

08.04.22

Dear Parent / Guardian,

At the end of another busy term, may I take this opportunity to thank you all as parents and carers for your continued support for the school, and I would like to wish you all a happy and safe Easter. I would like to inform you that Bryn Tawe (in line with most of Swansea's schools) will not be open on **Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of April**. This is the designated date for most Swansea schools for the additional bank holiday due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

I would like to extend a special thanks to two members of staff who are leaving us at the end of this term. Many thanks and best wishes to Mrs Marie Phillips, who is changing her career pathway. Mrs Phillips has been a much-valued member of staff at Bryn Tawe since 2007 and has contributed significantly to the success of the school and the lives of our pupils for 15 years! We also wish a fond farewell to Mr David Fletcher, who has been part of our staff since 2015, and is moving into a role as an ICT teacher at Ysgol y Strade. Our most sincere thanks go to him, and best wishes for his new post.

With only a few weeks prior to the beginning of external examinations, can I ask you as parents and carers to **support your child's revision** as they prepare for the challenges of the weeks ahead. Supporting learners to create revision schedules, encouraging perseverance, and offering emotional support are key factors in helping students reach their goals. It will also be important to support learners in managing their leisure and screentime, ensuring that they get enough sleep and eat healthily to enable their best performance over the next weeks and months.

We have also provided a range of **revision tools and strategies** which are available for all pupils in their respective year group 'team' – please go to the: 'Files – General Review' section to find the resources. Many teachers and departments will conduct face-to face revision sessions at the school (in addition to virtual sessions) over the holidays to support students facing examinations this year. Learners are already aware of this provision (year 11 timetable in the year 11 'Team'), however, could you please encourage students to attend these sessions.

Learners in years 7-9 will complete the **National Reading and Numeracy tests** during the next term and we will provide further details after the holidays, yet the proposed dates are available below:

- Year 9 will complete the tests during the week beginning the 9<sup>th</sup> May
- Years 7 and 8 to complete the tests after Whitsun half-term

End of year class tests for years 7 and 8 will also take place during the final half-term and between the dates of the 13-17/06/22.



Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe  
Heol Gwrysydd, Penlan, Abertawe SA5 7BU  
Ffôn 01792 560600

Ebost: [SwyddfaBrynTawe5@hwbcymru.net](mailto:SwyddfaBrynTawe5@hwbcymru.net)

[www.bryntawe.swansea.sch.uk](http://www.bryntawe.swansea.sch.uk)

Pennaeth : Mr Simon Davies



I would like to thank **year 9 parents** for supporting your child in choosing their options for their GCSEs. We will be sharing the final option columns at the beginning of the next term. It is pleasing to note that more than 90% of pupils can access their 3 preferred options, with all learners able to choose at least 2 out of their 3 choices. We will offer advice to any learners unable to access their preferred 3 options on suitable alternative courses and pathways. Such discussions, will of course, involve yourselves as parents and carers. Completing this process promptly will allow us to begin the GCSE courses with year 9 pupils immediately after Whitsun half term, on Monday the 6th of June.

In relation to measures combating COVID-19, we will return after the Easter holidays at **alert level 'Low'**, in line with the WG's decision-making framework. For further details on the Covid measures when we return, please see [this letter](#) from Swansea's Director of Education.

With the above changes in mind, we will re-start our **breakfast club** for learners between 07:45 and 08:25. In addition to this, we will start using our **new bus bay** from Tuesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> May. This change will involve some vital key health and safety adaptations to the arrangements for pedestrians and pupils receiving a lift on arrival and departure from the school site. I will be sharing these important health and safety details with you at the beginning of next term.

It is no coincidence that the pupils who make positive contributions to school life, and make excellent progress are those learners who adhere to our expectations in terms of uniform. Thank you once again to parents who ensure that their child(ren) comply with our expectations in relation to the dress code and support learners in being fully committed to the standards we have at Bryn Tawe. If in any doubt about our **uniform expectations and dress code**, please see the [relevant details here](#) on our website.

Should you have any further questions about the matters above, or any other issue relating to your child's education, please contact us at the school.

Sincerely,



Head



Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bryn Tawe  
Heol Gwrysydd, Penlan, Abertawe SA5 7BU  
Ffôn 01792 560600

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