

Ysgol Bryngwyn School

Update for Parents, Carers & Learners – 23rd January 2023



Latest News:

1. Year 11 GCSE Preparation
2. Year 9 Options Evening
3. Freedom Fortnight Year 7 Week Two – Courage
4. Holocaust Memorial Day Friday 27th January
5. Uniform

Key Dates:

- **Wednesday 25th January:** Year 9 options evening for parents and pupils
- **Friday 27th January:** Holocaust Memorial Day
- **Friday 27th January to Sunday 29th:** Llangrannog trip
- **Monday 30th January:** Start of Year 9 Exams
- **Thursday 2nd February:** Year 11 Parents' Evening.
- **Friday 17th February:** INSET Day – Staff only
- **Wednesday 1st March:** School Eisteddfod
- **Thursday 2nd March:** Whole School Prize Evening

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 and that you have been able to spend some enjoyable time with your families over the weekend. Last week we enjoyed a busy week here at Bryngwyn with some exciting learning activities, with more to look forward to once more as we begin the week ahead.

Mon 23rd	Tue 24th	Wed 25th	Thu 26th	Fri 27th	Sat 28th
8° 0°	7° 2°	9° 4°	8° 0°	8° 3°	9° 4°

The weather for this week sees a shift to milder conditions for January rather than the cold and frosty weather we have recently experienced. With the exception of Wednesday, the week ahead appears dry.

1. Important Information for Year 11 - Preparation for GCSE

- **English Speaking and Listening Assessments – February 13th onwards**

NEW DATE

The English GCSE Speaking and Listening Group Discussion assessments will take place during early February. Marks will contribute to the overall GCSE grade. English lessons, prior to the assessments, will be dedicated to preparing for the group



BE A GLOBAL CITIZEN

Let us be good stewards of the earth we inherited. All of us have to share the Earth's fragile ecosystems and precious resources, and each of us has a role to play in preserving them.

Kofi Anan

A thought for this week

Yn rhai o'n gorau
Giving our best to be the best

discussion which will be based on topics provided by the exam board. Attendance at all these preparatory lessons will be of utmost importance.

• **Year 11 Motivation Day Friday 27th January**

At Bryngwyn, we are once again looking to provide the best possible support for our pupils in the run up to the GCSE exams. We have linked up with Coleg Sir Gar and “Positively You” to provide all year 11 pupils with a tailored programme of exam support.



Aims of the workshop

- To stimulate and grow a positive attitude towards learning and exams
- To reduce exam stress
- To upskill students with effective memory techniques
- To provide a comprehensive exam toolkit

On **Friday 27th January** all year 11 pupils will visit the Coleg Sir Gar Graig Campus where the college well-being team will also provide sessions and activities on resilience, focus and relaxation techniques that can reduce stress during exam time.

External providers “Positively You” will also deliver their “Exam Busters” workshop sessions. A separate letter with further information will be sent out to all parents at beginning of the week.

• **Year 11 Science Practicals – week two**

A huge well done to learners involved in the science practical assessments and written exams that took place last week. The second part of the assessment will take place this week, and practical assessments for learners entered for Separate Sciences will follow the following week.

The Science Department are very proud of the effort’s pupils have put into the practical sessions and would like to remind pupils that **calculators, rulers and pencils** will also be needed for the written exam.

• **Year 11 Reports**

Year 11 Full Reports will be sent home with learners this week.

2. Year 9 Options and Parents’ Evening Wednesday 25th January - ONSITE



Our Year 9 Parents’ Evening will be held at Bryngwyn between 3.30p.m. and 7.00p.m. on the date shown above, to discuss your son’s or daughter’s progress and option choices for GCSE. We have decided to keep the system where there are no appointments for this event which parents have generally found more effective.

Staff will be based in the Drama Hall, Sports Hall and Dining Area with the Head of Pupil Progress, Mr Edwyn Davies, college staff and the Careers Adviser Mrs Marcia Evans. Refreshments will be available in the canteen area. To avoid large queues staff

will give a brief overview of your child's progress in class, their homework, how they are working towards their target level and suggestions for improvement. This is also an opportunity to discuss option choices and each meeting should last no longer than 5 minutes. If you need a longer meeting with any staff please can you contact the school or place a note on the feedback form provided on the evening so that we can make alternative arrangements at a later date. This will allow all parents the opportunity to meet with the teachers of their choice. Option Subjects may also display examples of pupils' work.

We appreciate feedback and would be grateful if you could complete the Year 9 Options Evening online survey (link below) following the event:

<https://forms.gle/YYB9qpWVDMyiUWg77>

Help with Options



In KS4 (Year 10) there are several 'new' courses that pupils will not have studied previously. In order to help you and your children to have a clearer understanding of what these may include, pre-recorded video information will be available to both parents and pupils. Furthermore, some vocational courses will be available in partnership with Coleg Sir Gar. There is information available on your child's Google Classroom that you may like to watch together.

We are also supported by our Careers Advisor from Careers Wales. Her name is Mrs Marcia Evans and she is always keen to support parents and pupils through this process. There is also a great deal of further information on the Careers website which can be accessed at:

<https://careerswales.gov.wales/>

Specific support from Careers Wales on selecting subject options is also available on the link below:

[Help your child make career decisions | Careers Wales \(gov.wales\)](#)

Or for further support and careers advice please call 0800 028 4844



3. Year 7 Freedom Fortnight - COURAGE

Year 7 learners will embark upon their second week of this exciting learning activity to explore the concept of **courage**. Learners are enjoying working collaboratively to practise a range of skills while learning about and developing our own courage.



We are exploring this theme more deeply within our six Areas of Learning and Experience and hope our learners will enjoy becoming even more courageous. We are excited to share the learning outcomes with parents in the forthcoming Year 7 Parents' Evening later this term.

A letter was sent out to parents of learners in Year 7 last week with further information. A link to the letter appears below.

https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Freedom_Fortnight_2023_Courage.pdf

We would appreciate if you could take time to discuss the idea of courage with your child and talk about the activities they have particularly enjoyed. We always welcome any feedback you might have about this learning experience.



4. Holocaust Memorial Day Friday 27th January

This Friday marks **Holocaust Memorial Day**. The theme this year is '**ordinary people**' and there will be a range of events taking place at Bryngwyn to commemorate throughout the week. This year, there will be a webcast with a survivor as well as assemblies and lessons on this year's theme.

To begin the event, learners will work collaboratively in their form classes to create their own memorial flame, using their creative and enterprising skills. We look forward to sharing the finished examples on our social media pages.

5. 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, especially inside coats. 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/>

General News Round-Up



School crossing patrol - Unfortunately we still remain without a crossing patrol person. The Local Authority are hoping to recruit a new colleague and have readvertised the position (please see link below.) In the meantime, we request all our pupils to be vigilant in crossing the road on their way to and from school. If you, or someone you know may be interested in this employment, please see the link below:-

<https://saas.zellis.com/carmarthenshirecountycouncil/wrl/pages/vacancy.jsf?latest=01010840>

Llangrannog Trip 27th January- the Welsh Department are preparing with excitement for their forthcoming trip to Llangrannog with over 90 pupils to enjoy the weekend of **hwyl a sbri!** Anyone who has any questions please contact Miss Watson early in the week. ***Mwynhewch, pawb!***



Sporting fixtures

Sporting Fixtures – This week we look forward to two local matches as Year 7 take on Dyffryn Aman in football at home in Bryngwyn on Wednesday afternoon, while our Year 9 rugby team venture to Gwyr in Gowerton for their Cup match. Details are on Google Classroom. ***Good luck everyone!***



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 KS4 Rugby 7s (YR 10 & 11) – Mr Jenkins & WRU NETBALL (ALL YEARS) – Miss Williams
WEDS	NETBALL (YEAR 7)	KS3 FOOTBALL (YR 7, 8 & 9) HOCKEY (ALL YEARS)
THURS		KS3 BADMINTON – (YR 7, 8 & 9) HOCKEY (ALL YEARS) GCSE PE Revision - (Starts Feb 7th)
FRI	KS 4 BASKETBALL (YR 10 & 11) – Miss Fair	



• **Extra-Curricular Music Activities**

This week we have:

	Morning Reg 8.35 – 9.00 am	Lunchtime 1.10 – 1.40 pm	After school 2.50 pm – 3.50 pm
Monday	Wizard of Oz – Gym	Double-Reed Workshop M2	
Tuesday	Junior Choir in M1	Wizard of Oz in M2	Theory Club in M1
Wednesday		Brass Group in M1 Wind Band in M2	Year 10 Band
Thursday	Wizard of Oz in Gym	String Group in M2 Samba Band in Gym	Year 9 Band
Friday	Wizard of Oz in Gym	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



A is for attendance....

Positive Attendance remains a priority for all learners in Wales.

Reporting Your Child's Absence

We would also like to remind parents of the updated procedures for reporting your child's absence are as follows.

- To report your child's absence for the day please **text** 07480 632 718 by 9.30am.
- Please ensure the text message contains:
 - **your child's name,**
 - **year group/registration class and**
 - **reason for the absence.**

- *To ensure validity of the message, our systems will check the number of the phone that sent the text against the contact details we hold for your child.*

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 are to 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.



Bryngwyn School Production 2023!

We are delighted to be able to announce that this summer our talented students will once again be producing and delivering a school production to remember – The Wizard of Oz! It is planned to take place on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th July 2023.

Auditions for key roles will be taking place shortly and there are a variety of ways pupils can take part, from performing on stage to helping with lighting, staging, costume, and every important element of putting on a large-scale production. We would encourage anyone interested to speak to staff, especially in our music and drama departments.

We would like to wish everyone involved the best of luck in their preparations. Watch this space for how to order your tickets!

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 very 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

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 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 through the busy half term ahead.

Diolch,

Mr Paul Jones

Head teacher

Telephone: 01554 750661

Email: enq@bryngwyn.cymru

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

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

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