Headteacher’s Welcome
Croeso’r Prifathro

A very warm welcome to our first edition of The Mitre for this academic year.

I know that the edition focuses on the examination successes of our students so I will let you read about this elsewhere. However, I should like to extend my warmest congratulations to our students on these remarkable results. Also, I wish to pay tribute to our amazing staff who have worked tirelessly to support our students. In the space of three years, our results have improved by 21%. This doesn’t happen without hard work, dedication and commitment. Both our students and staff have been incredible and I am sure you share my thanks to them all.

Our students have begun the new school year incredibly well. They look very smart and I am extremely grateful to families for their support with this. It does help avoid embarrassing situations. We have undertaken a great deal of work on the site over the summer. This includes new flooring and ceilings throughout many areas of the school, as well as new equipment in all the PC suites, new classroom computers and ‘visualizers’ to support learning. Our facilities and network team have worked very hard and I am sure the students will appreciate this.

At the start of the new academic year, we welcomed a number of new colleagues. These include: Ms Ganner, who arrives as an Assistant Head (Mathematics); Miss Bastian joins us as a teacher of mathematics; Mrs Jenkins arrives as Head of Faculty: Business, Economics and IT, while she is joined by Miss Owen in the faculty, teaching business and economics. Mr Ashment joins the performing arts department as a teacher of music, while Mr Doherty joins the science team; Miss Payne arrives as a teacher of psychology. We are also joined by a number of new support staff. Ms Treasure, Miss Flanagan, Miss Smith and Miss Vabule join us as teaching assistants; while Miss Rees joins The Marion Centre as a Teaching Assistant. Our new additions will further strengthen our existing staff and I know everyone at school will make our new colleagues feel very welcome.

Strong communication between home and school has been a key factor in our recent success. Thank you to all our families who have attended one of our Information Evenings to understand the rhythm of the year ahead. However, to ensure we support you (and your child) fully and efficiently, I would ask that concerns relating to classroom learning are addressed initially through the classroom teacher, through to head of department/faculty; while pastoral concerns are initially addressed by form tutors then heads of year. Full details of staff contacts are on our website should you wish to email. To keep up to date with events at school please follow our school twitter account @bishoplllandaff. We have reinvested the money saved from moving towards a “paperless” school and I would ask that families continue to support this initiative. It has helped us improve our site considerably.

We look forward to another exciting year together and thank you for your outstanding support.

Marc Belli
Headteacher

Double record-breaking exam results in 2016!
Canlyniadau arholiad sy’n torri’r record!

On 18th August, A Level students recorded record-breaking A Level results for the second year in a row, with 63% of all grades at A*-B and 96% at A*-C. Most students gained their preferred university places. Top performing students included Rebecca, who achieved a remarkable 5 A* grades and intends to read Mathematics at Warwick University; Cameron, who gained 3 A*s and 2 As and will read Aeronautical Engineering at Imperial College, London; Lucy, who achieved an A* and 3 As and will go on to study History at Cardiff and Joshua who achieved the same outcomes and will follow Religion and Theological Studies at Cardiff.

Headteacher Marc Belli commented: “This is fantastic news for our school community. I should like to congratulate our staff who have worked tirelessly to support the students throughout their time in the sixth form, and I wish all our departing students great success in the future.”

Exactly a week later, the school’s Year 11 students proved that they can break records too by achieving the school’s best ever GCSE results, with a staggering 99% gaining 5 or more A*-C grades, with 89% including English and Mathematics – an increase of 6% on last year. Notable achievers this year included Hayoung and Steffan, who each collected 10 A* grades, along with another twelve students who all achieved at least 3 A*s. Sarah now has 12 GCSEs, to her name including 7 A*s and 5As, and Maddie scored 9 A*s and 3 As. Some of the most pleasing performances, however, were from those individual students who have overcome significant challenges and have persevered in order to reach their full potential.

“The grades achieved today will remain with our students for the rest of their lives and are a reflection of their hard work, effort and commitment,” added Mr Belli.

Further details are available on the school website: www.bishopofllandaff.org
A taste of success for ECDL students
Blas Ilwyddiant myfyrwyr ECDL

The ICT Department worked closely with F Block this year to introduce a new ICT qualification for students in Year 10 and 11. ECDL was a resounding success, with every student who took part passing the exam, and 86% at A or A*. Students found the exams challenging, but learnt new ICT skills. The qualification provides each student with evidence of the digital literacy skills required in the world of work. There are four units – word processing, spreadsheets, presentation and application. The units are tested online with students achieving instant results. Joab, a Year 11 student, completed his ECDL exams in the summer this year and achieved an A* (Distinction*).
It has been decided that all students in Year 9 will be taking the ECDL qualification this academic year to give them an extra GCSE at A*-C going into Key Stage 4.

Mrs Densley-Adams
Head of IT

Celebrating Our Students’ Success
Dathlu Ilwyddiant ein myfyrwyr

On July 7th, we held our first-ever whole school Celebration Evening at Llandaff Cathedral. It was a joyous evening, celebrating the achievements and efforts of nearly 200 students across the school from the very youngest to the oldest. We also welcomed back first year university students to recognise their achievements at A level in 2015. Our current students were awarded for both commitment and achievement in a variety of subject areas across the curriculum. Invited guests and parents were entertained by a host of talented students and performances in music, drama and dance together with a thought-provoking address by the guest speaker, The Right Reverend David Wilborn, Assistant Bishop of Llandaff.

Mrs Bowen Jones
Assistant Head

Making Cardiff a Better City
Gwneud Caerdydd yn ddinas well

This summer, I had the privilege of being voted into position of vice chair of the Cardiff Youth Council. This has already led to some great opportunities such as meeting Nick Batchelor, Director of Education for Cardiff, to discuss ideas for raising the standards of schools over the coming years.
But that's all a work in progress. Looking ahead, there's much to be excited about as a Youth Council member in 2016! There are many projects coming up, such as 'Child Friendly City' in association with UNICEF UK, discussions with the Welsh schools' inspectorate Estyn on a 'Curriculum for Life,' and plenty more.
If you're interested in joining us and displaying your capabilities as a young person in Cardiff, please feel free to contact me! All Bishop of Llandaff students are welcome to attend our upcoming meeting on the 19th of October in the Council Chamber in City Hall to come and see what we're all about and show your interest in making Cardiff a better city.

David
Year 12

Biologists Benefit from University Link
Biolegwyr yn elwa trwy gyswllt Prifysgol

As Year 12 drew to a close, the AS Biology classes were offered a chance to spend two days in Cardiff Metropolitan University’s microbiology labs, where we investigated infection control, and how easily microorganisms spread through everyday contact (especially the ineffectiveness of toilet paper!) as well as growing cultures of microorganisms taken from samples of our own bodily microculture, which yielded wonderful but somewhat disgusting results.

Afterwards Dr Adams, from Cardiff Met’s School of Health Sciences, offered four students the chance to attend a work experience placement over the summer.
This gave an insight into how real life research is conducted, specifically the preliminary steps in investigating a potential health risk from particles present in many cosmetic products, which, potentially, may be interfering with phagocytic cellular activity in the blood.

These two opportunities were a brilliant insight into some of the varied careers biology can offer and, on behalf of all the other students who attended these sessions, I want to say a huge thanks to Cardiff Met, Dr Cathryn Wittycombe and Dr Adams for the experiences!

Aaron
Year 13

Fundraising for Olivia
Codi arian dros Olivia

As some of you may know, outside of school I am a part time support worker (carer) for a young girl called Olivia who suffers with severe Cerebral Palsy.

Olivia is a 13-year-old ‘diva’ with a lovely sense of humour. She is a sociable little girl, full of love and lives her life to the full, hence our fundraising name of ‘#LivLife’.

She has been granted a wish by the ‘Starlight Foundation’ for a trip to Disneyland Florida with her family and a support worker. To make the trip extra special she will be swimming with dolphins too! This is such an amazing opportunity for Olivia and would be the trip of a lifetime.

To ensure that this holiday takes place we need to raise £7,000 for Olivia to be able to travel lying down, as she cannot travel sitting up for long periods of time due to her severe postural issues.

Olivia is life limited, suffering from Cerebral Palsy and other illnesses, and so requires 24 hour care. She has had a tough few years, with numerous surgeries and admissions to hospital due to ill health. Despite all this, Olivia always has the brightest smile. She is the strongest girl I know and is a true inspiration!

Olivia’s mum, the other support workers and I will be carrying out a number of challenges and events to fundraise for Olivia. This includes the Cardiff 10K in which we participated on 11th September, the Cardiff Half Marathon and climbing Pen-Y-Fan with Olivia in a specialised wheelchair.

Please help in any way you can to fulfil Olivia’s dream, and create lots of happy memories to keep her smiling. I would appreciate greatly anybody willing to sponsor me, which you can do on the Justgiving website: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/leanne-colls

Hollie
Year 13

www.justgiving.com/
Sports Day 2016
Diwrnod mabolgampau 2016
It was the most exciting sporting event of the summer. Records were smashed, top athletes took each other on in hard-fought competitions, and the crowd went wild with excitement. Never mind Rio 2016, this was The Bishop of Llandaff High School's Sports Day!

Friday 8th July didn't exactly feel very summery, but the chill at the Cardiff International Stadium was soon dispelled by the heat of competition as participants from the school's four houses of St. David, St. John, St. Paul and St. Telio took part in a range of track and field events.

Four school records were broken on the day. In the Senior Boys' Shotput, James of Year 12 threw 13.28 metres, beating the record of 13.04 metres established in 2004. Meanwhile in the Senior Girls' event in the same discipline, Sarah's throw of 11.76 metres beat the school record – from 1995 – by a staggering 99 centimetres! In the younger age groups, Mia's time of 5 minutes 18 seconds in the Year 8 and 9 Girls' 1,500 metres beat the previous school record set way back in 1985. A team record was also broken, with the St David's team setting a new best time in the Senior Boys' 4x100 metres relay event.

Thanks to the many hours of hard work and preparation by Mr Gardiner and the rest of the PE Department, everything went smoothly, and, after a thrilling day of competition, it was St Paul's house who ran out as the eventual winners. But let's leave the last word to Ioan, winner of the Senior Boys' 800 metres for his house, St. David's: "It's great that all of the hard work's paid off...but oh my gosh that hurt!"

Mr Allman

2015-16 – An Outstanding Year for Sport at 'Bishop' 2015-2016 – Blwydym ragorol am chwaraeon yn Ysgol Esgob Llandaf

2015-16 proved to be an outstanding academic year of sporting success with students taking part in 200 sporting fixtures in rugby, football, netball, hockey, gymnastics, cross country, swimming and athletics. Not only did our teams and individuals compete but they went on to win 12 regional and national competitions. Our Year 7 boys’ football team won the Welsh Schools’ Football Association U12 National Cup. With over 180 schools entering the competition, winning the final 7-1 against Ysgol Syr Hugh Owen (Caernarfon) was an exceptional achievement!

Below is our full sporting ‘roll of honour’ for 2015-16:

FOOTBALL
Year 7 Football: U12 Welsh Schools’ Football Association Cup Winners

RUGBY
Year 7 Rugby: U12 CSRU 15-a-side Plate Winners
Year 7 Rugby: U12 CSRU 7-a-side Plate Winners
Year 7 Rugby: U12 CSRU League Winners
Year 8 Rugby: U13 CSRU 15-a-side Plate Winners
Year 9 Rugby: U14 CSRU League Winners
Year 10 Rugby: U15 CSRU 15-a-side Plate Winners
First XV Rugby: U18 WSRU Plate Semi-Finalists & Third Place League Finish

GYMNASTICS
Team Boys’ and Girls’ Welsh Novice Final: Winners
Boys’ and Girls’ Welsh Floor & Vault: Winners
Boys’ Pair & Mixed Pair Sports Acrobatics Finals: Boys’ Pair fourth, Mixed Pair second
British Finals – Sports Acrobatics: Boys sixth, Girls eighth

FENCING
Morgan, Oliver and James (Year 8), U13 British Team Fencing Championships: Bronze Medallists

TEAKWONDO
Lewis (Year 9), British Taekwondo Championship: Double Gold Medallist

SWIMMING
Kaden (Year 7), Welsh Swimming Finals: 1 Gold, 4 Silver & 5 Bronze

CLIMBING
Caitlin (Year 11): Welsh Climbing Team

ROWING
Ben (Year 12) and Tom (Year 11) Welsh Indoor Rowing Championships: Bronze Medallists

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS INTERNATIONAL
Sarah and Ben: Wales U18 Hockey
James: U16 Wales Rugby League

REGIONAL RUGBY
Harry: Blues U18 Rugby Academy
Charlotte and Anais: Blues U18 Girls’ Squad
Rhysdian and Joseph: Cardiff Schools’ Rugby Squad

REGIONAL FOOTBALL
George, Hugo, Caleb and Gibril, U12 Cardiff and Vale Schools’ Football: Welsh Inter-Region Champions 2016
Morgan, U13 Cardiff and Vale Schools’ Football: Welsh Inter-Region Champions 2016
Hywel, U14 Cardiff and Vale Schools’ Football: Welsh Inter-Region Champions 2016
Rhysdian: Cardiff and Vale Athletics Middle Boys’ Combined Events Team

Mr Gardiner
Head of PE
Read anything; Read anywhere; Just read.

Darllenwch unrhywbeth; Darllenwch unrhywbrdyd; Ond dim ond Darllen.

Have you seen the photos in F Block of staff reading anything, anywhere? Some are reading books, maps, signs, timetables or leaflets. They are reading while decorating or when training, doing the high jump and even with the Red Arrows! Now it’s your turn.

Competition guidelines:
• Produce a photo of yourself reading anything, anywhere, at any time;
• Include your full name and form with the photo;
• Photos can be submitted using your school email account to birds@bishopofllandaff.org or dolanm@bishopofllandaff.org or drop a copy to F Block at lunch time or after school;
• Remember your photo may be displayed in F Block;
• The deadline for entries is Monday 7th November 2016.

Here are some tips to make your photo extra-special:
• You could link your photo to key events, such as Halloween on 31st October;
• Perhaps you will go somewhere interesting during half term, where you could read and take a photo;
• Maybe you have a pet to include in the photo.
Be creative and use your imagination to read anything, read anywhere. Just read.

Mrs Bird

Where are they now?
Ble maen nhw nawr?

We have an excellent track record of success when it comes to students progressing to higher education. The map and information below show the destinations of the Year 13 students of 2016. We are always glad to hear of the successes of our past students. If you are a past student of ‘Bishop’, or know one, then please get in touch!

University Students

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