

Gorwel Addysg Gwybodaeth



Ysgol Gyfun

**PORTHCAWL**

Comprehensive School

52 Park Avenue, Porthcawl CF36 3ES

Telephone: 01656 774100

52 Park Avenue, Porthcawl CF36 3ES

Ffôn: 01656 774100

Email: [info@porthcawlschool.co.uk](mailto:info@porthcawlschool.co.uk)

Ebost: [info@porthcawlschool.co.uk](mailto:info@porthcawlschool.co.uk)

Headteacher/Prifathro: M. J. Stephens NPQH, P Dip Ed, BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Brifathrawes: A. O'Brien NPQH, BSc

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Brifathrawes: C-A. Painter BA (Hons)

12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we near the halfway point of the Summer Term, I would like to take this opportunity to provide an update.

### **Sporting Success**

It has been a time of sporting success at PCS! Our U14 rugby team have been crowned Welsh Cup Champions! On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April, the team travelled to the Principality Stadium to play Ysgol Dyffryn Amman and won 21-10. It was an honour and privilege to attend the match and I am certainly one very proud Headteacher! The PCS travelling support was excellent and it was lovely to enjoy the final with so many people from our local community. There were certainly lots of students, families, and teachers in the crowd to cheer on PCS! Thank you to all who joined us; so many proud parents – wonderful! The U14 final certainly showcased schools' rugby talent and all players on both teams played so very well! The opportunity to attend our National Stadium, in front of a big crowd what an experience and opportunity!

They are very talented group of rugby players; I wish them all the very best for the future, and I am sure more rugby success awaits. A thank you to our PE department for your hard work and effort! I should also like to pass on my thanks to our kit sponsors - it looked excellent for the final! I am sure there will be more information and photos to follow in the summer term edition of the Porthcawl Post. It was lovely to celebrate success in a special assembly with Year 8 and Year 9 last week.

Year 9 continued their sporting success yesterday - this time in football! The team won the Cwpan Penybont 3-1 against Brynteg School. This was a repeat of last years final. Well done to all involved another excellent achievement.

We continue with sporting success as our Senior Football team have reached the final of the Bridgend Schools Cup – well done all! It is likely that this match will be played after the forthcoming examinations.

### **GCSE and A Level Exams**

The formal summer examinations started this week, and this morning over 200 Year 11 pupils sat their GCSE Welsh 2<sup>nd</sup> Language examination paper. Continued preparation, organisation and a thorough revision programme is the key to success and will increase chances of achieving their potential. We wish all Year 10, Year 11, Year 12, and Year 13 pupils the very best for their summer examinations.

I am sure that all Year 11, Year 12, and Year 13 families have received my previous letters which included details about study leave, so by means of a brief update:

- **Year 11:** Study Leave will be granted from the week commencing 5th June 2023 and until this date, students will be expected to attend school as normal. Students will attend lessons and revise and prepare

accordingly. Students will sit examinations as usual then return to lessons. For the next two weeks a bespoke revision programme has been put in place to support all students. We have the leavers assembly to look forward to soon.

- **Year 12:** Normal teaching finishes today, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May is the first AS examination paper and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June is the date of the last AS examination paper. Students will not be expected to attend normal lessons during this period unless their teacher requests it. On Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> June, all students should attend school for the Year 13 Induction Programme in the Sixth Form Hall. All students must attend, there is a lot planned this year and the induction programme has been designed to support the move from AS to A2.
- **Year 13:** Lessons continue until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May. Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May is the first A Level paper and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June is the date of the last A Level examination paper. I am sure all are looking forward to the Sixth Form Summer Ball on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July and our Leavers' Ceremony on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

As you will see from the dates above, it is a busy few weeks ahead. To all students, I wish you all the very best for your forthcoming examinations – Good Luck!

### **Public Speaking**

Congratulations to Wil Morgans, Ella Verderame, Romy Francombe and Tammy Igbenihi who represented the school in the National ESU Public Speaking Competition 'Finals Day' in Churchill College, Cambridge. During the final Wil, Ella, Romy and Tammy engaged in debating in front of a range of judges, including the great grandson of Winston Churchill, Randolph Churchill. Although the team did not win, there was much to celebrate! Our team was the only Welsh school in the final and the only comprehensive/state school in the final 12. The team finished 6<sup>th</sup> out of the 425 schools who entered the competition, quite some achievement – well done!

This week, when I have visited lessons I have spoken to students about our values. Specifically, 'perseverance' and 'commitment' and how we should continue to aim for excellence in all we do. In my conversations I asked students to consider how their actions can have a positive impact on those around them, both at school and at home. I discussed the half term ahead and the moments they will create. It was lovely to hear that all plan to make the most of the time that they have – keep it up!

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens  
Headteacher