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YSGOL BRO ALUN

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Dear parents and carers,

At the end of a different and very challenging term, I'd like to thank you very much for your support and cooperation throughout the term. Despite the effects of the pandemic, especially towards the end of the term, we have been able to keep things as normal as possible for the pupils since September and are very grateful to yourselves for the part you have played in ensuring this normality.

I'd like to thank all the pupils for their resilience and for continuing with school life in difficult and at times worrying circumstances. I would also like to praise the school staff that have gone the extra mile during the term to ensure that we haven't had to ask any classes to stay at home due to staff absences and the lack of available supply staff.

If your child has a positive PCR test over the holidays, could you please email the school to let us know as we will still need to inform the Local Education Authority so that they can keep an eye on positive cases over Christmas and the New Year.

You will have most probably heard and seen in the media over the last few days that schools in Wales have been given two days to plan and prepare, due to the forecasted Covid situation, for when the pupils return to school on January 10th and to ensure that arrangements are in place for blended learning should the need arise. This will happen on January 6th and 7th. As these two days were originally planned to be Training Days, this doesn't make a difference for when the pupils are due to return to school on the 10th. There won't be a provision for critical workers children on these two days. The two Training Days originally planned for January the 6th and 7th will be rearranged for later in the year and we will let you know what these new dates are as soon as possible.

It's probable by January 10th that there will be further Covid measures that we will have to put in place / revert to – we will let you know of these by when the pupils return. Our intention and hope is that the pupils will return to full face to face learning on January 10th without having to revert to blended learning.

Looking further ahead to the end of February, **the school will be closed on Monday, February 28th (the Monday after half term)**. This is due to this day being chosen by the Morgan Llwyd cluster of schools as a day when the schools will be closed as June the 2nd, the Queen's Jubilee day, is during the Whitsun half term holiday. This request for all Wales schools to have an extra day closed has come from the Welsh Government.

With best wishes to everyone over Christmas and the New Year,

Osian Jones