Monday 13th July – Week 1

Key Dates & Information

INSET Days	20/07/2026, 01/09/2026, 02/09/2026
School Trip day	14/07/26
Last day of term	17/17/26 (**12.30pm finish)**
GCSE results day	20/08/26 arrive from 8.30am
Return to school Y7 and Y11	03/09/26
All pupils return to school	04/09/26

Important Links

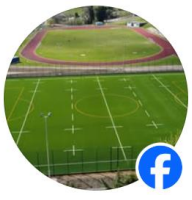
Extra-Curricular activities	Brynmawr Foundation School - Extra Curricular
ParentPay	ParentPay
School Menu	Brynmawr Foundation School - School Catering
Classcharts	Access pupil details
School Cloud	SchoolCloud - Brynmawr Foundation School
Neurodiversity Support Hub	Home - Neurodiversity Gwent

Reminders for the week ahead

Free pupil breakfast	Breakfast is available to all pupils before school. Please encourage pupils to take advantage of this.
Attendance	Full attendance is expected. If your child is absent please call the absence line or leave a message on Classcharts before 9.30am.
Unwell pupils	If your child becomes unwell during the school day please remind them to follow school protocol and inform pupil services before contacting home themselves.

What have we been up to….?

BFS



PE

Humanities

ALN

Resource Base

Technology

Headteacher Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Congratulations to our Y7 Debate Team; this week they won the BG 2026 debating competition. They were described as "articulate critical thinkers, well informed, considerate, open minded and respectful of each other". Well done, great achievement.

Due to the continuing hot weather next week, all pupils are authorised to wear their PE kits. Next week, we have our rewards trip on Tuesday and BrynTrek on Friday. School will close at 12:30pm on Friday 17 July for the summer holidays.

As we begin the final week of the academic year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a year of outstanding work, progress and many memorable achievements across BFS. I have been incredibly proud of the resilience, ambition and determination demonstrated by our young people, whether in their learning, on the sports field, through the arts or in the many opportunities that allow them to grow and shine. This final week is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate these successes and recognise the many people who make Brynmawr such a special place. I would like to thank our pupils, staff, governors, parents and carers for the kindness, encouragement and partnership you have shown throughout the year.

As I prepare to leave the school, I want to personally thank everyone who has made my time as Headteacher so rewarding. I have been fortunate to work alongside such dedicated staff, inspiring young people and a community that cares deeply about its school. I will leave with many happy memories, a great sense of pride in what has been achieved and complete confidence in the continued success of BFS. Thank you for welcoming me into the Brynmawr community and for allowing me to be part of your journey. I wish the entire school community every happiness and success for the future.

I hope all our families enjoy a well-deserved summer break, taking time to relax, recharge and enjoy precious moments together.

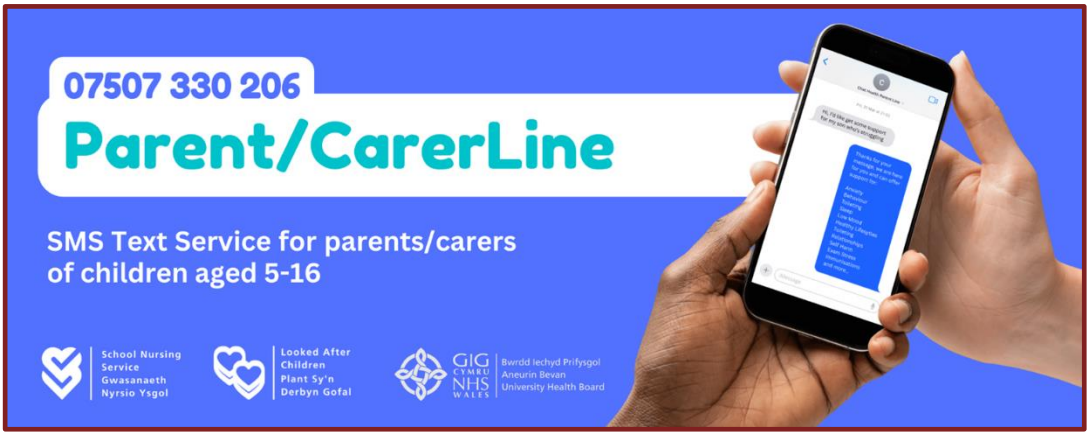
Brynmawr will always have a place in my heart.

Gerard McNamara
Headteacher

Attendance

Weekly Attendance Figures 29th June 2026

	This Week Girls	This Week Boys	**2025-26 Girls**	**2025-26 Boys**	2024-2025 Girls	2024–2025 Boys
Year 7	91.6%	96.5%	92.9%	93.3%	91.1%	90.8%
Year 8	86.4%	92.7%	90.3%	91.3%	87.9%	91.4%
Year 9	78.7%	86.9%	85.5%	91.8%	85.8%	89.2%
Year 10	85.5%	80.2%	88.5%	89.9%	85.3%	87.7%
Year 11						
Total	86.1%	89.2%	89.7%	91.6%	87.7%	89.9%



House Points 2025-2026

54344 points

54228 points

51407 points

This is already our last meeting of the **Pi Squad Maths Club** for this school year. What a fantastic year it has been, full of exciting activities, memorable meetings, and, of course, the joy of discovering the beauty of mathematics.

We wrapped up the year with a celebration and a look back at all we have achieved together.

We wish everyone a wonderful summer holiday!

Literature for the month of July

Our theme for this month is: Globetrotting

For the younger readers

In Jules Verne's 1873 classic wealthy English gentleman Phileas Fogg wagers his club members £20,000 that he can circumnavigate the globe in 80 days. Accompanied by his new valet, Passepartout, he faces numerous perilous obstacles and a bumbling detective who mistakenly suspects him of bank robbery.

A classic must-read

Marco Polo was a Venetian merchant and explorer. His voyages began in 1271 with a visit to China, after which he served Chinese Emperor Kublai Khan. He describes experiences of unfamiliar religions, customs and societies; spices and silks of the East; precious gems, exotic vegetation and wild beasts of faraway lands.

Some Non-Fiction

This follows the real life story of Beryl Markham growing up in Kenya (then British East Africa) in the early 1900s, her careers as racehorse trainer and bush pilot. She was the first woman in East Africa to be granted a commercial pilot's license, as well as the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic from east to west, the way considered far more dangerous due to the prevailing winds.

In Poetry Corner

When we got to the beach
Hollie McNish

I screamed
sprinted to the sea
flung off shoes and socks
ran towards imagined heaving waves
and jumped each tiny trickle that I found there
with just the same excitement

you stayed back
took your socks off more timidly
giggled at your stupid mother
eventually took my hand

we jumped together
and we jumped together
and we jumped together

three hours later
collapsing on our backs
we made angels in the sand

the seaside always made me
want to scream

now
with you
I can

PE ACTIVITIES: 13th – 17th July

Monday 13th July	Tuesday 14th July	Wednesday 15th July	Thursday 16th July	Friday 17th July
Boys Football: Y7 & 8 v Newbridge (A) *Pick up: 4.15pm*				

Please note: Pick up times shown for all activities are from Brynmawr Foundation School

SPORTS LUNCHTIME CLUBS 6th – 10th July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Badminton Touch Rugby		Just Dance Basketball	*No Clubs*	

Yellow activities – Boys Gym Blue activities – Girls Gym

Free School Meals

Free school meals are available to eligible learners who attend school full-time. This includes:

A pupil may be able to get free school meals if their parent receives one or more of the following:

- Income Support.
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Guaranteed element of Pension Credit.
- Universal Credit (as long as the annual net earned household income is less than £7,400, not including benefits).

You can learn more about free school meals on the Welsh Government Website

How to Apply

If you think you may be entitled to a free school meal for your child, please complete an online application below.

Apply Now

What happens next

The local authority will contact you and let the school know when your child is eligible for free school meals.

Contact Information

Name of Team: Benefits
Email: benefits@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk or telephone 01495 311556

If you need any support with applications or queries around free school meals, please contact the school on 01495 310527

SCHOOL ESSENTIALS GRANT

Who may be eligible

- Children in reception to Year 11
- Households receiving means-tested benefits
- Children who receive Free School Meals

You could get

- £125 per child
- £200 for Year 7 starters
- Extra funding for schools
- Support with school trips

To be used for

- School uniforms
- School equipment
- Digital learning
- Trips and activities

Applying for the grant **WILL NOT** affect your benefits

Getting means-tested free school meals? No need to apply!

You will **automatically** get the School Uniform Grant

A little advice can help a lot - Speak to an adviser to see if you are eligible and for help applying.
Scan the QR code to find a way that suits you

citizensadvicecbg.org.uk/schools

WE MAKE FOOTBALLERS GWENT

WE MAKE FOOTBALLERS GWENT

SUMMER FOOTBALL CAMP

HALF DAYS £14

FULL DAYS £20

21ST – 24TH JULY 2026

8:30AM – 4:30PM
DROP OFF FROM 8:30AM

BOYS & GIRLS AGED 4–14

BRYNMAWR FOUNDATION SCHOOL, NP23 4XT

WHAT TO EXPECT

- FUN & ENGAGING SESSIONS
- SKILLS, GAMES & TOURNAMENTS
- MAKE NEW FRIENDS & BUILD CONFIDENCE
- ALL ABILITIES WELCOME
- BRING WATER, SNACKS & SHIN PADS

LIMITED SPACES – BOOK NOW!

BOOK ONLINE: WEMAKEFOOTBALLERS.COM/BRYNMAWR/HOLIDAY-CAMPS

thomas@wemakefootballers.com | 07947 779921 | @wemakefootballersgwent

Staff Emails

Senior Leadership Team		
Mr McNamara	McNamaraG2@Hwbcymru.net	Headteacher
Mrs Lake	LakeS16@Hwbcymru.net	Deputy Headteacher
Mrs Price	PriceV8@Hwbcymru.net	Assistant Headteacher
Mr Edwards	edwardsp106@hwbcymru.net	Assistant Headteacher
Miss Griffiths	GriffithsJ607@Hwbcymru.net	Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Carver	CarverS5@Hwbcymru.net	Business Manager
Pastoral Leaders		
Mrs Pearce	Pearcet26@Hwbcymru.net	Year 7 and 8
Mrs Carroll	Carrollg18@Hwbcymru.net	Year 9
Ms Davies	Daviesc3287@hwbcymru.net	Year 10
Mr Hoskins	HoskinsN13@Hwbcymru.net	Year 11
ALNCO		
Mrs Ford	fords76@hwbcymru.net	ALNCO
Department Leaders		
Mrs Rees	Reesj618@hwbcymru.net	Head of Department English
Ms Pullen	Pullenj16@hwbcymru.net	Second in Department English
Mrs Twinberrow	TwinberrowT5@Hwbcymru.net	Head of Department MFL/Welsh
Mr Owen	OwenM259@Hwbcymru.net	Head of Department Humanities
Ms Hughes	HughesD272@Hwbcymru.net	Head of Department Tech/ICT
Mrs Thomas	ThomasJ1004@Hwbcymru.net	Vocational Subject Coordinator/Music
Ms Jay	JayL@Hwbcymru.net	Head of Department PE/Health and Social
Miss Flyng	FlyngE@Hwbcymru.net	Head of Department Expressive Arts
Mrs Hier	HierN7@hwbcymru.net	Head of Maths Department
Mrs Scott	scottl92@hwbcymru.net	Second in Maths Department
Ms Marasco	MarascoS6@Hwbcymru.net	Head of Science Department
Miss Powis	Powisj9@Hwbcymru.net	Science Coordinator