



Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pontybrenin

Heol Casllwchwr, Gorseinon, Abertawe, SA4 6AU

Ffôn / Tel: 01792 894210

E-bost / E-Mail: ygg.pontybrenin@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

Gwefan / Website: www.yggpontybrenin.com

Trydar / Twitter: @PontybreninYGG

30/09/16

Parent / Guardian Questionnaires - September 2016

Thank you to all those of you who responded to the recent questionnaires that were distributed. In order for the school to continue to improve, all members of the school community need to share their views as to what we are doing well, and perhaps more importantly, which areas we need to improve on going forward. We received 68 completed questionnaires in total, which represents approximately 14% of our pupils. This is a disappointing response overall and I would ask that if you didn't complete a questionnaire this time, please take a moment to do so next time.

A wide variety of issues were raised, with many aspects to celebrate along with a number of areas for development that will be addressed over the coming year. Here is a summary of the main points:

What we do well

- The majority of respondents stated that the school has a warm and welcoming environment where both parents and pupils feel comfortable;
- Many of you felt that the school's staff know your child very well and can easily be approached to discuss issues of concern;
- The staff in the school's office are very helpful and approachable and are always ready to offer support when needed;
- Perhaps most importantly of all, the vast majority of you wrote that your child is very happy at Ysgol Gymraeg Pontybrenin. As a school we pride ourselves on providing a happy, safe and supportive environment for all our pupils, and when this is accomplished, pupils achieve their full potential.

Areas where we can improve

- A great many of you noted that the school has far too many pupils considering the size of the site and that we should lower the number of pupils we accept every year. As much as I would agree that the school is packed to the rafters, it is the City & County of Swansea who are the admitting authority and they alone are responsible for admitting pupils. The intake number for Ysgol Gymraeg Pontybrenin, which currently stands at 67 per year, is based on the square footage of the available classrooms within the school. However, this is often exceeded, as every parent has the right to access Welsh medium education for their child at a school within a "reasonable distance" to their home. We will continue to work with the Local Authority to address the issue of overcrowding at the school;

Pennaeth / Headteacher: Mr Ceri Scourfield

Dirprwy / Deputy headteacher: Miss Elen Jones





Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Pontybrenin

Heol Casllwchwr, Gorseinon, Abertawe, SA4 6AU

Ffôn / Tel: 01792 894210

E-bost / E-Mail: ygg.pontybrenin@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

Gwefan / Website: www.yggpontybrenin.com

Trydar / Twitter: @PontybreninYGG

- Many of you raised concerns as to the poor state of the Junior's toilets. I wholeheartedly agree that they are not to the standard they should be and a number of pupils have also raised the same concerns already this term. This is certainly a priority for us as a school and we will be working closely with the School Council over the coming weeks in order to collect their views on the design and colour schemes for the refurbishment of the toilets, which will be actioned soon;
- A number of working parents noted that they find it difficult to attend Parents Evenings when the final appointments are set relatively early. This concern has already been taken on board, with this term's Parents Evenings running from 3.30pm until 7.00pm;
- The constant issue of traffic congestion and parking remains a huge concern for many of you, as it is for the school. We continue to work with the local authority and various other agencies to resolve the situation but as you can appreciate, there is no easy answer. We will relook at the use of the turning circle in the coming weeks and attempt to find a solution that alleviates some of the pressure on those who transport their children to school;
- Many of you wrote that you liked the 'Class Dojo' communication app that was trialled last year by two classes and wondered whether this would be expanded this year. Whilst I agree that communication between the school and home is vitally important, the 'class dojo' app was very time consuming for staff and ate into valuable planning and preparation time. However, we have developed new Home / School Link Books that will allow parents to communicate with staff, and vice versa, which will be issued to you in the coming weeks;

We will try our very best to address the issues you have raised in these questionnaires, and I do hope that you will notice further improvements to the school in the coming months. However, if you have any further comments or suggestions to make, or would like to expand on a comment made in the questionnaires, then please do contact me at the school to discuss these further. Although we do strive to be the best we can be, we aren't perfect, but with your continued support and input, we can continue to move the school forward together.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Ceri Scourfield
Headteacher

Pennaeth / Headteacher: Mr Ceri Scourfield

Dirprwy / Deputy headteacher: Miss Elen Jones

