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## Ysgol Rhiwabon

Pennaeth Mewn Gofal - Melanie Ferron-Evans B.A.(Joint Hons) MSC. N.P.Q.H - Acting Headteacher

14 September 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Following a very successful two weeks settling our students into school it is with great pride and pleasure that I am writing to introduce myself to you as Headteacher of Ysgol Rhiwabon for this academic year. Many of you know me already as I have been working as part of the School Senior team and the English department for a number of years.

I am committed to the Ruabon community and its surrounding area through my strong links to the schools in the village. When I was growing up, I was educated in St Mary's School Ruabon and then attended Ysgol Rhiwabon as a pupil. It is thanks to the schools in the village that I was able to go on to study and teach in Wales, England and abroad, returning to Ruabon to teach in 2004. This makes my task of leading the school now very special, with your child and the local community at the heart of all I do.

In recent times our school has improved in so many ways, modernising and responding to the many changes which our staff face on a daily basis. I believe though, that Ysgol Rhiwabon is founded on strong traditional foundations and it is this which will lead to our continued success in the future. I look forward to developing even stronger links in the village and beyond as our young people and staff see opportunities to learn and contribute to the local community.

We have lots of things to celebrate as we begin the new academic year. Our Sixth Form numbers have grown this September and our Year 13 students left us well-prepared to take up their courses at University as well as facing the challenges of new jobs and apprenticeships. Our Year 11 students continued to do well achieving 86% A\* - C at GCSE level or the equivalent. Our vocational courses continue to thrive with half the passes at Distinction\* or Distinction level.

All our students have returned to school looking smart and ready for work and we are particularly pleased to welcome our youngest members in Year 7; they have made an excellent start. We have welcomed a number of new staff who will contribute new ideas and enthusiasm to our already caring, hard working staff. There are exciting plans to develop our learning links with our primary schools with all Year 6 students due to visit us for taster days during the next half term. We continue to be one of few schools in Wales in the Prince's Teaching Institute which involves our students and staff in some exciting opportunities.

This year I want you to feel as parents/carers that your child is challenged and supported to achieve the very best they can be and that they are happy in school. We cannot achieve this without your continued support which I thank you for. There will be many new opportunities to contribute your ideas to the things we do in school which will be communicated very soon.

Please let us know good news if your child has achieved something outside of school which we can celebrate. If you have any concerns whatsoever about your child please contact us to discuss by telephoning the main office on 01978 822392 to make an appointment.

I am looking forward to working with you this year.

Yours sincerely

**Melanie Ferron-Evans**  
Headteacher

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