

Ysgol Bryngwyn School

Update for Parents, Carers and

Learners – 10th October 2022



Latest News:

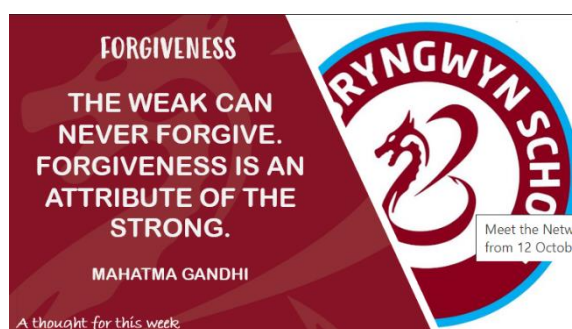
1. **Have Your Say on the New GCSE Assessments**
2. **Diwrnod Shwmae**
3. **Register to Vote**
4. **World Homelessness Day**

Key Dates:

- **Friday 14th October:** Diwrnod Shwmae
- **Friday 28th October:** End of Half Term
- **Monday 7th November:** Return to school

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope this update finds you well as we continue into this first half term of the school year. Learning continues apace here at Bryngwyn with a variety of exciting activities and staff have been very impressed with the engagement and enthusiasm of all our learners. We thank you for your support in this.



The weather for the week ahead is changeable with a mixture of showers and brighter spells and heavy rain forecast for the middle of the week.

1. Have Your Say on the new GCSE Qualifications

Qualification Wales have launched their 'Have Your Say' on GCSEs consultation and is now open until 14 December, and they want your help to shape the new qualifications in Wales. You can access the consultation below:

<https://haveyoursay.qualifications.wales/>

Please take the time to look and respond to this important consultation that will shape the future of GCSE qualifications in Wales.

2. Diwrnod Shwmae

Friday 14th October is Diwrnod Shwmae and here at Bryngwyn we will be celebrating with a range of activities to involve all learners and staff in embracing the Welsh language and culture. Learners will be invited to wear red, white or green tops with normal uniform trousers / skirts. Please see more information below from our Welsh department:

Our Llysghadon have been working hard in the Clwb Cymraeg to organise activities for staff and pupils to celebrate Diwrnod Shwmae in Bryngwyn School on Friday 14th October. The aim of the day is to start every conversation in Welsh!

Pupils have been painting large Diwrnod Shwmae boards under the artistic guidance of Derek from Menter. They have also prepared quizzes, a treasure hunt and a selfie frame with props! A letter will be distributed today to parents to inform of the activities during am reg and Welsh lessons as well as lunchtime. There will be a Hunlun (Selfie) stall in A corridor, Teledu Cymraeg in C corridor, Welsh face painting in D and Shwmae-cakes in E corridor. Voluntary contributions can be made on Parent Pay and the proceeds will raise funds for Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2023 in Carmarthenshire.

Pupils are encouraged to wear tops in Welsh colours (coch, gwyrdd a gwyn) with normal uniform trousers/skirts. There will be Welsh food available from the canteen and pupils will be encouraged to order their food yn Gymraeg!

3. Over 14? Register to Vote!

Although young people have to wait until they are 16 to vote, you can register to vote as young as 14. Please see more information below:

Remember to register to vote

If you are not registered, you cannot vote. It is as simple as that.

In Wales, you can register to vote when you are 15, or in some cases 14. But you can only start to vote in Senedd and local council elections when you turn 16.

Luckily, you do not need to register before every election.

You need to register if:

- you have never registered to vote before
- you have just become old enough to register

You need to register to vote again if:

- you have moved house recently
- you have changed your name for any reason

You will stay registered to vote if you live at that address and do not change your name. When you become old enough to vote in different elections, your record will be updated automatically.

Registering to vote takes just five minutes if you do it online. If you are 16 or older, all you will need is your National Insurance number. If you are under 16, you will not be asked to supply a National Insurance number



4. World Homeless Day Monday 10th October



Pupils in Year 10 are currently looking at the global issue of homelessness as part of the Global Citizenship Challenge in their Skills Lessons. On Monday 10th October during their

skills lesson, they will be taking on the 'Step forward to end homelessness' challenge by doing laps around the track and will be allowed to bring in an item of red/white clothing to put on to represent Crisis. Pupils are encouraged to bring in £1 to wear these items when walking around the track. Please note: Pupils should not wear these items to school instead of uniform; they must bring these along with them to put on when completing the challenge! [#ethicalinformedcitizens](#) [#raisingawarenessofglobalissues](#)

If you want to see what pupils are getting up to in their Skills Challenge lessons, please follow @BryngwynSCC on Instagram and Twitter!

General News Round-Up



- **Welsh Ladies Football Success!** – Bryngwyn pupils were proud to cheer on our Welsh Ladies Football Team on Thursday and delighted that their goal in extra time now puts them on track to potentially play in the World Cup back. Mr Jenkins said all learners thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

- **Design Technology-** Mrs Lewis would like to wish a very well done to Year 9 for producing some excellent pyjama shorts in their textiles lesson. **Da iawn, pawb!**



• **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:

- **Monday Lunch Time** – GCSE Badminton – Years 10 and 11
- **Tuesday 3pm to 4.00 pm** – Rugby – Years 7, 8 and 9; Netball – all year groups
- **Wednesday lunch time** – GCSE Badminton – Years 10 and 11
- **Wednesday 3pm to 4.00 pm** – Football – Years 7, 8 and 9; Hockey – all year groups

- **Thursday Lunch Time** – Mixed Touch Rugby – Year 9
- **Thursday 3pm to 4pm** – Badminton – Years 7, 8 and 9; Hockey – all year groups; GCSE Weightlifting – Years 10 and 11
- **Friday Lunch time** – Basketball Years 10 and 11



- **Extra-Curricular Music Activities**

This week we have:

	Lunchtime 1.10 – 1.40 pm	After school 2.50 pm – 3.50 pm
Monday	Double-Reed Workshop M2	
Tuesday	Year 7 Choir in M1	Theory Club in M1
Wednesday	Brass Group in M1 Wind Band in M2	Year 10 Band
Thursday	String Group in M2	Year 9 Band
Friday	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

Transition



If you have a pupil due to start with us or indeed have friends that are interested, then please be aware all applications need to be made directly to the Local Authority.

There is a booklet for parents which is available online on the link below:

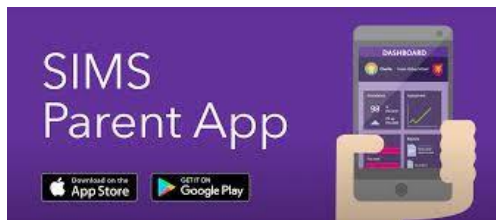
<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/school-admissions-and-changing-schools/information-and-guidance-for-parents/#.Yzn4q3bMKUI>

Please note the closing date for applications to commence 2023-24 is **December 20th 2022**.

All applications need to be made online on the Carmarthenshire website (link below):

<https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/school-admissions-and-changing-schools/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place-11-year-olds/#.YzLS7nbMI2w>

Communication With Parents – SIMS Parent App



As many parents are already aware, the SIMS Parent App is a very useful and convenient way for you to access and review information about your child and receive updates and news from the school.

The App is **FREE**. If you have not yet registered and would like more information please see the following: <http://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Parents/SIMs-Parent-App/>

Parents with learners in Year 7 should have received an invitation with a code to join via email this week. Please note, if you have not supplied the school with your email address via the Data Collection Sheet at the start of the year you will not have received an invitation to register.

Should you wish to receive an invitation code or are having any problems logging in please contact the school by telephone on 01554 750661 or via email on enq@bryngwyn.cymru

Uniform

On return to school, all pupils will be expected to wear normal uniform as specified on our new school website. Please see the link below.

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

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

[School Uniform & Equipment Grant](#)

Free School Meals



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 don't forget to apply via the link below:

Are you entitled?

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

National Reading and Numeracy Assessments

Firstly, we would like to say a very big well done to all pupils currently in years 8 to 10 who completed these assessments in reading and numeracy online before the end of term. The test results and progress sheets are now available for via the SIMS Parent app. These results will include learner progress at this time along with a standardised score.

In order to access the results, you will need to log into your child's Hwb Account and access the folder "Personalised Assessments". If you have any issues accessing the reports or any queries, please contact us at school by telephone or email on engq@bryngwyn.cymru

Our Community

We hugely appreciate the support of our local community, and we are very proud of the strong relationships that have been built between our school and the local area nearby. We feel it is very important to maintain this while

also providing a safe and engaging learning environment in which our learners can thrive. We would be grateful if you could support us in this by being mindful of the following:



- **Remaining stationary in the car park:** The gates are closed at end of the school day to keep pupils safe as they exit the school grounds. If you wish to bring your vehicle into our car park, we hugely appreciate your patience and support in remaining stationary until all learners have left the car park and ensuring the buses are able to leave first. Our buses also supply other schools and these vehicles have a tight schedule to be in the right place to complete all of their school runs.



- **Care for the environment:** We appreciate your support in helping to ensure that no pupil litter is left in the community. We have plenty of bins in and around the school and there are also ample bins in both Dafen and Felinfoel areas. We are all incredibly proud of our facilities and our community, and the responsible behaviour of our learners contributes hugely in keeping our part of

Llanelli an environment that everyone can enjoy.

Expectations: “Our Actions Impact Everything and Everyone”

Please see below a link to a letter from the Local Authority about expectations of behaviour and respect in our schools:

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/News/Important-information-from-CCC-regarding-new-campa/>

Here at Bryngwyn we have always had high expectations of behaviour, and we are proud of the excellent standards maintained by the vast majority of our learners. **Respect, relationships** and **responsibility** are key elements of our school culture which extends to everyone in our community including pupils, staff, parents and the wider community in which we live. We are a proudly caring school, and firmly believe that everyone has an important part to play in developing an inclusive community where every pupil can feel safe and happy in their learning.

It is also important to acknowledge that times can be very challenging at the moment for many families. In an attempt to provide further support, we have begun to collect a range of external information that parents may find useful as a source of reference if needed. These can be accessed at the link below:

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Parents/Useful-Information-and-Advice/>

We are, as ever, available to support all of our community. Should anyone wish to access support from the school at any time, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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

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Email: enq@bryngwyn.cymru

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

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

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