



Ysgol Gyfun

PENYRHEOL

Comprehensive School

Friday 5th December 2025

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 6

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been an incredibly busy two weeks since the last Headteacher's letter. Year 11 have undertaken their Geography NEA, the Music class have completed their controlled assessments and the mock exam period has started in earnest. Year 11s have also taken their interim reports home. Year 8 have had their action fortnight following their recent assessments.

Last Monday we welcomed parents/carers of our Year 9 learners in to school for a Progress Evening. This was very well attended (despite the awful weather) and I would like to thank all parents/carers for working together in partnership with the school.

Last week we enjoyed another fantastic PTA Christmas Fayre. This was a fabulous community event and my thanks to all parents/carers that came to support the school.

Last week we also took a large group of Year 9 and 10 pupils to Cardiff's Millennium Centre to watch 'To Kill a Mockingbird.' Our office staff shared a phone call they received a few days later:

'I've just had a call from a gentleman who was at the Millennium Centre last Thursday to watch To Kill a Mockingbird. He wanted to congratulate us on our wonderful, polite and quiet pupils. He could not believe how well behaved the pupils were considering the number of pupils we had there. He said the teachers and supervising staff should be very proud.'

This afternoon we have a very special event in our library where we are holding an STF Alumni Reunion. We look forward to seeing many of our ex-STF pupils and their parents/carers.

Sporting News

It has been a very busy last few weeks for the Boys football, with a real mix of results. It started with year 8 traveling to Cwmtawe in the Welsh cup and despite a heroic effort with a depleted squad due to illness, they unfortunately lost 2-1.

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Next it was the turn of the year 9s in the Welsh cup this time against Ysgol y Dderwen. The match was very tight and at the final whistle the score was 2-2 which meant a dreaded penalty shoot-out.

The shoot-out went on a while with us eventually losing out 8-7.

Last Tuesday then saw the year 8s take to the field again this time in the league, looking to put the disappointment of the cup game behind them. The opponents were Pentrehafod and the boys put on a real show winning 11-1.

Thursday then saw a double header against Olchfa, with year 10s kicking off first followed by the year 7s.

The year 10s were beaten, but the year 7 game, in horrendous conditions, was a lot tighter. Battling against wind and rain all the boys worked their socks off but, in the end, lost 3-1.



Our Year 7 rugby have played two fixtures this half term against Morryston and Birchgrove. Although the effort and determination was excellent in the games, we fell short in both fixtures. They have one more training game before Christmas against Bishop Gore next Tuesday.

Our Year 9 rugby have qualified for the Ospreys plate quarter final against Cwm Brombil. This fixture will be played in the last week of term away.

The following fixtures will take place after Christmas in the Swansea cup:

Year 7 - Olchfa - Home

Year 8 - Morryston - Away

Year 9 - Gwyr - Away

Year 10 - Morryston - Away

Year 11 - Bryntawe - Away

Last week, the U15 girls football team faced a very competitive Morryston team in the Welsh Schools Cup. It was a fantastic game, and the girls showed incredible determination and motivation throughout. The match ended 2-2, leading to a penalty shootout. Unfortunately, the result didn't go our way, and Morryston claimed the win. Every pupil gave a superb performance and should be proud of their efforts. Well done, everyone!

This week, the U13 girls faced Olchfa in a tough league fixture. From the first whistle, the team showed determination and teamwork, creating plenty of chances and defending

strongly. Their efforts paid off with a draw against a competitive side.

Special **congratulations** to our Players of the Match: Year 7's Sofia James for her tireless work in midfield and Year 8's Lexi Lewis for her excellent attaching play. A fantastic performance all round—well done, girls!



Last week was a fantastic week for our U16 Netball team, who opened their season with an impressive 27–8 victory over Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr. To cap it off, they went on to compete in the Ann Smart Tournament later in the week, finishing as well-deserved runners-up. The squad delivered an outstanding performance throughout the day, demonstrating both determination and impressive skill. Although we lost out to a strong Bishopston team in the final, each player contributed brilliantly, and their efforts signal great promise ahead of the sports tour to Toronto at Easter. Well done, girls—an excellent achievement!

Our Year 7 Netball teams were also in action last week, taking on Pontarddulais Comprehensive and Ysgol Gyfun Gwyr. The girls continue to impress with their commitment to training and their progress is clear to see. Against Pontarddulais, both teams delivered confident performances and secured well-earned wins. They then faced a strong Gwyr squad later in the week where we came away with one win and one loss. Well done to all involved!



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Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday

On Friday 14th November, I was joined by Harry (Year 7), Casey (Year 8), Sreya (Year 9), Ava (Year 10) and Kate (Year 11).



Harry was nominated for the Core Value of **Respect**.

Kate was nominated for the Core Value of **Aspire**.

Ava was nominated for the Core Value **Thrive**.

Casey and Sreya were nominated for the Core Value of **Belong**.

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

Who will it be next time?

Standards

Attendance in the last three weeks has dropped to 81%. This does reflect the number of seasonal illnesses around at the moment. 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	21	1.8
8	18.9	2.2
9	20.5	1.9
10	10.2	2
11	10.1	1.2

Over the last two and a half school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved over 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

Appendix

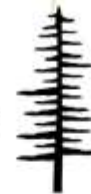
What's happening in the next two weeks

Monday 8 th December	Penyrheol Parliament Meeting (This Week) Christmas Concert Rehearsals
Tuesday 9 th December	Christmas Concert Rehearsals
Wednesday 10 th December	Christmas Concert at St Catherine's Church WBQ Pitches Product Design Year 11 Practical
Thursday 11 th December	Skiing Trip Departs (Until 15 th December) WBQ Pitches Year 11 Prom Fashion Show in Theatre
Friday 12 th December	WBQ Pitches Year 11 Spanish Oral Mock Exams (L1-4) Product Design Year 11 Practical Gower College Careers Fayre
Monday 15 th December	Year 7 Enterprise Activity
Tuesday 16 th December	Year 7 Enterprise Activity Music – Christmas in the Community
Wednesday 17 th December	Year 8 Enterprise Activity Year 11 Applied Science NEA catch up Christmas Term Newsletter Issued
Thursday 18 th December	Year 8 Enterprise Activity
Friday 19 th December	ALN Coffee Morning L1 Canteen End of Term

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PENYRHEOL
COMPREHENSIVE
SCHOOL



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

WEDNESDAY 10th December
2025

St Catherines
Church

SAVE THE DATE

Prom Show

Bring your friends and family!

Penyrheol PTA warmly invite you to join us as we showcase the latest prom trends, stunning gowns, and statement looks guaranteed to turn heads.

From elegant gowns to sharp, stylish formal wear.

Whether you're going for classic, trendy, or bold, you'll find inspiration for your perfect prom look.

Thursday 11th December 2025

5.30 PM - 7.30 PM

AT PENYRHEOL
THEATRE

Showcasing dresses from

Lou Mer Gowns

&

suits from

Formal HIRE
BUY · HIRE · SUITS · CILTS

Tickets £2 on the door

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