

Dear Parent/Carers,

As we reflect on another successful week in school, I would like to begin by congratulating our Year 10 students on their participation in the recent Chemistry Day at Swansea University. The experience provided an excellent opportunity to engage with cutting-edge scientific research, explore future career pathways, and develop their enthusiasm for learning beyond the classroom. They represented the school exceptionally well and were a credit to themselves and their families.

We are also immensely proud of the pupils who are currently representing Ysgol Afon Wen in Japan. Their participation in this international experience is a wonderful achievement and an opportunity to act as ambassadors for our school and community. We look forward to hearing about their experiences and celebrating their accomplishments upon their return.

Congratulations are also due to our Year 11 and 10 students for the positive approach they demonstrated during their examinations. Their excellent conduct, resilience, and attitude to learning throughout the examination period have been commendable. We are proud of the maturity and determination they have shown, and we look forward to seeing you on GCSE results day in August. The same commendable behaviour was demonstrated in the Year 9 internal examinations this week. We know that each individual pupil will continue building on their achievements as they start their GCSE courses next year.

Our Thought for the Week has been: ***“Never look down on anybody unless you’re helping them up.”*** — **Jesse Jackson**. This powerful message reminds us of the importance of kindness, empathy, and supporting one another. As a school community, we strive to foster an environment where everyone feels valued, respected, and encouraged to achieve their best. By lifting others up through our words and actions, we strengthen our community and embody the values that underpin our school.

Thank you for your continued support, and I hope you enjoy reading about the many successes and opportunities highlighted in this newsletter.



Key Dates

The end of term is always busy with events. Please check the school calendar below.

Date	Event
Monday 22 nd June 2026	Storey Arms Trip Year 5
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 11 Prom 7pm
Thursday 25 th June	Year 5 open evening 4.30-6.00pm
Friday 26 th June	Year 7 & 8 Upper Advance Sports day
Monday 29 th June	Year 10 Work experience & Year 6 transition week
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 1 celebration assembly 2.30pm
Wednesday 1 st July	Year 2 celebration assembly 2.30pm
Thursday 2 nd July	Year 3 celebration assembly 2.30pm
Friday 3 rd July	Moving up afternoon (Nursery to Year 6)
Tuesday 7 th July	Year 6 celebration assembly 2.00pm
Wednesday 8 th July	Activate Enterprise Fayre 3pm Theatre
Thursday 9 th July	Reception Celebration assembly 2.30pm
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 4, 5, 6 reward trip
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 7,8 reward trip
Thursday 16 th July	Year 9, 10 reward trip
Monday 20 th July	INSET day. School closed for pupils.

Advanced notice of dates

The school will have three INSET days at the beginning of term

Monday 31st August 2026 Last day of the summer holiday (bank holiday)

Tuesday 1st September INSET day (closed for pupils).

Wednesday 2nd September INSET day (closed for pupils).

Thursday 3rd September INSET day (closed for pupils).

Friday 4th September 2025 will be the first day of term for all pupils.



Catering payment change

Cashless Catering / Online e-payments for school meals

As you may be aware, the school currently uses the RCT Pay it online system for school meal payments. We are moving this week to a new system, **iPayimpact**, which will replace the existing service and continue to support our cashless catering arrangements.

iPayimpact will give parents and carers additional functionality, including the ability to view your child's dinner money balance in real time, see a history of the meals they have taken, and set up automatic top-ups to keep their account in credit. The app will also allow you to see multiple children if required.

For school meals, each child will have their own payment account, and existing balances will be moved across automatically. You will be required to top up this account with sufficient funds to ensure that your child can access the canteen facilities.

To download the app and create an account please follow the instructions included with this letter. These will also be sent out via the 'My Child at School app'. Below is your individual child's account reference which will be required to create an account.

PLEASE NOTE THIS REFERENCE NUMBER IS NEW AND WILL REPLACE THEIR CURRENT REFERENCE ID.

You will be able to start making payments via iPayImpact from 18th June 2026.

In order to use the iPayimpact website you will need:

Pupil Name:

Pupils Year/From Group:

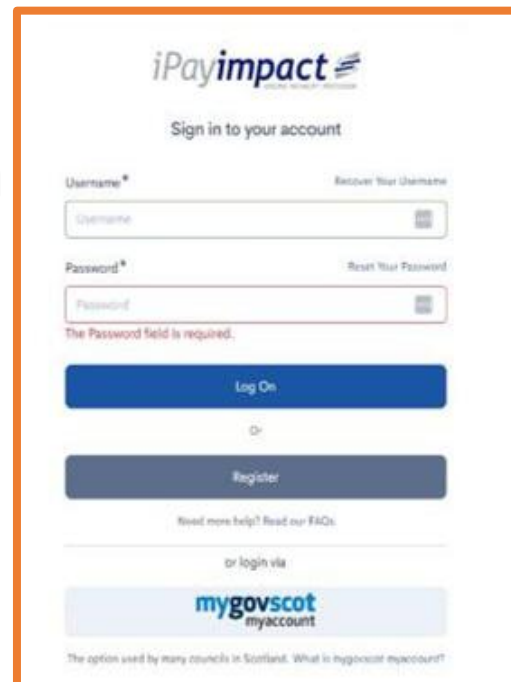
Unique new ID Reference:

Individual
codes sent to
all
parents/carers

Please see step by step instructions sent on the MCAS app.

How do I top up my child's dinner balance?

1. Log into the app or website
2. Select your child
3. Choose 'Dinner Money / School Meals'
4. Enter amount
5. Pay.
6. The balance normally updates instantly.



The screenshot shows the iPayimpact login interface. At the top, it says 'iPayimpact' with a logo. Below that is the text 'Sign in to your account'. There are two input fields: 'Username*' and 'Password*'. The 'Username*' field has a 'Recover Your Username' link. The 'Password*' field has a 'Reset Your Password' link. Below the password field, there is a red error message: 'The Password field is required.' There are two buttons: a blue 'Log On' button and a grey 'Register' button. At the bottom, there is a link for 'Need more help? Read our FAQs.' and a section for 'or login via' with the 'mygovscot myaccount' logo. A small note at the bottom says 'The option used by many councils in Scotland. What is mygovscot myaccount?'

Celebration of Success

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

Nursery	Louie Jones & Isaiah Maruta	Year 4	Oliver Davies & Jaxon Lovegrove	Year 9	Maia Amos & Jacob Vickery
Reception	Omotolani Abiona & Tomas Cowlshaw	Year 5	Florence Lucas	Year 10	Evie Hopkins & Rio-Leigh Griffiths
Year 1	Oaklee Jenkins & Hollie Kipling	Year 6	Ivy Alger		
Year 2	Ethan Perera & Ada Collins	Year 7	Summer Pugh & Emmanuel Obioma		
Year 3	lotam Zedgendze & Aliya John	Year 8	Tavia Smith & Charlie Baldwin		

A big **congratulations** to Year 4 pupils Aneira who has celebrated a successful year in kickboxing, and Nirvana- Blu who attended her RCT football presentation over the weekend. We are very proud of your out of school achievements girls!



Attendance

Nursery	82%	Year 4	89%	Year 9	84%
Reception	90%	Year 5	90%	Year 10	80%
Year 1	87%	Year 6	88%	Year 11	81%
Year 2	89%	Year 7	90%		
Year 3	92%	Year 8	85%		

Attendance Matters: Final Summer Half Term

As we begin our final half term of the academic year, attendance remains a key priority for all pupils at Ysgol Afon Wen. Every day in school counts, and this final stretch of the year is particularly important for maintaining progress, routines, and positive habits.

We know that the summer term can be a busy time, but consistent attendance continues to make a significant difference. Pupils who attend regularly are more confident, better prepared for the next stage in their learning, and more connected to their peers and school community.

Why attendance still matters now

- Important learning continues right up to the end of term
- Teachers are consolidating key knowledge and preparing pupils for September
- Pupils benefit socially from finishing the year positively with their peers





Father's Day

Father's Day is a special time to celebrate the fathers, grandfathers, and father figures who have shaped our lives with love, guidance, and strength. But for many in our community it is also a day of reflection and remembrance. It can bring memories of those who are no longer with us, whose presence is deeply missed but whose love lives on. If we can further support you or a member of your family, please reach out.

Ways to remember our loved ones on Father's day



- Light a candle in memory
- Help them design cards or write a letter to dad, which can be posted in the Post Boxes to Heaven, situated in several cemeteries in RCT
- Create a memory box/jar and fill with photos, cards and other memories
- Share stories and memories with them
- Look at photographs together
- Visit a special place
- Do something Dad enjoyed
- Plant something in memory

Looking after yourself:

Supporting a child through grief can be emotionally challenging, especially around Father's Day. You may feel pressure to stay strong, but it is okay to show your emotions. Children learn from the adults around them, and seeing you express your feelings can reassure them that sadness is a natural part of grief. Remember to be kind to yourself and give your own feelings the same care and compassion that you offer your child

Eye to Eye Counselling Service

At Eye to Eye Counselling service, we understand how challenging Fathers Day can be for grieving children and their families.

You're not alone. Eye to Eye Counselling is here to support children, young people and their families with understanding, compassion and guidance as they navigate their bereavement journey.

Contact us:

Phone: 01443 202940
Email: fact@eyetoeye.wales
Website: www.eyetoeye.wales

Every Child Deserves a Memory Appeal

Our Memory Box Appeal aims to ensure that every grieving child in Rhondda Cynon Taf receives a safe, comforting way to remember someone they love.

Donate today, help a child remember:



Charity Number: 1170631

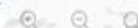


Eye to Eye Counselling Service



Supporting a child with loss on Father's Day

Charity Number: 1170631





YSGOL
AFON WEN

Newsletter 19.06.26

Article 12: I have the right to be listened to and taken seriously

Catering Themed menu

WORLD CUP
STREET FOOD OPTION
23RD JUNE 2026

HOT MEATBALL 'SUB' BAGUETTE

Beef

or Vegan Meatballs

in a baguette*,

served with a rich
Tomato Sauce and

Cheese

| **£2.40**

*Gluten free options available- please pre order

Science in real life



Matt from Openreach has been in school talking about using fibre optic cables and careers in engineering and Openreach. The pupils enjoyed seeing how the physics GCSE is related to real life jobs and careers. Thank you for giving up your time to visit us.





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Activate Phase (Nursery to Year 3)

Activate Enterprise Fayre

Wednesday 8th July

Activate Enterprise Fayre 3pm Theatre

Pupils are very busy creating wonderful products to sell in their Activate enterprise sale. This will take place on Wednesday 8th July in the theatre. Please could family members bring a small amount of cash to purchase these items. Items on sale are less than £5 each, but the newsletter is not allowed to spoil the surprise of what the children have been making for you.

The children will be collected as normal and brought to the theatre by parents/carers.





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Year 5 Open evening

YSGOL AFON WEN NOSON AGORED YEAR 5 OPEN EVENING

We warmly invite Year 5 pupils and families to our Open Evening. Key members of staff will be available to meet with you and provide information about school life at Ysgol Afon Wen as well as tour the facilities and learning areas. We look forward to welcoming you to our school! There is no need to book in advance.



Thursday, 25.6.26



4.30pm start - 6.00pm (approx.)



Ysgol Afon Wen, CF37 5AL

CONTACT US:



01443 841228



admin@ysgolafonwen.cymru
www.ysgolafonwen.co.uk





Advance Phase (Year 4 to Year 9)

Year 5 Residential trip



We wish all our Year 5 pupils attending Storey Arms on Monday, a very safe and enjoyable trip! The pupils will be taking part in a range of adventurous activities including gorge walking, canoeing and caving- as well as preparing their own lunches each day! We hope the Year 5 pupils have a fabulous time away making memories.

Please check the list of clothing items needed and remember your child's suncream, hat and refillable water bottle as the weather is going to be sunny.



Year 4 trip

Pupils in Year 4 are going to Bristol Aquarium on Thursday 25th June. This will provide a wonderful opportunity to experience the topic they have been studying this term, Secrets of the Sea.

Pupils can bring a small bag of sweets along with their packed lunch. All drinks should have a lid (**no cans or energy drinks**).

Pupils will not need to bring any money. Pupils can wear school PE kit or uniform. The bus will be leaving school at 9am and should return by 3:30pm





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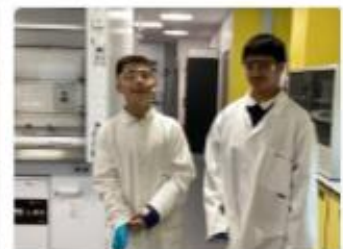
Article 12: I have the right to be listened to and taken seriously

Achieve Phase (Year 9 to Year 11)

Key Dates



A group of Year 10 pupils attended Swansea University's Chemistry day. Pupils completed a specified practical along with a comparison using data logging. They had an amazing day, and some have come back wanting to be Scientists! What an opportunity!





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Community Corner

Are you aged between 16-18 ?

VOLUNTEER

**With Pontypridd Town Council
This Summer**

Why Take Part?

- Boost your potential for employment
- Team Uniform
- Have fun and make friends!

What next?

- Complete the online application form
- Participate in Training on 30th June

Scan for Application Form



Support us in offering summer activities for families in Pontypridd

Link to application form:
<https://forms.gle/sFx3GBu7NwUGVXoQ8>



CYNGOR TREF
PONTYPRIDD
TOWN COUNCIL

Application Deadline: 23rd June
For more information contact: 01443 490740
email info@pontypriddtowncouncil.gov.uk



CYNGOR TREF
PONTYPRIDD
TOWN COUNCIL



Community Corner

ADHD Parent Workshops



Helping young people understand their ADHD and build tools that work for their lives.

@Tŷ Tâf, Ysgol Afon Wen

Tuesday 23rd June & Tuesday 7th July

Session 1: 9.30–10.30 (Years 3–6)

Session 2: 11.00–12.00 (Years 7–11)

Tuesday 23rd June

ADHD in Real Life: What Parents Need to Know

A clear, practical look at how ADHD shows up day to day. We explore common myths, the many ways ADHD can present, and what this means for your child's behaviour, emotions and learning.

Click on the session to book

[Session 1 \(yr3-6\)](#)

[Session 2 \(yr 7-10\)](#)

Tuesday 7th July

Daily Habits That Help: Sleep, Diet and Exercise

Focused on the everyday routines that support an ADHD brain. We look at sleep patterns, morning routines, food, movement, and simple changes that can make life feel calmer.

Click on the session to book

[Session 1 \(yr 3-6\)](#)

[Session 2 \(yr 7-10\)](#)

Who these workshops are for

Parents and carers who want to understand ADHD better and feel more confident supporting their child (diagnosis not necessary).

What you'll gain

Clear explanations, practical ideas you can use straight away. A supportive space to ask questions.

Any questions please email sarah@nextstepsadhdcoaching.co.uk or take a look at my website www.nextstepsadhdcoaching.co.uk

