



Weekly Bulletin ~ Bwletin Wythnosol

Spring Term ~ 4th March 2022

This Week's Prayer

Almighty God, this week we remember Saint David, your servant. We give thanks for his passion for the Gospel which helped to spread Christianity, especially in Wales; we give thanks for his purity and simplicity of life which enabled his pursuit of Christian perfection; we give thanks for his gentle, but clear spiritual leadership.

Grant that we may learn from him and respond to his final words: 'Be joyful... and do the little things in life'; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dates for the Diary

11th March

Non-uniform Day [Year 9 Fundraiser]

21st March

Tempest Photography [Years 9, 10 & 11]

25th April

Staff Development Day

26th April

School Opens to Pupils

2nd May

May Day [School closed]

4th May

Year 7 River Trip [River Clywedog]

13th May

Non-uniform Day [Year 8 Fundraiser]

27th May

School Closes for Half Term

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.

We Stand with Ukraine

A massive thank you to all parents, pupils, staff and friends of St Joseph's for the effort to raise funds and send aid to the Ukraine. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the people affected by the crisis and we will endeavour to support in any way we can going forward. We are on our 4th Van load of aid donations to take to the collection points and we will be donating the money raised to the PISC Wrexham fundraiser and the British Red Cross. Diolch yn fawr iawn i bawb.

Miss Breward

Covid-19

The First Minister has today announced plans for life after the Covid pandemic. The Welsh Government are continuing to advise all those in secondary schools to continue the twice weekly lateral flow tests. However, they have indicated that this is likely to come to cease to be the case beyond this half term. It is therefore anticipated that LFTs will not be required after 8th April 2022.

Ash Wednesday

We marked the start of lent on Wednesday with a short and simple voluntary liturgy. Ash Wednesday derives its name from the placing of ashes on the foreheads of participants to either the words "Repent, and believe in the Gospel" or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Huge numbers of pupils and staff attended the Chapel at lunchtime to receive the ashes on their forehead, and to hear those very words.

Extra-Curricular Day

Yesterday, we held our latest collapsed timetable day for Year 7 - 10. A wide range of enriching activities took place and these were enjoyed by all. These days punctuate the calendar and provide the opportunity for a whole array of experiences that would not be possible during our normal timetable. I hope your child enjoyed yesterday and can tell you more about what they were engaged in. We will have a larger item in our bumper bulletin at the end of this half-term.

World (St. Joseph's) Book Day

It was fantastic to see the staff and pupils dressed up today as their favourite character. Well done to all those who made the effort, and to those parents and carers who supported! It is fantastic to celebrate the joy and importance of reading, and it's always great to have some fun at the same time!

Passport to Prom

This week I launched our passport to Prom with our Year 11 pupils. Each pupil was given a passport where they can log their additional study and contribution to school life. They have been given the challenge to log 25 occasions, with each signed off by a member of staff. Those who manage to get 25 signed will be entered into a draw where they can win a number of prom related prizes from free entry, to photos, and even free soft drinks! We wish them well as they head towards the final 8 weeks of teaching before exams commence.

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 as we appreciate the phone lines can be busy in the mornings.

Tempest Photography

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

Attendance Matters

This week's whole school attendance is **94.7%**.

Year	Cassidy	Devereux	King	Kolbe	Romero	Year Average
7	93.3	95	96.2	92.9	99.3☺☺	95.3
8	92.3	98.8☺☺	97	96	94.8	95.8
9	90.1	93.3	87.4	97☺☺	94.6	92.5
10	98.9☺☺	93.5	89.7	94.7	93.6	94.1
11	97.8	96.6	98.2☺☺	90.5	94.8	95.6
Family Average	94.5	95.4	93.7	94.2	95.4	

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 2nd 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.

Activity	Time	Teacher	Place
Lunchtime in the Chapel	Mon – Adoration/ Noonday Prayer Tues - Justice & Peace Wed - Check in with the Chaplains Thurs - Fiction & Flicks Fri - Taize Prayer 12.30pm-12.45pm	Chaplains	Chapel
Art Club [KS4]	Tues and Wed 3.30pm-4.30pm	Mrs Taylor	Art Room
Extra Maths [Intermediate KS4]	Tues 5.40 – 5.55pm Foundation 6.00 – 6.30pm Intermediate	Mr Donlon	Google Classroom
Additional Maths	Thurs 3.30pm-4.15pm	Mr Tait	MA4
Extra Maths [Intermediate KS4]	Thurs 3.30pm-4.15pm	Mrs Jobson	MA2
Band	Wed 3.30-4.30pm	Mr Sammons	Social Court
School Choir	Tues and Thurs 12.55pm	Mr Sammons	Music Room
Physical Education Sports Clubs	<i>Timetable on Google Classrooms and in PE</i> Badminton Mon-Fri 12.25pm-1.20pm Football Tues 3.30pm-4.30pm Netball Tues 3.30pm-4.30pm [7,8] Netball Thurs 3.30pm-4.30pm [9,10 & 11]	PE Teachers	Sports Hall / Gym / Outside
Design Technology [KS4]	Wed & Thurs 3.30-4.30pm	Mr Cook, Mr Lambert & Mr Farrell	TE2

We are looking into the possibility of resuming Study Plus sessions which usually run from Monday to Friday 12.30pm-1pm and Monday to Thursday 3.30pm-4.30pm. We will keep you updated.