



Headteacher's Blog

What a fantastic week, again!

Another busy and productive week has flown by at Cardiff West, with so much happening both inside and outside the classroom.

It has been wonderful to see pupils engaged in purposeful learning, taking advantage of new opportunities and, most importantly, demonstrating the values and attitudes that make us so proud of our school community.

Create Your World

Ambition

Resilience

Trust

Llangrannog Residential



Although this was last week, I forgot to include it in my blog that we have already had our first residential trip of the year! Mrs Stanwyck, Mr Jones and Mrs Ackerman accompanied a group of pupils to Llangrannog, where they had the opportunity to develop their Welsh language skills alongside taking part in a range of outdoor activities.

The staff have been absolutely raving about how well our pupils represented Cardiff West. They supported and encouraged one another, embraced the challenges they were given and were fantastic ambassadors for our school.

A huge da iawn to everyone involved. We are incredibly proud of you!



Year 7 Cardiff City Mentoring

Our Year 7 mentoring programme with Cardiff City Football Club has now begun. Throughout the year, every pupil in our Year 7 cohort will have the opportunity to take part in a 1:1 mentoring session.

This is a partnership that we really value. The programme supports our pupils to develop the core values that underpin success at Cardiff West: ambition, resilience and trust. Developing these qualities from the beginning of their secondary school journey will help equip our pupils for success, both during their time with us and well beyond it.



Thrive at 95

You may already have seen our new attendance strategy, Thrive at 95.

We know that good attendance is fundamental to successful outcomes. Simply put, being in school means being present for the learning, experiences and opportunities that help our young people thrive. This year, we are aiming for a minimum attendance rate of 95%.

THRIVE AT

95

Thrive at 95

To provide an extra bit of encouragement, every pupil who attends school all week, with no late marks, will be entered into a prize draw in their year group assembly.

This week, seven lucky pupils each won a £10 gift voucher. Congratulations to our first winners!

And remember for next week: you've got to be in it to win it!



Open Evening: 1 October

A little advanced notice that our Open Evening will take place on 1 October.

Choosing a secondary school is an important milestone for families, and we are very much looking forward to welcoming prospective pupils and their parents and carers to Cardiff West.

You may have already spotted our advertisements across our social media channels. Please help us spread the word and encourage younger family members in Years 4, 5 and 6 to come along and find out what life at Cardiff West is all about.



Open Evening: 1 October

The activities being planned look as exciting as ever, and there will even be an opportunity to sample our taster menu in the canteen. We cannot wait to showcase our school and everything our pupils and staff have to offer.

Snippets of Success

It has been my absolute pleasure to see the quality of teaching and learning taking place across our curriculum over the first few weeks of term when I've been out and about in the corridors.

Our pupils know what is expected of them in their learning, and time and again they are stepping up to the mark.

The Senior Leadership Team have seen some fantastic work across the school, including thoughtful reflections on learning in RE, pupils redrafting their work in Accelerate to ensure it is the very best it can be, Year 7 exploring states of matter in Science, and pupils being challenged through accountable questioning in English. It is so encouraging to see the pupils engaged in their learning - keep it up everyone!



Looking Ahead for Year 11

Our Year 11 pupils have also begun their interviews with Careers Wales as they start to consider their next steps beyond Year 11.

We are very fortunate to have an excellent relationship with Careers Wales, who work alongside us each year to ensure that every Year 11 pupil receives high-quality guidance that is personal and bespoke to them.

Making decisions about the future can be both exciting and daunting. Having the right advice and support is incredibly important, and we want every pupil to feel confident about their next steps and ambitious about what they can achieve.



So, another week of opportunities, achievements and fantastic learning draws to a close.

What a fantastic week, again!

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