



Mehefin/June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been pleased to welcome back pupils for the final half term of the academic year. This is a seven-week term and, as always, it promises to be a busy one right through to the final day on **Friday 17th July**. Hopefully, we will see more of the summer weather we enjoyed over half term in time for some of our planned events, including the Year 7 and 8 Geography field trips and our eagerly anticipated annual baseball festival.

Although the end of the year is in sight, this remains an incredibly important period for maintaining high standards and ensuring that all pupils finish the year positively.

Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance and punctuality remain a key priority. Evidence from the Education Endowment Foundation highlights the clear link between attendance and academic attainment, and Welsh Government data similarly identifies persistent absence as a significant factor in poorer learner outcomes.

It is particularly important to recognise how quickly absence adds up. Missing just 10 days of school across the year, around 5% of learning time, can have a marked impact on a pupil's chances of achieving strong outcomes in their qualifications. These seemingly small gaps accumulate over time, leading to missed learning that can be difficult to recover.

We therefore ask for your continued support in ensuring that pupils attend every day, arrive on time, and are fully prepared for learning. We recognise that absence is sometimes unavoidable, for example due to illness, and ask that any absence is reported in the usual way. When contacting the school, whether by phone or email, please include your child's full name and form. The school's email address is: whs@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk. For safeguarding reasons, we kindly ask that parents and carers **do not** visit the school site without a prior appointment.

Examination Season

This year's exam season is now well underway for our year 10, 11 and sixth form students. This is a crucial time for many of our learners, and we ask that all pupils are respectful and considerate while on site, particularly around examination venues, to help maintain a calm and purposeful environment.

Upcoming Events

There are a number of important activities taking place over the coming weeks including fieldtrips, a Year 12 Careers event and Higher Education Fair and our Transition Day. We encourage you to check the school [website](#) regularly for further details and any updates. To help you stay informed,

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key dates and events are listed on our school calendar, available from the website or via this link: [School Calendar](#).

ParentPay Reminder

Please can you check ParentPay regularly for any items that may need to be paid for such as school equipment or trips. We would also be grateful if you could monitor your meals account and top up as needed. If you haven't set up your account, please email whs@whitchurch.cardiff.sch.uk to request your activation details. If for any reason you are having difficulty making payment, please contact the relevant progress team to discuss.

Thank you for your continued support in working with us to ensure that all pupils have a positive and successful end to the academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Aston

Assistant Headteacher (Personal Development and Community Engagement)