

Headteacher update

'At Nantgwyn, when we are ready, respectful and responsible anything is possible'

It's been another busy few weeks at Nantgwyn, and I hope you have had a chance to sign up and to follow some of the exciting development and daily activities on our Facebook page. [Ysgol Nantgwyn - Home | Facebook](#). We have had an exciting delivery on site this week, you will find pictures on FB and we are looking forward to sharing more exciting news with you on this very new development very soon!

We have seen a decline in Covid cases once again which is very positive. **Full attendance at school** is now more important than ever to ensure we can support any gaps in learning and continue to make good progress over the remainder of the academic year. Absence from school, even just one a day, impacts upon the whole picture and your child's overall success. **Good habits of attendance and punctuality lay foundations that last a lifetime.**

A reminder this half term ends at the **end of the day on Thursday 17th February**. We return to school after half term on **Tuesday March 1st**. Our whole school Eisteddfod celebrations as in previous years will take place in the summer term. Children in Nant may wear traditional Welsh costume of something red (along with their school uniform skirt or trousers) on this the 1st March and pupils in Nant who wish to wear a national jersey or national emblem along with their school uniform may do so. We have a range of St David's day activities planned too for this special day.

A huge thank you to the PTA for organising the TwosDay event and for all of their hard work and background work on future events. If you would like to get involved please get in touch via emma.beasley@ysgolnantgwyn.co.uk The Pupil Leadership Team are also working on a plan for the new charities they would like to support for the remainder of this academic year, and can't wait to share this information with you soon.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours, as always

Kirsty Retallick

Head of School update

This week is the final week of our special pathways fortnight for year 9. We have had some very exciting events and the pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Next, the pupils will have presentations/assemblies from each faculty providing details of the wide range of subjects on offer to them. This will then feed into a 'straw poll' process whereby pupils will have the opportunity to input their favourite subjects in order of preference. This information will then be used to design the options blocks that will be used in the final option selection process. This is an exciting time for our year 9 pupils and we hope they feel supported in making informed decisions about the pathways they are choosing. We will be providing further information and an 'options booklet' will be with you in due course so that you can discuss and consider carefully the choices your young people are making. A real milestone in any young person's life!

Year 11 has only 8 teaching weeks left until the examination series begins. The attendance of some of our pupils remains a concern and I cannot stress enough the importance of being in school for every lesson, every day between now and then. The assessment week and results were a very positive experience and many, many of our pupils had smiles on their faces as they opened their envelopes to

reveal the results inside; however a few of our pupils did not feel their results reflected their true potential and I would urge those pupils to find their resilience and work with us in order to rectify this and to ensure they walk away with a happy feeling in August; opening doors to a range of different post-16 pathways. It is not too late to make a difference and to turn their future around if they want to! You've got this and we've got you! If you need any support for your child or for you as a family over the coming week, you must ask. Talk to us if you need anything at all - we are here for you and for your child. We will not be held to account for any Performance Measures this year. All we are concerned about is getting each learner a suite of qualifications that opens doors for them and is equal to their ability and potential. This is not about numbers, this is about individual pupils and their futures. We will do everything and anything possible to get our young people what they need for their next steps, without exception. Please let us know if we can help in any way.

Post 16 pathways

We recently wrote to all our year 11 pupils and parents with information about their pathways for next year. We included information from a range of further education partners. If you have not received this letter and information, please let us know via the usual email address included below.

Treorchy Comprehensive Yr 11 Options Evening

Year 11 pupils, if you are looking to apply to Treorchy 6th Form for September, they have their Options Evening on Thursday February 10 4:15pm - 6:30pm.

If you would like further information, visit: www.treorchycomp.org.uk or Twitter @TCSYEAR12AND13

Upper school top 10

Congratulations to all pupils nominated this week, staff have been full of praise for how hard these pupils have worked and how much effort they are putting in. Some have made massive improvements since the start of the new term. Well done all.

Lewis W - yr 10

Katie Y - yr 10

Ben J - yr 10

Ellie M-K - yr 10

Oliver R - yr 10

Courtney L - yr 10

Oshia O' - yr 10

Teigan K - yr 11

Zak G - yr 9

Cameron H - yr 11

Further Update

Sadly, since the beginning of term we have had a very small number of pupils in Nant who have failed to use our new and refurbished toilets with the respect and maturity they deserve. This has resulted in us having to increase cleaning and expenditure as well as locking certain toilets at key points of the day when damage occurs to repair and /or clean (other facilities will always be available). We have on occasion found children eating and sitting on toilet floors, which is not hygienic; there is no need for this as there is ample seating available in various locations. The expenditure on additional repairs and cleaning is being redirected from other school resources that should be spent on pupil learning and resources. Pupils who are caught damaging property will have individual consequences which may include payment for damage. We are formally considering how to increase supervision in these areas, which may include extending CCTV in outer areas. I would be grateful if you could discuss this with your child at an appropriate time. I am sorry I have had to share this message but the decisions and actions of a small group are having a negative impact upon everyone.

St David's Day

We are delighted to be able to share our St Davis' plans as follows:

There will be a St David's day assembly and quiz in form time led by Miss Morse and Mrs Thomas. Languages 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. 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 by 12pm on Monday February 28th. Pob lwc!

Attendance

Congratulations to each of the pupils in the table below that have achieved 100% attendance for this week. 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 9			Year 10		Year 11	
Brooke	Gethyn	Rhys	Zac	Aysha	Teigan	Tiegan
Levi	Heidi	Ieuan	Ffion	Cora	Spencer	Chloe
Dylan	Carwyn	Scott	William	Oshia	Alfie	Connor
Dylan	Eli	Tiana	Charlie	Sam	Aidan	Ioan
Kaydee	Lily-Grace	Alexis	Rocco	Elliott	Carys	Crystal
Morgan	Caleb	Cai	Deejay	Mackenzie	Dylan	Nichole
Lexie	Jack	Jasmine	Iestyn	Jazmine	Grace	Madison
Ethan	Grace	Kavel	Darcy	Zak	Mason	Mali
Talia	Cayleb-Jay	Miya	Evan	Ewan	Nia	Megan
Libby	Ewan		Alfie	Paighton	Riley	Millie
Casey	Cameron		Charlie	Zara	Skye	Tejay
Darcey	Connie		Emily	Oliver	Cori	Zack
Robert	Alex		Honey	Ellis	Riley	Evan
Jay	Jack		William	Tomas	Jac	Leah
Laila	Sophie		Aliyah	Kaci	Jenson	Caitie
Rebecca	Fraser		Joseph	Jared	Rory	Owen
Shakyla	Logan		Ellie	Evan	Ellis	Megan
Aaron	Alfie		Thomas	Mason	James	Aaron
Stephan	Tyler		Daisy	Olivia	Daniel	Keira
Alicia	Keira		Jaydee	Harley	Harley	Callum
Darcy	Cai		Emily	Kayla	Jack	Leo
Grace	Chelsea		Gabrielle	Mason	Tia	Logan
Zak	Rihanna		Benjamin	Bailey	Leroy	Kean
Layla	Gage		Brandon	Olivia	Jamie	Logan
Rubie	Gethin		Cole	Aniera	Taya	Evelyn
Macey	Leo		Morgan	Alfie	Aimee	Shelby
Ryleigh	Annalise		Tayla	Regan	Mia	
Kaleb	Lily		Ellie-May	Skye	Lucy	
Alex	Josh		Kieran	Lewis	Kyle	
Maddison	Laci		Dylan	Katie	Ieuan	
Mollie	Mckenzie		Courtney		Demi	
Ryan	Lily-Mae		Isabel		Ieuan	
Tamzin	Demi		Tilly		Isabelle	
Isabelle	Luco		Keira		Morgan	
Sydney	Ella		Grace		Cerys	

At the end of the half term, all pupils that have 100% attendance for the half term are invited to our attendance celebration! Please keep up the fantastic efforts and attendance. Attendance at school is crucial for academic success!

Contact details:

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