GRŴP COLEGAU NPTC GROUP OF COLLEGES

Your College **Your Choice**

Afan College
Neath College
Llandarcy Academy of Sport
Pontardawe College
Swansea Construction Centre
Maesteg Construction Centre

NEWS

May 2023

College Supports Students with Festival of Wellbeing

NPTC Group of Colleges has launched its innovative Wellbeing Festival – a festival of fun events and activities that aims to promote health and wellbeing while highlighting the range of services that support positive mental health to College students and to the wider community.

Students can learn about all aspects of wellbeing from mental health to the benefits of physical activity, relaxation techniques to beauty tips and advice on lifestyle choices.

The festival features a range of exhibitors and activities with opportunities to explore fitness and exercise, demonstrations relating to food and nutrition, and expert advice on mindfulness and managing anxiety. Aside advice and guidance from a range of support services, sessions include a magician, falconry, and exotic and therapeutic animals.

Bridget Royce, Senior Health and Wellbeing Officer said the day highlighted the College's commitment to the wellbeing and support of all its students. *"Young people face many hurdles and it's not always easy to navigate through the tough times,"* she said. *"We are here as a College to help and listen to students concerns and to support them in achieving their goals. It's also incredible to see how much support is available within the local area."*

Masterclass from Bronwen Lewis Hits a High Note

Students from NPTC Group of Colleges were recently treated to an amazing masterclass with singer/songwriter Bronwen Lewis. Students got to talk to Bronwen about her career to date, ask questions about the song writing process and even had the opportunity to write and perform their very own 'Health and Wellbeing Anthem'.

Bronwen a Singer/Songwriter from Neath was a former contestant on The Voice, receiving international acclaim when she brought Welsh pop sensation Tom Jones to tears during one of her performances in 2013. A year later, she sang the theme song 'Bread and Roses' in the BAFTA award-winning film 'Pride'.

During the lockdown, Bronwen went on to gain a huge fan base when she performed over 45 concerts, virtually, from her home studio. Her TikTok videos, which see her cover famous pop songs in the Welsh language, also went viral, clocking up hundreds of thousands of views, and receiving coverage on BBC Radio 1's Breakfast Show with Greg James. Most recently she has joined BBC Radio Wales to host her very own show!

Bronwen also performed during the lunchtime break open to everyone at Neath College.

Vicky Burroughs, Head of School of Creative, Visual and Performing Arts was delighted to welcome Bronwen to the College and said:

"We were really excited to welcome Bronwen to the College, and the students were looking forward to meeting the Welsh star and performer.

"Masterclasses allow students to learn from industry professionals, and Bronwen gave an insightful workshop about the technical side of the industry as well as the performance side.

"Working with the students to write and perform their own song really was a truly unique experience and a day the students will never forget!"

Expert Educationalist Visits NPTC Group of Colleges

Mike Gershon, an internationally renowned educationalist, spent a week at NPTC Group of Colleges working with teaching staff to ensure the best education practices continue to be delivered to our students.

Mike has written more than 40 books on teaching, learning and education, many of which have been bestsellers. He has penned over 90 guides covering different aspects of classroom practice and his work has been translated into Dutch, Hebrew, Arabic and Chinese. He is currently working with Welsh Government on teacher training materials for all schools in Wales.

Mike works with schools, colleges, and governments in the UK and overseas providing high-quality training and consultancy on teaching and learning. Following a series of Continual Professional Development sessions, Mike visited the four main College sites to offer further support and guidance.

Mike spent the week with Hairdressing and Applied Therapies staff at Afan College, Engineering staff at Neath College, Catering and Hospitality staff at Newtown College and worked with the school link and life skills provision in Brecon.

Phill Jones, Teaching and Learning Manager at NPTC Group of Colleges said, "Working with such a renowned educationalist is exciting as we know continuous professional development is vital for both teachers and students to grow. It means we can stay up to date with the latest trends and learn new skills, improve the quality of teaching provided across the College, and create an environment where teachers feel positive about their own learning."

College Scoops Medals at Skills Competition Wales

NPTC Group of Colleges has again hosted the prestigious Inspiring Skills Awards 2023.

Neath College was selected as one of the satellite centres hosting the awards presented by Mari Lovegreen and Ameer Davies-Rana. The hybrid awards ceremony saw six satellite events taking place at Welsh providers.

The competitions challenge competitors across five different sectors to be named best in their skill, these are Construction & Infrastructure, Engineering & Technology, Health, Hospitality & Lifestyle, IT & Enterprise and Media & Creative.

What made the event even more special was the medal haul on the night with the College winning four gold medals, five silver and three bronze.

Forensic Science had an impressive return to the Skills Competition with medals in all competitions. Morgan Davies won the gold medal in the Laboratory Technician competition, while Archie Phillips took silver and Robyn Hassini was awarded a bronze medal in the Forensic Science competition.

Victoria Steele won a silver medal for Vehicle Refinishing and Jordan Lingham took another silver in the Vehicle Body Repair competition.

Leon Cook walked away with a gold medal in Coding competition while Emma Harris was awarded silver in Web Design. In the Inclusive Skills: IT Software Solution for Business competition, Will Turner took gold and Kornchanut Uttamamoon won silver.

Joshua Miles won a silver medal for the Inclusive Skills: Horticulture competition and for the second consecutive year the College won a gold medal in the plastering competition, with Kieran-Lee Phillips taking the top spot.

In total, 1096 young people competed over the past three months, with 101 gold, 104 silver and 88 bronze medals awarded across all five sectors.

Subject to another round of applications, the finalists could now go on to compete in the national and international competitions at WorldSkills UK, EuroSkills and WorldSkills international.

Skills Competition Wales through Inspiring Skills aims to raise the profile of skills in Wales and offers students, trainees, and apprentices in Wales a chance to challenge, benchmark and raise their skills by taking part in a series of local vocational skills competitions across a range of sectors.

The Inspiring Skills Awards offers individuals and organisations the chance to be recognised and rewarded for their commitment, hard work and achievements in the Welsh Government-funded Skills Competition Wales.

Principal and CEO of NPTC Group of Colleges Mark Dacey was proud to be chosen as a hosting centre, he said: "I am so honoured that NPTC Group of Colleges was chosen to be the satellite host and to be able to hear the fantastic successes and results of all the competitors, despite another challenging year. This evening wouldn't be possible without the hard work and determination of each student who chose to compete, but also the College staff who spent many hours on top of their normal teaching duties mentoring and training our students to compete."

Edward Jones, Skills Champion for NPTC Group of Colleges, said: "That so many of our students have won medals speaks volumes about not only the commitment these students show to their trades but also about the quality of the teaching and training that takes place at the College. We consistently do well in all disciplines, but to see such a diverse range of skills coming through shows that students in all areas are trained to the very highest standards right across all our College sites. I'm very proud of all the winners, and I'm excited to see how many of these students go on to take part in WorldSkills."

Minister of Economy, Vaughan Gething said: "Skills Competition Wales is an excellent platform for young people to challenge themselves and put their skills to the test.

"Having supported and attended several of the competitions in the past, I have seen first-hand the amazing talent Wales has to offer. I was particularly impressed by the enthusiasm of the participants. Their passion for their craft was evident as they put their best foot forward and competed for top honours.

"It is inspiring to witness young people take pride in what they do and strive to be the very best versions of themselves. Programmes like Skills Competition Wales help to promote a culture of growth and excellence at every level."

Mae'r Addysgwr Arbenigol Mike Gershon yn Ymweld â Grŵp Colegau NPTC

Mae Mike Gershon yn addysgwr a adnabyddir yn rhyngwladol gyda mwy na 40 o lyfrau am addysgu, dysgu ac addysg , gan gynnwys nifer o lyfrau ar y rhestr orau. Ysgrifennodd dros 90 o ganllawiau a oedd yn cwmpasu pob agwedd ar ymarfer yn yr ystafell ddosbarth ac mae ei waith wedi'i gyfieithu yn Iseldireg, Hebraeg, Arabeg a Thsieinëeg, ac ar hyn o bryd, mae'n gweithio gyda Llywodraeth Cymru i greu deunyddiau hyfforddi athrawon ar gyfer ysgolion yng Nghymru.

Mae Mike yn gweithio gydag ysgolion, colegau a llywodraethau yn y DU a thramor gan ddarparu hyfforddiant o safon uchel; ac ymgynghoriad am ddysgu ac addysgu, ac, ar ôl cyfres o sesiynau hyfforddi Datblygiad Proffesiynol Parhaus a drefnwyd ar gyfer staff addysgu'r Coleg gan Phil Jones, Rheolwr Dysgu ac Addysgu Grŵp Colegau NPTC, cynhaliwyd ymweliadau wyneb yn wyneb gan Mike, ar draws nifer o safleoedd y Coleg i gynnig mwy o gymorth a chyfarwyddyd.

Treuliodd Mike wythnos yn ymweld â staff Trin Gwallt a Therapi Cymhwysol yng Ngholeg Afan, staff Peirianneg yng Ngholeg Castell-nedd a staff Lletygarwch yng Ngholeg Y Drenewydd a gweithiodd hefyd gyda'r tîm sgiliau bywyd ac Ymgysylltu ag Ysgolion ym Mannau Brycheiniog, mewn sesiynau wedi'u trefnu gan Reolwr Ansawdd y Coleg, Matt Jones a Gareth Davies, Rheolwr Datblygu Staff.

Dywedodd Phill Jones, Rheolwr Dysgu ac Addysgu Grŵp Colegau NPTC *"Mae gweithio gydag addysgwr mor adnabyddus yn gyffrous a gwyddwn ni fod datblygiad proffesiynol parhaus yn allweddol er mwyn i athrawon a myfyrwyr dyfu ac mae'n golygu bod modd i ni gael yr wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am y tueddiadau cyfredol a dysgu sgiliau newydd; gwella ansawdd yr addysgu a ddarparir ar draws y Coleg a chreu amgylchedd lle y mae athrawon yn teimlo'n gadarnhaol ynglyn â'u dysgu eu hunain."*

Y Coleg yn Cipio Medalau yng Nghystadleuaeth Sgiliau Cymru

Unwaith eto, cafodd Grŵp Colegau NPTC ei ddewis fel lleoliad ar gyfer y Gwobrau Ysbrydoli Sgiliau 2023 mawr eu bri.

Grŵp Colegau NPTC oedd un o'r is-ganolfannau a ddewiswyd i gynnal y gwobrau, a gyflwynwyd gan Mari Lovgreen ac Ameer Davies-Rana. Cynhaliwyd y seremoni wobrwyo hybrid yn rhithwir, gyda chwe is-ddigwyddiad yn cael eu cynnal gyda darparwyr yng Nghymru, fel y gallai ffrindiau a theuluoedd o bob rhan o Gymru wylio.

Yr hyn a wnaeth y digwyddiad hyd yn oed yn well oedd nifer y medalau a enillwyd ar y noson gyda'r Coleg yn ennill pedair medal aur, pum arian a thair efydd.

Dychwelodd Gwyddor Fforensig i'r Gystadleuaeth Sgiliau mewn ffordd drawiadol gyda medalau ym mhob cystadleuaeth. Morgan Davies gipiodd y medal Aur yn y gystadleuaeth Technegydd Labordy. Enillodd Archie Phillips y medal Arian ac yna enillodd Robyn Hassini y medal Efydd yn y gystadleuaeth Gwyddoniaeth Fforensig.

Roedd hi'n noson dda i'r adran Ail-orffennu Cerbydau Modur ac Atgyweirio Cyrff Cerbydau, gyda Victoria Steele yn ennill Arian ar gyfer Ail-orffennu Cerbydau a Jordan Lingham yn ennill Arian arall yn y gystadleuaeth Atgyweirio Cyrff Cerbydau.

Enillwyd medalau hefyd mewn Codio gyda Leon Cook yn cipio'r Medal Aur mewn Dylunio'r We ac Emma Harris yn ennill yr Arian. Cipiwyd dwy fan uchaf y Sgiliau Cynhwysol: Datrysiad Meddalwedd TG ar gyfer Busnes gan Will Turner, Aur, a Kornchanut Uttamamoon gyda'r Arian.

Enillodd Joshua Miles fedal Arian yn y gystadleuaeth Sgiliau Cynhwysol: Garddwriaeth, ac am yr ail flwyddyn yn olynol mae'r Coleg wedi ennill medal aur yn y gystadleuaeth plastro, gyda Kieran-Lee Phillips yn y lle cyntaf.

Mae'r cystadlaethau'n herio cystadleuwyr ar draws pum sector gwahanol i gael eu henwi orau yn eu sgil, y rhain yw Adeiladwaith a Seilwaith, Peirianneg a Thechnoleg, Iechyd, Lletygarwch a Ffordd o Fyw, TG a Menter a Chyfryngau a Chreadigol.

At ei gilydd, mae 1096 o bobl ifanc wedi cystadlu dros y tri mis diwethaf, gyda 101 o fedalau aur, 104 arian ac 88 efydd wedi'u dyfarnu i gyd. Yn amodol ar rownd arall o geisiadau, gallai cystadleuwyr y rownd derfynol symud ymlaen yn awr i gystadlaethau cenedlaethol a rhyngwladol WorldSkills UK, EuroSkills a WorldSkills international. Nod Cystadleuaeth Sgiliau Cymru drwy Ysbrydoli Sgiliau yw codi proffil sgiliau yng Nghymru a chynnig cyfle i fyfyrwyr, hyfforddeion a phrentisiaid yng Nghymru herio, meincnodi a chodi eu sgiliau drwy gymryd rhan mewn cyfres o gystadlaethau sgiliau galwedigaethol lleol ar draws amrywiaeth o sectorau.

Mae'r Gwobrau Ysbrydoli Sgiliau'n cynnig cyfle i unigolion a sefydliadau gael eu cydnabod a'u gwobrwyo am eu hymrwymiad, eu gwaith caled a'u llwyddiannau yng Nghystadleuaeth Sgiliau Cymru, sydd wedi'i ariannu gan Lywodraeth Cymru.

Ac yntau'n falch i'r Grŵp gael ei ddewis fel canolfan gynnal, meddai Pennaeth a Phrif Weithredwr Grŵp Colegau NPTC, Mark Dacey: *"Mae'n anrhydedd mawr i Grwp Colegau NPTC gael ei ddewis i fod yn is-ganolfan gynnal a medru clywed am lwyddiannau a chanlyniadau anhygoel yr holl gystadleuwyr, er gwaethaf blwyddyn heriol arall. Ni fyddai'r noson hon yn bosib heb waith caled a phenderfyniad pob myfyriwr a ddewisodd gystadlu, ond hefyd staff y Coleg a dreuliodd oriau lawer ar ben eu horiau dysgu arferol yn mentora ac yn hyfforddi ein cystadleuwyr wrth baratoi at y cystadlaethau."*

Meddai Edward Jones, Hyrwyddwr Sgiliau Grwp Colegau NPTC: *"Mae'r ffaith bod cynifer o'n myfyrwyr wedi ennill medalau yn dweud llawer iawn nid yn unig am yr ymrwymiad y mae'r myfyrwyr hyn yn ei ddangos i'w crefftau ond hefyd am ansawdd yr addysg a'r hyfforddiant yn y Coleg. Rydym yn gyson yn llwyddo mewn cystadlaethau ym mhob disgyblaeth, ond mae gweld ystod mor amrywiol o sgiliau'n dod drwodd yn dangos bod myfyrwyr ym mhob maes wedi'u hyfforddi i'r safonau uchaf un ar draws holl safleoedd ein Coleg.*

"Rwy'n falch iawn o'r holl enillwyr, ac rwy'n gyffrous i weld faint o'r myfyrwyr hyn sy'n mynd ymlaen i gymryd rhan yn WorldSkills."

Meddai'r Gweinidog dros yr Economi, Vaughan Gething: *"Mae Cystadleuaeth Sgiliau Cymru'n llwyfan wych i bobl ifanc herio eu hunain a rhoi eu sgiliau ar brawf.*

"A minnau wedi cefnogi a mynychu nifer o'r cystadlaethau yn y gorffennol, rwyf wedi gweld o lygad y ffynnon y doniau anhygoel sydd gan Gymru i'w cynnig. Gwnaeth brwdfrydedd y cyfranogwyr argraff arbennig arnaf. Roedd eu hangerdd dros eu crefft yn amlwg wrth iddynt gamu i fyny a chystadlu am yr anrhydeddau gorau.

"Mae'n ysbrydoliaeth i weld pobl ifanc yn ymfalchïo yn yr hyn maen nhw'n ei wneud ac yn ymdrechu i fod y fersiynau gorau ohonynt eu hunain y gallant fod. Mae rhaglenni fel Cystadleuaeth Sgiliau Cymru yn helpu i hyrwyddo diwylliant o dwf a rhagoriaeth ar bob lefel."

Eich Coleg
Eich Dyfodol

Coleg Afan
Coleg Castell-nedd
Academi Chwaraeon Llandarcy
Coleg Pontardawe
Canolfan Adeiladwaith Abertawe
Canolfan Adeiladwaith Maesteg

NEWYDDION

Mai 2023

Y Coleg yn Cynnal Gŵyl Llesiant

Cynhaliodd Coleg y Drenewydd Ŵyl Llesiant ar ddydd Mawrth 25ain Ebrill 2023. Roedd yn ddiwrnod o ddigwyddiadau a gweithgareddau hwyliog gyda'r nod o hybu iechyd a llesiant ac amlygu'r ystod o wasanaethau sy'n cefnogi iechyd meddwl cadarnhaol sydd ar gael i fyfyrwyr yn y coleg a'r gymuned ehangach.

Cafodd myfyrwyr y cyfle i gael eu hysbrydoli a'u haddysgu ym mhob agwedd ar lesiant o iechyd meddwl i lesiant corfforol, technegau ymlacio i gyngor ar harddwch a chyngor ar ddewisiadau ffordd o fyw.

Roedd yr ŵyl yn cynnwys amrywiaeth o arddangoswyr a gweithgareddau i gwmpasu llu o wahanol agweddau ar lesiant. Roedd cyfleoedd i ddysgu am ffitrwydd ac ymarfer corff, arddangosiadau yn ymwneud â bwyd a maeth, ac arbenigwyr yn rhoi cyngor ar ymwybyddiaeth ofalgar a rheoli gorbryder. Cynhaliwyd sesiynau ioga drwy gydol y dydd dan arweiniad yr hyfforddwraig Julie Evans. Roedd hyd yn oed consuriwr, yr Arglwydd Harri, yn perfformio campau hudol, Paul Melton, Hebogydd, Corner Exotics a'u hamrywiaeth o bryfed, nadroedd a phryfed cop diddorol ac Emma's Donkeys.

Dywedodd Bridget Royce, Uwch Swyddog Iechyd a Llesiant, *"Mae pobl ifanc yn wynebu cymaint o rwystrau ac nid yw bob amser yn hawdd llywio drwy'r cyfnod anodd. Rydym yma fel Coleg i helpu a gwrando ar bryderon myfyrwyr ac i'w cefnogi i gyflawni eu nodau. Mae hefyd yn wych bod yn ymwybodol o faint o gymorth sydd ar gael yn yr ardal leol trwy ein partneriaid sefydliadau cymorth i fyfyrwyr niferus".*

Dosbarth Meistr Gan Bronwen Lewis yn Taro Tant gyda Myfyrwyr

Cafodd myfyrwyr o Goleg Castell-nedd ddosbarth meistr anhygoel gyda'r gantores/gyfansoddwraig Bronwen Lewis yn ddiweddar.

Roedd cyfle i myfyrwyr dysgwyr gefnogaeth, gofalwyr ifanc a myfyrwyr targed siarad â Bronwen am ei gyrfa hyd yn hyn, holi cwestiynau am y broses o gyfansoddi caneuon a hyd yn oed rhoi cynnig ar ysgrifennu a pherfformio eu 'Hanthem Iechyd a Llesiant' eu hunain.

Mae Bronwen, Cantores/Cyfansoddwraig o Gastell-nedd yn gyn-gystadleuydd ar The Voice, gan dderbyn clod rhyngwladol pan ddaeth â dagrau i lygaid y seren bop Gymreig Tom Jones yn ystod un o'i pherfformiadau yn 2013. Flwyddyn yn ddiweddarach, canodd y gân thema 'Bread and Roses' yn y ffilm 'Pride' a enillodd wobr BAFTA.

Yn ystod y cyfnod clo, aeth Bronwen ymlaen i ennill sylfaen cefnogwyr enfawr pan berfformiodd dros 45 o gyngherddau, yn rhithwir, o'i stiwdio gartref. Aeth ei fideos TikTok, lle mae'n canu fersiynau o ganeuon pop enwog yn Gymraeg, yn firaol hefyd, gan gael eu gwylio cannoedd o filoedd o weithiau, a chael sylw ar Breakfast Show BBC Radio 1 gyda Greg James. Yn fwyaf diweddar mae hi wedi ymuno â BBC Radio Wales i gyflwyno ei sioe ei hun!

Nid myfyrwyr Cerddoriaeth yn unig a gafodd y cyfle i ddysgu gan Bronwen – perfformiodd hi hefyd yn ystod yr egwyl amser cinio a oedd yn agored i bawb yng Ngholeg Castell-nedd. Ariannwyd y digwyddiad gan ein hadran Addysg Uwch.

Roedd Vicky Burroughs, pennaeth Celfyddydau Creadigol, Gweledol a Pherfformio yn falch iawn o groesawu Bronwen i'r Coleg a dywedodd:

"Roedden ni'n gyffrous iawn am groesawu Bronwen i'r Coleg ac roedd y myfyrwyr yn edrych ymlaen at gwrdd â'r seren a'r perfformiwr Cymreig.

Mae dosbarthiadau meistr yn galluogi myfyrwyr i ddysgu oddi wrth weithwyr proffesiynol y diwydiant. Rhoddodd Bronwen weithdy craff am ochr dechnegol y diwydiant yn ogystal â'r ochr berfformio.

Roedd gweithio gyda'r myfyrwyr i ysgrifennu a pherfformio eu cân eu hunain yn brofiad gwirioneddol unigryw ac yn ddiwrnod na fydd y myfyrwyr byth yn ei anghofio!"