

OCTOBER 2024

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THE MAELOR SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



A message from Mrs Eyre, our new Headteacher

A New Season...

I am immensely proud, privileged, and excited to introduce myself as the Headteacher of The Maelor School. Over the course of this half term, I have begun getting to know our wonderful pupils, staff, and families. While there is still much to learn, I feel confident in my growing understanding of the direction we need to take. As we move further into autumn—a season that for me symbolises change—I am eager to embrace the opportunities ahead.

My goal is to build on the well-established successes of our school while guiding it towards its next phase of growth and development. While we take pride in our long-standing reputation for academic excellence, I firmly believe education is about more than just results. My vision is to help our pupils discover and nurture their unique talents while equipping them with the skills they need for success in adult life. To achieve this, I will be working closely with our dedicated staff to encourage and support our pupils to become the best versions of themselves: to 'Realise their Potential'.

I hope this newsletter gives you a glimpse into the many opportunities our pupils have experienced this half term, and I look forward to working in partnership with you as we continue this exciting journey together.

Applications for Year 7 in September 2025

Our Year 7 Open Evening was the busiest one yet. A reminder that the deadline for applications for admission into Year 7 for September 2025 is November 4th 2024. Further details can be found on our website.



Introducing our Student Leadership Team

Hello everyone, we are the newly formed Student Leadership Team. We are a group of year 13 students, dedicated to improving aspects of our school for all students. Some of our main focuses include: developing the library and canteen, encouraging the use of the Welsh language throughout the school, prioritising current health and wellbeing concerns within the school, and helping to strengthen foundational skills such as literacy and numeracy whilst also creating a positive outlook. We are invested in providing positive change in our school community and we hope to provide a student voice for all pupils across the school.



Our Year 13 students are going to develop pupil leadership across the school



Year 7 Stars

A huge well done to Kacey and Xander who, despite only being Maelor pupils for a few weeks, stood up and shared their experiences of their first few weeks of high school during our Open Evening talks. , alongside Mrs Eyre and Student Leaders Elen and Caitlin.

Mrs Eyre treated them to an early lunch (on chip day too) to recognise their confidence and bravery in speaking to a jam packed school hall - and they even had to do it twice!



Costa Rica Trip Launch

We launched our Costa Rica Expedition with our Year 10 pupils a few weeks ago. Working with Camps International, pupils will have the opportunity to experience a four week visit to Costa Rica in July 2026.

Pupils will complete their PADI scuba diving qualification and will take part in a range of sustainable community projects. This experience provides our pupils with a unique opportunity to live alongside rural communities and experience the beautiful and biodiverse remote rainforests.

As part of this experience participants have to raise funds to support their trip - look out for fund-raising events soon!



We're now on Instagram... follow us on @themaleorschoolpenley



PG Day: 18th October 2024

The first PG Day was held last week. For those who don't know, 'PG Days' are 'Personal Guidance Days' where we collapse the usual school timetable to deliver lots of the statutory Health and Wellbeing curriculum. PG Days are delivered by form tutors, and are often supported by lots of external speakers.

Year 8 enjoyed a range of activities including a presentation from a food and drink entrepreneur, a session with their form tutor about safe relationships online, and presentations to help their understanding of financial education. Year 7 enjoyed an active session with 'Hula Nation' and listened to PC Hulley talking about 'Risky Pics' and staying safe online.



Peer Mentors

Year 10 Peer Mentors recently underwent some training where they developed an understanding of what mentoring is and what skills peer mentors require.

The mentors will be running a drop in Homework club every lunchtime where our younger students have the opportunity to get help with their homework or have a chat about anything that may be worrying them. They will also be available to talk to at lunchtimes on the year 7 yard, and helping out with buddy reading during form time registration.



Maelor Sixth
OPEN
EVENING
WEDNESDAY 6TH
NOVEMBER 2024
4 - 6.30pm





New Website and Media Experiences

Year 10 students were lucky enough to experience a professional in action recently when a photographer visited to school to take photos for our new school website. In addition, our Media Literacy Ambassadors (who were trained by The Guardian in the summer term) were busy again, contributing to a forthcoming article which will appear on The Guardian's Saturday magazine.



Heads of Year Recognise Pupil Success



Heads of Year have been celebrating the many successes of our pupils through their 'Pupil of the Month' and 'Pupil of the Term' certificates.

Mrs Eyre met with some of the Year 7 and 8 winners in recognition of their excellent effort. Da iawn pawb!