



January /
March
2026

Community Youth Newsletter



Celebrating the work of our Youth Clubs across
local communities

Welcome to the second edition of the Play and Youth Support Team's Community Youth Newsletter. We're excited to bring you updates and highlights into the activities and opportunities we provide young people across Wrexham. Our goal is to celebrate the work happening in our communities and keep you connected with everything we offer.

It's been another busy term, with young people getting stuck into creative projects, trying out new skills, and building positive relationships. Every session brings new ideas, and those little moments that remind us exactly why youth work is so important. In this newsletter, you'll find some of the brilliant things that have been happening recently that show just how much our young people and staff put into making our clubs such welcoming spaces.

2nd Edition
March 2026

THIS TERM AT A GLANCE

MONDAY – Llay – Coedpoeth – Brymbo – Cefn Mawr



Cefn Mawr Youth Club (left) has had an incredibly active and exciting quarter, offering everything from fun games to hands-on cooking sessions that everyone has really enjoyed. The highlight of the term has been celebrating the achievements of four dedicated members who proudly received their Agored Certificates. A huge congratulations to Harry, Ella, Oliver and Ayla — your hard work and commitment have truly paid off, and we're all so proud of everything you've achieved!

Llay Youth Club (right) had a fantastic evening this quarter as Wrexham Sounds came along to deliver an exciting music-filled session.

The young people thoroughly enjoyed the visit and were fully engaged throughout, getting involved and making the most of the experience. A big thank you to Wrexham Sounds for bringing such energy and creativity to the club — it was a great night enjoyed by all!



TUESDAY – Tanyfron – Glyn Ceiriog – Penley

Glyn Ceiriog Youth Club (left) has been busy planning an exciting new programme with the youth workers, looking ahead to everything they'd like to do from April through to July. The young people have been sharing their ideas, choosing activities, and shaping the sessions to make sure the programme reflects what matters most to them.



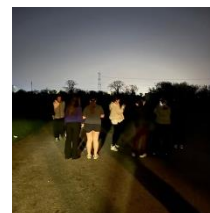
Penley Youth Club (right) loves making the most of being outdoors, and the youth workers came up with a clever way to keep the fun going even as it gets darker.

They handed out glowsticks so they could easily see where everyone was, and the young people absolutely loved it. The field lit up with bright colours, and the glowsticks quickly became part of the fun as much as the activities themselves.



WEDNESDAY – Bwlchgwyn – Cefn Mawr - Minera

Bwlchgwyn Youth Club (left) had a brilliant time enjoying a relaxing pamper night, turning the space into a cosy little retreat. The young people got stuck into face masks, nail painting, and all things self-care, creating a chilled atmosphere full of laughter and good vibes. It was a lovely chance for everyone to unwind together, chat, and enjoy a slower-paced evening that left the whole group feeling refreshed.



Minera Youth Club (right) spent part of their evening gazing up at the stunning blood moon, turning the night into something a bit magical. The young people were fascinated by the deep red glow and took time to chat, take photos, and enjoy the rare sight together. It created a calm, reflective moment in the middle of a busy session, and everyone loved sharing the experience as a group



THURSDAY – Brymbo - Rhos - Ruabon

Rhos Youth Club (left) and Ruabon Youth Club (right) have spent a few lovely evenings getting creative in the kitchen, baking cakes and decorating colourful cupcakes together, making rice Krispie nest cakes before the Easter break. The young people really enjoyed measuring, melting, mixing, and experimenting with different flavours, and the sessions were full of laughter (and plenty of icing). It was a great chance for both groups to learn new skills, work as a team, and of course enjoy some tasty treats at the end.



CLUB SPOTLIGHT

MINERA YOUTH PROVISION

The team and I officially joined Minera Youth Club in January 2026 after the Christmas period. Before this, the club was supported by the development team who did their best to keep sessions running, though consistency was a challenge. Previously, two permanent staff members supported the club but moved on due to work-life balance commitments.

We were excited to get started and to reconnect with young people in the local community. Our aim has been to rebuild attendance, strengthen relationships, and support young people to shape the youth club into a space that feels truly theirs.

We're delighted to share that since we began—despite a change to the session night—attendance and engagement have grown week by week and are now consistent. This has been incredibly positive and encouraging to see.

So far, sessions have included crafts, quizzes, and bingo, alongside more educational opportunities. One highlight was a session delivered by Robin from BCUHB on energy drinks and vaping. This led to open and positive conversations, with some young people asking staff for support to reduce or stop their use of vapes and energy drinks. Feedback showed the session was informative, well received, and helped young people feel more aware and supported.

Looking ahead, we have an exciting trip planned to Plas Madoc Leisure Centre in May, which the group is really looking forward to. We also have an upcoming session with Inspire, focusing on emotional health and wellbeing—something the young people specifically asked for.

Just before Easter, we asked the young people to share what Minera Youth Club means to them, as their words say it best:

“Youth Club isn't just a place to go, it's a place to belong.”
“It's more than just a place to hang out – it's where I feel supported and actually have fun.”

We're proud of the progress made so far and excited about what's still to come at Minera Youth Club.

MEET A MEMBER OF THE TEAM

NIA PAWLEY-DAY

LEVEL 2 YOUTH WORKER



ABOUT ME

I have been a youth support worker for 2.5 years and work across different provisions in Wrexham Youth Service. You may see me most often at Penley and Minera Youth Clubs, please come and say Hello if you spot me 😊

FUN FACTS

I can play the Piano and have 2 house rabbits one called Loki and one called Betty <3

My favourite film is School of Rock and I love musicals!

YOUNG PEOPLE'S VOICE

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT YOUTH CLUB?

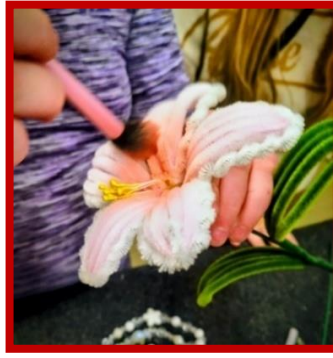
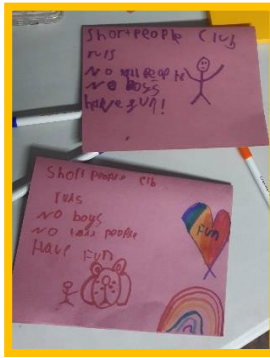
Playing
Pool &
Darts

Meeting
my friends

Playing
Games

It is
relaxing

CREATIVE CORNER



5 QUESTIONS WITH RC

1. What's your favourite thing about coming to youth club?

The community and vibe in youth club.

2. What activity do you enjoy the most and why?

UNO – It is fun and competitive.

3. What's something new you have tried or learned here?

Trying new foods.

4. What's your best memory from youth club so far?

Playing sports with youth club members.

5. If you could plan any activity for the group, what would it be?

Outdoor games.

Quick-fire round:

1. Favourite snack:

KFC

2. Favourite song right now:

Hello – by Oasis

3. One thing that always makes you laugh:

My friends

4. If you could have any superpower, what would it be:

Morphing

BEHIND THE SCENES

Provision Programs:

Take a picture of the QR code to find the latest programs of what is on for the coming quarter in each club.



Partnerships:

The Play and Youth Support Team supported Active Wrexham at the Girls' Futsal Competition at Plas Madoc on Friday 23 January. Seventy girls from several primary schools took part, and the atmosphere was fantastic — an amazing sight to see.

We were delighted to welcome the Finglas Youth Service from Ireland, who visited us alongside Youth Cymru. During their time here, they toured a couple of our provisions to see how our approaches differ from theirs. It was a really enjoyable day for everyone involved.

As a Youth Service, we supported an International Learning Partnership visit by hosting a full tour of Wrexham — starting at Wrexham University, then Ysgol Clywedog, followed by lunch and a visit to the Miners' Rescue. We rounded off the day with a quick stop at the Turf before heading back to Cardiff. You can read more here about the partnership.

<https://educationwales.blog.gov.wales/2026/03/10/international-learning-partnership-visit-to-wales-...>

Three Youth Worker Breakfast meetings were held this quarter, and I'd like to thank our hosts — Caia Park Partnership, The Vic (Participation), and MPCT. Each provided a great space, and it was inspiring to see the variety of projects across the area. Each meeting featured a different workshop — Shared Best Practice, Youth Homelessness, and The King's Trust — along with time for updates and networking. Our sub-groups continue to collaborate actively. 11 main meetings were held over the past year and a total attendance of 159, averaging 14 participants per session. Forward planning for the year ahead is now taking place.

We are working in Partnership with Adult Learning Wales to run the Full Youth Support Worker Qualification - Certificate in Youth Work Practice Level 3 as a Partner. The course has started and module one has been completed.

The Base:

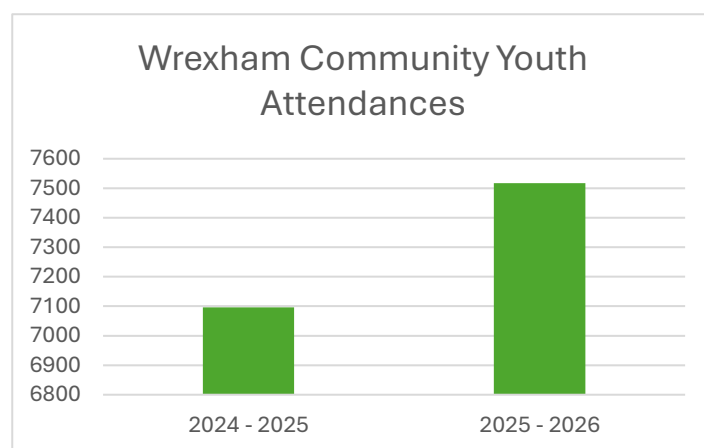
On Tuesday 17th February at 11am, the launch event for 'The Base' took place at Eagles Meadow.



The event gave children, young people, families, and partners the opportunity to explore the exciting new provision and meet the staff. A wide range of services dedicated to supporting young people in Wrexham were present, hosting fun and engaging activities that encouraged everyone to get involved. Wrexham Play and Youth Support Team was among the many services that took part, contributing to a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere.

Attendance:

We had **7517** attendances across provisions from 1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026.



The above chart shows an increase in number of attendances of 7517 for this year 25/26 vs 7096 attendances for last years 24/25 . An increase of **421** attendances across provisions this year.

Achievements

We're proud to celebrate another successful term filled with new skills learned, milestones reached, and young people growing in confidence across all our provisions

Impact Highlights

Our work continues to make a real difference — strengthening communities, increasing engagement, and creating meaningful opportunities that support young people to thrive.

WHAT IS COMING UP?

MAY

01/03/26 – May Day

03/05/26 – World Laughter Day

04/05/26 – Star Wars Day – May the Fourth Be With You!

04/05/26 – 10/05/26 – Screen Free Week - [Find time to dream, connect, and play - Screen-Free Week](#)

10/05/26 – National Children’s Day - [National Children's Day UK 2025 - HOME](#)

12/05/26 – 16/05/26 – Eurovision Song Contest - [Homepage](#)

16/05/26 – 24/05/26 – National Doughnut Week - [National Doughnut Week – National Doughnut Week](#)

25/05/26 – 29/05/26 – May Half Term – Provisions Closed

JUNE

01/06/26 – 07/06/26 – Child Safety Week - [Child Safety Week | Child Accident Prevention Trust](#)

01/06/26 – 30/06/26 – Pride Month

03/06/26 – World Bicycle Day

05/06/26 – Sausage Roll Day & World Environment Day - [World Environment Day](#)

09/06/26 – 15/06/26 - Bike Week - [Bike Week 2026 | Cycling UK](#)

11/06/26 – International Day of Play -[International Day of Play | UNICEF Parenting](#)

11/06/26 – 19/06/26 – FIFA Men’s World Cup 2026 - [FIFA World Cup 2026™](#)

21/06/26 – Father’s Day

24/06/26 – International Fairy Day

30/06/26 – Asteroid Day - [Asteroid Day - UN-sanctioned global awareness campaign](#)

JULY

01/07/2026 – International Joke Day –tell someone a joke and make them smile!

04/07/2026 – American Independence Day 250 yrs

04/07/2026 – 26/07/2026 – Tour de France - [Official website of Tour de France 2026](#)

07/07/26 – World Chocolate Day

14/07/2026 – Bastille Day and Shark Awareness Day - [Shark Awareness Day | The Shark Trust](#)

20/07/2026 – World Chess Day - [World Chess Day | United Nations](#)

23/07/2026- 02/08/2026 – Commonwealth Games 2026 - [Glasgow 2026 Commonwealth Games](#)

24/07/2026 – National Cousins Day

29/07/2026 – Global Tigers Day - [Global Tiger Day 2026 | WWF](#)

31/07/2026 – Harry Potter’s Birthday - [Harry Potter | Official home of Harry Potter, Hogwarts Sorting, and the Wizarding World](#)

FAREWELL

We are sorry to say that Donna Dickenson, our Head of Department, will be leaving us. Donna has dedicated over 2 decades to Wrexham County Borough Council, making a considerable and lasting contribution throughout her career. Beginning in hands-on roles within youth clubs, Donna has always remained grounded in the real experiences of young people and those who support them. Donna has a genuine passion for the work the department does and has consistently worked collaboratively with external agencies to strengthen partnerships and outcomes.

Donna has been a truly valued and much-loved Head of Department — Donna was approachable, down to earth, and always willing to offer support to colleagues whenever needed. Her contribution to Wrexham will be greatly missed not only by our team but across the whole department.

Donna, we wish you a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement!! We hope this next chapter gives you the opportunity to enjoy time for yourself and do the things you love.

PUZZLES

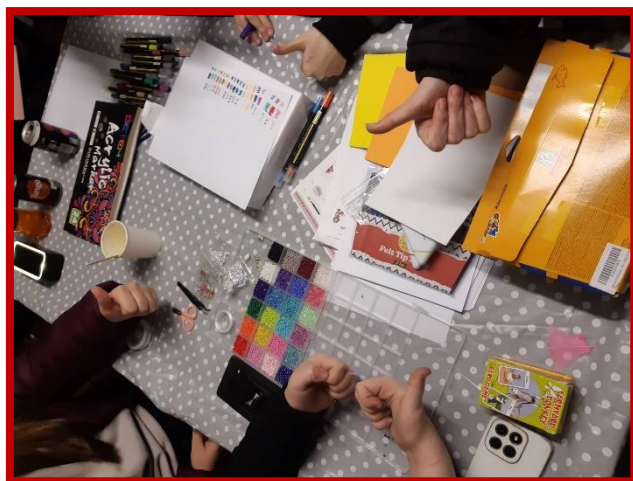
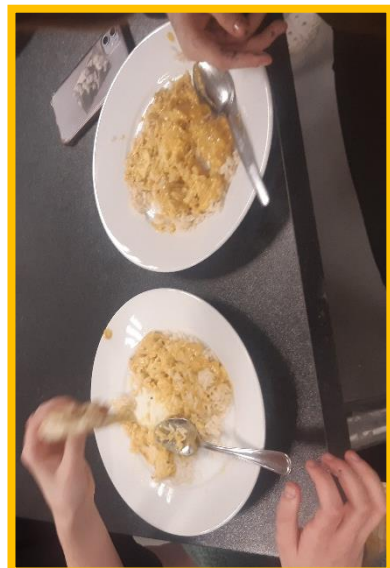
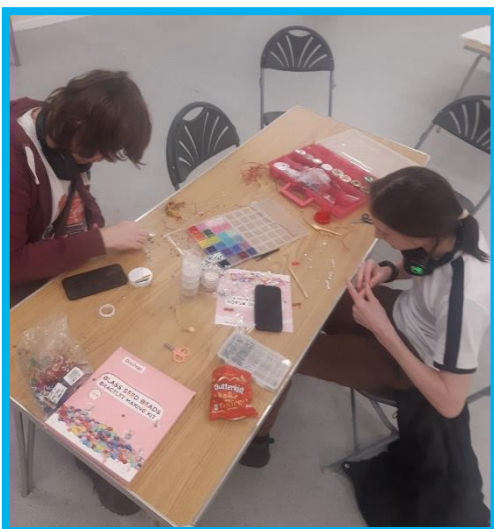
May Day Wordsearch

Find the May Day words hidden in this puzzle.



MAY, FIRST, MAYDAY, MAYPOLE, HOLIDAY,
PARADE, DANCE, MAYQUEEN, RIBBONS,
FLOWERS, MORRIS, WALPURGIS, BELTANE,

MOMENTS FROM OUR CLUBS



THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who plays a part in making our youth clubs a success – without you all it would not be possible.

To our young people — your enthusiasm, creativity, and courage to try new things inspire everything we do, we are here for you! Don't forget that! Everything you say matters, please keep showing up and telling us what you want.

To our staff — your dedication, care, and commitment to creating safe, welcoming environment for young people makes a real difference every day, even though you may not see it.

To our community councils — thank you for your ongoing support. It plays a huge part in making sure young people in your communities have access to meaningful opportunities that help them grow, feel supported, and thrive.

And lastly — but by no means least — to our partners: thank you for standing with us and helping us expand what we can offer. Your skills, support, and willingness to get involved genuinely make a difference, and we really do appreciate everything you bring.

Together, we're building opportunities, supporting growth, and helping young people shape brighter futures.

CONTACT DETAILS AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Email: commyouth@wrexham.gov.uk or youthservice@wrexham.gov.uk

Phone: 01978 298362 / 01978 298363

If you work with Young People in Wrexham and want to be a part of the Youth Worker Breakfast Network please don't hesitate to contact me on: Avril Williams Avril.Williams@wrexham.gov.uk

Website: www.wrexham.gov.uk/services/childrens-social-care/play-and-youth-support-team

Social Media - Please give us a follow to find up to date information throughout the term on Facebook: www.facebook.com/wrexhamyouthteam

Useful Websites:

The NSPCC logo consists of the letters 'NSPCC' in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk>

The Mind logo features a blue circular icon with a white cross-like shape inside, followed by the word 'mind' in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font.

<https://www.mind.org.uk>

The Young Wrexham logo features the words 'Young Wrexham' in a colorful, playful, rounded font. 'Young' is in yellow and 'Wrexham' is in blue.

<https://youngwrexham.co.uk>