

PUPIL VOICE & OUR SENEDD

Senedd pupils have been incredibly busy once again supporting SLT in implementing whole school policy change. The focus has mainly been around the current rewards system using Class Charts and ways of encouraging all pupils and parents to sign on to the app so that communication will be improved between school, parents and pupils. The Senedd are currently looking into a “shop” system where they are able to use their achievement points as currency to purchase items such as stationary and treats in our very own Cefn Saeson rewards shop. Training needs to be given to lead staff and we are hoping to launch this in September 2023.

A selected number of Core Senedd members have had valuable input on our new whole school Behaviour Policy which is being launched in all Year groups during assembly W/C 26th June.

I am always proud of the achievements of our Senedd pupils and once again, during our ESTYN visit they really did have the opportunity to shine and showcase the wonderful work that they form part of at Cefn Saeson as recognised in their report:

“Pupils of all ages benefit from a range of valuable opportunities to develop their leadership skills by being part of the school Senedd, which involves a variety of groups such as those for learning & teaching, well-being and the community.

Pupils in the Senedd speak confidently and passionately about their ability to affect real change and voice their opinion.”.ESTYN report 2023

As a reward and a massive thank you for their outstanding commitment our Senedd pupils will be having a day of fun activities on 14th of July where they will have “ZORBS” on the 4G pitch and refreshments.

Learning & Teaching Senedd

The Learning and Teaching Senedd have recently invited in Ms Meredith to discuss bilingualism across the school. The pupils had wonderful ideas which were shared with her. These included using form time more to discuss Welsh Heritage and for assemblies to maximise the promotion of the Welsh Language around the school. They also discussed that they would like the Eisteddfod to be whole school as the older pupils had heard such great things from the Year 7 and 8 pupils.

The AoLE Leader for Health and Wellbeing Mrs Lougher-Jones was also invited in to discuss the opportunities that they give. The pupils discussed the positives and negatives, and these were taken on board. They spoke about the outside speakers coming in for PSE, that they love the choice that the PE department give them in lessons, the cheaper options provided for in Food and Nutrition due to the cost of food at the moment, and that they would like to see more PSE topics brought into assemblies.

Uniform has been a discussion also with VA. The pupils were very vocal in what they thought was suitable. They were unanimous in the decision to have one uniform and consistency across the year groups. The Senedd pupils are proud of our bright and vibrant burgundy jumpers especially when visiting events with other schools.

Summer uniform was discussed and tailored shorts need to be made available as the 'cycling' style aren't suitable. A school PE uniform of cycle shorts was discussed that could be worn on very hot days only. Pupils felt strongly and in agreement about pupils being sent home with incorrect uniform as it sets the standard for our school.

Health & Wellbeing

The Health and Wellbeing Senedd has been busy over the last two terms. They have had plenty of discussions around school based topics, such as the canteen and how they are happy with the improvements in quality of food and reduced

queuing time since the introduction of the new catering manager.

They have given feedback on the Health and Wellbeing curriculum and have overall given positive feedback on PE, Food and PSE elements. It was brought to our attention that year 10 felt they had not had any PSE this year, however, they did not realise that they are having a PSE week at the end of June and also topics discussed in form time e.g. Show Racism the Red Card were part of PSE.

Pupils have had the opportunity to voice their opinion on the school summer uniform for future years and made some valid points to help SLT make their decisions.

The Senedd also gave ideas on how to improve and promote our Food and Fun Summer project.

They discussed that they would like Senedds to communicate more effectively so pupils know what is happening and the possibility of a Senedd Notice board and assemblies

The Senedd are currently looking into the idea of a GCSE options event - having taster sessions before they have to choose – they thought this could either be in school time or as an after school session so pupils who really wanted to see if the subject was for them could trial a GCSE style lesson e.g. cooking

However, their greatest achievement with the Senedd was just before half term – as Senedd we were asked by NPT Safeguarding team to help with research in schools around Peer on Peer Sexual Harassment following the Estyn Report. Pupils developed a pupil survey and collected data from all year groups. Using both the data gathered and the Estyn report they developed a presentation on their findings and thoughts on this topic. From this they were invited to

present at the NPT Safeguarding conference in May to numerous delegates. The pupils were excellent and we have had very good feedback from a number of people/schools present regarding their presentation. From this the Junior Safeguarding team are now working with other schools to develop resources and more research to see the impact Peer on Peer Sexual Harassment is having on our pupils.

We have also attended JSB meetings with Neath and Swansea schools and 2 of our members will also be attending the 'Preparing to be a board member' event in July held at Cefn Saeson.

Digital Lead

The Digital Leaders have been looking at Class Charts and use it as a tool to keep track of lessons, attendance, their behaviour etc.

They have been looking at Virtual Reality and how it is used in careers and can be used in the classroom to support their education.

The Senedd have discussed opportunities for more ICT related clubs during dinner time and after school and KS4 would like the option to be able to use the ICT suites to complete work and print it out during lunch and afterschool on a daily basis.

Siarter Iaith

During this academic year the Siarter Iaith Senedd have supported the new Welsh department in gauging new and fresh ideas for progressing the use of Welsh around school and within lessons. The Senedd are the passionate about the promotion of Welsh language and culture within Cefn Sason.

Many ideas have been recommended to us by the pupils, some, I would find difficult to execute.

Below are some of their wonderful ideas that are currently being embedded:

- **All pupils felt that we could hold a Welsh theme day once a term. E.g. Shw'mae day (October 15th), St David's Day (March 1st), Dylan Thomas Day, Dydd Santes Dwynwen. World Book Day could also have a link to Welsh literature or Welsh Authors e.g. Roald Dahl**
- **KS4 All pupils at KS4 felt very left out of the Eisteddfod day. They felt that Year 9 and 10 should be included in the plans for the Eisteddfod.**
- **KS3 Majority of pupils would love to see workshops to help with understanding the Welsh culture. Giving pupils the opportunity to try new things. Such as; dawnsio gwerin (folk dancing), Welsh songs, Welsh history (e.g. trips to Big Pit/ San Fagan), Welsh food taster session.**
- **The Siarter Iaith pupils are going to be empowered to reward teachers and peers for their use of Welsh language around school.**

The pupils that attend the Welsh club on a Wednesday lunch time have thoroughly enjoyed the activities that they have done over the year. From creating lollipop daffodils to decorate Welsh costume ladies.

More Able and Talented Pupils (MAT)

Our MAT pupils have had many opportunities to explore and nurture their talents. Please see below the events that selected pupils have attended:

February 2023:

Monday 6th Start date for Seren Star Challenge

Oriel Science Workshop Day – Yr.8&9 (MAT) – ‘Bones’ and ‘Aerodynamics’

Tuesday 7th

Science STEM Day (Year 7) EnergyQuest workshop

Thursday 9th

Cerdd NPT Choral Junction Rehearsal #4

Friday 10th

Visit to Clifton College Bristol – SEREN Students (Yr 10)

Friday 17th

School Eisteddfod for Year 7 and 8

March 2023:

Tuesday 7th

Mars Day – Yr.8 – Interview and Virtual Workshop (Science sets 1-3)

Wednesday 8th

Mars Day – Yr. 10&11 – Careers In Aerospace (Science MAT &Triple)

Friday 10th

Cerdd NPT Choral Junction Rehearsal #5

5 MAT Year 9 Art pupils entered early for GCSE Art & Design exam for this summer

Careers in Medicine (Diabetes) – Yr. 10&11 – (Science MAT &Triple)

Monday 20th

Completion Date for Seren Star Challenge

May 2023:

Wednesday 3rd

Cerdd NPT County Annual Music Concert – Princess Royal Theatre

June 2023:

Tuesday 20th

Salter's Chemistry Festival (12 Year 9 MAT Science Pupils)

Wednesday 21st

10 Year 10 SEREN pupils to Oxford University with NPT SEREN

Sunday 25th (6 nights)

8 pupils (Year 7 -10) going to Lake Garda, Italy, to take part in Cerdd NPT Music Concert Tour.

July 2023:

Wednesday 5th

Techniquet (Top set Science Year 7)

Monday 10th

Big Pit – Yr. 8 (Set 1/MAT to complete additional workshop)

Tuesday 11th

Debate Camp for 10 Year 8 pupils – Princess Royal Theatre

Wednesday 12th

5 Year 9 pupils to visit National Film and Television School in Beaconsfield with NPT SEREN