

Year 8 Team

I hope you all had an enjoyable half term with your families. Your spirits may be lifted somewhat by the fantastic weather and for two households now being allowed to meet up (socially distanced) in Wales living within 5 miles. I'm sure none of you are missing me nagging about your uniform!

Pastoral contact



As you are all aware, form tutors, Miss Poole or myself try to make contact with you at least every two weeks. We strive to do this to check if everything is 'ok' and if the school can support you further in any way.

It's been great speaking to you and your parents/carers who have been telling us how well you have been doing along the many different ways you have been staying well and active with your families as well as learning new skills.

Well-being

Your well-being remains our main priority. There is some good guidance on improving well-being in your everyday life:



Keep talking to your family and friends and ask them how they are feeling.

Work smart on GoogleClass, read a book or research something new.

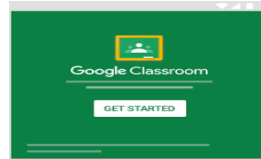
Take time to notice the environment/wildlife around you. See how much space you have when you clear the 'clutter' from your bedroom.

Make time to be active everyday. It can help your Physical, Mental and Social Well-being.

Do something kind for someone else every week – this can improve well-being

You will probably be aware via our school newsletter that it is with deep sadness, Dylan Afandi (Year 7) passed away last week. Our thoughts and sincere condolences go to Dylan's family at this time. This is of course distressing for pupils, friends and staff and if any of our school community feels the need to receive any support at this time please email: IHSCA@caerphilly.gov.uk.

GoogleClass



All your teachers continue to prepare work on GoogleClass. You owe it to yourselves to work hard and aim to do your best on tasks. It is essential that you strive to improve and learn as much as appropriate to make the transition back into our school as smooth as possible. Remember:

- ✓ Check in daily with your classrooms. By now I hope you have a timetable in place so stick to it where possible (*Remember slide 2 from my previous assembly*)
- ✓ Ask for help. You can message your teachers on GoogleClass if there are any issues with the work.

A reminder of the link with all your GoogleClass codes:

<https://sites.google.com/islwynhigh.org/islwyn-high-school-gcw/home>

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

It is obvious that so many of you are super conscientious with GoogleClass and strive every day to complete work set. It is easy to become overwhelmed and mentally 'burnt out' with the volume of work set. So, please do not put too much pressure on yourselves or worry unnecessarily if some work is not completed or finished on time.



**Important guidance/
reminder from the Maths
department on slide 4 & 5**

Rewards for effort and work

Your teachers have been impressed at how you have been completing the tasks set on Google Class. Remember that hard work is always rewarded and ClassCharts points are being awarded by your teachers – so keep up the good work!



Don't be afraid to be **ambitious** about your goals.
Hard work never stops.
Neither should your **dreams**

- Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

Goalcast

The capacity to learn is a *gift*; the ability to learn is a *skill*; the willingness to learn is a *choice*.

Brian Herbert

Success and Inspiration



Check out the video at:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-asia-india-52795732/india-coronavirus-the-girl-who-cycled-to-save-her-father>

Being a keen cyclist this story grabbed my attention.

15yr old Jyoti Kumari travelled to Gurugram (India) to take care of her father after he had an accident. The lockdown meant they couldn't travel back as there was no transport available. They soon ran out of money to buy food and medicines. She then decided to take her father on a bicycle on this incredibly tough 1,200km journey (same as riding from Oakdale to Edinburgh and back again).

An amazing example of resilience and hard work – I'll never complain about riding with a ruck sack on my back again!

**WSFA
U13s GIRLS
NATIONAL
SQUAD
2019/20**



Maddison Perrott, Caerphilly

Well done to Maddison Perrott (8RL) who recently was awarded an extended contract with Bristol City FC as Captain. She also won the 'Outstanding Player' and 'Hardest Working Player' Awards. Congratulations on your achievements!

Nicole Chandler (8LC) has impressed me with her Well-being 'sign language' message she created along with her Agricultural skills of growing vegetables in her allotment. Great skills to develop Nicole – Well done!



I love this recent art work by the anonymous Graffiti artist 'Banksy' left at an NHS Hospital.

**WHAT IS YOUR
INTERPRETATION OF
THIS?**

A big thank you once again to all our Year 8 pupils for how you are adapting to this situation. The No.1 priority is your well-being. Get a good balance in your day, learn, stay active and be happy!

Thank you to all parents/carers who continue to support the children and school staff.

TAKE CARE - STAY SAFE - STAY WELL (Mr Davies – Progress Manager – Year 8)

Mathematics.

In year eight all learners are allocated to one of three google classrooms.

CLASSROOM	STRUCTURE
B	Four PowerPoints are uploaded every Monday Morning; each is a short session to be completed that week. There are links to the best virtual learning platform for each session along with examples and practice exercises; the answers to which are at the end of the PowerPoint. Each week includes a Hegartymaths task, this is how your teacher monitors your progress.
C	Three PowerPoint sessions are uploaded every Monday morning on a given topic. There are exercises to complete, these are either included in the slides or on a separate word document. The answers are either on the PowerPoint or on the Worksheet to self assess. There is also a Numeracy worksheet to complete each week. Each week includes a Hegartymaths task, this is how your teacher monitors your progress.
D	Powerpoints are uploaded daily for 4 days; these include teaching videos and questions for students. Answers are posted a few days after each lesson. At least one Hegartymaths task is set for every Monday, and students have the whole week to attempt these.

We set your child Hegartymaths tasks every week. We use this to judge their progress and engagement.

If you are stuck there are number of websites we recommend...



As well as completing tasks set, you can search for videos and do the tasks to practise.



Username: oakdale
Password: octagon
This site has virtual step by step lessons containing excellent explanations, questions and games



A free website that has lots of high quality videos and practice questions

You can get in contact with your maths teacher through Hegarty maths and the google classroom. You can also email your teacher directly; If you send a picture of your answer, your teacher will explain your error.

Mrs Collins -
collijs@islwynhigh.org

Mrs Dewey
dewey@islwynhigh.org

Miss Miles
milesh@islwynhigh.org

Mrs Waters
cwaters@islwynhigh.org

Mrs Bishop
bishops@islwynhigh.org

Mr Jones
jonesrs@islwynhigh.org

Miss Phipps
phippg1@islwynhigh.org

Mr Waters
waters@islwynhigh.org