

Ysgol Bryngwyn School

Update for Parents, Carers and Learners – 24th April 2023



Latest News:

1. **Key Stage Three Assessments:**
 - a. National Reading and Numeracy Tests
 - b. Year 9 Maths exams

2. **Healthy Attitudes to Mobile Phones**

3. **Year 8 Parents' Evening Feedback**

4. **Important Information for Year 11**

Key Dates:

- **24th April** Year 11 Welsh oral exams
- **1st May:** May Day Bank Holiday
- **8th May:** Extra Bank Holiday - Coronation
- **12th May:** Start of GCSE exams



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 and your families well and that you have had some opportunity to relax over the weekend. **This week is week 2 on our timetable.** We enjoyed many exciting learning activities in school at the start of term and we would like to thank you for your contribution to the hard-working and warm atmosphere throughout the school.



We have a number of Bank Holidays coming up in the weeks ahead particularly around May Day and the Coronation of King Charles. Please see key dates above for more information.

Mon 24th	Tue 25th	Wed 26th	Thu 27th	Fri 28th	Sat 29th
11° 1°	11° 4°	13° 6°	13° 9°	14° 7°	14° 7°

The weather for the week ahead appears to reflect some warmer temperatures some welcome sunshine but with the risk of showers towards the end of the week.

1. Key Stage Three Assessments

Year 9 Maths exams

Learners in Year 9 will sit Maths exams during their Maths lessons on the following dates:

- **Unit 1 (non calculator) Tuesday May 2nd**
- **Unit 2 (calculator) Thursday May 4th**

Pupils have or will have relevant revision lists from their class teacher.

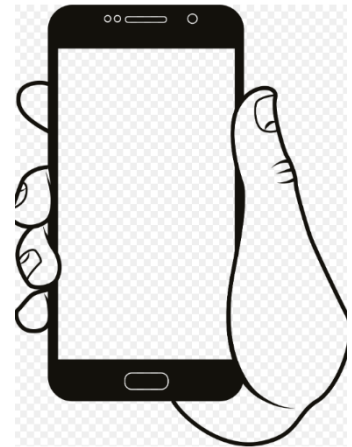
National Tests - Reading and Numeracy: Years 7-9

National Tests in Reading and Numeracy (Reasoning and Progression) will continue this week and will take place during lessons in English, Maths and IT. More information is available for learners from their subject teachers in English and Maths.

2. Healthy Attitudes to Mobile Phones in Class and Exams

As exam season approaches, we would like to support learners to understand the guidelines and procedures around using mobile phones. This is in line with our good practice to help everyone stay safe during exams and develop healthy attitudes towards using phones in general. As a reminder, our school policy is as follows:

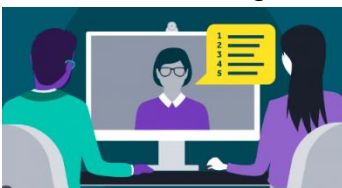
- Phones should be in bags in lessons (not pockets) and will not be allowed out in a classroom or during lessons unless a member of staff requests phones be used as a learning tool.
- The **JCQ / WJEC Exams** policy is that all pupils sitting external exams ensure that their phones are not on their persons or indeed switched on during the exams. We employ independently appointed exam invigilators and any breach will result in serious consequences for pupils, such as the risk of having papers cancelled.



This week we will remind learners of our school rules regarding the use of phones and their accessories (such as ear pods). We hope that this extra clarity will enable pupils to use their phones responsibly, but not in a way that distracts from their learning and indeed any examinations or assessments.

3. Year 8 Parents evening Thursday 20th April

A huge thank you to all those parents who took the time to give us feedback on the Year 8 Parents' Evening that took last Thursday.



We appreciate the positive dialogue on the evening both during the online parents' evening and in further discussions. We are very grateful for your positive comments and indeed ideas on anything we can do to provide further support.

If you have not yet already done so, you can still add your comments and feedback using the link below:

<https://forms.gle/wt1ex2dNDVp3tSo69>

On a general point, we would like to thank you for your support in continuing to conduct all conversations with us with calmness and respect that models an excellent example for our learners and enables us to provide the best possible support as quickly as possible. This approach is both hugely beneficial and always appreciated.

4. Important Information for Year 11 - Preparation for GCSE



- **Monday 24th April - Welsh GCSE Oral Exams (Year 11)**
- **Tuesday 2nd May onwards – AS Welsh Speaking and Listening exams**

Teachers in Welsh and French would like to thank learners for their hard work in the speaking exams that took place last week. ***Diolch o galon i bawb!***

The exams continue this week with Year 11 Welsh Speaking and Listening exams. Learners in 11X will also sit their AS Welsh Speaking and Listening exam on either Tuesday 2nd or Wednesday 3rd May (timetables with class teachers).

After School Revision – IMPORTANT FOR ALL LEARNERS

Revision timetables

Revision sessions are available after school along with support for completing any remaining controlled assessments. We also have a quiet space available for learners to revise in A1 from Monday – Thursday with access to computers and any resources they may need.

The timetable for revision is posted on learners' Google Classroom.

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/ysgolbryngwynschool/home>

Importantly, full attendance is vital to ensure that learners are able to achieve their potential. Lessons may include key learning that might not be revisited before the Summer. We would like to thank you for your support in ensuring pupils attend all lessons and try to avoid any disruption to their education before now and the Summer.

Coleg Sir Gar Open Evening – There will be a final Open Evening on **Wednesday 28th June 2023**



Both parents and learners are encouraged to attend.

Further information can be obtained from: admissions@colegsirgar.ac.uk or 01554 748179.

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 in their "Power Up" website for learners. These resources will help with everything associated with the Summer exams from exam technique and revision tips to guides on well-being 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, 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, well-being guidance and other support

Please see the [Guide to Exams and Assessments](#) This may be 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. **These may be useful and helpful to Years 10 and 11 over the early part of the Summer term in preparation for exams**

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

- **Competition Success!** - We would like to say special congratulations to Jay in Year 8 who competed in two competitions over the Easter break. First was the Welsh Nationals where he secured a gold and silver medal. Jay went on to achieve another gold and silver medal in his second competition in Cardiff for the Allstars Cardiff BJJ Pro. *Da iawn ti!*



- **Fundraising Concert:** A pupil in Year 11 has organised a fundraising event to support our visitors from Lesotho. The concert takes place at Furnace Rugby club on 19th May at 7.00pm. All funds raised will be used to ensure our guests enjoy a full experience whilst visiting Wales in June 2023. Tickets are £7 and are available on the door. Many of our learners will also be taking part and the evening promises some enjoyable entertainment.

- **Summer Term Athletics** – As the Summer months approach we look forward to enjoying a full menu of athletics activities and competitions. The following inter-school competition dates are important for the diary:

- 19th May - Llanelli Schools Athletics
- 26th May NASUWT Athletics
- 8th June - Dyfed Athletics



If anyone is interested in representing the school please see your PE teacher.



- **Gymnastics Success!** - Well done indeed to Lily T and Imogen C of Year 7 who recently competed in the Rhythmic Gymnastics Spring Stars Cup in London. Lily gained second overall for her ball routine and achieved a new 'Personal Best'. Imogen achieved a silver medal in the Hoop event and three gold medals. Ardderchog!

- **Horse-riding Success!** - Over the Easter weekend saw Mia-haf Bowen compete at the David Broome Event Centre in Newport at the Winter League SJ Championships. She had numerous placings over the weekend in big classes which resulted in her coming in Silver position for both of her classes *Da iawn ti!*



- **Jujitsu Success!** - Well done to Jaydon J year 11 who competed in the Jujitsu Eelsh Nationals and came away with a silver

Reminders of Important Information

School Uniform Recycling Request

We would like to thank those parents who have recently donated school uniform and PE kits to our school initiative to recycle uniform that children have either grown out of or have left school. This is hugely appreciated.



Our school uniform recycling drive is designed to support our work as part of the Eco Schools agenda as we aim to recycle and reuse wherever possible. We are also aware that many learners grow out of their uniform items quickly and suppliers have recently faced delays in obtaining new stock. We would very much appreciate if anybody has any uniform pieces that are spare or no longer required that they be donated to the school. Clothing can be donated at the School Reception or through your child's Head of Year.

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

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

Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Equipped and Ready to Learn

Many learners have recently been rewarded with Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates to reflect the number of Achievement Points they have been awarded so far this year. A significant number of Achievement Points are awarded by form teachers as a reward for learners who come to school correctly attired and equipped for learning.



We would like to thank you for your support in ensuring learners are reminded to bring all the equipment they need for their lessons each day. This becomes even more important with exams approaching for all year groups and we would be grateful if you could remind pupils to check that they have everything they need. Key equipment includes PE kit and relevant stationary such as a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator etc.

Pupil planners are also an invaluable source of information and can be key in sharing communication between school and home. We would like to thank you for checking and signing planners on a weekly basis. Along with form tutor weekly checking, this is an important activity that helps learners to reflect on their progression and celebrate their awards each week.

Free School Meals

Anyone new to claiming Free School Meals, please ensure you apply using the link below.

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

If you have any queries please use the contact details below. The team are there to help if any support is needed.

Email: FreeSchoolMeals@carmarthenshire.gov.uk or Telephone: 01267 234567 and ask for Free Meal Payments

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 well-being 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 this week and into the Summer 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>