Ysgol Gyfun
PENYRHEOL
Comprehensive School

Friday 2nd October 2026

Headteacher's Fortnightly Letter – Number 2

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a busy few weeks at Penyrheol Comp. Last week we welcomed our Year 11 Parents/Carers into school for a Year 11 Open Evening. On this evening, we shared the timeline of the year, revision advice, wellbeing info and careers advice. It was very well attended and my thanks to all that attended. It was great to see a packed canteen.

This Wednesday we welcomed new prospective pupils and parents/carers into school for our Year 6 Open Evening. We had an amazing turn out and they were so impressed with the pupils that were working with departments and the prefects that ran the tours. We have so many amazing pupils, how could they not be impressed by them?

Sporting News

It has been another fantastic few weeks of sporting success and participation across the school, with pupils representing us brilliantly in a range of events and competitions. Well done to all the pupils who took part in the Afan Nedd Tawe Cross Country Development Race at Elba this week. Everyone gave a fantastic effort, and it was wonderful to see such great commitment and enthusiasm. A special mention goes to Thomas G (Year 11), who achieved an excellent 6th place finish in the U18 Boys race.

In swimming, Eira and Rhys achieved outstanding results at the Swansea Aquatics Club Championships last week.
Eira had a magnificent competition, winning an incredible 8 gold medals and 1 silver medal. Rhys also enjoyed great success, coming away with 3 gold medals and 3 silver medals.
These are fantastic achievements and a testament to the hard work and dedication they have shown. Well done to both Eira and Rhys!

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There was also plenty to celebrate in Hyrox, with three of our pupils competing in a U16 Hyrox fitness competition in Carmarthen in September.
All three pupils made it onto the podium, which is an incredible achievement. Aimee (Year 11) took 1st place, while Libby and Ellie (both Year 10) finished 2nd and 3rd respectively in the same event. Well done to all three!

It has been a very busy and exciting first four weeks for our girls' football and netball clubs. We have seen tremendous numbers attending training each week, which is fantastic to see.
In football, around 40 girls across Years 7-10, are regularly attending our Tuesday training sessions. Netball has also seen excellent participation, with an average of 35 Year 7 girls training each week, around 30 girls from Years 8 and 9, and over 20 girls from Years 10 and 11.
It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we are delighted to see so many pupils getting involved, staying active and representing the school.
Well done to everyone involved — let's keep this fantastic momentum going!
Finally, huge congratulations to Ava P (Year 11), who has been selected for the U16 County Netball Squad. This is a fantastic achievement and a wonderful recognition of her hard work, commitment and talent. Well done, Ava, and best of luck for the forthcoming season!

In Boys football, Year 8 started the season with a 3-0 loss to Pentrahafod in the Welsh cup. Despite the loss the boys put in a fantastic performance against a very strong side. Year 7 also started their season with a very close fought 3-2 loss to Cefn Hengoed in their first-round game of the Welsh cup. It was good to have so many young players keen and enthusiastic and they are ready for their next game next Tuesday away at Bishopston.
Year 11 began their Swansea league campaign also this week and in tough conditions finished with a 1-1 draw against local rivals Gowerton.

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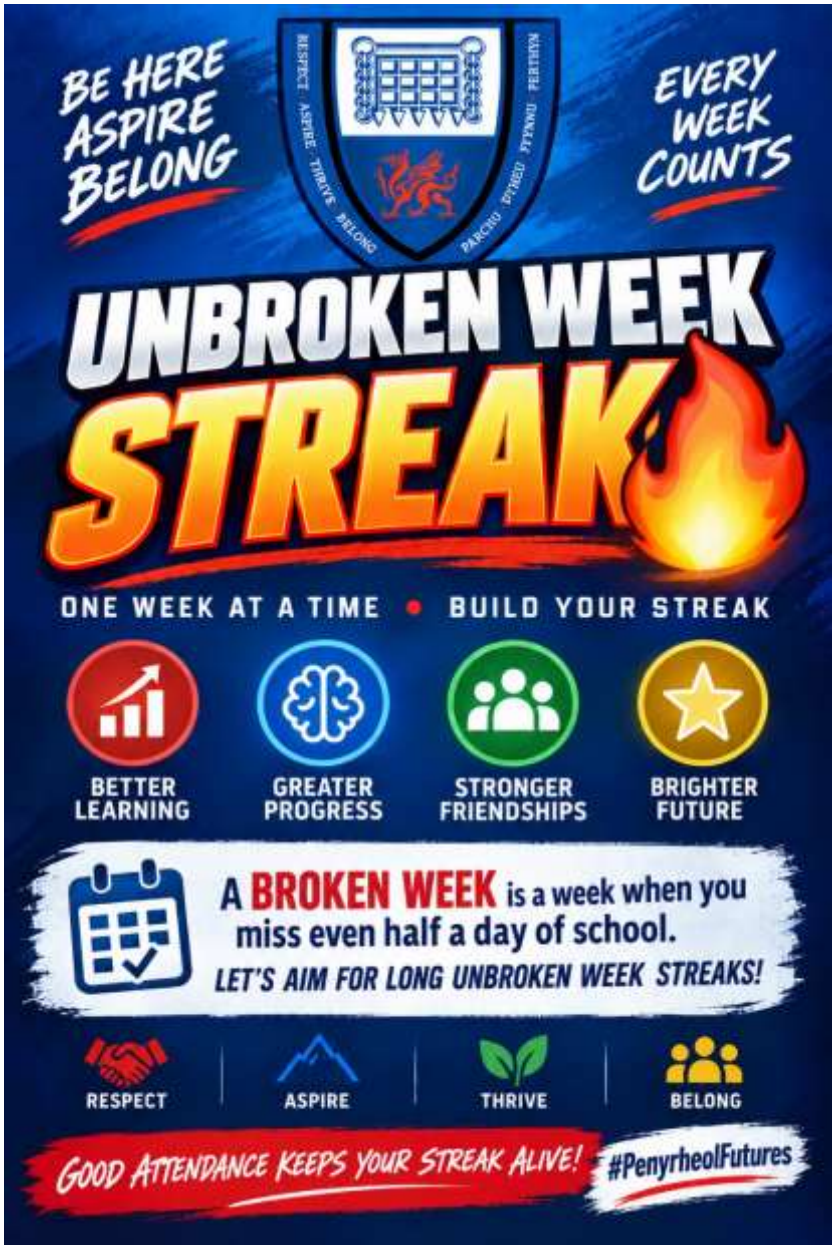
Attendance Strategy

In the next few weeks, we are going to launch a brand-new attendance strategy linked with our key target of reducing the number of 'broken weeks' that pupils have during the year. We are looking to tap into the concept of streaks by launching our 'Unbroken Week Streak' for our pupils to aim for. More details will follow in due course.



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Core Value Hot Chocolate Friday

I neglected to include a Hot Chocolate Friday from last July in the last fortnightly letter. In July I was joined by I was joined by Penny (Year 7), Elynor (Year 8), Oliver (Year 9) and Harvey (Year 10) – these were their year groups last year.

Penny was nominated for the Core Value of **Aspire.**
Elynor and Oliver were nominated for the Core Value of **Thrive.**
Harvey was nominated for the Core Value of **Belong.**

On Friday 18th September, I was joined by Maliha (Year 7), Kimi (Year 8), Jacob (Year 9), Kacey (Year 10) and Marley (Year 11).

Jacob was nominated for the Core Value of **Respect.**
Maliha, Kacey and Marley were nominated for the Core Value of **Thrive.**
Kimi was nominated for the Core Value of **Belong.**

These pupils have embodied our core values. Congratulations to all our winners.

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Who will it be next time?

Standards

The whole school figure for attendance over the last two weeks has dipped to 89%. Wherever possible, please ensure your child attends school. Missing school means missing out on learning.

Parents/carers can track their child's achievement and behaviour points on the ClassCharts app. The information below shows the average achievement and behaviour points that a pupil in each year group has accrued **over the last two school weeks.** This may be a useful comparison when you look at your child's points.

Year	Achievement Points	Behaviour Points
7	**34**	**0.7**
8	**25**	**2.5**
9	**27**	**3**
10	**18**	**2**
11	**12.5**	**0.9**

Over the last two school weeks, the average Penyrheol pupil has achieved over 12 achievement points for every behaviour point awarded. This is the highest ratio for a fortnight we have ever had at Penyrheol.

As always, thank you to all parents/carers for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Damian Benney

Headteacher

Appendix

What's happening in the next two weeks

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Monday 5th October	
Tuesday 6th October	Year 11 Gower College Talks (Lesson 1)
Wednesday 7th October	
Thursday 8th October	
Friday 9th October	Romodels Expo Event in the Theatre
Monday 12th October	Year 7 Progress Evening (Progress & Wellbeing Coaches)
Tuesday 13th October	
Wednesday 14th October	Health and Wellbeing Lesson 1 Year 7 Shwmae Day
Thursday 15th October	School Show Rehearsal
Friday 16th October	ALN Coffee Morning School Show Rehearsal

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