

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

It has been a pleasure and privilege to see our year 10 and 11 pupils as they begin the summer examination series in earnest this week. On behalf of Mrs Retallick and our wider staff, we would like to commend them on their exemplary behaviour and attitude. The way they have conducted themselves has been outstanding and I am so very proud of each and every one of them. It has been such a difficult two years for them, yet they have come into an examination with their heads held high. Ready to work hard and resilient in the face of adversity. A credit to themselves, their families and to Ysgol Nantgwyn!

Please can I take this opportunity once again, to politely remind everyone of our uniform policy. **Hoodies are not permitted as part of the uniform, neither are facial piercings nor unnatural hair colours.** A school skirt / trousers should be worn at all times in addition to a white shirt and school tie. This is the minimum expectation and there are no exceptions to this rule. If a pupil attends in the incorrect uniform, they will be isolated for a period (Lessons 1, 2 and break), whilst we make calls for parents to bring the correct uniform to school. If the pupil turns up a second time with the incorrect uniform, they will be isolated for a full day, pending a parental meeting.

A reminder also that skirts should be of an acceptable length. If a pupil's skirt is not of an acceptable length, a female member of staff will have an initial conversation in order to rectify the situation. If the issue persists, we will request a parental meeting. It is not appropriate for short skirts to be worn in a school setting and we ask for your support in ensuring that all pupils adhere to the policy, maintaining high standards at all times.

Just as a 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.

Thank you as always, for your continued support.

Very best wishes,
Mrs. Louise Williams (Assistant Headteacher, Head of Upper School)

Upper Top 10

Not surprisingly, year 10 & 11 feature a lot this week as they have been working extra hard in lessons, revision sessions and at home for their GCSE exams. Well done to everyone nominated, it is an extremely busy time for you with summer exams.

Nichole L - yr 11
Chloe K - yr 11
Crystal L - yr 11
Shaun C - yr 11
Zara R - yr 10
Elliott P - yr 10
Ryan P - yr 10
Lloyd D - yr 10
Jared S - yr 10
Joseph H - yr 10

Attendance

Congratulations to each of the pupils in the table below that have achieved 100% attendance for this week. 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!

Year 9			Year 10		Year 11
Brooke	Jack	Rubie	Ffion	Charlotte	Teigan
Levi	Grace		Muhammed	Grace	Spencer
Dylan	Cayleb-Jay		Benjamin	Grace	Thomas
Dylan	Cameron		Charlie	Aysha	Alfie
Tallia	Connie		Benjamin	Chloe	Andrei
Kaydee	Alex		Imogen	Cory	Paige
Lexie	Jack		Lloyd	Kayleigh	Grace
Demi	Benjamin		Rocco	Cora	Mason
Ethan	Sophie		Grace	Elliott	Riley
Libby	Logan		Iestyn	Mackenzie	Cori
Casey	Alfie		Evan	Jazmine	Riley
Darcey	Caden		Charlie	Zak	Jac
Robert	Phoebe		Emily	Neve	James
Jay	Keira		Millie	Jayden	Leroy
Rebecca	Cai		Ocean	Oliver	Jamie
Shakyla	Rihanna		William	Ellis	Cameron
Alicia	Gage		Joseph	Kaci	Taya
Grace	Gethin		Ellie	Jared	Mia
Blake	Leo		Paige	Evan	Demi
Layla	Wyatt		Daisy	Mason	Isabelle
Miles	Annalise		Jaydee	Olivia	Morgan
Rubie	Josh		Emily	Harley	Cerys
Macey	Laci		Gabrielle	Kayla	Tiegan
Kaleb	Olivia		Benjamin	Mason	Ioan
Alex	Mckenzie		Cole	Bailey	Crystal
Maddison	Lily-Mae		Cory	Olivia	Katie
Mollie	Ruby		Lacey	Sonny	Megan
Ryan	Demi		Tayla	Jessica	Tejay
Tamzin	Luco		Ellie-May	Laci	Kenzie
Isabelle	Ella		Kieran	Regan	Leah
Sydney	Logan		Tegan	Lewis	Shelby
Carwyn	Scott		Dylan	Callum	
Eli	Cai		Courtney	Katie	
Lily-Grace	Jasmine		Isabel		
Bryana	Miya		Darian		

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 attendance.

Attendance at school is crucial for academic success!

Post-16 Pathways Update:

Tonyrefail Community School

Those pupils that have applied to Tonyrefail School 6th form for September, received a special visit from Mr Huw Williams, last Wednesday after school. He met with pupils to discuss their options. The visit was very successful and pupils felt it was extremely productive. Many thanks to Mr. Williams for his time.

Applications are still open for Tonyrefail and anyone interested, is welcome to apply. If you would like to contact the Head of Sixth form directly, the email address is; Vicky.Morgan@tcs.cymru

Applications link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdooz3dOrPpv-B7CXrSN-08ZouoBbjy9inucMSkwdRgXVsY1A/viewform>

Coleg-y-Cymoedd

For students applying to Coleg y Cymoedd, there is another open day planned at all campuses on Wednesday 15th June from 4:30pm until 6pm.

Pupils will be able to go to any of the campuses, meet the staff of their chosen course and get to look around the campus as well. They will need to visit the website www.cymoedd.ac.uk



Coleg y Cymoedd - Study local, go further

Coleg y Cymoedd (meaning college of the valleys) offers a wide range of Full and Part Time courses from Entry to Degree Level.

www.cymoedd.ac.uk

From the link above, you will need to click on the open event tab and sign up for a visiting slot.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Resource

Please see the link below to the 'Young person's mental health toolkit'. A wonderful resource where you will find resources that provide tips, advice and guidance around how you can support your mental health. If you have questions about how you can stay healthy, this is the place to be.

<https://hwb.gov.wales/search?query=mental+health+and+well-being&strict=true&popupUri=%2FResource%2Fe53adf44-76cb-4635-b6c2-62116bb63a9a&fbclid=IwAR231szsEpTC2b8A7zVgVXtFNHBIAtUkoC8Hr-VtfVaQEJ9ck8ggF8HyXU>

Contact details:

Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Louise Williams
Deputy Head of School, Mr Adrian Evans
Raising Standards Leader, Mrs Allison Carter
Academic Learning Coach, Miss Claire Jacobs
Academic Learning Coach, Mrs Sarah Webber

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