

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had an exciting and engaging week of learning across the school and are delighted to share a few highlights with you. Our Nursery pupils have been thoroughly enjoying their work on *Little Red Riding Hood*, with the story sparking lots of enthusiasm, imagination, and discussion. The children have been exploring the characters and events through play, storytelling, and creative activities, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they retell the story and share their ideas. In Year 7 pupils have been learning about reproduction in their Science lessons, while Year 9 pupils have started to think about their GCSE option choices and Year 11 are focussed on successful outcomes at GCSE.

Our Thought for the Week has encouraged pupils to reflect on confidence and self-belief: "Don't back down just to keep the peace. Standing up for your beliefs builds self-confidence and self-esteem." – Oprah Winfrey. This message has prompted thoughtful conversations across year groups and supports our ongoing work in helping pupils develop resilience and a strong sense of self.

We look forward to welcoming many parents to our coffee mornings next week. Please come to see us to meet other family members, talk to school staff, raise any concern or just enjoy five minutes adult time. This will take place in our newly refurbished community Hub.

- ❖ Tuesday 3rd February for Year 7, 8, 9 parents/carers 9-10am
- ❖ Wednesday 4th February for Year 4,5,6 parents/carers 9-10am
- ❖ Thursday 5th February for Year 1,2,3 parents/carers 9-10am

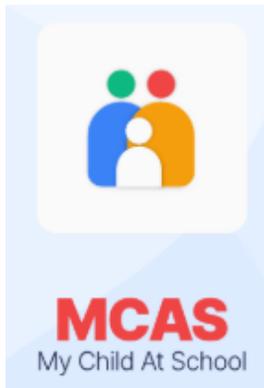
Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and we look forward to sharing more of our learning with you next week.

Key Dates

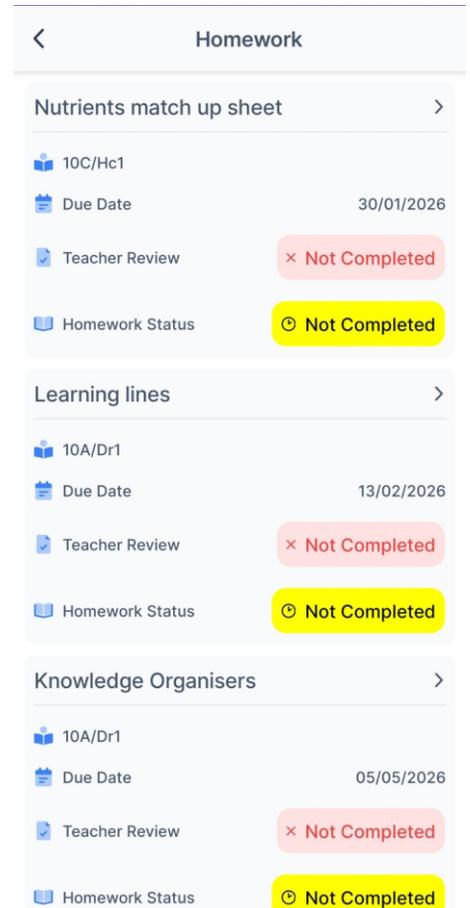
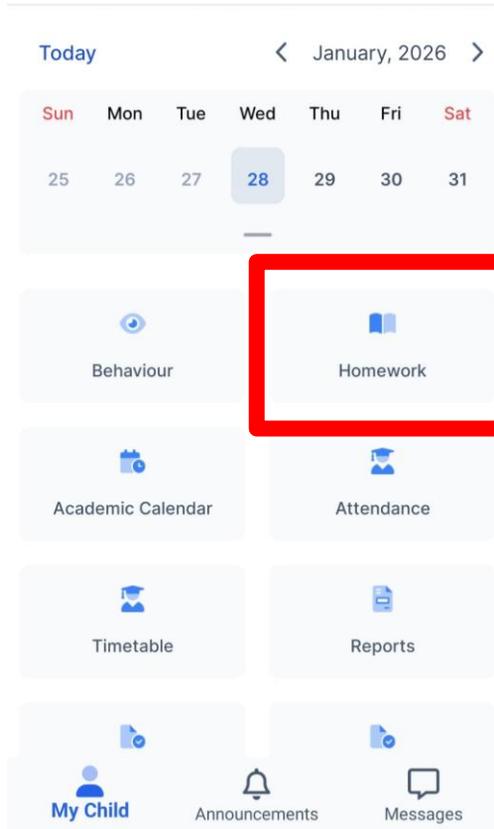
Date	Event
Tuesday 3rd February	Year 7,8,9 coffee morning 9-10am
Wednesday 4th February	Year 4,5,6 coffee morning 9-10am
Thursday 5th February 2026	Year 1,2,3 coffee morning 9-10am Attendance drop-in session 3.30-4.30pm Year 10 Success Evening 4.30-5.30pm
Wednesday 11th - Fri 13th February	Year 6 Residential trip to Llangrannog
Thursday 12th February 2026	Year 9 Progress Evening core subjects
Monday 16th February	Week of half term



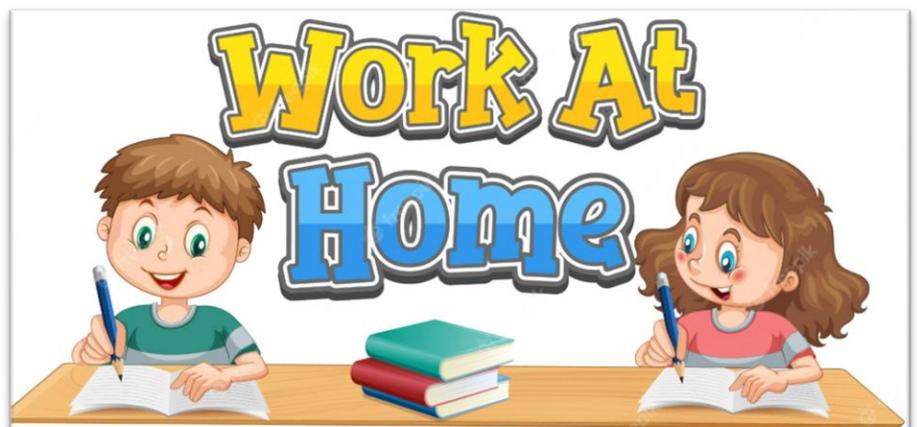
Parental Communication



On the MCAS parental app, you can now see the homework set for your child and when it needs to be submitted.



To view your child's homework, please click on the **HOMEWORK** tab of the home screen and then you will be able to see each homework task set with the deadline. Pupils who have the Pupil App can also see the same information. This will help with planning for work outside of the classroom and scheduling revision sessions.



Grey school uniform

Parents/carers are reminded that the school uniform in Ysgol Afon Wen is a navy blue jumper with grey trouser/skirt. Please find the link to the school uniform policy here:

[Ysgol Afon Wen - Uniform.](#)

Maintaining a consistent school uniform helps promote equality and pride in our school community. We ask that parents/carers check that pupils are adhering to the uniform policy daily.

If you need any help sourcing some grey skirt/trouser options, please see the links below. Other stockists are available.

[Greys School trousers | Tu Clothing](#)

[Boys' School Trousers - Black, Grey & Navy | George at ASDA](#)

[Boys 2 Pack Grey Regular Fit School Trousers \(3-15yrs\) - Matalan](#)

[Buy 2 Pack Grey Trousers Longer Leg 12 years | School trousers | Argos](#)

[Girls' Grey School Skirts | Next Official Site](#)



Attendance

Nursery	81%	Year 4	88%	Year 9	84%
Reception	88%	Year 5	89%	Year 10	79%
Year 1	87%	Year 6	88%	Year 11	80%
Year 2	89%	Year 7	91%		
Year 3	91%	Year 8	85%		

Well done to Year 3 and Year 7 for leading the way with the highest attendance so far!

Your consistency, enthusiasm, and determination to be in school each day are truly impressive and inspire others across the school. Keep aiming high—your daily effort really counts!



Coffee Mornings

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PARENT
COFFEE
MORNING



Attendance support

DROP IN SESSION

*Are you finding it difficult to encourage your child to attend school regularly?
Is your child experiencing challenges in school that are hindering them from achieving high rates of attendance?*

IF SO. WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT.

Key staff will be available to discuss any concerns you may have and offer bespoke and personalised support to help ensure your child attends school.



3.30PM - 4.30PM



THURSDAY, 5th FEBRUARY



YAW COMMUNITY HUB

SPOTLIGHT ON

PERSISTENT ABSENTEEISM



WHAT IS 'PERSISTENT ABSENTEEISM?'

If your child's absence falls below **90%**, this means your child is 'persistently absent'.

90% attendance means that **19 days** in one academic year are missed due to non-attendance.



Celebration of Success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been commended by their Progress leader or teachers. Well done!

Nursery	Harlow Palmer & Nova-Leigh Waite-Morten	Year 4	Joey Edwards & Isabella Connolly	Year 9	Amber Crockett & Hayden Booker
Reception	Oakley Evans & Aleigha Cegielka	Year 5	Albie Brickell & Evie Jones	Year 10	Layla Ford-Searl & Oliver Hughes
Year 1	Raya-Grace Davies & Carter Jones	Year 6	Harriet Thomas & Oscar Williams	Year 11	Khalid Olatunbi & Paige Morgans
Year 2	Oliver Powell & Gracie Axiak	Year 7	Taylor Wood		
Year 3	Iotam Zedgindze & Tomos Haines	Year 8	Aimee Horton & Luka Hicks		

Celebration of Success: Hospitality and Catering



GCSE students experimenting with different dishes this week 🍷

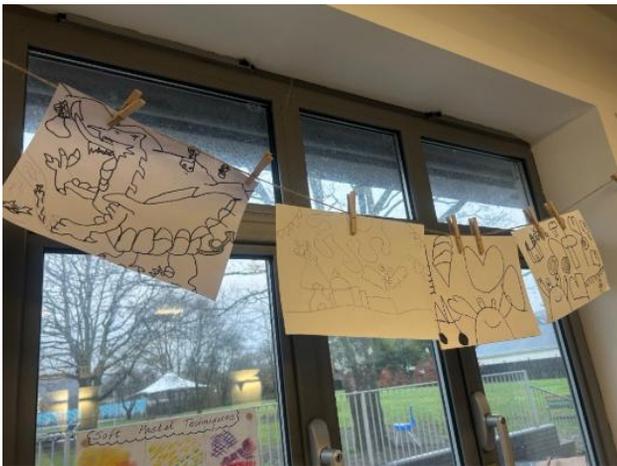




Activate Phase (Nursery to Year 3)

Year 2 Artist Visit

Year 2 welcomed Mrs Evans and Mrs Jones on Wednesday for an art workshop inspired by the Welsh artist Rhiannon Roberts. The pupils have been learning about Rhiannon as part of our topic work about inspirational Welsh people. Mrs Evans showed the children her own artwork and introduced pastel and water colour techniques. The pupils also completed observational drawings which they will use in their own piece of work. Diolch yn fawr to our wonderful visitors!



Year 3 Habitats

Year 3 have been learning about Welsh National Parks and the animals that live there. The pupils have created their own habitats in the classroom.





Advance Phase (Year 4 to Year 8)

Llangrannog Trip Meeting

There will be a parents' information meeting for the Year 6 Urdd Llangrannog trip on Tuesday **3rd February** at 3.05pm in the school Theatre. During the meeting, we will discuss the activities the children will be taking part in, trip timings, packing list, etc and any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you then.



Welsh topics



Y Gornel Gymraeg

Pupils in Yr4-6 will be learning about the following during this term's Welsh lessons. Here are some links to some resources you may wish to use together at home.

	<p><u>Blwyddyn 4 / Year 4:</u> Rhannau'r Corff a Theimladau <i>(Parts of the Body and feelings)</i></p>
	<p><u>Blwyddyn 5 / Year 5:</u> Mynegi Barn ar y teledu <i>(Sharing opinions on television programmes)</i></p>
	<p><u>Blwyddyn 6 / Year 6:</u> Mynd ar Wyliau <i>(Going on Holiday)</i></p>

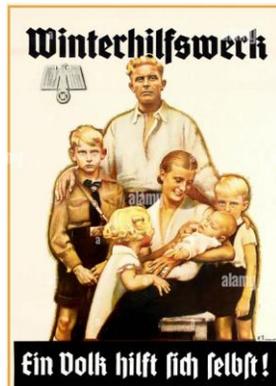




Achieve Phase (Year 9 to Year 11)

Holocaust Memorial Day

This week, Miss Boyce delivered an assembly to Y10 and Y11 for Holocaust Memorial Day. The pupils were very respectful and listened intently as the horrors of the Holocaust were explained. Pupils left assembly reflecting on their role in bridging generations through memory, understanding and action.



HOW PREJUDICE BECAME PERSECUTION

- The journey from prejudice to genocide began with propaganda and hateful ideas about people because of their religion, ethnicity or identity.
- These ideas were reinforced by laws that took away rights, isolating entire communities.
- Many ordinary people either supported, ignored or stayed silent - allowing injustice to spread.

WHY IT STILL MATTERS

- Genocide, hatred and discrimination have not disappeared. Across the world, individuals and groups are still persecuted for their identity.
- Without memory, denial and distortion can take hold. With memory, we maintain truth, stand against injustice, and defend human rights.
- Our vigilance and action today help prevent future tragedies and protect vulnerable communities.

BRIDGING GENERATIONS — THE CALL TO ACTION

Bridging Generations asks us to listen to the lived experiences of those who suffered, to learn from them, and to pass on those lessons.

It invites us to speak out against denial, distortion and prejudice — in conversation, in media, in everyday life.

It challenges us to take responsibility for remembrance, justice and human dignity for future generations.

Year 10 Success Evening

Pupils in Year 10 and parents/carers are invited to a Success Evening on Thursday 5th February 2026. The session will run from 4.30-5.30pm and will provide families information on what pupils are studying in each of their courses, the course requirements, examination information as well as information on how to succeed at GCSE. Please ensure that you have received the letter sent about modular examinations that will take place at the end of Year 10. These examinations will count towards the final GCSE grade. **Pupils are encouraged to attend with family members.**



Achieve Phase (Year 9 to Year 11)

Year 9 Vaccinations

The message below was sent last week, please can all parents of year 9 pupils follow the link to complete the electronic consent form.

Year 9 are due to receive their Diptheria, Tetanus, Polio (known as 3-in-one booster) and Meningitis ACWY vaccination on the 6th February. An information letter has been sent out via Bromcom. Please complete the link on the information letter (and issued again below) to give consent.

Please click on the link to complete the electronic consent form

<https://d2e9adtx5us38g.cloudfront.net/ysgol-afon-wen/index.html?form=1160b7e5-2a43-4d83-b468-f20ba9102a3f>

If you have more than one school age child in year 9, please complete one form per child. The form must be completed prior to the school nurses visiting your child's school to deliver the vaccination. This gives the school nursing team time to check each individual form.

A number of Year 10 pupils are due to have a catch up vaccination, parents/carers have been contacted via Bromcom with their consent letter and link.

Year 9 Options

The Year 9 options process will continue next week with the job matching quiz. Pupils have already had a session about further careers and choices with Careers Wales and listened to some fascinating stories about jobs in the Navy, HM Prison and from an entrepreneur.



Please note the date of the Year 9 Progress evening to discuss core subjects is Thursday 12th February 2026. Pupils should be making appointment with their teachers. The options evening is scheduled for 5th March.



Achieve Phase (Year 9 to Year 11)

Year 11 revision sessions

There will be Year 11 revision sessions for core subjects taking place every week. Achieving a C grade or above in these subjects will help further plans or ambitions. Please attend.

Mathematics
TUESDAY
2.45 -3.45pm

English
WEDNESDAY
2.45 -3.45pm

Science
THURSDAY
2.45 -3.45pm

Year 11 revision sessions for core subjects are important because they give pupils focused time to revisit key knowledge and skills that are essential for success in GCSE examinations. These sessions help pupils to strengthen their understanding of topics that may be challenging, clarify any misconceptions, and practise exam-style questions with guidance from specialist teachers. Regular attendance builds confidence, improves exam technique, and helps students manage their time and workload more effectively as exams approach. Revision sessions also reinforce good study habits, provide structure and routine, and show pupils that consistent effort leads to progress, helping them to feel more prepared, supported, and motivated during a crucial stage of their education.

Year 10 Boost Group

The Year 10 Boost group aims to support students by breaking down barriers to learning and building confidence, resilience, and motivation. Through working together, we create a safe and supportive space where students feel heard, encouraged, and empowered to overcome challenges, develop positive attitudes, and make progress both in and out of the classroom. Our first wellbeing walk was a huge success today at Barry Sidings Country Park.

