

Llandudno pupils praised for energy innovations

Eco-school's green revolution

A pioneering Llandudno school has been praised for its innovative approach to green issues by Plaid Cymru AM Llyr Gruffydd.

The Party of Wales AM for North Wales was visiting Ysgol San Sior in Llandudno to see for himself the results of the Generation Green project organised by British Gas.

Mr Gruffydd also met the children and staff down in the Assembly on Tuesday (25 March 2014) as they celebrated their achievements after winning a prestigious Enterprise Troopers business award for schools throughout Wales [1]

The school is one of 15 throughout the UK to benefit from the Generation Green project, which includes learning about energy conservation and usage, fitting solar panels and a new boiler as well as monitoring the school's energy production and consumption through a new screen in the main hall.

Richard Brook of British Gas, said: **"It was great to visit Ysgol San Sior once again and see the impact Generation Green's investment of £65,000 into the school has already made.**

"All the energy-saving measures have now been installed and it's great to experience first-hand the way these new technologies – and particularly the recent install of the unique display screen, which shows the school's consumption – is changing the way pupils are thinking about energy.

"During the visit, the Generation Green team was invited into one of the year 6 classrooms to take a lesson during which the pupils learned about energy sources throughout time and have been challenged to come up with solutions for the future

"In order to deliver real impact, investments like this need to go hand in hand with real behavioural change, and that's why we're so happy to have worked with the teachers at Ysgol San Sior who have committed so fully to the project."

Head teacher Ian Keith Jones added: **"We use the eco dimension of the school to drive standards in literacy and numeracy. We are preparing the next generation of Steve Backshalls, David Attenboroughs and Iolo Williamses."**

Llyr Gruffydd said: **"In my three years as an Assembly member this has been one of the most inspirational visits I've undertaken. It's obvious that everyone from the head to the youngest child has bought into the idea of San Sior as an eco-school and in conserving energy and developing renewables.**

“The school is also pioneering in its educational use of animals of all kinds to help the children learn. As the only school in Wales accredited to sell the 350+ eggs its chickens produce each week, it’s also helping to foster an enterprising spirit among the children and re-connecting them with animals and the countryside. “I really enjoyed meeting the enthusiastic young ambassadors on our tour around the school – they will doubtless be at the forefront of a new generation who understand the need to reduce energy consumption and to find cheap, reliable renewable forms of energy to use in the future.”

Lynda Campbell, Regional Director for British Gas in Wales, said: **“It’s great that our investment at Ysgol San Sior has had such a positive impact on the school and the students. Now the new energy saving measures have been installed, students can learn first-hand about the importance of energy efficiency. I’d like to thank all the teachers involved for their ongoing support.”**

