



St. Joseph's Catholic & Anglican High School  
Ysgol Uwchradd Catholig ac Anglicanaidd Sant Joseff



## Weekly Bulletin ~ Bwletin Wythnosol

Spring Term ~ 4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

### This Week's Prayer

Almighty God, who created us in your image:  
Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression;  
and that we may reverently use our freedom,  
help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice in our communities  
and among the nations, to the glory of your holy Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
*Amen*

### Dates for the Diary

#### 8<sup>th</sup> February

Year 9 Options Interview Day

#### 14<sup>th</sup> February

Year 7 Parents/Carers Evening  
[3:45pm-6:30pm online]

#### 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> February

Year 10 Mock Examinations

#### 18<sup>th</sup> February

School closes for Half Term

#### 28<sup>th</sup> February

School re-opens

#### 28<sup>th</sup> February – 4<sup>th</sup> March

Welsh Focus Week

#### 28<sup>th</sup> February – 11<sup>th</sup> March

Year 11 Second Assessment Weeks

#### 4<sup>th</sup> March

CAFOD Lent Fast Day

#### 11<sup>th</sup> March

Non-uniform Day [Year 9 Fundraiser]

### Lateral Flow Test Kits

If you would like to receive LFT kits for your child via school, parental consent forms are available from pupil reception. Once the form has been signed and returned your child will receive a LFT kit on a regular basis.

### Mobile Phones

Please can parents / carers be reminded that mobile phones can only be brought to school with the prior permission of the headteacher.

For those pupils who already have contracts in place and bring phones into school on a regular basis, please note that phones are to be **handed in and collected from pupil reception from Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> February** rather than the main reception.

Phones must be in a transparent pencil case, clearly marked with the pupil's name and form. Pencil cases are available to purchase at 50p.

Thank you.

## Our Young Writers

Congratulations to our published poets in St Joseph's! 77 of our pupils' poems are featured in the young writer's book 'Empowered'. The talent of our pupils is truly amazing. Well done all who feature in the book - we are incredibly proud of you.

## Clubs and Extra Curricular Offer

With the easing of restrictions in schools we are hoping to be able to reinstate the extra-curricular offer after half term. Teachers will communicate directly with pupils, and we will publish the offer in due course.

## Congratulations to Rev Mary

Those of you who have known the school for some time will want to share in congratulating Rev Mary (our previous Anglican chaplain) on her appointment as Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Bangor. Our thoughts and prayers are with her in the coming weeks as she moves into this new phase of ministry.

## Considerate Drivers

Please be considerate to others when dropping off and picking up your child(ren) at/from school. Where possible please do this a few minutes away from school and help your child to enjoy a brief walk for part of their journey nearest to school. Too many drivers are blocking access for buses and local residents - please be courteous and remember the yellow zig-zag area should not be used for drop-off or pick-up. Whichever location you choose, please switch off your engine and help the environment by reducing unnecessary, pollution. Many thanks in advance.

## Free Webinar - Cognitive Science for Parents

- **Title:** Empowering the Teaching Triangle: Student, Parent, and Teacher
- **Speaker:** Patrice Bain
- **Date & Time:** Tuesday, 15th February - 5.30pm - online
- **Cost:** Free
- **Blurb:** Have you watched your child struggle with schoolwork? Would you like to know how best to help your child with learning? Patrice Bain (@PatriceBain), teacher and parent, has worked with cognitive scientists for over 15 years in identifying principles and strategies that increase learning and decrease anxiety. Author of Powerful Teaching: "Unleash the Science of Learning" and "A Parent's Guide to Powerful Teaching", Patrice will discuss evidence-based tools and strategies that work.
- **Link to register:** <https://bit.ly/Parents-Webinar-Learning>

## Safeguarding

Childline offers free confidential counselling for any young person with any problem, on 0800 1111, and via their website for an online chat. Their website also has information about issues that young people may experience, and ideas and activities for positive ways of coping. Some young people and their parents or carers may find this useful.

## 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 [attendancep6@hwbcymru.net](mailto:attendancep6@hwbcymru.net) as we appreciate the phone lines can be busy in the mornings.

## Year 9 Options

As part of the options process Year 9 pupils will be meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team, Mrs Greenhalgh as Head of Year or Mrs Lee as SENCO on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. During this time your child will make their final choices about the subjects they want to study at GCSE.

## Tempest Photography

Individual photographs for Years 9, 10 and 11 and a group photograph for Year 11 will take place on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> March.

## Attendance Matters

This week's whole school attendance is **88.1%**.

Year	Cassidy	Devereux	King	Kolbe	Romero	Year Average
7	<b>96.7</b>	96.2	95.3	88.8	93.3	94.1
8	75.6	86.9	83.1	91.3	84.9	84.4
9	89.3	85.6	84.1	91.0	96.2	89.2
10	88.9	91.0	85.8	75.6	77.8	83.8
11	81.8	86.6	<b>96.7</b>	89.7	91.5	89.3
<b>Family Average</b>	86.5	89.3	89.0	87.3	88.7	

# Important Information

## Covid-19 - UPDATE

### **Positive case at school. This applies to children and adults**

You must isolate for 5 full days after the day on which you test positive (which is 'Day Zero'). The child or adult can return to school on day 6 if they have no symptoms AND report 2 negative LFDs, taken 24 hours apart on days 5 and 6. If either of these tests are positive, continue to isolate and retest each day until 2 negative tests 24 hours apart OR have isolated for 10 days, whichever is sooner. If symptoms continue past day 10 (especially a fever) do not return to school until these have passed. You may have to take LFDs test routinely to return to school (if a child at primary school testing is not required). If this test is positive at any time within 28 days of your infection, retest each 24 hours until you have a negative result, at which point you may return to school. During the 28 days a positive test in the absence of new cardinal symptoms will not be considered as new infection.

### **Contacts of a positive case at school. This applies to children and fully vaccinated adults**

If between 5 and 18 years or fully vaccinated, you should do a daily LFD test for 7 days. If these remain negative you can return to school and your school's pre-attendance testing programme. If at any point the LFD becomes positive, you must isolate for 7 days and follow the guidance above for positive cases. If you develop symptoms also do a PCR.

### **Contacts of a positive case at school. Non-fully vaccinated adults**

If you are a contact and not fully vaccinated, you must isolate for a full 10 days and may return to school on day 11 if no symptoms, and pre-attendance testing is negative.

Here are 2 Welsh Government links for 'people at increased risk' & 'clinically extremely vulnerable'. See extract from 2<sup>nd</sup> doc (Aug 21) below also:

[People at increased risk from coronavirus | GOV.WALES](#)

[Guidance on protecting people defined on medical grounds as clinically extremely vulnerable from coronavirus \(COVID-19\) – previously known as 'shielding' \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#) (last update August 2021)

### **What we mean by 'clinically extremely vulnerable'**

Clinically extremely vulnerable refers to people in Wales who have one of a very specific list of pre-existing and long-term serious health conditions. Based on what we know to date the impact of their pre-existing, long-term health condition on their immune system puts them at high risk of serious illness if they are exposed to coronavirus.

## Important Information

### Covid-19 – UPDATE continued

People in the clinically extremely vulnerable group include:

- Solid organ transplant recipients
- People with specific cancers:
  - People with cancer who are undergoing active chemotherapy or radical radiotherapy for lung cancer
  - People with cancers of the blood or bone marrow such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma who are at any stage of treatment
  - People having immunotherapy or other continuing antibody treatments for cancer
  - People having other targeted cancer treatments which can affect the immune system, such as protein kinase inhibitors or PARP inhibitors
  - People who have had bone marrow or stem cell transplants in the last 6 months, or who are still taking immunosuppression drugs
- People with severe respiratory conditions including all cystic fibrosis, severe asthma and severe Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- People with severe single organ disease (e.g. Liver, Cardio, Renal, Neurological).
- People with rare diseases and inborn errors of metabolism that significantly increase the risk of infections (such as Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID), homozygous sickle cell).
- People on immunosuppression therapies sufficient to significantly increase risk of infection.
- Adults with Down's syndrome.
- Pregnant women with significant heart disease, congenital or acquired.

If you think there are clinical reasons why you should be added to the Shielding Patient List, you should discuss this with your GP or hospital clinician. They are able to add people to the list if it is clinically appropriate to do so.

There is a **wider group people whose conditions mean they are at an increased risk**, but are not considered clinically extremely vulnerable. If you are within this group you should be rigorous about following social distancing measures but otherwise follow the same advice as the general population.

# 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.



# Snapshot Taster sessions for parents



Left to their own  
devices

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January @ 5pm**

*Helpful tips on the digital world*

**Zoom details:**

Meeting ID: 945 8331 8462

Password: 94472080



Emotional Health &  
Wellbeing in children  
& young people

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January @ 5pm**

**Zoom details:**

Meeting ID: 945 8331 8462

Password: 94472080

Drug proof your kids

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February @ 5pm**

**Zoom details:**

Meeting ID: 945 8331 8462

Password: 94472080

For more information  
about these taster  
sessions, please contact:  
Karen Thomas  
(07765253192) or Debra  
Kennedy (07585101081)

Challenging Behaviour

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February @ 5pm**

**Zoom details:**

Meeting ID: 945 8331 8462

Password: 94472080

Acknowledgements



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cefnogipobl  
supporting people  
supporting independence  
cefnogi annibynrwydd

