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Dear Parents/Carers

School Closure Update Monday 18th May 2020

To demonstrate our fabulous community spirit, please check out our [Twitter page](#). You will find a wide range of student involvement including Mr Ayres' daily challenges, celebration of excellent work completed in lockdown, the efforts of our staff delivery teams, information on our Student Planner Contest and much more. Well done to all the students who are actively involving themselves in school life whilst isolating at home.

Before I took up my post, I was fortunate to be invited to the school's musical performance of The Wedding Singer. I was blown away by the talent that evening. Once again, our students have got together with our teachers, Mrs Witts and Ms Smith, to produce this amazing [St Julian's Lockdown version of A Million Dreams](#). I urge you to watch it.

Following announcements by the Welsh Government last Friday, we still have no firm date for the reopening of schools in Wales. We will, therefore, continue with our home learning programme of setting work with the teachers available via email to support and feedback to students.

Student Contact

We have now made contact through emails, phone calls or face-to-face visits with **all** our students from Year 7 to Year 12. Thank you everybody for keeping in touch. Your child's welfare is our number one priority; it is really important to us that we are able to contact them and check their well being during these difficult times. If you do have concerns or queries regarding your child, please do not hesitate to contact their Form Tutor or Progress Leader via email.

Home Learning

We have been monitoring how well our students have been engaging with the work set online. For example, in Year 10, 96% of our them have completed work for at least one subject. There are a number of students who have engaged with all 11 subjects. Our aim, of course, is for every student to complete all the work they have been set to the best of their ability. If we are concerned about a student's engagement with the work, our team will be in touch to see what more we can do to support them.

To recognise our students' commitment and hard work, we will be rewarding positive points through Class Charts for completion of work. We will then recognise the achievements of our students who have engaged well with their home learning when we return to school.

Please can you encourage your child to complete this fortnight's block of work by Friday. All the work that needs completion can be found on the [website](#). A reminder that if your child has difficulties accessing the work, then please contact your child's progress leader or their subject teacher.

RoA and Prom

Unfortunately, we have had to make the sad decision to cancel this year's Year 11 RoA and Prom. Mr King has already sent an email directly to students. Both events were scheduled for next month and therefore, it is very unlikely that large gatherings will be allowed by then. We will ensure that we have some form of celebration for the Year 11 students at school when we return and when larger gatherings are permitted - this is likely to be no sooner than the autumn term. Regarding the Prom, The Celtic Manor has agreed to refund your payments to the school. We will be in touch shortly to explain how we can return your money (if you wish this to happen) or whether you would like us to hold onto the payment to use for a future Prom date.

Free School Meal Vouchers and Sanitary Products

Hopefully, every family entitled to a free school meal received their voucher last week. If that was not the case, please contact school via [email](#). The next voucher will be released around Wednesday 27th May.

Free sanitary products will be available for collection from school on **Tuesday 19th May 1000-1200** and during half term on **Tuesday 26th May** at the same time.

Half Term

Next week (**Monday 25th to Friday 29th June**) is half term week, there is no expectation for students or staff to be working during this holiday break. However, if students choose to spend some time on their school work, there is plenty on the website for them to access.

We return to the "new normal" on **Monday 1st June**. I will contact you then with more information on how to access the next block of work.

Please do keep safe and enjoy the half term break.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Curtis
Headteacher / Pennaeth

