

Ysgol Bryngwyn School

Update for Parents, Carers and

Learners – 5th February 2024



Latest News:

1. **INSET Day 19th February**
2. **Important Information for Year 11**
3. **Year 8 Parents' Evening 20th February**
4. **Welsh Government Consultation on Changes to the School Year**

Key Dates:

- **Monday 5th February:** Yr 11 GCSE English Speaking and Listening Exams
- **Monday 12th to Friday 16th February:** **HALF TERM** for learners and staff
- **Monday 19th February:** INSET Day – staff only
- **Tuesday 20th February:** Return to school for all learners
- **Tuesday 20th February:** Yr 8 Parents' Evening (online)

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope this update finds you well and would like to begin by thanking you all for your ongoing support that contributes to the immensely positive atmosphere here at Bryngwyn. Staff have noted how happy and enthusiastic learners are when engaging in a full range of activities, both in lessons and in extra-curricular events.



POSITIVE CHANGE

Be the change you want to see in the world.

Mahatma Gandhi

A thought for this week

*Yn rhoi o'n gorau
Giving our best to be the best*

Today



11°
9°

Light rain and a fresh breeze

Tue 6th	Wed 7th	Thu 8th	Fri 9th
11° 5°	8° 6°	9° 7°	9° 6°

The week ahead appears mild for the time of year with some wet weather also expected. Rain coats may be needed.

This week is week **two** on the timetable.

1. INSET Day Monday 19th February

Please be aware that Monday 19th February, the first day after half-term, is scheduled as an INSET day therefore school will only be open to staff on that day. We look forward to welcoming all learners back onsite on **Tuesday 20th February**.

2. Important Information for Year 11 - Preparation for GCSE



- **English Speaking and Listening Assessments – February 5th onwards**

The English GCSE Speaking and Listening Group Discussion assessments will take place this week. Marks will contribute to the overall GCSE grade. English lessons prior to the assessments will be dedicated to preparing for the group discussion which will be based on topics provided by the exam board. Attendance at all these preparatory lessons will be of utmost importance.

- **PE Moderation Day**

The PE Department would like to say a very well done to all learners who took part in the recent GCSE PE Moderation Day and showed such hard work and commitment. The practical element is an important part of the final grade which will also include the written exam in the summer.

There will also be PE Revision Sessions starting after half term, every Friday from 3.00 – 4.00pm

- **GCSE Art and Textiles Practical Exams – After Easter**

Practical exams in GCSE Art and Textiles will be held over a series of days from 11th April onwards. Please remind learners to confirm the correct dates for their class with their teachers.

- **Science Practical Exams**

A huge well done to all learners who have engaged so well in their GCSE science practical and written exams over recent weeks. There are some further dates for any learners who have not yet been able to complete these important assessments.

Independent Learning Resources:

There are a wide range of online resources readily available to pupils from the WJEC and other external agencies. These are really helpful and useful in the build up to the summer exams

- <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/>

3. Year 8 Parents' Evening – ONLINE Tuesday 20th February

Our Parents' Evening for Year 8 will take place online on 20th February via SchoolCloud. Parents and carers with learners in Year 8 will soon receive a message to make bookings with your child's teachers via SchoolCloud. Please see the link below to make or amend bookings.

<https://bryngwyn.schoolcloud.co.uk>

It can be helpful if your child joins you for the meetings so that they can hear the information provided by the teachers. We appreciate the support, mutual respect and courtesy of parents and teachers and ask that we all follow standard professional protocols for online meetings. For example, the meetings should take place in a quiet, confidential location and no attempt to capture images or recording should be made. Please note, the timings for each meeting are automatically set and controlled by the system. Each meeting is allocated 5 minutes and the time remaining will be displayed but the meeting will automatically close when the timer runs out.

Should you have any queries or encounter any difficulties with the Online Parents' Evening, please contact the school office on enq@bryngwyn.cymru or 01554 750661

4. Welsh Government Consultation on Changes to the School Year from 2025 onwards

URGENT ACTION NEEDED

The consultation on changes to the school year in Wales will close on Monday 12th February 2024. Please be sure to share your views before the link below expires. Please see below a message from the Government with a link to the consultation in order for you to share your views:

Jeremy Miles MS, Minister for Education and Welsh Language has opened a consultation seeking views on the school year. We are seeking your views on proposals to amend school term dates so that terms are more equal in length, with more evenly distributed breaks, for maintained schools in Wales.

<https://www.gov.wales/structure-school-year>

The consultation will be open until 12 February 2024.

General News Round-Up

- **Cross Country Running Achievements** – Bryngwyn's cross country runners faced tough weather conditions in their competition at Pembrey Country Park last week and showed they have outstanding courage and perseverance. A huge well done to Tom Dalziel, year 10, who impressively achieved 5th place in the Dyfed leg and will now go on to represent Dyfed in the Welsh finals at the end of the month. **Congratulations everyone and good luck, Tom!**

- **Llangrannog Fun** – Bryngwyn learners had a wonderful time recently when they attended weekend in their weekend residential at Llangrannog. This was an opportunity for learners to experience the Welsh language in an immersive environment as well as to enjoy some exciting activities. Marvellous memories have been made and, as always, Bryngwyn learners were a credit to us all with their excellent attitude and behaviour. ***Diolch pawb!***



- **Outstanding Athletics Achievement** – Congratulations to Darcy Coslett who achieved two gold medals in the U17 Welsh Indoor Athletics Championships at Cardiff over the weekend. Darcy won both the 200m and 300m finals, despite being in the younger age category. Another huge achievement! ***Well done, Darcy!***

- **Extra-Curricular Activities** – we are delighted to be able to offer a full range of extra-curricular sport and music activities during lunch times and after school. See the link below for the full range of clubs available this week:

<https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Learner-Experience/>

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!

Links to important information

- Canteen Prices: <https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Parents/Catering/>
- [**School Uniform & Equipment Grant**](#)
- **Free School Meals** - <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/education-schools/school-meals/free-school-meals/#.X4gaJNBKiUI>

- **New School Menu** - <https://www.bryngwynschool.co.uk/Parents/Catering/>

Keeping Informed of Changes

In order to make sure you receive all of our messages and updates immediately, it is important that the contact details on our school systems remain up to date. If any details have changed, please let us know by emailing us on enq@bryngwyn.cymru .

Thank you as always for your continued support of our school. We look forward to continuing to work together to provide the very best experiences for all our learners.

Diolch,

Mr R S Jones

Head of School

Telephone: 01554 750661

Email: enq@bryngwyn.cymru

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

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

Facebook:

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