



YSGOL GYFUN GYMRAEG
GLANTAF
CORON GWLAD EI MAMIAITH

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf

Heol y Bont, Ystum Taf
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1st December 2023

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Un Bore Mawrth

Huge congratulations to our students and staff for some truly excellent performances in the school production of *Un Bore Mawrth*. I would like to thank everybody for all their hard work, as staging a theatrical event to this standard is quite an achievement. It was also good to invite our Year 6 cluster pupils as well as Yr7 pupils to enjoy the drama, translated and adapted by former pupil, Daf James. Diolch bawb for such emotional, thought-provoking and mature performances!



The cast of Un Bore Mawrth

Congratulations – and come and show your support!

Following a tough season in the Welsh Schools and Colleges League, it's a pleasure to congratulate our 1st XV on reaching the final of the cup competition for the first time. The final will be held on Wednesday the 6th of December at 19.30. The game will be played at the Principality Stadium, entrance is free through Gate 3 and we invite our whole community to come and support Glantaf in the National Final v Coleg Llanymddyfri. It would be great to pack out the National Stadium with Glantaf voices! Pob lwc!



The 1st XV, through to the final of the Welsh School and Colleges League for the first time

Christmas Hampers

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far to our Christmas Hamper appeal, but we need MORE! We would be extremely grateful if you could contribute to our appeal which will help local families who may face hardships over the festive period ahead. We have shared a list of items and thank you for all contributions.

School Senedd 2023/24

Congratulations to the members of our School Senate who have been elected for the year 2023/24. They have had their first meeting and have lots of plans to improve the school, ensure pupil voice is heard and also raise money for their chosen charity.



School Senedd 2023/24

Christmas Concerts: December 21

We warmly invite you to join us for our Christmas concerts which will again be held this year at Tabernacl Chapel on the Hayes. There will be two concerts one beginning at 16.30 and one at 18.00. A letter has been sent through ClassCharts and we ask you to order tickets through ParentPay, £2 for adults and 50p for children. There will be no finer way to start the Christmas season in the company and talents of children and young people of Glantaf, including our remarkable Yr7 choir!

Consultation on changing the school year

The Welsh Government is consulting on changes to the school year. The suggestion is to shorten the Summer holidays to 5 weeks in order to have two weeks over the October half term, and centre the Easter holidays to ensure the Spring term is a consistent length. These changes are based on strong research that suggest benefits as regards ensuring pupil attainment and ensuring consistent term lengths in the Spring Term to ease planning and preparation for teachers. They welcome your views:

<https://www.llyw.cymru/strwythur-y-flwyddyn-ysgol>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISB6xwAyHSo>

Mock Examinations: As you may be aware, Y11-13 mock exams will be held from Wednesday, December 12th to Wednesday December 20th. The morning exams will start at 9am and the afternoon at 12.30pm. See ClassCharts for the full timetable.

Year 11: 13th – 20th of December

Year 12: 12th – 17th of December

Year 13: 12th – 19th of December

Year 9 Parent's Evening – will be held at Glantaf on Thursday, December 14th, 3.15-6.30pm.

GCSE and A level Awards Ceremony: Our Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, December 19 at 6pm at Glantaf for the 22/23 Yr.11 and 13 students. More details to follow, but parents are welcome to join us celebrating the successes of Summer 2023!

Pupil voice: During the week starting 4th of December we will be holding conversations with a sample of pupils about their studies at school. Members of our Leadership Team will meet with pupils to discuss school work, feedback, the challenge of work as well as homework. This is a vital part of our self evaluation process, and we look forward to hearing the pupils' views.

Well-being cafe: Our well-being cafe will be held on Wednesday the 6th of December at 13.50 at the school. This is an opportunity for parents to meet and discuss the well-being of their children with various experts. On the 6th we will be joined by Dr Saron West and Dr Lisa Cordery, who both specialise in offering support to parents and children in the LGBTQ+ community.

Important dates

December 15th –	Y Ganolfan's Christmas Show (10yb) Christmas Jumper / theme day : £1 to Felindre
December 19th –	Award Ceremony for GCSE and A Level students Summer '23
December 21st –	Christmas concerts (Tabernacl Chapel)
December 22nd –	School close at 13.15
January 8th –	School INSET – no school for pupils
January 9th –	Return to school (week 2)



Corb Davies, Winner of National Shakespeare School Foundation Award in What I Will competition

Finally, following the English Department's decision to change the set-text study for pupils in English Literature to Maya Angelou's classic: "*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*" you may well be interested in reading our very own Ms G Evans's blog on the DARPL website, it's certainly well worth a read ... [Maybe some Mice should be Caged... - DARPL](#)

Yours sincerely,

Dyfrig G Rees
Dirprwy Bennaeth / Deputy Head
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf

