

## Headteacher update

### **‘At Nantgwyn, when you are ready, respectful and responsible, everything is possible’**

A huge thank you for your support and positivity over the last seven weeks - what a seven weeks it has been. Our pupils and staff have been truly marvellous, despite many challenges including illness, absence, (pupils and staff), and our constant striving to want them to do their very best; they have risen to the challenge.

We have celebrated successes and supported many of the Ysgol Nantgwyn community who are having an incredibly sad and difficult time. Please remember we are always here if you need us, you are never alone.

Many thanks to the many parents and family members who completed our Nantgwyn questionnaire. I will share these positive results with you after half term, along with our action plans to address the areas in need of improvement. Please remember to get in touch with your child's teacher or lower, middle, upper school staff at any time if you are worried or concerned or alternatively pop us an email to [help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk).

We have seen a slight improvement in school attendance over the last few weeks, but as a team together we now need to see a further positive improvement. Our target is for ALL pupils to be in school all of the time so that in a 4 week period a child could only be absent once as a maximum, and ideally no time at all. As Covid rates have dropped considerably and as finer weather is on the horizon, ensuring much better attendance and punctuality habits now needs to be our main priority to ensure excellent learning and progress can happen for the next half of this year. Please note the times of the school day below. It is expected that all pupils are in their classrooms, sat down and ready to learn by the school start time of either 08:40 (years 4 to 11) and 08:55 (nursery through to year 3). Any arrival after this point is classed as late.

Pupils return to school on **Tuesday 1st March** for St David's Day celebrations and we will also be celebrating World Book Day on Friday 5th, one day later the national day to support school operations. Information has been shared by Heads of School below.

### **Covid Update**

In good news, after half term we will no longer be operating at the very highest state of Covid alert in school. However the current advice from the local authority is that we will remain within a high state of operations. This does bring a reduction in some of precautionary measures, namely:

1. No requirement for pupils and staff to wear masks inside classrooms, but masks will still be required in communal areas.
2. No masks required in outside areas.
3. Smaller assemblies in some circumstances
4. Return to normal parent drop off for gwyn pupils (in drop off time only). Please note that the gates on the Gwyn side will not open before 08:35 and we politely ask that you plan your journey to arrive on or after this time so that our neighbours in the Gellifaelog estate are not impacted by lines of queueing traffic.

***All other current precautions will still apply at the high alert level.***

Heads of School have set a number of half term challenges and especially important revision plans for year 11 pupils, but it is important to take down time too.

Yours, as always

Kirsty Retallick  
Headteacher

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### Head of School update

Middle School pupils have had a fantastic half term. As always, pupils have worked incredibly hard and made us extremely proud with their contributions to school life. We have another busy half term ahead which starts with St David's Day and World Book Day Celebrations the week we return to school (details can be found in the school update section below.)

Congratulations to our pupils who have achieved the most reward points for the half term, pupils are rewarded points for their effort, along with being ready, respectful and responsible:

Year 4:	Year 7:
Rhys W	Jayden-Leigh
Joshua	Travis T
Zak	Jack S
Amelia-Lilly	Blake
Milly	Luke
Oliver	Taryn
Jaxon	Phoebe
Olivia D	Euan
Charlie	Millie E-J
Emilia	Rosie V
Ava Belle	Ava
	Eva
Year 5:	Jack M
Logan J	Liara
Logan O	Isla
Osian	Daisy
Lloyd	Scarlett
Brodie	Callum D
Lyle	
Demi	Year 8:
Carson	Jayden A
Payton	Lilliana
Lucy	Deionne
Ceryn	Corey D-C
	Jacob
Year 6:	Joshua
Harvey	Benjamin
Cole	Olivia J
Millie	Maddison J
Seren	Rowan J
Blake	Hollie
Darcie	Megan
Daniel	Jake
Miles	
Grace	
Ellie	

The middle school challenge over half term to to read! This difficult weather is perfect for curling up with a good book or magazine and a hot chocolate.

I wish pupils a restful half term. Stay safe and we will see you soon!

Best wishes,

Miss T. Mein (Head of Middle School)

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## **School Update**

### **St David's Day**

We are delighted to be able to share our St David's day plans as follows:

#### **Years 4, 5 and 6:**

Pupils can wear something white, red, green or Welsh to school on 1st March. There will be St David's day activities in lessons and a pupil competition (what Wales means to me project- details below.) Entries should be submitted by Feb 28th to [stdavidsday@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:stdavidsday@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk). Winners will be announced on social media on 1st March. We look forward to seeing all your entries.

#### **Years 7 and 8:**

There will be a St David's day assembly and quiz in form time led by Miss Morse and Mrs Thomas. Language lessons this week will include St David's day activities. Pupils are encouraged to enter our pupil competition (what Wales means to me project- details below.) Entries should be submitted by Feb 28th to [stdavidsday@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:stdavidsday@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk). Winners will be announced on social media on 1st March. We look forward to seeing all your entries.

#### **What Wales means to me Competition:**


For this competition we want you to create something that shows what Wales means to you. This could be in the form of a poem or a song, you could bake a cake or make a model! In the past, pupils have been very creative with this. If you have brothers or sisters that come to Ysgol Nantgwyn, you can work together and submit a joint entry! There will be one winner from each year group, winners will be announced on March 1st on our school facebook page, and prizes will be given out by your class teacher or your form teacher. You'll need to send a photo of your entry to [stdavidsday@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:stdavidsday@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk) by 12pm on Monday February 28th. Pob lwc!


#### **World Book Day**

On Friday 4th March we will be celebrating World Book Day. Pupils in Years 4-6 will be allowed to wear their pyjamas to school on this day and bring in their favourite bedtime story. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 can dress up as a character from their favourite book. Throughout the day there will be exciting activities for pupils to complete, from designing their own bookmarks to a character hunt. There will also be a range of activities taking place in the Nant library and the Gwyn library. As part of World Book Day, all pupils will receive a book voucher that can be used as full or part payment for a book in their local shop.

## PE Kit:

Pupils should wear their PE kit to school on the days that they have PE. The PE timetable for pupils is as follows:

 Faculty of Life 2021/22 WEEK 1 – PE Kit Days				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Year 7B	Years 4 to 6	Year 7C Year 7D  Year 8A Year 8E	Year 7A Year 7D  Year 8C Year 8D	

 Faculty of Life 2021/22 WEEK 2 – PE Kit Days				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Year 7D	Years 4 to 6  Year 7A  Year 8A Year 8D	Year 7B  Year 8B	Year 7C  Year 8C Year 8E	Year 8B

**Reading:**

As always, reading remains a priority for all pupils in Middle School. There's no question that literacy is an essential element to a child's development and opens the door to a brighter future. At Ysgol Nantgwyn we are committed to developing fluent and confident readers.

**Years 4, 5 and 6 Reading:**

Pupils in Years 4 to 6 are still following the Reading Eggs programme and should be completing this 5 times a week for 20 minutes. Pupils will be set a weekly reading assignment by their class teacher to complete. Please contact your child's teacher if you need a reminder of your child's login details.

**Years 7 and 8 Reading:**

All pupils in Years 7 and 8 will be given log in details this week to the Accelerated Reader programme. Pupils should aim to complete 30 minutes of reading, 3 times a week.

Please support your child at home with this and if you have any queries please email [Kirsty.lewis@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:Kirsty.lewis@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk) or [Kayleigh.stephens@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:Kayleigh.stephens@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk)

**Homework:**

All Middle School pupils will be able to access their homework (Years 4 -8) and weekly spellings (Years 4-6) through the Google Classroom area. If pupils do not have their login details please email [help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk](mailto:help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk)

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**Attendance**

Congratulations to each of the pupils in the table below that have achieved 100% attendance for the last week (Thursday - Thursday). We have also launched one of our attendance initiatives where pupils receive a certificate via ParentMail for 100% attendance each week - try and collect them all!

Year 4	Year 5		Year 6		Year 7			Year 8		
Emily	Riley	Ellie-Mai	Daniel	Tarrian	Taya-Leigh	Kobi	Yunus	Morgan	Ricky	Lucy
Alexander	Max	Carson	Riley	Carys	Logan	Leo	Madison	Lillianna	Riley	Sophie
Seren	Brodie	Harley	Grace	Lexi	Nicole	Harley	Ben	Deionne	Phoenix	Seren
Zak	Autumn	Lyle	Alfie	Risa	Roxanne	Luke	Joshua	Kelsey	Dafydd	Lucas
Cobi	Evie-Rose	Ryley	Tyelor	Zak	Eva	Cooper	Lucy	Evie	Miley	Olivia
Milly	Osian	James	Lucas	Charlie	Phoebe	Liara		Liam	George	Ieuan
Olivia	Payton	Rhys	Seren	Avneet	Abby-Leigh	Xaya-Lorell		Miley-Rae	Corey	Ollie
Noah	Cassie	Blake	Jenson	Brooke	Brayden	Chloe		Kacie	Olivia	Jayden
Faith	Lloyd	Demi	Caden-Lee	Tygan	Regan	Harry		Jayden	Jack	Mya
Gracie-Leigh	Jaxson	Eva	Miles	Harry	Lilly	Rosie		Abby	Ruby	Imogen
Oliver	Lucy	Kailum	Holly	Iestyn	Ryley	Summer		Callum	Dafydd	Lewis
Xena	Kielun	Rhys	Jacob	Harvey	Callum	Harvey		Abigail	Kenzie	Ellie
Olivia	Kara		Blake	Jenson	Lyla	Blake		Lily	Olivia	Harley
Skyla	Ruby		Ellie	Riley	Scarlett	Jack		Henley	Mckenzie-Leigh	Lacey
Evie	Francesca		Jake	Ava	Kiara	Travis		Owain	Alfie	Olivia
Brandon	Charlie		Jaiden		Jacob	Millie		Emily	Brett	Taylor
Lily-Mai	Chyane		Dafydd		Kimberly	Cerys		Bonnie	Ioan	Daisy
Dylan	Cody		Cai		Brooke	Jayden-Leigh		Charlotte	Keira	Ellie
Joshua	Isobell		Cole		Riley	Jenson		Archie	Lexie	Hollie
Evie	Jacob		Isabella		Ziia	Mercedes		Lewis	Lilly	Megan
Hayden	Jake		Belle		Courtney	Lacey		Crystal	Maddison	Halle
Louie	Logan		Connor		Thomas	Liam		Jamie	Caylem	Freya
Charlie	Sabeena		Darcie		Harley	India		Cory	Macie-Mai	Jake
Elliot	Ethan		Darcy		Jayden	Kaden		Jacob	Rory	Romi
Logan	Hari		Megan		Daisy	Leo		Katie-Anne	Harley	Ava
Willo	Jayla		Jac		Leila	Miya		Joshua	Taylor	William
Reo	Theo		Riley		Taryn	Ava		Katelyne	Brooke	
Elladee	Leo		Lynsey		Kai	Jack		Ieuan	Candice	
Mason	Lowri		Lola		Micah	Brooke		Ella	Jake	
Daryl	Ellie		Prince		Megan	Morgan		Joe	Kade	
Rhys	Emelia		Charlotte		Tia	Yazmin		Evan	Gracie	
Teagan	Logan		Lucas		Nevaeh	Griffiths		Amy	Megan	
Benjamin	Sophia		Zac		Bentley	Miley-Lei		Benjamin	Ellie	
	Katie		Ruben		Lewis	Sienna		Tyrone	Keira	
	Rovston		Millie		Olivia	Travis		Calum	Jay	

#### Staff contact details:

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