



Ysgol Gymunedol Llangatwg Llangatwg Community School

Main Road | Cadoxton | Neath | SA10 8DB

Friday, 9th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to begin by wishing all of our families a happy and healthy New Year.

Unfortunately, the start to the year has not been quite as we had hoped, with the school closed for two days due to severe winter weather. The decision to close was not taken lightly; however, the safety of our pupils, staff, and wider community is always our highest priority. Due to the significant snowfall and dangerous icy conditions across the site, it was not possible to ensure that everyone could move around the school or travel to and from it safely.

The photographs below show the extent of the snow covering the site, with thick ice beneath that made conditions particularly challenging. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank our premises team, who worked tirelessly in freezing temperatures to clear snow and grit pathways wherever possible:



I would like to extend my sincere thanks to parents and carers for your understanding and cooperation during this time. In particular, I am grateful for the way you have supported pupils to remain safe at home and to engage positively with their online learning.

I would also like to thank our dedicated teaching staff for their hard work in setting and delivering learning remotely. A special mention must go to our

English department, who not only prepared high-quality online work but also delivered live lessons and interactive resources to support our Year 11 pupils in their preparation for the English Literature GCSE examination, which took place on Wednesday.

Finally, I would like to commend our wonderful pupils, who once again demonstrated their resilience, positivity, and ability to adapt to any situation. I am particularly proud of their efforts in Art, where pupils were tasked with studying miniature photography before using this as inspiration to create their own photoshoots at home. The creativity and quality of their work has been fantastic – just look at some of these wonderful creations.



This period has truly highlighted the strength of our community spirit, and I am grateful for your continued support.

On Wednesday, after welcoming our pupils back to school, a number of our year 8 pupils took part in a *Sustainable Futures workshop with Rewise*. Throughout the day, pupils took part in a range of engaging, hands-on activities designed to develop their understanding of green skills, green careers, and local pathways into the renewable energy sector.

A key highlight of the workshop was the opportunity for pupils to apply their STEM knowledge and teamwork skills by designing and constructing model wind farms and solar farms. Pupils selected and tested different variables, such as turbine blade designs, making predictions about their outcomes before carrying out practical experiments to evaluate how effectively their models performed.

The workshop provided an excellent opportunity for pupils to strengthen their problem-solving, collaboration, and scientific inquiry skills, while gaining valuable insight into the role of renewable energy in supporting a more sustainable future. It was an enjoyable and enriching day that helped develop both STEM expertise and important transferable skills. Da iawn pawb!



Cwmbrogi Project with Morgan Sindall Launch – ‘Tomorrow’s Changemakers’

Today, Year 8 pupils took part in the launch assembly for their Geography project, led by the Cwmbrogi Project in partnership with Morgan Sindall. Pupils have been set an exciting brief: to design a sustainable school of the future.

Throughout this term, they will develop key skills such as leadership, communication and problem-solving, culminating in the design and presentation of their future school. The final showcase event will take place on April 27th and project outcomes will be available for parents and carers to view during the year 8 parent/carer evening on that same date.

This project is another excellent example of authentic learning in action, and we are really looking forward to seeing the innovative ideas our pupils produce.



Congratulations to our Year 11 pupils

On Thursday, many of our Year 11 pupils collected their GCSE Mathematics/Numeracy and English Language results. They worked extremely hard and fully deserve the excellent outcomes they achieved. We are very proud of each and every one of them.

Our new Family Engagement Officer and Attendance Officer

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce two new members of staff. Miss Kira Jackson has joined us as our Family Engagement Officer, and Mrs Irene Brown has taken up the role of Attendance Officer. Kira joins us from Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Edern in Cardiff, bringing valuable experience to the school. Irene has been a valued member of our staff for many years and is now moving from our Enys Pupil Support Centre to join the attendance team. We are very much looking forward to seeing both colleagues develop and thrive in their new roles.



ClassCharts Superstars

Once again, we're incredibly proud of all our pupils this week, with a fantastic number of positive ClassCharts points awarded across every year group. It's been wonderful to see so many pupils recognised for their hard work, positive attitude, and contributions to school life. A special congratulations goes to our **ClassCharts Superstars**—the pupils who earned the highest number of points this week. Well done to each of you for setting such a brilliant example!

Year 7 ★

Zac Coope, Lexi Williams and Noah Davies

Year 8 ★

Ellie-May Scott, Taylor Denty and Kye Elliston

Year 9 ★

Conner Robson, Joshua Carsley and Georgina Holden

Year 10 ★

Gwen Hart, Mason Yates-Hand and Natalia John

Year 11 ★

Tilly Howells, Seren Stokes-Jones and Thomas Griffiths

Notices:

1. Year 9 Parent/Carer Evening – Monday, 19th January. You will have the opportunity to speak with your child's teachers about the progress they are making and option choices. There is also an options talk in the hall at 4pm and repeated at 5pm. The booking system is now live. For the option subjects, selected members of the subject will be available for you to speak to. The link to book is below and has been sent out on ClassCharts:
[SchoolCloud - Llangatwg Community School](#)
2. **Year 11 Science Practical examinations: January 10th – 28th – please ensure your son/daughter attends school during this period as these examinations count towards their final GCSE grade!**
3. **Year 10 English group Discussions: January 14th – 23rd – please ensure your son/daughter attends school during this period as these examinations count towards their final GCSE grade!**
4. **Uniform Reminder:** All pupils are expected to arrive at school in full and correct school uniform. If this is not the case, you will be contacted and asked to bring the appropriate uniform to school. Uniform expectations are as follows:
 - Plain white polo shirt (with or without the school badge).
 - Green V-neck or round-neck jumper with the school badge.
 - Plain black trousers, long length plain black shorts or thick black leggings (no motifs). Skirts may also be worn.
 - Plain black school shoes or plain black trainers.
 - Coats of any colour can be worn around the school site but must be removed in class.
 - *Note:* Hoodies are not permitted.

Uniform Supplier: Branded uniform can be purchased from Sportec (opposite Dŵr-y-Felin School) or online via:

👉 <https://www.sportec.co.uk/products/school-uniform-shop/secondary-schools>

5. **Facebook page:** If you haven't already done so, please follow us on Facebook by searching for Llangatwg Community School:



We'll be using this page to celebrate our pupils' achievements both in and outside of school. If your son or daughter has accomplished something special outside of school—whether in sports, the arts, volunteering, or any other area—we'd love to hear about it! Please feel free to get in touch and share their story. We always enjoy celebrating the successes of our pupils and showcasing their talents.

Thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes,

Lauren Mackie
Headteacher
Llangatwg Community School

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