

MAESTEG SCHOOL

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Headteacher / Pennaeth: H. Jones B.A. (Hons) N.P.Q.H.

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you know, Estyn completed an inspection of our school at the start of the spring term. Their full report is now available (download from the Estyn website or request hard copies from the school) which sets out recommendations for further improvement. The Estyn team identified many strengths across the school, making the following comments in their summary:

'Maesteg school has developed a clear vision for raising pupils' aspirations and achievement through effective teaching and strong pastoral support.'

'The school's strategies have been successful for securing high levels of attendance and improved outcomes at key stage as well as teaching that promotes pupil progress well in the majority of cases.'

'It fosters good behaviour well, and most pupils act with respect and maturity around the school.'

The team has made recommendations, which the school had already identified, as key areas for development in our own School Improvement Plan. These recommendations relate to improving the progress pupils make in lessons; improving pupils' independence in learning; ensuring that teaching is effective in raising standards.

We now need to continue to build on these strengths and work together to ensure that our children are equipped with the confidence, attitude, skills and resilience to cope successfully with the challenges that life may throw at them.

With that in mind, it is worth reminding parents of the key educational events that will take place over the next few weeks and months:

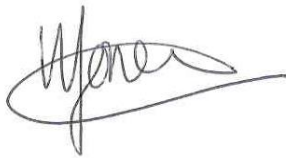
- Monday 25th March** - Year 9 pupils meet with SLT to confirm option choices
- Monday 1st April** - **Reminder of whole staff training day. School closed to all pupils**
- Monday 15th April** - Reminder – first day of Easter holiday. Please look out for revision sessions for Years 11, 12 and 13 over the Easter break
- Tuesday 7th May** - A level and GCSE written exams begin
Year 7 – 9 Welsh National Tests

Thank you for supporting our campaign to continue to improve standards of uniform. We have seen much improvement of late and hope that this continues well into the term with the warmer weather that spring offers.

The final note is to thank all those parents who were prepared to volunteer their services as parent governors and to congratulate Mrs Claire Harris who was the successful candidate. Mrs Harris has been a long-standing member of Maesteg School Governors and will no doubt continue to serve the community as a 'critical friend' to the school.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you think that there are things that we could continue to develop and improve – we look forward to hearing your views and plan to set up a parents' focus group in the summer term in order that we can work together for the benefit of our children.

Yours faithfully,



H Jones (Headteacher)

Motivated to Strive / Ysgogi i Ymdrechu

