



# Yn y Lwp!

("In the loop")  
Ysgol Cwm Brombil's Weekly Bulletin



**In this edition:**

- International Club news and farewells
- Senedd News
- Brombil Barracks
- Food & Catering

**Autumn Term / Tymor y Hydref**

Half Term : Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October /  
 Hanner Tymor : Dydd Llun Hydref 27 - Dydd Gwener Hydref 31  
 End / Diwedd: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 / Dydd Gwener 19 Rhagfyr 2025

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> of January 2026

## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

**Nadolig Llawen!**

Week Beginning - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Ionawr – Week 2

Monday		<b>INSET DAY</b>
Tuesday		Pupils Return to school
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		

**Pupils to return back to school on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January**



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

It has been lovely to continue developing relationships with our wonderful pupils and getting to know new military children at YCB this term!

Mrs Stanton and Mrs Sims would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a lovely Christmas holiday and restful break. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year!

## CONGRATULATIONS !!!



Well done to all of our amazing pupils who entered the Neath Port Talbot Military Child Art competition and VE/VJ day Art competition in November. We are thrilled to announce the following prize winners:

**Military child:**

1<sup>st</sup> place – Heidi Davies Year 11

Runner Up – Amelia Courtney Year 9

**VE/VJ Day:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Florence Smith Year 8

All of the artwork submitted looked fantastic on display at Aberavon Shopping Centre for the Mayor's Armed Forces Day event.



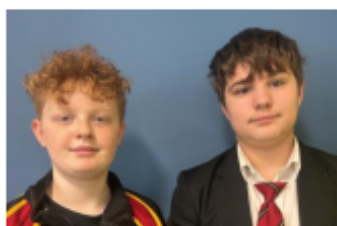
Brombil Barracks has now achieved the Gold Armed Forces Friendly Schools Award from SSCE. This means the pupils and staff have been recognised for our commitment to becoming a supportive community for our service families. Staff would like to thank the pupils for their commitment and the sense of belonging the group has developed! We would like to thank the SSCE for the award and the help of Julie Stapleton from NPT for supporting staff.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

We would like to introduce our new leaders in Brombil Barracks. We can't wait to see you thrive in your new roles!

Chairperson:  
Kaillum Davies  
Deputy Chairperson:  
Thomas Harvey  
Secretary:  
Amelia Courtney  
Deputy Secretary:  
Nancie Kelly



## EXTRA INFORMATION & SUPPORT

SSCE Directory  
of Support



SSCE Service  
Family Guide



SSCE Monthly  
School Bulletin



Reading  
Force



Little  
Troopers



## TRIP

To celebrate Remembrance Day, we had the opportunity to join military children from Cefn Saeson, Dwr Y Felin, Ysgol Bae Baglan, Baglan Primary, St. Joseph's Neath and Cwmnedd at Maendy Reserves Barracks in Cardiff. The SSCE organised a fun filled day of physical activities for pupils to develop team-work and build on friendships.

## SUPPORT STAFF

**Mrs R. Stanton**  
Secondary Phase  
Room B12

**Mrs G. Sims**  
Secondary Phase  
Room B14

**Mrs S. Whitecombe**  
Primary Phase

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@ office@ysgolcwmbrimbilnptschool

📍 Bertha Rd, Margam, Port Talbot SA13 2AN



## Christmas around the World!



On Monday, members of the International Club visited Year 5 to teach them about how people celebrate Christmas around the world. Pupils planned and prepared all the activities and delivered them with enthusiasm.

First stop was to Ireland and pupils learned about tree decorating day and why they place a candle in the window. Then it was off to Portugal to learn some facts before sampling some Portuguese desserts.



Next, it was off to China to learn that while they do not celebrate Christmas, their New Year celebrations are quite similar to how we celebrate Christmas. Pupils had the opportunity to make lanterns and write Happy New Year in Mandarin.

The visit to Italy saw pupils designing Christmas baubles and Christmas cards were written during the Spanish activities. Trinidad brought a musical experience while Ukraine brought paper cuttings to create snowflakes. The snowflakes were joined together to create a pretty bunting and pupils wrote messages on them.



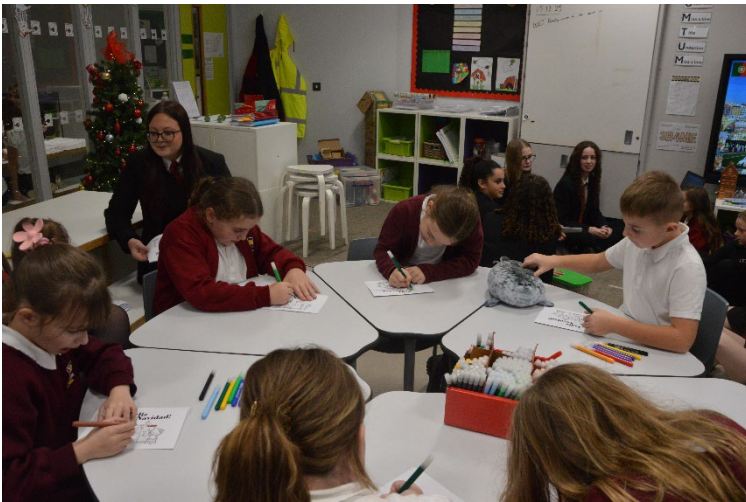


To finish, pupils went on a treasure hunt to learn about French traditions.

We would like to thank Mr Cross for allowing us to work with Year 5 and to also thank the pupils themselves for working so hard. We look forward to working with them again in the new year.

Nadolig Llawen / Buon Natale / Joyeux Noël  
/ Feliz natal / Feliz Navidad / Merry Christmas / 圣诞快乐 / 3 Різдвом Христовим

### International Club, December 2025



## International Exchange comes to an end.

This term Ysgol Cwm Brombil has welcomed to international exchange students from Brazil. Ana and Gabriela have been wonderful students and we are richer as a school for making their acquaintances. They sadly leave us today and we hope to stay in touch. Below is an article written by Ana about their time with us.

On the 1st September, I began a term of study at Ysgol Cwm Brombil because of my Student Exchange Program Ganhando o Mundo, with the help of SEDA Intercâmbios and ABC Education. At first, I was really nervous, because how would I be able to do well in a school in another country where nobody would speak my mother language? But there I was, in a few days, with some new friends and I had already my own timetable, with amazing classes.



My favourite classes in Ysgol Cwm Brombil are Drama, English, French and History. I enjoy school, there is a lot of things that I found really impressive and exciting at school, for example:

- Foreign language classes;
- A Drama class and a huge theatre;
- A big gym at P.E classes;
- Reading and analysing books in English classes, having opportunities to work through different perspectives;
- Active fight and raising awareness against all hate-crimes with a LGBTQ+ Belonging Club;
- A lot of different clubs outside lessons;
- The piano at school, giving students the opportunity to find their way in musical art;
- A lot of different subjects and the possibilities to choose the GCSE ones;
- The incentivisation of using of Welsh Language during classes;
- The ClassCharts behaviour system with Positive or Negative points;
- And so many others to mention.

At the beginning, I was a little bit lost with my timetable because in Brazil we don't switch classes, we just stay at one classroom, here in Wales, we change the classrooms everytime the class ends, but after a couple of weeks I had already memorized it!

On 4th November, I performed the play "Romeo and Juliet" as Paris with the year 10 drama class. In the morning, we rehearsed at Gwyn Hall and watched "A Midsummer's Night Dream" rehearsal too! At afternoon, we rehearsed again and at the night we did the play! I felt unexplainably happy and fulfilled, as if I finally did what I was dreaming to do during my whole life.

Outside the school, I usually stay at home reading Shakespeare tragedies, studying or just chilling, but we get out a lot of times. One of my favourite places was Tenby, a place with a lot of different and amazing stores! Another place that I loved was Caerphilly Castle!

In Brazil, we don't usually celebrate Halloween as people do here, so I got very excited for this. I dressed up as a vampire and we went to Margam Park's Spooky Trip, where we found a lot of actors who scared us! We had a lot of fun (and screams too)!



In summary, being a YCB student was an honour for me, I loved all of the activities, such as the Debate Club, Seren lessons, Drama Club, different languages and other kinds of lessons. Everything was amazing and new to me. If I could go back in time, I would do all of it again. I will miss the school a lot, the friends, the piano during the breaktime, the Shakespearian references, the difficult Welsh classes (they are really hard, but I enjoyed learning), everything.

What I have learned of this exchange is: always try to learn new things, even if they might be intimidating, it wasn't easy for me at first to be in another country that has two languages and having to adapt into another culture, but it was a fulfilling and incredible experience, I am really grateful for everyone who welcomed me even not really knowing me, to the Byrne and Turner families, who accepted Gabriela and I in their homes and granted us wonderful experiences, to all of our teachers that I can't name since there is a lot of them, but they have all been really patient and kind to believe in our potential and effort to learn.

To all of our friends that included us in every single activity and made us laugh in every single moment, to all of the school staff who are so much kind and supportive to the students and to anyone I might have forgotten while writing this article. I hope this school keeps succeeding and all of you have a great 2026, because with this experience, I know I will have a happy year with the unforgettable memories of Wales.



Sincerely yours, Obrigado, Diolch, Merci!  
Ana!

## Senedd News

A transition feedback workshop was recently held for our Year 7 pupils, delivered by Clare Pritchard from the Children's Rights Unit and led by members of the Senedd. The purpose of the workshop was to gather pupil voice and reflect on students' experiences of moving from primary to secondary school. The session involved a range of fun, interactive activities designed to encourage all Year 7 pupils to share their thoughts, feelings, and experiences of the transition process. These activities ensured that every pupil had the opportunity to contribute in a positive and supportive environment. The Senedd demonstrated exceptional leadership throughout the workshop. They confidently supported the activities, helped guide discussions, and ensured that pupils felt comfortable expressing their views. Their enthusiasm and maturity played a key role in the success of the session.



Year 7 pupils responded very positively and clearly enjoyed participating. The engaging nature of the activities helped pupils reflect on their transition experience and provide valuable feedback that will support future improvements to the transition process.

Overall, the workshop was a highly successful event that highlighted the importance of pupil voice, celebrated strong student leadership, and provided meaningful insights into the Year 7 transition experience.



# Sporting Success



## Netball

It was another entertaining edition of the annual Staff vs Year 11 Students match, with the staff once again emerging victorious. Displaying effortless movement and slick passing down the court, the staff controlled play and finished strongly in the shooting circle to claim yet another win.



## Basketball

Congratulations to our Year 7/8 basketball team on winning the NPT area @basketballwales @basketball\_wales\_schools competition today. The team delivered a superb performance throughout, playing with impressive accuracy, skill and maturity, while showcasing outstanding teamwork on court. It was a genuine pleasure to watch such a composed and talented display. The focus now turns to the regional finals in February 2026 – well done to everyone involved.



## Swimming

We are extremely proud of all our swimmers from Years 7, 8 and 9 who competed at the @nptpass Swimming Gala last week. The school entered two squads into the competition, with one team going on to claim overall victory.

The event featured a number of outstanding individual and team performances, which were fittingly capped off by both squads securing wins in the Cannon Relays. A fantastic achievement from everyone involved – well done to all our swimmers.



## Ysgol Cwm Brombil Social Media Accounts

You can keep up to date with so many things that go on every day at Ysgol Cwm Brombil by following our school Instagram: We also have Instagram account of other departments and clubs in in our school. Why not follow some of our accounts (links in the logos) and give them likes!



# Food & Catering



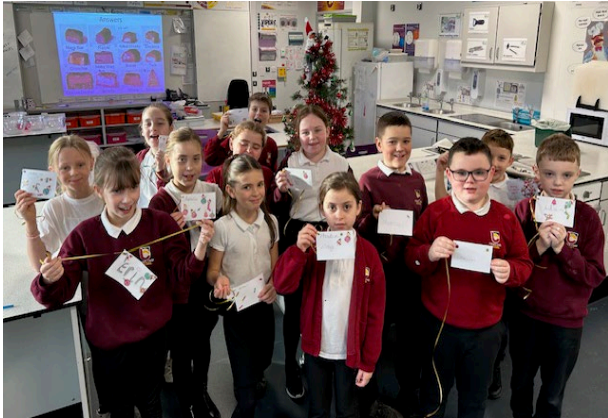
It's been a very busy, Christmassy time down in Food!

The Year 9 Food & Catering classes worked together to produce our very own Christmas dinner in Teams. The pupils had one hour to peel, chop, mix, boil and bake! Then returned to enjoy their Christmas dinner all together to celebrate a fantastic first term.

Well done Year 9!



The Year 5's have completed their first cooking project this half term. We have learnt about health and safety in the kitchens and developed our practical skills using different pieces of equipment. We have also had the opportunity to develop our team-work skills. This week we made Christmas crinkle cookies to celebrate. Well done Year 5!



We've also had a jam packed half term with all our classes developing lots of new practical skills and producing some amazing outcomes. Well done to everyone and remember to practice everything you have learnt at home over the festive period....even the washing up!  
Nadolig Llawen



This article highlights twelve of the most common Christmas accidents and medical emergencies and gives you skills to help.

Follow the link

[Twelve most common Christmas accidents](#)



## Thank You & Final Push for Attendance

A huge thank-you to all families who have supported strong attendance this term — your commitment makes a real difference to pupils' learning and wellbeing.

As we enter the final days before the break, a reminder that school has continued to be **in full learning mode** and reward activities are taking place for pupils with good attendance and positive engagement on the last two days.

**Every day counts — right to the end.**

We wish all our pupils and families a wonderful Christmas break when it arrives.

**ATTENDANCE MATTERS**

**IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR**

**95%** = **10** *days off*  
*attendance*

**= 50 hours**  
*of learning lost*

The infographic features a white calendar icon with a red cover and a grid of days, with one day highlighted in yellow. Below the text are four circular icons: a stylized 'C' logo, a hand holding a lightbulb, a group of three people, and a brain with a gear inside.

## Reporting your child's absence

In order to improve our efficiency tracking absences, we have enabled the reporting absence option on ClassCharts. When you go into the ClassCharts Parent app for your child, you will now see an absences tab on the top. (scroll across if it is not immediately visible).

Selecting this tab will display a list of absences that you have reported, once you have reported them. This includes when the absence took place, the reason for the absence and who acknowledged your absence report.

To report an absence, click on the "Report new absence" button.

Next, enter the details of the reported absence into the form provided.

You can also include up to 5 files in your absence report as supporting evidence. To do this, click on the "Attach supporting Evidence" button and select the files of your choice.

Click on the Submit button to send your pupil's absence report to their school. The absence can be edited and deleted until it has been acknowledged by a member of staff.

## School Uniform Expectations

All students are expected to wear school uniform throughout the school day.

Below are uniform guidelines for both boys and girls, as well as PE Kit:

<b>All pupils Year 7 to 11</b>		
Blazer	Black school blazer	Available from Bergoni. Blazers must be brought to school and worn every day.
Shirt	White shirt with collar.	Can be purchased from any retailer.
Trousers	Plain black tailored uniform style trousers.	Jean style, corduroys, skinny or casual trousers are not permitted.
Skirt *	Plain black school uniform style skirt.	Skirts should be an appropriate length.
Tights	Plain black tights	Tights are to be worn with skirts and can be purchased from any retailer.
Shoes	Black shoes with black laces.	Available from any retailer. Black leather converse shoes are permitted. <b>NO TRAINERS</b>
Tie	School tie.	Available from Bergoni.
Jumper	Black with badge.	Available from Bergoni. Jumpers are optional.
Shorts	Black tailored shorts.	Only for the summer term. Not PE shorts.
Outdoor coat/Jacket	Coats should be waterproof and black in colour.	Available from any retailer.
Socks (only if not wearing tights)	Ankle height, plain black or white.	Available from any retailer.
<p><b>Please note hoodies are <u>not</u> allowed in school.</b>  <b>Any pupil who refuses to remove them during the day will have them confiscated.</b></p>		
<b>Physical Education</b>		
Unisex T Shirt		Available exclusively from Bergoni
Rugby Jersey		Available exclusively from Bergoni
Shorts		Available exclusively from Bergoni
Socks		Available exclusively from Bergoni
Unisex ¼ zipped top		Optional item. Available exclusively from Bergoni
Plain black tracksuit bottoms		Optional available at any retail store
Skort or Legging (recommended to go a size bigger than your normal clothes size as they are smaller sizes.)		Available exclusively from Bergoni
<p><b>Please note, even on PE days, hoodies are not allowed in school.</b>  <b>Pupils are expected to wear a long sleeve PE top when cold.</b></p>		

For further information regarding our uniform expectations please see our [school website](#):

## The Pantry

Our weekly food bank is open every Thursday from 3.15. This is available to anyone within our school community, no referral needed, please just drop in as and when needed.

We all need a little help sometimes. Entrance to the Food Bank – The Pantry is accessed via the pupil entrance in the senior phase school, inside the canteen area.

Refreshments will be provided for everyone waiting, we look forward to seeing you, please remember to bring your bags with you.



## Donations

We are always grateful for any donations that you can provide towards our food bank, we always need the below items. There is a drop off trolley in reception:

- Tinned Goods:
  - Meats – hotdogs, minced beef, pies, meatballs, curries etc.
  - Beans
  - Beans and Sausage
  - Spaghetti
  - Tinned Veg
    - Potatoes,
    - carrots,
    - peas,
    - sweetcorn
  - Tuna
  - Tinned fruits
- Cereal
- UHT Milk
- Pasta – including sauces
- Toiletries
  - Shampoo,
  - Shower gel,
  - Conditioner,
  - Toothpaste
  - Toilet rolls

\*Please NO sanitary products, we have lots in stock

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

## Aspire Business Network



Let's collaborate, connect, & support the growth of our local business community.

## School Photographs

We are delighted to announce that the school photograph of your child is available to purchase from Orion photography. The team were very complimentary of our students and have produced some extremely professional portraits.



**ORION**  
PHOTOGRAPHY

To access your child's portrait, follow the link or the QR code on the card your child brought home and enter their personal code. The website is:

[Orion Photography](http://www.orionphotography.co.uk)

To join our Aspire Business Network visit: [www.aspire-bn.co.uk](http://www.aspire-bn.co.uk)

**ONLY £250  
PER PANEL PER YEAR!**



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Ysgol Cwm Brombil, Port Talbot

**CONTACT US TODAY** For more information  
[office@ysgolcwmbrombil.npt.school](mailto:office@ysgolcwmbrombil.npt.school)

## Term dates for 2025-26

Autumn Term, half term 1 2025-26	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025	Year 7 & 11 attend school
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025	All pupils attend school
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2025	Last Day of half term 1 for pupils
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Half Term holiday - Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2025	
Autumn Term, half term 2 2025-26	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025	Term starts
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Last Day of half term 2
Christmas Holiday – Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025 – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2026	
Spring Term, half term 3 2025-26	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Half term 3 Starts for all pupils
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Last Day of half term 3
Half Term holiday - Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	
Spring Term, half term 4 2025-26	
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026	Term 4 Starts
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Last Day of half term 4 for pupils
Easter holiday - Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 - Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	
Summer Term, half term 5 2025-26	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Term 5 Starts
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	Last Day of half term 5
Half Term - Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	
Summer Term Half term 6 2025-26	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026	Half term 6 Starts
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	Last Day of half term 6 & end of the school Year

