



22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term at Bryntirion, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the many achievements, events and experiences that have taken place across our school community over recent weeks.

We are delighted that last year's school show, *Miss Saigon*, was recognised with the *Outstanding Youth Production Award* at the NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) Regional Awards Ceremony for Wales and Ireland in Llandudno in April. In addition, a former pupil received the award for *Outstanding Female Lead*, while two of our current pupils were recognised with *Outstanding Male Lead* awards for their work with Bridgend Youth Theatre. These achievements are a testament to the exceptional strength, creativity and commitment within our school community.



This term also saw the launch of 'Yr Academi', our new literacy intervention room for Year 7 and Year 8 pupils, providing targeted support to develop their literacy skills. The space also doubles as a supervised library and a quiet environment for silent academic study and reading during lunchtimes.



Our commitment to promoting Welsh culture and language has continued through a range of initiatives. Pupils in Years 11, 12 and 13 attended the semi-finals of 'Y Llais' - the Welsh-language version of 'The Voice', and Year 7 and 8 pupils participated in house games (including football, netball, touch rugby and hockey) to earn points for their houses in preparation for the School Eisteddfod in July. In addition, a group of Year 12 students entered a project entitled 'Ein Eisteddfod' into the 'Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative' competition. The project aimed to connect current and future pupils with the medieval history of Eisteddfodau, including the tradition of 'chairing a bard'. As part of their work, the group designed and created a bardic chair for the Eisteddfod, delivered assemblies in primary schools to launch a poetry competition and produced a display in the school reception area showcasing the four house rulers and the bardic chair.

At the end of April, we were delighted to welcome a group of 35 French students and their teachers to Bryntirion. Accompanied by their Welsh partners, they attended lessons and were impressed by the warm and friendly reception from both staff and students. The visit proved highly beneficial for all involved, particularly for our GCSE and A Level French students, who were able to practise their language skills in an authentic and meaningful context.

Year 8 pupils have taken part in the 'UK Maths Trust Junior Maths Challenge' and the 'Axiom Maths Challenge', engaging in a variety of problem-solving activities designed to enhance their mathematical skills and foster a love of the subject.

Further success has been achieved on the sports field. Our Year 10 rugby squad defeated Porthcawl Comprehensive School to win the Ospreys Bowl final in a thoroughly entertaining match. Recently, our senior football team beat Pencoed 5-1 in the final of the *Cwpan Penybont*. Credit goes to all our sports teams, for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.





Our 'Be Bryntirion' ethos was clearly demonstrated earlier this term when nearly 50 staff and sixth form students donated blood during our annual blood donation session on 20th April. We are incredibly proud of their willingness to support such an important cause and help save lives.



Finally, our enhanced transition programme has continued with the 'Mini Olympics' Transition PE Event held on Friday 1st May. Over 200 primary school pupils due to join us in September attended, and, despite the challenging weather, a fantastic day was enjoyed by all.

Importantly, our pupils in Years 10 to 13 have now begun this year's external examination series and have settled into the process extremely well. Their behaviour and attitude throughout have been exemplary thus far, demonstrating maturity, resilience and a strong commitment to their studies. We are very proud of the way they have approached this important period and wish them every success in the weeks ahead.

As we look ahead to the new half-term, I would like to take this opportunity to emphasise the importance of strong attendance. Regular attendance is vital in ensuring that pupils make the most of the opportunities available to them and achieve their full potential. We greatly appreciate your continued support in reinforcing this message.

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on **Monday 1st June** and continuing the positive momentum we have built.

Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and support. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable break.

Yours sincerely,



Mr DTD Mead

Headteacher

