



www.ysgolbotwnnog.org



IN THIS TERM'S BULLETIN

- ✓ **SCHOOL WEBSITE**
- ✓ **PARENTS AND FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION**
- ✓ **YEAR 11 COFFE EVENING**
- ✓ **IMPORTANT DATES**
- ✓ **BEHAVIOUR**
- ✓ **SNOW**
- ... **AND MORE**

A WORD FROM THE HEADMASTER



Mr Gareth T.M. Jones

It is not too late to wish you a **Happy New Year**.

I will be retiring as Headmaster at the end of the Easter Term having been at Botwnnog for 26 years (12 years as Headmaster). It has been an honour to teach the talented youngsters of Llŷn and to work with such hard working staff.

I thank you as parents for your cooperation and support.

The School Governors have met to appoint a new Headmaster. Mr. Dylan Minnice, the Deputy Headmaster was appointed and will take up his new duties in April.

Best wishes to Mr Minnice in his new post.

SCHOOL'S WEBSITE

Don't forget the website. We will update the site regularly.

If you have any comments on how we could improve the website or think that there is something important missing then you could use the **Contact** Link on the **Parents'** page to inform us. <http://www.ysgolbotwnnog.org/cysylltu.php>

There are some important policies available on the website <http://www.ysgolbotwnnog.org/polisiau.html>

There are also links to other useful websites which give advice about e-safety, bullying, keeping safe, health, etc on the **Parents'** page <http://www.ysgolbotwnnog.org/qwefannau-defnyddiol.html>

THE PARENTS AND FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION

A big thank you to members who arranged the Annual Craft Fair. £1259.56 was collected towards educational equipment.

Interested in joining the 200 Club? Membership is £12.00 a year (cheque payable to Ysgol Botwnnog or bankers order). Details from Mrs. Nerys Williams – the Secretary, 01758 730220. Draws every term – top prize £100.

Officials for 2013/2014

Chairperson – Mrs. Shân Williams;
Secretary – Mrs. Hafwen Hughes.

A summary of proceeds – Money Raising Club – £1621; Antur Waunfawr - £294.30.

To parents who supported the Association the school is grateful. The Parents Association have donated funds towards the Art Department, the Physical Education Department and towards the School Radio Station project.

YEAR 11

Year 11 pupils should make every effort to attend school. Pupils in Year 11 and 10 should not go on holidays during the school term. The school will not give permission for holidays during the term. If parents take pupils from school during the term then the absence will be marked as "Unauthorised Absence".

Miss school—miss lessons, miss out on guidance from teachers, miss out on work set, miss essential aspects of course work and miss out on an opportunity to gain a better grade in the GCSE examinations.

This is a busy time of the year for the senior pupils. GCSE coursework must be completed this term. Pupils are welcome to stay in the Library until 5.00 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday evenings to complete coursework / homework. It can be arranged to take the pupils home in the school mini bus.

Please contact the school if you think that your son / daughter needs extra help in any subject.

Don't forget about the extra guidance given to students by our Learning Coaches, Mrs. Carol Pilling and Mrs. Ann James.

ANNUAL COFFEE EVENING – YEAR 11

A huge success - thanks to the endeavours of Year 11 pupils.

£5099.77 was collected towards charities.

Committee members were:- Mirain Brady; Laura Brookes; Lois Parri; Hawys Williams; Non Williams; Elis Parri; Tomos Turtle; Cara Murphy Jones; William Evans; Tom Froom; Jake Jones; Llŷr Williams; Pandora Lapington; Lea Pugh; Luned Williams; Gethin Jones; Elgan Roberts; Bedwyr Williams – Chairman.

A special thank you to all parents, relatives and local businesses who supported the Coffee Evening.

AN ALL ROUND IMPROVEMENT IN 2015

As parents / guardians could you please help your son / daughter to succeed in school by following these guidelines:-

Check the 'Homework' sheet at the end of each exercise book in each subject.

Listen to your son / daughter reading parts of the Homework to prove that the answers are correct and relevant.

Help your child to revise for tests. Test him / her on the work set and understanding of key words.

Make sure that your child reads for at least 30 minutes each evening - one small step which could make a huge difference.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring a consistently high standard of school uniform this term. This ensures appropriate respect for school rules and the general ethos of Ysgol Botwnnog.

Pupils will need a black coat or hoodie during the winter months but we would emphasise that coats and hoodies are not to be worn inside the building.

The coat / hoodie should not be worn instead of the official black school sweatshirt.

No caps of any sort.

We would also like to remind you that pupils are allowed to wear one pair of studs in their ears only and one ring worn on a finger. No necklace or bracelets.

Trainers / shoes must be black.

No black jeans, cords, combat or cargo trousers.

Plain black skirt of a reasonable length with black tights.

School uniform for sale in school.

PUPIL BEHAVIOUR

On occasions the poor behaviour of a small minority of pupils can affect the progress, enjoyment and safety of other pupils. We are determined to ensure that this small minority do not adversely affect the education of the majority.

1. BEHAVIOUR IN LESSONS AND ON THE CORRIDORS

Pupils are fully aware of the school's expectations and the need to show respect towards members of staff, other pupils and the building. We intend to contact you, as parents, if any pupil cannot conform to these basic rules. Continued misbehaviour could result in exclusion from school.

2. SCHOOL BUSES

From time to time we receive complaints of unacceptable behaviour from some pupils on the school buses. Following discussions with the Education Authority and the bus companies it is likely in future that the bus companies will refuse to transport certain individuals to and from school. The responsibility for transport arrangements will then rest with parents.

No smoking on the buses. Pupils are to remain seated throughout the journey.

3. DRUGS / ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

We will not tolerate the presence of illegal substances on the school premises. Any pupil involved in the possession of, or distribution of, illegal substances faces permanent exclusion from Ysgol Botwnnog.

4. BASIC SCHOOL RULES

Pupils must not:-

- bring cigarettes to school or smoke on school grounds;
- bring alcohol or illegal substances to school;
- bring a dangerous weapon such as a knife to school;
- bring mobiles or cameras to school;
- bring chewing gum to school

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 27/01/15 | Parents / Teacher Meeting Year 11 |
| 16/02/15 – 20/02/15 | Half Term Holidays |
| 03/03/15 | Parents / Teacher Meeting Year 10 |
| 09/03/15 – 13/03/15 | Art Exam Year 11 |
| 17/03/14 | Parents / Teacher Meeting Year 8 |
| 30/03/15 – 10/04/15 | Easter Holidays |
| 13/04/15 | First day of Summer Term |

SNOW

Informing parents in the early morning

Should we have to shut the school because of snow the information will be relayed on Radio Cymru / Radio Wales between 7 - 8 a.m. and on Council website – www.gwynedd.gov.uk

Arrangements during the day

Should we have to send the pupils home during the school day because of snow they will be sent home on the buses. When the bus arrives at its destination the pupils should go home or to a relative's house or to friend's house (according to your arrangements as parents).

We will try to text all parents if the school has to be closed.

STAFF

Congratulations to Miss Awen Griffith and Llŷr on the birth of Math and Erwan.

Welcome to Miss Lowri Griffith, Mathematics and Business and Miss Cerian Griffith, Welsh (part time).

Congratulations to Mrs. Grace Roberts (Librarian) on winning the Volunteer of the Year at the Golfing Union of Wales Awards at the Celtic Manor.

BULLYING

Bullying is not a serious problem in Ysgol Botwnnog.

However when bullying occurs staff will strive to prevent further bullying. The school has an Anti Bullying Policy with strategies to deal with victims and bullies.

We want our pupils to be happy and safe in school. We will not tolerate bullying.

Pupils are aware that they can talk to Year 11 Buddies or members of staff to report on bullying.

As parents / guardians you can contact me or the deputies to discuss bullying or report on any incidences of bullying (bullying in school, on the bus, or through mobile or social networking such as Facebook, Twitter.)

Bullying is not accepted in Ysgol Botwnnog and dealing with bullying is a priority for staff. Posters by pupils on school walls remind pupils that bullying is wrong and not acceptable. Pupils and staff are responsible for maintaining a safe environment in the school. You may also like to visit www.bullying.co.uk or many other similar websites for further advice.

PROBLEM? QUESTION? COMPLAINT?

Please contact the school on 01758 730220 should you wish to discuss any matter concerning your son / daughter. A meeting with the Headmaster can be arranged at short notice. We aim to deal with any query within 24 hours.



SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school's student council meet regularly to discuss matters such as bullying, school improvement and lessons.



Year 11's Coffee Evening

Dilwyn Morgan, the comedian, launching Year 11's successful coffee evening.



Christmas Party

An afternoon of food and entertainment was organized for local senior citizens by one of the Year 10 Bac groups.