

Derwen News September 11

Croeso/Welcome

Welcome back to an exciting new school year at Ysgol Derwen and especially to those of you who are associated with the school for the first time. I hope you had a restful summer with your families and enjoyed the lovely weather we've finally had since returning to school.

The summer holidays are now a distant memory and the children and staff have settled in very quickly and are working hard on their new topics. It is always lovely to see the children looking smart in their new uniforms in September and eager to make a good impression in their new classes.

I look forward to working closely with the children, staff and parents throughout the year ahead

We are currently working through dates and events for the busy term ahead and we will share these dates with you later this week.

FODS Update Reminder

We have a number of parents who have expressed an interest in helping relaunch FODS this year and I am looking forward to having a very active parents' association again at Ysgol Derwen in the coming weeks.

The next stage in getting FODS back up and running is to hold an AGM this September where a Committee can be elected. The newly formed FODS Committee can then start planning for some school and community events for the new academic year.

The committee does not need to be big but will need to rely upon a team of helpers when events are planned. During the AGM, a committee will need to be elected comprising of a chair, vice chair, secretary and a treasurer. Other roles can then be allocated according to need.

The AGM will take place in the school hall on Thursday September 21st @ 3.30pm so please save the date if you think you can help FODS out in any way.

Chess Sets

A number of children would like to start a lunchtime chess club and have asked if there are any parents who have unwanted chess sets at home to please donate them to the school.

The children can then start organising their club and eventually invite senior citizens from the village to come in and play chess with them at school.

Punctuality

Just a reminder at the beginning of the school year that Ysgol Derwen starts at 8.55am for children in Reception to Year 6.

Can you please make every effort to ensure that your child is in school by the school start time of 8.55am. Late arrival in school is very disruptive with regards to taking and closing registers and morning assembly.

The school day for Reception to Year 6 starts at 8.55am and the side gates will remain open until 9.00am at which point the Foundation and Junior doors will be closed for security reasons. If for any reason you do arrive after 9.00am please use the FRONT entrance.

Thank you for your cooperation with regards to this matter.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY DATES 2023-2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023

<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Friday 1 September</i>
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<i>Staff Training Day</i>	Monday 4 September
Autumn Term Opens	Tuesday 5 September
Half Term Closes	Thursday 26 October
Staff Training Day	Friday 27 October
Half Term Opens	Monday 6 November
Term Closes	Thursday 21 December
<i>Staff Training Day</i>	Friday 22 December

SPRING TERM 2024

Spring Term Opens	Monday 8 January
Half Term Closes	Friday 9 February
Staff Training Day	Monday 19 February
Half Term Opens	Tuesday 20 February
Term Closes	Friday 22 March

SUMMER TERM 2024

Term Opens	Monday 8 April
<i>May Day Bank Holiday</i>	<i>Monday 6 May</i>
Half Term Closes	Friday 24 May
Half Term Opens	Monday 3 June
Term Closes	Thursday 18 July
<i>Staff Training Day</i>	<i>Friday 19 July</i>