Pennaeth / *Head*
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**Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera**
Glanyrafon
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Ionawr 2017

Annwyl Riant / Warcheidwad,

**Blwyddyn Newydd Dda**

Hoffem, fel ysgol, ddymuno blwyddyn newydd dda i chi gyd yn 2017. Dyma dymor gwirioneddol gyffrous inni fel ysgol, wrth i adnoddau'r ysgol dderbyn gweddnewidiad ardderchog!

**Gweithgareddau Nadolig**

Hoffwn ddiolch i holl staff a disgyblion yr ysgol a wnaeth gymaint o ymdrech mewn gwahanol weithgareddau yn arwain at y Nadolig gan gynnwys Eisteddfod Ysgol ardderchog iawn. Llys Gwenllian fu'n fuddugol a hoffwn longyfarch Nia Havard ar ennill y gadair ac i Manon Evans i ennill y Tlws Saesneg – llongyfarchiadau mawr i'r ddwy ohonynt! Daeth y tymor i ben gyda Gwasanaethau Nadolig cofiadwy yn Eglwys Dewi Sant, Ystalyfera. Cawsom gyfle i ffarwelio i ddau aelod o staff wnaeth adael ar ddiwedd y tymor sef Ms Kristie Higgins sydd wedi cael swydd yn Ysgol Gyfun Garth Olwg ac i Mr Gareth Morgan, Arweinydd Almaeneg a Chydlynydd y Fagloriaeth CA5 wrth iddo adael i ymuno ac UCAC. Bu Mr Morgan yn athro yn yr ysgol ers Medi 1986 a bu'n gymeriad llawen a phoblogaidd yn yr ysgol – dymunwn yn dda i'r ddau ohonynt wrth iddynt barhau a'u gyrfaoedd llwyddiannus.

**Adeilad newydd – Bloc Eirion**

Ddiwedd tymor diwethaf, roeddem wedi derbyn allweddi ar gyfer ein adeilad newydd, Bloc Eirion sy'n cynnwys ystafelloedd dysgu, labordai, adran gynnal ac ystafelloedd D&T a TGCh. Yn anffodus, dros wyliau'r Nadolig roedd un o'r pibau dwr wedi torri ac fe achoswyd gryn dipyn o ddifrod – mae gweithwyr wedi bod wrthi yn galed i sicrhau ein bod yn gallu defnyddio'r adeilad – a byddwn yn ei ddefnyddio'n gyfan o Ionawr y 3ydd ymlaen, ond bydd angen i'r gweithwyr ddychwelyd yn ystod gwyliau nesaf yr ysgol i ail osod rhai o'r lloriau ac i adfer y difrod a wnaethpwyd. Er y trafferth yma, bydd yr adeilad yn trawsnewid ein bywydau yn yr ysgol ac rwy'n hynod falch dros ddisgyblion ac athrawon yr ysgol fydd yn mwynhau adnoddau mor gyfoes. Byddwn yn trefnu nosweithiau agored yn fuan iawn i'ch gwahodd i ymweld a'r adeilad newydd.

**Caffi'r Graig**

Rhan bwysig o'r adeilad newydd, wrth gwrs yw Caffi'r Graig, fydd yn darparu bwydydd a diod i ddisgyblion ar amser egwyl a chinio. Gan fod offer newydd yn y gegin ac angen am hyfforddiant i staff, ni fydd y Caffi yn agor hyd nes y 6ed o Ionawr a phryd hynny, dim ond i ddisgyblion hŷn yr ysgol. Bydd cyfle i holl ddisgyblion yr ysgol i ddefnyddio'r Caffi, ond gall hyn gymryd ychydig o amser i'w drefnu yn rhwydd ar ddechrau tymor.

**Cysylltu â ni**

Oherwydd oedi gyda cyfnewid rhifau ffôn yr ysgol, byddwn yn gweithredu gyda nifer fach o linellau ffôn posib am yr wythnos gyntaf o'r tymor. Dylai fod y system newydd yn gweithio'n iawn o Brif Dderbynfa newydd yr ysgol o'r 6ed o Ionawr. Hyd yr adeg honno, gofynnwn ichi gysylltu â ni drwy ein cyfeiriad e-bost ac i fod yn amyneddgar wrth geisio gael ateb ar y ffôn. Bydd yr un anhawster yn ein wynebu wrth gysylltu o'r ysgol – diolch am eich amynedd!

**Parcio**

Bydd parcio yn gyfyng dros ben yn ystod y cyfnod nesaf hwn wrth i waith adeiladu fynd draw at yr hen adeilad / derbynfa ar heol Glanyrafon. Os gwelwch yn dda, peidiwch â gyrru eich car ar safle'r ysgol yn ystod y dydd, ac os ydych yn gadael neu gasglu eich plentyn o'r ysgol gwnewch yn siŵr eich bod yn osgoi mynedfeydd yr ysgol ac eich bod yn parcio mewn lleoliad diogel ac addas i gerddwyr, bysiau a ymwelwyr eraill.

**Eich barn ar enw Campws y De – i'w agor yn Medi 2018!**

Fel y gwyddoch, byddwn yn agor Campws y De yn Medi 208 ar gyfer Bl 7-8 yn nhref Port Talbot. Mae disgyblion ysgolion Castell-nedd, Rhosafan a Tyle'r Ynn wedi cynnig tri o enwau posibl ac mae

cyflwyniad am y tri enw: Afan-Nedd / Tir Llywelyn / Bro Dur ar ein gwefan. Os hoffech leisio barn am yr enw, ewch draw i'n gwefan i gael mwy o wybodaeth. Gofynnwn yn garedig i'ch barn gael ei anfon at ygyyf-l.dennard@npted.org erbyn **9 Ionawr 2017 os gwelwch yn dda.**

**Sioe Gerdd Chicago**
Bydd yr ysgol yn perfformio Sioe Gerdd "Chicago" yn Theatr y Neuadd Gwyn ar nosweithiau 7-9 o Chwefror. Gwnewch yn siŵr o'ch tocyn drwy gysylltu a'r swyddfa docynnau yn y Neaudd Gwyn – rwy'n siŵr y byddwch wrth eich bodd yn gweld talentau'r disgyblion ar y llwyfan unwaith eto! .

**Materion Ymarferol**
Gair i'ch atgoffa eto, ar ddechrau tymor ysgol newydd nad oes caniatâd i ddisgyblion ddefnyddio ffonau na dod ag offer gwerthfawr personol i'r ysgol. Gofynnwn yn garedig i bob disgybl wisgo tei a chrys ysgol yn ystod y tymor ac **nid** crys polo, sydd ar gyfer Tymor yr Haf yn unig. Gan fod rhan helaeth o'r ysgol gyda adnoddau hollol newydd, atgoffwn ddisgyblion nad oes hawl dod â gwm cnoi i'r ysgol a'u bod i barchu holl eiddo'r ysgol. Os oes angen apwyntiad meddygol / deintyddol – a wnewch geisio trefnu'r apwyntiad ar ddechrau neu ddiwedd y dydd er mwyn ceisio osgoi colli gormod o wersi ogydd. Yn olaf, gofynnwn am eich cefnogaeth i sicrhau fod disgyblion Bl 7-11 yn aros ar safle'r ysgol drwy gydol oriau'r dydd.

**Digwyddiadau'r Tymor**

| | |
|---|---|
| Ionawr 3 – 5 | Arholiadau mewnol Bl 12 – 13 |
| Ionawr 4 | Seremoni Gwobrwyo TGAU & Safon Uwch 2016 @ 2pm |
| Ionawr 3 | Tymor yn dechrau i Fl 11-13yn unig |
| Ionawr 4 | Tymor yn dechrau i bob disgybl (Wythnos 1) |
| | Seremoni Gwobrwyo TGAU a Safon Uwch 2016 am 2pm |
| Ionawr 16 | Llun diwedd blwyddyn Bl 11 & 13 (unigol & ffrindiau) |
| Ionawr 18 | Pigiadau Bl 11 |
| Ionawr 18-19 | Taith Bl 11 / 12 i Brifysgolion Rhydychen ac Imperial,Llundain |
| Ionawr 19 | Noson Rieni Bl 11 |
| Ionawr 20 | Adroddiadau Interim Bl 12 & 13 |
| Ionawr 24 -25 | Arholiad llafar Saesneg TGAU |
| Ionawr 26 | Noson Rieni Bl 12 & 13 |
| Chwefror 3 | Taith Adran Gelf Bl 12 & 13 i Lundain |
| **Chwefror 6** | **HMS 3 – dim ysgol i ddisgyblion** |
| Chwefror 7-9 | Sioe Gerdd "Chicago" Neuadd Gwyn Castell-nedd |
| Chwefror 8 | Gwasanaeth Coffa Holocost CNPT, Theatr y Dywysoges, 7pm |
| Chwefror 9 | Pigiadau HPV i Fl 8 & 9 |
| Chwefror 9 & 10 | Arholiad Ymarferol Gwyddoniaeth TGAU Bl 11 |
| Chwefror 16 | Noson Opsiynau Bl 9: 5.00pm |
| | Adroddiadau Interim Bl 7,8 & 10 |
| **Chwefror 17** | **HMS 4 – dim ysgol i ddisgyblion** |
| **Chwe 18– 27** | **Hanner Tymor** |
| **27 Chwefror** | **Hanner Tymor y Pasg yn dechrau (wythnos 2)** |
| Mawrth 2 | Noson Agored Chweched Dosbarth Ystalyfera (i Fl 11) |
| Mawrth 9 | Noson Rieni Bl 9 |
| Mawrth 16 | Llun Ysgol Gyfan |
| Mawrth 27-29 | Gwaith Maes Daearyddiaeth Bl 12 |
| Mawrth 29 – 31 | Arholiadau Bl 9 |
| Ebrill 7 | Adroddiadau llawn Bl 11, 12 a 13 / Diwedd Tymor |
| **Ebrill 8 - 23** | **Gwyliau Pasg** |

Yn olaf, os hoffech fwy o fanylion am unrhyw un o'r materion yma, neu os ydych am drafod unrhyw fater arall, peidiwch â phetruso cysylltu â ni. Diolch am eich cefnogaeth ddiflino i'r ysgol.

Yn gywir,

Matthew H T Evans
Pennaeth

Pennaeth / *Head*
**Matthew H. T. Evans**

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January 2017

Dear Parent / Guardian,

**Happy New Year 2017**

At the beginning of January, we extend our best wishes to you and your family for a prosperous new year. This is a memorable year in the history of the school as we move into our brand new teaching block.

**Christmas Events**
I would wish to sincerely thank all those pupils and members of staff who gave so much of their time and effort during the build up to Christmas, including a fantastic School Eisteddfod. Gwenllian were victorious and I would wish to congratulate, Nia Havard on winning the Chair and Manon Evans on wining the English Prize – warm congratulations to both of them. The term came to a close with memorable Christmas assemblies at St David's Church, Ystalyfera. At the end of term we bade farewell to two members of staff, Ms Kristie Higgins who was appointed to Ysgol Gyfun Garth Olwg and Mr Gareth Morgan, Leader of German and Welsh Baccalaureate Co-ordinator in KS5. Mr Morgan has been a popular and supportive teacher at Ystalyfera since 1986 – and we wish both of them well for future successes.

**New teaching block – Bloc Eirion**
At the end of last term we received the keys for our new teaching building – Bloc Eirion; this includes general classrooms, science laboratories, the support department and D&T and ITC suites. Unfortunately, over the Christmas holidays we had a burst pipe in the block which has caused some damage to the building – and we are grateful for the emergency remedial work which had been completed over the Christmas break. This work has meant were are able to use the entire building as planned, however some remedial and repair work will have to be completed during the next school holidays. However, it is also true to claim that this brand new resource will transform our daily lives at Ystalyfera. I am extremely pleased that pupils and teachers will benefit from such an excellent teaching environment. I look forward to inviting you soon to an open evening to see the new building for yourselves.

**Caffi'r Graig**
An important part of the building, is of course the Café, Caffi'r Graig, which will provide hot and cold drinks, food and snacks during break and lunchtimes. As the new facility includes some brand new equipment, this new facility will not open until the 6th of January and then only to senior pupils. All pupils will enjoy the Café area later on in the term.

**Contact us**
Unfortunately, due to a delay in transferring to a new telephone system, we will only operate with a limited number of phone lines during the first week of term. The new system from our new reception should be operational from the 6th of January. Until that date, we kindly ask you to contact us through email, or to be patient in case of a phone queue. The same restriction will apply to staff who wish to phone out of the school – we kindly ask for your understanding during this period.

**Parking**
Parking will continue to be restricted on site for the foreseeable future as construction work moves to the front of the old building. Please do not drive your car onto the school campus during the day, and if you are collecting or dropping off your child from school please do not block the entrances and park in a legal and safe area being aware of other pedestrian and road users.

**Your opinion on the name of the South Campus – opening in September 2018!**
As you are aware, we will be opening a South Campus in September 2018 in Port Talbot. Pupils from Ysgol Castell-nedd, Rhosafan and Tyle'r Ynn have offered a number of names for the new campus which has been brought to a short list of three names: Afan-Nedd / Tir Llywelyn / Bro Dur

which are currently on our website. If you wish to give your opinion, a short explanation is on our website and you can share your views by contacting us on ygyyf-l.dennard@npted.org by **9 January 2017 please.**

**Chicago Musical**
The school will be performing the musical "Chicago" at the Gwyn Hall, Neath on the evenings of 7-9th February 2017. Make sure of your tickets early by contacting the Gwyn Hall ticket office directly or online – I can ensure you will be impressed, to see such talented individuals on the big stage!

**Practical Matters**
I remind pupils that they should not use their mobile phones during school hours or bring valuable personal equipment to school. We kindly ask that pupils wear the school tie and shirt during this term, the school polo shirt is for summer wear only. Can we also remind pupils not to bring chewing gun to school and to truly respect the brand new resources available. If your child needs a doctor / dentist appointment, can we ask you to try and organise this at the start or end of the school day in order to reduce the number of missed lessons – thank you. Finally, we ask for your support to ensure that all Yr 7-11 pupils remain on the campus during the day.

**Term events**

| | |
|---|---|
| January 3 – 5 | Yr 12 – 13 internal examinations |
| **January 3** | **Term start for Yr 11-13 only** |
| **January 4** | **Term start for all pupils (Week 1)** |
| | GCSE & A Level Award Ceremony @ 2pm |
| January 16 | End of year photo Years 11 & 13 (year / individual & friends) |
| January 18 | Year 11 inoculations |
| January 18-19 | Yr 11-12 visit to Oxford and Imperial Universities |
| January 19 | Year 11 Parents Evening |
| January 20 | Interim Reports Years 12 & 13 |
| January 24-25 | Year 11 Oral English GCSE Examinations |
| January 26 | Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening |
| February 3 | Yr 12 & 3 Art & Design visit to London |
| **February 6** | **INSET 3 – No school for pupils** |
| February 7-9 | "Chicago" Musical at the Gwyn Hall, Neath |
| February 8 | NPT Holocaust Memorial Service, Princess Royal Theatre 7pm |
| February 9 | HPV inoculations for Yr 8&9 girls |
| February 9 & 10 | Year 11 - Practical Science GCSE examination |
| February 16 | Year 9 Options Evening: 5.00pm |
| | Interim Reports Years 7,8 & 10 |
| **February 17** | **INSET 4 - No School for pupils** |
| **February 18 - 27** | **Half term** |
| **February 27** | **Easter half term begins (week 2)** |
| March 2 | Sixth Form Open Evening (for Year 11) |
| March 9 | Year 9 Parents Evening |
| March 16 | Whole School Photo |
| March 27-29 | Yr 12 Geography field work |
| March 29 – 31 | Year 9 Examinations |
| April 7 | Year 11, 12 a 13 Full Reports / End of Term |
| **April 8-23** | **Easter Holidays** |

Finally, if you would like more details on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Thank you for your continued support,

Yours truly,

Matthew H T Evans
Head