

Yn y Lwp!

(In the loop - Ysgol Cwm Brombil's Weekly Bulletin)

In this edition:

- **Ski Trip**
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Summer Term / TYMOR YR HAF

Start / Dechrau: Monday 8th April 2024 / Dydd Llun Ebrill 8 2024

(Inset Day Monday 20th May / HMS Dydd Llun Mai 20) *

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May /

Hanner Tymor: Dydd Llun Mai 27 – Dydd Gwener Mai 31

End / Diwedd: Friday 19th July 2024 / Dydd Gwener Gorffennaf 19 2024

Important Information regarding the INSET day this term.

Please note:

We have had to change the INSET day from the 21st of June to the 20th of May.

Upcoming activities:

Week Beginning -	Monday 15 th April 2024	Week 1
Monday		
Tuesday	Yr 10 Welsh Language Unit 1 Exam	
Wednesday	Yr 10 Welsh Language Unit 1 Exam	
Thursday	Yr 10 Welsh Language Unit 1 Exam	
Friday		

Week Beginning -	Monday 22 th April 2024	Week 2
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday	Art Exam	
Friday	Art Exam	





Attendance Information

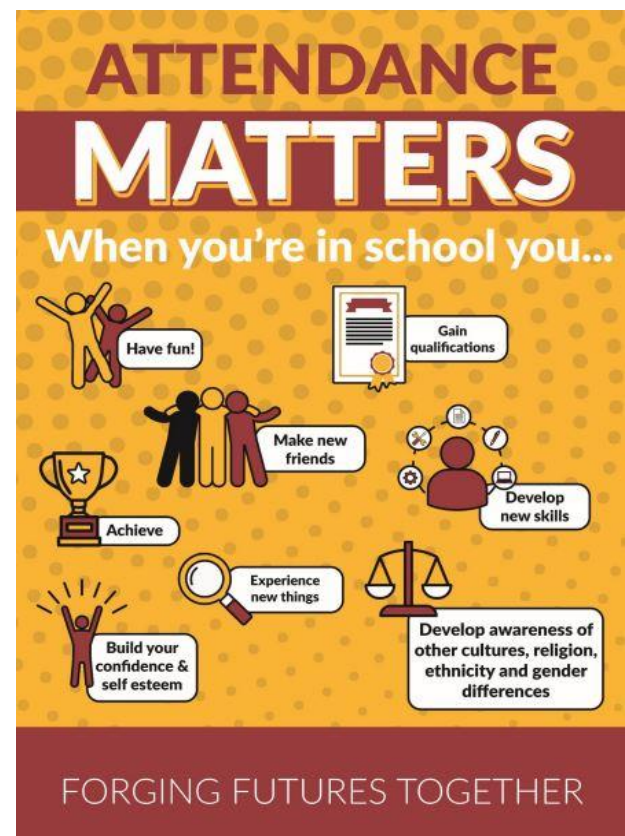
Our attendance target for all students is 100% and our **minimum expectation is 95%**. The infographic above shows the impact of days missed and minutes late can have on a child's learning.

For example:

- If a child is **late to school just 5 minutes** each day, throughout the year that equates to **3 days lost to learning (15 hours)**.
- Attendances of **97%** allows for one day of absence per half term and results in **30 hours lost to learning**.

Important Reminders:

1. Parents **MUST** contact school to report any absences on **01639 760110 before 8.30 am**.
2. Parents should contact the school **each day** that a pupil is not attending.
3. If the school are not notified, then **you will be contacted** by a member of the Attendance team to find out why your child is not in school.
4. If you child is not notified of the reason for the absence it will be recorded as **unauthorised absence**.
5. If there are three unauthorised absences in a row, the Safeguarding Lead and Education Welfare Officer will be made aware in order to ensure that you child is safe.
6. You will be required to produce medical evidence if you state that your child is ill for 3 or more consecutive days.
7. We will ask the school Healthcare Professional to contact you if there is an absence of more than 2 weeks.
8. Term time leave will only be granted by the headteacher on request.
9. Where possible, **all appointments should be made outside of the school day**.



Extra Curricular Timetable

There are lots of lunchtime and after school activities to suit a variety of tastes.
Unfortunately, due to financial constraints, we are currently unable to offer transport home currently.
Pupils who attend after school clubs must make their own arrangements for transport home.

Day	Lunch Time	Room + Staff	After School	Room + Staff
Monday	Library (Yrs 9, 10, 11) Choir (Yrs 9, 10, 11) International Club (Yrs 9, 10, 11) Basketball (Yrs 7 & 8)	B15 – Miss Collins A3 – Miss Clarke C3 – Mrs Stead Sports Hall	Homework & Catch up Club Art Club Young Carers First Aid Club (all years) Netball (Yrs 7 & 8) Girls Football (Yrs 7 - 11)	Learning Centre B11 – Miss Parry-Jones B36 – Miss Leahy Medical room - Mrs Jerwood & Mrs Thomas Sports Hall 3G/Grass Pitch
Tuesday	Library (Yrs 7 & 8) MFL Club (Yrs 7 & 8) International Club Junior Safeguarding Board Chess Club	B15 – Miss Collins C5 – Mrs Laderval-Thomas C3 – Mrs Stead (Yrs 7 & 8 Week 2 Only / Yrs 9, 10, 11 Week 1 Only) C6 – Mrs Pereira-Thomas (Yrs 9, 10, 11) C29 – Mr McDaid (Yrs 9, 10, 11)	Homework & Catch up Club Strength & Conditioning (Yrs 7-11) Netball Hall (Yrs 9, 10, 11)	Learning Centre Back Gym/Multi-Gym Sports Hall
Wednesday	Library (Yrs 7 & 8 Week 2 Only) Criw Cymraeg (Yrs 7 & 8) Strength & Conditioning (Yrs 7-11)	B15 – Miss Collins C3 – Mrs Stead Back Gym	Homework & Catch up Club Badminton (Yrs 7 - 11) Drama & Music Club / School production Rehearsals Book Club (Yrs 7 ,8 & 9) Science Club (Yrs 7 & 8) Additional Maths GCSE (Yr11) Cross Country GCSE History Revision & Catch up GCSE Graphic Design Coursework Support	Learning Centre Sports Hall Drama Theatre – Miss Michael Library – Mrs Sherlock C9 – Miss Woodington C31 – Miss Curson Whole school grounds B21 – Mrs Sims (Yrs 9, 10, 11) B20 – Mr Hopkins (Yrs 9, 10, 11)
Thursday	Choir Criw Cymraeg PE/ Sport Catch up Revision	A3 – Miss Clarke (Y7, Y8) C3 – Mrs Stead (Week 2 Only / Y9, 10, 11) B29 – Miss Mackey & Miss Curran	Homework & Catch up Club Darts Club Debate Club Eco Club Male Choir Crochet Club Creative Writing Club Strength & Conditioning Maths Revision	Learning Centre C33 – Mr Davies B3 – Miss Harris (Week 2 Only) B25 – Mr Westrop A3 – Mr Murray B11 – Mrs Jones B30 - Miss Evans (Yrs 7 & 8) Back Gym/Multi-Gym (Yrs 9, 10, 11) C24 – Mrs James (Y11)
Friday	Strength & Conditioning (Yrs 9, 10, 11)	Back Gym		

Ski Trip

Our ski trip was nonstop fun, full of activities ranging from swimming and sledging to traditional Austrian bowling. The bus ride, although a long 26 hours was a great experience and a good way to talk to new people. The accommodation was welcoming and cozy with the most comfortable beds we've ever slept on. Skiing, although scary at first, became the most fun experience we've ever had. The instructors played a big role in this as they explained perfectly, and most people got the hang of skiing on the first day. Every day after got better and better as you learnt more skills and skied on higher slopes. The evenings were just as fun with exciting activities organized by our teachers which allowed us to get to know other people and make new friends. Thank you to the teachers who made this trip as amazing as it was, everyone who went was grateful for what they did. We would definitely go again and recommend it to anyone who is interested in going in the future.
Jess Dale & Nia Lloyd – Year 10



Thank you to our amazing pupils for such a fantastic week on the slopes. You are a credit to the school and your families. We received nothing but compliments about you and for us staff, it was such a pleasure being with you all! ♥

A huge thank you and well done to our team of staff for this year's Ski Trip! The trip wouldn't be possible without you!

I greatly appreciate your help and support throughout the lead up to the trip and the fantastic time we had with our amazing pupils. *Mr J Hopkins*





Young Writers

A big congratulations to Mollie for her incredible poem that is being published in a book this month. The competition was called 'Through Their Eyes' and the theme was to write from the point of view of someone or something else. Mollie wrote an excellent poem named 'The Glorious Tide' which was based on the ocean. Mollie's poem is absolutely wonderful. It conveys the emotions of someone who lives close to the sea or maybe even in the sea! It is a beautifully descriptive poem and it thoroughly deserves to be published. Well done Mollie

'The Glorious Tide'

When she is asked to describe the ocean, she describes it as;

A magical wave that is calling to her, the ocean's a mystical place.

A journey of water that's leading the way, so fresh and salty the taste.

She lives on an island, by the beautiful sea,

With pretty sea horses as small as can be.

Her long wavy hair, blows gently in the breeze.

A colourful tail helps her swim through the seas.

The glorious tide has some wonderful things.

It rustles and bounces and sometimes it swings.

The fish, the plants, the mermaids, such pride.

All of these things make the glorious tide.

Sport Clubs

Cricket

A Massive congratulations to Heidi Davies & Elizabeth Cox for making the Wales U15 Cricket Squad.



Basketball

Congratulations to Anderson Hare for making the Welsh U14 Basketball team. He will be competing in the tri nation tournament.

Debate Club

Join us for Debate Club every week 2 Thursday in B3 at 3 PM until 4PM. Please arrange transport home!

Religious Studies Instagram

The Religious Studies Department now have an Instagram account to see pupils work and achievements. Please follow @YCB_ReligiousStudies

Measles

Measles is a highly infectious disease, and cases have been rising across the UK and Europe in recent months. If your child has a fever and a rash, it is really important that you telephone before arrival, or immediately notify staff on arrival at your GP surgery or other healthcare setting, so they can be promptly isolated and avoid any further transmission.” Measles can be prevented by the highly effective and safe MMR vaccine. Parents/guardians should check the MMR vaccine status of their child. They can do this by checking their child’s red book or visiting their local health board’s website.

Parents who are concerned about their child’s health can check the symptoms at the NHS 111 website

Being a Health Ambassador has inspired me to learn about Childrens Rights. The United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child outline the rights all children have to ensure they have safe and happy lives. Millie Edwards



School Uniform Expectations

All students are expected to wear school uniform throughout the school day. Below are uniform guidelines for both boys and girls, as well as PE Kit:

All pupils Year 7 to 11

Blazer	Black school blazer	Available from Bergoni. Blazers must be brought to school and worn every day.
Shirt	White shirt with collar.	Can be purchased from any retailer.
Trousers	Plain black tailored uniform style trousers.	Jean style, corduroys, skinny or casual trousers are not permitted.
Skirt *	Plain black school uniform style skirt.	Skirts should be an appropriate length.
Tights	Plain black tights	Can be purchased from any retailer.
Shoes	Black shoes with black laces.	Available from any retailer. Black leather converse shoes are permitted. NO TRAINERS
Tie	School tie.	Available from Bergoni.
Jumper	Black with badge and claret trim around the collar.	Available from Bergoni. Jumpers are optional.
Shorts	Black tailored shorts.	Optional for the summer term.
Outdoor coat/Jacket	Coats should be waterproof and black in colour.	Available from any retailer.
Socks (only if not wearing tights)	Ankle height, plain black or white.	Available from any retailer.

For further information regarding our uniform expectations please see our school website:

<https://ysgolcwmbrombil.npted.org/uniform.html>

Vaping/ e-cigarettes

Information regarding e-cigarettes / vaping

We want to bring to your attention the worrying trend amongst a few peoples in school. We are taking this issue very seriously due to the negative health effects vaping can have and the negative affect it can have on a pupil's learning. This letter aims to:

- Inform you of the issue;
- Give you access to information and resources;
- Alert you to the consequences if your child vaping on school property

What is vaping?

Vaping is the act of inhaling a vapour produced by an e cigarette or electronic vaporiser (vape). The vapour that is inhaled usually contain nicotine, which is highly addictive, and many other chemicals which are potentially harmful. Some vapes even contain cannabis oil! The liquids that are inhaled are often flavoured and can even smell fruity. Some vapes are marketed with sweet like names and come in attractive colours.

Health concerns

The aerosol from e-cigarettes can be damaging to a person's health, particularly the developing bodies of adolescents. It can contain harmful chemicals, including nicotine; ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs; flavourings such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to lung disease; volatile organic compounds such as Benzene which is also found in car exhaust fumes and heavy metals such as nickel, tin and lead which can build up to toxic levels in the body over time.

There has been a significant increase in underage vaping over the last couple of years.

Vaping is illegal to under 18's. Research shows that the adolescent brain is far more susceptible to addictive substances and this ultimately leads to an unnecessary and potentially harmful distraction from the child's learning.

Our first and foremost concern is pupil health and safety. Pupils who are using these devices are inhaling nicotine and other harmful chemicals thinking it is safe. Pupils purchasing and using these vapes, particularly those from the internet, risk inhaling higher levels of nicotine than cigarettes. Nicotine is addictive and can harm brain development in adolescents. There is also the risk of other illegal substances and even more dangerous substances in some of these vapes.

How the school has responded,

There has been a significant amount of publicity about the concerns with underage vaping. At Ysgol Cwm Brombil we have installed vape alarms as a deterrent in toilets around the school. These allow us to identify pupils that are vaping and impose consequences as well as provide support for what is, essentially, an addiction to nicotine.

Consequences for a child found vaping on school site and / or bringing a vape onto the school site.

Smoking (including the smoking of e-cigarettes / vapes) is against the law for young people under the age of 18, and, as our policy states, smoking is prohibited throughout the school premises. This includes school buses.

Pupils caught vaping will receive an afterschool detention in the first instance, an internal exclusion if they are caught a second time and a third time will result in an external exclusion from school.

The e-cigarette / vape will be confiscated and the child's parent / carer informed. The parent / carer may collect the e-cigarette / vape in the following week. Under no circumstance will they be returned to the child themselves. If the e-cigarette / vape is not collected within a week it will be safely disposed of.

HARMFUL EFFECTS OF VAPING



BRAIN

- Nicotine addiction
- Headaches
- Dizziness
- Seizures
- Tremors
- Anxiety
- Restlessness
- Confusion
- Attention problem
- Learning and mood disorders

EYES

- Irritation
- Blurry
- Vision

MOUTH

- Irritation
- Can cause gum disease

THROAT

- Sore throat

LUNGS

- Rapid, shallow breathing
- Coughing
- Wheezing
- Permanent lung damage from diacetyl, a flavoring chemical, which scars tiny air sacs making airways thick and narrow

HEART

- Increased risk of heart attack and stroke
- Chest pain

STOMACH & INTESTINES

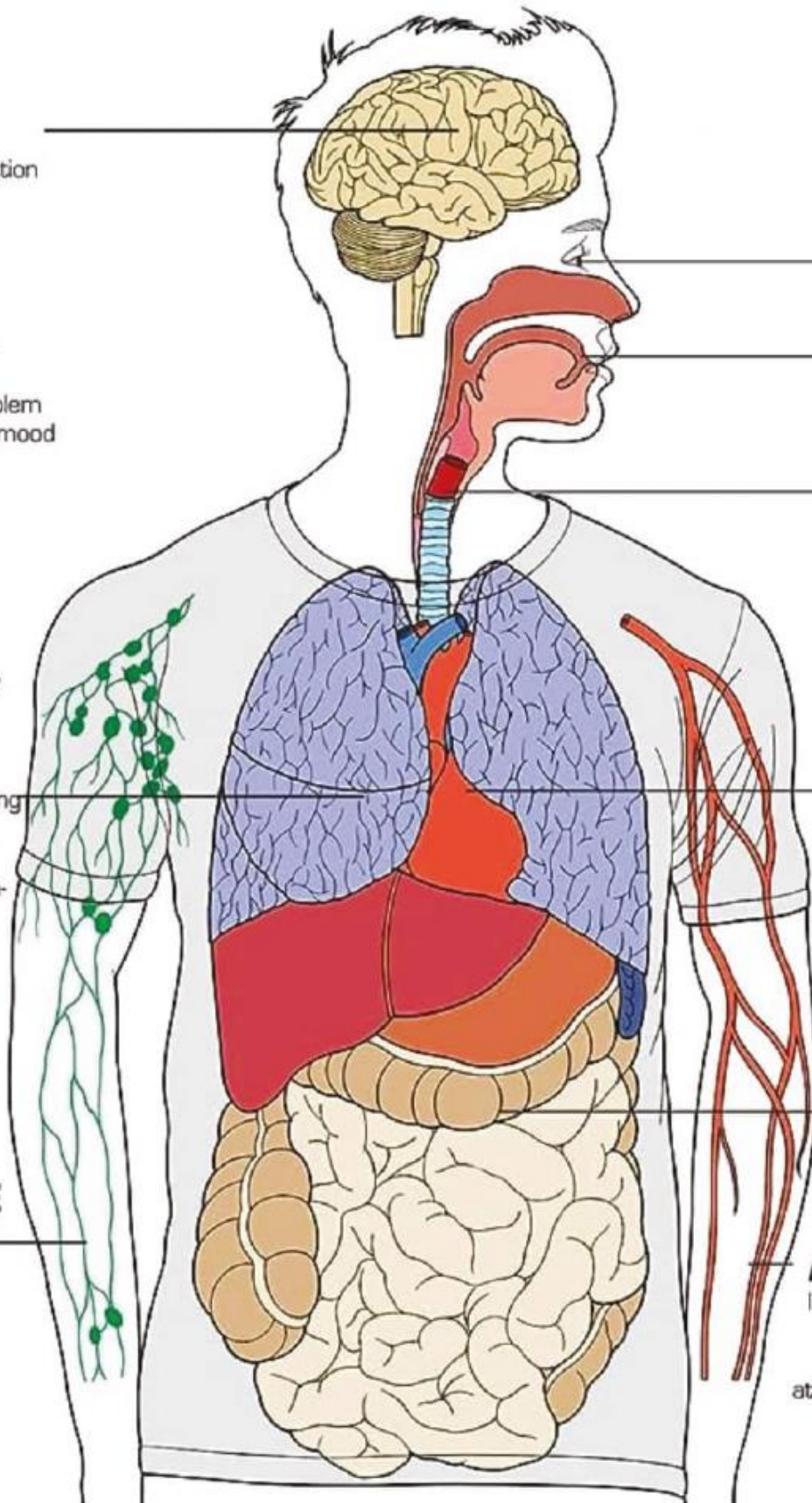
- Vomiting
- Nausea
- Abdominal pain

IMMUNE SYSTEM

- Can harm your immune system increasing your risk of illnesses

ARTERIES

- Increases blood pressure and risk of heart attack and stroke



Term dates for 2023-24

Autumn Term, half term 1 2023-24	
Monday 4 th September 2023	Year 7 & 11 attend school
Tuesday 5 th September 2023	Years 8,9 & 10 attend school
Friday 27 th October 2023	Last Day of half term 1
Half Term holiday - Monday 30 th October 2023 – Friday 3 rd November 2023	
Autumn Term, half term 2 2023-24	
Monday 6 th November 2023	Term starts
Friday 1 st December 2023	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Monday 4 th December 2023	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Friday 22 nd December 2023	Last Day of half term 2
Christmas Holiday – Monday 25 th December 2023 – Friday 5 th January 2024	
Spring Term, half term 3 2023-24	
Monday 8 th January 2024	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Tuesday 9 th January 2024	Half term 3 Starts for all pupils
Friday 9 th February 2024	Last Day of half term 3
Half Term holiday - Monday 12 th February 2024 – Friday 16 th February 2024	
Spring Term, half term 4 2023-24	
Monday 19 th February 2024	Term 4 Starts
Thursday 21 st 2024	Last Day of half term 4 for pupils
Friday 22 nd March 2024	Staff INSET (Training) Day
Easter holiday - Monday 25 th March 2024 - Friday 5 th April 2024	
Summer Term, half term 5 2023-24	
Monday 8 th April 2024	Term 5 Starts
Monday 6 th May 2024	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 20 th May 2024	Staff INSET Day Year 10 & 11 GCSE English Exam
Friday 24 th May 2024	Last Day of half term 5
Half Term - Monday 27 th May 2024 - Friday 31 st May 2024	
Summer Term Half term 6 2023-24	
Monday 3 rd June 2024	Half term 6 Starts
Friday 19 th July 2024	Last Day of half term 6 & End of school Year

