



Weekly Bulletin ~ Bwletin Wythnosol

Autumn Term ~ 1st October 2021

This Week's Prayer

Almighty God, You created the world and everything in it.

You made each one of us in your image and call us to work together as one body.

Give us the courage, the strength, and the wisdom to work together in our communities through any challenges we might face, so that we may reflect your image to everyone we meet.

Amen.

Training Dates

Friday 26th November 2021

Tuesday 21st December 2021

Wednesday 22nd December 2021
[in lieu of Platinum Jubilee]

Thursday 6th January 2022

Monday 25th April 2022

Wednesday 20th July 2022

Calendar Activities

4th – 15th October

Years 8, 9 and 11 First Assessment Weeks

15th October

Year 11 Fundraising Day
[Non-uniform day]

18th October

Year 7 Wellbeing Day
Distribution of Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable
and Revision Lists

Friday 22nd October

School closes at 3.30pm

Monday 1st November

School re-opens

1st – 12th November

Years 7 and 10 First Assessment Weeks

10th November

Distribution of Year 9 Reports

11th November

Year 8 Wellbeing Day

12th November

Distribution of Year 11 Reports

School Council

Our School Council 2021 has been elected and I am enjoying working with these wonderful young people who are well organised and full of energy, ideas and commitment for the school and school life. The Council has been divided into House groups and each group spent time discussing and sharing their suggestions for improvements that can be made. They will continue to develop their ideas and find solutions during the coming year. We look forward to seeing what they accomplish.

Ms M Woodward

BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



St Joseph's Catholic High School

Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



PLEASE USE YOUR OWN BAGS, OR BAG 2 SCHOOL BAGS
(THERE IS NO LIMIT)

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:

Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)

The more we weigh the more we pay!
Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit

Please return your Bag2School on:

Tuesday 16th November 21 by 9am



Vaccination of 12 to 15 year olds



Information for you and your parent/guardian

The COVID-19 vaccine is being offered to all 12-15 year olds in Wales, to help protect your health and well-being.

The decision to have your COVID-19 vaccine is a choice for each individual to make.

If you have questions about the vaccine take time to look up trusted and accurate information - the NHS is always a good starting place - and chat about what you think, with your parent(s) or guardian.

You probably also have family or friends who have had their vaccine and who could chat with you about how they felt, or help answer any questions you may have.

You have to give a clear agreement (called 'consent') before any vaccination can be given - so you are in charge of what happens.

There is a lot of information out there about the COVID-19 vaccine, so please be careful to use only accurate and trusted information to help you answer any questions you may have.

Here are some trusted places for you to find out more about why you are being offered the vaccine, any side effects you might experience. They will also offer you more information about the vaccine or if you can't agree with your parent(s) or guardian on what to do:

**Public Health
Wales**



BBC



**Public Health
England**



**British Society for
Immunology**



You may still benefit from having the vaccine even if you have previously had COVID-19. If you have tested positive for COVID-19 infection in the last 28 days, you need to wait a bit longer to have your vaccine. Your first dose needs to be at least 28 days away from when you tested positive.

Whether you have the vaccine or not, please keep wearing a face mask in indoor public spaces, staying home and getting tested if you have coronavirus symptoms, and keep washing your hands regularly.

Don't forget the school's website stjosephs.wales ~ Download the app NOW!
Follow us on Twitter @SJ_WXM

Lateral Flow Tests

As mentioned previously, Lateral Flow Tests were delivered this week and have been distributed today to those pupils in Years 8 to 11 where parental consent has been obtained. A letter including a consent form has been given to Year 7 pupils today. Pupils should be taking two Lateral Flow Tests per week. These tests help identify asymptomatic cases of Covid-19. Remember – if a child has any of the 3 main symptoms of Covid-19, they should refrain from school and arrange a PCR test. Many thanks for your continued support.

Flu Vaccinations [not Covid]

Pupils will be offered the seasonal flu vaccination from mid November. This will be overseen by the school nursing team.

Pupil Absence

If your child is too poorly to attend school, it is important that school is made aware of the absence before 9am. We appreciate the phone lines can be busy in the morning, therefore you can either telephone us on 01978 360310 or email attendancep6@hwbcymru.net

Lost Property

Thank you to those parents who came to look through the vast amount of lost property. Any remaining items will be donated to charity and / or Bags2School.

Football Focus

Congratulations to the year 9 football team who on Wednesday defeated their opponents after a well fought game. The final score was 5-5 at 90 minutes and was taken to penalties where we won 5-4. This was a fantastic achievement after being 3-0 down at half time. Notable input from Cole B who scored from a free kick in the 89th minute, and to our goalkeeper Callum R who scored the winning penalty.

Attendance Matters

This week's whole school attendance is 90.6% which is below our stretch target of 96.5%. Commiserations to 9 Kolbe for narrowly missing out on the headteacher's reward. Well done to the Cassidy family with four out of five form groups above stretch target. Let's try and achieve above 96.5% next week!

Mrs Ellis

Year	Cassidy	Devereux	King	Kolbe	Romero	Year Average
7	92.1	95.4	97.4☺	98.2	98.2☺	96.3
8	97.4	94.1	91.1	95.6	95.3	94.7
9	97.8	90.5	88.5	99.6☺	93.7	94.0
10	98.2☺	93.5	92.9	89.5	91.6	93.1
11	96.8	92.2	90.7	97.5	87.1	92.9
Family Average	96.5	93.1	92.1	96.1	93.2	

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Changes to contact tracing and self-isolation from this September

As we return to school, there are some new arrangements in place when someone tests positive for COVID-19. These changes have been made possible by the vaccination programme and the significant reduction in numbers being hospitalised and suffering severe illness due to COVID-19 over recent months.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 using a PCR test, NHS Test, Trace, Protect (TTP) will contact you, using the details provided when the PCR test was ordered. They will ask questions designed to identify recent close contacts of your child, and for contact details - if you know them - of the individual or their parent/guardian. TTP will then get in touch with these close contacts to provide instructions or advice.

Those who are under 18 or fully vaccinated are no longer required to self-isolate if they are identified as close contacts. But they will be contacted to let them know that they've been in close contact with someone who has tested positive. They will also be offered two PCR tests and provided with information and advice on how to minimise the risks of onward spread. If your child is identified as a close contact, they can still attend school unless they develop symptoms or are advised otherwise by TTP. Please continue to let us know if your child tests positive.

If a child tests positive, only a minority of their classmates will be identified as close contacts. But if there is a pattern of cases TTP may ask us to update you on the situation and remind you of key steps, including advising you to keep an eye out for new symptoms your child may develop, and to stay away from vulnerable family and friends in the short-term.

We do expect that there will be cases of COVID-19 across our community over the coming weeks, but this does not mean that COVID-19 is spreading within the school. Please continue to be vigilant for symptoms. If you are in any doubt, order a PCR test for your child at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

Anyone with symptoms - a new continuous cough, fever or high temperature or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste - should remain in self-isolation until the test result is known. You can find the latest information on self-isolation arrangements at www.gov.wales/self-isolation.

We recognise how difficult the past 18 months have been and the sacrifices that all families have had to make. Thank you for everything you have done to support your child and our school.