S4C

5.01.2021

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Erthygl i'r Wasg **Press Release**

Y golau yng nghanol y storm – yr ysgol sy'n galon i gymuned 'Stiniog

Yn ôl rhai, ein cyfnod yn yr ysgol yw un pwysicaf ein bywyd. Ond beth a ddaw pan fo pandemig yn taro, â'r un peth cyson ym mywydau pobl ifanc yn diflannu?

Bydd **Ysgol ni: Y Moelwyn**, cyfres newydd ar nos Fawrth i S4C, yn gyfle i fod yn bry ar y wal mewn cyfnod cythryblus a hollol ddigynsail. Darlun, y cwmni tu ôl **i Ysgol ni: Maesincla**, sy'n cynhyrchu ond y tro hyn mae profiadau pob dydd y disgyblion a staff yn dra gwahanol yn sgìl ffocysu ar ysgol uwchradd yn hytrach na chynradd.

Mae tref Blaenau Ffestiniog, ble leolir Ysgol Y Moelwyn, yn gorwedd yng nghanol mynyddoedd Eryri. Mae'r gymuned yn glos, a gydag ychydig dros 300 o ddisgyblion yn yr ysgol mae pawb yn adnabod pawb ac yn gweld y gorau, a'r gwaethaf, o'i gilydd.

Meddai Pennaeth yr ysgol, Mrs Eleri Moss: "Da ni yma i weithio gyda'r plant, i gael y gorau allan ohonyn nhw. Mae sawl rhiant wedi galw'r ysgol fel y golau yng nghanol y storm." Mae Mrs Moss wedi bod yn Ddirprwy Bennaeth ers sawl blwyddyn ac wedi bod yn bennaeth ers Ionawr 2022.

Dechreuodd y camerâu ffilmio, ym mis Chwefror 2021 wrth i Mrs Moss baratoi i agor y drysau ar ôl y clo mawr. Dywedodd Mrs Moss: "Dim ond adeilad oedd yr ysgol hebddyn nhw. Roedd hi'n wag, roedd hi'n dawel yma ac roedd hi mor braf croesawu nhw nôl."

"Da ni ddim wedi cael ein hyfforddi i ddysgu o sgrin. Da chi'n clywed ar y newyddion, 'mae'r plant yn iawn, ma' nhw'n cael addysg trwy *laptop*.' Ond tydi o ddim cystal ag addysg fel da ni'n gallu cynnig mewn ysgol."

Swyddfa, nid dosbarth, sydd gan un aelod allweddol o staff, sef Mr Daniel Bell - Swyddog Cynhwysiad a Theuluoedd yr ysgol. Mae croeso i unrhyw un alw mewn unrhyw amser.

Meddai Mr Bell: "Dan 'dw i, i bawb yn Blaenau: plant Blaenau, oedolion Blaenau a'r staff i gyd - Dan ydw i. A dwi'n meddwl bod o'n mynd i ddod i'r fei'r problemau mae'r pandemig 'ma wedi achosi. Ma *referalls* cwnselydd yr ysgol a *referalls* gwasanaethau cymdeithasol wedi mynd drwy'r to yn y chwe mis diwethaf, ond dwi'n teimlo mai 'mond yr arwyneb ydi hynny."

Yn y bennod cyntaf o chwech, cawn ddod i adnabod rhai o gymeriadau hoffus yr ysgol, a chael cipolwg ar beth oedd bywyd fel cyn, yn ystod ac wedi'r clo.

Cawn gwrdd ac Osian Aled, Blwyddyn 9, sy'n mwynhau canolbwyntio ar linellau bachu bachog yn fwy na gwersi gwyddoniaeth. Gwelwn Isabelle o Flwyddyn 7, sy'n caru dysgu ac anelu i gyflawni'r gorau posib pob tro, yn cael ei chefnogi i oroesi gor-bryder. Hefyd, cawn hanes Chloe ac Enfys - y ffrindiau oes sydd bellach yn gallu wynebu heriau bywyd gyda'i gilydd, ar ôl cyfnod anodd ar wahân.

Mae **Ysgol Ni: Y Moelwyn** yn bortread o fywyd mewn ysgol yn ystod y cyfnod mwyaf heriol ym mywyd cyfoes, cyfle i fyw bron pob eiliad o'r her a'r hwyl gyda thrigolion clên 'Stiniog yng ngwaddol y clo. Mae hefyd yn fewnwelediad i sut mae dulliau maethu yn gallu helpu plant i ffynnu.

"Fyswn ni byth yn gallu cynnal y plant 'ma heb eu maethu," eglura Mrs Moss. "Falle fysa rhai yn ei weld fel plant yn cael ffordd eu hunain neu plant yn cael gormod o sylw, ond ma'n rhaid deall y seicoleg tu ôl.

"Tydi plant methu dysgu os nad ydi'r sylfeini yna. Mae fel adeiladu wal. A tydi'r sylfeini ddim yn hefo plant sy'n cam-ymddwyn. Felly da n'n ail-adeiladu'r sylfeini yna. Dydi hyn ddim o hyd yn hawdd, ond da ni'n dechrau pob diwrnod yn newydd, gyda llechen lan, a da ni'n trio eto, ac eto."

Bydd chwerthin a chrio wrth brofi'r brathu a'r baglu, y gefnogaeth a'r cariad. Mewn cyfnod sydd wedi gwthio bron pawb i'r eithaf, bydd balchder pobl y Blaenau yn disgleirio i brofi gwerth a gwydnwch cymuned. Er gwaetha pawb a phopeth, yn **Ysgol ni: Y Moelwyn** safwn gyda'n gilydd.

Ysgol Ni: Y Moelwyn
Nos Fawrth 18 Ionawr, 9.00
Isdeitlau Saesneg
Ar S4C Clic, BBC iPlayer a llwyfannau eraill
Cynhyrchiad Darlun ar gyfer S4C

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Erthygl i'r Wasg **Press Release**

The calm in the storm - the school at the heart of the Blaenau community

Some say our time at school is the most important of our lives. But what happens when a pandemic strikes, causing the one constant thing in young people's lives to disappear?

Ysgol Ni: Y Moelwyn, a new S4C series starting on Tuesday 18 January, gives an opportunity to be a fly on the wall in turbulent and unprecedented times. Darlun, the production company behind **Ysgol Ni: Maesincla**, is at the helm again but by focusing on a secondary rather than a primary school, the everyday experiences of pupils and staff are quite different this time around.

The town of Blaenau Ffestiniog, where Ysgol Y Moelwyn is located, lies at the heart of the Snowdonia mountains. The close-knit community has just over 300 pupils at the school, meaning everyone knows everyone - seeing both the best, and the worst, of each other.

The Headteacher of the school, Mrs Eleri Moss, said: "We are here to work with the children to be the best they can be. Many parents have called the school the light in the storm." Mrs Moss has been Deputy Headteacher at the school for many years and has been head since January 2022.

The cameras began filming in February 2021, just as Mrs Moss prepared to open the doors after lockdown. Mrs Moss said: "The school was just a building without them. It was empty, it was quiet and it was so nice to welcome them back."

"We're not trained to teach through a screen. The news says, 'the children are fine, they're being educated through a laptop.' But it's not as good as the education we can offer in the school."

One key member of staff, Mr Daniel Bell - the school's Inclusion and Family Officer, has an office, not a classroom. Anyone is welcome to call in at anytime.

Mr Bell said: "Everyone in Blaenau knows me as Dan: the children of Blaenau, the adults of Blaenau and all the staff – to them, I'm Dan. And I think we're just about getting an idea of the problems this pandemic has caused. Referals to the school

counselor and social services have gone through the roof in the last six months, but I feel that's just scratching the surface.”

In the first episode of six, we get to know some of the school's most loved characters and get a glimpse of what life was like before, during and after the lockdown.

We meet Osian Aled, Year 9, who enjoys concentrating on communicating with the young ladies in his life more than his science lessons. We see Isabelle from Year 7, who loves learning and always aspires to be the best, being supported to overcome her anxiety. We also get to know Chloe and Enfys - the lifelong friends, now reunited to face life's challenges together, after a difficult time apart.

Ysgol Ni: Y Moelwyn portrays school life during the most challenging period of modern life, an opportunity to see how the people of Blaenau Ffestiniog dealt with the legacy of a lockdown. It is an insight into how a nurturing approach can help young people thrive.

"We would never be able to support these children without nurturing them," explains Mrs Moss. "Some might see it as having their own way or being given too much attention, but the psychology behind it must be understood.

"Children can't learn without those foundations. It's like building a wall. And the children who misbehave often don’t have those solid foundations. So, we work with them to rebuild the foundations. It's not always easy, but we start each day with a clean slate, and try again, and again if needs be.”

There will be laughter and tears as we experience the failures and the fall-outs, the strength of support and positive relationships. At a time that has seen almost everyone pushed to their limit, the pride of the people of Blaenau shines through to show the true worth and resilience of the community. Despite it all, at **Ysgol Ni: Y Moelwyn**, we stand together.

Ysgol Ni: Y Moelwyn
Tuesday 18 January, 9.00
English subtitles available
On S4C Clic, BBC iPlayer and other platforms
A Darlun production for S4C