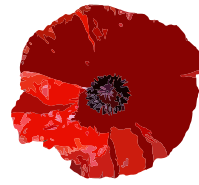


*November Edition*



# *MAESTIEG MONTHLY*

*We will never forget*





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# Anti-bullying week

Anti-Bullying week is planned by the 'Anti-Bullying Alliance' (@ABAonline on Twitter) in both England and Wales. This year it took place from Monday 14th of November to Friday 18th of November.

This year's theme is 'Reach Out' to help encourage children and teachers to ward off any negativity that can come from bullying by doing a good deed. All around the U.K, Monday was named 'Odd-Socks Day' and encouraged everyone, adults and children, from England and Wales to wear miss-matched socks to work/school, in order to promote the message that no one on this planet is the same as anybody else and that we are all unique in our own way.

At Maesteg school, a Sorry Box set up in the atrium on the Thursday and Friday, members of the AYPD (Active Young Peoples Department) Wellbeing team handed out pieces of paper to



each student interested so they could write down anything that they were sorry about that they had done in the past and post it to the Sorry Box. On the Friday, a mural was created and set up by members of the AYPD Wellbeing team encouraging positivity throughout the school.

Written by Holly Williams

# In the news!

## Ukraine



February 24th this year, Russia began a full-scale attack on Ukraine. This was through Belarus which is one of Russia's allies. The announcement was made though the Russian President, Vladimir Putin. His decision was to undertake a "special military operation" in Ukraine. Since February, the United Nations estimated over 11.1 million citizens have crossed neighboring countries. These countries include Belarus, Poland, Slovenia, Hungary, Romania, and Moldova. Many have also travelled further to the UK.

Since February, Russia has carried out cruel acts of war on the country of Ukraine. At the start of October, Russia started targeting Ukrainian cities pursuing acts such as missile strikes. The four regions of Ukraine; Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia, were annexed by Russia in September.

This means the Russian army have entered these regions. In recent times, Russia have started to suffer a small defeat. The Russian forces have now withdrawn from the Western Kherson Region. One of the latest developments is Kherson has been liberated by Ukrainian troops, the loss of this city has been a major setback for Russia. This liberation came from weeks of fighting around Kherson. However, in the city of Donetsk the fighting continues. Sadly, the future for Ukraine is unknown. However, Ukraine has immense potential for the future ahead. Ukraine is one of the largest agriculture and food producers. Additionally, they are known for their proficient IT professionals which create a new avenue for competition between companies. As a matter of fact, many IT and tech businesses have originated from Ukraine.

Written by Elodie Hocking

# CHILDREN IN NEED



It's that time of year where a certain yellow bear with a spotty eye patch makes an appearance! The BBC's 'Children In Need', also known as 'Pudsey Bear Day', took place on Friday the eighteenth of November at Maesteg school, and how fun it was, filled with excitement and delicious cakes.

Together, Maesteg school managed to raise a stupendous five hundred pounds for 'Children In Need,' proving just how excellent and benevolent we can be. The money raised will go to helping children and young people around the U.K, supporting them to be safer, contributing to improved mental health and providing them with equal opportunities to flourish.

On the day, students were permitted to wear pyjamas or fancy dress to school for a small sum, and how comfortable and stylish they all looked! A bake sale took place at break time for every student to enjoy and indulge in mouth-watering treats, prepared by Gemma Tachell and a handful of the sixth formers. They enjoyed a morning of baking hundreds of cakes to sell to the students, doing their part for 'Children In Need' and making Pudsey Bear proud. At lunchtime, a game of heath ball took place, Maesteg School's signature game of intense dodge ball, students versus teachers. It's safe to say competitiveness reached Mr. Davis as he powered through the game with strength and youthful determination, a determination to beat the students at the game, pushing the teachers to the winning goal. The day was a success for Maesteg school and put



everyone in good spirits throughout the day, especially watching the inflatable dinosaur costumes walking the hallways.

What is children in need?

The BBC 'Children In Need' is a charity that comes around once every year in the month of November. The charity raises money for children and young adults in the U.K to offer them equal opportunity and support them in a range of different ways so that they can thrive to be the best that they can be, funding thousands of projects and charities. Across the U.K, thousands of charities, businesses and schools participate in 'Children In Need' and the annual appearance of the yellow, spotty patched bear, raising money and making the day fun for all of those around.

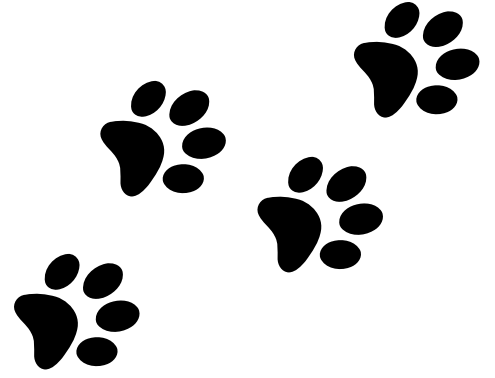


To donate to children in need, access the *BBC* website, or text the amount you would like to donate to 70701

Written by Evie Fear

# IT'S A DOG'S LIFE!

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF SID



**ELODIE: SO, TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF.**

**SID: HELLO! MY NAME'S SID, MAESTEG SCHOOL'S INTERVENTION DOG (DEFINITELY NOT MR HILL). WHAT A TREAT TO BE INTERVIEWED BY THE YOUNG REPORTERS! I AM SO EXCITED TO DISCUSS MY DAILY ACTIVITIES WITH YOU.**

**ELODIE: ME TOO! FIRSTLY, WHAT TIME DO YOU USUALLY WAKE UP?**

**SID: GENERALLY, I WAKE UP AROUND 6:30AM. ALTHOUGH IF I HAD THE CHOICE, I WOULD WAKE UP MUCH EARLIER TO FIT IN SOME PLAY TIME AND CHIN SCRATCHES BEFORE MY SHIFT AT SCHOOL.**

**ELODIE: WHAT IS YOUR BEDTIME ROUTINE?**

**SID: FROM 6 TO 8PM I PLAY WITH MY AMAZING TOYS. I AM VERY ENERGETIC BEFORE BED! HOWEVER, I THEN CRASH AT AROUND 9:30 AND FALL STRAIGHT ASLEEP.**

**ELODIE: WHERE DO YOU GO WHEN YOU'RE IN SCHOOL?**

**SID: I MAINLY SPEND MY TIME IN THE PAW- SORRY... CORE SUBJECTS: MATHS, ENGLISH AND SCIENCE. OTHERWISE, I TAKE MR. HILL ON HALLWAY PATROL, STRUTTING AROUND THE CORRIDORS TO SEE WHO NEEDS MY ASSISTANCE.**

**ELODIE: WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE LESSON AND WHY?**



**SID: MY FAVOURITE LESSON IS PE. I LOVE RUNNING AROUND WITH STUDENTS AND PLAYING FETCH.**

**ELODIE: WHAT IS YOUR LEAST FAVOURITE LESSON?**

**SID: I TAKE MY ROLE AS 'INTERVENTION DOG' VERY SERIOUSLY SO, OF COURSE, I LOVE ALL MY LESSONS. HOWEVER, IF I HAD TO PICK, I'D SAY WHICHEVER LESSON HAS THE SMALLEST CLASS SIZE AS SOMETIMES I BECOME OVERWHELMED BY MEETING SO MANY FRESH FACES.**

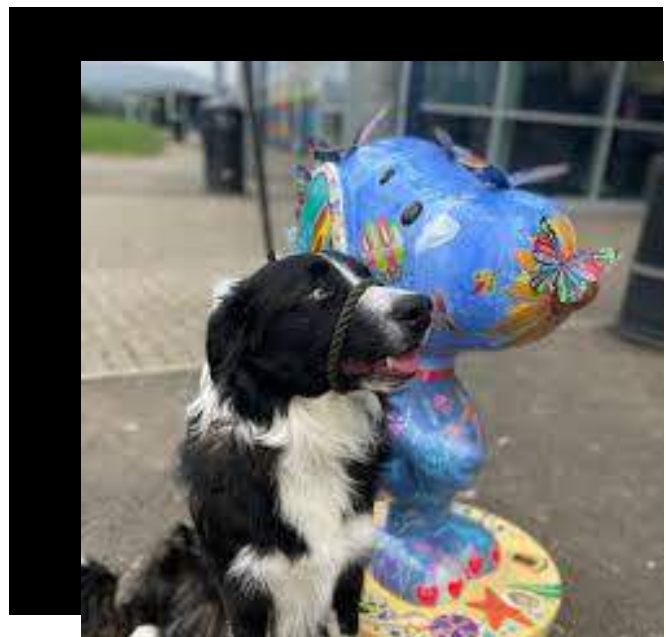
**ELODIE: HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN YOUR ROLE IN MAESTEG SCHOOL'S 'INTERVENTION DOG'?**

**SID: MY ROLE IN THE SCHOOL IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT TO STUDENT'S WELL-BEING. I PROVIDE EMOTIONAL SUPPORT, REASSURANCE THAT EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE OKAY, AND PROVIDE STUDENTS WHO NEED IT WITH A MOMENT OF CALMNESS. I ALSO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE PRINCE'S TRUST SO I CAN MAKE SURE EVERY YOUNG INDIVIDUAL IS ON TRACK TO LIVE A FULFILLED AND HAPPY LIFE.**

**ELODIE: THANK YOU, SID.**

**SID: WOOF YOU.**

By Elodie Hocking







# TREORCHY TRIUMPH IN TOUGH CONDITIONS

Maesteg's year 8's looked to replicate Year 7's positive result against Treorchy Comprehensive, which was going to be a difficult task with South Parade being covered in a thick blanket of fog throughout the game's proceedings. However, the ghastly conditions didn't prevent both teams from playing expansive rugby at times as both sets of backs looked to spread the ball when the space presented itself.

The first half consisted of an abundance of pressure issued by Maesteg as soon as Treorchy received the first kick off. Maesteg's Oscar Dixon looked sharp from the offset with his jinking runs causing major issues for the opposition. He was unlucky not to open the scoring after mishandling the ball under the sticks due to a great last-ditch cover tackle by the fifth defender that attempted to bring down



the hot stepper.

Maesteg and Oscar continued to ask questions as Dixon was close to scoring the game's first points yet again with a cheeky chip and chase unfortunately going past the dead ball line.

Eventually Maesteg's pressure deemed too strong for the Treorchy defence. As after catalogue of penalties, Maesteg's Harry Lewis was able to power over from 5 metres out after receiving a tap penalty pass.

As the teams were evenly

matched, Maesteg looked to their power runners to take the team forward with strong carries from their pack especially number eight Archie who carried immensely from the base of the scrum on multiple occasions, but Maesteg's domination was met with frustration due to a strong defence display by the Treorchy pack who counter rucked with great efficiency and was the building blocks to the away team's success.

Although Maesteg mounted pressure on Treorchy for a large majority of the first half, all it took was a



moment of misfortune to bring visitors back into the game. As the Treorchy centre was first to react to a dropped ball by his opposite number, he then proceeded to dribble the loose ball with several kicks before booting the ball too far out of reach.

Fortunately, his way wood kick was met by his winger who sprawled across whitewash with ball in hand. With that one chance Treorchy led Maesteg at half time by 7 points to 5.

A sense of urgency was injected into the Treorchy side as the second half began and the away side quickly gained belief that they could increase their lead through their defensive efforts displayed in the first half and did so with their second try successfully portraying what Maesteg were attempting to achieve in the first half. A strong carry from a front rower saw the away side lead 12-5.

However, the home side were not willing to lie down as a strong turnover by Harrison Watkins saw momentum

shift in Maesteg's favour once more. As Maesteg began to grow into the second half they turned to their strong pack to decrease Treachery's advantage and Lucas Jones' try from an overpowering line out maul saw the match regain its tense status with the score at 10-12.

Maesteg looked to take the lead as their quick tempo proved to worry the Treorchy defence as tap penalties were taken over kicks for goal or the corner. However, their plans to regain the lead were shattered by a brilliant counter attacking try by the visitors. A sharp phase of quick hands saw the Treorchy outside centre sprint through the disorganised defensive line for the final try of the game from the halfway line. The try was then topped off by a successful conversion attempt with the game finishing 19-10 to the visitors. A great effort all around.

Written By Jack Tozer

# Remembrance day

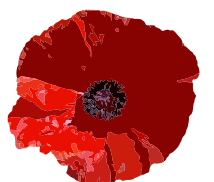
Remembrance Sunday is a day in which we remember all of those who were lost at war, the whole of the U.K coming together. A period of silence is held at eleven 'o' clock on the eleventh day of the eleventh month to remember the tragedy of 1918, where twenty million soldiers died and twenty-one million were wounded. People often pay tribute by wearing a red poppy. The reason for the poppy is due to the growth of poppies on the battlefield after World War One ended and are considered symbols of remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.

At Maesteg school, we paid our respects by having the two minutes of silence as scheduled in school, and students were able to buy remembrance merchandise in the school reception to show their respect while wearing Maesteg's uniform.



On the day of Remembrance Sunday, Sixth Form prefects, Jack Tozer and Lewis Macleod-Witts, bestowed a wreath at St. Michael's church to represent not only the school, but also the community of Maesteg as a whole, uniting together to show our utmost respect and appreciation.

Written by Evie Fear



# PUDSEY BEAR COOKIES



## INGREDIENTS

**200G UNSALTED  
BUTTER, SOFTENED**

**200G GOLDEN CASTER  
SUGAR**

**1 LARGE EGG**

**½ TSP VANILLA  
EXTRACT**

**400G PLAIN FLOUR,  
PLUS EXTRA FOR  
DUSTING**

## TO DECORATE

**25G ICING SUGAR**

**50G WHITE FONDANT**

**COLORED ICING PENS (WRITING  
QUALITY)**

**25G BLACK SUGAR PASTE**

**HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OR  
SWEETS TO DECORATE  
(OPTIONAL)**

## STEP 1

**HEAT OVEN TO 200C/180C FAN/GAS 6  
AND LINE A BAKING SHEET WITH BAKING  
PARCHMENT.**

**PUT THE BUTTER IN A BOWL AND BEAT IT  
WITH ELECTRIC BEATERS UNTIL SOFT AND  
CREAMY. BEAT IN THE SUGAR, THEN THE  
EGG AND VANILLA.**

**AND FINALLY THE FLOUR TO MAKE A  
DOUGH. IF THE DOUGH FEELS A BIT  
STICKY, ADD A LITTLE BIT MORE FLOUR  
AND KNEAD IT IN.**

## STEP 2

ROLL THE DOUGH OUT SO IT'S ABOUT THE THICKNESS OF A £1 COIN. CUT OUT SHAPES USING A PUDSEY BEAR CUTTER OR CUT AROUND A TEMPLATE YOU HAVE MADE. RE-ROLL OFF-CUTS AND REPEAT.



## STEP 3

TRANSFER THE BISCUITS TO THE BAKING SHEET AND BAKE FOR 8-10 MINS OR UNTIL THE EDGES ARE JUST BROWN. LEAVE TO COOL COMPLETELY.

## STEP 4

TO DECORATE THE BISCUITS: MIX THE ICING SUGAR WITH ENOUGH WATER TO MAKE A STIFF PASTE THEN ROLL THE WHITE FONDANT OUT TO 5MM THICK AND CUT INTO STRIPS TO MAKE PUDSEY'S EYE BANDAGE. STICK IT ON WITH THE WHITE ICING. DECORATE WITH POLKA DOTS USING COLORED ICING PENS. MAKE HIS EYE, NOSE AND MOUTH WITH THE BLACK SUGAR PASTE AND ADD A LITTLE DOT OF WHITE ICING TO THE EYE. STICK THE FEATURES DOWN WITH MORE ICING. REPEAT THE PROCESS WITH MOST OF THE BISCUITS AND DECORATE THE REST WITH ICING SIMPLY SPRINKLED WITH HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS. WILL KEEP FOR THREE DAYS IN A BISCUIT TIN.

# ★ *Marvel of the month* ★

The entirety of year 10  
for being exemplary  
students in the  
production of 'Blood  
Brothers.'  
Well done year 10!



# *Quote of the month*

**Spread love everywhere  
you go. Let no one ever  
come to you without  
leaving happier. -Mother  
Teresa**

