



# CATHAYS HIGH SCHOOL

YSGOL UWCHRADD CATHAYS

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

C Y F L E O E D D I B A W B

## Community Update - December 2024

### Dear Parents and Guardians

Welcome to our December newsletter. If you have any suggestions for items in future newsletters, please email [jtaylor@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:jtaylor@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk).

Our 6 temporary classrooms in the car park have been removed, and 6, more spacious, air conditioned rooms are now in use for Humanities lessons. Students in Years 7 and 8 can use the new toilets in that block now and our Y15 library is back open for Year 7 and 8 at lunchtime.

Some recent issues with our canteen have now been resolved and we look forward to normal service being resumed.

### Examination and assessment information

Please follow this link to a page on the school's website that takes you to subject overviews for the new curriculum in years 7-9. We hope you will find this useful in supporting your child at home. [parent pupil assessment information](#)

Students also have free use of Spellzone, Mathswatch and GCSE Pod at home. Open these with Google from the student home page. (Students know how to access this)

#### **Key examination dates:**

Year 10 **English Literature** exam - **Wed 8th Jan**

### Upcoming dates and opportunities

- **Ski trip 2026** Ski [letter](#)
- **INSET DAY** - 6th January
- First day back for all students 7th Jan

#### **Parents' evenings**

Year 7 – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January

Year 9 – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> Feb

Year 8 – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May

### Inclusion & Wellbeing (IWB) Team

#### **1. [Link to behaviour policy here](#)**

Please find a link above to our **Positive Relationships (behaviour) Policy** which outlines school procedures for support, rewards and consequences. Further information can be found by emailing your child's Head of Year. The school's **Designated Senior Person for safeguarding** is **Natasha Jones**. [njones@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:njones@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

Please encourage good uniform for all students. We have a stock of pre loved items that can be purchased at parents' evenings or via the Inclusion and Wellbeing Team.

**Donations of unused uniform items are always welcome via main reception.**

### Contact Information

If you have questions about your child's education or need help with an issue and you want to get in touch, you are always free to call the school on **02920 544 400** and ask to speak to someone. Alternatively, you can email specific staff and they will reply as soon as possible.

**Mr J Unwin (Head of Year 7):**

[junwin@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:junwin@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

**Miss C Bentley (Head of Year 8)**

[cbentley@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:cbentley@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

**Mr P Williams (Head of Year 9)**

[pmwilliams@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:pmwilliams@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

**Mr C Cotter (Head of Year 10)**

[ccotter@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:ccotter@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

**Miss H Martin (Head of Year 11)**

[hmartin@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:hmartin@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

**Mrs C Picken (Head of Year Sixth Form)**

[cpicken@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:cpicken@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

**Miss C Roberts (Head of New Arrivals)**

[croberts@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:croberts@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

### Extracurricular (OSHL) Timetable

Our latest Out of Hours Timetable is below: [2. Link to non sports courses here](#)

Days	Before school		Lunchtime		After school	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Mon			Badminton (SH) JS/EMW	Badminton (SH) JS/EMW	Year 9/10/11 Basketball (SH) Tribal Basketball	KS3 Football Club (Yard) EMWilliams Year 9/10/11 Basketball (SH) TB
Tue			Year 7/8 Basketball (SH) TB	Year 7/8 Basketball (SH) TB	Football (Talybont) JS/KW/SC	Yr7/8 Netball (SH) ZG
Wed			Cheerleading (GYM) ZG/AJ2 Cricket (SH) JJ	Cheerleading (GYM) ZG/AJ2 Cricket (SH) JJ	Year 7/8 Basketball (SH) TB	Year 7/8 Basketball (SH) TB
Thur	Basketball 7:45am (GYM) TB		Year 9/10/11 Basketball (SH) TB Table tennis (UH) GRT	Year 9/10/11 Basketball (SH) TB Table tennis (UH) GRT	Basketball game theory (GYM) TB	Yr 9/10/11 Netball (SH) ZG/HE
Fri		Basketball 7:45am (GYM) TB	Year 9/10/11 Basketball (SH) TB	Year 9/10/11 Basketball (SH) TB KS3 Girls Dodgeball (GYM) EMW		

#### School Christmas Concert

The concert is in **St Marks' Church at 6pm on 17th Dec.** All are welcome and our School Community Partnership will be there selling refreshments for our community fund. A number of students will perform at this event and will need to be collected afterwards.

#### Term Dates 2024/25

Autumn Half Term 1: 4th September - 25th October  
**HALF TERM BREAK: 28th October - 31st October**  
 Autumn Half Term 2: 4th November - 20th December  
**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY: 23rd December - 6th January**

Spring Half Term 1: 7th January - 21st February  
**HALF TERM BREAK: 24th February - 28th February**  
 Spring Half Term 2: 3rd March - 11th April  
**EASTER HOLIDAY: 14th April - 25th April**

Summer Half Term 1: 28th April - 23rd May  
**HALF TERM BREAK: 26th May - 30th May**  
 Summer Half Term 2: 2nd June - 21st July  
**SUMMER HOLIDAY BEGINS 22nd July**

#### [3. Link to Maths PDF HERE](#)

In Maths this year, we are awarding monthly certificates for the top 3 pupils in each year group for their effort on MathsWatch. This is to celebrate exceptional achievement and do more to highlight the pupils who are consistently giving their best. **Please see the link above for winners in each year. All receive a certificate and points on Class Charts!**

#### School Community Partnership

If you are interested in joining this group, please email [jtaylor@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:jtaylor@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk). The group discusses community/parental issues to encourage collaboration and support students. **We also fundraise to support families with the cost of school trips, bus passes and equipment etc.**

#### Parent Learning Group Information

New courses start in January. Enrolment Day is 7th January at 10.00am – 2.00pm in Cathays Library.

Any questions about this highly successful group please email [croy@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:croy@cathays.cardiff.sch.uk)

#### Link to courses:

[Parent Learning Group - Cathays High School | Ysgol Uwchradd Cathays](#)



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