



Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 4th April 2025

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 12

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the last Headteacher's letter, our Year 10s have had their exam week. This was an intense period with a number of exams held over seven days in the theatre. It was a good experience for the pupils and it will stand them in good stead for their upcoming GCSE exams later this year. On Thursday 3rd April, our Hospitality and Catering pupils enjoyed a trip out of school and they even enjoyed an ice cream in the sunshine.

Year 11s have had their Product Design Practical day and they have completed their Welsh Oral exams. Our Public Services students have been on an adventurous activity trip to Crazy Climb in Swansea. The pupils' conduct was excellent and they were a pleasure to take out of school.

This fortnightly letter is a little shorter than normal as the termly newsletter will be published next week. I urge all parents/carers to read it as it reflects our happy and vibrant school.

Next week is the last week of the Easter Term. Friday is an INSET day and Thursday is a non-uniform day for Autism Awareness. This day has been organised by some of our pupils. We are inviting a donation of £1 which will be split between the PTA and an Autism Charity.

Sporting News

Commiserations to our Year 8 Boys' rugby team on their Swansea cup final on Thursday 3rd April. The game finished 26-10 to Gwyr. It was a fantastic effort from the whole squad who demonstrated great determination until the final whistle. They should be very proud of their achievements this year! I would like to say a massive thank you to the parents/carers who supported on the day. It was brilliant to see so much support from the community and a great crowd behind us at St Helens (written by Mr G Davies).

Penyrheol Comprehensive School
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Proposed Changes for 2025/26

We are constantly looking for ways to improve as a school. Due to feedback from staff, parents/carers and pupils, as well as evaluating our current offer, we are **considering** the following changes for the academic year of 2025/26:

- Creating a wellbeing referral system for pupils. This system will be picked up centrally. Staff, parents/carers and pupils themselves will be able to make wellbeing referrals.
- Rather than each year group having a Pastoral Support Officer (PSO) attached to them, the five PSOs will work as complete wellbeing team and every year group will have access to each of them through the referral process.
- Each PSO will have a discreet focus and specialism for pupil wellbeing across the school. This may mean that behaviour, attendance, Thrive interventions and ELSA interventions (for example) being delivered by one PSO for pupils across all year groups rather than by all five for one year group each.
- Starting lesson 1 at 8:40 am and moving form time to 10:40 am.
- Having a 'split break' so that pupils that have their forms in the annexe have their form time while main block pupils are on break (10:40 am -11:00 am) and then vice versa (11:00 am - 11:20 am).
- Making the school a mobile free zone so pupils don't access them from 8:40 am until they leave at 3:00 pm. We would still expect pupils to bring phones to school as they are important for safeguarding while they walk to and from school. However, they would be switched off and in bags during school hours.

The above points are all being considered. When details become clearer we will consult with pupils and parents/carers and give reasons as to **why** we are proposing making these changes. We may look to implement all or some of the above and this will be shaped by staff, parents/carers and pupil feedback.

Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday



On Friday 28th March, I was joined by Niamh (Year 7), Sam (Year 8), Maisey (Year 9), Sophie (Year 10) and Lily (Year 11).

Maisey and Lily and were nominated for the Core Value of **Aspire**.

Niamh, and Sophie were nominated for the Core Value of **Belong**.

Sam was nominated for the Core Value of **Thrive**.

These pupils have embodied our core values over the last 2 weeks. Congratulations to all our winners.

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Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has stayed at 87% 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 school weeks**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

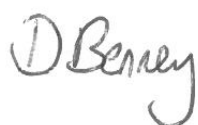
Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	23	1.7
8	19	2.5
9	15	1.5
10	6*	2*
11	9	0.8

*Impacted by Year 10 exams as pupils have been in fewer lessons than in a normal fortnight.

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

As always, 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

Monday 7 th April	
Tuesday 8 th April	Year 10 BTEC Sport exam 11.20am (ICT rooms)
Wednesday 9 th April	Spring Term Newsletter Published
Thursday 10 th April	Year 10 Art GCSE Trip Ski Trip Departs Non-Uniform Day (Autism Awareness Day)
Friday 11 th April	Inset Day
Easter Holidays	
Monday 28 th April	National Tests for Years 7-9 (this fortnight) Year 7 Progress Evening
Tuesday 29 th April	
Wednesday 30 th April	Year 7 Enterprise – Creative Thinking (Provisional)
Thursday 1 st May	Year 7 Enterprise – Creative Thinking (Provisional)
Friday 2 nd May	ALN Coffee Morning Lesson 1 Llangrannog Trip Welsh Department



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