



COWBRIDGE SCHOOL

Education, inspiration and opportunities for life.

News for the week ending 17 February 2023

KEY DATES

20-24 Feb	<u>HALF TERM</u>
2 Mar	Y7 Parents Evening
10 Mar	Y10 reports published
15 Mar	Y8 GCSE Information Evening (4-6pm)
20 Mar	Y12 Geography Fieldwork
24 Mar	Y12 reports published
27 Mar	<u>INSET DAY School Closed for pupils</u>
29 Mar	Tyfu visit to WW1 museum Brecon
30 Mar	Y11 & Y13 mock exam results published
31 Mar	<u>End of Term</u>

Newyddion yr wythnos

Dear Parent/Carer

Here is our most up to date Newsletter.

Please see the next two pages for important information regarding the proposed industrial action

We wish all families an enjoyable weekend and half term holiday.

Cowbridge School Senior Leadership Team



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Dear Parent/Carer

Industrial Action

As previously communicated, the National Education Union (NEU) postponed the industrial action scheduled for 14 February 2023. However the NEU is now planning a further three days of industrial action this term. We will inform you as soon as possible if these details change. Further information from the NEU can be found here.

The planned dates for Industrial action in Wales are:

- Thursday 2 March 2023;
- Wednesday and Thursday, 15 and 16 March 2023.

Throughout the week, we have been working closely with our staff to ensure that we all understand the situation around this planned action and importantly, show solidarity with all staff over their right to make a personal choice. Our staff do not wish to cause disruption to the education of our pupils; however, their pay and working conditions have been eroded over the past number of years. This has led to significant issues in the recruitment and retention of teachers in many subject areas. Over the past two years, Cowbridge School has struggled to attract and appoint high calibre teachers across an increasing number of subject areas as a result of recruitment issues associated with conditions of service for teachers.

After full consideration of the numbers of staff who are members of the NEU, the Senior Team has completed a risk assessment. We have looked at the school timetable for that day and in doing so, we have tried to balance the issues of the safe supervision of large numbers of pupils given reduced staffing levels, and the need to secure the continuing education of pupils, particularly those engaged in examination courses. However, as the planned strike day is a Thursday as opposed to the Wednesday which was affected during the last strike, individual year groups will be impacted differently. Therefore, on Thursday 2 March 2023, if the action goes ahead, the following arrangements will be in place:

Open for:

- All Year 11 pupils - they will be sitting mock exams all day;
- All Sixth Form pupils;
- All pupils entitled to free school meals.

As a result of the arrangements above, the Year 11 mock exam scheduled for the morning of Tuesday 28 February (Welsh) will be moved to the afternoon of Thursday 2 March.

Continued on next page



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Industrial Action cont.

Closed to:

- All Year, 7, 8, 9, 10 (except those entitled to free school meals).

Although the school will be open on Thursday 2 March for pupils entitled to free school meals, we understand that this might cause difficulties for families. Therefore, if pupils prefer, they can obtain a packed lunch from the canteen on Wednesday 1 March to consume at home, rather than attend school on Thursday 2 March. If pupils wish to order and reserve a packed lunch they will need to do this in the school canteen at the end of their usual lunch session on Tuesday 28 February. Pupils will also need to inform the members of staff taking the orders whether they wish to have a vegetarian option and/ or have any specific food allergies.

The Year 7 Parents' Evening is scheduled for Thursday 2 March and as such will be affected by the industrial action. Year 7 parents/carers will receive a separate Parentmail communication regarding arrangements.

As outlined previously, the school is bound by a number of regulations surrounding strike action and this includes being prohibited from recruiting agency staff to replace colleagues who take part in strike action. (Section 2 Trade Union (Wales) Act 2017) Neither are we permitted to redistribute the duties of striking colleagues to non-striking colleagues. This includes the cover of, and/or preparation of work for, pupils - either in person or remotely - outside of their normal working terms.

We regret that this issue remains unresolved at national level and of the need to change our normal arrangements. It appears unlikely that the proposed industrial action will be averted but, if this were to happen, we will write to you to confirm that the school will be open as usual.

We must all hope that the issues over which the industrial action has arisen are resolved as soon as possible in the best interests of all our pupils.

As ever, thank you for your continued support and thank you in advance for your patience.

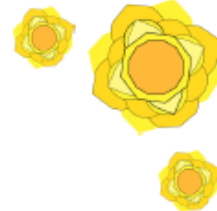
Cowbridge School Senior Leadership Team



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NSPCC
CYMRU | WALES



NSPCC St. Hilary District presents

Cowbridge Male Voice Choir

St. David's Day Concert

with performances from Cowbridge School Choir

Friday 3 March 2023

at

Cowbridge School

Aberthin Road, Cowbridge CF71 7EN

6:30pm Doors Open

7pm Start

Tickets - £10

(children under 18 free)

Parking available

Raffle and Welsh Cakes



Tickets available from:

On the door,

JRC Jewellery, 40 High Street, Cowbridge

or Fiona Curteis 01446 771108



**MAE POB PLENTYNDOD WERTH BRWYDRO DROSTO
EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR**





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Message from Art Department

We would be very grateful if parents/carers could assist by ensuring that if their child took GCSE Art & Design last academic year (2021-22) that their Art folders or sketchbooks are collected from the School by Friday 3 March.

The folders/sketchbooks can either be collected by siblings currently in school or, by arrangement, from reception. If you wish to arrange collection from reception, please email enquiries@cowbridgecs.co.uk .

Careers Wales

Please see the link below which will enable you to access updated information and resources from Careers Wales. The information and resources are designed to help parents and carers support young people in making decisions relating to careers and the world of work.

<https://careerswales.gov.wales/parents>

Nasal Flu Vaccination Walk-In Clinics

Please find attached information from the Immunisation Service regarding the nasal flu vaccination service.



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Punctuality

We would like to remind all parents/carers and pupils that morning school starts at 8.30am for registration. All pupils are expected to be in morning registration at this time unless there is a specific reason to explain the lateness/absence. Attendance during this session is compulsory.

If you are experiencing any problems in ensuring your child arrives at school on time, please contact the relevant year group achievement team.

Arrangements for pupils leaving school during the day

We fully understand that pupils may occasionally need to leave the site during the school day. This might be for medical/dental appointments or for urgent family reasons.

However, in these circumstances it is essential that members of staff in school have been informed of any need for pupils to leave site. For example, prior notice of any appointments is needed. If possible appointments should be made in time slots outside of school hours.

We would also like to remind parents/carers that pupils are not able to access or answer text messages from home during lessons. Therefore, if any essential or urgent information needs to be conveyed to a pupil, please contact the school directly and speak to or email the relevant year group achievement team.



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SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2022-25

Welsh Government has confirmed that the current academic year will be further reduced by one day to reflect the extra bank holiday for the King's Coronation on Monday 8 May 2023. Please see below and next pages the term dates 2022-2025.

This information can also be viewed on the Councils website [here](#)

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2022/2023

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2022	Mon 5 Sept 2022	Monday 31 Oct 2022	Friday 4 Nov 2022	Friday 23 Dec 2022	74
Spring 2023	Monday 9 Jan 2023	Monday 20 Feb 2023	Friday 24 Feb 2023	Friday 31 Mar 2023	55
Summer 2023	Monday 17 April 2023	Monday 29 May 2023	Friday 2 Jun 2023	*Monday 24 July 2023	64
				TOTAL	193

Mon 5 Sept 2022 and *Monday 24 July 2023 will be designated INSET days for **all** LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining four INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff. ***It is intended that this INSET Day will either be taken on Mon 24 July 2023 or at an alternative time for example in the form of twilight sessions.**

All schools will be closed on **Monday 1 May 2023** for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates:	Christmas	Sunday 25 December 2022
	Easter	Good Friday 7 April 2023 Easter Monday 10 April 2023
	May Bank Holidays	Monday 1 May 2023 Monday 29 May 2023

Extra one-off bank holidays

Queen's Funeral	Monday 19 September 2022
King's Coronation	Monday 8 May 2023



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SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2023/2024

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2023	Mon 4 Sept 2023	Monday 30 Oct 2023	Friday 3 Nov 2023	Friday 22 Dec 2023	75
Spring 2024	Monday 8 Jan 2024	Monday 12 Feb 2024	Friday 16 Feb 2024	Friday 22 Mar 2024	50
Summer 2024	Monday 8 April 2024	Monday 27 May 2024	Friday 31 May 2024	*Monday 22 July 2024	70
TOTAL					195

Mon 4 Sept 2023 and *Monday 22 July 2024 will be designated INSET days for all LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining four INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff. ***It is intended that this INSET Day will either be taken on Mon 22 July 2024 or at an alternative time for example in the form of twilight sessions.**

All schools will be closed on Monday 6 May 2024 for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates: Christmas	Monday 25 December 2023
Easter	Good Friday 29 March 2024 Easter Monday 1 April 2024
May Bank Holidays	Monday 6 May 2024 Monday 27 May 2024



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SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2024/2025

Term	Begin	Half term		End	No. of School Days
		Begin	End		
Autumn 2024	Mon 2 Sept 2024	Monday 38 Oct 2024	Friday 1 Nov 2024	Friday 20 Dec 2024	75
Spring 2025	Monday 6 Jan 2025	Monday 24 Feb 2025	Friday 28 Feb 2025	Friday 11 Apr 2025	65
Summer 2025	Monday 28 April 2025	Monday 26 May 2025	Friday 30 May 2025	*Monday 21 July 2025	55
				TOTAL	195

Mon 2 Sept 2024 and *Monday 21 July 2025 will be designated INSET days for all LEA Maintained Schools. The remaining four INSET days to be taken will be at the discretion of each individual school following appropriate consultation with staff. ***It is intended that this INSET Day will either be taken on Mon 21 July 2025 or at an alternative time for example in the form of twilight sessions.**

All schools will be closed on Monday 5 May 2025 for the May Day Bank Holiday.

Significant dates: Christmas	Wednesday 25 December 2024
Easter	Good Friday 18 April 2025 Easter Monday 21 April 2025
May Bank Holidays	Monday 5 May 2025 Monday 26 May 2025



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CLWB CLONC/CHAT CLUB (YEAR 11)

The Welsh Department has organised an opportunity for Year 11 pupils practise their spoken Welsh in a relaxing and fun environment in preparation for speaking exams and to improve fluency and confidence.

The club will be running:

Week 1 - Friday Lunch (B1B)

Week 2 - Tuesday Lunch (B1B)

CLWB CLONC

**CHAT & PRACTISE YOUR WELSH LANGUAGE SKILLS
LUNCH WEEK 1 (FRIDAY) & WEEK 2 (TUESDAY)**





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Music Extra-Curricular Activities 2022-2023

	A1C	A1I	A1D	<i>Afterschool rehearsals</i>
Monday	Ukulele Group 8:20 - 8:50	Senior Jazz Group 8:20 - 8:50	Flute Group 8:20 - 8:50	<i>Sixth form Acapella Group</i>
Tuesday	Concert Band 8:20 - 8:50	Junior Jazz Group 8:20 - 8:50		<i>School Musical A1C / Main Hall</i>
Wednesday	KS3 Vocal Group (Year 7, 8, 9) 8:20 - 8:50	String Group 8:20 - 8:50		<i>Big Band A1C</i>
Thursday	Senior Orchestra 8:20 - 8:50	Junior Orchestra 8:20 - 8:50		<i>School Musical A1C / Main Hall</i>
Friday	KS4/KS5 Vocal Group 8:20 - 8:50			

PE Extra Curricular Clubs

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Registration 8.30 -8.55am			Y7-13 Girls & Boys Running Club		
Lunchtime 12.15-12.45			Y7 Netball		
After School 3-4pm <i>**You will need to arrange transport home at 4pm</i>	Y9-13 Senior Hockey Y10 &11 Rugby Y8 Rugby Y7 Boys Football Fixtures	Open Netball Y7 Rugby Y9 &10 Football Y8&9 Netball Fixtures	Y10-13 Senior Netball Y7&8 Hockey Fixtures	Y8 Boys Football Y7&8 Girls Football Y9 Rugby Archery Fixtures	Y11-13 Senior Football

A register of pupils will be taken every session. More clubs to be added soon!

NB. This does not include additional information regarding specific fixture details. These will be advertised on the PE notice boards.



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Clwb Cymraeg (Welsh Club)

The Clwb Cymraeg (Welsh Club) is an exciting opportunity for pupils in Year 7 to learn and practice Welsh skills. The club is run by the Welsh Department in collaboration with the Urdd and held in B1B at lunchtime on Thursdays Week 1

CLWB CYMRAEG

Cyfle i wneud gweithgareddau a chwarae gemau tra'n ceisio dysgu a siarad mwy o Gymraeg!!

An opportunity to do activities and play games while trying to learn and speak more Welsh!!

Pryd | When?

Amser cinio ar Ddydd Iau (Wythnos 1)

Lunch time on Thursdays (Week 1)

Pwy? | Who?

Disgyblion Blwyddyn 7

Year 7 Pupils

Ble? | Where?

Ystafell B1B | Room B1B



Gwybodaeth | Info:
heleddllewelyn@urdd.org



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a Chymuned

100
1922 - 2022



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STARTS TUESDAY 4TH OCTOBER

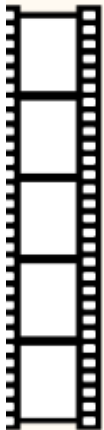
YEARS 7 AND 8

FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM CLUB

WATCH FRENCH, GERMAN, SPANISH AND ITALIAN FILMS

IN B2E @ 12:30 ON TUESDAYS

YOU CAN BRING A PACKED LUNCH WITH
YOU, OR A LIMITED NUMBER OF EARLY
LUNCH PASSES ARE AVAILABLE FROM
B2E AT BREAKTIME ON THE DAY



FLU VACCINATION WALK-IN CLINICS

Flu continues to circulate in Wales

If your child has missed the nasal spray flu vaccine in school or at the GP practice it is now being offered at:

Woodland House Mass Vaccination Centre

Maes Y Coed Road, Cardiff CF14 4HH

Monday to Sunday 10:00 – 18:30 until 31st March 2023

The injectable flu vaccines that do not contain pork gelatine are also being offered

Who's Eligible?

All children aged 2 years (aged 2 on 31st Aug 2022) to school age Year 11 within Cardiff and the Vale



**Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives**

CLINIGAU GALW HEIBIO BRECHU RHAG Y FFLIW

Mae'r ffliw yn parhau i gylchredeg yng Nghymru

Os yw eich plentyn wedi colli'r brechlyn ffliw chwistrell trwyn yn yr ysgol neu yn y feddygfa mae bellach yn cael ei gynnig yn:

Canolfan Brechu Torfol Tŷ Coetir

Ffordd Maes-y-Coed ,Caerdydd CF14 4HH

Llun i Sul 10:00 – 18:30 tan 31ain o Fawrth 2023

Mae'r brechlynnau ffliw chwistrelladwy sydd ddim yn cynnwys gelatin porc hefyd yn cael eu cynnig

Pwy sy'n gymwys?

Pob plentyn 2 oed (2 oed ar 31ain Awst 2022) i oedran ysgol Blwyddyn 11 o fewn Caerdydd a'r Fro



**Mae Brechu yn achub bywydau
Vaccination saves lives**