



Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 17th May 2024

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 14

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the last Headteacher's letter, a large group of Year 7 pupils attended LLangrannog, leaving on Friday 3rd May and returning on Sunday 5th May. The pupils had an absolutely fantastic time. Mr Binding has told me that their behaviour was impeccable and that they were a credit to their families. Hearing this fills me with pride!!

I think the whole school community enjoyed the extended bank holiday weekend (and we finally enjoyed some sun).

Year 11 have started their GCSE exams and things seem to be going well so far. The behaviour of Year 11 during the exams has been exemplary. Since the exams have started, we have been collapsing the timetable for Year 11 so they have revision sessions before their exams. Only yesterday, all Double and Triple Award Science students had 2 hours of Chemistry revision during lessons 4 and 5. This seems to be very beneficial for the pupils and we will continue this into next week. This is why it is so important that Year 11 are in school next week, so they can take advantage of this dedicated time with their subject teachers just before their exams.

Sport



Huge congratulations the year 11 boys football team who won the Swansea Schools plate final on Monday, in horrible conditions.

After the game finished 1-1 the winners were decided by a penalty shoot-out, where Penyrheol held their nerve to win 5-3. Well done to all the players and a great way to end their 5 years of Schools football.

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The Afan Nedd Tawe Schools Athletics Championships took place on Tuesday 7th May at Swansea University Athletics Track. Our Athletics team, comprising of athletes from Years 8-10, participated in the event. The whole team showcased good performances, with several notable achievements. In the Junior Girls competition, Sophia Edwards finished 3rd in the Long Jump with a new personal best performance of 4.25 metres, and 5th in the 100m final. Sophie Pennino finished 4th in the 300m final and her sister, Ellie, finished 5th in the 200m final.

In the Middle Boys competition, Michael Agboola achieved a fantastic 3rd place in the 400m Hurdles final and 4th in the Long Jump, while Billy Brown achieved a 3rd place in the Hammer. Well done to all our athletes! The next competition is scheduled to take place on June 26th and will include a number of our Year 7 pupils.

The first match for our Year 8 & 10 Rounders teams took place this week against Pontarddulais Comprehensive. The dedication shown by the girls during training sessions this half term has been outstanding, leading to continuous improvement in the girls' abilities and understanding of the sport. Despite facing strong opponents, we lost both matches but put up a strong fight and managed to score some impressive rounders. Looking forward to the upcoming games on Tuesday, where our Year 7, 8 and 9 teams will also compete against Pontarddulais in an away match. Best of luck to the teams!

Outside of school, congratulations to Gethin (Year 11) who plays for St Joseph's. This photo is Gethin with the cup after his team beat Mumbles to become the 23/24 Under 16's champions.



Student Voice – The Big Health and Wellbeing Conversation

Last week, a delegation of our Student Voice Team visited the National Waterfront Museum to take part in the Big Health and Wellbeing Conversation. Since 2014, Swansea Council has had a Children and Young People's Rights Scheme that puts a duty on the Council to make sure that all of their decisions take into account the rights of the child.

This Big Conversation was an opportunity for our pupils to have their say on health and wellbeing through games, activities and discussions. The Big Conversation staff listened to what our pupils had to say and they will pass on their opinions to the Council who will then make decisions based on what they have said.



This is what our pupils said about the day:

Anya Y8 - Last Thursday myself and the other 7 representatives participated in the "The Big Talk" at the Waterfront Museum. This exciting opportunity serves to take into account children's views on important issues such as sexual health, areas for children and disability inclusion. We all thoroughly enjoyed this amazing event and would love to go again.

Damilola Y8 - "The Big Conversation" was a very lively event it was also sociable. They gave us chances to speak up and speak our mind they also allowed us to answer questions. The different mini events were also very lovely. All people we met were kind and respectful. In all I think that it was a very enjoyable time.

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ASD Support

Please click on the link below to watch a video that aims to support parents/carers of children and young people who are awaiting an assessment for an Autistic Spectrum Disorder, or if they have a diagnosis.

[Autistic Spectrum Disorder \(ASD\) support - YouTube](#)

Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday



Last week, the five pupils nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday' were Eva (Year 7), Anya (Year 8), Andrew (Year 9), Summer (Year 10) and April.

Eva is **Thriving**. She has made so much progress and grown so much in confidence since September. We are very proud of the pupil that she has become. Well done Eva. Her hard work has certainly paid off!

Anya is always so helpful, polite and respectful. Anya attended 'The Big Health and Wellbeing Conversation' in the National Waterfront Museum this week and as always, she was a star pupil, fully engaging in all the activities. She embodies the core value **Belong**.

Andrew is **Thriving** in school. He has worked so hard this year and will be moving fully into mainstream next year. The STF staff are so proud of his achievements. He is also such a happy pupil and his positivity makes everyone feel better about themselves.

Summer is a fabulous pupil. She embodies the Core value **Respect**. She looks out for other people (staff as well as pupils) and always checks that they are OK. Her thoughtfulness is hugely appreciated. On top of this, she is an excellent all-round pupil.

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

Friday 24th May – Year 11's Last Day

Like last year, we plan on holding a Staff v Year 11 football match during lesson 5 on the above date. This will depend on the weather so fingers crossed for a dry day. All pupils from years 7-11 will be invited up to the 3G to watch. The PTA will be selling refreshments so pupils can bring cash if they want to buy anything to enjoy the football with. We will accommodate any pupils that don't want to watch the football. We hope it stays dry and Year 11 can have an enjoyable send off.

Standards

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

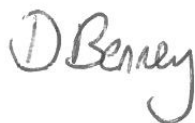
Parents/carers can track their child's achievement and behaviour points on the ClassCharts app. The information below shows the average achievement and behaviour points that a pupil in each year group has accrued **over the last two school weeks**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your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

Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	21	2
8	17	2
9	12.6	2
10	11	2
11	6	0.5

Over the last 2 school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved 7 achievement points for every behaviour point awarded.

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

Yours faithfully,



Damian Benney

Headteacher

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Appendix

What's happening in the next two weeks

Date	Event
Monday 20 th May	
Tuesday 21 st May	Year 9 DTP Injections
Wednesday 22 nd May	Year 9 DTP Injections Year 10 Senior Prefect/Prefect Election Process Starts
Thursday 23 rd May	
Friday 24 th May	Year 11 last Day. Staff v Pupils Football (Weather permitting).
Half Term	
Monday 3 rd June	Year 11 Study Leave Starts School Council Meeting (this week)
Tuesday 4 th June	
Wednesday 5 th June	
Thursday 6 th June	
Friday 7 th June	