

Thu 21/08/2025 07:24

Dear colleagues,

MP visit to Margam

Earlier this week MP Stephen Kinnock came to visit Margam and did us a very nice [write up on his website](#). We had a very positive meeting and it's always good when an MP asks outright what they can do to help.

As a Minister in the Department for Health and Social Care he had a particular interest in the health and wellbeing benefits of outdoor learning. With about three quarters of visitors coming from England it was a good opportunity to flag up how English policies as well as Welsh impact the charity. We have also received an invite to a Funding Fair that he organises in September where charities and potential funders can meet. So, we will definitely be attending.

Here is Stephen with Centre Manager Siân Lane.



Field Studies Council Partners with Period Power to Make a Real Difference

We're really pleased to announce a new partnership with Period Power, a charity on a mission to end period poverty through education and free access to essential products. Thanks to Mike Etherington's relationship-building and Chris Wilkinson's coordination, Period Power has given us one of their largest ever single donations—over £2,000 worth of period products. This means that visiting Group Leaders can offer 24/7 access to products for anyone who needs them, helping break down stigma, remove barriers, and support wellbeing in a very real, practical way.

We'll also be making these products available to customers free of charge alongside information about the charity, spreading awareness of an issue that affects millions and showing that Field Studies Council cares about every visitor's dignity and comfort.

These products are not for sale (though our regular retail will continue), and we hope this is the start of an inspiring, ongoing relationship with Period Power. The Publishing team is already getting the products out to all day and residential centre managers. Please keep an eye on the Managers' Briefing for details. If you would like any more information, please speak to Chris Wilkinson or Mike Etherington and I'd like to thank them and the Publications team for their work on this excellent initiative.



TPT Pensions

Further to my previous Catch Up of 31st July, Trevor has received an email to say that the pension portal is now back up and running. Other staff have also received the same email, but in some cases, it has ended up in the quarantine folder, so please do keep an eye out for that.

Congratulations to:

Liv Watts, who has successfully completed her Level 3 Marketing Assistant Apprenticeship.

Best regards

Mark