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Ysgol Gyfun  
**PORTHCRAWL**  
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)

12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back for the summer term at Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

### **GCSE & A Level Examinations**

It is an important term for our Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 pupils with the summer examination series starting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024. The start dates for the GCSE, AS Level and A Level written exams are as follows:

- 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – GCSE
- 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – AS Level
- 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – A Level

From these dates onwards, the exams continue up to the week ending Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. Each pupil has their own personalised timetable, and it is important that they are aware of the dates and times of examinations that apply to them.

From this point onwards the start date for the examinations can now be counted in days and weeks and the need for continued focus and hard work is never more important. I have been very pleased to hear about the high standards of preparation, effort and commitment demonstrated by so many of our pupils as they move towards the examination series - I pass on my sincere best wishes and good luck to all pupils. It was great to learn that so many pupils took the opportunity to attend our Easter revision programme. Thank you to the staff for providing these extra sessions during the holiday period.

Once the GCSE examinations are underway, a revision programme will be put in place for Year 11. This means that the school timetable will be revised, and a timetable consisting of lessons and revision sessions will be put in place up to the end of this half term, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May. A lot of planning goes into this programme and it is designed to maximise learning for all our pupils in the lead up to each examination. More information about this will be shared by Mrs. James, Assistant Headteacher.

Very soon there will be separate letters sent home to parents/carers of Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 pupils. These letters will provide specific details in relation to examinations, study leave, next steps etc. Please note, there is no study leave for Year 11 this half term, all Year 11 pupils are expected to attend school up to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

## **Class Charts**

This week your child was given a letter with a unique code for you to access the class charts parent app. In addition, to support parent/carer sign up we provided a step by step guide via email. Class Charts is the app that we will be using moving forward to communicate attendance, behaviour, homework and more. The Sims Parent App has now stopped. I encourage all parents/carers to sign up for this app. Many thanks for the positive feedback we have already received. If you are experiencing any difficulties with sign up please contact [info@porthcawlschool.co.uk](mailto:info@porthcawlschool.co.uk) and your query will be answered as soon as possible.

## **Recycling & Waste Collections New Regulations - April 2024**

There are new regulations that have come into effect with regards to recycling and waste collections for all workplaces, including schools. The new regulations mean that we need to separate our recyclable materials in the same way most households already do. There are several logistical and day to day changes to our on-site practices and waste management procedures. I will provide a more detailed update about what this looks like at PCS in more detail next week.

### **Advanced Notice:**

- Year 8 Progress Evening – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April
- Bank Holiday – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May
- Internal exams (Yr7-Yr9) – w/b Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June
- INSET day – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June

I shall write again later this term to provide further updates. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I again wish our Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 pupils the very best of luck for their forthcoming exams and I hope all pupils achieve their very best this summer term.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens  
Headteacher