



### IN THIS TERM'S BULLETIN

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### A WORD FROM THE HEADMASTER

Here we are again at the beginning of the final term of the school year - doesn't time fly! Thank you for your co-operation with the bad weather during last term - hopefully we will not see any more snow this year.

There is a busy season of exams and assessments ahead - further details can be found in the bulletin.

If you would like to discuss any matter then do not hesitate to pick up the phone (01758) 730220 or email:

pennaeth@botwinnog.gwynedd.sch.uk

Thank you,

Dylan Minnice

### SOME IMPORTANT DATES

Here are some important dates for your diaries:

<b>16-18 April</b>	<b>GCSE Welsh Literature Oral Exam (Yr 11 Final)</b> <b>GCSE Welsh Second Language Oral Exam (Final)</b>
23 - 27 April	Year 10 Internal Examinations (each pupils has their timetable)
26 April - 9 May	National Reading and Numeracy Tests (Yrs. 7,8 & 9)
7 May	<b>May Day Bank Holiday - No School</b>
<b>8 May - 19 Mehefin</b>	<b>GCSE examinations (Yr 10 and 11 - Final)</b>
28 May - 1 June	<b>Half Term Holidays</b>
5 June	School Sports Day (to be confirmed)
<b>18 -29 June</b>	<b>GCSE English Oral Examination (Final)</b>
<b>18- 22 June</b>	<b>GCSE Drama Devising Exam (Final)</b>
21 June	Yr 11 Prom
25 June - 6 July	Year 7, 8, 9 Examinations
20 July	Last day of Term for pupils
23 August	GCSE Results

**IMPORTANT:** Final means that the assessment/exam mark counts towards the final GCSE grade.

Further information about exams on pages 2 and 3 of this bulletin.

The Council's school holiday calendar is available on their website:

<https://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/en/Residents/Schools-and-learning/Term-dates--holidays.aspx>

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## INTERIM REPORTS YEARS 7 – 10

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You have received your son's / daughter's Interim Report before Easter. The main focus is on pupils effort and progress in lessons. The vast majority of pupils work conscientiously in all subjects. A few pupils have had a grade 'C' or 'D' for lack of effort in some subjects. Staff will be monitoring such lack of effort. As parents I hope you will support us and encourage your son/daughter to work harder and get a better grade for effort in the end of year Summer Report. Please contact the school if you wish to discuss the report.

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## ATTENDANCE

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Improving attendance is still one of our priorities. Missing school effects you child's education. The pupils' attendance remains good (95% on average so far this year). **Thank you for your co-operation.**

It has been proved that excellent attendance is one key to academic achievement.

Attendance of 95% sounds quite good. However, over a 5 year period a pupil with 95% attendance would have missed nearly 250 lessons!

Attendance	100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	95%	94%	93%	92%	91%	90%	89%	88%	87%	86%	85%
Number of lessons missed over a 5 year period	0	48	95	143	190	238	285	332	380	428	475	523	570	618	665	713

We sympathize with pupils who are truly ill. However, some pupils are absent for unacceptable reasons.

Regular school attendance is essential in order to take full advantage of the education offered in school.

**“Every pupil counts—Every day counts”**

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## EXAMINATIONS

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### YEAR 11

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It is an extremely busy time of the year for pupils in Year 11. Pupils must be in school **every day**. The work for each syllabus must be completed in all subjects, coursework completed and proper / thorough revision undertaken.

We will be adapting the timetable in order to arrange revision periods before some exams.

Year 11 pupils are expected to be in school every day. Teachers will be revising with the pupils. Pupils must bring their revision work with them to school to benefit fully from the intense study periods.

It is a stressful time for Year 11 pupils and the staff aim to help and encourage the pupils to reach their full potential.

Should your son / daughter face difficulties with school work or revision during this important period, please contact the school (for the attention of the Headmaster or Deputy - Mr Geraint Hughes).

**Best wishes and good luck to all in Year 11 at this key time.**

To succeed in the Summer pupils must prepare and work hard **“Fail to prepare, prepare to fail”** remains a popular mantra in Botwnnog at this time of year.

We look forward to seeing happy faces on results day - **THURSDAY, AUGUST 23<sup>rd</sup>**.

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## EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS - YEAR 10

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Three external GCSE Science exams will be sat by all year 10 pupils during June. **This will be the only opportunity for pupils to sit these exams and they count towards the final GCSE grade.**

There are also external exams, which count towards the final grades, in units in some other subjects - you have already received your son/daughter's personal timetable.

**It is essential that the pupils are present for their exams on the following dates:-**

Monday, 14 May .....	GCSE ICT - Unit 1
Monday, 14 May .....	GCSE Religious Studies
Wednesday, 16 May .....	BTEC Media
Monday, 21 May .....	GCSE Welsh Literature - Unit 2
Wednesday, 23 May .....	GCSE Applied Business - Unit 2
Friday, 25 May.....	GCSE English Literature - Uned 2B
Monday, 11 June.....	GCSE Science - Biology
Tuesday, 12 June.....	GCSE History - Unit 2C - Germany
Wednesday, 13 June .....	GCSE Science - Chemistry
Friday, 15 June .....	GCSE Science - Physics

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## EXTERNAL EXAMINATION TIMETABLES - YEAR 10 & 11

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All year 10 and 11 pupils have received personal timetables showing when they have exams.

Year 11 pupils have received a revised timetable this week which includes any changes.

There is a full timetable on the school website - <http://ysgolbotwnnog.org/eng/disgyblion.html>

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## NATIONAL READING AND NUMERACY TESTS - YEARS 7, 8 & 9

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This is the fourth year of reading and numeracy tests for pupils up to Year 9.

These will take place in Welsh, English and Mathematics lessons in the period **26 April - 9 May**.

**Timetable on page 5 of this bulletin - could change if problems arise.**

Further information is available about these tests on the Welsh Government website

<http://learning.wales.gov.uk/docs/learningwales/publications/140420-information-for-parents-carers-2-9-en.pdf>

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## INTERNAL EXAMINATIONS - YEARS 7 - 10

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**YEAR 10** - Internal exams will take place at the end of April: **23 - 27 April**. Timetables were given out to you in parents' evening or given to your son/daughter if you were unable to attend. **YEAR 10 PUPILS SHOULD ALREADY BE REVISING EVERY NIGHT FOR THESE EXAMS.**

**YEARS 7 - 9** - The school's end of year examinations for years 7 - 9 will take place at the end of this term: **25 June - 6 July**.

It is important to ensure good results in these exams. Departments will use these results along with the rest of the year's marks to decide which sets the pupils are in next term.

**Your son/daughter should be starting to revise for these exams during this term.**

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## HELPING YOUR SON / DAUGHTER TO REVISE

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You can help you son/daughter to revise by:

- planning a specified time for revision every night - sessions of about an hour with short breaks between them tend to work well;
- helping them plan a revision timetable for every subject;
- ensuring that there is a quiet place for them to work;
- testing them on their work.

Further information on how to help your child to revise is available on websites like BBC Bitesize.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/education/highlights/curations/zpbdxfr>

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## YEAR 11 PROM

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Year 11 will have the opportunity to relax after the exams at the Prom that the school has organised for them at Nant Gwrtheyrn. This will be a fun afternoon of dining, a disco and socialising in an idyllic location.

This is the school's opportunity to reward year 11's effort and good behaviour - however, we reserve the right to refuse pupils who have shown a lack of effort, inappropriate behaviour or poor attendance during this period from attending.

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## SCHOOL UNIFORM

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When buying school uniform for next term in September, please remember the following rules regarding uniform:

**ALL:** **BLACK** round neck sweatshirt **with school badge**.

**PLAIN WHITE OR BLACK** polo shirt or with school logo embroidered.

**PLAIN BLACK** shoes/trainers (**Flat**) - **no white/grey/coloured logos**.

**BOYS:** **PLAIN BLACK trousers** (no denim, cords, track suit bottoms, combat trousers or trousers that have faded to or that are ripped).

**GIRLS:** **PLAIN BLACK** school skirt of a reasonable length **with black tights**.

**Or PLAIN BLACK** trousers (no denim, cords, leggings, track suit bottoms, combat trousers or trousers that have faded to or that are ripped).

**JEWELLERY:** Small studs may be worn in the ears and **ONE** ring (worn on a finger) only.

No beads or bracelets.

**Anything else will be confiscated.**

Belts must be black.

**Coats/hoodies may not be worn inside school - they must be placed in lockers or bags during the day.**

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION KIT (ALL)

**YELLOW** polo shirt with embroidered school logo, black shorts, black knee length socks.

Trainers (not 'Vans') and Football boots/blades.

A dark coloured track suit may be worn during the winter.

There will be an opportunity to order a physical education hoodie with the pupil's name on it during the first term, if so desired.

### Personal Protective Equipment:

**Compulsory:** 'Shin Pads' – compulsory for hockey and football.

**Desirable:** Scrum cap for rugby. Gum shield for hockey and rugby.

Jewellery may not be worn during physical education activities for health and safety reasons.

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## HOT WEATHER - PROTECTING FROM SUNBURN

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Cases of skin cancer have increased steadily over recent years. Exposure to sunlight is the main cause of the disease. **Pupils should ensure that they apply a suitable sunscreen** when the weather is hot, particularly between 11.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. so that they don't burn - even when cloudy there is still a risk of burning.

It is important therefore, that pupils apply sunscreen when participating in any outdoor activities - P.E. lessons, sports day, etc. If they forget their own sunscreen they should ask their teachers.

# AMSERLEN PROFION DARLLEN A RHIFEDD CENEDLAETHOL

## NATIONAL READING AND NUMERACY TESTS TIMETABLE

Bydd y profion darllen a rhifedd cenedlaethol yn cael eu cynnal rhwng Ebrill 26<sup>in</sup> a Mai 9<sup>fed</sup>. Bydd pawb ym mlynnyddoedd 7,8 a 9 yn sefyll 4 prawf – 2 brawf darllen (1 awr yr un) a dau brawf rhifedd ( $\frac{1}{2}$  awr yr un). Byddwch yn derbyn adroddiad ar berfformiad yn y profion hyn yn yr adroddiad haf.

*The national reading and numeracy tests will take place between the 26<sup>th</sup> of April and 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Everyone in years 7, 8 and 9 will be sitting 4 tests – 2 reading tests (1 hour each) and two numeracy tests ( $\frac{1}{2}$  hour each). You will receive a report on performance in these tests in the summer report.*

### Blwyddyn 7 / Year 7

Rhifedd – Gweithdrefnol <i>Numeracy – Procedural</i>	Darllen Saesneg <i>Reading English</i>	Rhifedd – Rhesymu <i>Numeracy - Reasoning</i>	Darllen Cymraeg <i>Reading Welsh</i>
Lesson 4 (BOT) 5(W) Tuesday	Reg - Lesson 1 Wednesday	Lesson 2 (W) 3 (BOT) Thursday	Reg - Lesson 1 Wednesday

### Blwyddyn 8 / Year 8

Rhifedd – Gweithdrefnol <i>Numeracy – Procedural</i>	Darllen Saesneg <i>Reading English</i>	Rhifedd – Rhesymu <i>Numeracy - Reasoning</i>	Darllen Cymraeg <i>Reading Welsh</i>
Lesson 1 Monday	Lesson 4 (2:00) - Lesson 5 Monday	Lesson 1 Thursday	Lesson 3 - Dinner time Tuesday

### Blwyddyn 9 / Year 9

Darllen Saesneg <i>Reading English</i>	Rhifedd – Gweithdrefnol <i>Numeracy – Procedural</i>	Darllen Cymraeg <i>Reading Welsh</i>	Rhifedd – Rhesymu <i>Numeracy - Reasoning</i>
Reg - Lesson 1 Thursday	Lesson 4 Monday	Reg - Lesson 1 Tuesday	Lesson 4 Wednesday