

YSGOL BRYN ALYN GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT TO PARENTS



**Annual General Meeting—Thursday 3rd April 2014
in the school library
at 6 PM**

**We hope that as many parents as
possible will attend**

AGENDA

- **Welcome from Mrs L. Thorpe, Chair of Governors**
- **Apologies**
- **Discussion regarding Governors' summary report**
- **Opportunity for questions and suggestions from parents**
- **Any Other Business**

**This is a summary of the full report
If you would like a full copy please contact the
school**

Letter from Mrs L. Thorpe, Chair of Governors:

Dear Parents / Carers

In the Autumn term I had the privilege of being re-elected as Chair of the Governing Body for the second year. Since I wrote to you last year, the Governing Body has worked closely with the Head and the Senior Leadership Team, particularly to ensure that the recommendations from the Estyn inspection have been implemented. When the Inspection Team revisited the school I was involved in a detailed, challenging interview which covered a wide range of issues. I was really surprised at the depth of questioning given that the inspectors had been in the school for a relatively short space of time, so I was confident that they were going to make an informed decision at the end of their visit. When they recommended that the school was removed from Estyn monitoring I felt that this was a huge step forward for the school, whilst recognising that actually it was just the next step on the school's plan for continued improvement.

As a Governing Body we have the challenge of meeting the newly introduced statutory training requirements introduced by the Welsh Government to improve the work of the Governing Body in coming months. As Chair of Governors I try to visit the school on a weekly basis—I often accompany the Head when he conducts an unplanned walk around the school to observe standards of behaviour and to be aware of the school environment in general. As a parent, I am assured that the school always presents an orderly, business like environment.

As we now look forward to future plans, I am pleased that we will work jointly with the Local Authority to monitor the progress of the school. I will be pleased to welcome you at the Annual General Meeting for parents.

Yours faithfully

Liz Thorpe

NAME	POSITION
Alison Ackerley	Parent Governor
Martyn Davies	Parent Governor
Teresa Sides	Parent Governor
Liz Thorpe	Parent Governor / Chair
Darryl Wright	Parent Governor
David Edwards	Parent Governor
David John Griffiths	LEA
David Arthur Jones	LEA / Vice Chair
Bernard Malcolm McCann	LEA
Kathleen Roberts	LEA
Michael Williams	LEA
Mary Lee	Teacher Governor
Sarah Hennessey	Teacher Governor
Wendy Bryan	Staff Governor
Nigel Pilsbury	Community Governor
David Collins	Community Governor
Brent Evans	Community Governor
Vacant	Community Governor

Secretary—Lisa Evans

The Chair of Governors can be contacted via the school

Comparative Data

Please see the four pages included in this report, which compares the school's results with others in the country and in Wales generally.

For further information, please visit:
<http://mylocalschool.wales.gov.uk>

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Governors were generally pleased with the KS3 results for the school, which were broadly in line with other schools like ours. We were pleased with KS4 results in general, however performance remains a priority within Ysgol Bryn Alyn. The focus on performance includes a strategy for exam entry and resits. We have listened to the school's plans and targets for the present year 11 cohort and are confident that our pupils will have every opportunity to succeed at Ysgol Bryn Alyn.

Here is a summary of the plans to improve learner outcomes at KS4 that have been agreed by Governors:

- Maintain the 92% pupil attendance target set by WAG. This will be achieved by close monitoring of attendance patterns by achievement coordinators supported by our Home School Liaison Officer and Education Social Worker.
- All staff in school are rigorously involved in monitoring and tracking pupils, so that every effort is made to help pupils achieve their target grade. Teachers will continue to offer twilight sessions for catch-up, and offer revision sessions in the half term holidays and Easter break leading up to external examinations. We are very grateful for the hard work and dedication shown by members of staff.
- Procedures that the school introduced last year to improve performance will be in place again this year. The time that pupils will be left unsupervised to carry out their own revision programme will be curtailed, and pupils will be required to come into school for timetabled revision sessions. The year 11 prom will not take place until all external examinations are complete.

Priorities:

- 1. Improve learner outcomes at KS4**
- 2. Further embed whole school Literacy and Numeracy strategies to improve outcomes at both key stages**
- 3. Further develop assessment and monitoring procedures**
- 4. Improve the use of the school's evidence base that informs intervention/learning and teaching strategies**
- 5. Develop the depth of the school's analysis and the implementation of appropriate strategies for identified groups of learners**

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY

FEEDER SCHOOLS

We have excellent relationships with our feeder schools and enjoy regular contact through curricular and pastoral links. We provide an enhanced transition programme for those pupils who need extra support and guidance in relation to moving to secondary school. We have recently developed our links by producing a cluster newsletter. The school also runs a parental contact group programme "Talk to Talk" where parents with children in our school come and discuss issues and problems that they may have. We arrange a range of activities for the group.

OUTSIDE AGENCIES

We have regular contact with outside agencies in order to support our pupils. Agencies include CYPS, Police, Educational Psychologists and counselling support groups. The school is closely supported by the school's police liaison officer who regularly visits PSE lessons, and contributes to our Health days and the year 7 "Crucial Crew" event. Presentations have been given to our pupils from a range of outside providers to support the emotional and physical well being of our pupils. We are planning to develop this work by running a number of sessions on well being in July 2014.

For an overview of some of the services we offer our pupils please refer to the back of this report.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Over the years we have developed good links with local employers, and our pupils have been welcomed into local businesses to facilitate work experience.

ESTYN INSPECTION

We had a monitoring visit from Estyn in December 2013. They recommended that Ysgol Bryn Alyn be removed from Estyn's monitoring list. Estyn's judgement was that we had made good progress towards the recommendations from the May 2012 inspection. This is a testament to the hard work by pupils, teachers and support staff. For more information about Estyn and its work please visit:

<http://www.estyn.gov.uk/english/parents/Overview/>

Well Being Centre (WBC)

Our well being centre has been operating for sixteen months now and is a valuable addition to the care and support we offer our pupils. WBC is a place where pupils can seek support and guidance throughout the day. Since the introduction of the WBC our external exclusions have decreased significantly. The WBC consists of two main parts; a community room where focus groups meet and discuss issues and our reflection room, Cyfle Newydd (New Opportunity) where pupils are placed when their behaviour has been so unacceptable that an immediate return to the classroom is not appropriate.

Here are a few comments made by the pupils themselves about how important the centre is.

"If the Wellbeing Centre wasn't here I couldn't come to school"

"It is a safe place to talk about how you are feeling"

"There is always someone there to listen"

"The groups really help - I am now able to ask questions in class"

"If it wasn't for me joining one of the groups I would still be behind with my work"

"I can talk about anything"

"Being able to talk to someone helps me through the day"

"Being part of the group helps me cope with things at home"

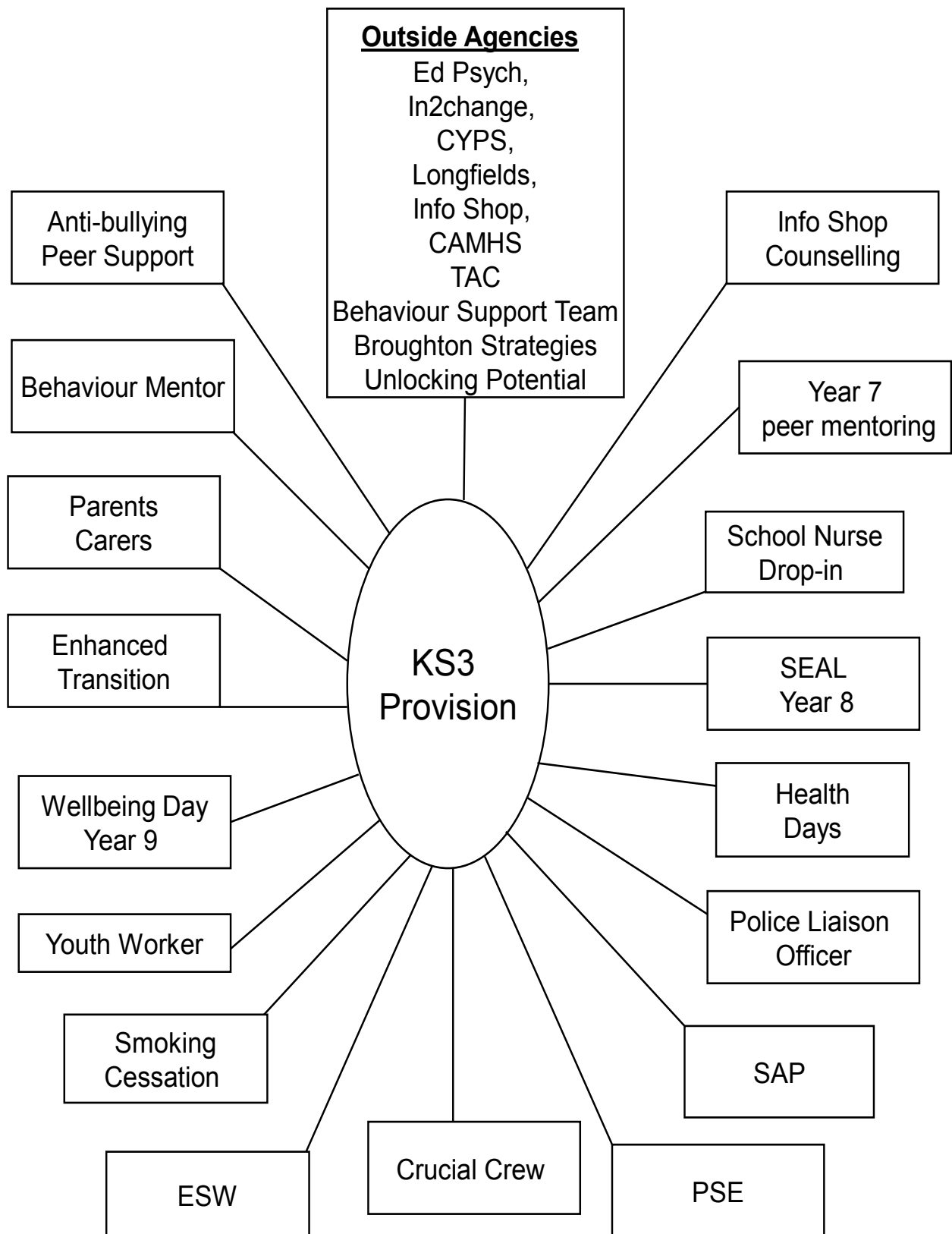
"I am a lot calmer now"

"I know where to go if I am in trouble or not coping"

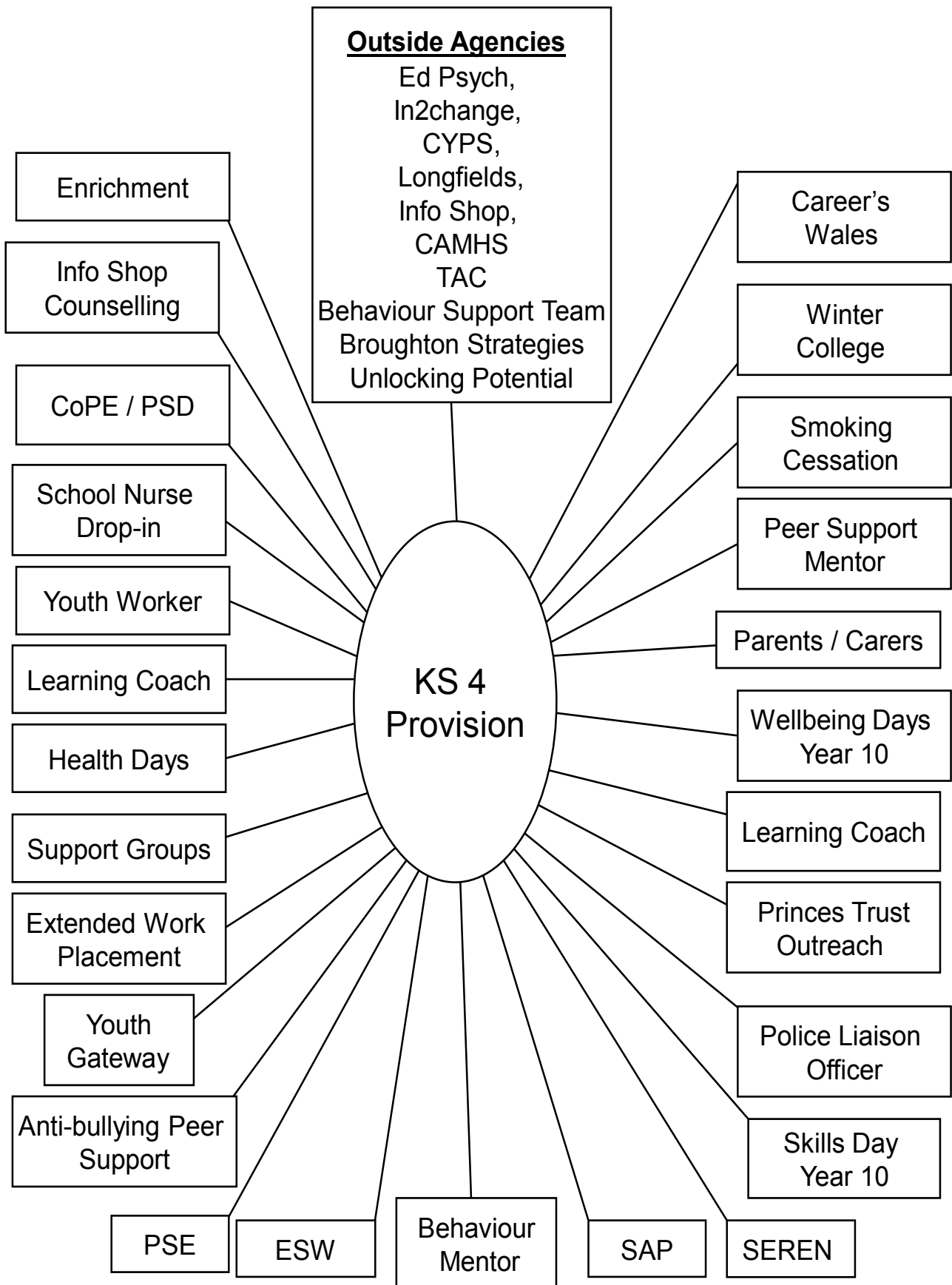
"I think every school should have a Wellbeing Centre"

"I was really anxious before I joined year 7 - But I am not anxious any more"

EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE



EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE



Healthy schools

During the autumn term pupils have / will experience the following activities: Football and Rugby (boys only), Netball (girls only), Basketball, Badminton, Gymnastics, Swimming and Health Related Fitness. Both boys and girls in Year 8 will experience Problem Solving and Orienteering within the HRE unit of work. At KS3 a 30min HRE theoretical lesson is / will be taught prior to or following the swimming lesson to enhance the HRE programme of study.

Football Results for 2013-14 Season (so far) **Wrexham Football Schools League (Boys)**

Year 7	P0	W0	D0	L0	Year 9	P0	W0	D0	L0
Year 8	P1	W1	D0	L0	Year 10	P1	W0	D0	L1

North East Wales Cup (Boys Football)

Year 7	To play Darland
Year 9	To play Darland
Year 11	To play Brynhyfryd

Breakdown of extra curricular clubs 2013 - 2014:

Monday: Year 7 & 8 Rugby, Netball Fixtures

Tuesday: Year 8 & 10 Football Fixtures, Netball Practice, Badminton

Wednesday: Year 9 & 10 Rugby, (all year groups) GCSE
Gymnastics,

Thursday: Year 7 & 9 Football Fixtures, Gymnastics club (all year groups)

5 X 60 Extra Curricular Clubs 2013- 2014:

Monday – Friday: Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Gym, Gwyn Evans Sports Hall, Jui Jitsu in the gymnasium, Dodgeball, Junior Gym

Tuesday: Street Dance in the gymnasium

Wednesday: Breakfast swim in Gwyn Evans Sports Hall—Year 9 girls only Gym

Healthy Schools (continued)

Canteen

The catering team at Ysgol Bryn Alyn provide a variety of freshly prepared nutritious meals, using basic wholesome ingredients. Our menus comply with the nutritional standards for school lunches set by the Welsh Government.

We encourage children to choose a healthy meal from our daily dishes which include salads and vegetable choices, along with a variety of carbohydrates alternatives including pasta and rice. Chips are only available once a week.

We also have monthly theme days which have included Chinese, Mexican and American.

There is a pre order system in place for pupils to use in the mornings.

Toilets

The toilets are cleaned daily. Additional toilet facilities have been provided in the newly built science block. Access to toilets is generally restricted to break and lunch times. There are disabled toilet facilities in each area of the school. In the last four years about a quarter of a million pounds has been spent on improving the toilet facilities for pupils.

Facts and Figures of School Budget Usage 2012/13

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE
Employees	2,636,111	2,618,459
Premises	233,802	231,295
Travelling	4,000	2,717
Supplies	161,608	162,880
Agency	333,891	329,423

Nothing paid for travel/subsistence to members of the Governing Body

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Available from the School Office, and from the Year 6
Parents' Evening

All pupils are required to wear the following:

- Black crew necked sweatshirt
- White polo shirt
- Black trousers or skirt (NO BLACK JEANS)
- Black or brown shoes (NO TRAINERS)

All pupils are also required to carry a bag which is suitable for carrying A4 sized books/folders, a pencil case and the Personal Organiser.

The only acceptable items of jewellery are:

- Two pairs of stud / small sleeper earrings
- One plain, flat ring
- Wristwatch

Hair

- No extremes in colour or style
- Long hair must be tied back for PE, Technology and other practical activities

PE Kit (boys and girls):

- Polo shirt embroidered with the school name, or a plain red polo shirt
- School PE sweatshirt embroidered with the school name, or a plain red sweatshirt
- Plain black shorts
- Black football / hockey socks
- Football boots
- White sports socks (not trainer socks)
- Training shoes
- Swimwear—plain, dark one piece

SCHOOL UNIFORM ORDER FORM 2013/14

Polo shirts embroidered with YSGOL BRYN ALYN logo (red or white)

9-10 yrs	11-12 yrs	13/XS	Sml	Med	Large
£9	£9	£10	£11	£11	£11

Sweatshirts embroidered with YSGOL BRYN ALYN logo (black or white)

30"	32"	34"	36"/XS	Sml	Med	Large	XL
£9.25	£10	£10	£12	£12	£13	£13	£13

Shorts

Black—various sizes from XS to XL—all £5

ORDER FORM

ITEM	SIZE	COLOUR	QUANTITY	TOTAL	
Total					

I enclose cash/cheque* for _____ for the above items.

Signed _____ Parent/Guardian of _____

Address _____

Tel. No _____ Feeder School _____

**Please make cheques payable to Ysgol Bryn Alyn and put card number on reverse*

IMPORTANT DATES IN THE SCHOOL YEAR 2013-2014

Mon March 3 rd	School opens
Wed Apr 2 nd	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Fri Apr 11 th	End of term
Mon April 28 th	Staff Training Day
Tues April 29 th	School opens
Mon April 28 th	Year 7 reports issued
Mon May 5 th	May Day Bank Holiday
Fri May 23 rd	School closes for half term
Mon June 2 nd	School opens
Fri June 13 th	Year 8 reports issued
Wed June 18 th	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Fri June 27 th	Year 10 reports issued
Wed July 2 nd	KS3 Presentation afternoon
Thurs July 3 rd	Common Transfer Day
Tues July 8 th	Sports Day
Thurs July 18 th	End of term

Eisteddfod 2014

YBA Eisteddfod took place on 21st March. Pupils and teachers worked hard to develop some wonderful performances and outcomes.

The English award in the competition went to Aimee Walker from year 7. Her entry is below for your enjoyment.

Wales!

The daffodils come out to play,
The leeks grow through the earth,
The weather all cold and wet,
Saint David's day is near.

The lambs prance around,
The chicks crack open their eggs,
The sun starts peeking through,
Saint David's day is near.

The rugby, here we come,
Loudness all around,
The anthem starts to rise,
Saint David's day is near.

The flag blows around,
Red, white and green,
Daffodils and leeks on shirts,
Saint David's day is here.

Bryn Alyn is getting loud,
Shouting all around,
Celyd, Tegid, Peris and Ogwen!
Our Eisteddfod is here.

