# LLANELLI MULTICULTURAL NETWORK

At the Llanelli Multicultural Network, we recognise and respect the unique heritage of every community. However, to truly celebrate and learn about our own cultures, as well as those around us, we must actively engage and make the effort. Our goal is to create an inclusive, welcoming space where people of all nationalities feel accepted and integrated into the broader Llanelli community. Together, we aim to foster understanding, respect, and unity for everyone.



#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day, celebrated globally on March 8th, is a time to promote gender equality. This year, the Llanelli Multicultural Network (LMCN) marked the occasion by inviting a diverse group of strong, empowered women from the community to share their stories and learn new skills.

The event featured a variety of inspiring sessions. An expert on panic attacks shared practical methods for managing them, including techniques for everyday situations like driving or shopping. A police officer with over 20 years of experience discussed her career in law enforcement, highlighting the challenges and achievements of being a woman in the field.

The gathering also heard from a courageous woman who fought cancer and shared her remarkable journey, teaching participants about emotional resilience and health management, including relaxation and dietary tips.



sgol Y Strade

One of the highlights of the event was a heartfelt speech from Joanna Drozdek, a Polish woman who moved to Llanelli over 8 years ago and founded the Polish school 'Little Eagles'. In her speech, Joanna shared her personal story and offered a powerful reflection on womanhood:

"Every woman is like a flower. Each one beautiful, different, and unique. We blossom when surrounded by love, and in turn, we give the world the best of ourselves. We have within us the strength of the seed from which we grew. A world without women would be like a garden without flowers."

All articles written by pupils from our local secondary school.

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POLSKA SZKOLA W LLANELLI "MAŁE ORŁY"

### POLSKA SZKOLA W LLANELLI "MAŁE ORŁY"

#### Celebrating National Women's Day: A Polish Woman's Impact in Llanelli

In honour of National Women's Day, we are thrilled to share the inspiring story of Joanna Drozdek, a woman who recently moved from Poland to Llanelli and has already made a big impact on the local community. She is the founder of an inclusive Polish school that supports children from migrant backgrounds, especially Polish families who have settled in Llanelli.



Polska Szkoła w Llanelli "Małe Orły"

Joanna, a former teacher, created the school with a clear mission: to help Polish children reconnect with their heritage, culture, and language. She is passionate about making sure these children stay connected to their roots while also becoming part of their new community.

"It's important to have a connection to your native country," she says. "Language is the key to a culture."



After 8 years in Llanelli, Joanna saw the need for a space where Polish children could feel supported and connected to their culture. Her immigrant experience inspired her to start the school. The school's success is thanks to Joanna's dedication and strong support from a local charity she is involved with. Through the charity's events, the school has gained recognition and expanded its reach.

Joanna reflects, "The charity's support has helped the school grow and has had a profound impact on the children's lives."

Joanna's involvement with the charity has provided valuable connections and resources for the Polish community in Llanelli. Attending weekly meetings has helped her promote cultural appreciation and language, boosting her confidence and determination to build a thriving Polish school. Her pride in the school and its students shines through in everything she does.

"I feel better about myself thanks to the charity's support," she says. "It's empowering to know I'm making a positive difference in the lives of Polish children in Llanelli."

Joanna's dedication is a true example of how passion and support create lasting change.



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### ST DAVIDS DAY

#### CELEBRATING ST. DAVID'S DAY

To mark St. David's Day on March 1st, the Llanelli Multicultural Network (LMCN) came together to celebrate Wales and its rich heritage.

The event kicked off with the preparation of traditional Welsh dishes, including Cawl and Welsh cakes, using equipment generously provided by Cegin y Bobl. Guests were also delighted with a beautifully arranged butter board, featuring Welsh butter and a selection of local cheeses.

Throughout the evening, attendees enjoyed Welsh stories and participated in a Welsh quiz, deepening their knowledge of Welsh culture and traditions.

The event was made possible with the generous support of Llanelli Town Council and Tesco, who contributed to the celebration. LMCN would also like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the volunteers and everyone who participated in making the St. David's Day event a success.



LMCN - Events: Easter Party & Egg Hunt Global food + Easter fun! Discover how different cultures celebrate. International Children's Day - 30th May A joyful day of games and activities for all kids! Weekly Drop-In Tuesdays @ EJ's, 10:30-12:30 Closed 22nd for Easter break. Christmas of the World The annual festive celebration.

