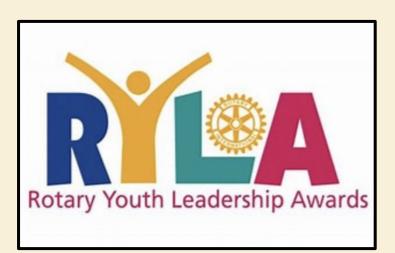
## Cowbridge Rotary



## Youth and Opportunities Night



Over the summer three sixth form pupils took part in the RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards). RYLA is an intensive leadership experience that aims to develop a person's skills as a leader while having fun and making connections. This was all evidently proved by the interesting and entertaining presentation given to us by Joseph, Jack and Caitlin's last minute stand-in; her Dad.

RYLA consists of a three day rural retreat, held at Story Arms in Brecon. They told us about their experiences and achievements and how they were all tasked with leading one of the activities. In their presentation they spoke about the skills that participating in RYLA has taught them. Some of these skills were: Confidence, Leadership, Teamwork and Resilience. The favourite activity among the group was the cardboard canoe race. This consisted of two groups who raced to build a floating cardboard boat and be the first one down the canell. They especially loved this activity as it got the group closer together requiring a good chemistry of teamwork... and they got to see the losing team sink! The group told us that from this experience they have now made true friendships continuing to stay in touch after RYLA.



The Rota Kids of Y Bont Faen Primary school arrived smartly dressed in their school uniform and gave a very well performed presentation, informing us all about what it's like as a member of the Rota Kids Club. The Rota Kids showed us their lanyard holding a rota kids member card and their rota kids wristbands that they are given as a member of the club. They told us that they meet every three weeks with a member of the rotary club and talk about what they would like to do within the community. Of the things the members of Rota Kids decided to do was a performance where the tickets that were sold went to charity. They also brought the rotary

shoe boxes into school and filled them up with essential items and toys and sent them to people in need.



Two members of the cowbridge upper interact club came to talk about what they had achieved last year and their upcoming plans and projects for the future.



After a gap without any interact club due to covid the current year 13 pupils were the first year group to start up the interact club again last year. As there were no older students as part of

interact at the time the new group really threw themselves in and tried to learn as much as they could from zoom calls with the rotarians. One of the first projects that the interact club undertook was the polio awareness project where they created a notice board for the school which was placed in the entrance of the main foyer, raising awareness to the illness. The interacters has also been raising money for the ukraine crisis; selling wristbands and holding on a tombola were all the gifts were donated by school pupils and the money raised when to support the fund. During the summer school show the refreshments that were sold during the intermission were also donated.

This year the interact group have finally been able to have in person meetings with the rotarians discussing future projects as well as the introduction of another interact group that will work besides the current year 13s. Cowbridge upper interact will be what the current year 13 interacters are and Cowbridge Lower interact will be for the year 12s. Their aim this year is to focus down more of an environmental route, teaming up with the year 13 senior team and the eco committee to plant flowers, trees and to make cowbridge an even greener school.

Cai and Izzy, the Head Boy and Girl of Cowbridge School also gave a presentation, telling us about their proactive projects and the goals set out by the senior team for the year ahead.

