



School Lane, Hawthorn, Pontypridd, CF37 5AL
 Telephone: 01443 841228
 Headteacher: Mrs C Crockett

01.09.25

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we approach the beginning of a new academic year, the second for our school community, we hope that you have all enjoyed the extended break and are now looking forward to the start of a brand-new year at Ysgol Afon Wen.

For the majority of our pupils and families, we extend a warm welcome back to you all and for pupils and families joining us in Year 7 and Nursery, we are very much looking forward to welcoming you to our Ysgol Afon Wen community and the start of what we sincerely hope will be a long and successful partnership.

To last year's fantastic Year 11 pupils, congratulations once again on your very impressive GCSE results this summer. We wish you continued success and happiness for your next exciting chapters; please remember you will always be valued members of our school community. Sincere thanks also to your families for their continued support during the last five years.

As we look ahead to the start of the new academic year, we take this opportunity to share some important information with you:

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

2025 – 2026 Term Dates

TERM	DATES	HALF TERM	INSET DAYS
Autumn	1.9.25 – 19.12.25	27 th – 31 st October	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd September 2025 * All pupils (except Nursery pupils) to return on Thursday 4th September. Information regarding nursery start dates will be shared in advance.
Spring	5.1.26 – 27.3.26	16 th – 20 th February	Monday 5 th January 2026 Monday 9 th February 2026
Summer	13.4.26 – 20.7.26	25 th – 29 th May	Monday 20 th July 2026





**YSGOL
AFON WEN**

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As noted above, pupils in Reception to Year 11 return to school on Thursday, 4th September.

Please ensure all pupils meet at the relevant drop off / meeting points:

Reception	Staff will welcome pupils by reception classroom doors
Year 1	Staff will welcome pupils by first courtyard entrance in Activate building
Year 2	Staff will welcome pupils by front door entrance to Activate Hall
Year 3	Staff will welcome pupils by rear door entrance to Activate Hall
Year 4	Staff will welcome pupils by rear corridor entrance to Advance building
Year 5 & 6	Staff will welcome pupils by rear corridor entrance to Advance building
Year 7	Staff will welcome pupils in the Theatre
Year 8	Staff will welcome pupils in the Sports Hall
Year 9	Staff will welcome pupils in the Gym
Year 10	Staff will welcome pupils in the Canteen
Year 11	Staff will welcome pupils outside B Block

Other Key Dates

As always, further arrangements will be shared with you in advance, via Bromcom, our newsletter and our school website

5 th September, 2025	Year 7 School Photos
19 th September, 2025	Year 8 – 11 School Photos
22 nd /23 rd September 2025	Nursery to Year 6 meet the teacher
29 th September, 2025	Nursery – Year 6 School Photos
15 th & 16 th October, 2025	Nursery – Year 6 Progress Evenings
23 rd October, 2025	Yr 11 Progress Evening
10 th November, 2025	Year 2 – Year 9 Welsh National Tests window 1





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12 th February, 2026	Year 9 Progress Evening (Core subjects)
5 th March, 2026	Year 9 GCSE Options Evening
19 th March, 2026	Year 11 Progress Evening
26 th March, 2026	Year 8 Progress Evening
22 nd & 23 rd April, 2026	Nursery – Year 6 Progress Evening
7 th May, 2026	Year 10 Progress Evening
14 th May, 2026	Year 7 Progress Evening
1 st June, 2026	Year 2 – Year 9 Welsh National Tests window 2
Week commencing 29 th June, 2026	Year 6 Transition Week Year 10 Work Experience Week

Home-school Communication

As previously communicated with families at the end of summer term, our communication platform is moving from Classcharts to Bromcom. Please ensure you have downloaded the new 'My Child at School' app by the end of this week.

Should you require any further support, please contact us.

How to Self Sign Up for parents

Parents can access the **Parent Login** screen in two ways:

1. From within the web browser type www.mychildatschool.com, this will open the **Parent Login** screen.
2. From the **MyChildAtSchool** mobile phone app, this will open the **Parent Login** screen.

Once in the **Parent Login** screen parents should follow these steps:

- Click on the **Sign Up** link in the Parent Login screen.
- Enter the **school's Postcode** or **School ID**.
- Select the school from the list in the dropdown.
- Click **Continue**.
- Enter the registered email address.
- Click **Sign Up**.

Postcode CF37 5AL

Parents will see the message 'To complete your registration, we have sent an email to the email address you provided. Please access your email and follow the steps to create your password'.





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YEAR 7 PUPILS

Pupils will be signed up to use our canteen Biometrics system on their first day so that they are able to purchase lunch if required. Parents / Carers will then receive information on how to top up your child's account via RCT online payments

SCHOOL UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

There have been no changes to our school uniform policy. Please ensure your child wears the correct items and please also ensure:

- No hoodies are to be worn in any area of the school
- No leggings (straight or flared) are to be worn
- Shoes must be all black

More information on the uniform can be found at [Ysgol Afon Wen - Uniform](#)

'THE AFON WAY'

At the beginning of a new academic year, we look forward to reinforcing our school expectations for all members of our school community regarding **relationships, routines and respect**. Further information on our school expectations will be shared with you via our newsletter.

SUPPORT

As always, we will continue to ensure your child is supported in all aspects of school life this year. Your child's class teacher / form tutor will always be your first point of contact. Should you require any additional support, please reach out.

Nursery – Year 3	Mrs N Rowland
Year 4 – Year 6	Mrs V Geach
Year 7	Mr A Williams
Year 8	Miss L Burnett
Year 9	Miss L Phillips
Year 10	Miss H Boyce
Year 11	Miss M Jenkins
ALNCO	Mr S Lock





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ATTENDANCE – EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY: Please support your child to attend school every day, unless they are too unwell to attend. Our whole school target for every child is 95%.

If your child is too unwell to attend, please contact us before 9.00am otherwise we will contact you. If there is another reason why your child is unable to attend school, please contact us so that we are able to support you and your child further. We appreciate the start of a new term and changes to established routines can pose a challenge for some pupils – we are here to support.

We also kindly remind you of our start times:

Nursery – Year 6: 8.50am

Year 7 – Year 11: 8.30am

WALKING HOME UNACCOMPANIED: As of September 2025, only pupils in years 6 and above will be able to walk home unaccompanied. Parents of pupils in year 6 who wish to walk home unaccompanied must provide consent to do so. Further information will follow.

FURTHER REMINDERS

- We are a no phone school. No mobile phones / devices are to be used on school site. Any mobile phones seen / being used will be confiscated until the end of the day in the first instance. Repeated instances of mobile phone misuse will be treated as a more serious matter. Persistent breaches of this policy may result in further disciplinary action, including detention or exclusion from school activities. We expect all pupils and parents to understand and respect this rule from the outset.
- We aim to be a nut-free school. Pupils and families are kindly reminded not to bring any nuts / nut-based products such as 'Nutella' to school.

Finally, as we look forward to welcoming our pupils back to Ysgol Afon Wen, we look forward to building upon the remarkable successes we achieved together last year. The dedication shown by our pupils, the unwavering support from families, and the commitment of our staff created a foundation of excellence that we are eager to strengthen further. As we embark on this new chapter together, I am confident that the strong foundations we have established will enable us to reach even greater heights. Your continued partnership and support remain invaluable to us, and I look forward to working closely with you to ensure your child's educational journey is both rewarding and fulfilling.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

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Headteacher





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