

5 November 2023

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Welcome back: We hope you have enjoyed a pleasant and restful half term break as we all return to school on Monday, 6 November (week 1)

**Effective marking and feedback:** We are continuing to focus on piloting different approaches to marking and feedback. Departments will be looking at varying their feedback and on increasing time for pupils to respond to the guidance given. Our focus will be on marking effectively rather than marking every piece of pupils' work. Educational research

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf

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Fond farewell and diolch Mrs Ffion Roberts

informs us that receiving oral feedback in lessons (live assessment) and providing opportunities for pupils to respond and reflect on their feedback are important features to encourage real progress. Pupils may also hear their teachers talking about "Tasgau Her Uchel" (Challenge Tasks). These tasks will be important as we aim to track and monitor pupils progress more effectively. We hope to share more information with you on this important development work, during the year.

**New phone system:** Over the half term we have installed a new phone system in school and we have been advised that it may take a few days to transfer the old numbers over to the new system. Our main reception lines will be fully operational, however some of our internal lines may be out of use during this first week. The new system should be fully installed by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November. If you experience any difficulty, may we remind you of email contact details: Contact Us (glantaf.cymru)

**Glantaf Cluster Orchestra Workshop, 9 November at 4pm:** We are delighted at the enthusiastic response to our Cluster United Orchestra with pupils from Yr4>Yr13. Parents are invited to join us for the impromptu concert at 4pm in our Sports Hall (not the Main Hall).

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Joseff, Ioan, Tom, Lloyd and Sion called up to Wales u18 Squad

**Cerdd Dant Festival, 11 November:** We wish our pupils (and a number of up to Wales u18 Squad staff!) well as they compete in the *Cerdd Dant Festival*, to be held at Cardiff & Vale College, Dumballs Road, on Saturday, 11 November.

Parents Online Safety Information Evening, Monday 13 November 5pm (Welsh medium) and 6pm

(English medium): All parents / guardians are invited to join us on a Teams meeting, concentrating on Online Safety Guidance for parents. As you are aware, there have been a number of very high profile cases where young people and children have been cruel victims of exploitation and online bullying. We look forward to share practical guidance regarding keeping our young people safe, and of raising awareness of the real dangers our youngsters must negotiate. If your child has joined in Year 7, you are particularly welcome, and each presentation will have the opportunity for an informal Q&A session. Links will follow and also appear on your child's Teams calendar.

**Night at the Races** – **Cyfeillion Glantaf on Friday 24 November at 7.30pm**: Please join us for our Cyfeillion Glantaf (*Friends of Glantaf*) fundraising event at Whitchurch Tennis Club.



Tickets are available on ParentPay, priced @ £10 and we look forward to a special evening to meet new members and all in aid of supporting the school.

**Un Bore Mawrth: Glantaf drama production, 28-30 November:** Book now to ensure your seats in this year's drama production, "Un Bore Mawrth". This GCSE Drama set-play, adapted by former pupil and renowned playwright, Daf James is based on "an ordinary Tuesday", that turns really, really weird when the sky over the school playground suddenly rips open! Tickets will be released on Parentpay on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 8am priced at £15 adults and £8 (under18) with family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) at £40. We look forward to a theatrical treat, and wish all our budding actors the very best in their rehearsals.

**Flu Nasal Spray Immunisation** – **7&8 December: Yrs 7-11**: We will shortly send you details of this immunisation programme, please look out for the letter and remember to record your consent online.

**Year 11 – Numeracy Exams:** Unit 1 Numeracy – 7/11/23 and Unit 2 Numeracy – 9/11/23 There will be extra revision provided by the department on Mon, 6 Nov and Wed, 8 Nov during the school day. Following the Numeracy examinations on 7 & 9 Nov, students will then return to their normal classes. Please be aware that we do not allow pupils to return home after their exam and all students should remain in school for the remainder of the day.

## Year 11 – 13 – Progress Report:

All pupils in Year 11,12 and 13 will receive a progress report on Friday 10/11/23.

## **Upcoming events:**

9/11/23	Cluster Orchestra Workshop,
	Concert at 4pm (Sports Hall)
11/11/23	Cerdd Dant festival, CAVC, Dumballs Rd
13/11/23	Online Safety Evening 5pm and 6pm on Teams
14/11/23	Art & Design GCSE Examination Yr11
15/11/23	Yr 11 GCSE Biology Workshop (Triple Science students)
15&16/11	United Orchestra Workshop (Plasmawr & Wales Millennium Centre)
20/11/23	INSET – school closed for pupils
23/11/23	Yr13 Parents Evening (Glantaf) 3.30-6pm
24/11/23	Night at the Races – Cyfeillion Glantaf at Whitchurch Tennis Club @ 7.30pm
28-30/11	"Un Bore Mawrth" drama production at Glantaf – tickets available on ParentPay!

**Dyslexia Awareness:** We were pleased to raise awareness of dyslexia in assemblies and registration sessions during October, as well as some informative videos on our X account: <u>Gweld y byd mewn lliw gyda Dyslecsia / Newyddion Ni 4 Hydref 2023 - YouTube</u>

**Diwali**: Finally, we send our best wishes to families who will be celebrating Diwali, the festival of lights over next weekend! May the lights of Diwali fill your life with prosperity, peace and good health!

As always if you need further information, please contact the school and follow our X account @Ysgol\_Glantaf

Yn gywir MHIEras

Mr Matthew H T Evans Pennaeth / Head

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf



Silver Medals for our Yr7 Novice Gymnasts!