



Weekly Newsletter September 24th 2021

Hello and welcome. September is drawing to a close and it is great to be able to observe and report the school settling into more normal rhythms. Yesterday we held our Key Stage 3 Charity Run in Lower School and the turnout and attitude of all the pupils involved was fantastic to see despite the damp weather. So far we have raised over £1500 for Velindre and hope to see that figure rising. The link for donations is

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/whs-pe-2021>

Regular team sports fixtures with other schools are taking place, auditions for the school show (*Sister Act*) have started and Year 11 pupils have been sitting Pre-Public Examinations (mocks) in exam halls as they would have done pre-pandemic. All of these are evidence that we are moving forwards.

Please note that, although we are still at the Low Risk category, this could change very quickly. Please also be aware that schools have not received governmental guidance on Covid vaccinations for 12-15 year olds.

Key Covid Messages

- If your child presents any of the main covid symptoms (new and persistent cough; high temperature; loss/change of sense of taste and/or smell) then they **MUST NOT** attend school. Please inform the school, arrange a PCR test and await results and TTP guidance.
- Close contacts who have been fully vaccinated or **are under 18** will not need to self-isolate but should get PCR tested on Day 2 and Day 8.
- Household contacts are **strongly advised** to self-isolate. This is particularly important for parents to consider and we are grateful to all who follow this strong advice.
- Guidance and direction will now come from TTP rather than the school.
- Please use Lateral Flow Tests twice a week. It is recommended that pupils test themselves on the morning of their first day back.

We have test kits in school which we will make available for distribution on the return to school. Tests can also be ordered through the community collect, direct or pharmacy collect routes before the start of term. Further details provided below with relevant links:

Test Sites and Community Collection Points

Lateral Flow test kits can be collected from local test sites, and some community collection points Locations, opening times can be found here:

[Get rapid lateral flow COVID-19 tests if you do not have symptoms | GOV.WALES](#)

Home Delivery

Kits can also be ordered online for home delivery. Details of how to order for home delivery can be found here:

[Get rapid lateral flow COVID-19 tests if you do not have symptoms | GOV.WALES](#)

If you are uncertain of anything in respect of the above then please do not hesitate to contact the school for advice/guidance.

There has been a notable increase in the number and frequency of parents arriving at the school site unannounced. Please only attend the school site if you have a prior appointment.

Site Development

The building work for the new Science Block is now well under way.

General

- This year's Skodel Launch will be taking place on Monday during form time. Students will have their assembly during the tutorial session and the link will go out following the assembly. Please encourage check-ins as these are really useful for our wellbeing support teams. The link to each check will be found in pupils' school emails.
- An optional uniform for Sixth Form students is now in stock in YC sports. The branded T-shirts are £7 and the branded sweatshirts are £11.
- We have finalised the remaining INSET days for the academic year 2021-22. They are:
 - Tuesday 4th January
 - Friday 8th April
 - Monday 20th June
 - Friday 22nd July
- Darker mornings are upon us so students cycling to school should be aware of traffic around them (do not, for example, wear headphones), they should wear helmets and reflective clothing and have lights on their bikes. Electronic scooters are illegal on roads and banned within the school grounds.
- Well done to Year 11s on the aforementioned maths PPE this week.
- Reminder to parents that have siblings in Year 6 that the application process for places in Year 7 2022 opens on Monday 27th September. More information is available on our website.

Parents must not drive onto the Lower School site or the driveway off Manor Way (A470) in order to drop off or collect their children. This can cause a significant hazard. The only exceptions are those parents with permission required for access arrangements for their children. These parents will be issued with a pass and MUST display it in their windscreens.

I hope that you all have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,



Mark Powell