

PARENTS' BULLETIN

APRIL 2011

SOME IMPORTANT DATES		
Wednesday 04/05/2011		Year 11 Progress Files Presentation Ceremony
Tuesday 10/05/2011	3.30pm	Year 10 Parents' Evening.
Tuesday 10/05/2011	4.00-5.30pm	An opportunity for parents to discuss any matter with the Headteacher.
16/05/2011 – 27/06/2011		External examinations – GCSE, AS and A2 exams.
30/05/2011 - 03/06/2011		Half Term Holidays
Thursday 09/06/2011		Anglesey County Athletics.
Wednesday 22/06/2011	5.30pm	Meeting for Year 12 parents to discuss entry into higher education.
Thursday 23/06/2011		Eryri County Athletics.
27/06/2011 - 01/07/2011		Year 10 internal examinations.
Friday + Monday 01/07/2011 + 04/07/2011		Training Days for teachers NO SCHOOL FOR PUPILS
04/07/2011 – 15/07/2011		Year 10 Work Experience period.
11/07/2011 – 15/07/2011		Year 12 Work Experience period.
Monday 18/07/2011		School Sports Day.

Tuesday 19/07/2011		School closes for the summer holidays.
Thursday 18/08/2011		AS/A Level Examination Results Published
Thursday 25/08/2011		GCSE Examinations Results Published

LABELLING PROPERTY

Could parents please ensure that your child's name is clearly labelled on their school uniform, coat and bag.

If your child has lost any item of property, please check to see if it has been handed in at the Main Office.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS/SCHOOL UNIFORM GRANT

We would like to ensure that parents are able to claim the financial support available to them, eg the County Council provides grants for free school meals for some pupils and to help parents buy school uniform.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Your child could be entitled to free school meals if you are in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)
- Child Tax Credit (Only)
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.

SCHOOL UNIFORM GRANT

You may be entitled to a grant towards your child's school uniform if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based)
- Widowed Parent's Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (only)

Please note – you need to renew your application annually. If no application has been received from you by the end of term, you will be expected to pay for your child's school uniform/meals from the beginning of term. Application forms for free meals are available from the school's Main Office.

LEAVING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Pupils in Years 7-11 are not allowed to leave the school grounds during the morning break.

Only Year 10/11/12/13 pupils are allowed outside of the school grounds at lunch time and only if they have a school pass and parental consent.

Pupils do not have permission to leave the school grounds once they have been dropped off by the buses first thing in the morning.

SMOKE-FREE SCHOOL

We would like to remind you that smoking is prohibited within the school building and on the school grounds. Smoking is not permitted on the school minibus or school buses either. Smoking in these areas is now against the law. If pupils are caught smoking, the school will contact their parents.

SUN PROTECTION

Cases of skin cancer have increased steadily over recent years. Over-exposure to sunlight is the main cause of this type of cancer.

During the Summer Term, it is likely that your child will be participating in outdoor activities, eg school sports day and outdoor activities organised by various departments.

We want the pupils to enjoy the sun safely and therefore ask you to **ensure that your child has suitable sun protection during hot weather.**

More information on sun protection and skin cancer is available on the Cancer Research UK website: www.sunsmart.org.uk

LITTER

We ask pupils to help us keep the school site tidy and safe by not throwing litter. A number of bins are provided around the school.

RECYCLING

In order to reduce litter and waste, the school is making an effort to recycle paper and plastic bottles. Recycling boxes are located in the classrooms and offices for this purpose.

EXAMINATIONS

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 students are busy preparing for external examinations, which begin in May. Some pupils in Year 9 will also have external examinations during this term.

Every student will receive a personal timetable and instructions concerning the examinations. It is essential that students ensure that they are fully familiar with their timetable and that they have the correct equipment (calculator etc) for each exam. Full attendance is expected up to the examinations or students will miss important lessons and essential information concerning the examinations. If your son/daughter is absent on the morning of an exam due to illness, please contact the school before 8.30 am. A doctor's note explaining the absence must be presented.

We wish them well during this very important time.

YEAR 9 EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

Some pupils in Year 9 will be sitting the following external examinations:

SUBJECT	DATE
Welsh Second Language – Oral	11/04/2011
Welsh Second Language – Oral	12/04/2011
Welsh Second Language – Oral	13/04/2011
Welsh Second Language – Listening	09/06/2011
Welsh Second Language – Reading and Writing	16/06/2011

YEAR 10 EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

External GCSE exams in the following subjects will be held during May and June for Year 10.

It is essential that the pupils are present on the following dates:

SUBJECT	DATE
Religious Studies	17/05/2011
Science:	
Biology	07/06/2011
Chemistry	15/06/2011
Physics	17/06/2011
History	14/06/2011

YEAR 12 – AS EXAMINATIONS

Year 12 students will be taking external AS examinations in May/June. They will be allowed to revise at home after **Friday, 13 May 2011** but will then be expected back in their lessons on **Wednesday, 8 June 2011**. Work on the A2 courses will begin straight away and so attendance is essential if a return to school is envisaged next year.

MOBILE PHONES AND PERSONAL MUSIC/MP3 PLAYERS

Please help us ensure that pupils do not bring these items to school.

MOBILE PHONES

As you are aware, **mobile phones should not be brought into school**. The examination boards have strict rules and pupils will not receive any marks for the paper or, in some cases, the whole series of examinations if they take a mobile phone into an examination room. We have also had a number of examples of phones disrupting lessons, pupils taking unauthorised photographs of others and the sending of malicious, disrespectful text messages etc. **The school takes no responsibility for mobile phones, mp3 players/iPods that have been confiscated from pupils.**

Any pupil requiring access to a phone during the day should see one of the Deputy Headteachers.

PERSONAL MUSIC PLAYERS/CAMERAS

Pupils are not permitted to bring music/MP3 players or cameras into school. These items present a health and safety risk.

If this rule is not adhered to then staff will confiscate the item and contact the parents.

Thank you for your co-operation.

SCHOOL UNIFORM YEAR 12 + 13 PUPILS

Following a period of discussion and consultation with all Year 12 and 13 students, the students' council has made a request to the School Governors to change the school uniform for 16+ slightly with effect from September 2011. The School Governors have agreed to the request and from September the school uniform will be as follows:

The students are asked to wear **plain** black trousers or skirts, white shirt, V-neck jumper with Year 12/13 Ysgol David Hughes logo and official Ysgol David Hughes tie. We request that students wear **black footwear**. We ask students to conform with this dress code and it is important that they set a good example to younger pupils.

We will be contacting Year 11 and 12 parents about the details in the near future.

SCHOOL UNIFORM YEARS 7 – 11 PUPILS

There will be no change to this school uniform.