



Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 18th October 2024

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 3

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the last Headteacher's letter, we have had Year 11 parents/carers into school for a 'Maths Support Session' which focused on helping parents/carers help their child prepare for the upcoming Numeracy exams. We also invited parents and carers of our 'Aspire' group in to school on the evening of Wednesday 17th October. This latter session was particularly well attended. My thanks to all parents/carers that attended these events. Year 11 also had their Gower College talks last week. We take our pupils' transition to post 16 education very seriously and we are very proud of the work that we do in partnership with Gower College.

Our Year 7 pupils have attended a special assembly where 'Good News for Everyone' (formerly known as The Gideons) offered all our pupils a red Bible. Year 7 enjoyed the assembly and their behaviour and conduct was impeccable. Mr Bowen, our Chair of Governors was very proud of the pupils.

Monday 14th September was the day that Happy's Circus came to town. The PTA, driven by our very own Mrs Tanya Fussell, organised a spectacular and unforgettable event. It was amazing to see so many in the community attend. The circus had something for everyone and was enjoyed by the whole community. Photos will be shared in the Christmas Newsletter. Thank you to all pupils and parents/carers that supported the event. All fundraising is going towards a fully inclusive school minibus.

Next week, we have a real highlight of the school year- the school production of Footloose. Tickets are available from reception.

Sporting News

In boys' football, Year 8 travelled to Bryntawe last Thursday in the second round of the Welsh Cup. It was a very close game with all the boys putting in a brilliant performance. However, the result unfortunately didn't go our way and the game finished 2-1 to Bryntawe.

On the same night year 9 also played Bryntawe in the Swansea league. Bryntawe are a very good side with several Swansea schoolboys and a member of the Wales under 14s.

Penyrheol Comprehensive School
Pontarddulais Road, Gorseinon
Swansea SA4 4FG

01792 533066

With all of that against us and the fact we were missing a few key players, we put in a great performance especially in the second half, before eventually losing the game 5-2. Next week our year 7 boys take on Olchfa at home on Monday and our year 11s open their account on Thursday at home against Dylan Thomas.

In boys' rugby, Year 9 and 10 won their first fixtures against Dylan Thomas and Morryston respectively. Since then our Year 9 and 11 teams have suffered defeats away at Bishopston, with Year 9 also losing on Wednesday at Olchfa. Our next opponents are Cefn Hengoed for Year 8, 9 and 10 next week where we are hoping for some positive results

It has been a great start to the Netball season for our teams! Well done to all our players who continue to show commitment to training on a weekly basis! More fixtures will take place after half term.

Year 8 Netball v Pontardulais - Drew 4-4 *Player of the match - Libby Beynon*

Year 9 Netball v Pontardulais - Drew 5-5 *Player of the match - Aimee Besley*

U16 Netball v Gowerton - Won 17-12



Outside of school, Mia (Year 8) continues to make excellent progress with her Swimming. She won a Gold, Silver and 3 Bronze medals at the recent Swansea Aquatics Club Championships. Well done!

Past pupil Daniel Gemine had started representing Swansea Whites in the Super Rugby Cymru league this year. He joins the team alongside fellow past pupil Harri Houston.

Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday



Every fortnight, five pupils are nominated by their year teams for the fortnightly 'Hot Chocolate Friday'. Pupils are nominated for embodying one or more of our four Core Values. On Friday 27th September, I was joined by Daisy (Year 7), Max (Year 8), Subitsa (Year 9), Georgia (Year 10) and Tomas (Year 11).

Daisy has been a joy to have as one of our new year 7 pupils. She is enthusiastic, helpful and very polite. She already feels that she **Belongs** at Penyrheol.

Max always wears a huge smile on his face and takes on each day with a positive attitude. He is

Thriving in school because he works hard in every single lesson. Max is also the top achiever in Year 8 at the moment, with 186 achievement points since September!

This term Subitsa has received one of the highest totals of achievement points for always making useful contributions to lessons. Additionally, she has stepped up to be a YEAR REP, showing that she is fully immersed in our school community. Subitsa embodies what it means to **Belong**.

Georgia always **Aspires** to be the best she can be and strives to achieve in life. We respect and admire her aspirations and support her in her goals to be the best version of herself she can possibly be.

Tomas is one of our senior prefects and he is always keen to promote and show off our school by volunteering to give visitors a tour. He also takes part in reading buddies and has a lead role in the school show. This all-round contribution is what **Belonging** in a school is all about.

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 over the last two weeks has increased to 90%. This is a real achievement and one that we have rarely had post pandemic. Wherever possible, please ensure your child attends school. Missing school means missing out on learning.

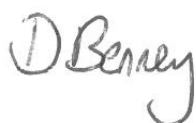
Parents/carers can track their child's achievement and behaviour points on the ClassCharts app. The information below shows the average achievement and behaviour points that a pupil in each year group has accrued **over the last two school weeks**. This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	30	0.8
8	27	1.7
9	20	2.3
10	19	2.4
11	15	1.1

Over the last two school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved over 13 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 21 st October	School Production Matinee School Production – Footloose (7:00 pm)
Tuesday 22 nd October	Inspire/Apprenticeship Information session for Parents/Carers in Canteen (3:10pm – 4:10pm) School Production – Footloose (7:00 pm)
Wednesday 23 rd October	School Production – Footloose (7:00 pm)
Thursday 24 th October	School Production – Footloose (7:00 pm)
Friday 25 th October	STF Pumpkin Trip (L 2-4)
Half Term	
Monday 4 th November	Year 11 Interim Assessment Week Cluster Inset (Reading/Literacy)
Tuesday 5 th November	Yr 11 Numeracy Exam Senior Leadership Team Meeting (3:10pm)
Wednesday 6 th November	Ethics & Philosophy Trip to the Imperial War Museum
Thursday 7 th November	Health & Wellbeing Lesson 1 Yr 11 Numeracy Exam Year 11 (Class of 2024) Awards Evening in Theatre (6:00 pm - 7:30 pm)
Friday 8 th November	ALN Coffee Morning Lesson 1 Climate Change Summit- theatre