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PORHCRAWL
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Headteacher/Pennaeth: M. J. Stephens NPQH, P Dip Ed, BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Bennaeth: D.W.A Beard BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Bennaeth: C-A. Painter BA (Hons)

10th January 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year - I hope that you enjoyed the festive break with family and friends.

Since we have returned from the Christmas break it has been a busy week – *assemblies, celebrations, sporting activities, exams, and of course 25 lessons!*

This week, as I have walked our school site it has been very pleasing to see so much hard work and effort in lessons - well done to all students and of course our dedicated staff. On Wednesday, almost 200 Year 10 students completed their Unit 1 English Literature GCSE examination and I would like to praise all students for their hard work and maturity as they prepared for and sat their very first GCSE exam. A thank you is also needed to our English Faculty who have provided additional lessons, revision sessions and 'walking talking mocks' in preparation for this examination. A team effort – well done everyone!

As I write, important decisions are being considered about future pathways. The Year 11 Options Fortnight will start next week and on Wednesday the 15th January from 5:00pm-7:00pm, I look forward to welcoming students and parents/carers to our Sixth Form Open Evening. Once again, we anticipate a large intake of students joining Year 12 and I hope you find the evening informative. The event will begin in the Sixth Form Hall at 5:00pm. There will be a welcome address from myself and Mr Beard, Deputy Headteacher, will lead the evening. There will be an opportunity to speak with different subject leaders about the A Level courses offered in the Sixth Form, the A Level options process and the next steps required for returning to the Sixth Form at Porthcawl Comprehensive School. Last year we admitted, one of, if not the largest Year 12 cohort into a sixth form in Bridgend, and I am very proud of all that we do and achieve! I look forward to seeing you there!

The Year 9 Options Fortnight starts on Monday 27th January (more information will follow) and we are holding our Year 9 Progress Evening on Wednesday 5th February. If you have any questions about the Sixth Form or Year 9 Options Process please contact Mr Beard, Deputy Headteacher via info@porthcawlschool.co.uk

As we start the new term, I am very pleased at the high standard of our school uniform. However, I ask that you ensure your child continues to wear the correct full school uniform every day. I acknowledge that we are experiencing a period of cold weather, however when your child wears a jumper to school, this should be a school jumper not a hooded top or branded jumper. Your support with the uniform is very much appreciated.

Reminder: Nose piercings are not part of our school uniform policy. Please can I ask that parents/carers ensure that their child does not wear a nose stud whilst attending Porthcawl Comprehensive School. Many thanks to parents/carers for supporting this.

I shall end with celebration! On Thursday, almost all Yr11 students received their GCSE mathematics results from their November 2024 examination, and I am delighted to announce that they have performed incredibly well! This year, once again, our results indicate a strong performance. This is testament to the hard work and effort of our students and the unity and drive of our staff to provide the very best for learners at PCS. A high percentage of the year group secured an A*-C grade and a third of all grades awarded were A*/A. The overall level 1 and level 2 pass rate was also high; so many pupils achieved very well. I am very proud of all our students. Well done to Yr11 and of course, our Mathematics Faculty – thank you! I would like to personally congratulate all students on their achievements, and I look forward to hearing about your future ‘maths’ success as you move forward with GCSE Additional Mathematics, GCSE Numeracy and the LIBF qualifications.

In addition to GCSE mathematics, a small number of Yr11 students also received their GCSE English Language results and as with mathematics, these students also performed very well. Again, my thanks to our students and our English Faculty for their efforts!

All results achieved provide an excellent foundation for the summer 2025 examinations and replicate the success we celebrated in GCSE English Literature and GCSE Science last summer.

A successful start to the term! I thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Cofion cynnes / Kind regards,

M. Stephens

Headteacher/Pennaeth

Important Dates – January / February 2025

- 13th January - Year 11 Options Fortnight Starts
- 15th January - Sixth Form Options & Open Evening
- 27th January - Year 9 Options Fortnight Starts
- 5th February - Year 9 Progress Evening
- 17th February INSET day (school closed to pupils)
- 19th February – Year 12 Progress Evening