

Monday 2nd September

Dear Parent / Carer,

**TO ALL PARENTS / CARERS OF PUPILS IN
YEAR SEVEN**



I hope you had a good summer break.

We were delighted to welcome your child to school today. As I mentioned in my letter in July, this was not a day of administration but a day of learning. It was the start of our "Ready to Learn" programme which will be a theme running throughout Year 7-9, ensuring all pupils are able to make the most of their time in the classroom.

We are looking forward to working with you and your child over the next five years. 2012/13 was an outstanding year for the school. We achieved our best ever results at Key Stage Three for the fourth year running, and just ten days ago we received the GCSE results for last year's Y11 which showed a massive increase of 19% in the number of pupils gaining 5 GCSEs at C or above, and that follows a 10% increase the previous year. The figure for 2013 is an impressive 73%! In fact, we made improvements in all major indicators, all but two pupils gained at least five GCSEs and no one left without qualifications. They were also the best ever results for the school for the second year running- a credit to students and staff. I am sure our new pupils will work hard to ensure the success continues- they certainly started very well today.

Over the summer we have completed a lot of work refurbishing parts of the school to make it a more pleasant learning environment, painting, fitting blinds, and replacing old classroom furniture. The refurbishment of the toilets has been delayed but will go ahead this month. We also have a new catering service.

If you have not already done so, please do have a look at our website www.risca.org.uk, where you can also access links to Facebook, Twitter, and my weekly blog which is posted each Friday, probably the best way of keeping up to date with what's going on at the school

Yours sincerely,

John Kendall
Head Teacher / Prifathro