

Dear Parent/Carers,

We hope all our families had a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break and that pupils have returned refreshed and ready for the Summer term. This week, pupils have taken part in assemblies centred around our “Thought for the Week”: *“Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.”* (Albert Einstein). These assemblies have encouraged pupils to think creatively about their learning and future aspirations.

As we enter this crucial term, it is essential that both pupils and parents understand the importance of the weeks ahead, particularly for those in Years 10 and 11. With GCSE modular examinations beginning this Summer, revision is imperative. We strongly encourage all pupils to attend our after-school core revision sessions: Maths on Tuesdays, English on Wednesdays, and Science on Thursdays. With only three teaching weeks remaining until exams begin, every lesson and every revision opportunity counts.

We also look forward to welcoming all parents from Nursery to Year 6 to discuss their child’s progress at the upcoming Parents’ Evening. In addition, parents of pupils in Years 2–9 are asked to ensure they have received and reviewed the information shared in the recent interim report via the MCAS App.

Alongside the focus on academic success, the Summer term also brings the excitement of Sports Days. We are pleased to share the following schedule, and parents are warmly invited to attend where indicated:

- Activate Phase: Friday 1st May (Reception & Year 1 at 9:00am; Year 2 & 3 at 1.00pm) – Parents invited
- Advance Phase: Year 4–Year 6: Friday 12th June 9am start) – Parents Advance Phase Year 7 & Year 8: Friday 26th June
- Achieve Phase Year 9, Year 10 & Year 11: Friday 3rd July

We look forward to a productive and successful term for all pupils.

Key Dates

Date	Event
Wednesday 22 nd April 2026	Nursery – Year 6 Progress evening
Thursday 23 rd April 2026	Nursery – Year 6 Progress evening
Friday 1st May 2026	Activate Sports Day
Thursday 7th May 2026	GCSE examinations start



Facilities Upgrade

We are delighted to share that our Activate phase has benefited from the addition of a new outdoor covered area. This fantastic space will enable our younger pupils to make the most of outdoor learning opportunities throughout the year, regardless of the weather.

The covered area provides a safe and stimulating environment where pupils can engage in practical, hands-on activities, develop their creativity, and build key social and communication skills. We are excited to see how this new provision will enrich learning experiences and support pupils in exploring and enjoying the outdoors as an integral part of their education.



Year 6 and 11 School photographs

Your child had their school photograph taken this week and year 11 pupils had some friendship photos. Your child came home with an access code to order the photos. Please note that for free delivery to the school, you must order by 22nd April.

Login with your Access Code at <https://clickfoto.co.uk/login> to place your order





Extra Curricular Activities

YAW EXTRA CURRICULAR - SPRING TERM



Day	Activity
WEDNESDAY	Week 2 - Lunchtime - Dance Athletics for all years
THURSDAY	Week 1 - All Years Boys Football Week 2 - All Years Boys Rugby All Girls Rugby All Girls Cricket

For all extra-curricular activities, please meet at the changing rooms.





Activate Phase (Nursery to Year 3)

Noah's Ark Zoo Farm Trip

Children in Year 3 went to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm in Bristol on Tuesday. They learnt about different animals and collected information on their natural habitat and what they like to eat. They are using this information in their lessons this week.





Activate Phase (Nursery to Year 3)

St Fagan's Trip

Year 2 pupils visited St Fagan's today where they took part in a Victorian School workshop at Maestir School. The pupils took part in a Victorian lesson where they practiced arithmetic with a very strict Victorian teacher! A great day was had by all. Many thanks to the staff, parents and governors who helped to support the trip.





Celebration of Success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been nominated for the celebration of success this week.

Nursery	Violet Probert & Ashton Jones	Year 4	Nansi Sims & Leo Delaitre-Morgan	Year 9	Grace Bevan & Leo Townley
Reception	Lenny Meech & Franki Webber	Year 5	Vanessa Demetrova	Year 10	Olivier Mason & Jack Rees
Year 1	Oaklee Jenkins & Cherrin Healy	Year 6	Jayden Hann & Brody Pascoe	Year 11	Brooke-Leigh Jenkins & Jacob Caruso
Year 2	Thomas Williams Quinn Driscoll	Year 7	Jessica Suret & Grace Evans		
Year 3	Evan Humphries & Harley Harrop	Year 8	Immy Batten & Calon Cousins		

Attendance

We are proudly recognised as an Inclusive Attendance school, where our commitment to promoting regular school attendance is central to everything we do. Our approach is rooted in child-centred actions, evidence-informed practices, and a shared responsibility among everyone—pupils, parents, staff, and the community—to foster exceptional attendance. Together, we strive to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed academically, socially, and personally.

Regular attendance throughout the summer term is especially important, as it is a time when learning is consolidated, progress is secured, and key experiences prepare pupils for their next stage of education. Every day counts, and consistent attendance during this period supports strong outcomes, smooth transitions, and sustained wellbeing, helping all children finish the academic year confident, engaged, and ready for what comes next.

Nursery	82%	Year 4	88%	Year 9	84%
Reception	89%	Year 5	90%	Year 10	80%
Year 1	87%	Year 6	88%	Year 11	81%
Year 2	89%	Year 7	91%		
Year 3	92%	Year 8	86%		



Activate Phase (Nursery to Year 3)

Activate Sports Day

- Nursery – will take place on this day but no parental support
- Reception & Year 1 at 9:15am start – Parents invited
- Year 2 & 3 at 1.00pm start – Parents invited

You are invited to attend Sports Day at the time specified above. If you are attending, please note that parents and carers are expected to remain on site for the full duration of the event, which will take place on the astroturf. If you need to use the toilet facilities during this time, a member of staff will escort you.

These arrangements are in place to safeguard all members of the school community as the school will remain in session during the Sports Day event.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. We look forward to sharing this special event with you.

SPORTS DAY



Activate Phase (Nursery to Year 3)

Planting Sunflowers

This week Eco club headed down to reception to plant sunflowers with the reception pupils. All pupils went home with their plant pots and an information sheet on how to help the sunflowers grow.

We can't wait to see your sunflowers growing so please keep us up to date by sending in pictures. We have a surprise planned for the pupil who grows the tallest flower.



Advance Phase (Year 4 to Year 8)

Hay Festival

Hay Festival Trips – Year 6 and Year 7

The Creativity Faculty are delighted to announce that we have secured tickets for both **Year 6 and Year 7 pupils** to attend the renowned Hay Festival: a celebration of literature, creativity, and inspiring ideas.

Following the success of previous visits, we are pleased to be able to offer this opportunity again. Pupils who attended last year thoroughly enjoyed the experience and found it highly beneficial, gaining inspiration from hearing authors speak and developing a greater enthusiasm for reading and writing.

During their visits, pupils will attend engaging talks from a range of well-known authors. **Year 6 pupils** will hear from Maz Evans and Katherine Rundell, while **Year 7 pupils** will attend sessions with Bernardine Evaristo and Sarah Crossan. These sessions offer a unique opportunity for pupils to hear directly from some of today's most exciting writers and storytellers. Pupils will also have time to explore the festival site and enjoy its vibrant atmosphere.

Trip Details

- **Year 6 Trip Date:** Thursday 21st May 2026
- **Year 7 Trip Date:** Friday 22nd May 2026
- **Departure:** 8:30am from school
- **Return:** Approximately 3:30pm



Pupils will travel by coach to Hay-on-Wye. The coach will leave the festival at 2:15pm. Please note that for **Year 7 pupils**, the return time is after the school buses have departed.

The cost of the trip is **£14.00**, which covers transport. Payment details are included at the end of the original letter.

Important Information

- Pupils must wear **full school uniform**
- As this is an outdoor event, pupils should be prepared for the weather (e.g. coat, suncream)
- Pupils should bring a **packed lunch** (free school meal pupils will be provided with one)

Please note that pupils must demonstrate good behaviour and meet the school's expectations in order to attend the trip.

To secure your child's place, please return the permission slip to their class teacher and complete payment online by Friday 1st May 2026.





Achieve Phase (Year 9 to Year 11)

GCSE examinations

GCSE Examinations

3 teaching weeks left
75 lessons left

before the first examination on
Thursday 7 May 2026

[summer-2026-wales-and-eduqas-gcse-october-2025.pdf](#)

Below are the dates for the first five days of the examination series. Your child has an individual copy of their examinations on the MCAS app which you can see as parents/carers and they can see as pupils. Please refer to that for pupil specific information.

07/05/2026	08:45	1 hour 30 mins	GCSE	Mathematics - Numeracy Foundation - Maths-num Unit1 Found Noncalculator
07/05/2026	08:45	1 hour 45 mins	GCSE	Mathematics - Numeracy Higher - Maths-num Unit1 Higher Noncalculator
07/05/2026	08:45	1 hour 45 mins	GCSE	Mathematics - Numeracy Intermediate - Maths-num Unit1 Intern Noncalculator
08/05/2026	13:00	1 hour 30 mins	GCSE	Drama - Drama Unit 3 Interpreting Theatre
11/05/2026	13:00	1 hour 30 mins	GCSE	Geography Physical & Human World New - Geography Unit 1 Written Examination
12/05/2026	08:45	1 hour 30 mins	GCSE	Geography - Geography Unit 1
12/05/2026	08:45	1 hour 45 mins	GCSE	Maths&numeracy Financial Math Higher - Maths&numeracy Double Unit 1 Higher
12/05/2026	13:00	1 hour 15 mins	GCSE	Science Double Biology 2 Foundation - Science Double Unit 4 Foundation
12/05/2026	13:00	1 hour 15 mins	GCSE	Science Double Biology 2 Higher - Science Double Unit 4 Higher
12/05/2026	13:00	1 hour 45 mins	GCSE	Biology Variation, Homeostasis Found - Biology Unit 2 Foundation: Written
12/05/2026	13:00	1 hour 45 mins	GCSE	Biology Variation, Homeostasi Higher - Biology Unit 2 Higher: Written
13/05/2026	08:45	1 hour 30 mins	GCSE	Welsh Second Language Narrative - Welsh Second Language Unit3: Written
13/05/2026	13:00	1 hour 00 mins	GCSE	History Depression, War And Recovery - History Unit 1c: Written





YSGOL
AFON WEN

Newsletter 17.04.26

Article 15: To meet with your friends and join groups and clubs

Advance Phase (Year 9 to Year 11)

Year 10 Progress Evening

Dear Parent/Carer,

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to **Year 10 Progress Evening** on **Thursday 7th May 2026** between **3:30pm and 5:30pm** at Ysgol Afon Wen.

This evening will give you the opportunity to speak to class teachers regarding your child's academic progress and personal development. As I am sure you realise, this is a very important evening; I hope that you will be able to attend.

Your child has been given an appointment sheet and will schedule appointments for you with their class teachers. If you have any queries, please contact Miss H Boyce, Progress Leader for Year 10.

For your child to be successful, and to reach their full potential, it is important that both home and school work together in partnership and we look forward to strengthening this important partnership further during the evening.

We look forward to welcoming you back to Ysgol Afon Wen.

Yours faithfully,

Mr D Jones
Head of Achieve Phase

Miss H Boyce
Progress Leader Year 10



Year 10 GCSE examinations

A reminder that pupils in Year 10 also have GCSE Summer examinations which count towards their final GCSE grade.

GCSE Subject	Examination	Summer of Yr 10 (June 2026)
Mathematics & Numeracy	Unit 1 Financial Mathematics 10MA1 (CMC) Higher Tier only	30% of qualification
English Language & Literature	Unit 1: Context and Meaning	30% of the Single Award
History	Unit 3 Crime and Punishment	30% of qualification
Geography	Unit 1 Our Physical and Human World	30% of qualification
Triple Science	Unit 1 Biology, Unit 1 Chemistry, Unit 1 Physics	45% of each qualification

Year 10 revision sessions for the English Unit 1 exam will be starting after Easter, every week on a Wednesday 2:45 until 3:45.

Year 10 revision session for the Mathematics unit 1 are taking place every Tuesday 2:45 until 3:45 in C4.





Community information

Join Hawthorn & Lower Rhydyfelin Kids Clubs in partnership with Happy Boots for an exciting event...

SPRING PLANTING SESSION

- Spring planting
- Crafts
- Bird and insect nest displays
- Raffle
- Refreshments*



Friday 17th April, 6pm-8pm
@ Hawthorn Community
Centre



Free event. All ages welcome. Children must be supervised at all times.

*Small charge for refreshments - CASH only.

