

CYMDEITHAS RHIENI A CHYFEILLION YSGOL UWCHRADD Y FRENHINES

ELISABETH CAERFYRRDIN

QUEEN ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL CARMARTHEN PARENTS AND FRIENDS

ASSOCIATION

ADRODDIAD – REPORT 2008 – 2009

This past academic year has been another busy and successful one for our school. The fourth year in the life of QE High School saw pupils and Staff settle in to our fantastic new buildings. Mr Allan Carter and the Senior Team saw the School successfully through the early months while Mr Day regained his health and returned to School during the Summer term.

The PFA's calendar was also busy. Naturally, our first meetings of the year consisted of tours of the new facilities! In October we held an auction of furniture and other items not suitable for reuse in the new buildings. This was most successful and thanks go to Mr Gareth Scourfield and Mrs Scourfield (Nurse Brenda) for their invaluable help. We held our annual Year 7 Christmas Disco (thanks to parent Aled, our DJ, better known as Gremlins); and our annual quiz (thanks to Mr Carter for being quizmaster and managing the fierce competition). Both contributed to our funds together with raffles at Christmas, alongside the Wizard of Oz production and at the Summer Gig. We also received donations for refreshments at the various parents' evenings and open evenings where we supplied teas and coffees. The 2 local uniform suppliers, Evans & Wilkins and Clair Adams also support the cost of refreshments at the Open Evenings.

An information evening was also well received – dealing with subject option choices at years 9 and 11 and the School's programme of Careers and World of Work education. An information evening relies on a lot of extra work by the Staff and our thanks to Mr Chris Pattison for organising the evening and to his and his colleagues' contributions.

It takes teamwork to make these activities happen. I must say thank you to the faithful helpers who never say no when asked to help and those who contribute their time or money or both! We are hoping to encourage more parents to get involved – many hands make light work – in what we think is very worthwhile support for our children's school and education. We also have marvellous help from the School Staff, the premises team and administrative staff of the school – thank you to them all.

Just as important as the events are our regular meetings – once each half term, when there is a chance to ask questions of the Headteacher and to hear about the latest developments in school life affecting our children. These are informal sessions open to everyone who is

interested as a parent or friend of the school. Sometimes there are issues where it is important that the combined voice of the parents of the school is heard and the PFA provides a good way to do this.

Despite having our marvellous new building, there are still many extras that can make a difference to the pupils' experiences and education, but are not allowed for within the budget the school receives from the County Council. This is where our fund raising activities come in. As well as raising money through events, you may know that Trevor, PFA Treasurer, runs a 50:50 Club, the Millennium Club, on behalf of the PFA. Members pay £1 per week towards the fund, 50p of which is returned to members in prizes, calculated at least once each term. More members result in higher value prizes plus more for the PFA to donate to the school!

I will finish by thanking my fellow PFA officers and volunteers for keeping us going through another year and to Mr Day and his colleagues for their cooperation and support.

November 2009

V Williams