



5th September 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to the start of the new academic year. I hope that you have had a safe, enjoyable and restful summer holidays and that your child is now looking forward to returning to school.

First, a very big congratulations to our Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students who sat their GCSE, AS and A2 exams last year. All Year 13 students who wanted a place at university have been successful in achieving a place. We had students moving on to a range of universities and work placements in September: students are going to universities to study a wide variety of courses ranging from Japanese to History, Medicine and Dentistry to Law and International Politics, a variety of sporting courses, architecture and two students have been successful this year in going to Oxford to study PPE and History. Other students are working for a year before deciding what to do and others are working whilst trying to set up their own business. We wish them all the very best in their futures.

Many Year 11 students were very happy with their results which showed the hard work that they had put into their studies. This enabled them to go on to their next place of study, whether the 6th Form, College or Apprenticeship. We look forward to welcoming back those who are coming to the 6th Form, as well as the new students who are joining us from other schools into the 6th Form.

We are welcoming new staff to the team. Miss Helen Yates is returning to Penglais having completed her PGCE, returning as a part-time teacher and part-time 6th form Learning coach. Mr Connor Johannes and Mr Hiroshi Bowman will also be joining us as 6th form learning coaches and Miss Charlotte Davies is joining us permanently as 6th form Attendance Officer. Miss Kelly Harper will be changing role to become a History teacher and Mrs Nicky Goode will be joining us as an English and Drama teacher as well as an Assistant Head of Year for Year 10. Ms Fiona Hill will become Assistant Head of Year for Year 11. Mrs Kara Penfold will be joining us as a Welsh teacher and Miss Stephanie Glover as a DT teacher. Mrs Rachel Rees will be Head of Music for this year and Mrs Leonie Luff has joined us as a part-time music teacher. Mrs Jackie Jones will join us as a Cover Supervisor. Miss Megan Jackson, Miss Hannah Williams, Ms Sonia Miles, Ms Emmylou Richards and Mr Patrick Sweeney will be joining us as Teaching Assistants. Miss Hannah Sefton will be taking on a role leading Lifeskills and Ms Laurie Albrighton will become the ALN Interventions Manager. Mr Daniel Rushton and Mrs Mary McCambridge will join us as Catering Assistant and Cook in the canteen. We look forward to welcoming new members of staff into our Penglais community and supporting those changing roles.

We also welcome our new Year 7 students to Penglais. I hope that they will settle into the Penglais community very quickly and feel that everyone is here to support them. Should there be any concerns, please contact the Head of Year 7, Mr Owen Daniel,

At the start of the academic year, we like to hold a Welcome Evening for each year group which gives us an opportunity to meet parents/guardians and outline important information about the year ahead. Year 7 parents/guardians will have the opportunity to meet members of staff, other parents and members of the Parent Teachers' Association (PTA) for an informal 'meet and greet' over tea, coffee and biscuits. This will be at 4.15pm on Monday 11th September followed by the welcome evening at 5pm in the Main Hall; Year 8 and 9 will be on Tuesday 12th September at 5.30pm and 6.30pm respectively and Years 10 and 11 on Wednesday 13th September, again at 5.30pm and 6.30pm

Pennaeth / Headteacher:- Ms Mair Hughes

respectively. 6th form students and parents/guardians are invited to a 6th Form Information Evening on Thursday 21st September at 6pm in the 6th Form Centre. Further information will be shared next week. We would encourage all families to attend. This will be an opportunity for you to gain information about the year to come so that you can best support your child throughout the year.

I will be continuing with the Headteacher's Surgery which will be changing to Monday evenings between 5 – 6pm. These are open to all parents/guardians and no appointment is necessary.

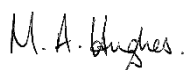
You will be aware that there have been concerns over RAAC, the type of concrete used in buildings. The local authority has informed us that *'We have no immediate concerns that RAAC, which is reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete, was used to construct Ceredigion school buildings, however further detailed assessments will need to be undertaken to fully confirm the situation.*

The Building Maintenance Service have an ongoing schedule of Health and Safety visits to all Local Authority buildings, including schools.' We will let you know as soon as we have any further information.

We are very much aware that the cost of living remains a challenge for all families. Please get in touch with us if this is having an impact on your child in any way and we will see if there's anything we can do to support you or to refer you to places for support.

We very much look forward to engaging with you over the year to help ensure that your child is happy, safe and achieving their potential in the school. Should you have any concern or wish to contact the school at any point, please contact your child's Head of Year (emails below) or email admin@penglais.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,



Ms M Hughes
Pennaeth/Headteacher

Useful email addresses:

Role	Name	Email address
General queries	Admin	admin@penglais.org.uk
Headteacher	Ms Mair Hughes	hcl@penglais.org.uk
Head of Year 7	Mr Daniel	oxd@penglais.org.uk
Head of Year 8	Miss Thomas	k.thomas3@penglais.org.uk
Head of Year 9	Mr Rudge	r.rudge@penglais.org.uk
Head of Year 10 & 11	Mrs Johnson	s.johnson@penglais.org.uk
Head of Year 6 th form	Mrs Elgood	jje@penglais.org.uk
PA to Headteacher	Mrs Clements	hcl@penglais.org.uk
Student Services Manager	Miss Jones	cej@penglais.org.uk
6 th Form Manager	Mr Barnes	J.Barnes@penglais.org.uk
Finance Manager	Mrs Jones	sj@penglais.org.uk