

Cymunedau Dysgu Cynaliadwy

Sustainable Communities for Learning

Welcome to Monmouthshire Council's Winter Sustainable Communities for Learning newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading these updates from the council regarding King Henry VIII 3-19 School, Ysgol 3-19 Brenin Harri'r VIII. You can follow us on [Twitter here](#).

The Sustainable Communities for Learning programme is a One Wales commitment and a collaboration between the Welsh Government and Monmouthshire County Council. It is a major, long-term and strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of Sustainable Schools in Wales. You can access our website here:

[Sustainable Communities for Learning - Monmouthshire](#)

New Learning Opportunities Up and Running



Construction students attend their first masterclass at the new King Henry VIII 3-19 School site

A cornerstone of Monmouthshire County Council's corporate plan is to broaden learning experiences and qualifications for young people. Resources and facilities to teach construction were not possible in the old King Henry VIII school. Morgan Sindall, our construction partner in the new King Henry VIII 3-19 School, were enthusiastic not only to sponsor the course financially and with equipment, but also to provide real world learning experiences and masterclasses throughout the year. Morgan Sindall and their supply chain are clear that they want to continue their support long after our wonderful new school buildings are open, and they are long gone. Visits to inspirational design and manufacturing centres have been planned as well as mentoring and work experience opportunities. This course is providing young people in Abergavenny with the opportunity to take their first steps into a career which could play a massive part in their future lives and benefit the communities in which they live. A short film, describing how this course was developed and introduced can be found here:



<https://youtu.be/7z854slkJ4M?si=Zz4dvvZapNAB5M47>

Learning from the Experts



During this term teachers and support staff from King Henry VIII 3-19 School have had the opportunity to tour the new school site to see how their thoughts on learning, wellbeing and additional learning needs are now materialising into bricks and mortar.

The Morgan Sindall construction team have really enjoyed taking faculty and department teams round the site and have been thrilled by their positive reactions and the excitement generated.



More tours are scheduled for the new year after which we will leave the builders alone; we will return again for a second set of tours during the summer term.

Our construction and technology students know the new school site better than most after masterclasses, tutorials and tours.

Further pupil tours are scheduled for the new year.



Plastics Lab Goes National



The Plastics Lab, a lunchtime club led by Mrs Arken from the King Henry VIII 3-19 School Technology Department, and supported by Morgan Sindall have been making a splash both locally and nationally this term.

The Plastics Lab team, which started as a girls in STEM project, has now grown to include members from across the school. Their Plastics Lab project takes HDPE plastic bottle caps and recycles them into a range of beautiful products.

They showcased their project at the Greener Abergavenny Fair where they attracted a good deal of attention, and sold a lot of their wonderful, recycled products. News travels fast...literally, as within a couple of weeks the Plastics Lab was featuring in the local press and on the national ITV News. You can watch the news clip here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YobYd3yipQ>



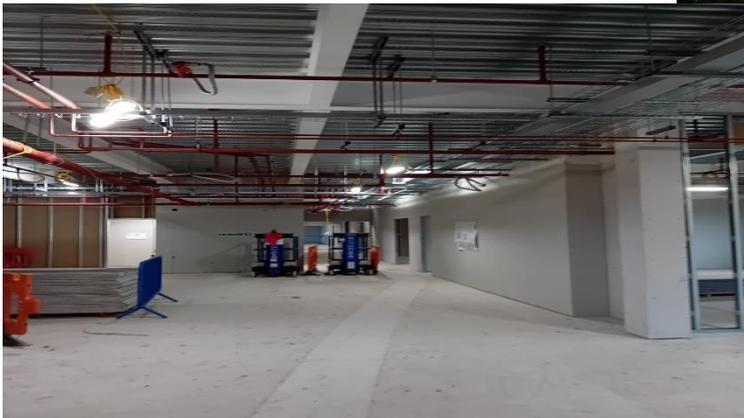
The team are reinvesting any profits into new equipment to expand the range of plastics they can recycle. If you would like to sponsor the Plastics Lab or can help in any way, please get in touch with the school. The team aim for a school and world free of plastics, in the meantime they will keep recycling!

Settling Into the Landscape



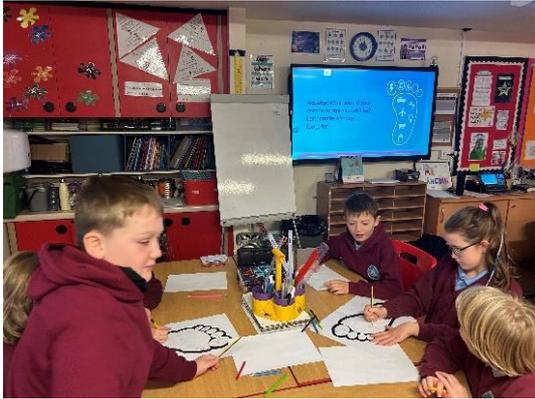
A warm summer and dry autumn have provided near ideal conditions (for much of the time!) for the Morgan Sindall construction team to make significant progress. The Upper School building is now almost watertight while the floors of the Lower School are appearing as this article is written. Our drone images show how well the buildings are settling into the wonderful landscape.

As you drive up Old Hereford Road or Pen Y Pound the new buildings seem to appear out of nowhere, and continue to surprise our many visitors.



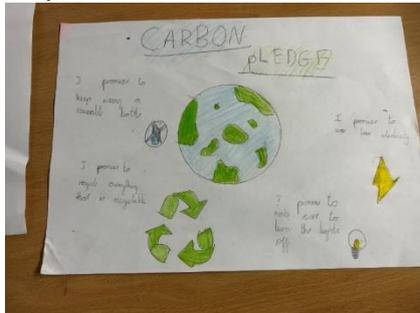
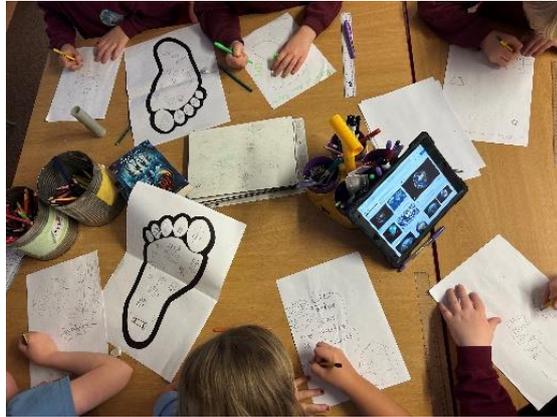
Both buildings will become watertight early in 2024 allowing for more classrooms, halls, dining rooms and learning spaces to appear. We can't wait!

Climate Aware Pupils



Throughout November, Georgie a member of the Morgan Sindall Social Value Team, has been delivering Carbon Literacy Workshops across our cluster primary schools aimed at Year 6 pupils.

The Morgan Sindall Carbon Literacy programme equips young people with knowledge on the science and impact of climate change and empowers young people to make a pledge and take small actions towards reducing their own carbon footprint.



Georgie reports that 'All of the pupils were really engaged and keen to further raise awareness around this important topic. They can't wait to transition into their new net zero carbon school'. Thank you Georgie and we look forward to more workshops in the new year.

Morgan Sindall Support Christmas Appeal



Once again this year, Morgan Sindall and their supply chain have pulled out all the stops to support Monmouthshire County Council's Christmas Wishes appeal. The appeal ensures that Monmouthshire's most vulnerable children and young people have presents to wake up to this Christmas.



Morgan Sindall's Christmas elf's will also be buzzing around the Abergavenny area dropping off Christmas hampers to a wide range of community groups. Cath Saunders, our Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme Manager was delighted to accept the generous donations on behalf of Monmouthshire County Council from Dylan Morris of Morgan Sindall.

Take a virtual walk around King Henry VIII 3-19 School



Meet the Morgan Sindall Operational Team

Meet the Operational Team: If you have any concerns regarding the works, please contact our Morgan Sindall Construction site team below.

Project Director:
Steve Langford: 07966411978



Senior Site Manager:
Scott Morris: 07970846325



Project Manager:
Dafydd Morris: 07890 957963



Logistics Manager:
Gary Corbett: 07811043327



How can you contact us?

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Sustainable Communities for Learning

For regular updates, you can follow Sustainable Communities for Learning on [Twitter](#), or visit our webpage here: [Sustainable Communities for Learning - Monmouthshire](#) If you still have any questions, you can visit our [FAQs page](#)