

**20<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Ref: WM/Parents&Carers/EndofTermLetter**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you're well

As we approach the end of the autumn term, I'd like to thank you for your continued support

It's been a wonderful autumn term where our pupils have continued to thrive across our Federation, it's been so pleasing to see our pupils ongoing developments and meet the targets that have been set.

### **Christmas Celebrations**

It has been a joy to be able to welcome you to our Christmas events across the Federation I'm grateful to our staff who have all worked tremendously hard to pull all the events and services together. Our pupils continue to shine during these special moments and I'm sure you'll join me in congratulating everyone involved

### **School Development Plans**

I'm delighted to share with you our school development plans which are uploaded on to the Federation and Schools website and I've provided a link to the Summary Documents below and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

<https://www.westernlearningfederation.co.uk/school-development-plans/>

### **Annual Report to Parents 2022-23**

I'm pleased to share with you our Annual Reports to Parents 2022-23 which provides statutory information to you with updates for each school within the Federation. I've provided a link to the report below and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us:

<https://www.westernlearningfederation.co.uk/annual-report-to-parents/>

### **Recruitment**

Once again to develop our workforce we have spent the final weeks appointing candidates across the Federation who are of the highest quality. These appointments will continue to help to drive standards forward who I'm sure you'll begin to meet over the coming weeks and months and we look forward to welcoming them into their new roles.

## **Curriculum for Wales update**

In every standards, curriculum and learning termly meeting via the schools panels and Governor sub-committee, the Federation and the schools present and I'd like to share our agenda with you so that you see how we are supporting pupils and staff:

### **Agenda overview**

Overview of current performance and learning- how effective is the school's curriculum

- a) Update on the establishing of curriculum vision – whole school and within each Areas of Learning (learning, leadership and managing change)
  - How well do school leaders, staff, learners and the wider school community understand the expectations, purposes and principles of the new curriculum for Wales?
- b) Update on the design, planning and trialling of the curriculum (designing and implementing learning experiences)
  - How well does the school's curriculum support and develop learners' knowledge, skills and understanding?
- c) Update on the implementation and evaluation of the curriculum (learning from the wider system and further enquiry)
  - Schools evaluation of impact.

## **Building Developments**

It was a very busy summer break where we again increased our estates infrastructure to ensure high quality provision for our pupils, both on and off site.

### **Ty Gwyn School**

- We continue to work closely with the Council's project team as we approach the final few months of the project. Our Leadership Team had a site visit recently to review progress and we were delighted with what we saw.
- We're currently working with the Council on the fixtures, furnishings and equipment for our new classrooms as well as finalising our internal signage.
- I'd like to thank everyone involved, with a particular thanks to our staff working groups who have been vital in ensuring their feedback is provided throughout.

### **Fairwater Campus**

As you are aware, Riverbank and Woodlands will be moving to the Fairwater Campus, to a new state of the art building alongside Cantonian High School. Meetings have continued at pace this term with various agencies and contractors to ensure that the build is of the highest quality in meeting the needs of our pupils. We're currently working with the Council on our ICT strategy for our schools as well as the wider campus

We will hold a number staff and parent/carer engagement sessions of during the current academic year so you'll have continued and ongoing opportunities to provide feedback during the project.

As a reminder, please see below press release from the Council

<https://www.cardiffnewsroom.co.uk/releases/c25/32463.html>

**Please see the term dates for 2023-24 below:**

**Spring Term 2024**

Starts: Monday 8 January 2024

Half term: Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February 2024

Ends: Friday 22 March 2024

**Summer Term 2024**

Starts: Monday 8 April 2024

Half term: Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024

Ends: Monday 22 July 2024

**Please see below the inset days remaining for the academic year 2023-24**

<b>Riverbank</b>	<b>Ty Gwyn</b>	<b>Woodlands</b>
8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024
22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024

As Executive Headteacher, I'd like to thank you for your support, commitment and kindness so far during this term and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**All pupils will return to schools on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Yours sincerely

Mr W A Murphy

**Executive Head Teacher Western Learning Federation**