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Ysgol Gyfun
PORTHCAWL
Comprehensive School

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

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Bennaeth: D.W.A Beard BA (Hons)

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

12th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year - I hope that you have enjoyed the festive break with family and friends.

Since we have returned from the Christmas break it has been a busy week – *assemblies, celebrations, sporting activities, exams, and rehearsals!*

On Wednesday, Year 10 students completed their Unit 1 English Literature GCSE examination. I would like to praise all students for their effort and maturity as they prepared for and sat their very first GCSE exam. A thank you is also needed to our English Faculty who have provided additional lessons, revision sessions and 'Walking Talking Mocks' in preparation for this examination. A team effort – well done everyone!

As I write, important decisions are being made about future pathways. The Year 11 Options Fortnight will start next week and on Wednesday 17th January 5:00pm-7:00pm, I look forward to welcoming students and parents/carers to our Sixth Form Open Evening. We anticipate a large intake of around 150 students joining Year 12 next year, and I hope you find the evening informative. The event will begin in the Sixth Form Hall and there will be an opportunity to speak with different subject leaders about the courses offered in the Sixth Form, the A Level options process and the next steps required for returning to the Sixth Form at Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

The Year 9 Options Fortnight starts on Monday 29th January (more information will follow) and we are holding our Year 9 Progress Evening on Wednesday 7th February. I look forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions about the Sixth Form or Year 9 Options Process please contact Mr Beard, Deputy Headteacher via info@porthcawlschool.co.uk

Please don't think I have forgotten about our annual school production of 'Jekyll & Hyde The Musical' at the Grand Pavilion starting on Wednesday 24th-27th January 2024. The set up and rehearsals are underway! A special thank you to the cast and crew, and of course, Mr Smith, Mrs Giles, Mrs Smith, Mrs Poole and Mr Llewellyn - your hard work and effort has not gone unnoticed. I cannot wait for the production to start! If you haven't booked your tickets yet you can do so via: [Porthcawl Comprehensive School presents Jekyll & Hyde | What's On | Awen Box Office](#)

As we start the new term, I am very pleased at the high standard of our school uniform. However, I ask that you ensure your child continues to wear the correct full school uniform every day. I acknowledge that we are experiencing a period of cold weather, however when your child wears a jumper to school, this

should be a school jumper not a hooded top or branded jumper. Your support with the uniform is very much appreciated.

I would like to congratulate our Year 10 rugby team who won the Ospreys Cup for the third year in a row at the end of the autumn term. I also would like to congratulate our Year 9 rugby team who have reached the final of the Ospreys Plate. This match is due to be played soon.

I shall end with celebration! On Thursday, Year 11 students received their GCSE mathematics results from their November 2023 examination, and I am delighted to announce that students have performed incredibly well. This year, yet again, our results indicate a very strong performance. This is testament to the hard work and effort of students and the unity and drive of staff to provide the very best for learners at PCS. Over three quarters of the year group secured an A*-C grade and well over a third of all grades were awarded at A*/A. The level 1 and level 2 pass rate were very high. I am very proud of all students - an outstanding achievement! Well done to Yr11 and of course, our Mathematics Faculty – thank you! These results provide an excellent foundation for the summer 2024 examinations and replicate the year group's success in GCSE English Literature and GCSE Science last year. I would like to personally congratulate all students on their achievements, and I look forward to hearing about your future success as you move forward with GCSE Additional Mathematics, GCSE Numeracy and the LiBF qualifications.

A successful start to the term. I thank you for all your continued support.

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens

Headteacher

Important Dates – January / February 2024

- 15th January - Year 11 Options Fortnight Starts
- 17th January - Sixth Form Options & Open Evening, 5:00pm-7:00pm
- 24th - 27th January - School Show
- 29th January - Year 9 Options Fortnight Starts
- 7th February - Year 9 Progress Evening