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

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24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to the summer term at Porthcawl Comprehensive School. There is a lot ahead of us – GCSE & A Level examinations, sports events, the school show and transition activities to name a few. It will be another excellent term at PCS!

### **School Production – ‘West Side Story’**

Final plans are underway for our school production which is taking place in July. Once again, we are holding our school production on site and we will be running four performances. For almost a year, we have been planning and coordinating this event – from the performance through to the logistics; this will be an excellent production in true PCS fashion! We will fully transform the venue as we create staging, sound, lighting and seating!

This will be the 47<sup>th</sup> 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! Each year, our annual school production allows us to showcase our school in the local community. It is a true community event, and I look forward to you joining us. 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!

So finally, I am delighted to announce that tickets will be on sale from the start of May 2026.

### **GCSE and A Level Exams – KS4 & KS5**

The summer examinations start in the next few weeks, and on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May Year 11 pupils will sit their first written GCSE examination paper of the summer 2026 series. We wish all pupils in Year 10 to Year 13 the very best for their summer exams

I hope that Year 11, Year 12, and Year 13 families have received all 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 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 and until this date, all pupils will be expected to attend school as normal. Pupils will attend their timetabled lessons and sit examinations as per their individual timetables. This will work around their lessons. During this half term, a bespoke revision programme and timetable will be put in place to support all pupils – a copy of this timetable will be shared on ClassCharts today. Mrs James and Mr Aldridge delivered a revision skills workshop on Thursday of this week and we will continue to provide skills sessions and personalised support as we move through this half term. We have the leavers assembly to look

forward to soon – a date will be confirmed in due course. All pupils must remain in school until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026. Attendance is compulsory until this date.

### **Year 12**

Normal teaching finishes on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May. Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May is the first AS examination paper and Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June is the date of the last AS examination paper. Pupils will not be expected to attend normal lessons during this period unless their teacher requests it. On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, all pupils should attend school for the Year 13 Induction Programme. All pupils must attend the Sixth Form Hall at the start of the day. All pupils must attend this induction, there is a lot planned and the induction programme has been designed to support the move from AS (Yr12) to A2 (Yr13).

### **Year 13**

Lessons continue until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May. Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May is the first A Level paper and Wednesday 17<sup>th</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 26<sup>th</sup> June and our Leavers' Ceremony on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

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

### **Key dates:**

- **4<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - Bank Holiday
- **5<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - GCSE written examinations start
- **11<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - AS Level written examinations start
- **14<sup>th</sup> May 2026** - A Level written examinations start
- **w/b 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026** - Key Stage 3 Internal Exams / Assessment Window
- **22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026** - INSET Day (5)
- **w/b 29<sup>th</sup> June 2026** – Annual School Show Performances
- **20<sup>th</sup> July 2026** – INSET Day (6)

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens  
Headteacher