

Headteacher/Pennaeth
Damian Benney

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



Pontarddulais Road
Gorseinon
SWANSEA
SA4 4FG

Headteacher's Letter Friday 29th September 2023 (Letter 2)

Dear Parents/Carers,

This is the second headteacher's letter of this academic year. Your child has completed 4 weeks in school and half term is in another 4 weeks. I hope these letters keep parents/carers informed about what is happening at Penyrheol School.

Over the last 2 weeks, Year 11 have had their Gower College Assembly and the Year 11 Geographers have enjoyed their data collection field trip. Year 10 have had their Key Stage 4 Open Evening and it was lovely to see the pupils and their parents/carers attend this event in the theatre. It has been a quieter few weeks for Years 7-9 and the focus has been on settling (back) into school.

This morning we had an ALN Coffee Morning at Penyrheol. It was very well attended and I understand parents/carers really enjoyed and got lots out of it. The next ALN Coffee Morning is on Friday 27th October.

Sport

It has been a busy few weeks for our sports teams. Our Girls U13 football team came from behind to beat Llangatwg 7 – 3 and are through to the next round of the Welsh Cup. There were an incredible 38 girls in football training earlier this week. Like our core value, girls football is really **thriving** at Penyrheol. Our Year 8 boys football team beat Maesteg in the first round of the Welsh cup on Monday. Congratulations to the boys, and good luck in the next round. Our year 7 boys football team fielded 2 teams against local rivals Pontarddulais. One match was a friendly and we lost 6 - 3 in a very entertaining game. The other was in the Welsh cup where a 3 - 3 draw resulted in penalties. Unfortunately, this didn't go our way and the boys were very disappointed as they had played so well. Better luck next time. However, it is brilliant that that we fielded 2 teams!

In rugby, our Year 9 boys team beat Birchgrove 36 - 5 at home last week in the Ospreys league. A great result and a fantastic performance!

Outside of School, Lewis Bowen (Year 11) has won the Welsh Pairs Life Saving Championship alongside his cousin and the pair will represent Wales in the British Championship in November. Congratulations, Lewis. Lewis is following in a family tradition as the Bowen family have won this trophy before!



(Core Value) Hot Chocolate Friday

The 5 pupils nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday' were Amelia Brain (Year 7), Aimee Besley (Year 8), Tom Keogh (Year 9), Sophie Brewer (Year 10) and Maddison Rees (Year 11).

These 5 pupils have embodied our core values over the last 2 weeks.

Amelia has settled in at Penyrheol extremely well and has led the way in terms of effort and behaviour. Amelia has **thrived**.

Aimee is a delightful pupil with 100% and a fantastic 48 achievement points in just three weeks. Aimee has shown great **aspiration!**

Tom always shows respect to his peers, to staff and also to the environment.

Tom lives the value of **respect**.

Sophie is a diligent and conscientious pupil who always gives of her best. She is always pleasant, polite and utterly dependable. Sophie **aspires** to be the best possible person she can be.

During the hot weather, Maddison displayed a true act of kindness towards another member of the school community. This act showed tremendous **respect**.

Congratulations to all our winners. Who will it be next time?



Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has dropped to 86%. There are lots of illnesses around and as we are seeing in the news, there is an increase in people catching Covid-19 across the country. In terms of guidance for parents/carers, this is from Welsh Government and Swansea City Council: *There is no longer a legal requirement for individuals to test, but if you do decide to take a test, and it comes back positive, you are advised to isolate for 5- days.*

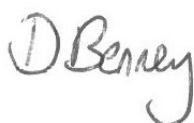
Parents/carers can track their child' achievement and behaviour points on the ClassCharts app. The information below shows the average achievement and behaviour points that a pupil in each year group has accrued **this last fortnight**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	25	0.5
8	21	2.4
9	13.8	2.1
10	14.4	2
11	8.5	1.8

Over the last ten school days, pupils have been awarded nearly 10 achievement points for every behaviour point given out. This is a HUGE improvement on last year and reflects the excellent behaviour from the overwhelming majority of our pupils.

Finally, 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 2 nd October	Year Council Meetings Year 11 Progress Evening (Face to Face)
Tuesday 3 rd October	Year 11 Gower College Class Talks (Lesson 1)
Wednesday 4 th October	Year 11 Careers Fayre
Thursday 5 th October	Year 11 GCSE Art Trip to Botanical Gardens (rearranged)
Friday 6 th October	
Monday 9 th October	AoLE Meetings (3:10pm)
Tuesday 10 th October	PSHE Lesson (Lesson 1)
Wednesday 11 th October	Year 10 Skills Cymru Careers Event in Cardiff
Thursday 12 th October	Year 11 Geography Waterfalls Visit
Friday 13 th October	