Iain Clarke

Head of Llysfas

Coleg Cambria – Llysfas:
Inspiring teenagers in food and farming
Innovation school of the year for Food, Farming and Environment 2018
Inspiring Teenagers in Food and farming

‘Innovation school of the year for Food, Farming and Environment’ 2018

National schools competition with an exclusive prize
The competition - Do cows dream about robots!
Exclusive prize - A weekend at Llysfas - in the Vale of Clwyd
A college and farm in an area of outstanding natural beauty
Inspiring Teenagers in Food and farming

Why did the competition take place????

- Engagement of young people and the promotion of farming to a wider audience.
- Innovative and forward thinking – ‘out of the box’
- Allow students from urban backgrounds to come into the countryside
- Doing things differently
- We want to attract the best people into the industry
- Because I have a passion for Agriculture and want to tell the world about it.
Aims and Objectives of the competition

To provide a new unique exciting learning experience in Food, Farming and Environment.

• To highlight food and farming to young people as professional careers
• To provide new learning experiences
• To develop knowledge of how food is produced and how we care for the environment at the same time.
• To provide new concepts in teaching and learning methods
• Ultimately to enhance teachers experiences, confidence in current and new innovation, science and technology at farm level.
Inspiring Teenagers in Food and farming

- Hands on practicals and how close you can get to the farm business.
- The building of confidence
- Inspiring, energy, enthusiasm
- Bite size learning
- Keep it focused and linked to real life
  - Linked to careers in food, farming, forestry and allied trades
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Animal welfare
  - The ‘blossoming’ of individuals
The competition

- Secondary schools Nationally
- Teachers completion of questionnaire on their teaching of food and farming in the curriculum
- How teachers would select the winning students
- How the weekend would change their delivery of teaching food and farming in the future
Technology and Precision farming
The weekend competition.

In your school groups you are to research modern farming to explain whether you agree or disagree with the following statement:

Hypothesis:

“Farming is so much more than mud and wellies!”
The competition prize and the weekend

30 degree temperatures!!!
Hand on practicals and the competition
College tour of facilities and enterprises
Overview presentation on farming and the issues Agriculture faces.
Milking and feeding calves 7am!
Sheep practical
Tractor driving
Cattle practical
Countryside habitat - woodland management
Workshop practical - technology
The winning schools

Ripley St Thomas C of E Academy - Lancaster

St Christopher’s C of E High School - Accrington

Priestlands school Pennington, Lymington, Hampshire

Queen Elizabeth Academy Atherstone

Reddish Vale High School - Stockport
The finale

The Winning School - ‘Innovation school of the year’ 2018
Reddish Vale High School - Stockport

Alex Jamieson, Megan Millington, Coby Stringer.
15 students attended. 7 teachers.
Excellent feedback and comments.

“the contact with animals was clearly inspiring but the breadth of knowledge really allowed them to start to build a greater understanding of the challenge and innovation within farming”

“It was amazing and I learnt so much in a short space of time”

“I think I am going to change my long term career goal”

“fantastic opportunity and doing live practicals was excellent and never knew that would be allowed”
Learner and teacher feedback

“links to geography curriculum and seeing what other links there are to careers”

“I never knew that farming was a science”

“I couldn’t believe that farmers make super cows”

“Tractor driving, and seeing tractors that drive themselves was amazing”
The impact !!

After the weekend, 3 students changed career aspirations to go into land-based subjects.
LEAF weekend National media coverage
2019 competition launch

Drones - the farmers of the future?
Final thoughts

Inspiring
Real and modern
Short, sharp and maintaining interest
Hands on approach to learning – linking science in a fun way
Technology
Future opportunities.
Enthusiasm and Passion