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Ysgol Gyfun
PORHCRAWL
Comprehensive School

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

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

27th October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have reached the half-way point of the autumn term and I would like to thank you for your on-going support, it has been an excellent half term and as I reflect I do so with immense pride. The strong relationships that exist at PCS amongst staff, families and students enable us to achieve all that we do. I am proud of our school community for the way we work together and what we achieve, and I look forward to continued partnerships throughout the academic year ahead.

Some of the highlights this half-term:

- Year 7 and Year 12 Information Evenings
- A wide range of extra-curricular sporting fixtures – there really are too many to list and we will update in the Autumn Term Edition of the Porthcawl Post.
- Many educational trips and visits including a Yr7 Expressive Arts trip to watch a Welsh National Opera Performance at the Wales Millennium Centre Cardiff and a Yr9-Yr13 Computer Science trip to the International Conference Centre.
- Year 12 Seren Induction.
- Year 9 students promoting their chosen charities as part of the First Give project.
- Year 6 transition days - we are looking forward to further visits to PCS in the year ahead.
- Our Year 11 Wellbeing Ambassadors running 'Wellbeing Wednesday'
- Preparations and rehearsals for our 45th school production taking place in January 2024.
- The launch of Curriculum for Wales for our Yr7 and Yr8 students at PCS named the 'Curriculum for Porthcawl'.
- Peer to Peer (P2P) training for Key Stage 3 students.
- Year 11 Progress Evening it was lovely to see so many parents/carers in attendance.

For our Yr11 students the start date for the GCSE Mathematics Examination can now be counted in weeks and the need for continued focus, commitment and hard work is never more important. I would like to praise all students for their effort and maturity as they continue to prepare for their first GCSE examination of this academic year – keep it up! A thank you is also needed to our Mathematics Faculty who have, and continue to provide the very best support for all students. A team effort – well done everyone!

The dates for the forthcoming GCSE Mathematics Examination are as follows:

- GCSE Mathematics Paper 1 – Monday 13th November 9:00am
- GCSE Mathematics Paper 2 – Wednesday 15th November 9:00am

Below are some of the key events coming up next half term:

- Year 6 Open Evening – Wednesday 8th November
- GCSE Mathematics Paper 1 (Year 11) – Monday 13th November
- GCSE Mathematics Paper 2 (Year 11) – Wednesday 15th November
- Year 13 Progress Evening – Wednesday 22nd November
- Year 7 Progress Evening – Wednesday 29th November

Advanced Notice: Monday 27th November is an INSET day at Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

I am pleased to report that our whole school attendance is much improved when compared to the same period last year. However, I would like to take this opportunity to raise the importance of regular attendance at school. Quite simply, it is the access to learning, it is the building of confidence and skills, it is the proven foundation of success. Attending school on a regular, punctual basis is one of the most important ways of making sure young people get the best possible start in life. We encourage all students to attend school on time, every day, and aim for 100% attendance. I therefore ask for your continued consideration when booking appointments and holidays during school time.

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens
Headteacher