

Friday 27th October 2024

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 4

Dear Parent/Carer,

This is the fourth 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 had the Year 7 Parents/Carers in to meet with their child's form tutor. This was a lovely afternoon and it was great to see such an excellent turnout. It shows how successfully we can work in partnership to do the very best we can for your child. Year 7s have also enjoyed a drumming workshop at the Brangwyn Hall. All year groups attended a BBC Bitesize School Tour session on Wednesday 18th October. The purpose of the visit was to share careers information with our pupils. The panel was hosted by Catrin Heledd who is a Sports Journalist for BBC Wales. For many pupils, the last two weeks has been dominated by rehearsals for this year's school show 'The Sound of Music.' This week the pupils have performed a matinee and four evening performances. It has been such a pleasure to watch the fruit of their labours. The shows have been absolutely magnificent and I will struggle to put into words how proud I am of the pupils and how privileged I feel to be Headteacher of Penyrheol. Bravo to all the pupils and staff that have made the last four days so memorable.



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Swansea SA4 4FG

01792 533066

Sport

In Boys Football, our year 8 team beat Morryston 5-4 in a thriller with goal keeper Dylan Davies saving a late penalty to ensure the win.

Our year 11s have played 2 fixtures over the last 2 weeks. They earned a narrow 2-1 win against Birchgrove and a fantastic 2-0 win over Dylan Thomas.

Well done to all involved. Mr Clapperton notes that the weather has meant some fixtures have been postponed but these will be rearranged soon.

Our Girls have also been busy with football too. Unfortunately, the U13's were knocked out of the 2nd round of the Welsh Cup this week against a very strong Cefn Hengoed team. The girls played very well and continued to stay strong until the very end.

Our U15's played against Pontarddulais in the league. It was very close right to the end but Pontarddulais held out to win.

Year 7,8, 9 and 10 went to the Swansea School girls football tournament this week. The girls played exceptionally well and were very skilful. Year 7s came 3rd, Year 8s came 2nd and Year 9/10 came 3rd.



In Boys rugby, Our Year 10 team lost to Gwyr last 27-17 in the Ospreys league.

The Year 7 Netball team have made a pleasing start to the season, competing well in recent weeks in matches against Bro Dinefwr and Morryston Comprehensive. The effort and attitude shown by the girls to training sessions has been outstanding this half term and all girls continue to develop their performance. More games will take place after half term.

The Year 8 Netball team took part in a triangular fixture last week against Gowerton and Pontarddulais. They played well in both matches but were unlucky with the final scores, losing both games by a narrow margin.



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The Year 10 Netball team had a great result this week, beating Morrision Comprehensive School 10-3. Players of the match were Hollie and Emily.

Our Year 7 girls attended a rugby festival this week. All pupils were very motivated and enthusiastic about the tournament. They all competed very well and continued to develop their performance throughout the day.



Sport Outside of school

Eva-Rose Swain (Year 7) has been selected to represent Wales in Football at U12 level. She has also been selected for the West Wales U12 Football squad.

Grace Morgan and Maisy Rees (Year 7) have both been selected to represent Swansea School Girls Football at U12 level. Maisy Rees has also been selected for the West Wales U12 Football squad.

Annabel Williams, Ellie Pennino and Sophie Pennino (Year 9) are through to the final round of trials for the U14 County Netball squad. Good luck in the next trial!

Congratulations to Dylan James who represented Wales in Martial Arts at the International Combat Organisation World Championships which were held in Hull.

Cody Kowalik in Year 7 competed in the world championships a few weeks back in Germany. He actually fought up a weight category (>50Kg) and won. We have another world champion in our school.

Congratulations to all our pupils!

Florida Fundraising - Horse Racing evening.

Please show your support to raise money for the Florida Sports Tour by attending the Horse Racing evening at Gorseinon Rugby Club on the 8th December. Tickets will go on sale after half term.

Core Value) Hot Chocolate Friday

The 6 pupils nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday' were Khiari (Year 7), Damilola (Year 8), Josh (Year 9), Cadie (Year 10), Jaden (Year 11) and Alex (Year 11- postponed from last time).

These 6 pupils have embodied our core values over the last 2 weeks.

Khiari has a huge number of achievement points and he always gives his best and is **respectful** of his peers and staff. He has **thrived**. Damilola wrote an incredibly moving and inspiring speech for this year's school council elections. He certainly got the audience's attention. This shows the **respect** he has for the role. Any one of our Core Values could be used to describe Josh. He **aspires** to be the best he can be, especially at football and working hard in school.

Since joining Penyrheol in Year 8, Cadie has worked superbly well. This year she has amassed 74 achievement points and 0 behaviour points. Cadie embodies **aspiration**. Alex has vowed to sort out his punctuality to school. He made promises and he delivered. What an excellent 'turn it around' attitude. Alex is **thriving** in school.

Jayden is a fantastic pupil and a real role model for younger pupils. He has made an incredible impact with a Year 7 pupil in the 'Reading Buddies' scheme. This selfless contribution helps our younger pupils feel like they **belong**.



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

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Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has risen to 88.5%. Wherever possible, please ensure your child attendance school. Missing school means missing out on learning.

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 **from September 5th to today (8 weeks)**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

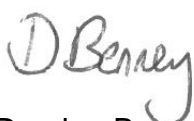
Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	102	1.7
8	76	10
9	64	9.1
10	63	7
11	45	8.7

Over the eight weeks, pupils have been awarded over 8 achievement points for every behaviour point given out. If your child's points are similar for this half term, then they are living up to our core values of **Respect, Aspire, Thrive** and **Belong**.

We have sent home over 329 achievement letters over the last 8 weeks. Congratulations to all of those pupils that have received them. We are very proud of you. More will follow after half term!

Finally, 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 (after half term):

Date	Event
Monday 6 th November	Year 11 English Language Unit 2 GCSE Exam (Whole Cohort)
Tuesday 7 th November	Year 11 Mathematics- Numeracy Unit 1 GCSE Exam (Whole Cohort)
Wednesday 8 th November	Year 11 English Language Unit 3 GCSE Exam (Whole Cohort)
Thursday 9 th November	Year 11 Mathematics- Numeracy Unit 2 GCSE Exam (Whole Cohort) Open Evening for Year 6 Pupils/Parents/Carers (6:00pm – 8:00pm)
Friday 10 th November	Year 9 MAT event: SEREN 'Talk the Talk' workshop (all day)
Monday 13 th November	Maths GCSE Exam (am)- foundation tier only
Tuesday 14 th November	Year 11 GCSE Musical Showcase (5:30pm – 7:00pm)
Wednesday 15 th November	Year 11 Mock Interviews Maths GCSE Exam (am)- foundation tier only SEREN Trip (all day)
Thursday 16 th November	Health and Wellbeing Lesson (Lesson 1) GCSE Drama Unit 1 Assessment
Friday 17 th November	Year 11 Mock Interviews Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need