

# Ysgol Bryngwyn School

## Update for Parents, Carers and Learners – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023



### Latest News:

1. Industrial Action update
2. Prize Evening Thanks
3. Key Stage Three Exams
4. World Kidney Day update
5. Information for GCSE Learners

### Key Dates:

- **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March:** Potential disruption due to Industrial Action **Industrial Action now called off**
- **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March:** Exams years 7,8 & 9
- **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March:** End of term for staff and students.



For all future events please visit our diary and planner at:

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Diary/>

**Dear Parent/Carer,**

We hope this update finds you well as we begin another busy week here at Bryngwyn, progressing into the third week of this half term.

We thank you for your support in getting pupils into school safely last Wednesday during the snowy conditions. It was much appreciated.



| Mon 13th  | Tue 14th | Wed 15th | Thu 16th  | Fri 17th  | Sat 18th  |
|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 11°<br>4° | 7°<br>1° | 8°<br>7° | 11°<br>8° | 11°<br>7° | 11°<br>5° |

The weather forecast for the week ahead is rain, but temperatures are certainly becoming milder as the week progresses.

### 1. Industrial Action Update

Since our earlier correspondence regarding the potential strike this week, Welsh Government have proposed further discussions and a potential new offer therefore the National Education Union (NEU) have released a statement announcing planned strikes this week have been “**called off**”.

**Therefore, Bryngwyn School will be open to all pupils and staff this week as normal. There will therefore be no industrial action on 15th and 16th March.**

As ever we will continue to update you as the situation develops.

## 2. Prize Evening 2023 Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Thank You

We enjoyed a remarkable evening of celebration here at Bryngwyn last Monday. We were exceptionally privileged and honoured to be in the company of our learners, sharing their successes and achievements at our annual Prize Evening.

We would like to express a special thank you to everyone who attended and took part, especially those who made the evening possible for us all to enjoy.



Gareth Morgans @EDGarethMorgans · Mar 7

Wonderful evening @BryngwynSchool celebrating the outstanding success of the school's learners. Great to see the hall to the brim with pupils, parents and supporters. Da iawn chi! A great presentation by ex-pupil Stephen Hughes and great work from Ffion Gwyther. @CarmsCouncil



It was lovely to welcome our guest speaker and past head boy of Bryngwyn, Mr Stephen Hughes, as well as our Guest Presenters, Miss Ffion Gwyther and Mr Gareth Morgans, Director of Education and Children's Services.

***Proud to be Bryngwyn!***

You will find a gallery of photographs to remember the evening on our website at the link below:

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/News/Galleries/?SSID=31880&password=#GalleryListHolder>

## 3. Key Stage Three Exams - 27<sup>th</sup> March

Timetables have now been issued for examinations for learners in Years 7, 8 and 9 to take place during the week commencing Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Further information regarding the examinations will be shared with learners directly from their subject teachers.

## 4. World Kidney Day - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March

We were honoured to be selected to host the World Kidney Day event last week, organised by Welsh Government, NHS Wales and Hywel Dda Health Board.

Many eminent guests joined our Year 9 learners as they learned about the importance of kidney health and the research currently undertaken in this area.

It was a superb day and we are delighted to share the comments below from the Chief Executive of the NHS commending our pupils. We are very proud of our learners who are an absolute credit.

*It was extremely pleasing to see the level of engagement and interest shown from your students throughout the event and I hope it helped them learn more about keeping healthy through nutrition, what kidneys do, kidney disease, dialysis and transplantation, the creation of digital technology within healthcare, animations and augmented reality, and the types of careers that are available to them should they choose a career here in Wales with the Welsh NHS.*

*I was particularly impressed with the conduct and behaviour of your students and see this as a positive reflection on your school and your local community. I was encouraged to hear of the other facilities that your school has such as the construction unit that is unique to your school.*

**Judith Paget CBE Director General Health and Social Services/ NHS Wales Chief Executive.**

**A WORLD KIDNEY DAY EDUCATION EVENT**  
Brought to you by GIG CYMRU NHS WALES

**LEARN MORE ABOUT:**

- 1 Keeping healthy with diet and lifestyles
- 2 What kidney do and kidney disease
- 3 How we keep people alive with dialysis and kidney transplants
- 4 How we create our digital technology for health care
- 5 How we make our animations, videos and augmented reality
- 6 The type of career you could have in the NHS here in Wales

**MEET THE TEAM**

Professor Chris Brown - Consultant kidney pharmacist  
Owain Brooks - kidney pharmacist  
Sister Jenny Williams - kidney nurse  
Emma Cotling - dietitian  
Paricia Bee Jones - dietician  
Hannah Street - dietitian  
Sister Melodie Pickman - kidney transplant nurse  
Clare Weekes - nephrologist  
Mike Wakelny - digital engineer  
Richard Foreman - digital engineer  
Sophyl James - kidney pharmacy technician  
Anto Sebastian - medical consultant  
Dan Williams - medical videographer  
Ivor Davies - renal technologist  
Team from - Cardiff University

**SPECIAL GUEST**  
Judith Paget CBE  
NHS Wales Chief Executive

**CHOICE BREAK OUT SESSION**

Everyone: KIDNEYS WHAT THEY DO (15 min.)

Choice 1: MAKING A KIDNEY MODEL (15 min.)  
DIET & HEALTHY LIFE STYLE (15 min.)

Choice 2: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY (15 min.)  
Making ANIMATIONS (15 min.)  
VIDEOS (15 min.)

Everyone: KIDNEY DIALYSIS AND TRANSPLANT (15 min.)

**FOR THE STUDENTS LEARNING**

**Watch our Animations:** The GCSE Science curriculum & our kidneys

**Learning Zone:** Teaching resources GCSE

**KIDNEY CONTENT FOR GCSE BIOLOGY**

## 5. Important Information for Year 11 - Preparation for GCSE



- **After School Revision – IMPORTANT FOR ALL LEARNERS**

As the exams draw ever nearer, our focus is now firmly upon revision and any remaining controlled assessments. Teachers are committed to providing extra support, including revision sessions after school. We also have a quiet space available for learners to revise on-site with access to any resources they may need.

All Year 11 pupils now have a timetable of After-School revision sessions showing where and when the extra support is available. The timetable for this is posted on their Google Classroom. An additional supervised quiet room with access to PCs will be available after school Monday – Thursday, this will take place in A1.

You can also look for further help and guidance to support your child at home on our dedicated Key Stage 4 google site that can be reached at:

<https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/ysgolbryngwyschool/home>

More than anything, **full attendance** is now vital to ensure that they achieve their potential, missing any learning now could be key learning that will not be able to be able to be revisited before the summer, so please do all you can to ensure their attendance each day, and try to avoid any disruption to their education before now and the summer.

- **Coleg Sir Gar Open Evening – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Last week's Open Evening at Coleg Sir Gar was rescheduled due to inclement weather. The evening will now take place on all campus on **Tuesday 28th March 5.00pm - 7.30pm.**

- **Revision: Power Up your child's preparation for the summers Exams!**



As the Summer exams approach for Years 10 and 11, Welsh Government have co-ordinated a host of resources that have been brought together on their "Power Up" website for learners. These resources will help on everything associated with the Summer exams from exam technique and revision tips to guides on wellbeing and managing exam stress. You can find these resources below:

<https://www.gov.wales/power-up-wales#GCSE>

- **Qualifications Wales Learner Guide to Exams and Assessment**



Qualifications Wales have published a guide to exams and assessments 2022-2023, to give learners the information they need about arrangements for their qualifications this year.

- It includes lots of helpful information, including:
  - an overview of this year's arrangements
  - key dates
  - information on grading
  - advance information
  - links to helpful websites where learners can access revision tips, wellbeing guidance and other support

Please see the [Guide to Exams and Assessments](#) This may useful as learners continue to prepare for their exams and assessments.

There are also a variety of resources that can help with revision and independent learning approaches, in addition to our school based resources including Google Classroom.

### **Independent Learning Resources:**

- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
- <https://www.wjec.co.uk/home/student-support/revision-resources/>
- <https://collins.co.uk/pages/free-revision-resources>
- <https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision>
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

### **General News Round-Up**



- **More Showjumping Success** - Congratulations once again to Mia Haf Bowen who won both her competitions this weekend to earn a place in the Arena Eventing Championship at Hickstead and the Pembrokeshire Cross Country Final. **Da iawn, Mia Haf!**

- **Talented Musicians Perform** – A huge well done to the RSL Music Year 11 group who put on a fantastic performance showcasing their talents last week. *Ardderchog!*



- **Extra-Curricular PE Activities**

We are delighted to be able to offer a full range of extra-curricular sport activities during lunch times and after school.

This week we have:

| JAN – MARCH 2023 | LUNCHTIME                                | AFTERSCHOOL   |
|------------------|--|---|
| MON              | GCSE BADMINTON (YEAR 10 AND 11)          |   |
| TUES             | VOLLEYBALL – (ALL YEAR GROUPS)           | KS3 RUGBY 7s (YR 7, 8 & 9) – Mr Martin & WRU<br>KS4 Rugby 7s (YR 10 & 11) – Mr Jenkins & WRU<br>NETBALL (ALL YEARS) – Miss Williams |
| WEDS             | NETBALL (YEAR 7)                         | KS3 FOOTBALL (YR 7, 8 & 9)<br>HOCKEY (ALL YEARS)  |
| THURS            |  | KS3 BADMINTON – (YR 7, 8 & 9)<br>HOCKEY (ALL YEARS)<br>GCSE PE Revision - (Starts Feb 7th)  |
| FRI              | KS 4 BASKETBALL (YR 10 & 11) – Miss Fair |   |



- **Extra-Curricular Music Activities**

This week we have:

|                  | <b>Lunchtime 1.10 – 1.40 pm</b>         | <b>After school 2.50 pm – 3.50 pm</b> |
|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Double-Reed Workshop M2                 |                                       |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Year 7 Choir in M1                      | Theory Club in M1                     |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Brass Group in M1<br>Wind Band in M2    | Year 10 Band                          |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | String Group in M2<br>Samba Band in Gym | Year 9 Band                           |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Senior Choir in M2                      |                                       |

**As a school, we would like to thank everyone who works so hard to make these opportunities happen, and especially our pupils who take part with such enthusiasm.**

***Proud to be Bryngwyn!***

## Reminders of Important Information

### **Uniform**



We would like to thank parents and carers for your ongoing support in helping us ensure we maintain excellent standards of uniform for all our learners. We especially appreciate these efforts as the weather turns colder.

As a reminder or in case anyone is in any doubt, our school uniform is published on our new school website (see link below):

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Parents/School-Uniform/>

**It is also very helpful if pupils' names are written inside uniform. This is of huge importance for items such as coats which can be easily left behind or mislaid.**

A grant is available for school uniform and equipment for families who are eligible. Please see the link below for more information:

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/News/School-Uniform-and-Equipment-Grant/>

**Thank you for your continued support in this matter.**

## Free School Meals

As we welcome a number of new pupils to our school and as times are challenging for many families, we see more and more children that see their school dinner as a key part of their nutrition and wellbeing. If your child is entitled to free school meals at Bryngwyn School, apply via the link below:

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/school-meals/free-school-meals/#.X4gaJNBKiUI>

## Welsh Water Support for Families

Please see below important information regarding Welsh Water's offer of support for families:

**Families who are eligible for The Pupil Development Grant and are in receipt of a qualifying benefit may also be entitled to help towards their water bills from Welsh Water.**

### What financial support is available from Welsh Water?

By switching to Welsh Water's HelpU tariff, customers could save up to £230 off their water bill. Find out more [here](#).

More information on the help available for households can be found, [here](#).



The poster features the Welsh Water logo (Dŵr Cymru) in the top left. A yellow circle in the top right contains the text: "You could save up to £230 on your annual water bill." The main title is "Support for families". Below this, a paragraph states: "With half term approaching, we know some families may be worried how they will afford daily essentials, as well as providing meals for their children who are off school." A "Did you know?" box contains the text: "Families who receive the pupil development grant and are in receipt of a means tested or disability benefit may also be entitled to help towards their water bills." The bottom left features a "We're here to help" icon of a person and the text: "Call us to talk through your options: 0800 052 0145. Visit us online for more information: [dwcymru.com/supportwithbills](http://dwcymru.com/supportwithbills)". On the right, there is an illustration of a woman holding a shopping bag and a young girl holding an orange, with a QR code below them.

## Parking in the Community

As you know, the roads around the school can be very busy at the end of the day when learners are being collected and buses are leaving the school. As requested by the Local Authority, the gates are closed from 2.45pm to ensure **no vehicles move in the school car park until pupils have vacated the area**. We appreciate your help in further ensuring pupil safety by **not parking on the yellow zigzags** on the road around the school and being mindful of local residents if parking on nearby streets. For those who use the car park of Prince Phillip Hospital when collecting learners from school, we appreciate your help in parking sensitively so as to ensure the buses and ambulances that use the hospital have easy access to the roads, and that patients can park conveniently for their appointments.





## Keeping Informed of Changes

During these times it remains fundamentally important we remain in contact. We will always do our best to keep parents informed of any changes as quickly as possible. **Please therefore check our text messages, SIMS Parent App, websites and social media pages on a regular basis.** If you don't receive such updates or have changed your phone or contact details, please ensure we have up to date information by emailing us on [enq@bryngwyn.cymru](mailto:enq@bryngwyn.cymru)

If you have any questions or would like a conversation about any aspect of learning or wellbeing please contact us on 01554 750661 between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or at [enq@bryngwyn.cymru](mailto:enq@bryngwyn.cymru) as usual.

Thank you as always for your continued support of our school and wider community as well as your families and our learners. Please stay safe and well and we look forward to continuing to work together to provide the very best experiences for all our learners.

Diolch,

**Mr Paul Jones**

**Head teacher**

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**Email: [enq@bryngwyn.cymru](mailto:enq@bryngwyn.cymru)**

**Website: <https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/>**

**Twitter: <https://twitter.com/bryngwynschool/>**

**Facebook:**

**<https://www.facebook.com/bryngwynschool>**