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Speakers for Schools launches across Wales

Charity ***Speakers for Schools*** is being launched in Wales (**week of 26 - 30 November)** with a series of talks in state secondary schools around the country. Leaders in Welsh business, media, culture, academia and politics have pledged to give a talk to students in a state secondary school once a year to raise aspirations and broaden horizons.

It is the idea of BBC Business Editor, Robert Peston, who wants young people in disadvantaged state schools and colleges to have the same opportunities to hear from inspirational speakers as those who attend top independent schools. The idea is to level the playing field and for it to become the norm for leaders in their fields to give talks in state schools and colleges. *Speakers for Schools* was launched in England in October 2011 and is administered by small charity the Education and Employers Taskforce. Please visit: http://www.speakers4schools.org/ for a full list of supporting speakers and more about how it works.

Speakers from the worlds of business, culture and academia supporting the Welsh launch include: Lord Burns (Chairman Santander UK plc & Channel 4 Television), Cambridge Jones (portrait photographer), Alan Edmunds (Editor Western Mail newspaper), Huw Edwards (news presenter & BBC journalist), Henry Engelhardt (CEO Admiral Group), Dame Amelia Fawcett (Board Director, Guardian Media Group), Andrew Green (Chief Executive National Library of Wales), Efa Gruffudd-Jones (Chief Executive Urdd Gobaith Cymru), Prof Stephen Hagen (Vice-Chancellor University of Wales Newport), Julia Hobsbawm (Chair & CEO Julia Hobsbawm Consulting), Prof John Hughes (Vice-Chancellor Bangor University), Ian Jones (Chief Executive S4C), Prof April McMahon (Vice-Chancellor Aberwystwyth University), Geoff Mulgan (Chief Executive NESTA), Robert Peston (BBC Business Editor), Ed Richards (Chief Executive Ofcom) and Simon Thirsk (author & Chairman, Bloodaxe Books).

***Speakers for Schools* has cross-party support. Taking part from the world of Welsh politics:** Leighton Andrews (Minister for Education and Skills), Cynog Dafis (former MP& Assembly Member Plaid Cymru), Andrew RT Davies (Leader of the Opposition, Welsh Assembly), Lord Davies (House of Lords & Vale of Glamorgan Council), Carwyn Jones (First Minister, Welsh Government), Baroness Kingsmill (House of Lords), Rhodri Morgan (former First Minister of Wales) and Kirsty Williams (Leader of Welsh Liberal Democrats).

The week has been chosen to coincide with the **ASCL Cymru Conference** which is taking place 29 – 30 November 2012. Across England, Scotland and Wales over 800 people have agreed to participate including many leading CEOs, politicians, media and arts people, scientists, entrepreneurs and academics. Speakers will address the big topical issues: technological, scientific, political, economic, historical, cultural, artistic, ecological and ethical.

Robert Peston, BBC Business Editor and founder of Speakers for Schools says: *"Our future prosperity depends in part on raising aspirations for young people, which can be helped by securing access for them to brilliant and inspirational minds. I am thrilled that so many great speakers are participating in Speakers for Schools Welsh launch."*

Gareth Jones, Secretary, Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) Cymru says: *"Role models, whether in the home or elsewhere have a significant part in the learning of young people and ASCL Cymru is delighted to be able to support the launch of the Speakers for Schools programme in Wales. I encourage all schools to participate so that the young people of Wales are inspired as to the possible futures that can be ahead of them."*

Cynog Dafis, former MP & Assembly Member Plaid Cymru: *"I'm privileged to be part of the Speakers for Schools initiative in Wales, where our state schools provide for the vast majority of pupils and are committed to the comprehensive ideal. It is vital that are young people are stimulated to engage with the serious issues of the day and Speakers for Schools will contribute to that process."*

Professor Stephen Hagen, Vice Chancellor of the University of Wales, Newport said: *"It is a great privilege to be taking part in Speakers for Schools in Wales. Young people are facing a breath-taking pace of change as they go through the education system and towards the world of work and this initiative will provide a range of ideas and experiences to hopefully nurture the excitement and talent we have in Wales. Whether these young people end up in employment or setting up their own businesses and enterprises, playing a small part in their development is a huge privilege. From a very early age, we expect our young people to make choices which will impact on their whole lives and providing them with the opportunity to hear a different take on these choices will no doubt be of great use to them. Running a University is all about nurturing young minds, but the opportunity to help do this at an even earlier age is a great honour."*

Media contacts

A selection of Welsh speakers are available for interview and we can also put you in touch with head teachers who have experienced *Speakers for School* talks. **We can also supply a list of speaking times, dates and venues across Wales.** Please contact Carol Glover, Communications Manager, Education and Employers Taskforce, mobile: 07939 061 850 or carol.glover@educationandemployers.org

You can follow us at **#S4SWales**

Notes to Editors

1) About *Speakers for Schools*

Speakers for Schools is an initiative to get inspirational speakers who are leaders in their field to give talks for free in state schools and colleges, prioritising the most disadvantaged. Such speakers commonly visit independent schools, but many state schools and colleges lack the networks to approach them. *Speakers for Schools* is the idea of Robert Peston, the BBC's Business Editor, and is being administered by the charity, the Education and Employers Taskforce.

Speakers will address the big subjects: technological, scientific, political, economic, historical, cultural, artistic, ecological and ethical. Over 800 speakers have already accepted invitations to participate. The aim is to broaden the horizons and raise the aspirations of young people.

2) About *Inspiring the Future* - launching in Wales this academic year

Inspiring the Future is a free service which will see people volunteering to go into state secondary schools and colleges to talk about their jobs, careers, and the education routes they took. This sister programme to *Speakers for Schools* is launching in Scotland this academic year.

The aim is very simple – to encourage people from all sectors and professions to agree to give up an hour of their time during the year, at a time which suits them, to visit a state secondary school or FE college near where they live or work and talk to young people about their jobs, careers, and the education routes they took, perhaps for example as part of a careers fair.

Everyone from CEOs to apprentices. Recent graduates, school leavers and people in the early stages of their career can be inspirational to teenagers - being close in age they are easy to relate to; while senior and recently retired staff have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share. Volunteers and schools/colleges are connected securely online, and volunteering can take place near home or work as you specify the geographic locations that suit you. Criminal Records Bureau checks are **not** needed for 'career insight' talks.

Hundreds of people who are involved in business and enterprise (including many who have set up or run their own business) have already volunteered. These '*enterprise champions*' are making a real difference to our young people, helping them to realise the vast range of jobs that exist and inspiring them to consider options they have not yet thought about. Positive, local role models are essential to show young people that enterprise is not just exciting and rewarding but is a viable option. By building enterprise ambition in young people from an early age, they are more likely to think about starting a business or social enterprise when they are older. *Inspiring the Future* has been developed with support from J.P. Morgan.
Visit *Inspiring the Future* at http://www.inspiringthefuture.org/

3) About the Education and Employers Taskforce

The Education and Employers Taskforce was launched as a small independent charity on the 15th October 2009, and has seven staff. Its aim is to ensure that every school and college has an effective partnership with employers which provides young people with the inspiration, motivation, knowledge, skills and opportunities they need to help them achieve their potential and so secure our national prosperity. The Taskforce's Partnership Board comprises the leaders of the main representative organisations from education and employment and the Trustees are principally senior business leaders with an interest in education. For more details please see www.educationandemployers.org

4) For further information

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/edu_employers

(Ends)

I'w ryddhau i'r Wasg a'r Cyfryngau – ar EMBARGO tan 1.00 y bore, 26ain Tachwedd 2012

LANSIAD *SIARADWYR i YSGOLION* ledled Cymru

Lawnsir yr elusen ***Siaradwyr i Ysgolion / Speakers for Schools*** yng Nghymru (**wythnos 26 – 30 Tachwedd)** gyda chyfres o anerchiadau mewn ysgolion uwchradd y wladwriaeth ar draws y wlad. Eisoes, bu i arweinwyr mewn busnesau Cymreig, cyfryngol, diwylliannol, academia a gwleidyddiaeth roi addewid bendant i roi anerchiad i fyfyrwyr mewn ysgolion Uwchardd y wladwriaeth unwaith y flwyddyn er mwyn codi gobeithion ag ymestyn gorwelion.

Syniad Golygydd Busnes y BBC, Robert Peston, sydd eisiau i bobl ifanc mewn ysgolion a cholegau mewn ardaloedd difreintiedig i dderbyn yr un cyfleoedd i glywed gan siaradwyr ysbrydoledig ac a geir gan y rhai sy'n mynychu'r ysgolion annibynol gorau. Y syniad yw lefelu'r maes chwarae ag iddi ddod yn arferiad i arweinwyr yn eu meysydd i annerch mewn ysgolion a cholegau'r wladwriaeth. Lawnsiwyd *Speakers for Schools* yn Lloegr yn Hydref 2011 a gweinyddir ef gan elusen fechan - Education and Employers Taskforce . Os gwelwch yn dda, edrycher ar: http://www.speakers4schools.org/ am restr lawn o siaradwyr cefnogol a mwy am sut y mae'r cynllun yn gweithio.

Cynnwys y siaradwyr o feysydd busnes, diwylliant ac academia sydd yn cefnogi'r lawnsiad Cymreig:

Lord Burns (Cadeirydd Santander UK plc & Theledu Channel 4), Cambridge Jones (ffotograffydd portread), Alan Edmunds (Golygydd papur newyddion y Western Mail), Huw Edwards (cyflwynydd newyddion & gohebydd y BBC), Henry Engelhardt (Prif Weithredwr Grŵp Admiral), Dame Amelia Fawcett (Cyfarwyddwr Bwrdd, Grŵp Guardian Media), Andrew Green (Prif Weithredwr Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru), Efa Gruffudd-Jones (Prif Weithredwr Urdd Gobaith Cymru), Yr Athro Stephen Hagen (Is-Ganghellor Prifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd), Julia Hobsbawm (Cadeirydd a Phrif Weithredwr Julia Hobsbawm Consulting), Prof John Hughes (Is-Ganghellor PrifysgolBangor), Ian Jones (Prif weithredwr S4C), Prof April McMahon (Is-ganghellor Prifysgol Aberystwyth), Geoff Mulgan (Prif Weithredwr NESTA), Robert Peston (Golygydd Busnes y BBC), Ed Richards (Prif Weithredwr Ofcom) a Simon Thirsk (Awdur & Chadeirydd, Bloodaxe Books).

Mae gan *Siaradwyr i Ysgolion* gefnogaeth ar draws y partion. Yn cymryd rhan o fyd Gwleidyddiaeth Gymreig mae:
Leighton Andrews (Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau), Cynog Dafis (Cyn AS & A.C. Plaid Cymru), Andrew RT Davies (Arweinydd y Gwrthwynebwyr – Llywodraeth Cymru), Yr Arglwydd Davies (Tŷ'r Arglwyddi & Chyngor Bro Morgannwg), Carwyn Jones (Prif Weinidog, Llywodraeth Cymru), Baroness Kingsmill (Tŷ'r Arglwyddi), Rhodri Morgan (cyn Brif Weinidog Cymru) a Kirsty Williams (Arweinydd Y Rhyddfrydwyr Cymreig).

Dewisiwyd yr wythnos er mwyn cydfynd â **Chynhadledd ASCL Cymru** sydd yn cael ei chynnal ar 29 a 30 Tachwedd 2012. Bu i dros 800 o bobl ar draws Cymru, Lloegr a'r Alban gytuno i gymryd rhan gan gynnwys Prif Swyddogion Addysg arweiniol, gwleidyddion, pobl gyfryngol a chelfyddydol, gwyddonwyr, entrepreneriaid ac academwyr. Anerchir ar faterion cyfoes o bwys: technolegeol, gwyddonol, gwleidyddol, economaidd, hanesyddol, diwylliannol, celfyddydol, moesol ag ecolegol.

Dywed Robert Peston, Golygydd busnes BBC a ffurfiwr *Siaradwyr i Ysgolion*: *"Dibynna'n dyfodol ffyniannol i raddau ar godi dyheadau ar gyfer pobl ifanc, a gynorthwywir drwy sicrhau mynediad iddynt at feddyliau symbylol a disglair. Caf wefr fod cymaint o siaradwyr da'n cymryd rhan yn lawnsiad Cymreig Siaradwyr i Ysgolion."*

Dywed Gareth Jones, Ysgrifennydd ASCL Cymru: *"mae gan fodelau rôl, naill ai yn y cartref neu mewn man arall, ran sylweddol yn addysgu pobl ifanc ac mae ASCL Cymru'n hynod falch o allu cefnogi lawnsiad rhaglen Siaradwyr i Ysgolion yng Nghymru. Anogaf pob ysgol i gymryd rhan fel y gall Ieuenctid Cymru gael eu symbylu ar gyfer y dyfodol posibl sydd o'u blaenau."*

Cynog Dafis, Cyn A.S. ac A.C. Plaid Cymru: *" Braint yw cael bod yn rhan o fenter Siaradwyr i Ysgolion yng Nghymru, lle y mae ein hysgolion gwladoriaethol yn darparu addysg i fwyafrif o ddisgyblion ac yn ymrwymedig i'r syniad cyfun. Mae'n hollbwysig fod pobl ifanc yn cael eu hysgogi i weithio'n agos gyda materion pwysig y dydd a bydd Siaradwyr i Ysgolion yn cyfrannu i'r broses honno."*

Yr Athro Stephen Hagen, Is-Ganghellor Prifysgol Cymru, Casnewydd: *"Mae'n fraint fawr cymryd rhan yn Siaradwyr i Ysgolion yng Nghymru. Wyneba pobl ifanc gyflymder newid sy'n cymryd gwynt rhywun fel y maent yn treiglo trwy system addsyg tuag at fyd gwaith a bydd yfenter hon yn darparu ystod o syniadau a phrofiadau i, gobeithio, fagu cynnwrf o dalentau sydd yng Nghymru. Os bydd yr Ieuenctid hyn yn gorffen mewn gwaith neu'n gosod eu busnes / enterprenyddiaeth eu hunain i fyny, mae chwarae rhan fach yn eu datblygiad yn fraint aruthrol. Disgwyliwn i'n heuienctid, o oed ifanc iawn, wneud dewisiadau a fydd yn effeithio ar eu bywyd cyfan ac mae darparu iddynt y cyfle i glywed am safbwyntiau gwahanol ar y dewisiadau hyn yn siwr o fod o ddefnydd mawr iddynt.Mae rhedeg Prifysgolyn ymwneud i gyd gyda magu meddyliau ifanc ac mae cael y cyfle i wneud hyn mewn oed ieuengach yn anrhydedd fawr."*

<u>Cysylltiadau CYFRYNGOL</u>

Mae dewis o siaradwyr Cymraeg ar gael ar gyfer cyfweliadau a gallwn hefyd eich cysylltu gyda phenaethiaid ysgolion sydd wedi profi anerchiadau gan *Siaradwyr i Ysgolion*. **Gallwn yn ogystal,ddarparu rhestr o amseroedd siarad, dyddiadau a lleoliadau ar draws Cymru.** Cysyllter, os gwelwch yn dda, gyda Carol Glover, Rheolwr Cyfathrebu, Education and Employers Taskforce, symudol: 07939 061 850 neu carol.glover@educationandemployers.org

Hefyd, gellir ein dilyn ar **#S4SWales**

<u>Nodiadau i OLYGYDDION</u>

1) **Ynghylch *Siaradwyr i Ysgolion***

Menter yw *Siaradwyr i Ysgolion* i gael siaradwyr symbylus yn eu meysydd i annerch am ddim mewn ysgolion a cholegau'r wladwriaeth, gan flaenoriaethu'r rhai mwyaf difreintiedig. Ymwela siaradwyr o'r fat hag ysgolion annibynnol yn aml ond nid oes gan ysgolion a cholegau'r wladwriaeth y rhwydwaith i fynd atynt. Syniad Robert Peston, Golygydd Busnes y BBC yw *Siaradwyr i Ysgolion* sy'n cael ei weinyddu gan yr elusen the 'Education and Employers Taskforce'.
Bydd y siaradwyr yn cyfeirio at y testunau mawr: technolegeol, gwyddonol, gwleidyddol, economaidd, hanesyddol, diwylliannol, celfyddydol, moesol ag ecolegol. Bu i 800 o siaradwyr dderbyn gwahoddiad yn barod i gymryd rhan. Y bwriad yw lledaenu gorwelion a chodi gobeithion pobl ifanc.

2) **Ynghylch *Symbylu'r Dyfodol* – lansio'n Nghymru yn ystod y flwyddyn academaidd**

Gwasanaeth am ddim yw *Symbylu'r Dyfodol* a fydd yn gweld pobl i yn gwirfoddoli i fynd i mewn i ysgolion a cholegau i siarad am eu swyddi, gyrfaoedd a'r llwybrau addysgol y bu iddynt hwy'u dilyn. Bydd y chwaer raglen i *Siaradwyr i Ysgolion* hon yn cael ei lawnsio'n yr Alban yn ystod y flwyddyn academidd.

Mae'r nôd yn syml iawn – i hybu pobl o bob sector a gyrfaoedd proffesiynol i gytuno i roi awr o'u hamser i fyny yn ystod y flwyddyn ar adeg sy'n addas iddynt hwy, i ymweld ag Ysgol Uwchradd wladwriaethol neu Goleg Addysg Bellach yn agos i'r lle y maent yn byw gan annerch pobl ifanc am eu swyddi, gyrfaoedd a'r llwybrau addysgol y bu iddynt eu dilyn, hwyrach, fel rhan o Ffair Yrfaol.

Gall pawb o Brif Swyddogion Addysg i brentisiaid, graddedigion diweddar, ymadawyr ysgolion a phobl ar risiau cyntaf eu gyrfaoedd fod yn symbylwyr i ieuenctid yn eu harddegau – mae bod yn agos mewn oedran yn golygu ei bod yn haws creu perthynas â hwy, tra bydd gan weithwyr Hŷn a rhai newydd ymddeol gyfoeth o wybodaeth a phrofiad i'w rannu. Cysylltir gwirfoddolwyr ag ysgolion/colegau'n ddiogel tros y lein, a gall gwirfoddoli ddigwydd yn agos i gartref neu fan gwaith gan y gellwch chwi ddynodi'r safle ddaearyddol a fyddai orau gennych.. **Nid** oes angen gwiriardau CRB ar gyfer anerchiadau 'gweledia d gyrfaol'.

Bu i gannoedd o bobl sy'n ymwenud â busnes ag enterprenyddiaeth (gan gynnwys llawer a sefydlodd eu busnesau'u hunain) wirfoddoli eisoes. Mae'r '*pencampwyr menter*' hyn yn gwneud gwahaniaeth sylweddol i'n pobl ifanc, yn eu cynorthwyo i sylweddoli yr ystod eang o swyddi sy'n bodoli a'u symbylu i ystyried dewisiadau na fu iddynt feddwl amdanynt cyn hynny. Mae'n hanfodol cael modelau rôl lleol a chadarnhaol i ddangos i ieuenctid fod entreprenyddiaeth ddim yn unig yn gynhyrfus a gwerthfawr ond hefyd yn ddewis hyfyw. Drwy adeiladau uchelgais entreprenyddiaeth o oed ifanc iawn mewn pobl ifanc, meant yn fwy tebygol o ystyried dechrau'u busnes neu entreprenyddiaeth gymdeithasol eu hunain pan fyddent yn hŷn. Datblygwyd *Symbylu'r Dyfodol* gyda chefnogaeth J.P.Morgan.
Ymwelwch â *Symbylu'r Dyfodol* ar http://www.inspiringthefuture.org/

3) Ynghylch Grŵp Tasg Addysg a Chyflogwyr (*Education and Employers Taskforce)*

Lawnsiwyd y Grŵp Tasg Addysg a Chyflogwyr fel elusen fechan annibynnol ar y 15fed Hydref 2009, a chyflogir saith. Y bwriad yw sicrhau fod gan bob coleg ag ysgol bartneriaeth gyda chyflogwyr sy'n rhoi ysbrydoliaeth, cymhelliad, gwybodaeth, sgiliau a chyfleon sydd eu hangen arnynt i'w cynorthwyo i gyrraedd eu potensial ac felly, i sicrhau ein ffyniant cenedlaethol. Mae bwrdd Partneriaeth y Grŵp Tasg yn cynnwys arweinwyr y prif gyfundrefnau cynrychioladol o addysg a chyflogaeth ac mae'r Ymddiriedolwyr yn bennaf yn arweinyddion hŷn mewn busnes gyda diddordeb mewn addysg. Am fwy o fanylion, gweler www.educationandemployers.org

4) Am wybodaeth bellach

Dilynwch ni ar Twitter: twitter.com/edu_employers

(Gorffen)