

MAJOR NEWS / NEWYDDION MAWR

SUMMER TERM / TYMOR Y GWANWYN	
Start / Dechrau:	Monday 17 April 2023 / <i>Dydd Llun Ebrill 17 2023</i>
Half Term / Hanner Tymor:	Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June 2023/ <i>Dydd Llun Mai 29 – Dydd Gwener Mehefin 2023</i>
End / Diwedd:	Friday 21 July 2023 / <i>Dydd Gwener Gorffennaf 2023</i>
Week Beginning – Monday 19 June 2023 / <i>Dydd Llun Mehefin 19 2023</i>	
Week 1/ <i>Wythnos 1</i>	
Monday 19 June / <i>Dydd Llun Mehefin 19</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Y12/13
Tuesday 20 June / <i>Dydd Mawrth Mehefin 20</i>	Duke of Edinburgh Y12/13
Wednesday 21 June / <i>Dydd Mercher Mehefin 21</i>	Year 7/8 Big Bang trip
Thursday 22 June / <i>Dydd Iau Mehefin 22</i>	
Friday 23 June / <i>Dydd Gwener Mehefin 23</i>	
<i>Coming Up / I ddod</i>	
Week Beginning – Monday 26 June 2023 / <i>Dydd Llun 26 2023</i>	
Week 2 / <i>Wythnos 2</i>	
Monday 26 June / <i>Dydd Llun Mehefin 26</i>	Year 6 Transition Day / 6pm Parents' information evening
Tuesday 27 June / <i>Dydd Mawrth Mehefin 27</i>	Year 4 Transition Day
Wednesday 28 June / <i>Dydd Mercher Mehefin 28</i>	Year 5 Transition Day
Thursday 29 June / <i>Dydd Iau Mehefin 29</i>	
Friday 30 June / <i>Dydd Gwener Mehefin 30</i>	Sports Day

A Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to the first edition of Major News, a name which our talented School Council came up with! I very much hope that you will find this weekly newsletter interesting and informative.

It was lovely to meet some of you at the first Headteacher's drop in last night. There will be another session before the end of term and if you were unable to attend yesterday it would be fantastic to meet some more parents then.

I am delighted to announce that our seconded Deputy Headteacher Mrs Wilson was able to negotiate an early release from her current school and joined us this week. Mrs Wilson brings a wealth of experience from her previous leadership positions in three other schools and I know will be a huge asset to the school. She is very much looking forward to working with you and our delightful pupils.

We were excited to welcome a small number of our prospective Year 7 pupils to the school earlier this week and look forward to welcoming them all to spend the day with us on Monday 26th June. For those of you who have Year 6 children joining us in September I wanted to remind you that there is a parents' event at 6pm on that day. We are adopting a different format this year and the session will consist of a series of short presentations from key members of staff followed by an opportunity for individual conversations. Lots of really useful information will be provided and I would strongly encourage you to attend if at all possible.

The weather has been warm this week and we have relaxed our uniform requirements slightly, allowing pupils to wear skirts without tights and black tailored shorts. Could I please ask you to remind your child/children that if skirts are worn without tights they must be of an appropriate length (knee length or just above) and that if shorts are worn they must be all black and tailored, not sports shorts with logos on them or tight cycling shorts. We will be phoning home and asking parents to bring appropriate clothing in if pupils present to school in these next week. Year 10 were off timetable yesterday and permitted to wear their own clothes. Unfortunately some of the choices were not appropriate for school, so moving forward pupils will be required to wear full school uniform on such days. The weather looks set to be cooler next week, but should temperatures rise again I will review the uniform restrictions and inform you of any amendments.

We are currently undertaking a review of our behaviour and communications policies and processes. All pupils and staff are being given the opportunity to offer their views in surveys and interviews over the coming week, but your views are, of course, extremely important to us too! Mrs Wilson is sending out a parental survey which will only take a couple of minutes to complete. Please do complete the survey so we have the views of as many parents as possible. This will help us to further improve our procedures and practices moving forward.

Thank you for your continued support which is very much appreciated and I hope that you enjoy a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Attendance Procedures

If for any reason your child is unable to attend school, please inform the Attendance Officer (Mrs S Johnstone) on the morning(s) of absence. This may be in writing or by choosing the first option on the School's telephone answering machine 'pupil absence' (01446 793301).

If your child is unable to attend school due to an ongoing long term medical condition, a doctor's medical note which clearly states the length of time your child will not be able to attend school will need to be provided to enable the School to authorise these absences.

If your child is absent due to an appointment which must be taken during the school day, the appointment letter/card can be provided in order to authorise the absence.

Requests should be made in advance to the Headteacher if you wish to withdraw your child from school on a given day e.g. for participation in a sporting event, holiday etc. However, in a drive to improve pupil attendance the school does not authorise requests for pupils to be absent from school for holidays in term time.

A late arrival to school may be noted as an unauthorised absence and therefore it is essential that you inform the school of any reason why your child is not in school through the normal absence procedure. Please note that a morning session begins at 8.30am. All pupils who arrive late to school should sign in at School Street Reception. Parents must also inform the school for the reason for lateness in order for the correct coding to be applied to the register.

As the local authority has informed us of the return of issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for pupil absences, it is vital that parents communicate with the School's Attendance Officer in order for the correct register coding to be applied. Persistent lateness or absences could result in a referral to the Inclusion Service and the issue of Fixed Penalty Notices.

The rewards for good attendance are clear. Pupils are more likely to enjoy school, achieve better results and increased life chances. We will continue to do our best to support your child. If you feel your child requires extra support at any point during the academic year, please inform the School's Wellbeing Department.

The Attendance Team

General Information

Contacting School

The school Administration Team are experiencing a large increase in telephone calls many of which are for non-urgent messages. Please refrain from telephoning the school, other than for urgent purposes. For all general enquiries please email llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk and the message will be swiftly passed to the relevant department.

Forgotten Items

We can no longer accept the delivery of forgotten sports kit / homework / ingredients etc. during the school day. This is to reduce traffic on to the school site and ensure student safety during lesson transitions.

School Ties

Please ensure your child arrives to school each day with a school tie. We have a limited stock of ties for sale, which can be purchased through Parentpay. Once stock has gone, you can purchase ties from our local supplier, PointInk Embroidery, Llantwit Major.

Medication

As the weather has improved, we have experienced a high number of requests from students coming to First Aid asking for antihistamines / allergy relief / sun cream.

Please note we **do not** stock medication of any kind in school, including paracetamol, and in any circumstance, are not allowed to dispense medication without parental consent. If your child receives prescribed medication a medical form needs to be completed.

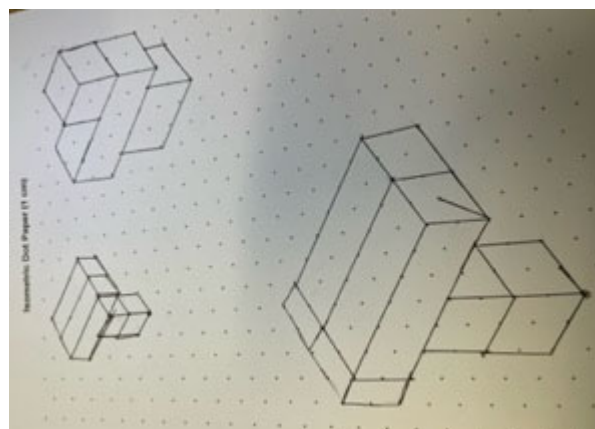
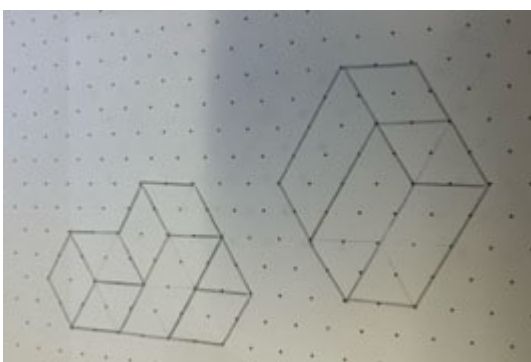
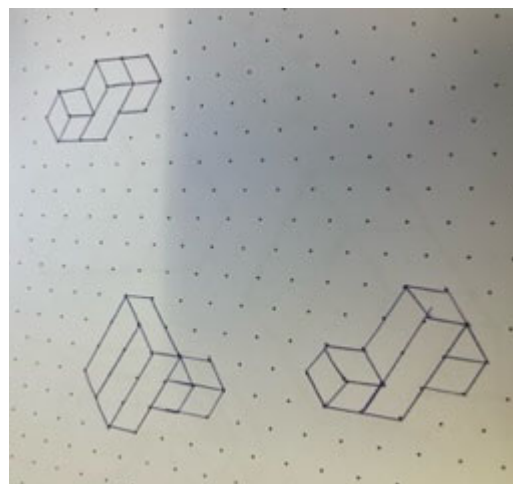
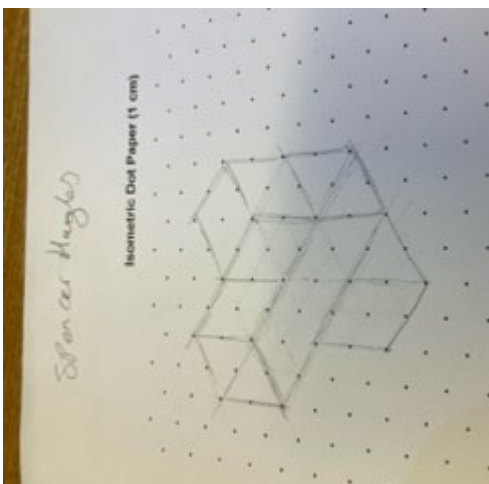
Should your child need medication throughout the school day please ensure they bring just what is needed for the day to school with them.

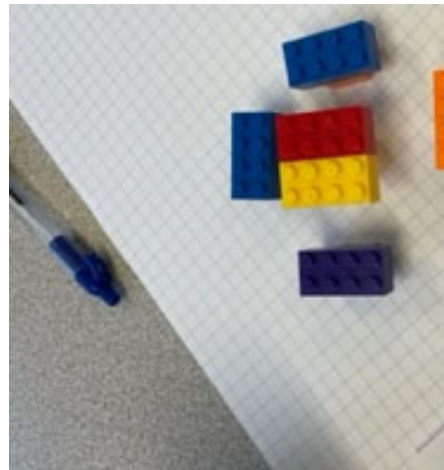
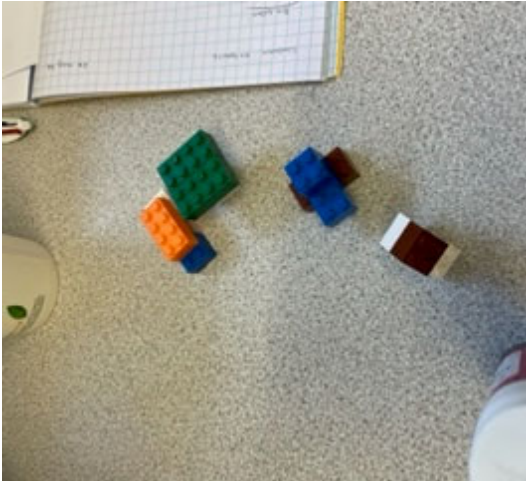
The Administration Team

Mathematics

Year 9 Swedebuild Project

All of the Year 9s were involved in our Swedebuild activity for the CSC Research project. We were looking at Operational Research and how this relates to the real world. Classes had to design tables and chairs through modelling with Lego and thinking of the constraints that we would encounter and how this would affect our conclusions. We could then relate our maths to the real life scenario that we had been given. Some classes discussed linear programming and how Operational Research supports decisions in areas such as stocking supermarkets and how airlines plan their needs for flights. We then discussed “What is the point” in what we had discovered and how this related to future career prospects. Students thoroughly enjoyed the project especially as they could relate what we had been doing in their everyday life.





Year 8

This week 8L enjoyed putting their estimating and measuring lengths knowledge to the test and measured items in the school garden.”



Business / Careers

Year 11

A select group of Year 11 pupils have recently visited the Apprenticeship Fayre at County Hall Cardiff. The event is an interactive careers event focusing on young people on the variety of Apprenticeship and Traineeship opportunities there are for young people across a broad range of sectors. Pupils had the opportunity to speak to some of Wales’ biggest employers.



Year 10

OgiWales, a fibre optic broadband company visited a Year 10 GCSE Business class to talk about their marketing strategy – a topic the pupils were studying at the time. There were many interesting questions posed to our visitors which enabled them to put their learning into context. Participation led to pupils being given an Ogi beanie so it was fantastic to see so many on their heads!

Psychology

Sixth Form

This term we had the opportunity to attend the Psychology conference run by Cardiff University. Students enjoyed lectures from prestigious professors in psychology covering psychopathy and criminal behaviour, as well as sleep disorders. In addition they had the chance to chat to current psychology students at the university and also take part in some experiments.



This term has been all about exam preparation. In order to make revision a little more interesting we played 'sweetie pong' where students had to answer questions, giving them a shot to win the contents of the cup.....sweets. Their ability to answer the questions far outweighed their ability to get the ball in the cup!



Welsh

Clwb Cymraeg – Welsh Club

Daeth Elin Wyn Williams o 'Winning with a Y' mewn i'r ysgol i'r Clwb Cymraeg amser cinio gyda Heledd o'r Urdd. Cafodd blwyddyn 7 llawer o hwyl yn gwneud ffitrwydd gan wrando ar y cyfarwyddiadau yn Gymraeg. Gwych Blwyddyn 7! Da iawn chi!

Elin Wyn Williams from 'Winning with a Y' joined the Welsh Club and Heledd from the Urdd during lunchtime and took a fitness session in Welsh with the pupils listening to instructions in Welsh! Amazing Year 7! Well done to all of you.

Dilynnwch / Follow @CymraegLlantwit @UrddCaerdyddFro



Modern Foreign Languages

Year 8 - MFL Mentoring with Cardiff University

After delivering Linking Languages workshops to all Year 8 French classes in the Autumn Term, Cardiff University MFL Mentor, Keyin, returned in the Spring Term to work with a smaller group of Year 8s to look further into the importance of language learning in today's world.

Over the course of 3 workshops, the students looked at links and differences between various countries' languages and cultures, and how they form part of our identities. They explored various cultural aspects such as music and dance, sport and food. Unsurprisingly, the food workshop was very popular, especially as they were able to sample some interesting delicacies from China and Italy.

We are very proud to have received an award for being an MFL Mentoring School this year and are excited to be continuing with the Welsh Government funded scheme for Year 8 in the next academic year.



P.E

Year 12

Congratulations to our new Year 12 Health, Fitness and Wellbeing Leaders **Maisy Wiggins, Seren-Woodley Thomas and Lydia McGinn!**

These pupils have already shown hard work and dedication to the role. Special mention to Maisy Wiggins who has started up a Girls' rugby club. The first session was a huge success! If you would like to join girls' rugby club, please feel free to turn up on Thursday. Open to all years!

Thank you to everyone who submitted an entry for this term's Homework Project. Once again, we were overwhelmed with the amount of creative projects we received!

The results for the Health, Fitness and WellBeing Mental Health Homework Project are in and are as follows:

 **Cerys George (YR7)**



 **MAY CANNING (YR7)**





 **LILY PERRY (YR7)**



A special mention to our Health, Fitness and Wellbeing Leader **Seren Woolley-Thomas** for promoting the project this year who can be seen presenting the winners with their prizes!

Stay tuned next academic year for the next KS3 project with more opportunities to win a new selection of prizes!

 PE – SUMMER EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE 2022-2023 					
WEEK 1/WEEK 2	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 1 3-4PM	ATHLETICS (ALL YEARS) JWC/RJN/MW	TENNIS (ALL YEARS) MW RUN CLUB (ALL YEARS) JWC	BASKETBALL (ALL YEARS) RJN	CRICKET (ALL YEARS) RJN GIRLS RUGBY (ALL YEARS) JWC	SIXTH FORM BASKETBALL (LUNCHTIME) JWC/RJN
WEEK 2 3-4PM	ATHLETICS (ALL YEARS) JWC/RJN/MW	TENNIS (ALL YEARS) MW RUN CLUB (ALL YEARS) JWC	BASKETBALL (ALL YEARS) RJN	CRICKET (ALL YEARS) RJN GIRLS RUGBY (ALL YEARS) JWC	SIXTH FORM BASKETBALL (LUNCHTIME) JWC/RJN

Term Dates 2022/2023

Autumn 2022:

- **Start:** Monday 5 September 2022 (INSET)
- **Years 7, 11 & 12:** Wednesday 7 September
- **All Year Groups:** Thursday 8 September
- **Half term:** Monday 31 October to Friday 4 November 2022
- **End:** Friday 23 December 2022 (**INSET**)

Spring 2023:

- **Start:** Monday 9 January 2023
- **Half term:** Monday 20 February 2023 to Friday 24 February 2023
- **End:** Friday 31 March 2023

Summer 2023:

- **Start:** Monday 17 April 2023
- **May Day:** Monday 1 May 2023
- **Bank Holiday:** Monday 8 May 2023
- **Half term:** Monday 29 May 2023 to Friday 2 June 2023
- **End:** Monday 24 July 2023 (INSET) (Students finish on Friday 21 July 2023)

INSET Days

- **INSET Day:** Monday 5 September 2022
- **INSET Day:** Tuesday 6 September 2022
- **INSET Day:** Friday 30 September 2022
- **INSET Day:** Friday 23 December 2022
- **INSET Day:** Monday 27 February 2023
- **INSET Day:** Monday 24 July 2023