



Big boost: Jane Davidson, Assembly Government's Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, opened the Secondary School Language Centre at Ysgol Eifionydd on Monday and talked with Kirsty Roberts and her teacher Rhian Jones along with pupils Rory Middleton and Choosak Duangchat. *AR200904LanCenter-1*

New language centre will teach Welsh

Minister launches secondary school centre

A TOP Welsh Assembly minister visited Ysgol Eifionydd on Monday to officially launch the school's language centre.

Jane Davidson, Assembly Government's Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, opened the Secondary School Language Centre as part of a pioneering programme by Gwynedd Council to respond to the growing demand for extra help in teaching Welsh from scratch to teenagers who have

moved to the area, and arrived at secondary schools at different times of the school year.

The centre currently teaches 16 Year Seven pupils on three courses held during the year and an intense course, which will be held over a six week period, will also give the young people an opportunity to learn Welsh as well as other varied curriculum lessons, such as PE, music and technology.

By **TECWYN HILL**

The scheme has been funded by the Welsh Language Board, Education Support and Training Grants, along with support of Gwynedd Council.

Doctor Gwynne Jones, Gwynedd Council's Head of Schools Service, said: "This exciting and innovative programme to learn Welsh has been very successful with primary school pupils for some years, but this is the first time that this kind of aid has been offered to secondary school pupils."



Get with the beat: Jane Davidson joins teacher, Carys Lake, who sings a Welsh song with pupils Julia Stockley, Kathryn Worthington, Jamie Fallen and Adam Owen at the new language centre at