



www.ysgolbotwnnog.org



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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER



Mr Dylan Minnice

A warm welcome back to a new school year to everyone. An especially warm welcome to the 96 pupils who have started in Year 7.

We will be sending you a bulletin every term to keep you informed about school activities.

If you have any queries please contact us.

CONTACTING SCHOOL

If you have any concerns about your son/daughter's school life then please contact us:

☎ **01758 730220**

✉ pennaeth@botwnnog.gwynedd.sch.uk

Or use the online contact form from our website

💻 www.ysgolbotwnnog.org/eng/cysylltu.php

We will try and respond to your concern within 24 hours.

Visiting School

For security reasons all visitors must report to the main office as they arrive in school.

400 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

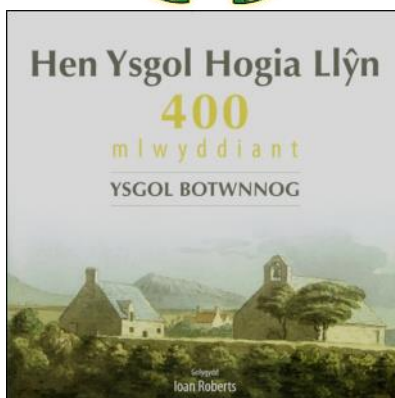


Our 400th anniversary celebration continue...

Friday, July 1st saw the launch 'Hen Ysgol Hogia Llŷn' a book of reminiscences about school days. The book can be purchased from school or from local shops.

On Saturday, September 17th, a Variety Show will be held in the school hall, with performances from many former and current pupils. Entry is by ticket only (available from school, Llên Llŷn or Eleri Stores).

Information about another event is on the back page of this bulletin



- NOSON LAWEN -
Medi 17^{eg} - 7.30yh
Neuadd Hughes Thomas - Ysgol Botwnnog

Cyflwynydd: **DOLYN MORGAN**

JOHN ac ALUN Catrin Parry Megan LLŶN
ENLLI ac ALAW Huw Griffiths PATROBAS
JOHN ALAN Genod LLŶN
COWBOYS RHOS BOTWNNOG Huw Griffiths
Dafydd a Miran Rhian Dyer ALAW Tegwyn
ANNI LLŶN Eitem gan ddisgylion Ysgol Botwnnog

Tocynnau £10 (Plant ysgol £3)
Mymediad trwy docyn yn unig
Ar gael yn:
Ysgol Botwnnog
Eleri Stores, Aberdaron
Llên Llŷn, Pwllheli

CONTACTING HOME

We will send information to our pupils' homes quite frequently - information about important dates, activities, etc.

E-mail

Whilst we still send paper letters, it is sometimes more convenient and reliable to send an e-mail or, in the event of an emergency, a text message.

To do this as conveniently as possible we would like you to check that the office has your correct email address.

If you have an email but didn't receive this bulletin on email then please could you send a message to - pennaeth@botwnnog.gwynedd.sch.uk to inform us. Please include your child's name and class.

Text Messages

You should have received a text message from school informing you that this bulletin was on its way. If you didn't receive a text message then please call Mrs Nerys Williams or email pennaeth@botwnnog.gwynedd.sch.uk

MEDICATION POLICY

If you want your son/daughter to take any medication in school you will need to fill a consent form - available from the school office (or website). Please remember that any medication is to be kept in the school office apart from an asthma pump. The full policy can be seen on the school website or you can contact us to request a paper copy.

ADVERSE WEATHER AND SCHOOL CLOSURE

If a situation arises that we have to close school for reasons beyond our control—weather, no electricity or water, etc; we will try to send a text message to every home to inform you. We can text message every home within minutes—so long as we have a valid mobile phone number.

We will also make an announcement on Radio Cymru between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. and on the Council website - www.gwynedd.gov.uk

If we have to close school during the day and have to send pupils home for health and safety reasons we will follow these procedures:-

- i. pupils should return home on the school bus (if that is how they come to school)
 - ii. pupils should then return to their home or the house of a relative or friend (according to your instructions).
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BULLYING

Bullying is not a serious problem in Ysgol Botwnnog. However when bullying occurs staff will strive to prevent further bullying. The school has an Anti Bullying Policy with strategies to deal with victims and bullies. We want our pupils to be happy and safe in school. We will not tolerate bullying. Pupils are aware that they can talk to Year 11 Buddies or members of staff to report on bullying.

As parents / guardians you can contact me or the deputy to discuss bullying or report on any incidences of bullying (bullying in school, on the bus, or through mobile or social networking such as Facebook, Twitter.)

Bullying is not accepted in Ysgol Botwnnog and dealing with bullying is a priority for staff. Posters by pupils on school walls remind pupils that bullying is wrong and not acceptable. Pupils and staff are responsible for maintaining a safe environment in the school.

You may also like to visit www.bullying.co.uk or many other similar websites for further advice—links to these and other sites can be found in the Parents section of the school website <http://www.ysgolbotwnnog.org/eng/gwefannau-defnyddiol.html>

STAFF

A warm welcome to new staff

Miss Catrin Davies - Science and Mathematics

Mrs Caryl Aubrey Griffiths - English

Miss Sera Bailey - Physical Education during Mrs Japheth's maternity leave. Congratulation to Mrs Japheth on the birth of a baby girl.

Mrs Delyth Hughes - Classroom assistant.

Mrs Lona Roberts - Classroom assistant during Ms Kim Williams' maternity leave. Congratulation to Ms Williams on the birth of a baby boy.

Best wishes

Best wishes to Mrs Sylfia Vater on her retirement.

Best wishes also to Mr Dafydd Hughes and Mrs Sioned Medi Parry as they start on their new jobs.

Many thanks to all of them for their hard work over the years.

ATTENDANCE

Good attendance remains a priority. Your support helped us achieve 95% last year—our ambitious target is to improve upon this again this year.

Regular attendance is essential for pupils to take full advantage of all chances provided for them.

Congratulations to the following pupils who achieved an outstanding 100% attendance in 2014 / 2015.

7 Madrun - Lisi Chidley*, Alyssa Rudge*

7 Meillionydd - Owen Gilbert*, Elwood Mewes*, Elain Roberts*

7 Mellteyrn - Morgan Atkinson*, Mali Griffith*, Elan Jones*, Ben Sion Scott*

8 Madrun – Erin Morgan*, Elin Owen*

8 Meillionydd – Tomos Dobson*, Toby Meyerratken

9 Madrun - Huw Jones-Evans

9 Meillionydd – James Brookes, Morgan Jones

10 Madrun – Steffan Kelliher

10 Meillionydd - Osian Morgan*

* - hasn't missed a day of school since starting at Ysgol Botwnnog

A £10 prize was presented to each of these along.

ABSENCE—INFORMING US

To ensure that everybody who should be in school is present, please contact the school on the first morning of absence so that we know if your son / daughter should be here or not.

We ask you to let us know if your son / daughter is absent by calling 01758 730220 between 8:00 and 9:15 .

If the school hasn't received a call by 9:15 telling us why your child is not in school, then we will contact your home or workplace.

APPLICATION FOR HOLIDAY FAMILY DURING THE TERM

Directives from the Welsh Assembly via the Local Authority regarding the authorisation of school holidays during term time has changed.

In order for us to authorise any holiday during term time parents need to make a **written** application to school **before going on holiday**.

The school's Governing Body has discretionary powers, which have been deputed to the management team, to authorise term time holidays. This will depend on:

- the length of the absence and any previous holidays,
- the pupil's current attendance rate,
- the time of year,
- the effect on the pupil's educational progress,
- any disruption to assessments / examinations

If we are unable to authorise holidays beforehand then the absence will be recorded as unauthorised on the pupil's record.

YEAR 11 - 2016

RESULTS—SUMMER 2016

This year 11's results were very good. 100% of Year 11 pupils achieved 5 or more GCSEs with 83% achieving at least 5 A* - C grades.

Congratulations and best wishes to the pupils for their future. Thanks to the teachers and parents for preparing the students so thoroughly and supporting them over the last two years.

The cards and gifts that came from pupils and parents thanking the school are very much appreciated.

PROM 2016

Year 11 were given a chance to relax after exams at the Prom held at Nant Gwrtheyrn. A very pleasant afternoon was had by all and the school awards were presented.



PROM 2016

Everybody looking very smart before leaving for Nant Gwrtheyrn

SCHOOL AWARDS 2015

IDRIS WILLIAMS MEMORIAL AWARD -

Good citizen award

Year 11 Coffee Evening Committee lead by Siwan Williams and Gruffudd Ifan Roberts

SPORTPERSON OF THE YEAR

Alice Williams, Year 11.

GLYN JONES MEMORIAL TROPHY- Rugby

Ieuan Williams, Year 11.

GOLF CHAMPION

Cai Owen, Year 10.

LEWIS ROBERTS MEMORIAL PRIZE

Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Technology

Josh Meyerratken, Year 11.

URDD LIFRAI CYMRU AWARD - Most promising student

Gruffudd Ifan Roberts, Year 11



Josh



Ifan



Ieuan



Alice



Siwan & Ifan



Cai

YEAR 10 AND 11

The work accomplished during these two years could steer the course of the rest of your son/daughter's life. We are here to try, with your support, to ensure that every pupil is moving in the right direction.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

Year 10 and 11 pupils will be sitting EXTERNAL exams (which **WILL** count toward their final grade) at various times during the two years:

See Important Dates page for more details.

CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS (Coursework)

Controlled Assessments (previously called coursework) is important in most GCSE subjects. They count between 20% and 60% of the final mark in almost every subject.

These are held throughout years 10 and 11 in various subjects - from first lesson in Year 10 until May in Year 11.

Most of these have to be completed within a specific number of hours under the supervision of a teacher - so if your son/daughter is absent from lessons then they will have to catch up, at lunchtime or after school.

WELSH BAC

The BAC course is followed by everyone in years 10 and 11. In year 10 pupils have to complete 3 challenges which will be assessed and marked under control at school. In year 11 an individual research project will be completed by all, based on the pupil's future aspirations.

To gain the BAC qualification pupils must also pass 5 GCSE or equivalent qualifications including Maths and a Language.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important tool to improve the standard of your son/daughter's work. The Homework policy and timetable will be sent to you in due course. Keeping an eye over your son/daughter as they complete their homework is a good way to keep track of how they are doing in school. Homework is recorded on a form that is glued in each book.

If a pupil fails to complete homework then they will be punished:

- The subject teacher will give them a warning at first instance;
- If the work is still not completed after the warning then the pupils can be kept in at break / lunch;
- The teacher can refer a pupil who continues not to complete work to the attention of head of department and will lead to the pupil being monitored or kept in for longer;
- If this does not solve the problem, the pupil is referred to the Deputy or Headmaster who will liaise with parents/guardians of the pupils to discuss the way forward. This may include the pupils staying in the Homework Club after school or not being allowed to go on trips or visits.

The same actions are followed if a pupil misbehaves in any other way in lessons or around the school.

WORK / COACHING ROOM

Pupils can take the opportunity to work at break / lunch in the Library or the Resource Room. They can also go to room 7 where they can get support from a staff member if they are struggling with their work.

EXAMINATIONS / ASSESSMENTS

OFFICIAL EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS— COUNT TOWARDS THE FINAL GRADES

OCTOBER 2016 - YEAR 11

English Oral October 17-21

NOVEMBER 2016 - YEAR 11

Mathematics Numeracy - Paper 1 November 2

Mathematics Numeracy - Paper 2 November 4

Mathematics - Paper 1 November 8

Mathematics - Paper 2 November 10

DECEMBER 2016 - YEAR 11

Science - Controlled Assessment November 28 - December 9

JANUARY 2017 - YEAR 11

English Literature (Unit 1) January 4

Biology (resit) January 5

Business Unit 2 (Yr 11 resit + Yr 10) January 5

ICT Unit 1 January 9

Chemistry (resit) January 10

Physics (resit) January 12

Welsh Literature January 13

ICT - Unit 3 January 17

English Oral January 24/25

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2017 - YEAR 11

Catering Practical March 7, 14 or 16

Art exam March 16 - 17

English—Entry Level Certificate March 13

Mathematics - Entry Level Certificate March 17

MAY/JUNE 2017 - YEAR 10 & 11

GCSE SUMMER EXAMINATIONS May 9 - June 20

CONTROLLED ASSESSMENTS WHICH COUNT TOWARDS THE FINAL GCSE GRADE WILL BE TAKING PLACE THROUGHOUT YEARS 10 AND 11

YEARS 7,8,9

NATIONAL READING AND NUMERACY TESTS—YEARS 7,8,9 April 26 - May 5

YEAR 10 - assessments which count towards the final grade:

Welsh Bac Assessment (Yr 10) December 1, March 16, July 18

English Oral Assessment June 19-23

INTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

Year 11 (GCSE MATHEMATICS) Mock exams September 22 and 29

Year 11 (GCSE mocks) February 9 - 16

Year 10 exams May 2 - 9

Years 7, 8, 9 June 26 – 30

Years 7-9 (English Oral) July 3 - 7

Further information about Year 10 and 11 exams to come - Some changes could happen during the year. Each pupil will receive a personal timetable indicating their exams prior to each examination period.

APPEAL—SCHOOL BOOKS

Please can you take a look to see if you have any books that belong to school. Some pupils forget to return textbooks or library books. I would appreciate if you could return any such books to school please. Thank you for your help with this.

SUPPORT FOR YOUR SON / DAUGHTER

At Ysgol Botwnnog we strive to provide the best care to every pupil and if your son/daughter is having a difficult time or have difficulties with work or welfare problems then we have a number of experts who can help them:

Mr Geraint Hughes	Deputy Headmaster / Welfare Officer
Mrs Alaw Jones Japheth	Girls' Welfare
Mrs Ann James.....	Learning Coach / Mentor
Mrs Carol Pilling.....	Learning Coach / Mentor
Mrs Gwenan Hughes	Counsellor
Mrs Carys Hughes	Authority's Education Welfare Officer
Miss Rebecca Edwards	School Nurse

If you would like us to refer your son/daughter to one of the above then please contact Mr Geraint Hughes.

SOME IMPORTANT DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2016September 1 - December 21

Half term holidays October 24 - 28

Christmas holidays..... December 19, 2016 - January 2, 2017

SPRING TERM 2017 January 3 – April 7

Half term holidays February 20 - 24

Easter holidays April 10 - 21

SUMMER TERM 2017April 24 - July 21

May Day Monday, May 1

Half term holidays May 29 - June 2

Summer holidays begin July 24

STAFF TRAINING DAYS (No school for pupils)

Thursday and Friday September 1 & 2, 2016

Friday February 17, 2017

Two further day to be confirmed

PARENT/TEACHER MEETINGS

TO DISCUSS PUPILS' WORK ON TUESDAY AFTERNOONS - 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Year 11 October 18

Year 7 January 10

Year 8 February 7

Year 11 (meeting to discuss progress)..... March 7

Year 10 March 21

Year 9 (including an opportunity to discuss Year 10 options)..... April 25

TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS OF PUPILS

Occasionally the school/Council/Press want to take pictures of school activities. Some of the pictures are sent to the newspaper, Llanw Llŷn or are used in publications or on the school or the Council website or for the purpose of assessing oral and practical exams.

If you do not wish your child to be included in photos please contact the school.



**Taith Gerdded
AHNE Llŷn 2016
*Ramble***



**Dydd Sadwrn, Hydref 1af ,
Saturday, October 1st,
*Sarn Mellteyrn***

**"Crwydro bro Henry Rowlands" - sylfaenydd Ysgol
Botwnnog.**

*Walking in the footsteps of Henry Rowlands- the
founder of Ysgol Botwnnog*

**Arweinydd
*Leader***

John Dilwyn Williams

**Bydd angen cadw lle o flaen llaw:
*For further details and to reserve a place:***

Ffôn/Tel: 01758 704 176

E-Bost : ahnellynaonb@gwynedd.llyw.cymru