



17th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to the end-of-term letter I sent last week, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the many achievements, experiences and opportunities that our pupils have enjoyed over the course of the summer term. It has been a term filled with learning beyond the classroom, community engagement, personal development and outstanding success.

Our pupils have embraced a wide range of exciting academic opportunities. Year 10 Geography pupils benefited from a valuable real-world learning experience when they met with a Bridgend County Borough Council planner to discuss the Porthcawl regeneration project. This supported their coursework studies and gave them a fascinating insight into how major planning decisions are made and how communities evolve.

Cross-curricular learning has also flourished. Year 7 pupils participated in the My Health Challenge Week, exploring different aspects of health and wellbeing across a range of subjects. Another group of Year 7 pupils took part in an exciting History and English project focused on Owain Glyndŵr, developing their historical knowledge and creative writing skills through the production of podcast scripts for the Owain Glyndŵr Society competition.

We are also delighted to celebrate a significant achievement in the Humanities this term. Bryntirion was awarded first prize in the Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative, recognising the outstanding work undertaken by our pupils and staff in exploring and promoting Welsh history and heritage. The award is a testament to the high-quality research, creativity and commitment demonstrated throughout the project and reflects the school's dedication to bringing history to life through meaningful and engaging learning experiences.



Our commitment to promoting the Welsh language and Welsh culture has also been recognised through a significant achievement. This term, Bryntirion was awarded the Gold Siarter Iaith Cymraeg Campus Award, completing all three award levels within a single academic year. This is a wonderful accomplishment and reflects the enthusiasm and dedication of our pupils, particularly the Criw Cymraeg, whose leadership has helped create a vibrant Welsh language culture throughout the school. We were also pleased to welcome visitors from the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, who worked with a group of Year 10 pupils to showcase the opportunities available through the Welsh language. Pupils participated in a panel discussion with professionals from the worlds of sport, media and the arts, before taking part in a series of engaging workshops. The visitors praised our pupils for their enthusiasm, participation and exemplary conduct throughout the day.



We have been particularly proud of the way our pupils have demonstrated leadership, compassion and social responsibility. Year 8 pupils took part in the First Give Social Action Day, leading activities and fundraising initiatives in support of charities that matter to them. Their efforts were supported by a whole-school non-uniform day, and together they made a positive impact on causes close to their hearts. Earlier in the term, some Year 8 pupils also visited the Sandville Self Help Centre in Porthcawl, strengthening links with our local community and gaining a deeper understanding of the importance of volunteering and service.

Enterprise and innovation have been on full display through our Year 9 Dragon's Den competition. Every pupil had the opportunity to pitch a business idea to panels of entrepreneurs and industry professionals, developing confidence, teamwork, presentation and problem-solving skills.

We are delighted that Bryntirion continues to champion opportunities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Following a highly competitive application process, the school was selected as one of only four schools to participate in the Renishaw GEARS (Girls' Engineering at Renishaw Series) programme. This initiative provides female pupils with valuable opportunities to explore careers in engineering and engage directly with industry professionals.



Preparing pupils for their future remains a central part of school life. Year 9 pupils benefited from a Careers in Science presentation delivered by RSK Consultants, exploring topics such as sustainability, energy and career pathways within the science sector. We are also delighted to share that Bryntirion has achieved the Gold Careers Wales Quality Award, recognising the outstanding work taking place across the school to support Careers and Work-Related Education. This achievement reflects our commitment to helping every pupil develop the knowledge, skills and aspirations needed for future success.

Educational visits and enrichment opportunities have continued to play an important role in broadening pupils' experiences beyond the classroom. In May, 41 pupils attended the prestigious Hay Festival, where they met authors, participated in interactive sessions and experienced one of the world's leading celebrations of literature. Meanwhile, Year 8 mathematicians represented the school in the Axiom Maths Challenge, demonstrating excellent problem-solving skills and resilience in a competitive environment.



Our Young Carers enjoyed a well-deserved visit to Margam Park, providing an opportunity to relax, socialise and celebrate their contribution to school life. Year 10 pupils also marked the end of the year with an enjoyable reward trip to Thorpe Park, creating lasting memories with their peers and a group of Year 9 boys and Year 12 girls enjoyed an exciting trip to Wimbledon where they were able to watch tennis being played at the highest level. Earlier in the term, pupils participated in a History Department visit to the WW1 battlefields of France and Belgium, bringing their studies to life through visits to significant historical sites and memorials. Meanwhile, a number of our senior pupils have represented the school on an international stage as part of the senior rugby, football and netball tour of South Africa. The tour has provided invaluable sporting, cultural and personal development opportunities, and we look forward to welcoming the group home when they return on Wednesday 22nd July.



One of the highlights of the term was our final week, which provided an excellent opportunity to celebrate the many talents and achievements of our pupils. Monday's Skills Finals Day saw Year 7 pupils confidently presenting their Health Challenge projects, Year 8 pupils pitching to a First Give judging panel in the hope of securing £1,000 for their chosen charities, and Year 9 pupils taking part in the finals of the exciting Dragons' Den enterprise challenge. The week also included our whole-school Eisteddfod and Sports Day, with pupils demonstrating enthusiasm, resilience and creativity throughout. Their commitment and positive attitude helped create a wonderful atmosphere across the school and provided a fitting celebration of another successful year at Bryntirion.





Finally, we would like to celebrate another excellent term of sporting achievement. Our Year 7 and 6th form boys' teams, along with our Under-13 and Under-15 girls' teams, were all crowned champions in the Cwpan Penybont, a testament to their hard work, determination and sporting excellence. We thank both the pupils and staff involved for their dedication and commitment.





As you can see, it has been an exceptionally rewarding term, with pupils embracing opportunities to learn, lead, compete, create and contribute to the wider community. Whether through academic achievement, sporting success, charitable work, cultural enrichment or educational visits at home and abroad, our pupils have represented Bryntirion with pride and distinction. We are incredibly proud of all that they have achieved and grateful for the continued support of parents and carers, which plays a vital role in their success.

We wish all members of our school community a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break and look forward to welcoming our pupils back for another exciting year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Mead".

Mr. D. Mead
Headteacher

