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Headteacher's Letter Friday 13th October 2023 (Letter 3)

Dear Parents/Carers,

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

Over the last 2 weeks we have welcomed Year 11 pupils and their parents/carers into school for our first progress evening of the academic year (parents' evenings are now called progress evenings). Year 11 have also had an Art trip to the Botanical Gardens and our Geographers have had a field trip to a local waterfall. Gower College staff have visited the school and spent an hour with Year 11 looking at next steps for September 2024. We took over 40 of our Year 10 pupils to a Skills Cymru Event in Cardiff where the pupils learned about lots of different career options. We also launched the health and wellbeing curriculum for this academic year. These fortnightly lessons replace the 'PSE Day' that we have run for many years.

Sport

On Tuesday 3rd October, 60 pupils from across Years 7-11 competed in the Afan Nedd Tawe Schools **Cross Country** Development race at Elba. This is the most pupils we have ever had attend a Cross Country fixture. All pupils competed extremely well, with a number finishing in the top 15 in their respective race. This included:

Year 7

Alex Griffiths - 3rd

Joshua Edwards - 7th

Annabel Edwards - 9th

Year 9

Sophia Edwards - 14th

Year 11

Jaden Thomas - 12th



It has been a very pleasing start to the **Netball** season. The commitment shown by pupils at the start of the season has been excellent and we are regularly having in excess of 35 pupils attending each training session.

Over the last week, our Year 9 and 10 teams have been involved in a series of triangular fixtures against Pontarddulais and Gowerton Comprehensive Schools. The Year 9 team won all three of their matches, beating Pontarddulais 'A' 4-3, Pontarddulais 'B' 11-1, and Gowerton 5-1. Our Year 10 team lost 6-3 to

Pontardulais 'A', won 3-1 against Pontardulais 'B' and lost 6-2 to Gowerton. Well done to all involved!

The Year 9 Netball Team:



There haven't been any **girls football** fixtures during the last 2 weeks but we have had over 40 girls come to training which is fantastic!

Year 8 & 9 girls attended a **rugby** festival last week where they played a full contact game against Morriston and won. They were all excellent and a pleasure to take.

In **Boys football**, our Year 9s and 10s were very competitive in their games against Pontarddulais and Dylan Thomas respectively but unfortunately, we lost both games.

In **boys rugby**, Year 7 won their first fixture away against Bishopston 28-20. What a brilliant start in their first fixture for their school!

Sport Outside of School

Aimee Besley (Year 8) has been selected to represent Wales at the National Life-saving Championships, which take place in November in Leeds.

Mia Gardner-Rolfe (Year 7) won two silver medals and four bronze medals at the Swansea Aquatics Club Championships earlier this month.

Ceri Williams (Year 11) has been selected to represent the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales in Girls Rugby.

Sophie Pennino and Ellie Pennino (Year 9) have both gained selection for the West Wales Regional Netball Academy.

Dylan Palmer-Sweeney and Annabel Williams (Year 9) have recently won the West Wales Girls Rugby Championships with their club, East Swansea Eagles.

Congratulations to all these individuals on their outstanding sporting successes! I must also thank the PE staff for their commitment to giving our pupils these sporting opportunities.

(Core Value) Hot Chocolate Friday

The 4 pupils nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday' were Rio Lindsay (Year 7), Cristina Neacsu (Year 8), Sophia Edwards (Year 9) and Ethan Wilcox (Year 10). The nominated Year 11 pupil was absent so he will have his hot chocolate next time.

These 4 pupils have embodied our core values over the last 2 weeks.

Rio is making lots of very good choices in school and is throwing himself in to school life. He has **thrived**.

Cristina started in Penyrheol at the start of September and although she's only been in this school for a few weeks she has settled extremely well. Within this short space of time Cristina has accumulated 58 achievement points. She is a credit to the Year group and we wish her many happy years in Penyrheol. She embodies **Belonging**.

Sophia is an exemplary pupil who always gives of her best. The year team are so proud of her. Sophie lives the value **respect**.

Ethan is always very respectful towards his peers and staff. He gives his best in class and represents the school in rugby. Ethan is a great role model for the pupils at Penyrheol. He helps everyone feel they **Belong**.



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

Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has stayed at 86%. 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 **this last**

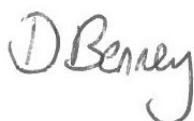
fortnight. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	26.6	0.3
8	20.5	2.6
9	17.5	2.6
10	17.8	1.9
11	11.6	2.2

Over the last ten school days, pupils have been awarded nearly 10 achievement points for every behaviour point given out. This is the same as the previous fortnight. It shows the increased recognition of the hard work of our pupils. If your child's points are similar for the last two weeks, then they are living up to our core values of **Respect, Aspire, Thrive** and **Belong**.

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 16 th October	Year 7 Parent/Carer Evening with Form Tutor
Tuesday 17 th October	
Wednesday 18 th October	BBC Bitesize Schools Tour at Penyrheol KS4 Drama Trip (L3-5)
Thursday 19 th October	School Production Rehearsals
Friday 20 th October	School Production Rehearsals
Monday 23 rd October	School Production Rehearsals School Production and Matinee (7:00pm)
Tuesday 24 th October	School Production (7:00pm) Y7 Drum Workshop at Brangwyn Hall (provisional)
Wednesday 25 th October	PSHE Lesson (Lesson 1) School Production (7:00pm)
Thursday 26 th October	School Production (7:00pm)
Friday 27 th October	

Penyrheol Comprehensive School presents

The SOUND of MUSIC



The **SOUND of MUSIC**

Music by **RICHARD RODGERS**

Lyrics by **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**

Book by **HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE**

Suggested by "The Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp

Adaptation by Tom Briggs and Timothy Allen McDonald

23rd - 26th
October 2023
@ 7pm
Penyrheol Theatre

Tickets are
available from
School Reception
Tel: 01792 533066
Only £8

This specific production of THE SOUND OF MUSIC: YOUTH EDITION is licensed by an agreement with Concord Theatricals Ltd, on behalf of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organisation, www.concordtheatricals.co.uk