



CYLCHLYTHYR / NEWSLETTER 02.10.2026

Bryn.hedydd@ysgolbrynhedydd.co.uk

01745 351676

Headteacher: Mr. Geraint Evans

The first half term is already half way through. The hard work is already at full swing and the children and staff are settling into their new classes and routines. There's a lot to take in in this newsletter. You might want to put the kettle on and grab a biscuit! The newsletter does get placed on the school website and might be easier to find than scrolling through Seesaw.

We've had Estyn here to take promotional photographs, they're coming back in November to record and share our oracy standards and expectations with the rest of Wales and beyond and we're still working hard to ensure we can offer the best education possible to all of our children. Despite the chronic lack of funding that the school (and other schools) receive.

It's been a great start to the year and the children have been brilliant so far. They always remind us why we do this work with their positive attitudes, manners and smiles.

I see that Heart Xmas is already on the radio. Don't blink or it'll be Christmas!!

Supporting your children and their learning

Your support at home can make all the difference. Whether it's showing an interest in what the children have learnt/done that day or preparing them for school each morning. Your help and support is always important and makes a huge difference.

If you can share some of your mistakes, try new things with them, reinforce our values of courage, brilliance and kindness, our expectations of being ready, safe and respectful or a passion for learning; that will make our community an even better place to be.

We are going to develop and promote the joy of reading and the skills required to question what we see and hear. It doesn't matter what you read or how you read it. We want the children to read as much as they can and enjoy it. Readers are achievers. Anything you can do to promote the enjoyment of reading will help your children. Even if you read in front of them or read with/for them and discuss picture books.

Maths is one thing that can cause a strong reaction. We kindly ask that you try to promote a positive attitude towards maths. Please don't tell the children you were no good at it in school/or now!! No one is born a maths whizz. It takes a positive attitude and hard work to get good at anything and maths is no different. If the way we teach it now is confusing or different to you, please come and speak to us or let the children teach you. We will help! Maths teaching and learning is always evolving so we know how you feel!

Anything you can do to support your children's learning will be of benefit. It doesn't matter how big or small the action is. Every little helps and we're all in this together! Thank you everyone.

DYDDIADAU / TERM DATES

Autumn term

23.10.26. School Closes half term
02.11.26. School Reopens
13.11.26. Training Day Staff
18.12.26. School Closes Christmas

Spring Term

04.01.27. Training Day Staff
05.01.27. School Reopens
05.02.27. School Closes half term
15.02.27. School Reopens
19.03.27. School Closes Easter

Summer Term

05.04.27. School Opens
30.04.27. Training Day Staff
03.05.27. Bank Holiday
28.05.27. School Closes Half term
07.06.27. School Reopens
25.06.27. Training Day Staff
20.07.27. School Closes Summer

Attendance

We already have families that are on holiday at the beginning of a new year or going very soon.

This can have a negative effect on your child's experience in school for the rest of the year. This is the time when children settle in and establish themselves. Whilst we can sympathise with the costs, work commitments and family needs of holidays in term time we cannot authorise them and they will have an impact on your child's education.

The attendance policy will be followed closely and processes followed. Attendance is national priority and closely monitored by the Welsh Government and local authorities. We as schools are expected to do all we can to ensure children attend every session they possibly can.

10 days of holiday will result in DCC issuing a fine.

Please know that we are here to help if you need it and that we are only following the attendance policy when attendance is poor and causing a concern.

We urge you to always keep us informed of the reasons for any absence. Call or use [Study Bugs](#) to let us know.

Thank you in advance for your support.



P.E. UNIFORM

Indoor P.E. session	Outdoor P.E. session
Red/White plain polo shirt	Red/white plain polo shirt
Navy/Black/Blue plain shorts	Navy/Black/Blue plain shorts
Plain black trainers/bare feet	Plain black trainers
<i>In colder weather children are able to wear plain tracksuit bottoms and plain jackets/jumpers when outside.</i>	

School Uniform

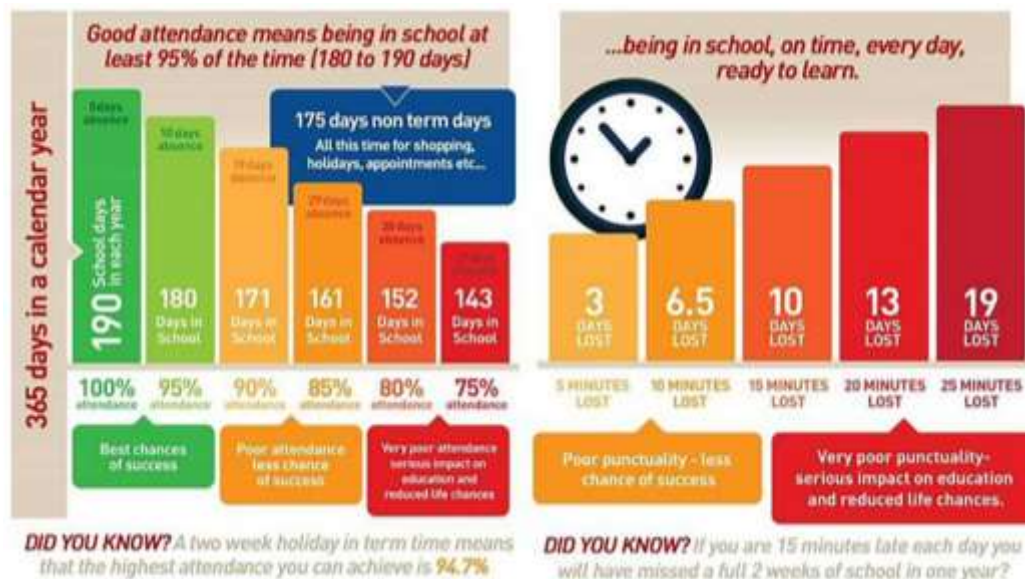
The children look very smart in their school uniforms. A school uniform can promote equality by reducing socioeconomic pressure, foster a sense of belonging and school pride, enhance focus on academics by minimising fashion distractions, improve discipline and focus, and increase safety by making students easily identifiable.

They also hopefully simplify morning routines for families and (we know they are not cheap) they can be more cost-effective in the long term compared to keeping up with fashion trends.

We do not want clothes with a school logo and shirts, skirts, trousers and shorts can be bought from any store of your choice.

Earrings must be studs and no jewellery to be worn please.

Please ensure that your child attends in their uniform every day.



Pupil Behaviour

We are very proud of the behaviour of our pupils. This doesn't happen by accident. We have to model good behaviour, manners and attitude in front of the children. We have our behaviour policy that we follow and the children were a part of putting it together.

Children being children they will sometimes push the boundaries and/or misbehave. We will challenge this behaviour, encourage better and teach them how to be better next time. We then draw a line and move on as it's all a part and parcel of growing up.

There are serious consequences for significant or persistent bad behaviour but thankfully this happens very rarely at Bryn Hedydd.

We want to continue to be proud of the children's behaviour and manners here and when they are outside school or have moved to high school. It is a strength, especially in the times that we live in.

The children should always be safe, ready and respectful.

We hope that you can support us and we can work together to ensure that Bryn Hedydd is a safe and happy school to come to.

Thank you everyone

EXPECTATIONS	WHAT THIS MEANS	HOW TO DO IT (examples)
BE SAFE	Ensure that your actions don't harm yourself or others, and that you follow safety rules both physically and emotionally.	Follow playground and classroom rules. Walk instead of run inside the building. Use equipment properly and safely. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Report any dangerous situations or bullying to an adult
BE READY	Be prepared and willing to engage in learning and school activities whatever they may be.	Bring the necessary materials (e.g., books, homework, stationery) to class. Arrive on time and line up promptly when asked. Listen attentively and follow instructions. Have a positive attitude toward learning and trying new things.
BE RESPECTFUL	Show consideration for other people, their belongings, and the school environment.	Speak kindly and politely to others. Listen when others are talking without interrupting. Respect personal space and belongings. Take care of school property and help keep the classroom clean. Be considerate of the feelings and opinions of others, even if they're different from yours
CARDS	Example behaviour	Example consequences
Yellow Card	- Disruption – shouting out or stopping others from learning - Inappropriate use of electronics - Repeatedly not following the school-uniform policy - Minor disrespect or mild inappropriate language (e.g., rude comments, talking back) - Off-task behaviour – repeatedly out of seat/not on task - Running around school - Disrespecting the environment both indoors and outdoors.	Pupils miss discovery time that week.
Red Card	- Bullying - Physical aggression – fighting, hitting, and hurting others with intent - Severe disrespect or severe inappropriate language (e.g., threats, swearing at others, spitting) - Vandalism to school property - Theft - Obscene gestures - Hate speech – any language targeting groups based on race, sexuality, religion, or other protected characteristics - Being given 3 yellow cards in a half-term	- Pupils miss discovery time that week. - Complete behaviour reflection sheet - Class teacher to phone home - Sent to speak to Team Leader/SLT - Miss out on the end of half term reward

Eligible Free School Meals (eFSM)

Even if you don't want to access the support directly, we desperately need every eligible family to apply for this benefit. Every child that is successfully registered to receive the eFSM benefit means the school gets extra funding. We need absolutely every penny we can get. Your support with this hugely appreciated. No child (or other family) will know if they are an eFSM child unless the family decides to tell them. No one will be treated differently but the school could receive some vital extra funding. Thank you all.

Who can apply: free school meals and other support

Your child may be able to get free school meals and other support if you get any of the following:

- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit.
- Universal Credit: your household earnings must be less than £7,400 a year after tax. This does not include any income from benefits.

Free school meal legislation allows foster parents to claim free school meals. A child could potentially have four parents; two foster parents and two natural parents. As long as a parent is eligible to claim free school meals, the child can get them.

<https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/education-and-schools/grants-and-funding/free-school-meals.aspx>

Universal Free School Meals (uFSM)

All children from Reception to Year 6 are entitled to a free school meal at lunchtime. This is open to all children regardless of their family's financial circumstances. **This is not the same as eFSM.**

Parental Behaviour

We want to pride ourselves on being friendly and approachable. We want to work with you as parents and carers to ensure the best for your children.

We promote honesty, respect and courtesy across the school and this is no different in the way we interact with parents and carers.

We will strive to remain professional, supportive and respectful at all times when interacting with you. We ask that you do the same. Whether this is face to face, on the phone or by email/SeeSaw we expect to be treated with respect and courtesy.

There may be bumps in the road where awkward conversations have to be had but these should be approached with collaboration at their heart. Together, we can work through anything that might happen.

We ask that you come and speak to us if you have any concerns or worries so that we can get the heart or truth of the matter together.

A parental expectations document will be shared with everyone. We want the children, staff and parents to be safe and happy here and able to work through problems, together.

Thank you everyone.



Ysgol Bryn Hedydd
Wladfa, Llanelli
T Ystrad
3r Ddinas
LL28 2BU



bryn.hedydd@denbighshire.gov.uk



www.ysgolbrynhedydd.net



01489 201670



Ysgol Bryn Hedydd
Spruce Avenue
Wyl
Dardighfryn
LL28 2BU

PARENTAL CONDUCT / EXPECTATIONS

As a school we promote respect, honesty, politeness and positive communication. Sometimes things don't always go the way we hope and difficult conversations have to take place. These conversations are always approached with collaboration and problem solving as their focus. We are here to help and support families that work with us. Here are the expectations we have at Ysgol Bryn Hedydd.

SeeSaw

SeeSaw is a wonderful app that we have adopted to share and communicate with parents and carers, bringing you into school life. We want to continue developing its use, but we also need to establish clear guidelines to ensure it remains a positive platform for everyone...

1. SeeSaw is for sharing information, children's work and progress and for messages from parents about incidental things such as PE day queries or positive comments about work etc.
2. SeeSaw is not the forum to share concerns about your child's education, wellbeing or behaviour. Please make an appointment to see your teacher. This can be done through SeeSaw.
3. Staff will not be able to respond to messages instantly - they have classes to teach and work to do and cannot always reply. They will see the messages but not always straight away. If it is urgent - please call the office.
4. If parents write abusive, demanding, threatening or rude messages you will be removed from the app for a fixed period or possibly permanently. SeeSaw access is not a right.
5. Face to face/phone call meetings are the best way to sort any problems. Text is easy to misinterpret and can cause unnecessary problems.
6. SeeSaw is to be used during office hours by staff between 8:30am and 4:30pm.

On the yard/school grounds

1. Teachers are available to speak to briefly at the beginning of the day but they have 30 children to teach / look after and cannot offer extended time without prior arrangements/appointments.
2. Parents cannot approach and speak to children that are not their own whilst on school grounds. If there is a concern, please make a member of staff aware.
3. Parents cannot use bad language on the school grounds as no one sends their child to school to hear this. You will be asked to stop, leave the grounds or be banned from the site.
4. Parents that are aggressive, intimidating, shouting, behave unreasonably towards staff, other parents or children will be asked to leave the school site. If they refuse, the Police will be called and they will be banned from the school grounds for a fixed period or permanently.
5. Parents that deliberately, loudly bad mouth staff, the school or undermine the school so that others can hear will also be removed or banned from the school grounds. This behaviour is unacceptable. Please make appointments to discuss any concerns. We are here to help.

WhatsApp / Social Media

1. WhatsApp/social media is not a place to air perceived grievances, rile people up and write vile things about staff, parents, children or the school. If there's a concern please come and talk to us as we want to work with you.
2. The problems that can be caused within school due to parental social media groups is unacceptable and staff will not be expected to deal with these issues or put up with any abuse or vexatious allegations.
3. If any of the unacceptable content about the staff, school or children in the messages is shared with us, they will be forwarded to the relevant authorities.
4. If you are concerned about something you've seen a parent post on social media and feel it might be a serious or legal issue you can report this to the Headteacher/Governors.

Face to face / Phone calls

1. We will not accept foul language from parents/carers especially in front of children and we will terminate the meeting.
2. Threats of any kind will not be tolerated. We promote respect and politeness at Ysgol Bryn Hedydd.
3. We will not accept abusive language, shouting, degrading, rude behaviour and will terminate the meeting / phone call immediately after informing you of the reason.
4. Meetings / phone calls will be organised for mutually convenient times. They won't always be immediate as the staff have classes to teach and other commitments.
5. If parents/carers fail to follow our expectations we can refuse to meet with them and put an action plan in place for limited contact or ultimately parents being banned from the school.



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Mobile Phones / Smart Devices

There is a growing consensus amongst parents and professionals that mobile devices and social media are not good for developing minds.

The problems caused by social media cause unnecessary worry and work for everyone. I'm hopeful that the ban on social media and apps will make a positive difference.

I could write a list of the issues we and other schools have to deal with because of them. We know that children who walk to school use a phone or device so that parents can track them.

We do not allow the use of mobile phones, smart watches or devices on the school grounds.

As soon as the children enter school, they should turn off their device and when they enter the building they have to place them in the digital drop boxes.

Children are safe in school and we will contact parents if needed.

If they are caught using their device in school it will be confiscated and parents will need to attend school to collect the device.

Thank you for your support with this.



DIGITAL CONSENT FORM

Please can we ask that all parents fill in the digital consent form so that we can see which children are allowed on our various media platforms.

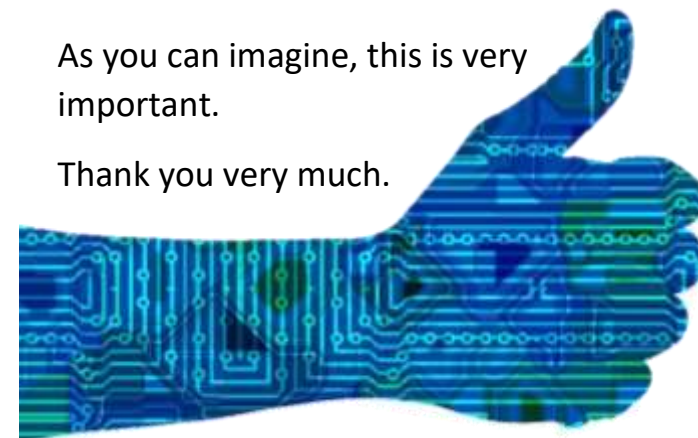
[Digital Consent Form 2026 - 2027 – Fill in form](#)

Please complete for each individual child by Friday 9th October.

There are QR codes around the school.

As you can imagine, this is very important.

Thank you very much.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS - SNACKS AND LUNCH

We are a healthy choices and snacks school. It is part of our curriculum and we take it seriously. Welsh Government rules are also clear on this. For snack times children are expected to bring:

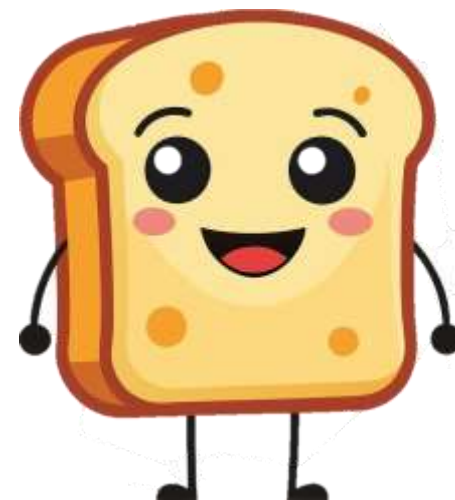
- Water as a drink in a named bottle
- Fruits such as apples, bananas, fruit kebabs, melon...
- Vegetables such as carrots, peppers, cucumber, celery sticks...
- A piece of cheese such as cheddar, mini babybel
- Plain breadsticks, oatcakes, pitta bread
- **No fizzy or sugary drinks** such as squash, fruit juice, cola, lemonade etc...
- No sweets or chocolate, fruit winders etc..
- No fried and/or meat products such as sausage rolls, raiders or pepperami.

Dinner times

We are not the lunchbox police. We encourage you to keep any treats to a minimum in the children's lunchboxes. We appreciate that sandwiches/dinner can need a little encouragement to eat but healthy options are preferable.

The Universal free school meals mean that every child from Reception to Year 6 is entitled to a meal from the canteen at school.

The menu has changed to be even healthier and to accommodate even more allergies. It's a great choice to take if your children will try it at least once.



Our Breakfast Club

Reception to Year 6 children 7:45am – 8:45am

You can sign up for Breakfast club quickly and easily with a form from the office.

Payment and booking is through ParentPay.

£1.75 per session for the first child

£1.50 per session for siblings

IMPORTANT

The numbers in breakfast club are growing.

You must book in your children on Parent Pay.

This is very important for safety and our records.



OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT

UPDATE

Next week we have companies coming to quote for the new outdoor equipment that we have been raising money for.

The likely costs for something similar to be fitted is around the £40,000 mark. More if we go bigger and better.

We will look for grants to support us with the cost as the school budget does not have a spare £1.

All the money raised so far is a massive help and goes towards any grants we can apply for.

Denbighshire Music Cooperative - LESSONS

There are a plethora of music lessons on offer to all children from Year 3 to Year 6.

Singing, drums, piano, guitar, violin and so much more. There are different payment options and lesson options too.

Learning an instrument can be a fantastic confidence builder as well as opening doors to personal and future professional benefits.

Please have a look at what is on offer and follow the links to book your child in for lessons at the school and beyond.



Cycling / Scootering

All children/parents please come off your bikes/scooters once you've entered the school grounds or you're leaving the grounds. It's very busy and we don't want anyone being hurt or any crashes.

We have had some crashes already. Not an ideal start or end to anyone's day.

Thank you very much.

ROAD CLOSURE – TYNEWYDD ROAD

There will be 2 weeks of disruption on the road and bridge.

We've had a letter saying that the works will be carried out between 18:00 – 01:00 and the road will close during these hours.

There will be some delay and disruption and alternative routes will be signed accordingly.



COOL CATS - No cars please.

A reminder that our car park is for staff and not for public use. Pick up and drop off for Cool Cats is by walking down the path next to the side of school.

We ask that no cars come into the car park for Cool Cats and that parents don't walk through the car park.

We have had some close calls with cars coming in and people walking through the car park.

It isn't safe as it's a busy place, narrow and at peak times with staff cars reversing and parking it can become dangerous.

Please park outside the school.

Please use the path provided.

Thank you for your support!



PARKING AROUND SCHOOL

Please can we ask you to park considerately around the school. Residents should not be blocked onto their homes please.

Thank you for helping us with this and for working with us on the optional one-way system.



YSGOL BRYN HEDYDD

Courage, Brilliance, Kindness