



Ysgol Gyfun

**PENYRHEOL**

Comprehensive School

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

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## Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 13

Dear Parent/Carer,

This is the thirteenth headteacher's letter of this academic year. I trust these letters are keeping parents/carers informed about what is happening at Penyrheol School.

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, we welcomed Year 7 parents and carers into school for a Progress Evening. It was wonderful to see the support that our pupils have from home.

In the last few weeks, Years 7, 8 and 9 have been undertaking their national tests in Reading, Procedural Numeracy and Reasoning (also Numeracy). These tests have been carried out online during lesson time. Year 10 Art students have enjoyed a trip to Cardiff Museum and St Fagans. Yesterday, Year 10 pupils were given their main written report of the year. We hope that parents/carers are proud of what they read.

For Year 11, their focus for the past two weeks has been on their examinations with a Welsh Oral catch up, an Art Exam and Spanish Oral exams in that period. Year 11 start their formal exams next week and their last day before study leave is 3 weeks today!

Today we waved goodbye to a group of Year 7s as they head to Llangrannog for the weekend. A huge 'Diolch' to Mr Binding (and other staff) for giving up their time to enable our pupils to have this experience. Let's hope the weather improves for them!

### **Sport**

Last Wednesday our year 7 boys football team lost narrowly to Bishopston 1-0. Bishopston had not lost a game all season and average around 5 goals a game. It was a truly brilliant performance by Penyrheol. Well done to everyone involved.

All of the league games have finished for boys football now and we have been waiting to hear who has made the semi-finals and finals.....

.....so congratulations to our year 8 boys who are through to the semi-finals and are due to face Bishopston next week. Also, congratulations to our year 11 boys who have made it to the plate final and will face Birchgrove. Well done to all our footballers!

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In girls football, it has been a fantastic end to the football season for both U13 and U15 teams. The U13s had a very successful season against strong opposition. The final results for the Swansea School Girls league were that the U13 and U15 teams both came 4<sup>th</sup> out of 10 schools. Huge congratulations to the girls, their dedication to training and determined attitudes served them very well. Well done! We look forward to another successful season next year.



Earlier in the week, our Gold Sports Ambassadors, Ellie, Sophie, and Annabel, paid a visit to Tre-Uchaf Primary School. They conducted sports coaching sessions for students in Years 3, 4, 5, and 6. The girls took charge of Netball and Athletics sessions as part of Tre-Uchaf's Sport and Fitness Focus Week. The teachers were highly impressed with their professionalism and the assistance they provided to the students during the sessions, resulting in excellent feedback.

"Every teacher I have spoken with said the girls were fantastic, well-organised, mature and professional. They had a lovely relationship with the children, really cared about their activities and helped the children complete the activities correctly". - Mrs Twist (Tre-Uchaf Primary School)



Outside of school, Eva-Rose Swain (Year 7) had her review with the under 12s Wales football regional team and she has been retained and invited to the under 14s next season. Da iawn, Eva-Rose.

Congratulations to Alex Griffiths (Year 7) for advancing to the Welsh Cup Final with Swansea School Boys U12's team, where they will compete against Cardiff and the Vale School in Oswestry on 19th May. Best of luck to the boys! Alex will also participate in the English Cup Final at Stoke City Stadium on 12th May.

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## Florida Sport Tour

Over the Easter Holidays we took a large group of Year 10 and 11 pupils on a sports tour to Florida. I have had amazing feedback from parents/carers and pupils about the fantastic experience they had. My thanks go to Mr Davies (PE) and all the staff that went to help run the trip.

Our school sports teams were fortunate to have the opportunity to compete against some excellent teams in Jacksonville, Florida. Each of the American teams were very welcoming and accommodating at Oakleaf High School. These were the fixtures:

Penyrheol School Boys Rugby Vs Jacksonville Wolverines

Penyrheol School Girls Netball Vs NYSA Jaguars

Penyrheol School Boys Football Vs Oakleaf Football Club

Penyrheol School Girls Football Vs Oakleaf Football Club



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## Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday



Last week, the five pupils nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday' were Awstin (Year 7), Ryan (Year 8), Eluned (Year 9), Sammy (Year 10) and April (Year 11).

Awstin is an all-round fantastic student and he is the 'go to' for the Year Team when they need help. He helps other pupils feel they **Belong**.

Ryan is **Thriving**. He is quiet but confident and shared his experience of looking after pigeons with his form class. They loved it! He always looks to help others and is a top-class pupil.

Eluned is a wonderful pupil and has recently organised our second successive Autism Awareness Day. She always gives everything her full commitment and **Aspires** to be the very best she can be.

Sammy has worked so hard to build his resilience and he is **Aspiring** every day to be a better, more independent person and in control of his own future. The STF team think he is amazing!

April has shown fantastic **Aspiration** by writing a powerful and moving poem for entry in a National competition. Good luck, April. Your work deserves to be recognised.

These 5 pupils have embodied our core values over the last 4 weeks. Congratulations to all our winners. Who will it be next time?

## Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has dropped to 83%. Wherever possible, please ensure your child attends school. Missing school means missing out on learning.


Parents/carers can track their child's achievement and behaviour points on the ClassCharts app. The information below shows the average achievement and behaviour points that a pupil in each year group has accrued **over the last two school weeks**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	22	2
8	17	2
9	13	2
10	12	2
11	9	1

Over the last 2 school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved 8 achievement points for every behaviour point awarded.

As always, thank you to all parents/carers for their continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Damian Benney

Headteacher

### Appendix

What's happening in the next two weeks

Date	Event
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 11 Organised Revision Sessions (Until 24 <sup>th</sup> May)
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year Council Meetings (this week)
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Activity Day Preparation Begins
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	

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