



23rd October 2026

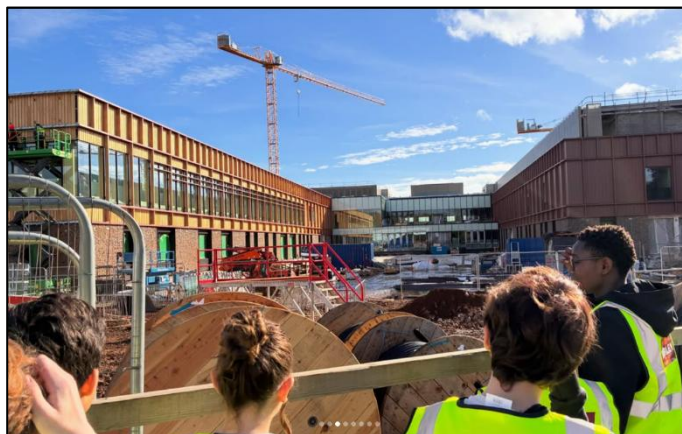
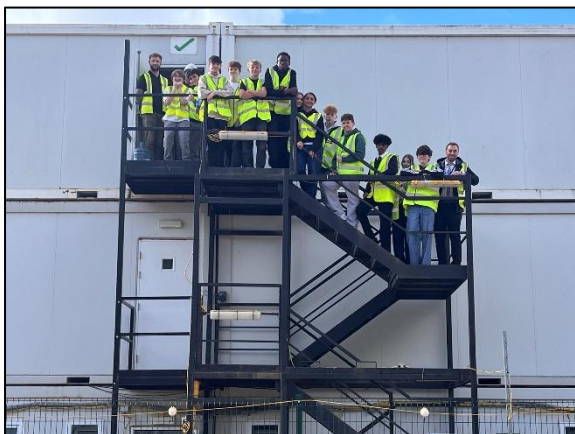
Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a busy and successful first half-term, I would once again like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to celebrate some of the many achievements of our pupils and staff since the start of the academic year.

It has been an excellent start to the term, with pupils embracing a wide range of academic, sporting, cultural and community opportunities. Their enthusiasm, commitment and conduct continue to make us extremely proud.

We are particularly proud that Bryntirion has been invited to become Wales' inaugural **'First Give' Ambassador School**. This prestigious recognition reflects our long-standing commitment to community involvement and social responsibility. 'First Give' is a national programme that empowers young people to make a positive difference in their communities by learning about social issues, working with local charities and developing their own fundraising and social action projects. Through the programme, Bryntirion students have supported 39 local charities and raised an incredible £14,048 for good causes.

Our commitment to supporting charitable causes extends beyond 'First Give'. This half-term, pupils involved in our **'Dragons' Den'** initiative in support of Velindre Cancer Centre were invited to visit the new cancer centre in Cardiff and see first-hand the impact of their fundraising efforts. Experiences such as these help students understand the difference they can make to the lives of others, whilst developing the compassion, leadership and community spirit that are central to life at Bryntirion.



We were also delighted to be awarded the '**Careers Wales Quality Award Gold**' at a prestigious ceremony held at the Wales Millennium Centre on 13th October. This award recognises excellence in the leadership, development and impact of careers education and work-related experiences and reflects the outstanding work undertaken by staff, pupils and employers working in partnership with the school.



Students have continued to excel in sport, achieving success at local, regional, national and international levels. Highlights this term have included selection for a Welsh Schools FA talent identification event, outstanding performances in football academy pathways, and Welsh and national championship success in archery.

We were also delighted to learn that one of our pupils recently represented BGC Wales (Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Wales) in Spain, competing against teams from Canada and Spain and helping her team secure victory in the Under-18 tournament. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the talent, dedication and commitment shown by many of our young athletes.

In addition, large numbers of pupils have represented the school in rugby, football, hockey and netball fixtures throughout the half-term, demonstrating teamwork and resilience whilst proudly representing Bryntirion Comprehensive School.

Beyond the classroom and sports field, pupils have engaged in a wide variety of enrichment opportunities. Year 11 and 12 Geography students have undertaken valuable fieldwork experiences to support their examination studies, while pupils across the school have benefited from careers presentations, literacy initiatives and a wide range of extracurricular opportunities, including History Club, Performing Arts activities and Lego Club.

This half-term has also provided opportunities for pupils to celebrate Welsh language, history and culture. Year 7 pupils took part in a dedicated '**Shwmae Su'mae Day**' assembly, promoting the use of Welsh in everyday life and celebrating the importance of the Welsh language within our school community. Year 8 pupils participated in an Owain Glyndŵr-themed competition organised in partnership with the '**Owain Glyndŵr Society**'. The competition culminated in a special assembly led by a representative of the Society, during which prizes and commendations were presented to students in recognition of their excellent entries. The assembly also provided an opportunity for students to learn more about the legacy and significance of Owain Glyndŵr in Welsh history.

While these examples highlight some of the many successes achieved this half-term, they represent only a small snapshot of the daily accomplishments, acts of kindness and hard work demonstrated by our pupils. Whether in lessons, on the sports field, through community projects or in extracurricular activities, our young people continue to uphold the values and high standards that make Bryntirion such a special school community.

After half term Year 11 pupils will be sitting external examinations in English and Mathematics. Pupils have been provided with examination timetables and seating arrangements on paper and via email. Pupils need to arrive by **8:40am** for each examination and must wear correct school uniform. They are also advised to wear some extra layers in case of cold weather. Please ensure that your child also has the correct equipment, including a scientific calculator. In previous external examinations pupils' conduct has been excellent but a lack of equipment has been an issue.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I wish all pupils, parents and carers a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Monday 2nd November**.

Yours sincerely,



Mr D. Mead
Headteacher

