



BASSALEG CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2018



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Victoria Lambe, Headteacher



BAE Systems, RAF and Royal Navy - STEM Roadshow - All of Year 7 and Year 8 were treated to a spectacular show from BAE Systems, the RAF and Royal Navy on Monday 3rd December. Three presenters worked with Bassaleg pupils in an hour long show including a voice activated robot, a hilarious drainpipe challenge, an amazing mathematical card trick, an aircraft carrier balancing experiment and finally pupils having their hairstyles rearranged by a paramotor. The whole event was based around Maths in engineering and gave pupils a great insight into the exciting world of working with maths, technology and science as a career. The Maths department will be following up the session with tasks related to the workshop in lessons. This was a fantastically interactive and inspiring event in which our young people participated brilliantly.





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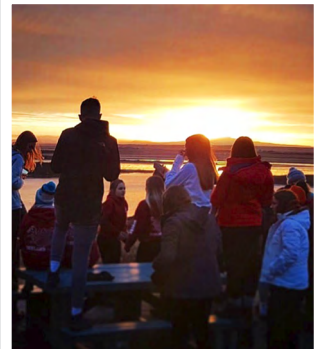
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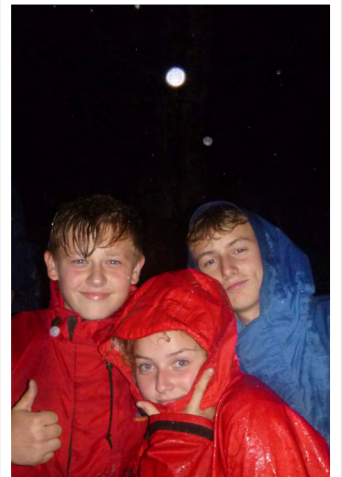
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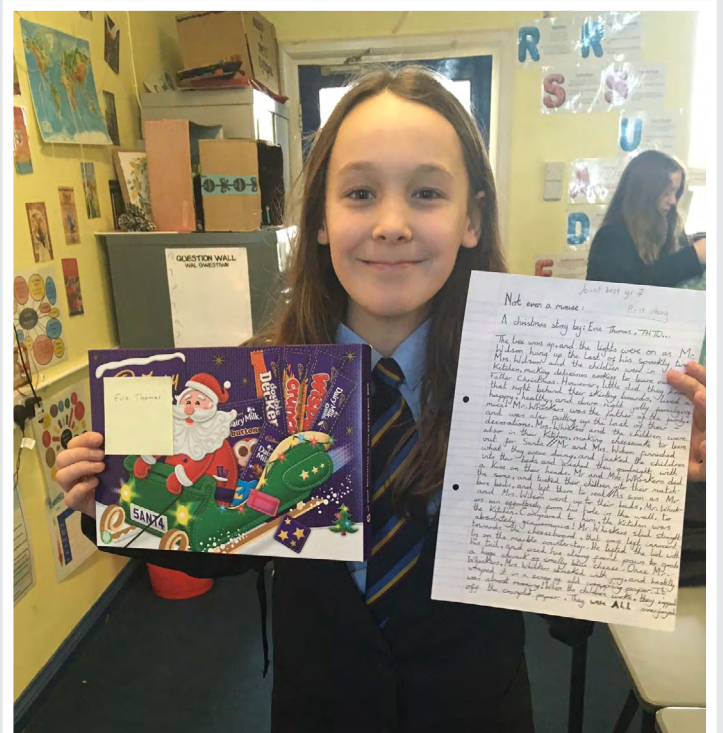
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In English lessons this half term, Year 7 pupils have been busy exploring the differences between Utopias and Dystopias. Classes have enjoyed examining a range of books such as *The Hunger Games*, *The Maze Runner*, *The Giver* and *1984* to discover how what appears to be a Utopian society, is actually a hidden Dystopia. Year 7 were given the challenge of creating their own world that appeared Utopian, but was actually secretly Dystopian! The English Department have been hugely impressed by the presentations Year 7 have given in class; there have also been a fantastic number of entries into the 'Design a 3D Model' competition. 1st place for this competition goes to Louis James, Bethan Williams, Olivia Pride and Eloise Gandy from 7LJP. Their incredible model featured a mixture of Dystopian and Utopian features; we were especially impressed by the references to *1984*, with eyes watching you wherever you went! 2nd place is awarded to Kenna Smith, Tanya Akram and Tyra Challenger from 7DAG. We loved the attention to detail on this model with some creative use of fairy lights. 3rd place goes to Fflur Martin-Davies, Emily Evans, Freya Nightingale and Mary Sussex from 7LKI. This was a very clever design where the Dystopian World was hidden by the pristine layer of the Utopia on the top. Our highly commended prizes are awarded to Emily and Eesh from 7LKI for independently constructing their own models. All entrants will receive A2s for the amazing effort that went into designing and constructing these incredible Dystopian Worlds! Well done Year 7!



HEALTH & HAPPINESS@BASSALEG



Bassaleg students have engaged brilliantly with the Health and Happiness agenda this term, specifically in our splash of colour days #HelloYellow to raise funds for Young Minds and the Jacob Abraham Foundation, Splash of Pink for World Sepsis Day and of course Children in Need when our students and staff dressed up, built a giant Pudsey in coins, rowed/ cycled and ran to Monmouth on our machines amongst many other fun activities. Pupils, staff and the entire school community must be congratulated on the extraordinary collective total of £5,086.04, which has been raised for these three charities, so very close to all of our hearts. So much to look forward to next term in the form of a fitness drive, random act of kindness day and Red Nose day amongst others; each giving pupils more opportunities to have some fun whilst doing something together as a school community.



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Well done to our wonderful nominees and award winners from Bassaleg's "Celebration of Success" - Class of 2018 you have made us all very proud! And a huge thankyou once again to our guest speaker for the evening, Dr Allison Angell, Pride of Britain Award Winner, who gave an inspirational address to the audience



A special thank you and diolch yn fawr to Year 7 for all of their food bank donations! You will make a lot of people happy this Christmas

HEALTH & HAPPINESS@BASSALEG



Miss Lambe enjoyed the most wonderful afternoon having “tea” with students nominated by their tutors for outstanding contributions to their first term at Bassaleg; well done all, you’re all such a credit to the school!



MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Remembrance Service - The music department were once again privileged to take part in the school remembrance service. Chamber Choir performed a new arrangement of the poem 'In Flanders Field' and performed with such sensitivity and warmth. There was also 4 trumpet players around the school; Eve Tonner, Ewan Bagwell, Sian Fernandez and Hannah Gatehouse. These pupils performed the Last Post at various points in the school. For the main service, Head Student Elliot King performed the Last Post and Reveille in his final year and performed it admirably well. A massive thank you to all who took part in this.

On 11 November, we were thrilled that Hannah Gatehouse in Year 11 represented the school in a local remembrance service performing the Last Post again and received many plaudits for her performance. Well done Hannah!



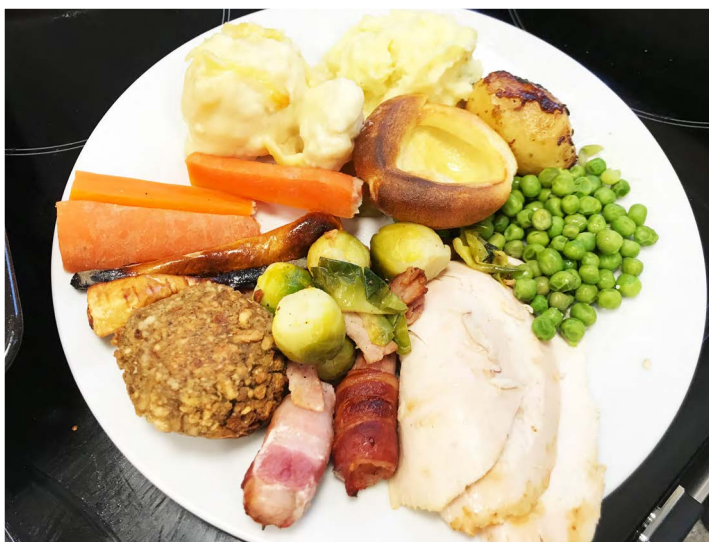
Christmas Concerts - Forge Hall resounded to carols, readings and lots more over the two nights of the Christmas concerts. With the hall full on both nights with parents, grandparents, friends and also lots of former pupils the Senior, Junior, Chamber Choir, Wind Band, String Orchestra and Big Band produced an evening of quality with music from Star Wars, The Greatest Showman and lots more in between, special thanks to our friends from Gwent Music who helped direct a number of groups. It was also a chance for us to see some selected scenes from 'A Christmas Carol' performed with incredible skill and passion by the pupils with thanks to Mrs Fisher for directed this performance. With the winners of the English poem and story competition taking part it was a reflection of the excellent work which is seen throughout the school. The final word must go to the amazing performance from the 'Manic Street Teachers' who were as always a real highlight of the evening, they were once again led by Mrs Davies. Special thanks to all the pupils who took part and created such a wonderful Christmas Concert.

Upcoming Belgium tour - At the end of this academic year, we are delighted to be taking a number of pupils who form the school String Orchestra, Big Band and Wind Band to perform a number of concerts in Belgium. We have also received news that Wind Band during this tour, will perform at the famous Menin Gate ceremony, held every night. This promises to be an exciting trip and we will keep you updated with how we are getting on.

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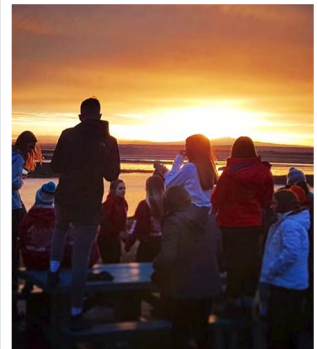
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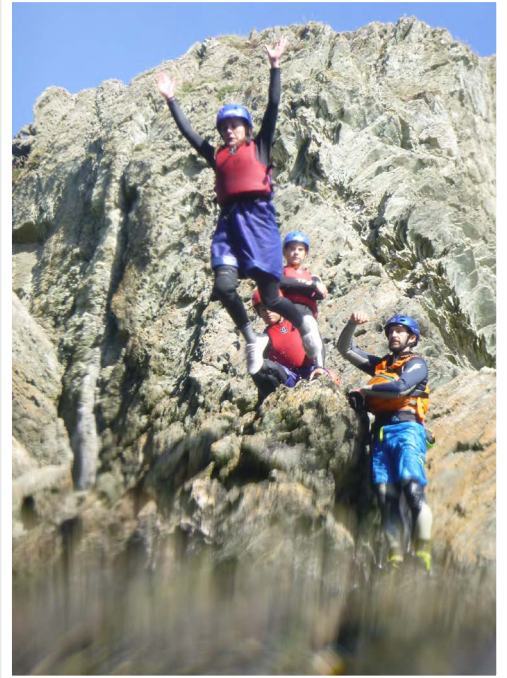
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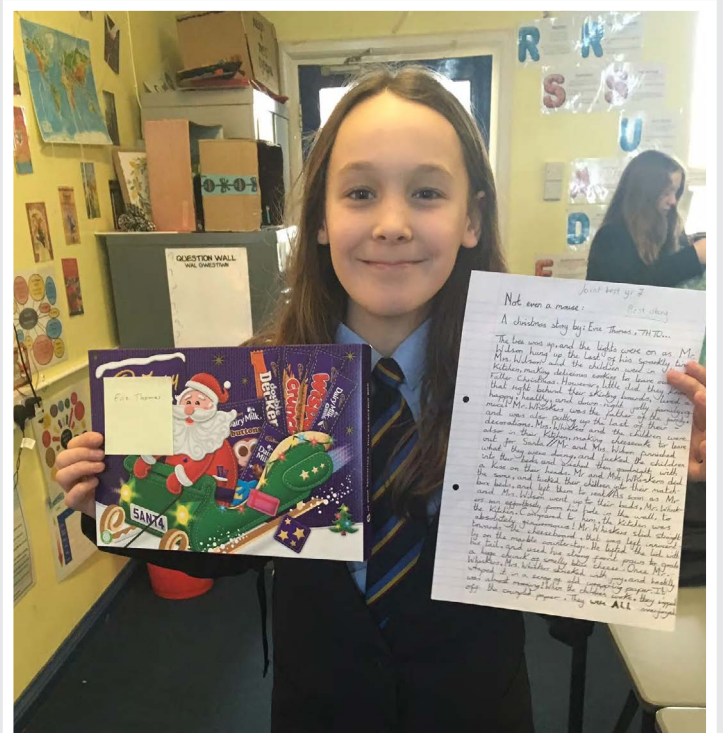
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The English department were inundated with fantastic stories and poems all about the spirit of Christmas. Students from years 7, 8 and 9 participated in the competition. Miss Scott and Ms Takhar found it very difficult to decide just two winners, but they would like to congratulate the following six students on their achievements: Best Story – Evie Thomas 7HTO, Best Poem – Chloe Fido 7CSI, Runner Up Poem – Jed Laughton 7LPA, Highly commended Year 7 – Sophie Spooner 7LKI, Highly commended Year 8 – Ella Trew 8KCH, Highly commended Year 9 – Holly Beachus 9FSC. Evie's story - 'Not Even a Mouse', was chosen as it shows how everyone, big or small, can enjoy the simple joys of Christmas and Chloe's poem - 'Christmas is Here' was chosen for the lovely rhyming which captures the happy, upbeat rhythm of Christmas. Both girls received special prizes as well as the opportunity to have their piece read out at the hugely anticipated Bassaleg Christmas concert.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



In English lessons this half term, Year 7 pupils have been busy exploring the differences between Utopias and Dystopias. Classes have enjoyed examining a range of books such as *The Hunger Games*, *The Maze Runner*, *The Giver* and *1984* to discover how what appears to be a Utopian society, is actually a hidden Dystopia. Year 7 were given the challenge of creating their own world that appeared Utopian, but was actually secretly Dystopian! The English Department have been hugely impressed by the presentations Year 7 have given in class; there have also been a fantastic number of entries into the 'Design a 3D Model' competition. 1st place for this competition goes to Louis James, Bethan Williams, Olivia Pride and Eloise Gandy from 7LJP. Their incredible model featured a mixture of Dystopian and Utopian features; we were especially impressed by the references to *1984*, with eyes watching you wherever you went! 2nd place is awarded to Kenna Smith, Tanya Akram and Tyra Challenger from 7DAG. We loved the attention to detail on this model with some creative use of fairy lights. 3rd place goes to Fflur Martin-Davies, Emily Evans, Freya Nightingale and Mary Sussex from 7LKI. This was a very clever design where the Dystopian World was hidden by the pristine layer of the Utopia on the top. Our highly commended prizes are awarded to Emily and Eesh from 7LKI for independently constructing their own models. All entrants will receive A2s for the amazing effort that went into designing and constructing these incredible Dystopian Worlds! Well done Year 7!



HEALTH & HAPPINESS@BASSALEG



Bassaleg students have engaged brilliantly with the Health and Happiness agenda this term, specifically in our splash of colour days #HelloYellow to raise funds for Young Minds and the Jacob Abraham Foundation, Splash of Pink for World Sepsis Day and of course Children in Need when our students and staff dressed up, built a giant Pudsey in coins, rowed/ cycled and ran to Monmouth on our machines amongst many other fun activities. Pupils, staff and the entire school community must be congratulated on the extraordinary collective total of £5,086.04, which has been raised for these three charities, so very close to all of our hearts. So much to look forward to next term in the form of a fitness drive, random act of kindness day and Red Nose day amongst others; each giving pupils more opportunities to have some fun whilst doing something together as a school community.



HEALTH & HAPPINESS@BASSALEG



HEALTH & HAPPINESS@BASSALEG



Well done to our wonderful nominees and award winners from Bassaleg's "Celebration of Success" - Class of 2018 you have made us all very proud! And a huge thankyou once again to our guest speaker for the evening, Dr Allison Angell, Pride of Britain Award Winner, who gave an inspirational address to the audience



A special thank you and diolch yn fawr to Year 7 for all of their food bank donations! You will make a lot of people happy this Christmas

HEALTH & HAPPINESS@BASSALEG



Miss Lambe enjoyed the most wonderful afternoon having “tea” with students nominated by their tutors for outstanding contributions to their first term at Bassaleg; well done all, you’re all such a credit to the school!



MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Remembrance Service - The music department were once again privileged to take part in the school remembrance service. Chamber Choir performed a new arrangement of the poem 'In Flanders Field' and performed with such sensitivity and warmth. There was also 4 trumpet players around the school; Eve Tonner, Ewan Bagwell, Sian Fernandez and Hannah Gatehouse. These pupils performed the Last Post at various points in the school. For the main service, Head Student Elliot King performed the Last Post and Reveille in his final year and performed it admirably well. A massive thank you to all who took part in this.

On 11 November, we were thrilled that Hannah Gatehouse in Year 11 represented the school in a local remembrance service performing the Last Post again and received many plaudits for her performance. Well done Hannah!



Christmas Concerts - Forge Hall resounded to carols, readings and lots more over the two nights of the Christmas concerts. With the hall full on both nights with parents, grandparents, friends and also lots of former pupils the Senior, Junior, Chamber Choir, Wind Band, String Orchestra and Big Band produced an evening of quality with music from Star Wars, The Greatest Showman and lots more in between, special thanks to our friends from Gwent Music who helped direct a number of groups. It was also a chance for us to see some selected scenes from 'A Christmas Carol' performed with incredible skill and passion by the pupils with thanks to Mrs Fisher for directed this performance. With the winners of the English poem and story competition taking part it was a reflection of the excellent work which is seen throughout the school. The final word must go to the amazing performance from the 'Manic Street Teachers' who were as always a real highlight of the evening, they were once again led by Mrs Davies. Special thanks to all the pupils who took part and created such a wonderful Christmas Concert.

Upcoming Belgium tour - At the end of this academic year, we are delighted to be taking a number of pupils who form the school String Orchestra, Big Band and Wind Band to perform a number of concerts in Belgium. We have also received news that Wind Band during this tour, will perform at the famous Menin Gate ceremony, held every night. This promises to be an exciting trip and we will keep you updated with how we are getting on.