



Weekly Bulletin ~ Bwletin Wythnosol

Spring Term ~ 14th January 2022

This Week's Prayer

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquillity your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Staff Development Dates

Friday 26th November 2021

[School closes to pupils on Monday, 20th December]

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

Changes to COVID Advice

Please see important information

about changes to COVID advice

issued by the Welsh Government

on page 2.

Important Information

Covid-19 - UPDATE

Lateral flow tests have once again been distributed to pupils today. These should be taken THREE times each week and the result should be uploaded to the covid test result website. Many thanks, to those parents who have contacted us regarding positive cases - please could you continue to inform us of any positive results as soon as possible.

Further guidance on self-isolation times has been received today. This hopefully clarifies when a child comes out of isolation. Where a child is positive: "If either of the LFTs taken on day 6 or day 7 are positive you should remain in self-isolation until 2 negative LFTs or after day 10 whichever is sooner. A positive result indicates that you are likely to still be infectious and the risk of you passing on coronavirus to others is high. If the result of the LFT test you take on day 6 is positive, wait 24 hours before you take the next test. If you still have a high temperature after 7 full days, even if the LFT is negative, you should continue to self-isolate until your temperature has returned to normal.

You do not need to continue self-isolating for more than 7 days if you only have a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks following a COVID-19 infection."

Pupil Absence

If your child is too poorly to attend school, it is important that school is made aware of the absence before 9am. Please telephone 01978 360310 or email attendance6@hwbcymru.net as we appreciate the phone lines can be busy in the mornings.

If you want me back, label me!

Please can parents/carers ensure that all school uniform and especially PE kits are clearly marked with the pupil's name. This will greatly reduce the amount of lost uniform and PE kit and will also help us to return items to their rightful owner.

Year 11 Mock Results

Prior to Christmas, year 11 pupils completed the vast majority of their mock examinations, and on Wednesday they received their results. It was wonderful to see the array of results that reflect the hard work and determination of our Year 11 pupils. Congratulations to them - considering the disruption that has taken place over the last few years it is well worth celebrating!

Year 11 (& 10*) GCSE Exams

The Minister for Education has indicated that examinations will take place in Wales during the summer months as per the norm. However, in a recent video interview he also indicated that he was monitoring the situation daily, and that contingency plans were being drawn up. Therefore, pupils should continue to prepare for a summer season of examinations. There are now 14 school weeks left until the first examinations are due to start. Please encourage your children to have a healthy balance of revision and consolidation as we enter that last few months of their time at St. Joseph's! *Year 10 usually sit a small number of external examinations in the summer - more on this in due course.

Extra-curricular and Enrichment Days

A huge thank you to our staff who planned a series of enriching and exciting opportunities and experiences this week. On Wednesday and Thursday, we collapsed the ordinary timetable and a huge number of activities took place that would not normally be able to be accommodated. From trips, external speakers, programming robots, video interviews, and well-being sessions. There was a real 'buzz' around the school! Do ask your children about the activities they were involved in, and we look forward to telling you more in our bumper bulletin at the end of this half-term.

Outdoor Jackets / Coats

There are a large number of pupils who are arriving at school without a coat. Temperatures are regularly dropping to just above freezing (and may drop further in the coming weeks). Please ensure that your child is able to be warm on their journey to and from school, as well as when they are outside at break / lunchtime.

Vaccination of 12 to 15 year olds



Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives

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**



SCAN ME

BBC



SCAN ME

**Public Health
England**



SCAN ME

**British Society for
Immunology**



SCAN ME

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.