



YSGOL Y PANT SCHOOL

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Dear Parent

23rd September 2009

Autumn Term 2009 Parent Newsletter

We welcome to school the following new appointments:-

- Mrs. Gill Lee Teacher of Home Economics
- Ms Denise Jones Temp. p/time Teacher of English
- Ms Gail Biggs Temp. teacher of SEN
- Mrs. Gill Matthews Learning Support Assistant
- Mr. Mel Whitter Learning Support Assistant

There are also a number of staff changes viz:-

- Mr. Mark Davies Acting Head of Middle School
- Mr. Ray Fisher Acting Head of Maths
- Miss Annie Purcell Acting SENCO
- Miss Jayne Gavaghan Head of Year 08
- Mrs. Jen Dyson Assistant Head of Year 08
- Mrs. Ele Jones Head of Film & Media Studies
- Mrs. Gail Hoare Head of Modern Foreign Languages
- Miss Rebecca Clark Co-ordinator of the 'Learn Smart' Programme

Finally, congratulations to several members of staff who got married during the Summer term:-

- Miss Jane Norton (teacher of English & Drama) is now Mrs. Edwards.
- Miss Karin Preene (teacher of Welsh) is now Mrs. James.
- Mr. Dave Mortimer and Miss Lucy Neill (now Mrs. Mortimer) - P.E.
- Miss Ele Yearsley (teacher of English and Media Studies) is now Mrs. Jones.
- Mr. Mike Stephens (Head of Design & Technology).

School Term Holiday Dates for 2009/10

	TERM BEGINS	HALF TERM STARTS	HALF TERM ENDS	TERM ENDS	
Autumn 2009	Wednesday 2 September	Monday 26 October	Friday 30 October	Tuesday 22 December	75 days
Spring 2010	Monday 4 January	Monday 15 February	Friday 19 February	Friday 26 March	55 days
Summer 2010	Monday 12 April	Monday 31 May	Friday 4 June	Monday 19 July	65 days

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY – MONDAY 3rd MAY 2009



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I.N.S.E.T.

School will be closed for staff training on the following dates:-

- Tuesday 22nd December 2009.
- Friday 12th February 2010.
- Friday 26th March 2010.
- Monday 19th July 2010.

Outstanding External Examination Results

Congratulations to students and staff on another set of superb results in the external examinations.

Once again Year 11 students produced an outstanding set of examination results which surpassed expectations. Over 70% of pupils who sat, attained the benchmark 5 A*-C grade at GCSE or equivalent level, while 25 pupils were awarded 10 A/A* grades or better. Natalie Hopkins and Hannah Sutton both achieved 10 A* passes and 3 grade A passes.

At AS level Year 12 students celebrated an excellent set of results. These included 71 passes at grade A and 75 at grade B. Ten students attained at least 3 A grades with Rachel Hughes, Thomas Rowlands, Bethan Smyth and Kirstyn Udy all receiving 4 A Grades.

At A2 level, results were outstanding and might be judged our best ever. Four of our students, Lauren Donovan, Alice Thompson, Lauren Selby and John Rogers have been successful in gaining places at Oxford and Cambridge. John Rogers, in fact, received 5A grades and 1B grade, a massive achievement. It is always a tremendous achievement when a student is successful in applying to Oxbridge, so for us to see four of our students accepted into these universities is a matter of great pride. Three other students achieved 4A grades, Sam Evans, Catrin Greaves and Harriet Orrell. Once again a tremendous achievement. Overall, 12 of our students achieved at least 3A grades at A2 level – a record for the school.

Our pass rate at A2 level was 99.5% with almost 70% at grade A and B. These are results that any school in Wales would be proud to achieve.

Forthcoming Parents' Information Evenings

October 5 th	:	Year 07 Parents Information Evening.
November 9 th	:	Years 12/13 Parents Evening
November 23 rd	:	Year 11 Parents Evening
January 13 th	:	Year 09 Parents Subject Choices Evening (prov.)
January 18 th	:	Year 09 Parents Evening
February 8 th	:	Year 07 Parents Evening
March 1 st	:	Year 10 Parents Evening
May 10 th	:	Year 8 Parents Evening



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Sponsored Walk – Years 07/08

The Sponsored Walk this year is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 6th October (7th October if wet on the Tuesday). Mr. Owen, Head of Lower School will distribute further details next week. I would like to thank you, in advance, for your support. The money raised will be added to the school fund from which all pupils benefit via subsidised activities.

Impromptu School Closure

Around this time of year there is always the possibility that the school might have to be closed at very short notice. This might be as the result of inclement weather or perhaps a failure in one of the major utilities. In the event of this happening it is important that all pupils, particularly younger pupils, understand the arrangements you have made for them.

The decision to close the school at short notice will not be taken lightly. However, there may be times when to remain open would put at risk the health and safety of both students and staff at the school. We will, of course, endeavour to ensure that no pupil is left in an unsafe situation.

Piercings

The school rules allow girls to wear a plain stud earring in each lower lobe. However, on health and safety grounds these **MUST BE** removed for the duration of each P.E. lesson. Putting a plaster over a recently pierced ear is not acceptable.

Pupils, whether boys or girls, will not be allowed to attend school with a plaster covering a recent piercing. If you must allow your child to be pierced in any way then it is important that this takes place at the beginning of a long school holiday period. This will allow the necessary healing to take place prior to his/her return to school and thus allow your child to comply with the school rules regarding jewellery.

Uniform

A number of girls have returned to school wearing a 'fitted' blouse. The uniform rules (attached) state clearly that these are not allowed. Girls who persist in wearing such a blouse risk being sent home to change.

Entry onto School Premises

In the interest of pupil safety parents must not transport pupils onto school premises. In exceptional circumstances e.g. medical condition a pass will be issued by Mrs. Carter, the Headteacher's P.A.

Mr. S. W. Tucker
Headteacher

