

Dear Parents/Carers,

The first half-term has flown by and we have enjoyed a very positive start to the year. I am delighted to report that our new Year 7 pupils have made a fantastic start to their life at Risca CCS. It was a pleasure to witness their outstanding behaviour and high levels of resilience in lessons during our recent whole school Pupil Progress Review. This was mirrored across all year groups and our Risca Learning Charter was strongly evident in all lessons observed. After a challenging start to the year our attendance figure is rising and we are currently standing at 92%, almost 1% above the average for Secondary Schools across Wales. We will, of course, continue to aim high and monitor this weekly. Thank you for your ongoing support - we know that this makes a big difference and allows each pupil to realise their full potential.

Thank you for your support in relation to our school uniform. The minor adaptations introduced this year have had a very positive impact. Form Tutors check uniform daily and I would like to politely remind you that our policy states **all black footwear** must be worn. We are supporting two local food banks on **Thursday 23rd October as we hold our first non-uniform day this year**. Rather than pay cash we are **asking all members of the school community to contribute items to our local food banks**. This includes the one we host in school. We are confident that this approach will receive a generous response from everyone. Thank you in advance for your donations. We will send a ClassCharts message with information on suitable items to donate.

Finally, Year 11 pupils will be involved in GCSE Numeracy Examinations straight after the Half-Term break. I know that they have been preparing thoroughly for these exams with our Maths Team in school. We wish them well on the 4th and 6th November 2025. In addition, pupils across the school will be receiving Flu Nasal Spray Immunisations on Wednesday 5th November. Information has been shared on ClassCharts linked to this. **Friday 24th October is a Professional Learning Day for staff and, therefore, school closes for all pupils and the Half-Term break begins at 3pm on Thursday 23rd October.**

School will reopen as normal on **Monday 3rd November at 8.45am** I hope that you all enjoy a relaxing and enjoyable break.

Yours Sincerely
Mr M H etc...