



# 8th September 2023

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## A Message from Mr Thomas, Acting Headteacher



*Prynhawn da.... Good afternoon*

Well, that was a very hot week and I think we have all deserved the weekend off. The sun has brought smiles to all the pupils' faces, and we were thrilled to see so many of those smiles on our students as they entered the school gates. The enthusiasm and energy our children bring with them are a true testament to their eagerness to learn and grow.

It is the start of another academic year here at Maes y Felin and time to welcome our children back to class and say a very BIG 'hello' to all our new starters! After just one week everyone seems to be settling in well, which has been fantastic to see. It has been a very busy first week and the children are getting used to their new routines and already producing some terrific work. It has been particularly pleasing to see so much learning taking place outside.

For important updates and information about your child's class, including details about PE days and other activities, please be sure to check your child's Seesaw page. This platform will provide you with valuable insights into their learning journey throughout the year.

Just to remind you that Universal Free School Meals (UPFSM) is the Welsh Government's initiative which will see all children of primary school age receiving a free school meal by 2024, regardless of income. Since 2022 UPFSM has been rolled out to Reception and Years 1 and 2 pupils in all primary

schools across Flintshire. From September 2023 this will be extended to include Year 3 and 4 pupils and will be followed by Years 5 and 6 in April 2024. There is no need to apply or register.

Next week sees our annual residential trip to Nant BH for our Year 5/6 pupils. They are looking forward to it so much and are so excited. We can't wait to hear all their stories and them creating lifetime memories. Let's hope the weather is good for them.

The children who aren't going to Nant BH will be working with Technocamp next week, which will be exciting for them.

Reception children are the stars next week as The Leader newspaper comes in on Tuesday to take their photos. They have been brilliant as they transition to attending school full time.

The week will end on a high with 15 children of the choir attending the official opening of Plas yr Ywen. We are honoured to be invited to perform with first minister Mark Drakeford also attending.

Hope you all have a wonderful weekend and we will see you on Monday.

Kind regards,

*Mr. David Thomas,*

*Headteacher*

## **What has been happening in school this week**

The first week back in school for our foundation learning children has been incredible. Their eagerness to engage in activities and their boundless enthusiasm have made it a truly memorable start to the year. From exploring vibrant classrooms to enjoying outdoor play, their smiles and laughter have filled our school with energy and joy.

In Squirrels and Foxes classrooms the children have been busy getting to know each other, making new friends and learning the routines of the day. They have enjoyed taking part in a variety of activities such as painting, singing and exploring the outdoor area.

Owls, Hedgehogs and Badgers classes have settled into their new classes brilliantly this week. The children have been busy getting stuck into their new topic, focussing on 'The Scarecrows' Wedding' by Julia Donaldson. The children enjoyed going on an outdoor hunt collecting outdoor resources to

use for a wedding, just like the scarecrows in the story. They have made lists showing the items they collected and begun researching weddings. The children have also spent lots of time in the provision areas both inside the classroom and outdoors in our canopy area, as well as time getting to know their new teachers.

With such a promising start, we're excited for the year ahead, full of growth, exploration, and joyful moments in our nurturing environment.















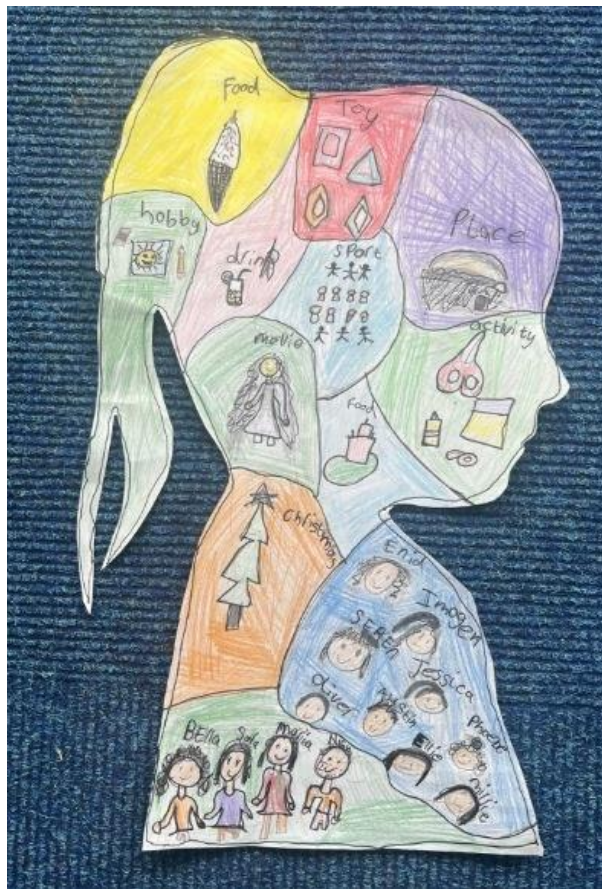


Well the juniors have settled back into school life with so much enthusiasm and positivity. The children were definitely ready to come back to school after the six week break as they have thrown themselves into all aspects of their learning!

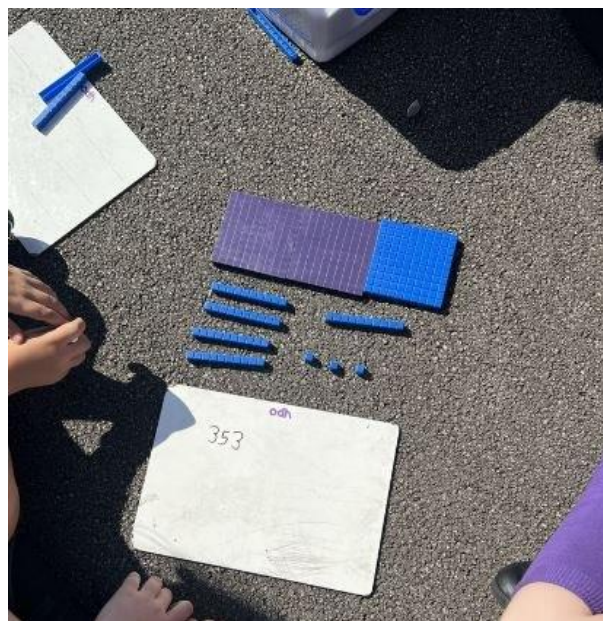
In Derwen and Ceiriosen the children have made a fantastic start to their new topic 'People Who Help Us' where they have come up with fantastic designs with all their ideas using pictures and key vocabulary. The children have created 'All About Me' silhouettes where they could draw their favourite things such as favourite food, hobbies, toys, drink, and sport. We have been making the most of the weather by learning outside as much as possible making 3&4-digit numbers using concrete representations and showing different ways to make the same amounts.

Masarnen, Collen and Llwyfen have had a wonderful first week back in school. This week we've been busy exploring the Eco area with our new (and old!) friends. As well as this, the Year 6s have been busy showing the Year 5s how to use Google Classroom and offering lots of digital peer support. We have been blown away with how amazing the children have worked together and we're excited for the year ahead. Da iawn pawb!

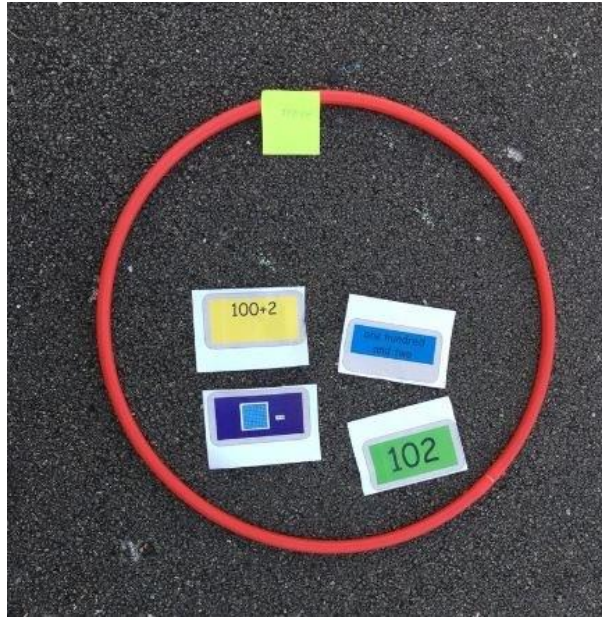
The children are so looking forward to getting stuck into their learning during the second week and of course those going to Nant BH will have a shock with all the activities they will be doing! We can definitely say they will be tired out when they return!











Welsh Corner - Cornel Cymraeg



Celebrations



Attendance awards

Masarnen won the class attendance with a fantastic 99.42%

Lucas - Masarnen won the 100% attendance voucher - da iawn!

The overall attendance for this week was 92.89% and we had 248 pupils with 100% attendance for the week.



### Tea with Mr T

The children enjoyed sharing jokes and some treats as a reward for being VIPs this week.



### New Arrival

Mrs Jenkins and her husband welcomed baby Margot on 19th July - Llongyfarchiadau i ni i gyd

## Upcoming Events

- September 12th - The Leader photographs for Reception children.
- September 13th - 15th - Nant BH for year 5 and 6
- September 20th - Big Hopes Big Future. More information below.
- September 20th - New nursery parents meetings. More information below

- September 22nd and 29th and October 6th - Years 1,2 and 3 stay and play. More information to follow
- September 29th - Masarnen Class Service
- October 13th - Llwyfen's class service, lesson and lunch
- October 16th - Parents Evening
- October 19th - Family Bingo at 3.30pm
- October 25th open day for current and new nursery. more details to follow.
- October 27th - Harvest Service - Foundation Learning
- November 17th Collen's class service, lesson and lunch
- November 24th stay and play reception. More information to follow
- December 1st Christmas Fair
- December 8th stay and play reception. More information to follow
- December 12th panto for years 1 to 6
- December 14th Christmas play juniors

## Essential Information

### **Nursery Parents**

You are invited to a 5 minute session with your child's new class teacher on 20th September. This is an opportunity for you to share information about your child and get to know the routines of our school and the staff team. Appointments are available from 12pm and can be face to face or over the 'phone, please book a slot with class teachers on the gate - diolch.

### **Save the date! 20mph is here – Walk or Wheel to school**

On 18 September, we are encouraging learners, parents/carers and staff to walk or wheel to school to celebrate the default 20mph speed limit starting.

From 17 September 2023, most 30mph limits across Wales will change to 20mph.

At 20mph it's safer for everyone where we live, work and play. To celebrate this, we want to encourage learners, parents/carers and staff to walk, or wheel (cycle, scoot, wheelchair) to school on Monday 18 September.

This is a voluntary activity, we would love to see you photo's on Monday 18th to be shared with Active Travel.

### **Come and see our learning in action**

There are very limited spaces for an exciting project aimed at nursery parents, you are invited to 10 sessions with your children, it is an opportunity to meet with other parents, see how your child has settled into school and watch them playing alongside their friends. The sessions start on 20th



September 9 30 am- 11am - for further information, please contact the office on 01352 711 366 or speak to Mrs Nellist, Mrs Evans or class teachers.

### ***Water Bottles***

We have School Water Bottles available to purchase. They will be £1.50 each. Please come into the Main Office if you would like to purchase one.

### ***Parking***

Thank you for your co-operation with this. The area outside the green gate is much less congested and safer for all. Diolch

### ***Nuts***

We are a nut free school, please ensure there are no nut based foods brought on to the premises.

### ***Collection***

From September 2023 ONLY children in year 5 and 6 can walk home without an adult and this will only be allowed once we have had written permission from parents/carers. All other children must be collected by an adult. Please let us know if someone different is collecting your children, if you would like a password system set up, please speak to class teachers or the office.

### ***Holiday Form***

If you wish to take your children on holiday during term time, can you please fill out the below Holiday Request Form, at least 7 days before the first day of absence.

[Holiday Request Form](#)

### ***Weather***

Please can we all be reminded that with the hot weather, please ensure that your child has a water bottle, a hat and is wearing sun cream.



# Ysgol Maes y Felin School Holidays & Training Dates 2023 / 24 as at 17.05.2023

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
							30	31												
December 2023							January 2024							February 2024						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29			
March 2024							April 2024							May 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		
June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3												1	2	3
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

	Staff Training Day	Holidays (closed to pupils)	Bank Holidays (school closed)
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1 - School holiday dates for 2023/24

## PE Timetable

	9 am	10 am	11 am	1 pm	2 pm
Monday	Squirrels (M/H)	Derwen (M/H)	Collen (M/F)	Foxes (H/M/F)	Llanfawr (M/F)
Tuesday		Llanfawr (M/H)	Bedwen (H/M/F)	Hedgehogs (M/H)	Ceiriosen (M/H)
Wednesday	Owls (M/H)	Ceiriosen (M/F)	Derwen (M/F)	Squirrels (H/M/F)	Collen (F/H)
Thursday		Bedwen (M/H)	Badgers (H/M/F)	Owls (H/M/F)	Masarnen (M/H)
Friday	Foxes (M/H)	Hedgehogs (M/F)	Badgers (M/H)	Masarnen (F/H)	Golden Time

M = Muga F = Field H=Hall

2 - PE timetable for whole school - for individual timetables, please see class seesaw.



## Come and join our School Family



## What do we offer?

- \* 30 hours free childcare
- \* Breakfast Club from 7 45am
- \* After school Club until 5 30pm
- \* Extensive grounds and excellent outdoor facilities
- \* A full programme of after school clubs
- \* A focussed Nurture Provision
- \* An on site family liaison officer
- \* Opportunities for families to come in to school and work alongside their children.
- \* Offsite trips and experiences including residential visits.
- \* Expert staff who work with children to plan engaging and authentic learning experiences



*I really like the communication from school, it's great seeing what my child has been up to on a daily basis. - Parent*

*I love coming to school, we do lots of fun things - Pupil in year 4*

*The school nurtures a calm learning environment where the relationship between staff and pupils supports learning effectively. - Estyn 2019*

For admission enquires and to arrange a visit to the school, please contact the main office - 01352 711366, [mfmil@hwbcymru.net](mailto:mfmil@hwbcymru.net)

3 - Our school information.

## Attendance

### Target School Attendance per week: 95%

Please can we remind parents / carers how important it is, that if your child is not going to be in school, you contact the office on 01352 711366 as soon as possible, otherwise this will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

Why attendance matters.

 <p><b>HIGH ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL GETS YOUR CHILD'S LIFE OFF TO A FLYING START!</b></p>	 <p><b>INCREASING ATTENDANCE BY JUST 5% CAN LEAD TO GAINING GOOD QUALIFICATIONS</b></p>	 <p><b>MISSING TWO DAYS A MONTH MEANS A CHILD MISSES 10% OF THE SCHOOL YEAR</b></p>	<p><b>GOOD ATTENDANCE IN PRIMARY SCHOOL</b></p> <p><b>Improves reading</b></p> <p><i>Writing - MATHS</i></p>
 <p><b>THERE ARE 175 DAYS A YEAR NOT SPENT IN SCHOOL</b> <small>(PLENTY OF TIME FOR SHOPPING, HOLIDAYS AND SPORTS HOLIDAYS)</small></p>	 <p><b>100s OF SUBJECTS   1000s OF CLASSES</b> <b>ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES</b></p>	 <p><b>TURNING UP JUST EVERY DAY ADDS UP TO OVER 3 DAYS LOST IN THE YEAR!</b></p>	<p><b>MORE SCHOOL =</b></p> <p>HIGHER GRADES INCREASED CONFIDENCE MORE FRIENDS BETTER FUTURE</p>

**Attend today: Achieve tomorrow**

For support with attendance, please contact the office - 01352 711366

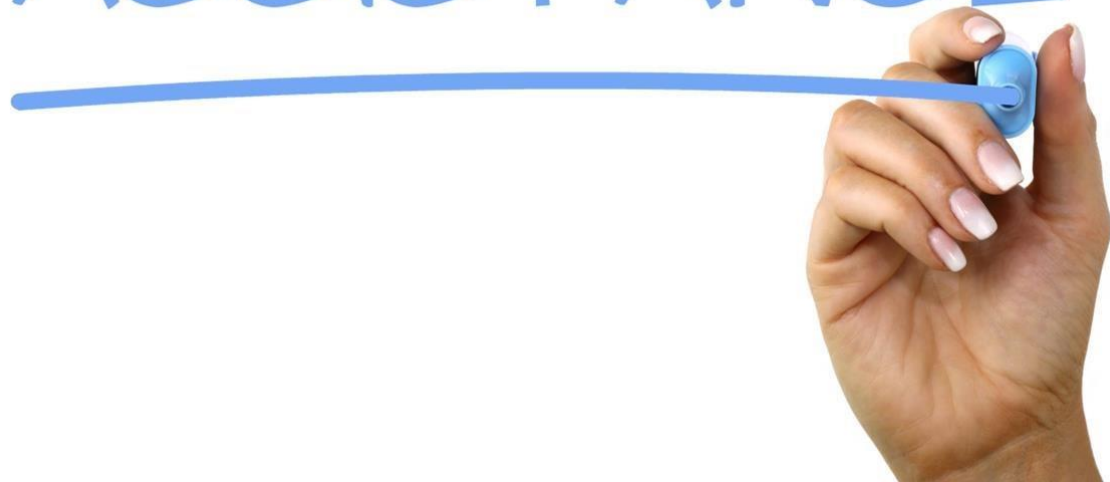






## Financial Support

# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



### Universal Free School Meals

Universal Free School Meals Universal Free School Meals (UPFSM) is the Welsh Government's initiative which will see all children of primary school age receiving a free school meal by 2024, regardless of income. Since 2022 UPFSM has been rolled out to Reception and Years 1 and 2 pupils in all primary schools across Flintshire. From September 2023 this will be extended to include Year 3 and 4 pupils and will be followed by Years 5 and 6 in April 2024. There is no need to apply or register.

### School Essentials Grant (formerly Uniform Grant)

If your child is entering reception, is moving from a school outside of Flintshire, or your circumstances have changed meaning you are now eligible for a School Essential Grant, you will need to complete an application. This form can be found on Flintshire's website by searching for 'Free School Meals' or by typing in the short URL [www.flintshire.gov.uk/FSM](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/FSM)

## **Childcare Offer**

Do you or someone you know need help with childcare costs? Under the Childcare Offer for Wales, you could claim up to 30 hours of early education and childcare a week, for up to 48 weeks of the year. This government-funded childcare scheme aims to lessen the burden of childcare costs so that you can spend the money you've saved on the things that matter most to your family.

The Offer has already helped parents from all over Wales to return to work, increase their hours or work more flexibly. If you're looking for a job, or thinking about going back into education or training, but are worried about childcare costs, this support could make all the difference.

## **Additional financial support**

More information about help with the cost of living can be found by following the links below: [Get help with the cost of living | GOV.WALES](#)

## **In our community**



## **The Table**

The Table is open Monday from 12-2 in St Peter's Church (behind Lidl)

Free delicious lunch in our warm church

Shop for a basket of shopping (we only ask for a donation, if you can afford it)

A listening ear and access to other sources of support

Creche, so small children can be kept safe and have fun while we're open!

And we always begin with the Bread of Life Service @ 11.30!

All are welcome and there are no barriers to coming along!

## **Greenfield Valley Heritage Park**

We are joining Cadw's Open Door Event.

We are opening the doors of our museum for free.

17.09.2023, 10am till 4pm.

No need to pre-book just turn up on the day

<https://greenfieldvalley.com/events/open-doors/>



## ACL COURSES TY CALON SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

**Monday**  
A hot meal for £1 from Caffi Calon  
9.45-10.45am - Parent and Baby Tales and Toys (18months-4years)  
10.45-11.45am - Toddler time - Craft Time (18months-4years)  
12.15-1.15pm - Baby Sensory (Child Development) (0 - 12 months)  
1.30-2.30pm - Helping to develop a Child's Early Language Skills through Play (18 months- 3 years)  
6.30-7.30pm - Intro to Sports Coaching

**Tuesday**  
4-5PM Family Sports for parents of children with ALN

**Wednesday**  
A hot meal for £1 from Caffi Calon  
11-12pm Movement for the mind - Dementia Friendly

**Friday**  
Vision board and wellbeing development 10-11.30am (Starting 15th September)

*An enrolment form will need to be filled in before attending these courses.  
\*Pre-booking is ESSENTIAL.*

*Courses will start week beginning 4th September.  
The courses are FREE and funded by ACL North Wales for Adults age 19+ living in Flintshire and Wrexham.  
Please fill out and enrolment form when you attend one of our funded courses.*



Free to attend for adults age 19+ living in Flintshire and Wrexham. Funded by ACL North East Wales  
Ty Calon, Queensferry Campus CH5 1SA

## Family sports for children with ALN

Every Tuesday 4-5pm  
Starting 5th September





# GIRLS RUGBY

Come give it a TRY!

**FREE**

**Every Monday**

**5-6pm**

**6-16 years**

**Ty Calon**

**3G Pitch**

**Make Friends  
Keep Fit  
Have Fun  
No Experience needed**

✉ [kroberts@deesidecommunitytrust.co.uk](mailto:kroberts@deesidecommunitytrust.co.uk)

## Weekly Activities at Ty Calon

**Monday**

- 11-11.30am - Chair Aerobics (£1)
- 11.30-12.00pm Over 50 Rugby skills (Free)
- 3.30-4pm - Turn up & Play football 2-4 years (£2)
- 4-5pm - Turn up & Play football, 5-11 years (£3)
- 5-6pm - Girls Rugby (Free)
- 7-8pm - Dance Aerobics (Big Stars - Sport & Fitness) (£3)
- 8-9pm - Walking Rugby (Contact Shotton Steel Rugby Club)

**Tuesday**

- 10am Ladies only Breeze Ride taster coaching sessions and ride (Contact alex1breeze@hotmail.com)
- 7-8pm - Men's Rugby training (Contact Shotton Steel Rugby Club)
- 7.30-8.30pm - SASS Flex (Contact Sass Dance)

**Wednesday**

- 9.30-10.15am - Toddler Sports, walking age (£2 per child)
- 12-12.30am - Chair Aerobics (£1)
- 5-5.55pm - Children's Street Dance (Contact Big Stars Theatre School)
- 5.30-6.30 - Mini's & Junior's Rugby Training (Contact Shotton Steel Rugby Club)
- 6-6.55pm - Children's Contemporary Dance (Contact Big Stars Theatre School)
- 7-9pm - Ladies' Rugby training (Contact Shotton Steel Rugby Club)
- 7-8pm - Legs, Bums & Tums (Big Stars - Sport & Fitness) (£3)
- 8-9.30pm - SASS Stellar (Contact Sass Dance)

**Thursday**

- 12-4pm- Dungeons & Dragons (Contact flintshirednd@gmail.com)
- 11am-12pm - Stretch and Tone (Big Stars - Sport & Fitness) (£3)
- 12pm-1pm - Jazz Aerobics (Big Stars - Sport & Fitness) (£3)
- 5:45-6:45 SASS Flex Kids (Contact Sass Dance)
- 7-8pm - Men's Rugby training (Contact Shotton Steel Rugby Club)
- 7-8.30pm - SASS Starter (Contact Sass Dance)

**Friday**

- 9:30-10:30am Baby and Toddler group (Free)
- 11:30-1:30pm Turn up and Textile (Free)
- 7-8pm - Walking Rugby (Contact Shotton Steel Rugby Club)

**Sunday**

- 10.30am-12pm - Mini's & Junior's Rugby Training (Contact Shotton Steel Rugby Club)

Aston Park Rangers Football Club run Football sessions for children through to adults at Ty Calon. Contact them directly for information on sessions.

Contact Us

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## **Ysgol Maes y Felin**

Pen y Maes Road

Holywell

CH8 7EN

01352 711366

[mfmail@hwbcymru.net](mailto:mfmail@hwbcymru.net)

[Ysgol Maes y Felin Website](#)