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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)

19th May 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we near the May half term break, I write to provide a brief update.

Key Stage 3 Examinations/Assessments

The w/b Monday 19th May marks the second week of the Key Stage 3 examinations/assessments. These will take place in a variety of different formats and will be held at different venues. Some will take place in classrooms; others will take place in larger venues such as the Sports Hall. All examinations/assessments have been designed to support pupil progress, and for our Yr9 pupils they have been designed to support the move towards GCSEs in September 2025. I wish all Key Stage 3 pupils the very best - keep up the good work!

GCSE & A-Level Examinations

Last week we held our Year 13 Leavers 'Tea' and assembly and this week we will hold our Year 11 Assembly - there has been lots of celebrations, farewells, shirt signing, smiles, and of course photographs! The GCSE and A Level Examinations continue – best wishes to all pupils as they complete their remaining exams. I have been very impressed with the hard work, effort and commitment demonstrated since the start of the summer examinations series. Reminder: from Monday 2nd June, Year 11 Study Leave officially starts. This means that pupils are only required to attend school when they have a scheduled examination. Therefore, it is important that every pupil is fully aware of their remaining exams as per their personalised timetable. This pattern of attendance also applies to Year 13 who will attend school for their A Level exams only. Year 13 study leave starts today. Please note, teachers may arrange additional revision sessions over the forthcoming weeks and will communicate details as required.

Yr12 into Yr13 Induction

We welcome Yr12 students back to PCS on Monday 9th June and all pupils must attend from this date. During this week, our Yr12 into Yr13 'Induction Programme' will be completed and A2 study will begin. This year, we are not running our induction programme for the full week because from September 2025, all Yr13 pupils will receive weekly activities, workshops and programmes to prepare and support them with University applications and/or their progression plans - thank you to Miss Crook, Mrs Bennion and Mr Beard for planning this. These will be timetabled.

School Standards

Many thanks for your support in ensuring that our 'School Standards' with respect to school uniform and mobile phones are followed by your children. Since the 28th of April we have noticed a significant improvement in the standard of school uniform. In addition, mobile phones are no longer being seen or used on the school site. This has improved pupil behaviour and significantly improved all social interactions at break and lunch time. Our policies are as follows - school uniform as per our policy and no mobile phone use at all (including earpods) whilst on the school site. I thank you for your continued support with this.

School Production – 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'

As advertised, our school production is taking place in July. This will be the 46th production in our school history and it goes without saying – the talent, tradition and all the associated standards of excellence once again continue at PCS! Rehearsals have been underway for many months, and I am in complete awe of the talent and excellence! To the cast and crew – good luck!

Tickets are on sale for our school production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat'. To book tickets, please follow this link: [Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat | Eventbrite](#) or use the QR code below.



School Site

Scheduled works and building improvements continue across the school site. Our new changing room facilities in the swimming pool are nearing completion and I am hopeful that these will be ready for use after the Whitsun break. In addition, it is very likely that building work will begin on the Sports Hall at the start of the summer holidays 2025. This will involve a significant refurbishment / part rebuild, and planning is underway to move forward with this project. As with all projects, things can change, and with this in mind I will update as we move through the summer. I am really pleased that our facilities are being improved and upgraded for our pupils, the staff and the community.

Have a lovely Whitsun break.

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens
Headteacher