

Headteacher/Pennaeth
Damian Benney

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



Pontarddulais Road
Gorseion
SWANSEA
SA4 4FG

Headteacher's Letter Friday 23rd June (Letter 17)

Dear Parents/Carers,

This is the seventeenth Headteacher's letter of this academic year. I trust these letters are keeping everyone informed about what is happening at Penyrheol School. This letter covers the last three weeks at Penyrheol.

Since the last Headteacher's letter, we have had 5 Year 5 taster days where our cluster primary pupils have visited, Year 7 and 8 have had their exam week in school and our Year 11s have finished their GCSE and BTEC examinations. Some of our Year 10s have completed a first aid course run by the tackle project. Year 10 have also had a Geography Field Trip and the Year 10 Art class has had a fantastic trip to visit Cardiff Museum and St Fagans.

We also had the pleasure of a 'live rock show' from some of our pupils during lunchtime yesterday. It was wonderful to hear the pupils play and they were so confident and so polished. At one point I thought the White Stripes were on site. Many, many of our pupils supported the event and thoroughly enjoyed the free rock festival. Photos will be in our Summer Newsletter.

Last night (Thursday 22nd June) we enjoyed a spectacular event- the Year 11 Prom which was held at Manor Park. The pupils had a fantastic night and it was a great way to celebrate the end of their 5 years at Penyrheol. Their behaviour was immaculate and it was a joyous occasion. We are going to miss them!

I would like to thank all parents/carers for their continued support.

Sport

The Girls Rounders teams have played several fixtures over the last few weeks, including matches against Gowerton, Pontarddulais and Dyffryn Amman Comprehensives. They have competed very well in these fixtures, winning some matches and narrowly losing others. The effort and commitment to training sessions shown by these pupils has been excellent and numbers have remained high since the start of the Summer Term.

All teams have Rounders tournaments in the coming weeks. Further results will follow.

Two weeks ago, we also had a group of Year 7 rugby girls who played in a rugby festival at Dylan Thomas School. It was fantastic to see most of them playing full contact rugby for the first time.

Olivia Francis (class of 2022) has had the honour of being signed for Manchester United FC U21's. She will be moving up to Manchester this summer to start the season. She has also captained Wales U19's this year during the European tour. We are very proud of her achievements!



Some of our Florida sporting pupils volunteered at the Swansea Half Marathon two weeks back. They were fantastic on the day and did themselves proud.

On Thursday 21st June, Mrs Evans took 12 Year 10 GCSE PE/BTEC pupils (plus Alex James in Year 11) to undertake some volunteer work, umpiring and refereeing sports matches at Tre Uchaf Primary School as part of the 'Greg Rees Shield Tournament'.

The pupils involved were a credit to both themselves and the school, conducting themselves in an exemplary manner all day. It was also lovely for our former Tre Uchaf pupils to revisit their old primary school and catch up with the teachers who once taught them!

It is hoped that we will be able to support this event again next year with some of our current Year 9 pupils.

Parents/carers may have seen an earlier announcement on ClassCharts from the PE Department: *The PE department would like to invite all pupils, from Years 7-11, who in the last two years have achieved International Sporting Honours in their respective sport, to have their photograph taken in their international sporting kit. The photograph will then be displayed in the school reception area. Please inform your child that they will need to see Mr Clapperton or Mrs Evans (PE Department) before **Friday 30th June**, with the relevant details, if they wish to have their photograph taken.*

Standards

Attendance for the last 3 weeks has increased to 85.6%. If you want to know your child's attendance, the ClassCharts App has all the details. As always, if your child can be in school, please ensure that they attend.

Penyrheol Values

As mentioned in the last headteacher's letter, in September 2023, Penyrheol Comprehensive School celebrates its 50th Birthday. This milestone gives us an opportunity to revisit our vision and our values so they better reflect the vision of the whole school community. I would like our core values to become part of Penyrheol's new corporate branding.

We asked all parents and carers to help us choose the 4 words to describe the key values that we want our pupils to have or want them to be. Thank you to the **many** parents/carers that completed the survey.

After consulting pupils, parents/carers and staff, the 4 chosen values are:

Respect

Aspire

Thrive

Belong


These values will be key in us realising our school vision as they will underpin and be the central pillars of our school vision. I am delighted with our shared choices.

We are working on our corporate branding and this will be launched in September. Now is the time to ensure that we live these values as a school community.

Health and Wellbeing Day Tuesday 27th June

On Tuesday 27th June we have our first Wellbeing Day. There is no bookwork on this day and the main focus is for pupils to explore different areas of wellbeing and be inspired to try new activities. We have over 60 people coming in from external agencies and Further Education to support the day. These agencies include Barnardos, CAMHS, the Fire Service and Barod. Pupils should be in non-school uniform which should be comfortable and sporty with trainers. Some activities pupils will be undertaking include Mindfulness, Selfie Challenge, Orienteering, Have a Go, Information Centre and much more.

Yours faithfully,



Damian Benney
Headteacher

Appendix

What's happening in the next two weeks:

| Date | Event |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Monday 26 th June | Year 11 Leavers' Assembly |
| Tuesday 27 th June | Health and Wellbeing Day |
| Wednesday 28 th June | Transition Orchestra Day |
| Thursday 29 th June | Summer Concert (7:00pm – 8:30pm) |
| Friday 30 th June | Y9/Y10 Glan Llyn Outdoor Pursuits leaves |
| | |
| Monday 3 rd July | Transition Year 6 Taster Day Year 7 Action Fortnight |
| Tuesday 4 th July | Transition Year 6 Taster day Gower College Taster Day Year 10 Senior Leadership Team Meeting (3:10pm) |
| Wednesday 5 th July | Year 8 Geography Field Trip to Brecon Year 7 Sports Day |
| Thursday 6 th July | Cluster Sports Day Year 10 Music Mock Performance Exam |
| Friday 7 th July | |