

Headteacher update

This is the last newsletter of this very short half term and what a busy one it has been. We have begun our external examinations for our year 10 and 11 pupils and they have been incredibly positive so far. All pupils have behaved impeccably, despite a few nerves they have truly put their 'best foot forward' and embraced the first full week of exams (year 11) has thrown at them, we are all incredibly proud. Any pupils who need any additional wellbeing help or support can access 'Safe Haven' at any time by speaking with Mrs Christine Jones or Mrs Roz Ridley or by popping a text to 07494552475. We are here to help and support at any time and I am incredibly grateful to the many staff who have given up early morning, evenings and weekends to help further prepare our pupils for this exam period #teamnantgwyn

Jubilee

We have a host of Jubilee plans in place for next Thursday, which are summarised below:

- **In Gwyn** we will have a Jubilee style lunch with party games and music from 12.30, pupils who have a packed lunch could consider a 'festive' type lunch too if you wish.
- **In Nant pupils will have a choice of a** Jubilee themed menu in the canteen and the cafe & hall will also be decorated.
- We will all come together for a special on-line assembly at the end of the day Thursday.
- All children and staff may wear red, white and blue tops on Thursday if they wish.

Important Safeguarding Information shared with middle and upper school parents via parentmail this week

'There has been an event of a child fainting as a result of another child reenacting wrestling moves in the form of a 'choke hold'. The outcome could have been very serious, however, in this instance all parties are safe and well.

This type of behaviour was perceived as 'horse-play' by pupils, however the consequences could have been severe.

Please could you speak with your child about these behaviours and ensure that they understand the risk and do not engage in these actions at any time. This will also be addressed in registration in Middle and Upper school.

Half term ends for pupils at the end of the day on Thursday and important learning takes place up to and including this day. Everyday is a learning day and is vital to ensure your child makes at least good progress.

Attendance is vital for all pupils, please may I remind parents of the return of **Fixed Penalty Notices**. It should be noted that these can also be issued for lateness too. **School begins at 8.40 for pupils in middle and upper school and 8.55 in lower school. Pupils need to be in school ready to learn at this time, arrival after this time is coded as late.**

Important dates for next half term

- Half term begins Monday 6th June
- Whole school INSET Monday 27th June
- End of term Friday 22nd July

Food Bank, if you would like to take advantage of our discrete school food bank or make a donation to it please drop a confidential email to help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk

I am sure we will have a very productive last week of this half term and we are looking forward to seeing all pupils in full school uniform and on time right the way through to Thursday.

Yours, as always

Kirsty Retallick
Headteacher

Head of School update

Well here we are, my final newsletter of the term. It only feels like yesterday we were returning from our Easter holidays. Upper school pupils have begun their GCSE exams and I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the very best over the coming weeks, all lower school pupils and staff are right behind you.

So, just four days left of this term. Reminder, Friday 27th May is an INSET day, so pupils will not be on site, but we look forward to welcoming them back on Monday 6th June after the whitsun holidays.

Our pre-nursery pupils continue to impress us in how quickly they are settling into school life. Your teachers are so proud of you.

Once again, it has been lovely to see lower school classes enjoying and making the most of the outdoor learning opportunities (when the weather has allowed).

This week saw the return of hot chocolate with the head, as Mrs Retallick invited and hosted a small group of pupils in the boardroom. So congratulations to: Noah (Nur), Oliver (Rec1), Harris (Rec2), Cora (1A), Oakley (1B), Sarina (2A), Jack (2B), Belle (3A) and Charley (3B). Such worthy winners, well done all.

This week we also returned to face-to-face assemblies. Mrs Retallick had the pleasure of holding our first gathering since restrictions were lifted. Pupils were a credit to their teachers and we look forward to holding more in the coming weeks/months.

As previously mentioned, phonics, literacy and numeracy skills remain the main focus of each morning - the progress we are seeing is really pleasing. Together (home and school) we are doing a fantastic job in developing the reading skills of our pupils, but it is not done... I am still requesting that all parents read for a minimum of 20/30 minutes each night to support the excellent work pupils are doing in school. If you have any concerns, please contact a member of the lower school team and we will pick it up with the class teacher.

Really pleased to report recently that the reception year group were recording readers in the most recent round of Salford testing, as has nursery now. In speaking with the parents of the pupils it is clear that the work those pupils are doing in the classroom is without question being supported at home.

Further reminder to keep an eye on the forecast and if the temperature rises you may want to think about the application of sun cream first thing in the morning. Staff at Ysgol Nantgwyn will look to take advantage of the weather and possible take the classroom outside so as to support learning and the experiences our pupils have. Also, we encourage pupils to bring water bottles to school to ensure they stay hydrated, as a drop in hydration will impact concentration levels.

Polite reminder, while not ideal and I strongly advise against removing pupils from school during term time, please let us know if you are thinking of doing this. Families that do not inform us waste the time of staff who are trying to locate or follow up absences daily. We want to work with families, but we need you to communicate absence for whatever reason with us either in advance or on the morning in question.

I do not need to tell you the importance of having good attendance, but, in order for a child to reach their full potential they should maintain an attendance above 95% throughout their educational journey (not just Yr11), so your son/daughter's journey has already begun and they need to be in school.

Finally, a huge congratulations to Taisie in Yr3 for being put forward to the finals of her 'portrait of the Queen', please see her entry below.



I hope you have a fantastic weekend and we will see you on Monday for the final four days of this term.

Kind regards,

J Davies

Mr Davies
Assistant Headteacher - Head of Lower School

Polite reminder

We are a Nut Free School

Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. If someone has a nut allergy it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

First aid staff in the school are trained to use the Epi-pens (an injection of adrenalin) which is required immediately if this happens. We cannot have nuts in school in any form so please can we ask that you have no nut products in the lunch boxes or brought into the school.

School Update

Weekly wonders

The following pupils have received our weekly wonder award. This is awarded by the class teachers and reasons for awarding a pupil is given below. Congratulations all, keep it up.

Class	Weekly Wonder - w/c: 09/05/2022	Weekly Wonder - w/c: 16/05/2022
Nursery	Levi, for his outstanding reading skills and confidence in front of year 2.	Luna, for always working hard, trying her best and helping others.
Reception 1	Tristan, for working really hard all week with all of his work on pets. Well done Tristan.	Avanna, for trying really hard with her phonics and her blue tricky words. Well done Avanna.

Reception 2	Lyric for nice writing and being a good friend.	Luna, for trying hard with her work and being very helpful.
Year 1A	Rio, for asking and answering lots of questions about our story 'Dear Greenpeace' and for excellent debating about whether there really was a whale in Emily's pond!	Alexis, for writing a wonderful, descriptive poem about the seaside even though she hadn't been here to write her plan. Her handwriting was beautiful too.
Year 1B	Harper, for writing a great letter independently, about the story 'Dear Greenpeace'.	Joey, for writing a fantastic seaside poem using great adjectives and trying really hard to make his writing neat and tidy.
Year 2A	Mia, for always being so hardworking, so sensible and a great team member when working in small groups.	Emily, for working so well in a small group when creating a sea creature fact file. She communicated positively and presented her writing neatly.
Year 2B	Ollie, for showing great work ethic in his maths.	Jamie Griffiths - Showing great work this week in class.
Year 3A	Cory, for being a wonderful role model to others in Yr3 and having such a fabulous attitude to learning.	Charlie, for outstanding work in maths, using the 24 hour clock confidently.
Year 3B	Kian, for writing a fantastic fact file about David Attenborough.	Chael, for drawing a fantastic picture of the Queen.

Lower School Contact details:

Staff contact details:

Assistant Headteacher, Mr John Davies
Deputy Head of School, Mrs Judith Griffiths
Raising Standards Leader, Mrs Liz Elford

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Attendance

Congratulations to each of the pupils in the table below that have achieved 100% attendance for the last week (Thursday - Thursday). We have also launched one of our attendance initiatives where pupils receive a certificate via ParentMail for 100% attendance each week - try and collect them all!

At the end of the half term, all pupils that have 100% attendance for the half term are invited to our attendance celebration! Please keep up the fantastic efforts and attend, as attendance at school is crucial for academic success!



Walk-to-school week

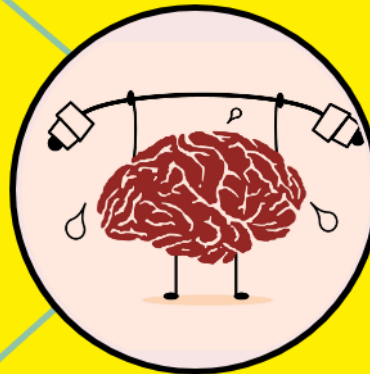


Celebrate National Walking Month with us at Ysgol Nantgwyn by walking to school where ever safe to do so between 16th - 20th May.



By walking to school, you will help to reduce vehicle congestion and also pollution in our local area. You can also walk on short journeys in your local community.

Walking to school will improve pupils mental health and wellbeing when ever it is safe to walk to school. Walking will help increase our energy, positive mood and alertness.



It is recommended that all pupils have at least 60 minutes physical activity per-day. Walking to school will assist in achieving this goal. Pupils will also have opportunities to walk when in school on our 1 mile loop. If you cannot walk to school, don't worry, you can walk with parents/friends outside of school.

We know that not all pupils will be able to participate in walking to school as it is not possible due to the distance living from school or if there are safety concerns. In cases like this, we encourage pupils to assist staff in promoting the scheme by helping to promote with peers and staff. This will also mean positive points! You can also share images with us of you walking with family/friends after school if you cannot do it during school time.

If you usually drive to School, where it is safe to do so, parking a little bit away from school will assist in allowing you to walk a part of the journey with your child. In our case, we would encourage parents not to park on the Gellifaelog estate so that congestion is not increased.

If you are interested in further promoting walking to school, would like to join in campaigning for a cleaner local environment or if you have any positive walking experiences to share during the week, please get in touch by emailing our admin team on help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk

#WalktoSchoolWeek@YsgolNantgwyn