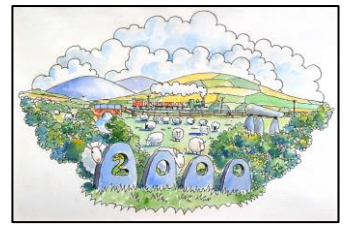


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Pennaeth/Headteacher: Mrs Amanda Lawrence



Prynhawn Da,

Rwy'n gobeithio bod pawb yn eich teuluoedd yn iach. Rwy'n siŵr bod chi gyd wedi clywed y cyhoeddiad heddiw yn esbonio sut y bydd y 3 wythnos nesaf yn edrych. Cyn gynted ag y bydd gennym gynllun cadarn ar waith, byddaf yn rhoi gwybod ichi.

Dyma'r darnau bwysicaf o ran addysg i chi isod:

- *Gallai'r disgyblion ieuengaf yng Nghymru ddechrau dychwelyd i'r ysgol ar ôl hanner tymor mis Chwefror os bydd cyfraddau coronafeirws yn parhau i ostwng.*

- *Os bydd trosglwyddo covid yn parhau i ostwng, bydd disgyblion yn dechrau dychwelyd i'r ysgol fesul cam o 22 Chwefror, gan ddechrau gyda'n dysgwyr ieuengaf. Mae dysgwyr sy'n astudio cymwysterau galwedigaethol wedi'u nodi fel y grŵp blaenoriaeth ar gyfer dychwelyd i golegau fesul cam.*

Yn y cyfamser, wrth i ni anelu tuag at hanner tymor, a gaf eich atgoffa o'ch negeseuon rhannais gyda chi yn ôl yn gynnar ym mis Ebrill y llynedd:

"Nid ydym yn disgwyl ichi redeg Ysgol Casmael o'ch cegin! Pan mae'r disgyblion yn treulio eu diwrnod gyda ni, maen nhw'n cymryd rhan mewn cofrestru, gwasaneth, amser chwarae, cael cinio, chwarae ar yr iard. Maen nhw'n mynd i'r cyntedd, i'r ystafell porffor i gael amser tawel, i'r neuadd, ac yn siarad o dan y canopi. Yn ystod eu gwersi arferol mae ein disgyblion yn gwneud gwaith pâr, gwaith grŵp, trafodaethau a gweithgareddau rhyngweithiol yn erbyn gweddill y dosbarth. Maen nhw'n cael trafodaethau dosbarth, maen nhw'n meddwl am atebion dosbarth cyfan i ddatrys heriau. Mewn rhai gwersi maen nhw'n perfformio cerddoriaeth a drama gyda'u

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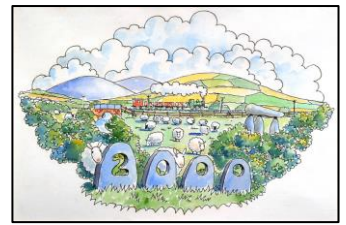
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cyfoedion, yn creu rhywfaint o gelf neu'n gweithio y tu allan. Maent yn cael cyngor gan eu hathrawon. Bob hyn a hyn, maen nhw'n gwneud rhai tasgau unigol, mewn distawrwydd, ar eu pennau eu hunain. Yr unig bethau rydyn ni wedi gallu eu hanfon adref yw'r tasgau unigol hyn. Nid yw'r cyfyngiadau ar hyn o bryd yn caniatáu llawer mwy. Ni allwn anfon cyfoedion, athrawon a gwaith grŵp i'ch tŷ! Felly, heb hyn i gyd, mae'n ddigon posib y bydd eich plentyn yn gweithio trwy'r tasgau yn gyflym iawn. Hefyd, heb gefnogaeth cymheiriaid a mewnbwn athrawon, efallai y bydd eich plentyn yn ei chael hi'n anodd i gwblhau'r tasgau dyddiol o gwbl. Mae angen iddyn nhw wneud yr hyn sy'n bosib.

Mae'n bwysig i'ch plentyn roi cynnig ar dasgau, er mwyn meithrin rhywfaint o ddyflbarhad ac annibyniaeth. Ar hyn o bryd efallai na fydd hynny'n bosibl, ac efallai nid dyna'r flaenoriaeth. Gofynnwch iddyn nhw geisio, dyma'r gorau y gallwch chi ei wneud.

Mae'n amhosibl ailadrodd diwrnod Ysgol Casmael "normal" gartref. Cyn belled â bod pawb yn y tŷ yn ffit ac yn iach, dyna beth yw'r peth pwysicach. Efallai bod eich normal fel teulu yn normal arafach, yn dawelach, yn normal mwy creadigol. Neu gall fod yn normal mwy prysur, yn normal mwy swnllyd, yn normal anniben, yn normal rhwystredig, yn enwedig os oes gennych blant bach yn y tŷ, neu os ydych chi'n ceisio gwneud eich gwaith eich hun o gartref. Mae angen i chi ceisio mwynhau eich "normal" yma. Nid ydych chi am edrych yn ôl ar bandemig 2020/21 a dim ond cofio'r dadleuon teuluol!

Mae'n amhosibl gosod y swm cywir o waith i bawb. Mae staff wedi ymdrechu'n galed iawn i osod gwaith o bell i'n disgyblion. Rydym wedi ceisio ein gorau. Mewn gwerau arferol, mae'ch plentyn yn gwneud amrywiaeth o dasgau, ac mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn cynnwys pobl eraill. Nid yw hyn yn bosibl gartref. Felly, nid ydym byth yn mynd i

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ennill fan hyn. Mae rhai rhieni eisiau mwy o waith, oherwydd bod rhai plant yn gorffen popeth rhwng 8 ac 8:30 y.b. Mae rhai rhieni eisiau llai, oherwydd bod eu plant eisiau aros yn y gwely pob bore ac eisiau gwneud y lleiafswm. Mae rhai disgyblion yn ei chael hi'n anodd, mae rhai disgyblion yn lapio'r profiadau newydd yma i fyny!

Rwy'n siŵr bod gan lawer ohonoch bryderon ynglyn ag amser sgrin. Y gwir yw, rwy'n siwr bod ein plant i gyd yn treulio mwy o amser o flaen sgrinar hyn o bryd. Oes ots? Mae'n dibynnu. Os mae'r amser sgrin yn cynnwys cwblhau gwaith, teipio stori, gwneud rhai cwisiau ar-lein, gwylio S4C, gwylio Joe Wicks, gweithio ar Lexia, neu wneud rhywfaint o waith digidol ar J2E, yna dwi'n siwr bod hynny'n iawn. Os yw'n 12 awr y dydd yn chwarae ar Xbox tan 2 y bore, yna, ni fydd hynny byth yn iawn! Gosodwch y rheolau, cytunwch ar amseroedd penodol ar gyfer amser sgrin. Peidiwch defnyddio dyfeisiadau digidol amser cinio, rhowch y dyfeisiau digidol i gadw dros nos. Trowch y wif i ffwrdd! Gwnewch eich gorau."

Wythnos nesaf byddwn yn darparu tasgau Llythrennedd a Rhifedd pellach i'r disgyblion, mae ganddyn nhw eisoes set o heriau i'w cwblhau erbyn dydd Gwener nesaf. Os gallwn geisio ein gorau i sicrhau bod bron popeth wedi'i wneud erbyn dydd Gwener nesaf y 5ed, yna efallai y bydd yr wythnos cyn hanner tymor yn cynnwys math "gwahanol" o ddysgu.

Diolch i chi i gyd am fod mor gefnogol i'n disgyblion yn eu hymdrechion i ymdopi â dysgu ar-lein.

Arhoswch yn ddiogel os gwelwch yn dda,

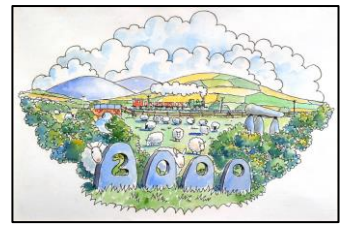
Amanda Lawrence.

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Good afternoon,

I hope this email finds you well. I'm sure you have heard the announcement today which applies to the how the next 3 weeks will look, as soon as we have a firm plan in place I will let you know.

The two most important parts of the statement with regards to education have been copied for you below.

- *The youngest pupils in Wales could begin returning to school after the February half-term if rates of coronavirus continue to fall.*
- *If the transmission of covid continues to decline, pupils will start returning to school in a phased way from 22nd February, beginning with our youngest learners. Learners studying vocational qualifications have been identified as the priority group for the phased return to colleges.*

In the meantime, as we head towards half term, please can I remind you of my messages to you back in early April last year:

"We don't expect you to run Ysgol Casmael from your kitchen. When pupils spend their day at with us, they take part in registration, assembly, have a break, have lunch, play on the yard. They go to the porches, to the ystafell porffor for quiet time, to the hall and hang out under the canopy.

During their usual lessons our pupils do pair work, group work, discussions and interactive activities against the rest of the class. They have class discussions, they think of whole-class solutions to tasks. In some lessons they perform music and drama with their peers, create some art or work outside. They seek advice from their

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teachers. Every now and then, they do some individual tasks, in silence, on their own.

The only things we have been able to send home are these individual tasks. The lockdown and its restrictions don't allow much else. We cannot send peers, teachers and group work along to your house. Therefore, without distractions and peers, your child may well work through the daily tasks very quickly. Also, without peer support and teacher input, your child may struggle to complete the daily tasks at all. They need to do what is possible.

It is important for your child to attempt tasks, in order to build up some resilience and independence. At the moment that may not be possible, and it may not be the priority. Ask them to try, it's the best you can do.

We know that the vast majority of our parents don't speak Welsh. When you made the decision to educate your child through the medium of Welsh, you hardly thought that one day your child would be educated in Welsh from your kitchen or lounge, due to a pandemic lockdown, with you having to try and support a Welsh-medium curriculum.

This is why we have tried to keep tasks as straightforward as possible. It's important that pupils have as much contact as possible with the Welsh language while they are away from school, make use of online resources or watch S4C. Please encourage your children to stay in close contact with the Welsh language as this will help in the long run.

Replicating a "normal" Ysgol Casmael day at home is impossible. As long as everyone in the house is fit and healthy, then that is what matters most. Your new family normal may possibly be a slower

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normal, a quieter normal, a chattier normal, a more creative normal. Or it may be a more hectic normal, a noisier normal, a messy normal, a frustrating normal, especially if you have small children in the house, or you're trying to do your own work from home. You need to try to enjoy your "normal". You don't want to look back at the 2020/21 pandemic and only remember the family arguments. Setting the correct amount of work for everyone is impossible. Staff have tried very hard to set distance work for our pupils. In a normal lesson, your child does a variety of tasks, most of which involve other people. This is not possible at home. Therefore, we are never going to win this one. Some parents want more work, because their child finishes everything between 8 and 8:30am. Some parents want less, because their children want a lie in and want to do the minimum. Some pupils are struggling, some pupils are lapping it up.

I'm sure many of you have concerns over screen time. The truth is, all our children have gone through a period of increased screen time. Does it matter? It depends. If it's screen time completing work, typing a story, doing some online quizzes, watching S4C, watching Joe Wicks, taking part in our weekly PE sessions on Flipgrid, working on Lexia, or doing some digital tasks on J2E, then that's probably fine.

If it's 12 hours a day playing on an Xbox until 2am, then that is never going to be fine. Set the parameters, agree on set times, ban everything digital at mealtimes, confiscate digital devices over night. Switch off the wifi! Try your best."

Next week we will provide further Literacy and Numeracy tasks for the pupils, they already have a set of challenges to complete by next Friday. If we can try our best to get nearly everything done by next



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Friday 5th, then maybe the week before half term will involve a "different" kind of learning.

Thank you all for being so supportive of our pupils in their efforts to cope with online learning.

Please stay safe,

Amanda Lawrence.

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