Dear Parents, Guardians and Students

It gives me great pleasure to introduce February’s newsletter. As always there have been plenty of activities going on inside and outside school, and this newsletter provides just a sample of these events.

I am certain that everyone attending and participating in the annual Eisteddfod had a great day. The quality of performances on stage this year were quite outstanding, and the marvellous contribution of our sixth form students once again outlined the exceptional role models they are for our young pupils. I would to thank the Welsh department for organising the Eisteddfod, and congratulate everyone who participated either on or off stage.

We also held our first ever Dragon’s Den Young Enterprise event, with over 80 pupils in Year 10 presenting their products and ideas to an admiring audience. The creativity, talent and energy of each participant and team impressed everyone. Our partners at ‘Velindre Cancer Centre’ attended as judges, and this event was one of a number of fundraising events in support of Velindre as our sponsored charity this year.

Parents will now be aware that we have been required to move our INSET day which was planned for March 20th 2020 to the Summer Term. This will now be held on Monday 22nd June. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

We have a number of international educational visits planned for the Easter holiday, including trips to Italy, Austria and Poland. We are aware that the spread of the COVID-19 ‘Coronavirus’ is currently a significant cause for concern, and we are monitoring the situation carefully. We have already provided information to parents reflecting current guidance, and will communicate any further information should the situation develop or change.

Forthcoming events in March include:

- **Thursday 5th March** – Year 10 parents evening
- **Thursday 12th March** – Cymanfa Ganu
- **Tuesday 17th March** – **Thursday 19th March** – individual pupil progress meetings with parents of Year 11 pupils (details to follow)
- **Wednesday 25th March** – Musical Showcase

Yours faithfully

RK Pawar

RK Pawar
**Whole School Events**

The *Welsh Language National Theatre of Wales* visited the school to provide a sound workshop to students.

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**Science Club**

Pupils in Science club looked at anatomy and the functions of the heart.
Sixth Form Video

A new Sixth Form video has been launched on the Bryntirion’s YouTube channel which celebrates the positive impact our students have in school & the wider community! Visit our YouTube channel or copy the link below.

https://youtu.be/kiLPYOLZfU

Oliver Davies

Year 9 pupil Oliver Davies has been recently shortlisted for the ‘Future is Bright’ award at the Bridgend Inspire for Life Awards 2020. This is to recognise Oliver’s outstanding work as a young carer in school & the wider community! A film crew have been busy interviewing staff and pupils about Oliver’s journey.
**Sport**

Great effort by the netball pupils in the district round of the U16 Ann Smart Tournament. We wish them luck in the ‘County Round’. The under 14 hockey pupils also performed well in the Welsh Cup.

Well done to a number of our pupils who competed and medalled at the Urdd National Swimming Gala.

Pupils recently participated in the local school cross country championships, well done all involved.
Congratulations to former pupils Caine Woolerton, Morgan Strong and Megan Webb who all have recently made rugby appearances for Wales.

Year 11 pupils Elin Morgan has also been selected for the U21 Welsh Netball Talent Squad.

**Design Technology**

Key stage 3 pupils in DT have been busy creating a variety of products such as name blocks, mobile phone stands and clock designs.
**High Sheriff’s Concert in the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.**

Well done to Louise Gardener and Matthew Daly who recently represented Bryntirion Comprehensive School and Bridgend County at the High Sheriff’s Concert in the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

![High Sheriff’s Concert images]

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**Apprenticeship Workshops by Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru**

Pupils have featured in the Western Mail newspaper about the Apprenticeship workshops that were held by Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru. It was a very enjoyable workshop where pupils experienced careers in the wider community.
Skills Challenge - Bryntirion Dragons’ Den Grand Final with Velindre Fundraising

Our Year 10 students wowed a panel of specially selected judges at our recent Dragons’ Den. The KS4 Enterprise & Employability Challenge has been delivered by our Welsh Baccalaureate Department in collaboration with Velindre Cancer Centre, Careers Wales and Big Ideas Wales. During the Challenge, all year 10 students developed a new service, product or event to support Velindre Cancer Centre, based in Cardiff. Our students presented their business pitches in small teams at our heat stages in December in front of a range of employers and business people who visited the school. During our Grand Final on 27th February, 86 students pitched their business to a specially selected panel of dragons from Velindre to a packed sports hall of parents, governors, teachers and business people. We would like to thank all our year 10 students, teachers and employers who have made the Velindre Challenge a big success.

Mr Rowe Head of Skills Challenge

Bryntirion Dragons Den champion 2020 – ‘Puree’ Jamie Wyatt Year 10 student.

2nd place – ‘The Little Red Sweet’ Sophie Rees, Tasha Quick, Nia Tippett Year 10 students.

3rd place – ‘Red Kettle’ Ben Lewis, Owen Hughes, Lewis Jones, Ewan Bodilly Year 10 students.
The annual Eisteddfod which took place Friday 28th February was an incredible day showcasing Bryntirion’s talented pupils whilst promoting the Welsh language. Four houses were in competition with each other to see who could amount the largest points total—Llewellyn, Tudor, Glyndwr and Hywel. There were a number of on/off stage entries from singing, dancing, poetry and musical instrument playing. The Sixth Form students together with the Welsh department helped organise and create such a successful event. Congratulations to Glyndwr who were the overall winners, well done to all pupils who participated and earned points for their houses.
History Trip to Belgium

Pupils recently visited the WW1 Battlefields Tour in Belgium with Mrs Walker and the History department.

Health and Social Care students visit the University of South Wales

Year 12 Health and Social Care students visited the University of South Wales to assist Mrs Clarke with the interview process related to nursing/midwifery.