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Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera – Bro Dur
Glanyrafon
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Annwyl Rieni / Warcheidwad,

Dechrau Blwyddyn – Medi 2017

Mae'n fraint ysgrifennu atoch ar ddechrau blwyddyn gyntaf Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera - Bro Dur! Croeso mawr i'n hysgol newydd sy'n cynnwys plant o 3 hyd at 18 oed, ac sy'n adeiladu ar gryfderau mawr Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera ac Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Y Wern Edrychwn ymlaen yn eiddgar i'r blynyddoedd o'n blaen i weithio gyda'n gilydd, i greu ysgol a chymuned ofalgar, uchelgeisiol a chreadigol. Hoffwn groesawu yn arbennig ddisgyblion Fl 7 atom, yn cynnwys disgyblion a fydd ymhen blwyddyn yn sefydlu Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur ym Mhort Talbot.

Newyddion yr Haf
Roedd yn hyfryd fod disgyblion o'r ysgol wedi bod yn llysgenhadon ardderchog ar deithiau Chwaraeon yn yr haf. Teithiodd criw o ferched i chwarae Pêl Rwyd yn Barbados a chriw mawr o fechgyn a merched yn teithio i Ganada. Clywais ddim byd ond canmol i'r teithwyr rhain wrth iddynt gwrdd eraill a chreu cysylltiadau cadarnhaol yr ochr arall i'r byd. Diolch i'r athrawon am eu harweiniad ac i'r disgyblion am eu cwmni hawddgar a bonheddig. Cafodd nifer o ddisgyblion lwyddiant yn y byd athletau, yn perfformio, yn gwirfoddoli, ar weithdai a chyrsiau preswyl ac yn cystadlu dros yr haf. Hoffwn eich cyfeirio at ein cyfrif trydar **@YsgolYstalyfera** ac at ein gwefan am fwy o wybodaeth am lwyddiannau'r disgyblion rhain.

Mae angen llongyfarch disgyblion ar ganlyniadau ardderchog yn ystod yr haf. Llwyddodd myfyrwyr Safon Uwch i gynnal safonau uchel yr ysgol unwaith eto eleni, roedd 35% o holl raddau yn A*/A a 82% o'r holl raddau yn A*-C. Braf llongyfarch rhai unigolion ar ganlyniadau nodedig, fel rhai Asia Hoile, Angharad Morgan a Cellan Michael, ond mewn gwirionedd mae nifer o ddisgyblion a wnaeth yn wirioneddol wych - llongyfarchiadau gwresog iddynt. Roedd canlyniadau TGAU eto'n dda dros ben gyda disgyblion Ystalyfera yn perfformio'n gyson uchel. Rhaid cydnabod fod arholiadau newydd yn y pynciau craidd wedi gweld gostyngiad yn y canlyniadau gyda ni ac yn genedlaethol, ond eto llwyddodd dros 92% yng Ngwyddoniaeth, 74% yn Saesneg, 72% yn y Gymraeg a 68% yn Fathemateg. Llongyfarchiadau enfawr iddynt i gyd!

Staff newydd
Braf croesawu staff newydd i'r ysgol, mae Ms Sioned Jones yn cychwyn gyda ni fel Dirprwy Bennaeth, a bydd Ms Jones maes o law yn gyfrifol am safle Bro Dur. Yn ymuno a'r adran Wyddoniaeth mae Mr Chris Nettle a Ms Jodie James, yn ymuno a'r Adran Gymraeg mae Ms Lora Owen a gyda'r adran Hanes Ms Ffion Jones a Mr Richard Davies. Bydd dau athro Cerddoriaeth newydd, sef Mrs Nia Davies a Mr Luke Millard ac rydym yn falch fod Mrs Rebecca Johnson yn ymuno a ni fel Arolygydd Gwersi. Mae rhai newidiadau staffio yn ogystal, gyda Mr Kevin Davies a Gareth Huxtable sy'n ymuno a Thîm Arwain yr ysgol, Mr Davies wrth gwrs fel Pennaeth y Cyfnod Cynradd a Mr Huxtable yn arwain ar ddata ac asesu'r ysgol. Hoffwn ddymuno'n dda i Mrs Angharad Lloyd fydd yn Gydlynydd y Fagloriaeth yn CA4 a CA5 a Ms Lisa Williams fydd yn ddirprwy iddi, i Mr Huw Rumble fel Arweinydd D&T a Mrs Louise Edmondson sef Arweinydd y Cyfnod Sylfaen. Bydd Mrs Gwenllian Dooher yn arwain yr Adran Gynnal yn ystod mamolaeth Mrs Rhiannon Hammond. Pob dymuniad da iddynt i gyd.

Mwy o Newid!
Mae dechrau tymor wedi bod yn gyfnod digon anodd wrth inni orfod dygymod a phopeth yn newid yn yr ysgol. Mae hyn yn wir am ein sustemau TGCh, ein dogfennaeth a'n cysylltiadau ac eraill. Os cawsoch chi drafferth yn cysylltu â ni neu yn cael atebion cyflym, mae'n ddrwg gennym a byddwn yn gweithio'n galed i ddiweddaru ein holl ddogfennaeth a chysylltiadau gyda manylion newydd, ein gwefannau / cyfrifon trydar a Facebook. Yn y cyfamser, diolch am eich amynedd, ac rydym yn gobeithio y byddwch yn gweld rhai newidiadau er gwell dros y misoedd nesaf.

Gwaith dros yr haf
Cafodd llwyth o waith ei gwblhau ar y safle dros fisoedd yr haf. Ail osodwyd y llawr yn Bloc Eirion yn dilyn y difrod llifogydd ac mae'r adeilad eto yn edrych ar ei orau! Cafodd gwaith cynnal a chadw ei wneud ar draws y safle gan gynnwys tai bach newydd yn Bloc Nedd, a pheintio a glanhau mewn mannau eraill. Mae'r Bloc Cynradd dan ofal Dawnus yn dod yn ei flaen yn wych a bydd yr adeilad yn barod erbyn diwedd Mai 2018 Yn ogystal mae adeilad Bro Dur yn mynd rhagddo yn rhyfeddol o gyflym - yn barod erbyn dechrau Awst 2018.

Trefnydd & sgwrs am waith
Mae pob disgybl wedi derbyn ei amserlen a threfnydd personol. Gofynnwn ichi yn garedig i wirio'r trefnydd a sicrhau fod eich mab / merch yn cadw dyddiadau cau a'i waith yn daclus. Eleni, rydym am gynnal cyfweliadau unigol gyda phob disgybl yn trafod eu gwaith (mae manylion y sgwrs yn y trefnydd). Bydd eich mab / merch yn derbyn dyddiad gan eu tiwtor personol ar gyfer y sgwrs hon a hoffem eich gwahodd fel rhieni i drafod gydag eich plentyn cyn y cyfweliad fel math o ymarfer, ac er mwyn eich cynnwys yn rhan o'r sgwrs am gynnydd eich mab / merch.

Gwisg a ffonau!
Byddwn yn monitro gwisg ysgol disgyblion dros y misoedd nesaf. Gofynnwn yn garedig - dim jîns na throwsus oni bai am drowsus / sgert ysgol du plaen gyda chrys glas, tei a siwmper swyddogol yr ysgol. Ni chaniateir i unrhyw ddisgybl ddefnyddio ffon yn yr ysgol, er gallant ei gario wedi ei ddiffodd yn ystod y dydd. Diolchwn i chi am eich cefnogaeth i'r disgwyliadau rhain.

Lluniau Bl 7, 10 & 12 a lluniau brodyr / chwiorydd & Phencampwyr Chwaraeon: 19 Medi 2017
Yn ôl ein harfer bydd ffotograffwyr yn ymweld â'r ysgol ar y 19eg o Fedi i dynnu lluniau blwyddyn ac unigolion Bl 7, 10 a 12. Eleni eto rydym wedi trefnu cymryd lluniau unigolion sydd wedi cyrraedd y brig o fewn camp / chwaraeon neu faes arbennig. Os yw eich mab / merch yn cynrychioli'r Sir neu Gymru / Prydain mewn camp neu faes, hoffem drefnu iddo/i gael eu lun/eu llun ar y dydd. Gan fod nifer o ddisgyblion yn y categori hwn a allwch roi gwybod i Ms Sioned Harries neu Mr Ioan Bebb yn yr ysgol fydd yn trefnu'r rhestrau ar gyfer 19eg Medi. Bydd angen iddynt ddod â'u cit perthnasol ar y dydd er mwyn cael llun pwrpasol. Bydd cyfle yn ystod amser cinio i frodyr a chwiorydd gael lluniau gyda'i gilydd - gwnewch yn siŵr fod eich plant yn ymwybodol o'r cyfle!

Prydau Bwyd Ysgol
Yn anffodus, oherwydd cynnydd mewn costau, bydd pryd y dydd yn codi i £2.50 (bydd hyn yn cael ei adlewyrchu ar gyfer Prydau Ysgol am Ddim).

Digwyddiadau'r tymor

Medi 19	Lluniau Unigolion Bl 7,10 & 12 & Pencampwyr & teuluoedd
Medi 21	Noson wybodaeth Rhieni Bl 10 am 5pm
	Taith yr Adran Gymraeg Bl 9 i Ypres
Medi 27	Dydd Menter Bl 6 / Noson Agored Bl 6 **(Bro Dur)** am 5pm
Medi 28	Dydd Menter Bl 6 / Noson agored Bl 6 **(Ystalyfera)** am 5pm
Hydref 3	Noson wybodaeth rhieni Bl 11 am 5pm
Hydref 5	Noson lansio rhwydwaith Seren (Bl 10) Ysgol Llangatwg
Hydref 15 – 21	Taith Bl 9 i Wassigny, Ffrainc
Hydref 23	Ras Hwyl noddedig yr ysgol
Hydref 24	Proms Cynradd
Hydref 25	Noson Rieni Bl 7 (Bro Dur)
Hydref 26	Noson Rieni Bl 7 (Ystalyfera)
Hydref 28 – Tachwedd 5	**Hanner Tymor**
Tachwedd 10	Adroddiadau Interim Bl 11, 12 & 13
Tachwedd 17	**HMS 2 Dim ysgol i ddisgyblion**

Hoffwn ddymuno blwyddyn newydd dda ichi i gyd ar gyfer 2017/18, ac fel bob amser os oes gennych ymholiad neu bryder, cofiwch gysylltu â ni am sgwrs bellach yn yr ysgol,

Yn gywir

Matthew H T Evans
Pennaeth

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Dear Parent / Guardian,

Start of New Academic Year 2017

It is a real privilege to welcome you to Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera - Bro Dur's first ever newsletter! A very warm welcome to our new school which includes pupils from 3 to 18 years of age, a school which builds on the firm foundations laid by Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera and Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Y Wern. We look forward eagerly to build this new school together as a caring, creative and ambitious learning community. I would especially like to welcome those pupils who joined us in Year 7, which includes the first pupils who will start our brand new south campus, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur in Port Talbot, next September.

Summer successes
A number of our pupils toured with the school on Sports visits during the summer months. One group travelled to Barbados to play Netball while a larger group travelled to Canada on a Rugby Tour. It was great to hear how these tourists impressed their hosts and were outstanding ambassadors for the school and their families. I would pay tribute to the teachers for their leadership and for the distinct good humour and courtesy of every student – you were a credit to us all! A number of students had great summer experiences and successes – in the world of athletics, performances, workshops and residential visits or in various competitions. I would urge you to follow our Twitter account on **@YsgolYstalyfera** and our website for more up to date details on these good news stories!

I must commend students on some exceptional results in this summer's examinations. A Level students maintained a high standard yet again this year, as 35% of all grades were A*/A and 82% of all grades were A*-C. It was great to congratulate some outstanding results by Asia Hoile, Angharad Morgan and Cellan Michael, but in truth, so many students achieved some excellent results – congratulations to all! GCSE results were also very pleasing with Ystalyfera students' performance of a high standard. There was a depression in grades with our students reflecting the National trends as new qualifications in the core subjects were introduced. However our core subjects results: 92% in Science, 74% in English, 72% in Welsh and 68% in Mathematics were a real strength. 82% of the cohort scored 5A*-C – warm congratulations to all of them!

New Staff
It is a pleasure to welcome new staff who join us this September, Ms Sioned Jones has started her role as Deputy Head, and will have responsibility over the Bro Dur site. Mr Chris Nettle and Ms Jodie James join the Science Dept, Ms Lora Owen joins the Welsh Department and joining History are Ms Ffion Jones and Mr Richard Davies. We have two new Music teachers, Mrs Nia Davies and Mr Luke Millard and we are delighted that Mrs Rebecca Johnson joins us as Cover Supervisor. We have a few staffing changes also, Mr Kevin Davies and Mr Gareth Huxtable join the Leadership Team, Mr Davies of course as Head of the Primary Sector, and Mr Huxtable leading on data and assessment. I would wish a number of staff well in their new roles, Mrs Angharad Lloyd as Welsh Baccalaureate Co-ordinator in KS4 & KS5 and Ms Lisa Williams as her deputy; Mr Huw Rumble as Leader of D&T and Mrs Louise Edmondson as Lead of the Foundation Phase. Mrs Gwenllian Dooher has taken leadership responsibility over the SEN Support department during Mrs Hammond's maternity leave. I wish them well in their new roles.

More changes!!
The start of term has presented a number of real challenges as we have tried to cope with a number of significant changes within the school. This has been particularly true of our ITC systems as we have brand new systems and documentation. If you experienced difficulties in contacting us or in gaining a prompt reply, we apologise but we are trying our best to resolve all our communication difficulties at the start of term. We will be working diligently over the coming months to ensure all our documentation and contact details are updated, including our Twitter, Facebook accounts and websites. In the meantime, many thanks for your patience and I hope you will experience some improvements in the coming months.

Summer works
A considerable amount of work was completed on site over the summer months. The entire ground floor of the Eirion block has now been re-laid and it looks in great shape! More maintenance and improvements were made across the campus, including a new toilet block in the Nedd building. The primary block is proceeding well and according to programme, ready for a May 2018 opening. Meanwhile in Port Talbot, the Bro Dur site is changing rapidly as the construction work, again on programme ready for completion by August 2018.

Personal Organiser & "talking about your work"
Every pupil has received their individual timetable and personal organiser. We kindly ask you to check their organiser regularly in order that they keep to deadlines and their work is in order. This year we are piloting a new mentoring programme, whereby every child will be given a date where their Personal tutor will talk about their work and monitor their books. If you are able to take part in this process by talking to your son/daughter about their strengths and weaknesses this would be useful. The specific pages are in the Personal Organiser and your child should be able to explain / translate the interview questions to you.

Uniform & phones!
We will be monitoring pupils' uniform over the next few weeks – please ensure your son/daughter does not wear jeans to school – trousers should be black plain school trousers with blue shirt and school jumper and tie. Pupils are not allowed to use mobile phones in school but should keep them turned off in their possession. We thank you for your support in ensuring these expectations are met by every student.

Year 7, 10 & 12 individual photos & sibling photos & Sporting Representations. 19 Sept 2017
We will again welcome photographers to school on the 19th of September to take photos of individuals and year groups in years 7, 10 and 12. We also invite pupils who have reached a particular level within sport or any particular field of expertise to take a photo in their specified kit. If your son / daughter has represented at County or Wales / UK level we wish to organise a photo on the day. Could you please inform either Ms Sioned Harries or Mr Ioan Bebb who will organise the individual lists for the 19th September. They will need to bring the appropriate kit to school for the photo. Pupils will also have the opportunity of having photographs with brothers & sisters during the lunch break. Please remind your son/daughter if you wish a family photo.

School Meals
Unfortunately, due to increased costs, we have had to increase our prices and Meal of the Day now costs £2.50 (our Free school Meal allowance reflects this change).

End of term events

September 19	Individual Photos for Yrs 7, 10 & 12, Sporting reps and sibings
September 21	Year 10 Parents Information Evening at 5pm
	Year 9 Visit to Ypres with Welsh Dept
September 27	Year 6 Enterprise Day / Yr 6 Open Evening (**Bro Dur**) at 6pm
September 28	Yr 6 Enterprise Day / Yr 6 Open Evening (**Ystalyfera**) at 6pm
October 3	Year 11 Parents Information Evening 5pm
October 5	Launch of Seren Network for Yr 10 at Llangatwg Comprehensive
October 15 – 21	Yr 9 visit to Wassigny, France
October 23	School sponsored Fun Run
October 24	Primary Proms
October 25	Year 7 Parents Evening (Bro Dur)
October 26	Year 7 Parents Eveing (Ystalyfera)
October 28 – Tachwedd 5	**Half Term**
November 10	Interim Reports for Yrs 11, 12 & 13
November 17	**INSET 2 No school for pupils**

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you a Happy New Year for 2017/18, and as always, should you seek clarification or you are concerned over any issue, please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Yours sincerely

Matthew H T Evans