

Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 3rd October 2025

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 2

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the last fortnightly letter, Year 11 have had their first Gower College assembly as they think about their plans for September 2026. Last week, Year 11 also attended a talk about the Senedd from a guest speaker. We were very proud of how respectful Year 11 were to our guest and they learned a lot. Year 11 have also undertaken two Numeracy mock exams. Again, I must compliment the year group on how they have conducted themselves during these exams.

Our Penyrheol Parliament undertook Senedd Cymru training last week and we hope this will help make this group even more effective in helping our school further improve.

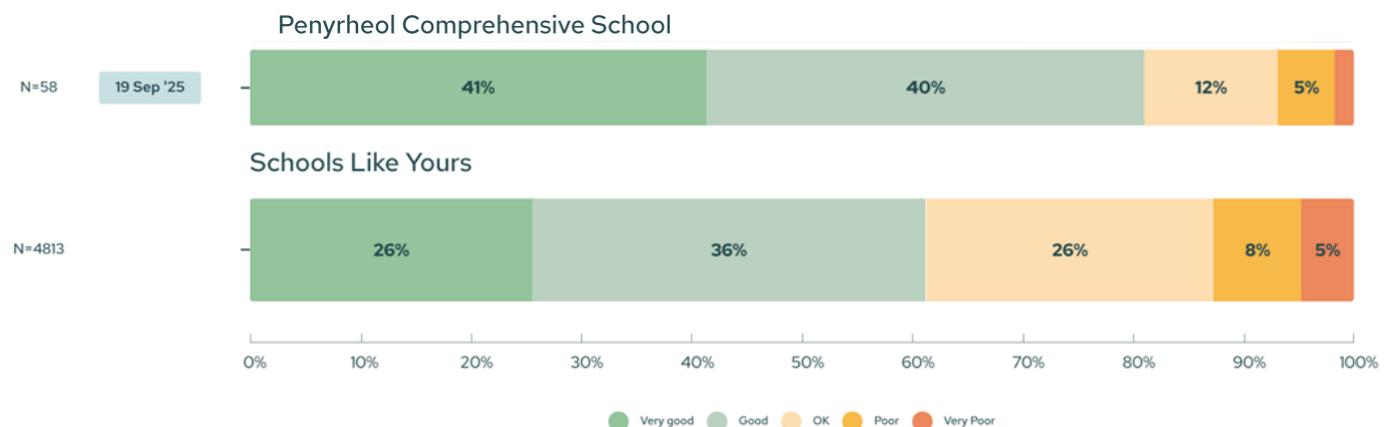
This morning we held our first ALN coffee morning of this academic year.

Parent/Carer Survey

Thank you to the parents/carers that shared their views via the first survey of this year. Below are some of the headline responses and it shows how we compare to similar schools across the UK. We also had a number of free typed responses on what the school does well and what we could do better. Through this survey, we have lots of very useful feedback and this will be used to help us improve. Your voice really does matter.

Q: Overall, my child's experience of the school is...

SchoolSurveys



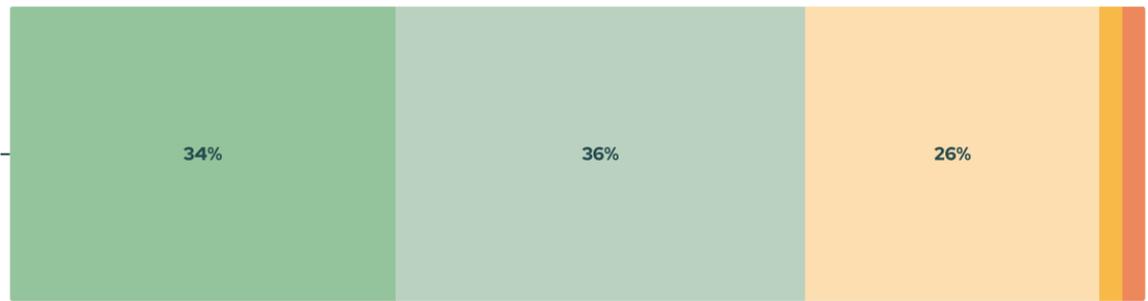
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Q: The school is getting better

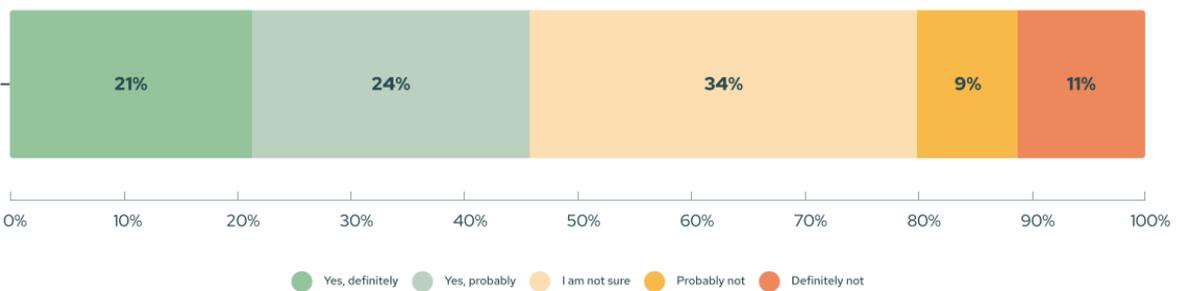
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N=50 19 Sep '25



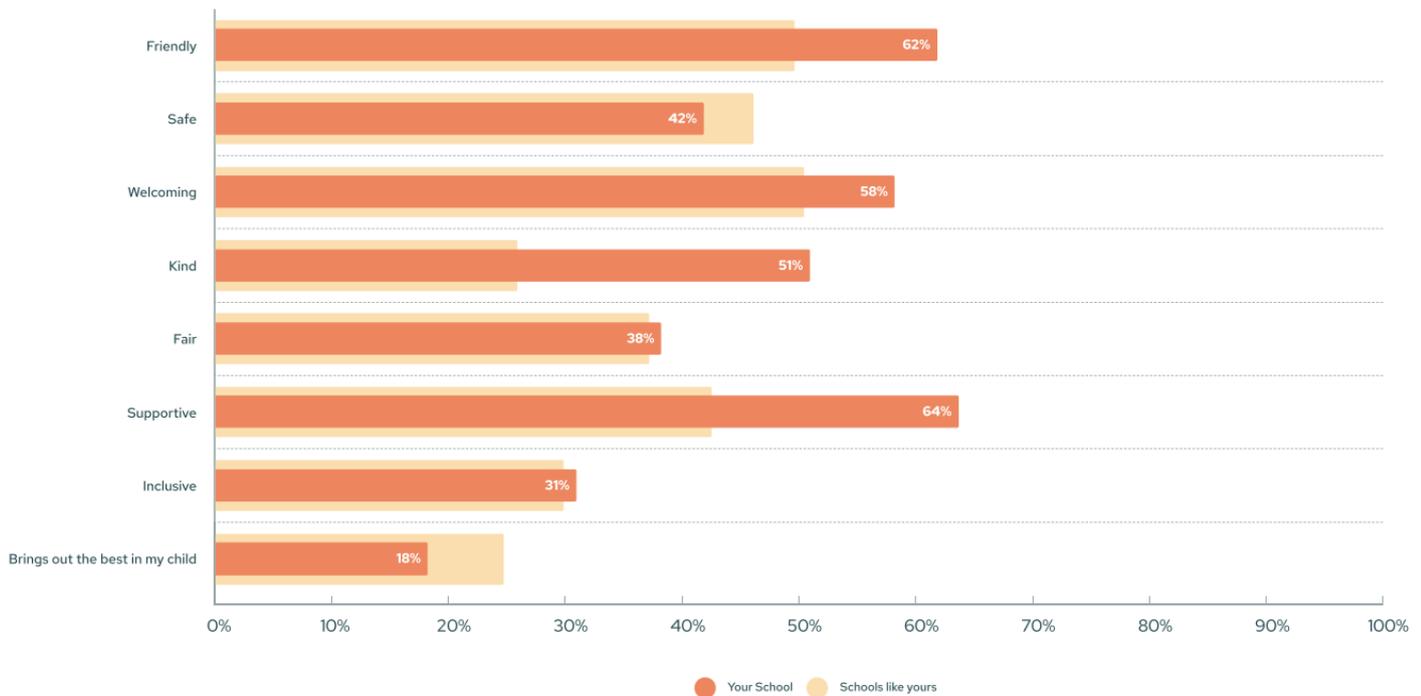
Schools Like Yours

N=572



Q: Which of these words would you use to describe the school?

19 September '25 (N=55)



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Sporting News

In Boys' football, September saw the start of the Welsh cup football competition and despite our years 10s getting off to a disappointing start losing to Gowerton (though they really battled hard), the other year groups put on excellent performances.

Year 7 travelled to Bishopston and sealed a 1-0 win over very strong opposition. Year 8 then secured a 6-5 win over Cefn Hengoed and finally our year 9s produced a stunning 10-1 win over Maesydderwen. Well done to everyone!

In Girls' football, both the u13 and u15 girls football team have had a very successful start to the season. There has been a great number of pupils attending the training sessions after school every Tuesday.

The u15s had their first game against Bryntawe and won 3-1 and the u13s played this week against Pentrahhafod and won 6-0. Both teams now go through to the next round of the Welsh Cup.



In Girls' rugby, Year 8 & 9 girls took part in the local Swansea tournament last week and showed great passion and determination. It was a hugely successful tournament at Morrision Comprehensive school which allowed all abilities to compete at rugby. The girls performed brilliantly



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In Netball, well done to all our teams who took on Ysgol Bryntawe last week. Our Year 10 team put on a brilliant performance against a strong Bryntawe side. From the very first whistle, they showed grit, determination and true team spirit, with every player stepping up and linking passes with precision. Rosie was confident in the shooting circle; her composure gave the team a real edge and kept the score board ticking. The final result was 25-6 to Penyrheol. A fantastic team win - well done girls! Player of the Match - Molly P.

Our Year 7 girls played their first ever match of their comprehensive school journey - and what a great start it was! The team showed real enthusiasm and every player gave their absolute best. The game finished in a well-earned draw, a fair result for two evenly matched teams. Plenty of positives to build on, but most importantly, the team spirit and energy shone through. Player of the Match - Eira Oseng-Rees.

The Year 8 team also secured a draw in their match against Ysgol Bryntawe. The girls put in a strong effort on the court and gave their best performance. Player of the Match - Seren Matthie.

Congratulations to Ellie P and Sophie P (Year 11) who have both been selected to be part of the Afan Nedd Tawe Under 16 County Netball Squad. **Congratulations** also to Annabel W (Year 11) and Libby B (Year 9) who have gained selection for the West Wales Regional Netball Squads, in their respective age groups.

In Cross Country, congratulations to all our students who represented the school in the Cross Country Development Race at Elba in September and in the relay race at Cwmtawe earlier this week. We are proud of the strong performances throughout, with particular recognition to Milo B (Year 7), who achieved an impressive 4th place in the mixed Year 7&8 Boys' race out of 173 competitors.

In boys' rugby, Over the last two weeks our Year 9 rugby won their first Ospreys league fixture against Bryntawe 41-7 and Year 10 beat Morryston 38-7.



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Year 7 had their first friendly fixture yesterday at Pontarddulais. Whilst we lost 45-26, it was a brilliant performance and we have the makings of a great team. We were also delighted with how many parents/carers came to watch. We really appreciate your support.

Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday

On Friday 26th September, I was joined by Sophia (Year 7), Toby (Year 8), Frances (Year 10) and Blake (Year 11).

Toby was nominated for the Core Value of **Respect**.
Sophia and Blake were nominated for the Core Value **Thrive**.
Frances was nominated for the Core Value of **Belong**.

These pupils have embodied our core values over the last 3 weeks. Congratulations to all our winners.

Who will it be next time?



Standards

Attendance in the last three weeks has dropped to 89% which does reflect the number of seasonal illnesses that are circulating. 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.

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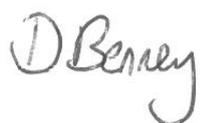
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Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	12.2	0.3
8	13.2	0.8
9	12.3	1.3
10	7.5	0.7
11	5	1.7

Over the last two and a half school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved over 10 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 6 th October	RAF Careers Talk in Assembly RAF Public Services Practical Sessions (L1)
Tuesday 7 th October	Gower College Talks Lesson 1 Year 11 Parents/Carers Preparing for GCSE Numeracy Event (3:30pm -5:00pm)
Wednesday 8 th October	
Thursday 9 th October	
Friday 10 th October	Year 7 Good News for Everyone Assembly
Monday 13 th October	Penyrheol Parliament Meeting (This Week) Year 7 Progress Evening (Progress & Wellbeing Coach)
Tuesday 14 th October	
Wednesday 15 th October	Health and Wellbeing Lesson 1
Thursday 16 th October	School Production Rehearsals Future Bosses: Speak Smart, Write Sharp L 2 and 3(Careers Wales)
Friday 17 th October	School Production Rehearsals Wellbeing Café/Forum 9:00 – 10:00 Canteen

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