

26 January 2024

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf

Heol y Bont, Ystum Taf Caerdydd, CF14 2JL

Pennaeth/Head: Mr Matthew H T Evans

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Examination success

We would wish to congratulate our Yr11 cohort for their GCSE Numeracy success and commend them for their hard work and thorough preparation in achieving 72% A*-C in their November examination. This should be a real boost to all pupils' confidence as they continue their studies for the summer examinations. *Da jawn chi wir!*

Canteen update: We apologise for the disruption as regards our hot meal service over the past week. Unfortunately, we have not yet managed to realise a solution and therefore one servery remains out of action. This means that pupils will have access to the same restricted menu for next week. However, we kindly ask Yr7 pupils to bring a packed lunch for Mon > Weds and Yr 9 to bring a packed lunch for Thurs > Friday as we are not able to serve such a large cohort of pupils under these restrictions. Pupils eligible for free school meals will have access to the canteen menu all week.

School Eisteddfod – March 1 Sophia Gardens 9am – 2pm: We will hold our School Eisteddfod this year at the National Sports Centre in Sophia Gardens on Friday, March 1st, St. David's Day for all students Yrs 7, 8, 9 and 12&13. The normal school buses will run and will visit Glantaf first in the morning (for Years 10 and 11) before making their way to Sophia Gardens. This will also be true of the journey home. We kindly ask pupils who live locally to Glantaf (and Sophia Gardens) to make their own way to and from the Centre. Yrs 10 & 11 are expected to attend school as normal as they will follow lessons specifically geared for preparation for the summer.

Eisteddfod yr Urdd: As noted on Classcharts, the closing date has been for the Dance and Instrumental solos for this year's Urdd Eisteddfod but if your child wants to compete in any other individual competition (all other stage competitions) at this year's Urdd Eisteddfod, then you must enter officially by MONDAY, 5/2/24: Cystadlu yn Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2024 | Urdd Gobaith Cymru
The school will enter the group competitions e.g. choirs, drama presentation etc but to compete individually, you need to enter in the Urdd portal (see above link) in order to compete: Instrumental – 20/02/24 – Gwersyll yr Urdd, Caerdydd: Dance – 04/03/24 – Fitzalan High school; Secondary
Prelims (stage competitions) – 14/03/24 – Memo Arts Centre, Barry; Eisteddfod Sir/Secondary
Regional – 15/03/24 – Memo Arts Centre, Barry. We strongly encourage that your child competes in the school Eisteddfod in order to gain competition practice and experience - Prelims – February
27. Urdd list of competitons: Rhestr Testunau Eisteddfod yr Urdd 2024 CY F0.6.pdf Joining the Urdd: Ymuno | Urdd Gobaith Cymru

Local Art Visit: Our 6th Form students benefitted from a visit to the *Artes Mundi* Exhibition in addition to other exhibits at the museum. Year 10 art and photography students also visited the exhibition and had the opportunity to take part in a workshop 'Art and Campaigning' where they discussed local and international art.

HPV Vaccinations: A diary reminder - *HPV Vaccine Session* 6th of March 2024 for ALL year 8 pupils. The link to the electronic consent form will be sent about

3-4 weeks before the date. Any year 9,10,11 pupils who have not received the vaccine can also have the vaccine on this day.

Debate Mate: The Debating club, from years 8-11, took part in the launch of Debate Mate at Cardiff University. Megan Jones and Sophie Sidman-Jones from Yr 11 volunteered to be part of the live debate on stage, in front of a large audience of young people from 8 different schools! This was an excellent opportunity for them to practise their oracy skills, as well as learning how to present a strong debate.



Parents Wellbeing Café: Our wellbeing café will be held on Wednesday the 7th of February at 1.50pm at Glantaf. This is an opportunity for parents to meet and discuss the wellbeing of their children with various experts. Elen Hughes from the In-Support Service for schools will be here to present and answer questions on *How to support your child's Mental Health*. A wonderful opportunity to have a chat over a cup of tea and cake, everyone welcome!

Glantaf / Llanwern High School / DARPL Partnership visit: We are delighted that our partnership work with Llanwern High School and DARPL (Diversity and Anti Racism Professional Learning) will continue this term with an educational visit to six schools in New Zealand. Having received funding through *Taith* to work collaboratively with schools in New Zealand on bilingual education, as well as work on de-colonizing the curriculum, which corresponds closely to the work which is happening within Curriculum for Wales. It is also interesting to note that New Zealand has set themselves an ambitious target of *Te Reo Maori* speakers much as has happened here in Cymru. We also look forward to welcoming senior leaders and staff from New Zealand back to Wales during the summer months. Please be advised therefore that Mr Evans (Head) and Ms Amanda Williams (Head of Expressive Arts) will be on the visit from 1-15 February. Glantaf Deputy Head, Mr Dyfrig Rees will be leading the school community during Mr Evans's absence.

Spring Term Events: May we remind you of a few upcoming events during this term:

29 Jan – 2 Feb Yr 13 Geography fieldwork residential at Glanllyn 29-31 Jan Yr 9 Outdoor Education residential to Storey Arms

29 January Teams Meeting for History New York Visit for Yr 10 & Yr 11: 6pm & 6.30pm

5 – 9 February Safer internet Assemblies

6 February Yr11 & Yr13 Photos – individuals, friendship groups and whole year photo

7 February Year 12 Parents Evening (to be held using School Cloud)

8 – 15 February Ski Visit 2024 10-18 February Half Term Break

22 February Yr 10 Parents Evening (to be held at school 3.15 – 6.30pm)

1 March School Eisteddfod at Sophia Gardens

Dydd Santes Dwynwen: Tuesday, 25th January was Dydd Santes Dwynwen, the patron saint day of lovers in Wales. Thank you to our Senedd, and especially the 6th form, for organising a cake stall and various activities. We are grateful to all our staff for providing enriching opportunities during this short half term. Thank you also to you as parents for your continued support in helping us to maintain high standards for behaviour and learning.

Yours sincerely, Megan Bennett

Megan Bennett Pennaeth Cynorthwyol / Assistant Headteacher Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf