



Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 6th December 2024

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 6

Dear Parent/Carer,

Since the last Headteacher letter, Year 10s have taken their interim reports home, Year 8 have had an Enterprise activity on 'Branding' and Year 11s have started their mock exams. We also welcomed Year 9 parents/carers on to the main site on Monday 2nd December for their child's progress evening. It was a great evening which strengthened the partnership between school and home. My thanks to all parents/carers that attended.

We also enjoyed our (now annual) Christmas Fayre on Thursday 28th November. More details are shared below.

We have also had three days of flu vaccinations. It is always an interesting logistical challenge but it is a pleasure to work with our colleagues in Health to help support and safeguard our community.

This morning, we ran our latest STF Coffee Morning. My thanks to all the parents/carers for their attendance this morning.

Supporting our Community



Last week, it was my pleasure to take eight of our Year 10 pupils to help the local community set up for the 'Light up Loughor' event. The pupils were a credit to their families and to the school. The photo shows the pupils outside St David's Church with Mt Jeff Bowen, our Chair of Governors.

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Christmas Fayre

On Thursday 28th November, we enjoyed a fantastic Christmas Fayre in the theatre. We had stalls run by staff, stalls run by pupils (including our Year 10 WBQ pupils) and fourteen stalls run by external providers. It was a wonderful event and my sincere thanks to all pupils and their families that supported the event.



Penyrheol and the Urdd Eisteddfod Christmas Celebration

On Tuesday 3rd December, a number of our pupils performed at the Urdd Eisteddfod Christmas Celebration at St Catherine's Church. Our Chamber Choir and Guitar Group, as well as solo performances from Joseph and Oxana 'wowed' the audience with their beautiful performances. It was a joy to see Penyrheol pupils thrive at an event like this!



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Sporting News

Last week our Year 7 boys' rugby team played in a tough encounter against Gowerton school and unfortunately they came out second best.



Year 10 played their Ospreys quarter final against Gwyr at the Elba on Thursday. They won the fixture 33-27 and look to play their semi-final before the Christmas break.

Next week, Year 7 and 8 rugby teams travel to Morryston for a rearranged fixture. We hope for two challenging matches for our teams.

Last week, all of our netball teams competed in matches against Gowerton Comprehensive School and Ysgol Gyfun Bryntawe. Each team continue to improve upon their prior performances, with some impressive skills demonstrated across games. Where our teams narrowly missed out on a win, they exhibited commendable sportsmanship in their loss. Congratulations to everyone who participated!

Results:

Year 7 v Gowerton - Lost 2-1 Player of the match - Seren M

Year 8 v Gowerton - Won 6-5 Player of the match - Annabel E

Year 9 v Bryntawe - Won 10-7 Player of the match - Rosie B

Year 10 v Bryntawe - Won 12-3 Player of the match - Sophie P

Year 11 v Bryntawe - Lost 3-2 Player of the match - Kamsi E

Next week, all five teams travel to Cefn Hengoed for the concluding league matches prior to the Christmas break. Best wishes to all our teams!

It has been another successful couple of weeks for the girls' football squads. The U13 team had a challenging game against Bryntawe. They were down by one goal during the first half, but they managed to turn it around and finish off with a superb win, beating them 7-4. They also had a great game at Olchfa last week where they won 6-0 with a

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hat-trick from Grace Morgan. We look forward to more matches after Christmas for our unbeaten U13 girls. The U15 girls continue to be committed to training and have shown great dedication! They have a home game against Bryntawe next week, good luck!

STF Consultation – Information from the Local Authority

Following the recent consultation regarding the above proposal, the Consultation Response Report is now available on the link below:

<https://www.swansea.gov.uk/schoolorganisationSTFreview>

This Consultation Report will be taken to Cabinet on the 12 December 2024 for a decision on whether to proceed to publish a statutory notice.

Swap Shop – Uniform

We have a good stock of trousers, winter coats, sweatshirts available in various sizes. If you require any items, please put an order in either from our school website, through reception or directly with T. Fussell Swap shop co-ordinator fussellT1@hwbcymru.net.

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 25th October, I was joined by Jacob (Year 7), Alisha (Year 8), Joel (Year 9), (Year 10) and Ryan (Year 11).



Jacob represented the school in a tough rugby game against Gowerton and played out of position to help out his team. He was very dedicated to this team and did not give up at all. He showed the team how to **Aspire** to be the best they can be.

Alisha could quite easily fit all four categories but we have chosen **Belong** as she throws herself into school life. She raised over £100 selling raffle tickets for the Christmas Fayre and always volunteers to help out with anything

Joel is a fantastic advocate for Student Voice at Penyrheol. He works so hard to ensure that students get their voices heard. This helps his peers feel they **Belong**.

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Jack is a great all-round pupil. He consistently works hard and is an absolute pleasure to have in the year group. He always gives his best and is completely reliable. He is **Thriving**.

For Ryan, the year team say they don't often meet a young person who demonstrates the same level of Respect that Ryan does. His choice of words and how he expresses his gratitude is something special. If everyone was a little more like Ryan, the world would be a kinder place!

These pupils have embodied our core values over the last 2 weeks. Congratulations to all our winners. Who will it be next time?

Standards

Attendance over the last two weeks has dipped to 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	29	1
8	22	2.5
9	18.5	1.5
10	13	1.5
11	10	1

Over the last two school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved **over 11** 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 9 th December	WBQ Pitches Carol Concert Rehearsals
Tuesday 10 th December	Year 11 Mock Exams End WBQ Pitches Carol Concert at St Catherine's Church
Wednesday 11 th December	WBQ Pitches Christmas Dinner in the Canteen
Thursday 12 th December	Harry Potter Trip
Friday 13 th December	
Monday 16 th December	STF Christmas Tree Trip (L1-4)
Tuesday 17 th December	
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 8 Report 1 Issued Christmas Term Newsletter Published
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Jumper Non-Uniform Day
Friday 20 th December	



**PENYRHEOL
COMPREHENSIVE
SCHOOL**

**CHRISTMAS
CONCERT**



**10TH DECEMBER 2024
ST CATHERINES CHURCH
7PM**

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