

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 4 September 2023 / Dydd Llyn Medi 4 2023	Week 1/ Wythnos 1
Monday 4 September / <i>Dydd Llun Medi 4</i>	INSET DAY
Tuesday 5 September / <i>Dydd Mawrth Medi 5</i>	INSET DAY
Wednesday 6 September / <i>Dydd Mercher Medi 6</i>	Years 7, 11 and 12 return
Thursday 7 September / <i>Dydd Iau Medi 7</i>	All year groups return Photos: Years 7, 10 and 12
Friday 8 September / <i>Dydd Gwener Medi 8</i>	
	Coming Up/ I ddod
Monday 11 September / <i>Dydd Llun Medi 11</i>	
Tuesday 12 September / <i>Dydd Mawrth Medi 12</i>	
Wednesday 13 September / <i>Dydd Mercher Medi 13</i>	
Thursday 14 September / <i>Dydd Iau Medi 14</i>	Year 11 English Speaking Exam
Friday 15 September / <i>Dydd Gwener Medi 15</i>	Year 11 English Speaking Exam

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to the first edition of Major News for the 2023-2024 academic year.

We have been delighted to welcome our pupils back to the school over the past few days and have been most impressed by the positive start we have made to the school term.

Thank you very much to those parents who have generously donated items of uniform to our swap shop. We have a plentiful supply of most items so please do contact the school if you are in need of uniform. The only items we have currently run out of is ties, so please do encourage your child/children to ensure they leave with their tie every morning.

We have listened to your feedback regarding the need to improve home/school communication which is the reason we are introducing Class Charts. Mrs Wilson's entry will provide you with more detailed information and we are confident that this system will ensure more effective communication and engagement.

As ever, many thanks for your continued support and I do hope you have a relaxing weekend enjoying this glorious weather.

Mrs C L Robins

A Message from the Deputy Headteacher

It has been a pleasure to welcome all the students back to school this week. So much positivity and smiley faces.

Moving forward we will be using class charts to communicate with you. To start with you will be able to see behaviour/rewards/attendance/timetables and teachers for your child/children. You should have received an email with directions on how to login. If you haven't, it may be because you need to update us with your email address, please email the school to let us know. We will be expanding the use of class charts later as we all get use to it. Students have also been provided with a login that they can access to see how they are getting on.

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.

Visitors

Visitors will be accepted into school by appointment only. Appointments can be made by emailing the school at llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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, 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.

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

We appreciate that the widespread media coverage of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in schools in England and the closure of two schools in Wales may be a cause of concern to parents and pupils.

RAAC was a material used in construction in many buildings between the 1960s and 1990s. Its presence has been confirmed in a range of buildings across the United Kingdom.

The safety of pupils, staff, and all of those who use our buildings is paramount. Over the last decade, the Vale of Glamorgan Council has invested £240 million in school improvements and new building investment, in addition to routine maintenance.

The council is in the process of reviewing its school estate data and, along with all other local authorities in Wales, they are working with Welsh Government and the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) on a coordinated national approach to the issue of RAAC in schools. The Council will maintain close contact with us and the school governors throughout.

If we are made aware of any issues regarding our school, we will of course communicate with you further.

Sixth Form Evening

On Tuesday 12 September, we will be holding a Welcome to Sixth Form evening from 18:00-19:00 in the Hall. The event aims to provide information regarding the transition from KS4 including sixth form expectations, examinations, independent study skills, extra-curricular activities and university applications.

The event will be for both pupils and parents/carers. There will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions regarding sixth form life in Llantwit Major School. I hope you can join us.

Year 11 Core Subjects Parents Evening

On Monday 18 September 2023 at 18:00 we will be holding a Year 11 Core Subject Parents Evening in school

The evening will comprise of presentations from the leaders of English, Maths, Science and Welsh, Mrs Robins and myself will provide you with information about the year ahead for your child. We will also be offering advice on how to help them succeed. The evening is an important opportunity for you to meet with us, to receive information and to be able to ask any questions you might have about the upcoming year.

This year will bring challenges for Year 11 pupils as they prepare for their final examinations. By working together, we can help ensure they feel that they are fully supported to be the best that they can be in order to reach their potential.

Year 11 Team Building

As part of their first day rotation Year 11 students took part in team building that involved working together to build the tallest spaghetti tower and some blind drawing.



Music & Performing Arts Department

PERFORMING ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR TIMETABLE		
	LUNCH TIME	AFTERSCHOOL
MONDAY	YEAR 7 & 8 VOCAL GROUP	
TUESDAY		
WEDNESDAY	JUNIOR UKULELE GROUP	DRAMA CLUB
THURSDAY	SENIOR SMALL ENSEMBLES	PRINCIPLES REHEARSALS
FRIDAY	SENIOR CHOIR JUNIOR BEGINNER VIOLINS	LGBTQ+ NETWORK <small>(FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH)</small>

Dear Parent/Carer

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS AT LLANTWIT MAJOR SCHOOL

Is your child interested in learning an instrument at school? Through a series of excellent providers we are very pleased that we can offer a range of instrumental tuition for students at Llantwit Major School. We also have a small stock of instruments that we can loan out (except for harp), and so purchasing an instrument is not always necessary.

Violin	Trumpet	Flute	Piano/Keyboard	Singing
Viola	Cornet	Clarinet	Guitar	Rap
Cello	Tenor Horn	Saxophone	Ukulele	
Harp	Trombone		Bass Guitar	
	Baritone		Drums	

Playing a musical instrument has huge benefits for students. It is good for academic progress, improving concentration, organisation, developing self-esteem and confidence and honing social skills; quite apart from the sheer pleasure playing music brings! Prices will vary depending on the length of the lesson but a typical lesson would be £10 for 20 minutes. Lessons will occur during the school day on a rolling rota to ensure minimum disruption.

NEW ENQUIRIES

If you wish to register your interest for lessons, please fill out the form below and return to Miss Toms in the Music department. This can be returned electronically via llantwitmajorhs@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or printed. Once you have registered your interest, the relevant instrumental teacher will contact you directly to organise your child's first music lesson.

RETURNING STUDENTS

If you have previously registered for lessons and wish to continue with your teacher, please contact them directly to secure your space next term if you have not already done so.

Yours faithfully

Miss H Toms

Curriculum Leader of Music & Performing Arts

INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS APPLICATION FORM

Please fill out this application form and return it to Llantwit Major School Music Department.

Student Name	Registration Group
Instrument Choice	
Parent/Guardian Full Name	
Parent/Guardian Email Address	

General Information

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