



Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 2nd February 2024

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 9

Dear Parent/Carer,

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

In the last two weeks, Year 11 have completed their second set of Science Practical Examinations and they have had their Music Controlled Assessment. Year 11 pupils have also undertaken their Gower College interviews and they have taken home their last school report. It was a joy to welcome Year 11 parents/carers into school on Monday 29th January for their child's final progress evening. It was a quieter fortnight for other year groups, though Year 7 did have their 'action fortnight' where they have closed learning gaps based on their recent assessments.

Sport

Last Monday, Year 11 boys had a highly competitive match against local rivals Gwyr. We were 1-0 up at half time but in very difficult weather with rain and high winds we eventually lost 2-1. Well done to all involved.

Cross Country- Well done to the 45 pupils who took part in the Afan Nedd Tawe Cross Country Championships at Margam Park on Wednesday 31st January. Despite challenging underfoot race conditions, the effort from everyone was simply outstanding! With over 100 participants in each race, we saw many of our pupils gain a top 20 placing in their respective age group.

Alex Griffiths - 5th
Annabel Edwards - 12th
Libby Beynon - 18th
Aimee Besley - 12th
Sophia Edwards - 19th
Joshua Paynter - 18th
Declan Pearson - 20th
Jaden Thomas - 6th

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The four pupils who placed in the top 12 will have the opportunity to represent the county at the Welsh Schools Cross Country Championships in Brecon - Alex Griffiths, (Year 7) Annabel Edwards (Year 7), Aimee Besley (Year 8) and Jaden Thomas (Year 11). An amazing achievement - da iawn all!



Netball- Our teams continue to show excellent commitment to the weekly Netball training sessions at school. Over the last few weeks, our teams have enjoyed fixtures against other schools in Swansea. Results are as follows:

Year 7 v Bishop Vaughan - Drew 4-4

Year 9 v Bishop Vaughan - Won 9-6

Year 10 v Gowerton - Lost

This half term, Girls' sports has had a focus on **Rugby**. We have been lucky enough to be supported by the WRU Rugby Development Officers. They have come into school to coach rugby for the girls during lessons and an after-school club every Tuesday! Participation has been great and everyone is welcome.



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Year 8 & 9 girls had a rugby tournament in Ysgol Bae Baglan this week where they played superbly, and competed well against tough opposition. Many of the girls have not played full contact rugby before, but they certainly got stuck in! Da iawn!

More tournaments and games to follow. Come along to train with the WRU officers every TUESDAY!



In Boys rugby, Year 10 drew 17-17 last week away at Bryntawe which saw us progress to the Swansea cup semi-final. We now have Year 7 and 10 awaiting a semi-final and Year 9 playing their quarter final against Morryston next Thursday.

The new kit for our sporting teams heading to Florida have arrived. Here we have the team captains wearing the new kit:



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Sport- Future Events

Monday 5th February is a busy day for the PE Department as we have a number of pupils representing the school at various sporting competitions. Amelia Brain and Lily Gaisford (both Year 7) take part in the Welsh Schools Sports Acro Championships in Cardiff and 16 of our pupils across Years 8-10, take part in the Swansea Schools Badminton competition at the LC. Good luck to all these pupils!



Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday

The 5 pupils nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday' were Annayah (Year 7), Caiden (Year 8), Sophie (Year 9), Serafina (Year 10) and Abbie (Year 11).

Annayah shows true **Aspiration**. He shows such determination to maintain high standards. This is reflected by his exemplary class charts profile.

Caiden has taken the initiative to welcome & support a new pupil into his form. The year team are proud that he has done so much to help a new pupil feel like they **Belong**.

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Sophie is a delightful pupil. She is **Thriving** in school. Her attendance is good and her achievement chart is amazing.

Since joining Penyrheol comprehensive School this year Serafina has Thrived. She has high expectations and is a model pupil.

Abbie Aspires to be the best she can be. Abbie is an amazing pupil who always works hard, she is polite and well-mannered and an asset to the year group

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

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

Parent/Carer Survey

At Penyrheol, we want to get more feedback from parents/carers about different aspects of school life. I have re-sent the survey from 2 weeks ago. It finishes soon so please click on the link (if you haven't already):

<https://participate.schoolsurveys.com/V6LzEtrb91jkiUJP>

Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has decreased to 86.6%. 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 weeks**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

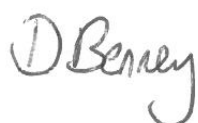
Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	19	1
8	19	3
9	14	2.7
10	15	2.5
11	12	1.2

Over the last 2 weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved 8 achievement points for every behaviour point awarded.

I would like to reassure all parents/carers that we take instances of poor behaviour very seriously. We have lots of proactive strategies in place and this has improved behaviour this year. When incidents of bad behaviour occur, they are dealt with rigorously in line with our behaviour policy.

As always, 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 5 th February	Yr 11 photos Year 9 Options Fayre (3:15pm to 4:00pm) and presentation for Parents/Carers (4:10pm to 4:40pm)
Tuesday 6 th February	Transition Year 5/6 Design Technology Challenge (1:30pm – 3:00pm) Year 11 RS Trip: Buddhist Centre (Cardiff)
Wednesday 7 th February	Year 9 Exam week (until Tuesday 20 th) Food and Nutrition NEA
Thursday 8 th February	Year 7 Reports Issued Food and Nutrition NEA Year 11 PE Moderation Day
Friday 9 th February	INSET Day
	Half Term
Monday 19 th February	School Council Meetings (this week)
Tuesday 20 th February	Transition Year 6 HA Science Challenge
Wednesday 21 st February	Health and Wellbeing Lesson (Lesson 1)
Thursday 22 nd February	
Friday 23 rd February	GCSE PE Moderation (all day)

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