

MAJOR NEWS / NEWYDDION MAWR

AUTUMN TERM / TYMOR YR HYDREF	
Start / Dechrau:	Monday 4 September 2023 / Dydd Llun Medi 4 2023
Half Term / Hanner Tymor:	Monday 30 October 2023 – Friday 3 November 2023 / Dydd Llun Hydref 30 – Dydd Gwener Tachwedd 3 2023
End / Diwedd:	Friday 22 December 2023 / Dydd Gwener Rhagfyr 22 2023
Week Beginning – Monday 25 September 2023 / Dydd Llyn Medi 25 2023	Week 4/ Wythnos 4
Monday 25 September / <i>Dydd Llun Medi 25</i>	
Tuesday 26 September / <i>Dydd Mawrth Medi 26</i>	European Day of Languages
Wednesday 27 September / <i>Dydd Mercher Medi 27</i>	Year 11 English Discussion Exam
Thursday 28 September / <i>Dydd Iau Medi 28</i>	Year 11 Geography Fieldwork
Friday 29 September / <i>Dydd Gwener Medi 29</i>	Year 11 Food Practical Exam
	Coming Up/ I ddod
Monday 2 October / <i>Dydd Llun Hydref 2</i>	Year 11 Food Practical Exam
Tuesday 3 October / <i>Dydd Mawrth Hydref 3</i>	Year 6 Open Evening
Wednesday 4 October / <i>Dydd Mercher Hydref 4</i>	
Thursday 5 October / <i>Dydd Iau Hydref 5</i>	
Friday 6 October / <i>Dydd Gwener Hydref 6</i>	

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to the 3rd edition of the academic year of Major News.

I thought it prudent to update you on meetings held with the bus company and Big Fresh, who oversee our catering, this week.

Regarding the canteen, we have been experiencing issues with wait times in the canteen, in particular 2nd sitting. The IT issues with the fobs have now largely been resolved, so things have been better this week. However, we acknowledge that there is still work to be done. It was agreed that the counter and queuing system will be re-configured so there is a hot food and cold food station. This should reduce wait times. Something else that holds the queue up is pupils joining the queue twice. This will not be permitted moving forward, pupils will only be permitted to queue once so must purchase everything they wish to on their first and only visit. Pupils pushing in and needing to be sent to the back of the queue also wastes time. In addition, pupils forgetting their fobs means it takes longer for pupils to be served so can all pupils make every effort to have them with them. This information was communicated to pupils yesterday, but I would very much appreciate your support in reiterating this message to your child/children this weekend also.

In terms of the buses, the only way in which we can ensure the correct pupils are on the correct buses is by rigorously checking bus passes. This has now started to happen. Please note that your child will only be permitted to board the bus they have been issued a pass for. If they had a pass last year but have not been issued with one this year they will not be allowed to travel. Similarly, if you have moved house and your child now needs to travel on a different route you need to contact transport in order to request a new pass. Finally, pupils are not permitted to board buses they do not have passes for in order to go to friend's houses after school. Again, please reiterate these messages to your child/children. These procedures are in place to keep everybody safe.

I wish you an enjoyable weekend and thank you as ever for your continued support.

Mrs C L Robins

A Message from the Deputy Headteacher

It is great to see so many parents and pupils engaging with classcharts and tracking progress. One great advantage of classcharts has been our ability to analyse what is going on across the school. I am delighted that since the beginning of term over 10,000 positive points have been given to learners for 'good attitude to learning' demonstrating how well our young people are engaging in their education. Also, over 2,000 positive points have been awarded for being capable learners, demonstrating that pupils are attending school on time, with the equipment they need and are ready to learn. This is a fantastic start.

If you still do not have access to your child's class charts then please make contact via Llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

We will be making contact with all parents that have not yet signed up over the next couple of weeks.

Mrs E Wilson

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. **Please be reminded that we operate an appointments only system for meeting with parents and if you present at school requesting an immediate appointment we will not be able to accommodate you.**

Forgotten Items

We can no longer accept the delivery of forgotten items such as PE kit, books, lunch boxes etc. during the school day. Please ensure your child arrives at school with the equipment needed for the day. In the exceptional case that you do need to bring an item into school for your child, you will be asked to leave it on the desk in the main entrance.

This is to reduce traffic on to the school site and ensure student safety during lesson transitions.

Medication

Please note we **do not** stock medication of any kind in school, including paracetamol, and we are not allowed to dispense medication without parental consent. If your child receives prescribed medication a medical form, available from main Reception to be collected by your son/daughter, will be required to be completed and returned to Reception.

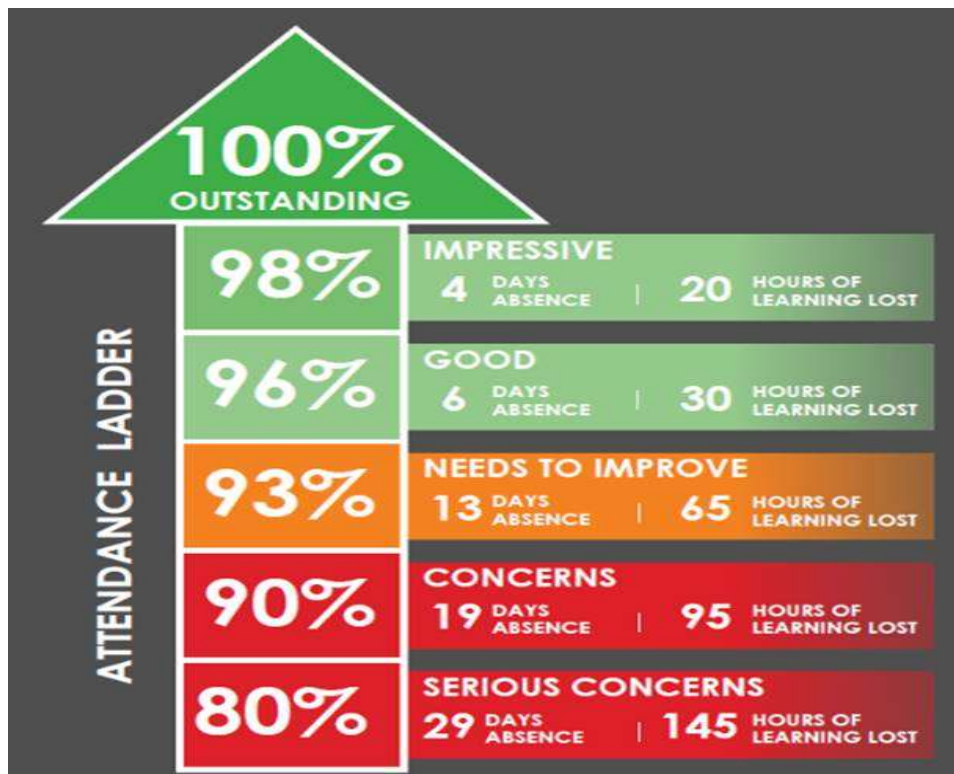
Should your child need medication throughout the school day please ensure they bring just what is needed for the day to school with them.

School Attendance

Attendance figures for 11 – 15 September 2023

YEAR 7	99%
YEAR 8	96%
YEAR 9	96%
YEAR 10	95%
YEAR 11	93%
YEAR 12	96%
YEAR 13	92%

Da iawn Blwyddn Saith!



Vaping

Figures from the School Health Research Network show that 20% of young people from year 7 to year 11 say they've tried vaping, with 5% of secondary school pupils in Wales vaping at least once a week. We have received new advice and guidance from Public Health Wales and the Welsh Government on how to expand our smoking and behaviour policies to address the rise in vaping. We will also be revisiting our curriculum to address this growing issue.

The Minister for Education and Welsh Language, Jeremy Miles said:

“No one under 18 should be vaping. Schools are telling us this is a real issue, whether it's because of peer pressure, colourful marketing targeted at children or a lack of understanding of the potential health risks. I hope this new guidance will help pupils understand the impact of vaping so they can make the right decisions.”

It is illegal in Wales and England:

- To sell vaping devices, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) or e-liquids containing nicotine to anyone under 18
- For adults to buy (or try to buy) vaping devices or e-cigarettes for anyone under 18. This is known as 'proxy purchase'.

Any pupil caught vaping or smoking on site will be dealt with via the school's discipline policy. We also have to keep a record for the Local Authority.

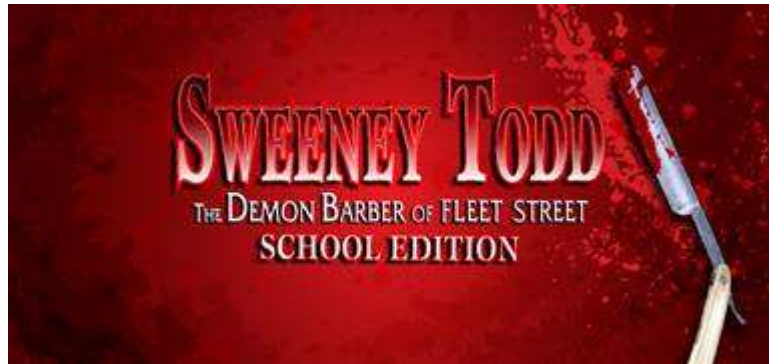
We ask all parents to discuss vaping with their children and explain the dangers.

Business Studies and Careers Guidance Department

To Parents/Carers of Year 11 pupils:

There are still places available on the Skills Cymru Careers trip on Wednesday 11 October 2023. Please refer to the previous information sent by email should you wish your child to attend.

Music and Performing Arts Department



After the success of Les Misérables, we are delighted to announce this year's school production as Sweeney Todd.

All students are welcome to be part of the production and rehearsals begin on Wednesday 11 October 2023.

If students would like to audition for a principle part all details can be found on the google classroom: **jn3r33b**.

PE Department

Week in Sport

A great rugby extra-curricular rugby club this evening with strong turn outs from years 7, 8 and 10. 🏉 All year groups are preparing for some tough upcoming fixtures against Stanwell, Cowbridge and St Richard Gwyn
[#teamlantwit](#)



A fantastic effort from the U13 girls' football team today. Despite only having 9 players, and a few players being drafted in at the last minute, they showed great effort and determination throughout. They endured a competitive game against Cowbridge, who were also kind enough to loan us a player.

It was a tough first half, but they took it all in their stride and only conceded two goals in the second half and scored 3 to finish with an overall score of 3-8. ⚽

Goal scorers: 🏆

Lily Davies

Izzy Post x2 ⚽

Player of the match: ★

Lily Davies



A special thank you to Ruebyn Morris-Jones who refereed the game and coached the girls brilliantly. ✨

Congratulations to year 11 GCSE PE pupil Joel Harris who boxed in the Welsh box cup this weekend. 🥊 Joel fought an Englishman yesterday and won by unanimous decision in the semi-finals. 🥊 Joel fought again today against a fellow Welshman in the final and again won by unanimous decision.

Joel is now the junior 54KG Welsh box cup champion 2023. 🇬🇧

Well done from all of us here at [#teamlantwit](#)



Well done to year 8 who played the first fixture of the year. 🏈 It was a great rugby game with both sides showing great strength in defence and attack and both teams were excellent. 🏈 However, it was Llantwit Major who proved to be more clinical and won the very close fought game 10-5. 🏈 [#teamllantwit](#)



Scorers:

Ollie Morris 🏈

Alfie Smith 🏈

Player of the match:

★ Rory Edbroke ★ Rory led from the front in defence and stopped Stanwell as they were attacking in the last seconds of the game and made the game winning tackle. 🏈

Academic Year Dates 2023/2024

Autumn 2023:

- **Start:** Monday 4 September 2023 (**INSET**)
Tuesday 5 September 2023 (**INSET**)
- **Years 7, 11 & 12:** Wednesday 6 September 2023
- **All Year Groups:** Thursday 7 September 2023 and Friday 8 September 2023
- **Half term:** Monday 30 October to Friday 3 November 2023
- **End:** Friday 22 December 2023

Spring 2024:

- **Start:** Monday 8 January 2024
- **Half term:** Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February 2024
- **End:** Friday 22 March 2024

Summer 2024:

- **Start:** Monday 8 April 2024
- **May Day BH:** Monday 6 May 2024
- **Half term:** Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024
- **End:** Monday 22 July 2024 (**INSET**) (Students finish on Friday 19 July 2024)

INSET Days:

- **INSET Day 1:** Monday 4 September 2023
- **INSET Day 2:** Tuesday 5 September 2023
- **INSET Day 3:** Monday 23 October 2023
- **INSET Day 4:** Monday 19 February 2024
- **INSET Day 5:** Monday 8 July 2024
- **INSET Day 6:** Monday 22 July 2024