



Jingle bells Jingle bells

Maesteg Christmas Edition



Dear Parents, Guardians and Students / Annwyl Rieni, Gwarchodwyr a Myfyrwyr

This will be my final roundup of 2020. Ordinarily, this would be a fitting time to back and reflect fondly on the year that has been. On this occasion, looking back on 2020 does not immediately elicit a warm and fuzzy glow. But out of crisis has come community spirit, innovation, and resilience.

In response to the pandemic, we have made changes that have shaped the landscape of how we learn, interact with our schooling and each other. The blended learning approach we are now accustomed too will no doubt be with us long after the pandemic has passed - supporting you through this and your next stage in education.

The time has now come for you to take a much-deserved break. We will return in January with a new determination and a continued resilience to face whatever challenges still lay ahead together.

In this final newsletter of 2020, I have shared with you some important information and highlights from the last half term.

Thank you/Diolch



Christmas & Community Spirit

A huge thank you to the @MaestegSix student body led by the Senior Prefect Team, who have this term been extremely busy supporting local and national charities. Their hard work and community spirit has ensured that the children in our community will be supported this Christmas.

Working alongside the Maesteg Special Families Charity here in Maesteg the Senior Prefect team orchestrated a huge community collection called 'Our Children in Need 2020'. The response and generosity of the pupils, parents and families of Maesteg School was overwhelming and soon countless boxes of food and essential goods were delivered to the charity ready to be distributed to families this Christmas.

Thank you to all who donated.



Welsh Bacc update, December 2020

Year 12, we are proud of how you have conducted yourselves during the Global Challenge. Your tutors enjoyed hearing all your opinions on your chosen global issues and there were some really excellent ideas and suggestions put forward on a range of topics such as Global warming, consumerism, the use of drones and the rights of refugees. Please make sure that you have emailed all your global work to your teacher for it to be marked. We have now begun the Enterprise and Employability Challenge. You should have completed your pen portraits and be working on the research for 2 career pathways. This research should be finished before we come back to school in January.

Year 13, it has been a strange start to the year - trying to catch up on work started last year and getting all the Enterprise work ready to be sent off. If you are still to complete certain elements of this challenge, please complete this as a matter of urgency! See your emails for updates or check with your teacher. You should now all be working on your individual projects. These will be completed and marked in January. Please do as much of this work as possible now, that will leave you more time later in the term to concentrate on subjects with final exams (albeit, internal exams)

I cannot stress enough to all of you how important it is to check your emails daily and to keep in touch with your teachers. We cannot help if we don't know what you are struggling with. Communication is of utmost importance, particularly at the moment.

Let's work together to keep the results for KS5 Welsh Baccalaureate the best they have ever been!!

Jingle all the way



Have yourself a ...

YSGOL MAESTEG



Maesteg Christmas Edition

UCAS

Over the last few weeks, we have seen much success from those of you who have made your applications to your chosen universities. The offers are rolling in fast from the universities with successful places being offered in English Literature, Creative writing, primary school studies, Forensic science, Biomedicine, Sports Therapy modern language and many more.

There is still time to make your application. The Closing date for UCAS applications is Friday 15th January 6pm

Upcoming Events 2021



Network75

The Degree apprenticeship programme from University of South Wales. Network75 is a combined work placement and part-time study route to a degree allowing students to Work, Earn and Learn! Network75 Trainees are able to apply their academic

knowledge to real-life work within their host company gaining the necessary skills, experience and qualifications that are highly sought after by industry.

Darren Macey from the Network75 will be joining us for an online introduction to the course and answer all your questions on this exciting opportunity. For more information visit <https://network75.southwales.ac.uk/>



Gyrfa Cymru
Careers Wales

The Apprentice Workshop

Run in conjunction with Careers Wales, Natalie Baker our CW advisor, will be running an apprenticeship workshop that will help support you in your search for apprenticeships/employment. Appointments can be made directly with Natalie in school if you wish to meet her on an individual basis: natalie.baker@careerswales.gov.wales

Health & Wellbeing

It is important that over the coming weeks you take the time to relax and recharge. Look after yourself during the Christmas period and do the things you enjoy with the people you love. The link below can be accessed to support Mental health and why not try keeping yourself active with one of my Christmas workouts



@MaestegSix @MaestegSchool

Merry little Christmas

Health & Wellbeing



1. Oh, Christmas Tree!

Complete the exercises starting at the top of the tree and working your way down - Fancy a challenge? What you get to the bottom, work your way back up to the top.



2. Rudolph the Red Nose and Faced workout

This workout can be done by the whole family. Listen out for the buzzwords and perform the exercise when you hear it - Jog or dance on the spot between each exercise.



<https://www.mind.org.uk/need-urgent-help/>

student
minds

<https://www.studentminds.org.uk/lookingafteryourmentalwellbeing.html>



- Samaritans. To talk about anything that is upsetting you, you can contact Samaritans 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can call 116 123 (free from any phone), email jo@samaritans.org or visit some branches in person. You can also call the Samaritans Welsh Language Line on 0808 164 0123 (7pm-11pm every day)