

Ysgol Penmorfa Newsletter

October 2015

School will close on Friday 23rd October for the half-term break. There is a Staff Training Day on Monday 2nd November and school will re-open for pupils on Tuesday 3rd November.

New Attendance Procedures

Improving pupil attendance and punctuality have become high priorities throughout the country. Parents are required to send their children to school regularly. New procedures introduced this term do not allow parents to take their children out of school for family holidays during term time. Any unauthorised absences exceeding 10 school days may be subject to a fine being issued.

It is therefore still very important to telephone school to explain every absence. In line with school procedures, our Attendance Clerk will continue to chase all unexplained absences.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evenings are being held this term. As in previous years, the open evenings will be staggered to avoid additional car parking problems outside of the school.

Class teachers will be offering appointment times by letter. If not convenient, class teachers will try to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet with a parent.

Parent Teacher Association

We are delighted that the PTA has re-established this year. Members of the PTA have already planned ahead for the forthcoming year and organised very successful discos for pupils this term. They are now preparing for events leading up to Christmas. Please take a look at their page on the school website for up to date information and dates and times of meetings. The PTA extends a warm welcome to parents to attend the next PTA meeting at school on Tuesday 3rd November at 3.30 p.m.



Parking

Like most schools, car parking facilities are insufficient for the number of vehicles driven to school each day. With the safety of pupils in mind, double yellow lines have recently been painted in the school car park to indicate the areas where visitors should not park. This is to encourage a more effective traffic flow. The system will only work if drivers adhere to the parking restrictions and refrain from parking on the double yellow lines.

Staff Training Days

The Staff Training Days at Ysgol Penmorfa for the rest of this school year are:

Monday 4th January

Monday 11th April



Key Strings visited school early in September. The small group of musicians played a range of musical instruments in front of pupils in the school hall.

Term Dates

School opens Tuesday 3rd November 2015
School closes Friday 18th December 2015

School opens Tuesday 5th January 2016
School closes Friday 12th February 2016

School opens Monday 22nd February 2016
School closes Thursday 24th March 2016

School opens Tuesday 12th April 2016
School closes Friday 27th May 2016

May Day Monday 2nd May 2016

School opens Monday 6th June 2016
School closes Wednesday 20th July 2016

Book Fair

The next book fair will be held in the school library during the week commencing 16th November.

No dogs allowed: The Governing Body would like to remind parents that dogs are not allowed on the school premises. This includes the carrying of small dogs and puppies.

School Priorities

Thank you to all parents who completed the parent questionnaires during the summer term. A total of 77 completed questionnaires were returned. The information has been analysed by the school and parents' comments have been discussed by the governing body. Fortunately the responses were mainly positive, with a few areas for improvement to be considered. These issues will be further discussed with parents during forthcoming PTA meetings.

The three main priorities in the school development plan for this academic year are:

1. The development of pupils reading and writing skills in Welsh
2. The development of pupils' understanding of global citizenship.
3. Increasing the percentage of more able pupils achieving Outcome 6 and Level 5 at the end of Year 2 and Year 6.

A more detailed overview of school performance data and targets will be available to parents next half-term in the Governors Annual Report to parents.