



16th July 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

End of Year Message

As we draw to the end of the academic year, I would like to thank you for your support over a year that has provided challenges that could not have been comprehended in previous years. I now write to provide you with the final update before the summer holidays.

Planning for September

As you will be aware the Welsh Government have published their operational guidance on the return of schools in September. The guidance has stated that schools will return on Tuesday 1st September and from the second week of term it is expected that schools will need to maximise the numbers of learners in attendance leading to a full return on the 14th September.

The Operational Guide for the phased re-opening of the school from September is available to view on our website. A copy of our updated Risk assessment will be made available on our website in the near future.

Our planning around the use of the two-week window at the start of the year is designed to support Year 7 students who are transferring to a new school. However, priority is also given to those students in Year 11 who will be sitting public examinations during the course of the year. Please be assured that all other year groups when they are not on site during this period up to 14th (beyond Planning and Preparation days) will be provided with remote learning. To help prepare for the start of the year, I should be grateful if you spend time with your child(ren) discussing these plans and the expectations we have which will help to keep people safe. The three-week period which has ended the summer term has been highly successful and we wish to build on this momentum so that we can begin to 'recover' from the impact of a prolonged absence from school. I understand that other schools may approach things differently. However, we are confident that our plans are suited to the needs of our school and its students. As always, your support is gratefully appreciated.

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Overview of the first 2 weeks

Date	Year Groups
Tuesday 1 st September	Staff Planning and Preparation Day
Wednesday 2 nd September	Staff Planning and Preparation Day
Thursday 3 rd September	Year 7 only
Friday 4 th September	Year 7 and 11 only
Monday 7 th September	Year 7, 9 and 11 only
Tuesday 8 th September	Year 7, 8 and 11 only
Wednesday 9 th September	Year 7, 10 and 11 only
Thursday 10 th September	Year 7, 9, 10 and 11
Friday 11 th September	Year 7,8,10 and 11

Catering

The canteen will be open to serve hot and cold food and this will be one of our biggest changes for the next academic year. There will be 3 separate lunch times of 30 minutes duration. Year 7 and 8 will eat together in the first lunch period. Year 11 will eat during the second lunch period and Years 9 and 10 will eat together during the final lunch period.

We will be operating a system of 'Family Lunch', where students will sit at an allocated seat within a year group seating plan. Food will need to be pre-ordered and the food will be served to each pupil at their table.

A two week menu of options will be published and we ask that parents complete the Food Order form with their children to choose the required food for the week. This form should be completed by the end of every Friday so that food for the following week has been ordered.

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More information about 'Family Lunch', the menus and relevant form can be found on our website. There is a link below which will show you the options for the first two weeks. Students are able to bring in packed lunches if they wish.

We are excited by this change as it will give us an opportunity to develop roles, responsibilities and conversation skills with the pupils as well as ensuring they are eating a healthy, nutritious meal each day.

<https://bit.ly/YCBFamilyLunch>

School Transport

At the time of writing this letter the Local Authority is awaiting further guidance from Welsh Government on school transport. The Local Authority are working closely with colleagues in neighbourhood services to ensure that there is a full solution in place for September. Further information will follow.

Staff Moving On

At the end of each academic year, there are always a number of staff changes.

Mr S. John will be leaving us to take on a new role. We thank him for all his hard work and efforts during his time with us and wish him every success for the future.

Mrs P. John will be retiring after 25 years of service at Dyffryn / Ysgol Cwm Brombil. We thank her for many years of loyal and dedicated service to the school and wish her every best wish in her retirement.

Mrs J. Harrison will be retiring and we thank her for many years dedication to the teaching profession

Mrs A. Williams will be leaving to take up a PGCE course. We wish Mrs Williams well and I have no doubt that she will be an excellent addition to the teaching profession.

Miss H. Hodge and Miss L. Dawson will be leaving to take up posts in other schools and we wish them well with the next stage of their careers.

I wish to personally express my sincere thanks to all our departing staff for their commitment and dedication to the school and, most importantly, our students. They will be greatly missed.

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New Staff for September

We are delighted to welcome a number of new staff who will be joining us in September.

- Mrs Gray Co- Deputy of Maths
- Mr Mcdaid Teacher of Maths
- Miss Dougan Teacher of Maths
- Miss Leahy Teacher of English
- Miss Davies Teacher of English
- Mrs Clarke Leader of Health & Social Care and PSE
- Miss Harris Teacher of Religious Studies

I am sure you will join me in wishing them all a very warm welcome to the Ysgol Cwm Brombil School Community.

Examination Results in 2020

Year 11 can collect their results on Thursday 20th August 2020 between 9.00 am and 11.00 am. We will follow all social distancing requirements.

Year 10 will be expecting some results and these will be available for collection from 11.00 – 12.30 pm on Thursday 20th August

Uniform Expectations for September

As we seek to 'restart' for all year groups in September, we will revert to our standard uniform. I would ask that all families take time to review our uniform expectations information on our school website in advance of purchasing any items. This will help avoid any unnecessary spend and awkwardness between the school and families at the start of term. A uniform grant is available to some Year groups and the link is below:

<https://bit.ly/YCBUniformGrant>

On behalf of everyone here at Ysgol Cwm Brombil, I would like to thank you for all you do as parents/carers and friends of the school. Your support and encouragement has been most welcomed particularly during these challenging last few months.

I wish you and your families a very enjoyable summer. Stay safe!

With best wishes,

Mr S. Clarke

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