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Ysgol Rhiwabon

Pennaeth – Melanie Ferron-Evans B.A.(Joint Hons) MSc. N.P.Q.H - Headteacher

16th May 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

Keep in Touch Letter - Summer Term Update

It is difficult to believe that the first half of the Summer Term is almost at an end, leaving us with the final half term of the academic year.

As many of you know I am retiring at the end of this school year. Last term the Governing Body, supported by the LA, worked tirelessly to interview, and appoint the new Headteacher from 1st September 2026. I am delighted to announce that following this rigorous process, Mr Bingham will be the Acting Headteacher of Ysgol Rhiwabon for the next academic year. The current Senior Team, Mr Forman, Mrs Savva, and Mr Evans will ably support him. This team already know the school extremely well and have over a decade of experience in their individual roles, supported by excellent staff and Governors, our families, and the local community. This team, led by Mr Bingham, will continue to work with complete commitment and enthusiasm to ensure the school continues to improve into the future.

Key Stage 4 Students – Examinations

As we move into the Examination season, I am sure you will join me in wishing Year 10 and 11 the very best of luck as they sit the Summer examinations. A detailed revision programme is provided by our staff, including extra sessions after school as well as during the school holidays. This information is published on our website and via Parent Text.

School Activities in the Summer Term

During the next half term, we will be enjoying the following key events:

- Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions
- Year 11 Achievement Ceremony in school, followed by the Prom in Rossett Hall
- The New Year 7 Transition Days in June
- School Information and Open Evening for our families on 25th June
- Enhanced transition for some of our Year 6 students
- Ysgol Rhiwabon's Sports Day
- Year 7 Trip to Conwy Castle
- Year 10 Careers and World of Work activities, including the completion of CVs
- Careers Wales Activities
- A range of important sporting events
- Fun activities in the last week of term

Uniform

As we prepare for warmer weather just a reminder that Uniform Guidance is available on the school website. Correct school uniform shows a pride in Ysgol Rhiwabon and a sense of belonging. We really appreciate our families supporting this important part of school life.

Please could you help us to maintain the following standards by discussing these points at home.

- Blazers need to be worn by all students in school. When it is warm they can be removed.
- Plain black jumpers are optional and do not replace a blazer.
- Male and female trousers need to be tailored and not fashion items.
- Coats no longer need to be worn at all inside the building and fashion jackets will not be accepted instead of blazers.

- Girls' skirts need to be compliant with the school rules – knee length. This is not a change to our uniform. Gradually skirts have become fashion items and inappropriate for school. If your child does not want to wear the correct school skirt, please could they change to tailored black trousers.

Please do not forget our successful uniform swap shop which is still in operation. In addition, the Welsh Government is offering various grants to support with school costs. There is a link on our school website for you to check if your child may be eligible.

We will be checking uniform weekly, and we will inform you of any changes to uniform in extreme weather.

Attached is an information sheet about **tailored shorts** which can be worn at any time through the Summer Term.

Positive Behaviour Expectations and Reminders

Staff have worked hard throughout this year to organise classrooms and lessons so that our students feel welcomed and supported as soon as they arrive at each lesson. The Ysgol Rhiwabon Golden Rules in planners and classrooms support every aspect of the respect and kindness we expect from every member of the school community, staff, and students alike. We rely on you to support the school's high expectations as well as the consequences if any behaviour issues need to be addressed as this ensures an excellent learning environment for everyone.

Mobile Phones - On Site – Out of sight! Out of Mind!

As you know we allow mobile phones, switched off in school bags, to support safe travel to and from school. Apart from that there is absolutely no place for them during the school day. Our youngsters have enough pressures posed by mobile phones outside school. Learning and social time in school is a place where they can be free from phone technology, in particular social media. For us they are often at the root of peer fall outs or worse and they become a distraction as they can disrupt lessons and behaviour around the school. We already confiscate phones if they are seen but this will be strengthened for the remainder of this term by asking parents to collect them at the end of the day, or during the day, if necessary, when the rule is not followed.

Thank you

Thank you, as always, for your support as we continue to instil high expectations in school regarding kindness and respect, personal appearance and working hard in line with the School Golden Rules to achieve our very best.

As you can imagine, when the time comes in July, it will be extremely hard to say goodbye to everyone in the Ysgol Rhiwabon Community. I will be in touch to send a formal farewell in the last week of term.

Until then, I look forward to continuing to work with all our students and families, enjoying our students' continued success and achievements this academic year.

With Kindest Regards,



Mrs Ferron-Evans
Headteacher

May 2026

Shorts for the Summer Term 2026

As a school, we are continually reviewing systems, processes, procedures, and policies, to allow us to move forward as a school. Over recent years there has been an increasing demand for us to introduce shorts to our existing school uniform policy during the Summer months. After discussions with the School Council Representatives and gauging opinion from the entire student body we introduced **black tailored shorts** last year. This addition to choices will continue this summer and will be optional. Those students not wishing to wear tailored shorts will be expected to wear the existing uniform as per our extensive uniform guidance on our school website.

The conditions for wearing tailored shorts are set out below.

- Shorts worn must be **plain black tailored shorts** (see images below) at almost knee length.
- **No** 'sports' or 'walking' style shorts to be worn.
- Students will continue to wear the remainder of their **full** school uniform.
- Students will wear their normal school shoes without alternatives being worn.

Please find below images of the type of shorts that will be acceptable as well as estimated costs and where these shorts can be purchased.



Sainsbury's, Two pairs £10.00

Argos, Two pairs £8.00

Amazon, £4.95

George Asda, Two pairs £6.00

Next, £8.00

M&S, Two pairs £12.00

We hope our parents/carers and students will see this a positive step and continuing on from last year's trial so that all students can benefit from this option when the warmer weather arrives, not only this year but in future years.

Thank you for your support.