

Headteacher update

What a lovely day to end the week on. It has been an incredibly productive week at Nantgwyn and pupils have been incredibly focused and productive. We have seen examination preparation in year 11, exploring, comparing and contrasting impressionist artists in year 3, first aid training in year 5, GCSE geography in the sunshine for upper school and a plethora of extracurricular activities for skiing to musical recital preparations. It has indeed been a busy week.

We are experiencing quite a high level of staff absence at the moment due to Covid and other staff illness and are working hard to maintain high levels of provision for all pupils and classes. We are currently prioritising year 10 and 11 examination classes ensuring that a Nantgwyn teacher delivers these as far as is practically possible and we are hopeful that we see an improvement next week. Please feel reassured that all our well qualified supply staff have been with us since the beginning of the academic year and know the school, pupils and procedures well. **All lessons and activities continue as normal.**

Covid Update As you will be aware the all Wales Covid procedure will change from next Tuesday. The First Minister has announced today however that the **procedures in school will remain UNCHANGED until at least until the end of term** due to the increased in Covid rates of infections. We await further guidance and will update you with any further changes as we receive them. So operations in school will continue as they have done in school to date please.

Car Boot Sale A huge thank you to the PTA for our very first Nantgwyn car boot sale last Sunday, it was definitely a hit. We had stall holders and customers from far and wide and will hold another one in the summer term. All volunteers, 'car booter' and customers are welcome.

Uniform update Many thanks for your support with our drive to improve key aspects of school uniform across the school, including PE kits. We have seen a great improvement with many pupils this week. We are actively listening to pupils, parents and staff voice in this process.

- For pupils in Gwyn, the time lost in changing (where younger pupils require support) has been too great and we will amend their requirement on wellbeing/PE days only please. Pupils should wear PE buttons (navy or plack, tracksuit bottoms, leggings or shorts) and trainers along with their normal school polo shirts and top.
- We will not be making any amendments to the Wellbeing/PE kit in Nant at this time, lessons are taught in double sessions and we need to positively support the transition back to pre March 2020 delivery and will continue to listen to pupils' views and support additional changing spaces where required.
- Families who require financial support please contact the school via help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk

Additional Support We have a range of counselling and support services on offer across the school, we have also launched a new additional service called 'Safe Haven'. This is available to all initially all Nant pupils. This is a place where pupils can feel talk, get help, be listened to, work things out and feel supported. Pupils can attend on their own or as part of a group. There are posters and links available across the school on how to book an appointment with Mrs Christine Jones. Pupils can also

text to make an appointment on 07494552475 (including their name and form). Special group counselling days are also available which focus on LGBTQ+, self harm, stress, bullying, loneliness and friendship.

Easter Celebrations We will be celebrating Easter across the school during the last week of term.

Gwyn All children are invited to bring an Easter bonnet, headband or hat into school by Tuesday 5th April. We will have resources available in school at the end of next week for families to use at home next week/weekend, please let us know if you would like a set of these via help@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk and we will arrange to get these to you. We will have class based Easter celebrations on Friday 7th April where children will wear their bonnets and hats and have a small parade. Photos will be shared with you via ParentMail. All children will bring their hats home with them on the last day of term, with a few other surprises.

Nant Pupils in Nant are invited to design and wear Easter hats/badges on the last day of school too. It would be great if we could embrace a whole Nantgwyn approach with this too.

Good news from a neighbour -'I just wanted to drop you a quick email to thank you for implementing the traffic management system on the Gellifaelog estate. It has made a significant improvement, we can now use the pavements safely and with confidence. We are all guilty of complaining when things are not right, so I thought you may appreciate some positive feedback . I appreciate the traffic management system comes at a cost, hopefully the children's safety and well-being will outweigh this and the system will remain in place.'

We break up for spring term on Friday 8th April for the two week Easter break. We have a range of revision activities planned for examination groups over Easter and this information will be shared shortly.

Yours, as always

Kirsty Retallick

Head of School update

Over the last fortnight we have seen a huge improvement in the standards of punctuality and uniform in Middle School. Thank you very much for your continued support. As we revert back to pre Covid procedures, it is now the expectation that pupils in Nant bring their PE kit to school and change in school for their PE lessons. Full uniform is therefore expected on PE days.

This fortnight in our Hot Chocolate with the Head we have enjoyed celebrating with pupils who have demonstrated the attributes of being responsible and team work.

It is lovely to see our after school provision full of pupils every day, this is such a wonderful opportunity to develop the character of our pupils and it is a pleasure to see so many pupils engaged in activities ranging from piano lessons to skate boarding and skiing. Transition Thursdays continue to be popular with over 100 pupils in attendance. These sessions will run every Thursday until 7th April 3.30pm-4.30pm for Ysgol Nantgwyn and our cluster school pupils. These sessions are a great opportunity for pupils to get to know others before they start Year 7.

Congratulations to this week's Celebrate Me winners:

Year 4: Jacob and Oliver
Year 5: Logan J and Lowri
Year 6: Harlee and Avneet
Year 7: Chloe, Lyla and Ziia
Year 8: Hollie, Victoria, Lexi W and Ollie


Best wishes,

Miss T. Mein (Head of Middle School)

School Update

PE Kit:

Pupils should now wear full school uniform and bring their PE kit to school to change. 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 or 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

Attendance

Congratulations to each of the pupils in the table below that have achieved 100% attendance for the last week (Friday - Thursday).

Year 4	Year 5		Year 6		Year 7			Year 8		
Finley	Riley	Emelia	Daniel	Ava	Euan	Bentley	Yunus	Jayden	Mckenzie-Leigh	Ellie
Emily	Max	Sophia	Riley	Jenson	Darcie	Lewis	Rosie	Morgan	Aston	Harley
Zak	Brodie	Alfie	Grace	Riley	Logan	Olivia	Madison	Liam	Brett	Lillie-Mae
Amelia-Lilly	Amia	Cameron	Alfie	Ava	Nicole	Leo	Summer	Miley-Rae	Caian	Olivia
Cobi	Jai	Riley	Tyelor		Amari	Luke	Joshua	Kacie	Corey	Taylor
Olivia	Evie-Rose	Carson	Seren		Phoebe	Chloe	Lucy	Jayden	Keira	Daisy
Jackson	Jazmin	Harley	Jasmine		Ava	Cooper		Callum	Lexie	Ellie
Faith	Noah	Lyle	Miles		Abby-Leigh	Isla		Abigail	Tia	Hollie
Emila	Cassie	Ryley	Jacob		Brayden	Xaya-Lorell		Lily	Kacey	Megan
Gracie-Leigh	Michael	Blake	Blake		Regan	Chloe		Henley	Macie-Mai	Halle
Dolly	Ollie	Demi	Jake		Lilly	Harry		Owain	Rory	Freya
Oliver	Lloyd	Eva	Jaiden		Ryley	Summer		Bonnie	Leighton	Lexi
Xena	Killian	Kailum	Dafydd		Jolan	Harvey		Ethan	Harley	Meg
Mia	Jaxson	Rhys	Cai		Callum	Blake		Archie	Taylor	Romi
Olivia	Lucy		Cole		Ethan	Aidan		Ellie	Brooke	Ava
Jacob	Sophie		Isabella		Jersey	Jack		Freya	Jake	William
Brandon	Kara		Belle		Lyla	Travis		Corey	Victoria	
Lexi	Ruby		Darcy		Rylee	Mason		Jamie	Kade	
Lily-Mai	Ava		Megan		Scarlett	Owen		Joshua	Jedd	
Dylan	Charlie		Lynsey		Kiara	Jayden-Leigh		Katelyne	Dafydd	
Joshua	Chyane		Lola		Kimberly	Jenson		Joe	Megan	
Talia	Cody		Prince		Brooke	Mercedes		Evan	Ellie	
Hayden	Isobell		Charlotte		Millie	Lacey		Amy	Keira	
Louie	Jacob		Lucas		Riley	Tyson		Benjamin	Mckenzie	
Charlie	Jake		Starr		Ziia	Liam		Maisie	Jay	
Mason	Logan		Harlee-Ray		Courtney	India		Calum	Lucy	
Leila	Hari		Ruben		Ellie	Sean		Gracie	Mia	
Elliot	Jayla		Millie		Harley	Kaden		George	Sophie	
Willo	Theo		Carys		Jayden	Leo		Corey	Seren	
Reo	Seren		Lexi		Daisy	Ava		Olivia	Olivia	
Elladee	Harvey		Zak		Leila	Jack		Jack	Ieuan	
Leo	Ceryn		Avneet		Taryn	Morgan		Dafydd	Brooke	
Daryl	Lara		Brooke		Kai	Miley-Lei		Kenzie	Jayden	
Rhys	Liam		Tygan		Micah	Sienna		Olivia	Imogen	
Benjamin	Ellie		Harvey		Nevaeh	Travis		Rowan	Lewis	

Staff contact details:

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