

Dear parents and carers

I visited a number of school clubs this week, and it was fantastic to see a large number of students enjoying a range of activities from science to hockey, and from chess to baking. I was also pleased to see the first meeting of the Sexuality and Gender Alliance support group (run by students and supported by staff) take place this week. More clubs continue to be added, and we will communicate these to you and students.

A particular highlight was being able to catch a moment of the first rehearsals for our Upper School production this year, which is, of course, *Grease: The Musical*. It was a moment of personal reflection for me that I hadn't heard students singing live in chorus anywhere for two years, and I know that it will be a magnificent show. These kind of enriching experiences are the social and emotional core of our school community and, whilst some restrictions remain, it is uplifting to see increasingly frequent glimpses of normality show through. We are really looking forward to welcoming the wider community to the performances later this year.

Yours sincerely

Hugo Hutchison
Headteacher

Welsh Government Guidance – Covid Testing

From Monday 11 October, WG has recommended that students who are under 18 and have a household member who has tested positive for COVID-19 should, in addition to PCR tests on Day 2 and Day 8, undertake a daily lateral flow test every day for seven days. This should start on the day a household contact is confirmed positive from a lateral flow or PCR test result. Where appropriate, they want to reduce the testing of children without symptoms but due to the increase in prevalence and the concerns expressed about household contacts, they consider it is vital that we do all we can to keep children in school.

As of 11 October, any learners in secondary school who are under 18 and confirmed as a household contact should start using lateral flow tests for 7 days immediately to help provide further reassurance that they are not infectious to others.

Ariane Allford, Y7, is a competitive Artistic Roller Skater. Outside of school, she trains every Friday, Saturday and Sunday with her Club - Cardiff City Rollers - and travels around the country throughout the year competing in local and National competitions, a huge commitment. At the end of this month for the first time she will be representing her club by competing in the British Championships. It will be a tough competition but Ariane feels it is a privilege to represent her club.



Just before the summer she placed 4th out of 21 in her category in the summer Back to Skate competition held by the Federation of Artistic Roller Skating (newly rebranded to GB Skate Artistic) - their first competition since the beginning of the pandemic.



Monmouth Ysgol Gyfun
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School Bulletin
08 October 2021

PARENTS' EVENINGS

01 December – Year 12
09 December – Year 10

OPEN EVENING
21ST October, 2021

Key dates coming up

[2021/2022 CALENDAR](#)

Website Updates

[MCS RISK ASSESSMENT -
SEPTEMBER 2021](#)

[STUDENT PROTOCOL -
SEPTEMBER 2021](#)

[UNWELL PROTOCOL -
SEPTEMBER 2021](#)

[VISITOR PROTOCOL -
SEPTEMBER 2021](#)



The Book Fair continues in school until 13th Oct.

A WEEK IN PICTURES



After School Clubs and Activities

Please click on the link below to have a look at the updated timetable – NEW ADDITION, WEDNESDAY WEEK B - BADMINTON.

[AUTUMN TIMETABLE](#)

Don't forget, the Food Hall offers an after school service until 4.30pm. Please remember that there is a school wide food limit of £5 per day unless you have set a personal limit for your child.



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Safety in the Bus Bay/Drop-off Zone

Could we please remind parents that if you drop your child in the bus bay / drop-off zone at the back of school, this is a drop and go area only.

Please do not park/wait in this area as this prevents students on school transport disembarking as buses cannot unload safely until they are kerb side.

Parents should not enter to collect students until 3.20pm, once the buses have left. Thank you.

NATASHA'S LAW

Natasha's Law (or the Food Information (Amendment) Regulations 2019) came into force on the 1st October 2021 making it a legal requirement for all food businesses to display full ingredient and allergen labelling on every food item they sell pre-packaged for direct sale.

This may mean that some of the range of 'pre-packed' sandwiches, baguettes and salads may be limited following the introduction of this Law.

Please click [HERE](#) for more information on Natasha's Law.