

**Dear Parent / Guardian
2010**

January

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and to thank you for your support throughout the term. Last term was very busy and successful with highlights including our annual Prize Evening with Mr Nigel Davies as the guest speaker and also our carol service at Peniel Chapel.

1. Please note the dates of various activities that will take place this term and also during the first part of the summer term.

11 – 22 Jan	A/AS Module Examinations
14 – 20 Jan	Year 10 GCSE Science modules
22 Jan	Year 11 reports to be distributed
25 Jan	Year 11 Parents Evening – 3.45p.m
27 Jan	PSE – Activating Attitude Year 11
29 Jan	Own Clothes Day – Haiti Disaster Fund
1 Feb	PSE – Rue the Day Year 10
4 Feb	UK Mathematics Challenge (Intermediate)
5 Feb	“Careers Carnival” Year 8
12 Feb	School Eisteddfod
15 – 19 Feb	Half Term
22 Feb	PSE – Personal Safety Year 11
26 Feb	PSE Health Education Year 9
8 March	INSET & Yr 9 Choices evening (4 – 6.30p.m.)
15 March	Year 12 Parents Evening
14-21 March	Ski Trip
15-25 March	Entry Level Examinations
22/31 March	Trip to Beijing Yrs 11-13
25 March	Year 7 Parents Evening – 3.45p.m.
26 March	End of Term
12 Ebrill	Start of Term
20 Ebrill – 6 May	GCSE Orals
29 April	UK Mathematics Challenge (Junior)
3 May	May Day
4-14 May	SEN Annual Reviews
5 May	Sports Day
7 May	Year 11 Prom
18 May – 30 June	A/AS GCSE Summer Examinations

24 – 28 May	Yrs 7, 8 & 9 Internal Examinations
24 – 28 May	Year 10 Work Experience
31 May / 4 June	Half Term
21 June	Year 10 Internal Examinations
9 July	Yrs 7 – 10 Annual Award Ceremony
	Trip to Italy
16 July	End of Term
19-20 July	INSET

2. Closure of School in an Emergency

Can I remind parents to discuss the steps you wish your son/daughter to take in the event of the school having to close at short notice. This, of course, would only be in an emergency as in the case of severe weather conditions or because of heating problems at the school.

3. This year's **GCSE and A/AS Examinations** will be held from May 18th – 30th June 2010 but some practical / oral examinations will be held before May 18th.

4. School Eisteddfod

The School Eisteddfod which will be held on Friday, 13th February is an important school event and all pupils are encouraged to participate in the various competitions. There are competitions for Welsh speakers and Welsh learners. The afternoon session starts at 1.00p.m. and the evening session at 4.15p.m. It is expected that the Eisteddfod will finish between 9.30-10.00p.m. **All pupils attending the Eisteddfod both in the afternoon and evening must be dressed in full school uniform.**

Note

This year again the school buses will leave at 3.15 p.m. There will be no school buses at the end of the evening session and parents are asked to make their own transport arrangements. If your son / daughter is taking part in the evening session and has difficulty getting home, please inform the school in writing as soon as possible.

Meals can be purchased at the Canteen between 3.15 and 4.15p.m. by pupils and visiting adults. Both the afternoon and evening sessions are open to the public and tickets will be available at the door £4 for afternoon and evening sessions; £3 for the evening session only. **A £1 from each ticket sold will be donated to Air Ambulance Wales.** This is one of the major events of the school calendar and I extend a very warm welcome to all parents to join us on this day.

5. Single School Leaving Date

There is now one single school leaving date, which is the last Friday in June in the school year in which a child reaches age 16. In 2010 this date will be **Friday 25th June.** Pupils

must therefore remain in education at school or otherwise until the advertised date. Employers may not employ pupils full-time until this date.

6. Official School Uniform

I should like to draw your attention also to the official list of uniform and ask you earnestly to conform to our requirements when you are buying new items of uniform. Items of school uniform can be purchased at Box of Delights, Aberaeron (jumpers, polo shirts & ties), Elegance New Quay, Alison Jones Schoolware PO Box 180 Aberystwyth SY23 3XE (uniform@btinternet.com) and Tommy Evans Evnatech 01545580128. If you are in doubt as to what is allowed please contact the school and a list will be sent to you.

Please note that pupils are not allowed to wear trainers around school. Trainers are to be worn during PE/Games lessons only.

7. Mobile Phones

I wish to remind you that whilst pupils may bring mobile phones to school in case they need to use them **after school hours**, their use **is not permitted in school** and we will not take any responsibility for phones that could be damaged or lost in school. Please note that pupils are not to bring IPOD's, MP3 players, headphones/earphones to school.

8. School Attendance

I would like to remind parents that under normal circumstances **the only reason children should miss school is if they are too ill to attend.** If this should happen we would appreciate a message by phone before 10.00a.m. on the **first day** of your child's absence.

Should we not hear anything then we will be contacting parents throughout the morning in order to confirm the reason for the absence. We feel it is important for school to know the exact whereabouts of each pupil in order to comply with the Child Protection Act.

When your child returns to school s/he should bring a note to explain the absence more fully. If any other circumstances make it necessary for your child to miss a day then it is important that this is discussed beforehand, if possible, with the Head of Year, who will then decide if the absence can be authorised.

9. Re-sit Examinations

Please note that no re-sit entries will be made unless accompanied by the appropriate fee.

Yours sincerely

Aneurin Roberts
Headteacher