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INFORMATIVE

➤ The quarterly bulletin of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service

CABINET SECRETARY VISITS PHOENIX COURSE

Denbighshire youngsters put
through their paces

NEW FIRE SAFETY SIGN LANGUAGE CLIP

in support of Deaf Awareness Week

LAUNCH OF 'REASONS TO TEST' CAMPAIGN

quirky animation promotes
smoke alarm testing



CABINET SECRETARY VISITS PHOENIX COURSE

Carl Sargeant AM, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children, visited Denbigh Fire Station in March to witness first-hand how pupils from local schools benefit from attending the Phoenix course.

The Phoenix course is designed to assist in redirecting the energy of young people towards productive and worthwhile activities that will assist in their integration with peers and communities.

Stuart Millington, Senior Fire Safety Manager, said: "The Fire and Rescue Service has a powerful draw for young people, which gives us the opportunity to attempt to positively influence behaviour.

"The Phoenix project offers a unique experience to build on qualities we as a Service work towards such as respect, communication and trust.

"The course involves a blend of classroom learning where the youngsters are taught consequences of actions, then drill yard activity where we promote working together as a team, assessing risk and adhering to instructions."



"The aim of the course is to assist the youngsters in becoming more motivated and positive about themselves, which in turn has the effect of making them better citizens.

"We are hoping that these young people will feel that they have gained something positive from the Phoenix project and that it will be of benefit to them in the future."

Carl Sargeant AM, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children, said:

"I am very pleased to see the Phoenix project do such excellent work with young people. Programmes like this boost confidence and instil positive attitudes and more socially responsible behaviours in the young people taking part. They raise awareness of the dangers of fire, helping to keep everyone safe. I congratulate all the young people on completing the course and hope it will help them to build their skills and self confidence."

'WE DON'T WANT TO COME DINE WITH YOU' VISITS ANGLESEY AND FLINTSHIRE



Forgetting to turn off the hob, leaving food in the microwave for too long, overheating a chip pan, burning the toast, leaving the oven on - all of these can spell disaster in the kitchen and can lead to serious injury or, even more worryingly, the loss of life.

Cooking is a major cause of accidental fires in the home in North Wales - that is why staff have been talking to shoppers across Anglesey and Flintshire about how to stay safe in the kitchen, providing free washing up brushes to encourage people to think safe when cooking and to remember to ensure that you regularly clean your oven and grill.

People have also been taking part in safety quizzes to win £100 worth of shopping vouchers and those who cannot make it to the supermarket are encouraged to try the quiz online.

Gwyn Jones, Community Safety Manager for Gwynedd and Môn, said: "It is our responsibility to do everything we can to highlight that cooking causes a high number of house fires and try to change behaviours to prevent these fires from occurring. However, whilst we can advise and educate, the individual must want to change the things that they do in order to make themselves safer.

"Time and time again we attend house fires which have started in the kitchen - it is so easy to forget your cooking, especially if you are tired, distracted or have been drinking or on medication, and the consequences can be devastating. We don't want to come dine with you and tackle your kitchen fire!"

The 'We don't want to come dine with you' campaign will be visiting Denbighshire next and the location of each visit will be publicised on social media.

QUIRKY ANIMATION AIMS TO PROMOTE SMOKE ALARM TESTING

The three fire and rescue services in Wales have teamed up with Wrexham Glyndŵr University and North Wales based singer-songwriter Daniel Lloyd to commission and produce an original short animation for the purpose of highlighting the importance of regularly testing smoke alarms.

Launched at the Catrin Finch Centre at Wrexham Glyndwr University, 'Reasons to Test' is an animated video featuring a crew of quirky characters going about their daily routines, accompanied by an original catchy soundtrack with music composed by Daniel Lloyd, frontman for the recently reformed Welsh language band 'Daniel Lloyd a Mr Pinc'.

Six students currently studying the Master of Design and Bachelor of Arts programmes in Animation Visual Effects and Game Art at Wrexham Glyndŵr University were briefed by North Wales Fire and Rescue Service staff on the main causes of fires and factors that increase a person's chances of having a fire. The students then worked together to design and produce the three minute awareness video.





Welsh fire and rescue services already promote weekly testing of smoke alarms on social media through the 'Test it' campaign and hope that their new animation will further emphasise the importance of working smoke alarms.

Stuart Millington, Senior Fire Safety Manager for North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, said: "The 'Reasons to Test' video aims to communicate a vitally important message to residents in a fun and lighthearted way.

"We are thrilled to have been working on this three way collaboration with Glyndŵr University and local artist Daniel Lloyd, which allowed us to commission an exciting and innovative piece of work which will help us to promote important messages to members of our community."

Marisse Mari, Principal Lecturer in Design and Programme Leader, School of Creative Arts, Wrexham Glyndŵr University, said: "This has been a fantastic opportunity for the students. We encourage our students to work on real briefs and the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service public information campaign has provided a perfect example for them to gain professional experience.

"The students are still in their second year and have come through a steep learning curve learning new software skills and putting them into action on this very worthwhile project."

Three of the students who headed up work on the project were Tim Davies, Thomas Purdue and William Parker. They said: "We very much value this opportunity and have enjoyed working on this project.

"We are now planning to set up a business and form our own company together after we complete our course. This project will help us to promote what we can offer."

Other students working on the project, Ellis Roberts, Duncan Adams and Marta Gabiga, added: "We have enjoyed creating character designs and storyboards then coming up with humorous solutions to animate to the lyrics of the accompanying soundtrack.

"We hope it will stay in the viewer's minds and are really happy to be part of this campaign."

Accompanied by local radio adverts, The 'Reasons to Test' video will be used by fire and rescue service educationalists to show during school visits and is available to watch on the YouTube, Twitter and Facebook pages of all three Welsh fire and rescue services – follow #reasonstotest on Twitter.



NEW BSL VIDEO IN SUPPORT OF DEAF AWARENESS WEEK



North Wales Fire and Rescue Service has launched a new British Sign Language video on its website to assist those with hearing difficulties.

The launch supported national Deaf Awareness Week 15-21 May 2017, a unique campaign that enables as many organisations as possible to promote their own work within the broad spectrum of deafness.

The aim of the video clip is to highlight the range of fire safety support and advice available as well as to reinforce the message that the Service offers free home safety checks with specialist equipment for deaf and hard of hearing residents in the region.

Stuart Millington, Senior Fire Safety Manager, said: "There is a whole range of alarms designed specifically for the hard of hearing.

“ Many people with hearing loss could be at serious risk if they don't have the right alarm in place. A specialist alarm system provides valuable time to escape from a house fire. Without it, lives could be lost.

“ Our new video clip demonstrates the different systems and safety measures available for those with hearing difficulties.

“ We hope that this new clip will raise awareness of the specialist equipment we offer and will help people to stay safe in their homes.”



NEW RANGE OF FIRE AND RESCUE APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITIES LAUNCHED



The Service is committed to a series of Apprenticeship Programmes which are open to young people interested in becoming fire and rescue employees of the future and has recently extended the range of its apprenticeship opportunities.

A wide variety of accredited apprenticeship programmes of varying length are now on offer across a number of different departments.

Chris Nott, Senior Training and Development Manager at North Wales Fire and Rescue Service, said: “These apprentices will learn how to play a vital role in the protection of our communities in North Wales, providing a whole range of support – including response and protection, delivering community safety programmes, ensuring businesses comply with fire safety regulations, helping to promote fire safety campaigns, as well as ensuring fire and rescue service vehicles are maintained correctly.

“This is the first time that we have extended our apprenticeship opportunities to such a wide range of departments and functions.

“Our training provides the apprentices with a range of practical and theoretical skills and enables them to play an important role with us, supported by coaching and mentoring as well as regular assessments.

“The programmes form an important part of our vision for the future as we plan ahead to prepare for future challenges and seek innovative solutions to enable us to adapt to communities as they change around us.

“Modern apprenticeships form a key part of the national employment strategy and we are proud to be able to offer this support to young people.”

HARD HITTING WORKSHOPS TEACH YOUNG PEOPLE CONSEQUENCES OF ARSON



Fire and Rescue Service staff have been working alongside North Wales Police to help deliver a series of workshops to young people on the consequences of deliberate fire setting.

Justice in a Day is a dynamic and transformative educational workshop aimed at preventing young people from committing crime and raising awareness about the criminal justice system and the negative effects of crime.

Staff from the Arson Reduction Team joined forces with members of Community Fire Safety, the Phoenix initiative and fire and rescue service Educationalists to deliver talks to schools in Mold, Flint, Wrexham, Llandudno, Prestatyn, Caernarfon, Dolgellau and Llangefni.

The workshops consisted of showing the 'Burning your Future' DVD, a hard hitting short film commissioned by North Wales Fire and Rescue Service and North Wales Police that was launched in February, followed by an educational talk, and question and answer session.

Dave Evans from Police and Community Trust (PACT) said: "The demand from schools for our 'Justice in a Day' programme is as great as ever, and we are now in our seventh year of delivery.

"The objective of the programme is to educate young people about the workings of the criminal justice system and the consequences of crime. To be able to have the Arson Reduction Team deliver messages about deliberate fire-setting this year was an opportunity too good to miss, and the presentations complemented the aims and objectives of 'Justice in a Day' perfectly.

"This year the programme reached over 850 young people, and I am very grateful to Tim Owen and his team for all their support."

Arson Reduction Manager, Tim Owen, said: "This was a fantastic opportunity to deliver daily educational workshops over a five week period to young people – something which would not have been achievable without departments coming together in this way to deliver one robust message which is more likely to have a lasting positive impact on the audience."

Llinos Owen, Assistant Headteacher at Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle, thanked the team and said: "The pupils enjoyed themselves and learned a lot during the day. The fire and rescue service presentation and video was effective and very impressive. After returning to the school, children remembered a number of important facts from the video. Everyone had an unforgettable experience."

As part of 'digital transformation' and the Service's effort to make more services available digitally this will be the last printed edition of the Informative. From autumn 2017 the Informative magazine will be available on our website or you can sign up to receive it by email by visiting www.nwales-fireservice.org.uk

PREVENTING PROTECTING RESPONDING



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
Fire and Rescue Service

Did you know that Rhyl Community Fire Station is available for public use?

Have you thought about using our facilities?
We can host your meeting or training course
We welcome local people and organisations to come along

Facilities available include;

- Variety of large and small meeting rooms to suit everyone - all with overhead projectors
- Free wi fi
- Free parking
- Accessible via public transport
- Viewing area to see working fire station

Costs from
as little as
£7 an hour
for a room



It's the first purpose built facility of its kind in Wales - reaching out to the local community and promoting fire safety

Call us on 01745 352 722 or visit www.nwales-fireservice.org.uk