



December 10th 2021

Our reference: End of Term letter 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the Christmas break after an extremely busy autumn term, I would like to thank all staff, students, parents and governors for their continued support for Bryntirion. Whilst we still have ongoing uncertainty about the weeks ahead of us, particularly in relation to the continuing impact of the pandemic, we have been able to return to a slightly more normalised routine. Although we are still operating differently, and some restrictions continue to remain in place, Bryntirion is starting to resemble a more familiar environment with more on offer now to enrich and enliven school life. We will continue to look forward to 2022 with great optimism in the expectation of hopeful and positive times ahead of us.

End of Term Arrangements/INSET

The Autumn Term will end for all pupils on **Friday 17th December** at 3.00 p.m. Pupils and staff are invited to wear a Christmas jumper on the last day of term and make a donation in support of NSPCC. The recent 'Dress Down Day' in November raised approximately £1,100 for 'Children in Need.'

Spring Term 2022 begins for all pupils on **Wednesday 5th January**.

We have three further INSET days planned for 2022:

Tuesday 4th January

Friday 18th March

Friday 1st July

Parents' Evenings 2022

At present, we are unable to invite parents into school for traditional face to face parents' evenings. However, like many schools, we have been able to introduce an online system to enable parents to meet with subject teachers. In general, these meetings have been successful, and have enabled key messages about progress and wellbeing to be shared and discussed. We have already held such parents' evenings for pupils in Years 9, 12 and 13. Parents' evenings for all other year groups will take place next term. We will write to you in advance of these meetings in order to explain joining instructions.

- **January 13th 2022 – Year 11**
- **February 3rd 2022 – Year 8**
- **March 3rd 2022 – Year 10**
- **May 5th 2022 – Year 7**



In the post-Christmas period, the school will once again commence the options process for those pupils in years 8 and 11. As you will be aware, pupils in Bryntirion commence key stage 4 study in year 9, and year 11 will start to consider their post-16 options including Bryntiron Sixth Form. There will be a number of events held in the spring term to maximise pupil and parental understanding in order to ensure that an informed choice can be made. Initially, pupils will complete a survey to provide an early indication of their choices. This will help inform planning and enable the construction of the option blocks required to optimise student choice.

Pupils will receive a series of presentations and talks from subject leaders, Careers Wales and a range of other external providers to assist them with their decisions. This information will supplement and complement the specific detail in the Options Booklet. This will be issued around the same time. Mr Beard will write to you with further information in the Spring Term.

Examinations

We have written to parents of pupils in examination groups with information about examinations in the Autumn Term, including the mock exams and November examination series. We have also explained that we have been required to prepare contingency plans should there be either disruption or alteration to current arrangements for examinations in 2022. Qualifications Wales will be releasing further information in the Spring Term, and we will ensure you are fully appraised of any changes or developments arising from this information.

Take a look!

We often share some celebratory messages and videos of school events through our social media channels such as Twitter and YouTube. These are available for parents to see and can be accessed through our school website. For example:

1. The school performance of 'Hamlet' can now be viewed on our YouTube channel. youtu.be/x9LH7DdIKbU
2. Our Remembrance Day assembly. <https://youtube.com/watch?v=wHh-QMUdhZw&feature=share...>

Finally, I hope you all enjoy a peaceful Christmas and a very happy New Year, and look forward to seeing all our students return refreshed and ready for a new school term on **Wednesday 5th January 2022**.

Yours sincerely



R K Pawar - Headteacher