

Headteacher/Pennaeth
Damian Benney

Tel: (01792) 533066
Fax: (01792) 533366



Pontarddulais Road
Gorseinon
SWANSEA
SA4 4FG

Headteacher's Letter Friday 23rd December (Letter 8)

Dear Parents/Carers,

This is the eighth Headteacher's letter of this academic year. I trust these letters are keeping everyone informed about what is happening at Penyrheol School.

Since the last letter we have had our first PTA Christmas Fayre. This took place in the theatre after school on Thursday 15th December. We were hoping it would be well attended but the excellent turnout from the community was overwhelming. This helped make it a very special event. There are lots of local businesses to thank for donating prizes for the PTA raffle and I will use a future letter to thank them publicly. Thank you to all that supported this event and supported our PTA.

Year 11 have finished their mock exams and we hope they have done well in preparation for next May/June. We had our first face to face Carol Concert since 2019 at St Catherine's church on Wednesday 21st December. This was another special community event and the pupils did themselves proud on an absolutely joyous evening. Yesterday our Year 7s took their new reports home. I hope these give parents/carers lots of information on what they have learned in school, and what their areas for improvement are.

Thank you to all parents/carers for your continued support.

Sport

It has been a quiet two weeks for our sporting teams as the weather has meant that any fixtures have ended up being cancelled.

'Da iawn' to all the players that have represented the school since September.

ClassCharts/School Gateway

Thank you to the many parents/carers that have downloaded the ClassCharts App. We are close to 80% of parents/carers regularly using the App. Can we ask that from January that parents/carers notify school of a child's absence by 8:30am using the ClassCharts App rather than the school gateway App. Parents/carers can also ring the school and leave a message. With the app you can report absences at any time through the night/morning and also report any appointments ahead of time.

Standards

Attendance for the last 2 weeks has dropped to 75% and to a large extent, this reflects the number of illnesses that are circulating. I hope all pupils are healthy and ready to return on Monday 9th January. If you want to know your child's attendance, the ClassCharts App has all the details.

I am sure that a number of young people will be having hoodies for Christmas. Our policy is that they aren't allowed to be worn on school site so please don't allow your child to come into school with a hoodie on. If they want to wear it while walking to school, it needs to be removed and placed in their bag before they enter school site. Thank you in advance for your support with this. At Penyrheol we think a hoodie is a great item of clothing. We just feel hoodies aren't appropriate for school and should be reserved for when pupils are out of school.

School Newsletter

The Autumn Term newsletter has been published on our school website. A link is here:

[Christmas Newsletter 2022 | Home \(penyrheol-comp.net\)](https://penyrheol-comp.net/Christmas%20Newsletter%202022%20Home)

Please take the time to read it as it shares so many of the fantastic achievements of our young people and also shows just how extensive the extra-curricular provision is at Penyrheol and the opportunities that we provide our pupils. Reading it makes me feel very proud to work with the young people in our community.

I wish all parents/carers a peaceful Christmas and a happy new year. Nadolig Llawen a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda.

Yours faithfully,



Damian Benney
Headteacher

Appendix

What's happening in the next two weeks (when we return in January):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Monday 9 th January	Spring Term Starts for Pupils and Staff
Tuesday 10 th January	
Wednesday 11 th January	
Thursday 12 th January	Tasty Careers Challenge Year 9 (theatre)
Friday 13 th January	Tasty Careers Challenge Year 9 (theatre)
Monday 16 th January	Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening (3:30pm – 6:30pm) School Council Meeting (this week)
Tuesday 17 th January	
Wednesday 18 th January	Females into Construction Event in Theatre (9:00am – 12:20)
Thursday 19 th January	
Friday 20 th January	