

# Ysgol Brynhyfryd Newsletter

## Events this half term

We have had a very busy half term in Ysgol Brynhyfryd, with a wide variety of opportunities for all our pupils.

- ✓ We welcomed our new Year 7 pupils into Ysgol Brynhyfryd in September. Our school has grown considerably over the last couple of years, with almost 190 joining us in Year 7. We are incredibly proud of how they have settled in to life at secondary school. Many of them spent a couple of days at Glanllyn last week, kayaking, canoeing, high ropes and on the climbing wall but also working as a team, making friends and having fun!



- ✓ Year 6 open evening had a record breaking turn out and the feedback from parents and children has been fantastic. We would like to thank all our 6<sup>th</sup> form and Year 8 pupils who helped show our visitors around and showed them why Ysgol Brynhyfryd is such a special school to be part of.



The closing date for applications to secondary school for September 2020 is the 8<sup>th</sup> November. We would encourage everyone who would like to join us in September to make sure they apply by the deadline.

- ✓ Celebration Evening gave us the opportunity to congratulate pupils from Year 11 and Year 13 from last academic year on their fantastic achievements, and to wish them well as they move on to the next stage of their education.



- ✓ The 6<sup>th</sup> form held a coffee morning for staff in aid of the Welsh Air Ambulance and Macmillan. The morning was a huge success and raised almost £800 between the two charities. It was a wonderful opportunity for staff and pupils to come together for two very worthy charities.



- ✓ Four Year 11 pupils recently were runners up in the Welsh Final of the Cardiff University Life Sciences Challenge. A fantastic achievement!

## Dates for your diary

- ✓ 14<sup>th</sup> November - 6<sup>th</sup> form Open Evening 5 - 7pm
- ✓ 18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Year 5 transition
- ✓ 28<sup>th</sup> November - Year 8 Parents evening
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> December - Year 11 Mock exams
- ✓ 5<sup>th</sup> December 5.30pm - 6.30pm - Parent Forum
- ✓ 17<sup>th</sup> December - Carol Service
- ✓ **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June - additional INSET day**
- ✓ **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May bank holiday (VE day)**

## Parent Forum

Our parent Forum met for the first time this year on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The meeting was extremely useful including:

- ✓ Discussion on this summer's examination results and feedback following our successful Year 10 information evening and information parents would like to receive to help them support their child further.
- ✓ Discussion about the new toilet facilities and feedback on this excellent new additional facility.
- ✓ Transition between KS2, KS3, KS4 and KS5, including a discussion around school transport.

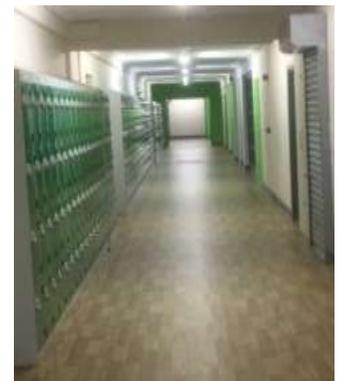
We are always keen to welcome new members to our Parent Forum. We meet every half term. Our next meeting is Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019. Please contact Heather Hughes if you would like to join this group.

## Improving Our School Environment

Over the summer, a number of works were completed to further improve our school environment. The H corridor classrooms were refurbished, as well as the A corridor area.

The toilets in the Science area have been refurbished and will be ready to open after half term. The area is much more modern in design as shown by the photo. In order to create more choice for all our pupils these new toilets will be gender neutral. This is in line with WG guidance and DCC policy and will ensure that all our pupils have a choice whether to use Boy / Girl designated toilets on the B corridor and A corridor, or the new toilet area.

We still have a number of lockers available if your child would like one - they should speak to their Head of year.



## Communication with Parents

We are always looking for ways to continue to improve our communication with you as parents. We often write in your child's planner so please do check that regularly to find out about homework or other important reminders.

In the summer term we held a review with all our pupils, staff and spoke to parents on the Parent Forum on our behaviour and the systems which we use. One suggestion made was around communicating with parents. We already use the text message service to tell you if your child is late or absent. We will be expanding this after half term and you will be notified if:

- ✓ Your child is late or absent
- ✓ Your child receives a number of yellow cards within a particular lesson.
- ✓ Your child receives a red card in a lesson and consequently has had to work in another room.

We appreciate your continued support in ensuring everyone works to the best of their ability and hope that you will continue to support us by talking to your child if you receive a text. Please contact the school if you require any further information.