

FAIR TRADE FACTS:

- Wales was the first Fairtrade country in the world
- Ammanford was the first Fairtrade town in Wales
- Carmarthenshire has been a Fairtrade county since 2007
- Carmarthenshire has 22 Fairtrade schools that proudly fly the Fairtrade flag



News from around the county



Llanelli and district have been a hive of activity. A Fairtrade coffee morning with a Fairtrade banana giveaway for the centre of town has been arranged supported by local businesses to mark Fairtrade Fortnight. Local schools have been involved in making a Fairtrade display in Llanelli House with the local MP and mayor in attendance. A very successful Fairtrade annual party with musical entertainment took place in January with a Fairtrade buffet was sponsored by the Co-op.

Carmarthen town will be promoting Fairtrade during their St David's week activities this year. The town is updating their Fairtrade trade directory and will be sharing all the fun on their Facebook page. The town Santes Dwynwen competition attracted over 1,000 entries and the winner was presented with a Fairtrade hamper.



Newcastle Emlyn will be celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight with a 'Great Fairtrade Chocolate Cake Bake-off. Local shops will be doing their own Fairtrade promotions and tasting events. There will also be free Fairtrade parking! Another Fairtrade pub quiz has been planned. The local group is more than willing to share their questions if another group would like to hold a similar event in their area.

Ammanford will be celebrating Fairtrade fortnight with their Banana Split. This is no ordinary banana split. It is over 100 feet long running the length of the town arcade. This will be the eleventh year the town has marked Fairtrade Fortnight in this way.

	<p>Father Christmas at a Christmas Fairtrade stall after giving out Fairtrade chocolate Advent calenders to children at the Llangynnwr Community Council Christmas tree lights switch on at Babell chapel.</p>	 <p>Scan to read more about Fairtrade</p>
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Fairtrade in our schools

The Fairtrade school awards are about learning, having fun and taking action to make things better. Meidrim school is the latest county school to gain the Fair Trade Achiever award and is one of 22 schools that can fly the Fairtrade flag. Another 11 schools have Fair Active status and are close to gaining the coveted Fairtrade flag.

Divine chocolate and Christian Aid poetry competition

The theme for this year is **How chocolate can change the world?** The closing date for the competition is the 14th June 2019 (30th April for Welsh submissions). Teaching resources are available and can be found at www.divinechocolate.com/poetry



At the heart of Divine is the amazing story of the Kuapa Kokoo co-operative of cocoa farmers in Ghana, who voted back in 1997 to set up their own Fairtrade chocolate company. Today the co-operative has 85,000 members in 1,257 village societies. Their FT premium is invested in developing farming communities and farming skills - focusing particularly on water, health,



education and sanitation to improve standards of living. Kuapa Kokoo has also taken a lead on child labour, and is piloting a number of environmental initiatives aimed at improving productivity and adapting to Climate Change.

Little things make a difference

A simple swop - At your work or club swop your tea or coffee for a Fairtrade version. If your friends or workmates grumble, try a blind tasting session to help persuade them to make a change. Let us know how things went.



Buy a Fairtrade Easter egg - So many chocolate companies now make Fairtrade Easter eggs with lots of choice at a range of prices. Buy an egg for someone you love knowing you will be helping others at the same time. Keep an eye out for the Fairtrade logo.

Please pass this newsletter on to a friend if you think they might be interested in Fairtrade issues in Carmarthenshire.

