take part in a wide range of extracurricular activities, whether it's sports, music, drama, or debating. There will be something for everyone to get involved with. We encourage you to embrace all the opportunities that come your way, and we are confident you will find your place here.

We know that starting at a new school can feel like a big step, but please know that you are not alone. The staff, your fellow students, and we are here to support you every step of the way. Your journey at Ysgol Bryn Alyn will be filled with new experiences, challenges, and successes, and we are excited to see all the wonderful things you will accomplish.

Over the coming months, you will have opportunities to visit the school, meet your new teachers, and get to know the school's facilities. We want to make your transition as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

Look forward to meeting each of you in person and working with you in the years to come. September 2025 is just around the corner, and we can't wait to welcome you to Ysgol Bryn Alyn!

DREAM. REACH. ACHIEVE. @YBA

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

Our Common Transfer Days this year are: Wednesday 25th, Thursday 26th and Friday 27th June 2025.

ALN Enhanced Transition: Wednesday 25th June, Thursday 26th June, Thursday 27th June and Friday 28th June.

Year 9 Parental Evening: Thursday 27th June at 6pm.

This is an opportunity for you to ask any questions before your child starts with us in September.

TRANSITION TEAM

At YBA we have a dedicated team of staff and students who are ready to meet our new Year 9 pupils, answer questions and tell them about life at YBA.

Food and Fun Summer School 2025

This year we will be offering 14 days of Food and Fun at YBA.

All prices include:

Meals: Tuesday (2nd July to Friday 4th August) including weekends and holidays.

Cost: 100 for 14 days every day.

Cost: 7500.

Further information can be found by using the QR code.

Our Values
DREAM. REACH. ACHIEVE.

TRANSITION PROCESS

In January you will be invited to visit the school to experience life at YBA, and to meet the staff and students who will be supporting you. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know the school and to meet the staff and students who will be supporting you. This is an excellent opportunity to get to know the school and to meet the staff and students who will be supporting you.

HEAD OF YEAR/TRANSITION TEAM VISITS

From March various YBA staff will be popping into our feeder primary schools to meet our new pupils and find out about their strengths and areas of development.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

This is a digital platform created by our Head of Year 9, which is used to communicate key messages and answer Year 9 questions if they arise. All Year 9 pupils will be invited to join this Google Classroom. GC code is: **knghfrw**

HAVE A GO LESSONS

There have been taking place since October, with each school visiting us for a YBA lesson in a range of subjects – PE, music, drama, English, Maths, Computing, Languages, Humanities and PSHE.

ALN Enhanced Transition

We are offering four enhanced transition sessions this year for Year 9 students joining us who have ALN (OP in place) or are likely to have ALN within a secondary setting. These sessions will run from 08:30-14:30 and they will be on the following days: Wednesday 25th May, Thursday 26th June, Thursday 27th June and Tuesday 24th June 2025.

YBA EXTRAVAGANZA DAYS

These took place in September and were a fun introduction to our staff and pupils.

COMMON TRANSFER DAYS—Wednesday 25th, Thursday 26th and Friday 27th June.

On these days we welcome all our new students to join us for 2 days. This gives the students a chance to tour the school, meet their form tutors, meet key staff, learn about learning and behaviour expectations ready for September 2025.

TRANSITION INDUCTION WEEKS—SEPTEMBER

The first 4 weeks of term in September will be an introduction to the YBA Way. Students will follow their timetable but will have introductory lessons linked to expectations for learning across our ADOLES. Computer passwords, getting to know sessions and some baseline testing will take place during this time. This will culminate with the opportunity to attend a 2 day off the teambuilding event at Plas Menai and an award ceremony to celebrate our new Year 9's successful transition into YBA.

Ysgol Bryn Alyn
Church Street, Gersuall, Wrexham, LL11 4BB
T: 01978 726150 E: enquiries@ysgolbrynalyn.wrexham.sch.uk
W: www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk

The Transition Welcome Newsletter can be found on our website.
<https://www.ysgolbrynalyn.co.uk/transition>

YBA

Dream. Reach. Achieve.

Food and Fun Summer Scheme

Join the fun
22nd July—8th August
Sign up using the Link below

BWYD A HWYL FOOD AND FUN



QR Code
To sign up for a place.