

### Headteacher update

What a lovely day to end the week on. It has been an incredibly productive week at Nantgwyn and pupils have been incredibly focused and productive. We have seen examination preparation in year 11, exploring, comparing and contrasting impressionist artists in year 3, first aid training in year 5, GCSE geography in the sunshine for upper school and a plethora of extracurricular activities for skiing to musical recital preparations. It has indeed been a busy week.

We are experiencing quite a high level of staff absence at the moment due to Covid and other staff illness and are working hard to maintain high levels of provision for all pupils and classes. We are currently prioritising year 10 and 11 examination classes ensuring that a Nantgwyn teacher delivers these as far as is practically possible and we are hopeful that we see an improvement next week. Please feel reassured that all our well qualified supply staff have been with us since the beginning of the academic year and know the school, pupils and procedures well. **All lessons and activities continue as normal.**

**Covid Update** As you will be aware the all Wales Covid procedure will change from next Tuesday. The First Minister has announced today however that the **procedures in school will remain UNCHANGED until at least until the end of term** due to the increased in Covid rates of infections. We await further guidance and will update you with any further changes as we receive them. So operations in school will continue as they have done in school to date please.

**Car Boot Sale** A huge thank you to the PTA for our very first Nantgwyn car boot sale last Sunday, it was definitely a hit. We had stall holders and customers from far and wide and will hold another one in the summer term. All volunteers, 'car booter' and customers are welcome.

**Uniform update** Many thanks for your support with our drive to improve key aspects of school uniform across the school, including PE kits. We have seen a great improvement with many pupils this week. We are actively listening to pupils, parents and staff voice in this process.

- For pupils in Gwyn, the time lost in changing (where younger pupils require support) has been too great and we will amend their requirement on wellbeing/PE days only please. Pupils should wear PE buttons (navy or plack, tracksuit bottoms, leggings or shorts) and trainers along with their normal school polo shirts and top.
- We will not be making any amendments to the Wellbeing/PE kit in Nant at this time, lessons are taught in double sessions and we need to positively support the transition back to pre March 2020 delivery and will continue to listen to pupils' views and support additional changing spaces where required.
- Families who require financial support please contact the school via [help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk)

**Additional Support** We have a range of counselling and support services on offer across the school, we have also launched a new additional service called 'Safe Haven'. This is available to all initially all Nant pupils. This is a place where pupils can feel talk, get help, be listened to, work things out and feel supported. Pupils can attend on their own or as part of a group. There are posters and links available across the school on how to book an appointment with Mrs Christine Jones. Pupils can also text to make an appointment on 07494552475 (including their name and form). Special group counselling days are also available which focus on LGBTQ+, self harm, stress, bullying, loneliness and friendship.

**Easter Celebrations** We will be celebrating Easter across the school during the last week of term.

**Gwyn** All children are invited to bring an Easter bonnet, headband or hat into school by Tuesday 5th April. We will have resources available in school at the end of next week for families to use at home next week/weekend, please let us know if you would like a set of these via [help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk) and we will arrange to get these to you. We will

have class based Easter celebrations on Friday 7th April where children will wear their bonnets and hats and have a small parade. Photos will be shared with you via ParentMail. All children will bring their hats home with them on the last day of term, with a few other surprises.

**Nant** Pupils in Nant are invited to design and wear Easter hats/badges on the last day of school too. It would be great if we could embrace a whole Nantgwyn approach with this too.

**Good news from a neighbour** -'I just wanted to drop you a quick email to thank you for implementing the traffic management system on the Gellifaelog estate. It has made a significant improvement, we can now use the pavements safely and with confidence. We are all guilty of complaining when things are not right, so I thought you may appreciate some positive feedback . I appreciate the traffic management system comes at a cost, hopefully the children's safety and well-being will outweigh this and the system will remain in place.'

We break up for spring term on Friday 8th April for the two week Easter break. We have a range of revision activities planned for examination groups over Easter and this information will be shared shortly.

Yours, as always

Kirsty Retallick

---

### **Head of School update**

The weather has been our friend this week. It has been beautiful and great to see lower school pupils outside and enjoying their learning. To see images of our pupils in their outdoor learning environment, please visit our social media pages.

Attendance has been very up and down. Just a reminder that we continue to monitor attendance daily and it is parents responsibility to inform us as a school if your child is absent for any reason. Also, a timekeeping reminder, that lower school lessons start at 08:55, so please look to arrive ahead of time, so your child can make their way to their classroom and settle ready for an 08:55 start.

The past two weeks pupils in Yr2 and Yr3 have undertaken National Numeracy Tests (NNT's) and National Reading Tests (NRT's). I, like their class teachers, are super proud of how pupils have conducted themselves during the tests, so a huge well done and thank you to everyone involved.

Pupils in Yr2 have also undergone their delayed hearing tests - any concerns or issues will be followed up with families directly.

Staff have been busy collecting data on pupils via a real time data collection, this information will be shared with parents via ParentMail in the coming weeks - so if you are not signed up, please contact Mrs Elford on the email address below and she will support the ParentMail signing up process.

Next week will see pupils in Reception, Yr1, Yr2 and Yr3 completing a Salford reading test. This will be round three of testing. Again, I encourage you to read regularly at home with your child so as to help and support them with this fundamental and essential skill.

So it has been a busy couple of weeks and there is more to come.

### **Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher**

Winners in week 3 were:

- William (1B) and Paisley (2A), both are 'always responsible' in and around school. Well done both.

Today's winners (week 2) are:

- Harris (Rec2) and Hallie (1B), both for outstanding teamwork over the past few weeks.

### Drop off

Just a reminder, in the mornings, parents are required to escort pupils to their classroom doors and hand them over to a member of staff - this will be the same door you collect your child from at the end of the day. For health and safety reasons, please do not 'drop off' or allow your child to walk unaided in the Gwyn Car Park, the main door is not in use for lower school pupils at the start of the day. If unsure, please seek clarity from a member of staff on duty.

I know it has been a difficult past few months, with numerous guidance changes and some just unsure what to do for the best. But, if you ever need advice or support, please feel free to contact us here at school and we will do our very best for you, your child and your family. Wellbeing support is regularly updated on the school website, but for ease just click [Wellbeing](#). Remember, if in need of the foodbank, please just email [help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk) - this is a discrete service for our Ysgol Nantgwyn families, so please reach out if you need us.

Finally, to all the mothers and grandmothers reading this, Happy Mothers Day from us all at Ysgol Nantgwyn ahead of Sunday. We hope you have a great day.

Stay warm, stay safe.

Regards,

*J Davies*

Mr Davies


Assistant Headteacher - Head of Lower School

---

## School Update

### Uniform

For details on our school uniform requirements please visit our website or click [here](#) for detailed information (including PE kit). Please note, the past two years have impacted some families more than others, so please, if you are struggling and would like to discreetly discuss uniform or additional support, please contact a member of the lower school team and we will do our very best for you.

 Faculty of Life 2021/22 WEEK 1 – PE Kit Days				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Nursery	Reception	Year 2A		Year 1B
Year 1A	Year 2A/2B			
Year 3B	Year 3A/3B			



# Faculty of Life 2021/22

## WEEK 2 – PE Kit Days

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Nursery 1A Year 7D	Reception Year 2A/2B Year 3A/3B	Year 2A	Year 3B	Year 1B Year 3A

### Wellbeing and mental health

As a school, we try to ensure all parents and pupils have access to relevant support if needed. The past two years have been one of the most difficult challenges that families will face. We want to ensure all families know that we are here standing side-by-side with you throughout. We have a dedicated team of staff on hand to assist if you experience family difficulties or if you feel you need some information in relation to mental health or wellbeing. If you need any assistance, please visit the website or contact the lower school team via email.

### 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: 14/03/2022	Weekly Wonder - w/c: 21/03/2022
Nursery	Leia, for fantastic number formation.	Amelia, for being kind and helpful and always trying her best
Reception 1	Libby, for trying hard with her work all week. Well done Libby.	Kayla, for excellent work all week about Spring. Well done Kayla.
Reception 2	Lucas, for being a good boy in the yard and trying hard at his phonics.	Georgie, for being brave and for some lovely writing.
Year 1A	Thomas, for such improved writing about the 3 little pigs.	Amelia, for working extremely well in both English and Maths. She has impressed me since returning to school after half term.
Year 1B	Ollie-Blake, for writing a great ending to the Story of 'The 3 Little Pigs' and drawing a great picture to go with it.	Brooklyn, for working so hard, and always being enthusiastic about everything she does.
Year 2A	Heidi, for always trying her very best and being so conscientious with her work.	Ruby, for excellent problem solving skills involving times tables.
Year 2B	Reevah, for being kind and helpful to her classmates.	Jax, for applying new skills to his work.
Year 3A	Hunter, for trying very hard to complete all his work.	Belle, as she has worked extremely hard this week to write a story about a natural disaster, which included some fantastic words and descriptive sentences.

<b>Year 3B</b>	Kiana, for fantastic maths work and for being a delightful member of the class.	Lucie, for working really hard with our money topic.
----------------	---	--

#### 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

[john.davies@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:john.davies@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk)  
[judith.griffiths@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:judith.griffiths@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk)  
[elizabeth.elford@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:elizabeth.elford@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk)

---

#### 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!

Nursery 1	Nursery	Reception	Year 1		Year 2	Year 3	
Marni	Lila-Grace	Lilly-Rose	Abbie	Isabel	Nari	Grace	Amelia
Lenny-George	Oscar	Amelia	Deacon-Jackson	Jaxson	Jack	Harrison	Lucas
Amelia	Megan	Scarlett-Rae	Ethan	Oliver	Annabelle-Rose	Cory	Italia-Rose
Ava-Mae	Riley	Cruz	Imogen	Israel	Heidi-Marie	Coby	Junior
Auggie	Esmee	Georgie	Meelah	Esmee	Jaxon	Darcy	Seren
Navaeh-Rae	Aurorah	Lincoln	Ollie-Blake	Gurman	Henry	Finley	Charley
Penelope	Thomas	Oscar	Cora	Alicia	Oakley	Harper	Saffron
Luna	Tilly	Cruze	Mia	Oliver	Charlotte	William	
Meadow	Charlotte	Destan	Cara	Harper	James	Marley	
Lottie	Harlan	Harris	Alice	Callie	Teigha	Summer	
	Evan	Marnie	Alys	Riley	Rhodri	Morgan	
	Lukas	Oliver	Joshua	Evelyn	Jasmine	Olivia	
	Levi	Aria	Ryan	Ryder-James	Jamie	Chael	
	Alexa	Haydn	Thomas	Ebony	Seren	Faith	
	Oliver	Esmie	Thomas	Emi	Matilda	Angel	
	Iyla	Jagger	Paige	Amelia	Lacey-May	Cassie	
	Noah	Millie-Harper	Kayden		Elliot	Blake	
	Bailey	Leo-James	Lilly		Reevah	Fern	
	Sonnie	Luna	Griff		Carter-James	Belle	
	Frankie	Kayla	Brody		Paighton	Daisy	
	Leia	Indie	Rio		Evie	Ruby-May	
	Brodie	Ted	Amelia		Samuel	Gethin	
	Finley	Eve	Penny		Alma	Ebony	
	Grayson	Hudson	Sira		Megan	Jazmine	
	Rowan	Hanson	Lucy		Mia	Charlie	
	Emelia-Willow	Lowri	Nevaeh		Ruby-Tania	Shay-Aneurin	
	Harry	Libby	Eden		Elliott	Kiana	
	Ella	Evelyn	Oakley		Emilie-Rose	Mali	
		Romey	Grace			Harvey	
		Kiara	Iwan			Kaden	
		Dylan	Jacob			Faith	
			Brooklyn			Zak	
			Alexis			Halle-Rae	
			Hallie			Joshua	
			Skye			Osian	