



NEWBRIDGE SCHOOL
Ysgol Trecelyn



2019-2020 START OF TERM NEWSLETTER
CELEBRATING OUR EXCELLENCE WITH YOU

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the new school year, 2019 - 2020. We look forward to a successful year for all our pupils and to working with parents and pupils to achieve this.

Our aim is the success and excellence of every pupil in every year group, so that all our learners achieve the qualifications in Year 11 that enable them to go on to future success, to Universities, apprenticeships and outstanding futures.

The support and commitment of parents to the education of your children is crucial to our success. I know we have your continued support in ensuring your children succeed and excel now and in the future.

The term is well under way and pupils are settling in and working well.

We are very pleased to welcome the new Year 7 who have joined us this September and look forward to meeting parents and carers at events for Year 7 throughout the year.

SCHOOL RESULTS 2019

Governors and I are very pleased to inform you we have achieved another strong year of results.

KEY STAGE FOUR

97% of pupils achieved GCSE and Btec qualifications

90% achieved at least 5 A* - C grades or Btec equivalent qualifications, with many pupils achieving many more than the 5 qualifications required for the national comparison.

488 A* / A grades have been achieved this year

Year 11 learners have a portfolio of qualifications to present to future employers, Colleges and Universities. We are very proud of their results and hard work

Congratulations to all Year 11 of 2018 – 2019

These pupils have worked hard to live up to our aspirations, to 'Inspire, Succeed, Excel'

Outstanding Performers

A large number of pupils have achieved at A* / A grades. We are very pleased for these pupils. Examples are:

Ethan Key	13 A* / A	Louisha Dee Hughes	13 A* / A	Olivia Jenkins	12 A* / A
Jack Tranter	12 A* / A	Jay Lloyd	12 A* / A	Madeline Greaves	11 A* / A
Owen Brill	11 A* / A	Lewis Troy	11 A* / A	Olivia Williams	11 A* / A
Charlotte Davies	10 A* / A	Nicole Fitzgerald	9 A* / A	Luke Walden	9 A* / A
Josie Young	9 A* / A	Charlie Hulme	9 A* / A	Edmund Williams	8 A* / A
Anastasia Gill	8 A* / A	Matt Davies	8 A* / A	Emily Webber	8 A* / A
Ethan Hopkins	8 A* / A	Lois Alexander	8 A* / A		



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YEAR 7 PUPILS AND PARENTS

Year 7 and Year 8 Organisation and Homework

It is a pleasure to meet our new Year 7 and see them settling quickly into lessons and school. They are enjoying the challenges of their new lessons and are making new friends. They are a very positive and cheerful group. They are looking forward to their Black mountains visit in the next few weeks.

Parents please remember your child has 14 different subjects and 5 different lessons every day. It is important that all our Year 7 are well organised for each day and have the right books and equipment. They have all been given a school planner to help with this. All pupils have put their time-table into their planner. Please check their time-table with them daily and make sure your child always has the right books and equipment for each day.

Your child will also begin to come home with homework to do. Again, please check their planners to see this written down, ensure a good homework routine is established straightaway and that pupils bring the right books for the right lessons.

Please sign your child's planner weekly so that we know you have seen it.

Year 11 are nominated as prefects and leaders. In these roles they take on a range of responsibilities and support the school in its day to day operations. They help and support our younger learners in particular.

I am pleased to introduce our senior prefects for 2019 - 2020, as follows:

Head Boy:	Owen Hale	Head Girl:	Holy May Bowen
Deputies:	Jake Holls	Deputies:	Natalia Barnes
	Rhodri Eynon		Alys Williams
	Elliot Baker		Ffion Burton

These senior pupils have an important role in the school, giving speeches and presentations at important events such as prize evening, open evenings and other school community events. They have the honour of being chosen by our teachers and they represent the excellence we expect in our learners.

The Head Boy and Girl attend meetings of the Governing Body and represent our pupils at these meetings.

PANTSIDE BRIDGE – PUFFIN CROSSING

Please note that there is refurbishment work being carried out on the Panside Bridge. There is a temporary Puffin crossing in place, which uses sensors to detect pedestrians waiting to cross. Attached is information relating to the use of the Puffin crossing. We request that parents and pupils be mindful of this on-going work and use due care and attention on the roadside at all times.



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START OF YEAR THINGS TO NOTE

Please note the following basic expectations of Newbridge School

Pupil Punctuality: School starts promptly at 8.30am. Pupils need to be in registration by this time. Late marks are issued where this is an issue and parents are informed. Pupils will be expected to make up missed time through lateness.

Pupil Attendance: Pupils are required to be in school 100% of the time. Governors and I want all parents / carers to aim for this. Parents / carers are asked to make medical and dental appointments outside of the school day as far as is possible. If this is unavoidable due to emergency, please return your child to school as soon as possible to gain their registration mark and resume learning.

School Absence Line: We operate a school absence line, which you can come through to on telephoning school. If your child must be absent, kindly telephone the absence line on the day of absence. This counts as an absence record and you will not need to send in a note.

Pupils leaving school site: Pupils remain on site all day. They are only allowed to leave our school site for a specific reason and after being signed out at our school office. If a child needs to leave school for any reason during the school day, for your child's safety he / she will not be allowed to wait outside school. Parents / carers must come into reception, from where your child will be officially signed out and passed to your safekeeping.

Mobile phones: Pupils are allowed to carry mobile phones to and from school for their personal safety. We want you to be able to contact them, and they you, before and after school if necessary. However, pupils are not allowed to use these phones in school under any circumstances. Phones must be kept in pupil bags throughout the day.

Any messages parents / carers leave on your child's mobile phone will not be picked up until the end of the school day when pupils have left site. Please phone the school office to pass on any urgent messages for your child during the school day. This will be passed on by a member of our office staff, but only if it is an urgent matter.

Mobile phones used by pupils in school will be **automatically confiscated** and parents / carers will be required to collect them from the main school office. We are very clear on this issue. We cannot be distracted from the work of the school by mobile phones. Persistent breach of the school expectation will mean a pupil is banned from carrying a mobile phone to school at all. These instances are rare and we wish to work in a common sense way. Please ensure your child respects our school rule regarding mobile phones.

School Meals: We currently have a spend limit of £5 per day per pupil in our school canteen. Some of our pupils have requested a higher spend limit per day. We will increase the spend limit for pupils to £6.50 per day. Pupils can top-up their account with any amount. We will be looking to use ParentPay for school meals going forward.

Uniform: Our uniform list and stockists are listed in our school planner. We do not accept variations on uniform and we will ask parents to change aspects of uniform where this is inappropriate. **If in doubt regarding an aspect of uniform, parents please check with the school before purchase.**

Hairstyles: Pupils are not allowed to have extreme haircuts. Only basic hair accessories are to be worn



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IN SUMMARY

We continue our strong tradition of excellence, in pupil examination results and in all the experiences we offer our pupils. We expect to continue this excellence with your children over this next year so that each one of them succeeds and excels.

We look forward to meeting parents and carers on the many opportunities we have for you to come into school through the school year.

Our Newbridge School website is a useful source of information for you. Our results are published on the website and it contains school newsletters, policies and notices as the year progresses.

We use a text messaging service to notify parents of any important information and of when we are sending out a school newsletter to ensure you receive this.

It is important your child is organised for school every day and has all necessary items. Parents please ensure your child is prepared, has the school planner, their time-table, necessary exercise books and equipment every day.

SCHOOL TARGETS FOR ALL PUPILS

To help all of our pupils to succeed, every pupil in every year group is set targets for their progress through the year. These are given to pupils in each of their subject lessons by their teachers. Year 11 targets will be sent home to parents this half term. The rest of the school will be sent in October / November with their first monitoring of progress. For the majority of pupils in Key Stage 3, we expect to see 2 levels of progress through the Key Stage. For Key Stage 4, all pupils are set examination targets based on their end of key stage levels.

NOTICE TO PARENTS - PARENT PICK UP AND DROP OFF OF CHILDREN

Parents please note the school car park is for the school staff and leisure centre user parking only. The school car park is very busy at the start and end of the day and cannot accommodate parents' cars.

Kindly note we do not have scope for parents to pick up and drop off your children in the school car park.

Please make arrangements to meet your child outside of the school grounds and car park, preferably at the Otter car park where there is space, or the train station car park.



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DATA PROTECTION

The school follows the law on data protection and as such has a privacy notice. For your reference the summary privacy notice is provided here. This will now be used in any communication to you through which personal information is collected. The full privacy notice can be found on the school website.

Newbridge School



Privacy Notice Ref No:

Date Created:

Date Published:

Version Number:

Contact Details:

01495 243243

Newca@caerphilly.gov.uk

Privacy Notice Name:

Processing pupil information

Description of Privacy Notice:

This Privacy Notice describes how the school will process personal information about pupils and families.

Summary Privacy Notice

How we will use your information

The school processes personal information about pupils and their families to support pupil learning and monitor attainment, to provide pastoral care and to keep children safe. We also process personal information to meet the statutory duties placed upon us by Welsh Government, to administer optional school trips and activities, and to deliver the school catering service which may include verifying identity using biometric systems.

The school takes its responsibilities under data protection law very seriously, and will store and use all personal information securely, disposing of it when no longer required. Personal information may be shared securely for clear purposes with other organisations such as Caerphilly County Borough Council or other schools that provide a service to pupils/families. You have a number of rights in relation to your personal information. For further information please click the following link or see the school website at:

<http://learn.caerphilly.org.uk/newbridgeschool/>

Yours sincerely

Mr A Thompson
B.A.Hons, NPQH
Headteacher



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Message from Newbridge School Chair of Governors

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils

Welcome to the new school year and for new pupils, welcome to Newbridge School. We are delighted that you have joined us.

I and the Governing Body are extremely proud of Newbridge School and its long tradition of excellence.

Our examination results are very strong and we know every young person who joins Newbridge will achieve success.

Newbridge School offers an outstanding education for all its pupils and a wide array of educational experiences.

On my visits to the school I look forward to meeting many of our pupils and to seeing parents at the many events the school holds throughout the year.

Our Governing Body, made up of staff, parents, Local Authority and community representatives works well with the Headteacher and senior staff to ensure the best education is offered to every child.

We want to see every young person make the most of all their opportunities at Newbridge School and we are assured of the strong support that parents give to the future success of your child.

Yours sincerely

DM Gray
Chair of Governors

