



# Ysgol Bae Baglan

Headteacher Mr R. Rees

Senior Leadership Team Mr G. Williams, Mr S. Davies, Miss N. Williams  
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Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to start by thanking the whole school community, including pupils, parents, staff and governors for your continued support over the last year. This year has been extremely challenging once again for us all but has demonstrated that when we work together as a community, we can overcome the most difficult of obstacles. This was underlined again this week with the unprecedented extreme heat warning. Despite the undoubted challenges of the year, we continue to return thankfully to a more pre-pandemic and, dare I say it, more normal situation. That is not to say that the threat of COVID has completely disappeared of course. I was obviously concerned about the potential impact of COVID on our Year 11 learners who were sitting their GCSE Examinations but the number of pupils who tested positive and were unable to sit particular exams was thankfully very low. All appropriate protocols were followed, and we have liaised with WJEC to ensure special consideration arrangements are put in place and no pupil is disadvantaged. I was very proud of the way in which Year 10 and 11 conducted themselves in the examinations considering their lack of experience of undertaking formal examinations. A reminder that GCSE Results Day is on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August

We have been able to do a range of activities this term. Many classes and year groups have had the opportunity to attend trips and sporting activities and I was delighted to see the summer fayre return which was organised by the PTFA and the primary phase sports day. Thankfully, the rain held off and it was lovely to see the community come together again and have fun. It was also a pleasure to hold the Year 11 Leavers' Assembly in the Hall and bid a fond farewell to the year group who have been a credit to the school. Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June saw the annual celebration evening/prom return after a two-year hiatus.

Year 6 transition activities have recommenced this year and a whole host of activities have taken place for Year 5 and 6 pupils. Pupils starting in our Learning Resource Centre in September have also been attending our Enrichment sessions after school on a Wednesday which will benefit the pupils' transition immensely. We are really looking forward to welcoming Year 7 pupils in September.

## Start of Term

Date	Year Groups In School
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Reception – Year 6; Year 7; Year 11 New Year 7 pupils report to the main atrium.
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	All other year groups

## Term Dates

Period	Date
Autumn Term 1	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
Half Term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November
Autumn Term 2	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December
Christmas Holiday	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> December – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> January
Spring Term 1	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February
Half Term	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> February
Spring Term 2	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Easter Holiday	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April
Summer Term 1	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Summer Term 2	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June – Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July

## INSET Days

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July

## **School Uniform**

School uniform is an important part of setting the tone for our expectations in school. I expect all pupils to arrive in September in full school uniform. Full uniform details are available on our website and I recently wrote to parents outlining expectations for September. Pupils in Year 7 will receive their Satchel 1 logins on their first day so should wear normal school uniform on day 1.

## **Paying for lunch and break**

We continue to use the ParentPay system for payments to school. Those with existing accounts should ensure that meals accounts are topped up ready for September. Pupils new to the school with siblings should now have access to top up and others will receive account details through the post. Details will be posted on 19<sup>th</sup> August. We will allow pupils on their first day only to use an overdraft facility for lunch if necessary, but this will not be available at break time.

Finally, I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and my very best wishes for a relaxing and rejuvenating break.

Yours sincerely,  
R. Rees  
Headteacher