



Morrison Comprehensive School

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Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent / carer,

As we reach the end of a very unusual and challenging year I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and use this newsletter to share some of the exciting changes for Morrison and celebrate the successes of our children.

Back in September we had hoped that the worst of the Covid pandemic was over and we could begin to return to a more normal school structure. However, we have experienced lengthy regional and national lockdowns that meant we moved to distance learning from December to March this year.

Since becoming Headteacher I have always been very proud of our students but this year more than ever they have shown outstanding effort, determination and resilience in very difficult and unique times. We have also been very aware that outside school many families have struggled during lockdown and this has affected some of the children's wellbeing.

For September we have implemented a number of changes that will provide additional support for all our children. This will include additional staff to provide intervention and help, restructuring the pastoral team to look after health and wellbeing and improvements to the building and facilities to enhance learning.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their dedication and hard work this year. In Morrison we are a team of staff, from the catering staff, cleaners, teaching assistants, associate staff and teachers. This year they have all come together to ensure that students could continue to be taught effectively in a safe and clean environment, and I think this has been reflected in very low positive Covid cases compared to many other schools.

Finally, Once again as parents and carers I want to thank you for your support throughout this year and I hope everyone is able to enjoy a safe and enjoyable summer break.

Regards

M Franklin

Headteacher



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Message from the Chair of Governors

All parents and carers

To echo the words of Mr Franklin, it has been a very difficult year for the whole of the school community. Alongside the restrictions of covid 19, the assessment process and arrangements for the pupils have been extremely rigorous.

On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff for their continued hard work and commitment.

All the best to the staff who are leaving Morrison Comprehensive School for pastures new. Also to the children in year 11 and year 13 as they embark upon their next adventure wherever that maybe.

We have an exciting year ahead of us come September, with many new appointments, new pupils and a 50th anniversary of Morrison Comprehensive School to celebrate. As an ex pupil of the school myself (many of the governors and staff are ex pupils too) I hope we can organise a year of celebrations and tributes.

We have seen the school go through many changes, especially within the last few years. The school is going from strength to strength and for that reason, I would like to close by saying a massive well done to the pupils of Morrison Comprehensive School for being the best you can be and making the school what it is.

Alyson Crabb

Chair of Governors

50th Anniversary of Morrison Comprehensive School

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Morrison Comprehensive School. The school officially opened in May 1971, but this September will be 50 years since the first full cohort started here.

Due to Covid we have not been able to organise or celebrate this really important date for the school, but we plan to use the new term to arrange a number of events to celebrate our school.

We are asking all the community and former pupils of Morrison to help us, we would be very grateful if you have any memories or photos you could share with us. Please get in touch with reception and let us know.



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Covid rules and guidelines for September

When we come back in September we are looking forward to Welsh Government relaxing some of the Covid rules we have had to follow. We are awaiting final details but at present the guidance from the local authority is;

- We will no longer be recommending the routine use of face coverings in classrooms
- Face coverings are recommended in indoor communal areas such as corridors.
- Contact groups/bubbles will no longer be recommended. However, we will use our TTP system in order to identify close contacts of learners who have tested positive, and TTP may contact the school to supplement the information they have gathered with any further intelligence you may have available.
- The expectation for school is that we follow the specific advice you receive from TTP about whether individuals need to self-isolate.
- Normal session times will resume.
- Secondary school children and education workforce should be encouraged to test before returning to school.

We will update our website and send out Parentmail notices when we get further clarification

Important dates for September

Thursday 2nd September	Whole School staff INSET
Friday 3rd September	Whole School staff INSET
Monday 6th September	Year 7, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 ONLY
Tuesday 7th September	All Year groups return to school



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A Level and GCSE Results days

Please note that this year A Level and GCSE results days will be much earlier than normal.

A Level Results	Tuesday 10th August 9am – 10.30am
GCSE Results	Thursday 12th August 9am – 10.30am

Timings of the school day

From September we will not need to have staggered starts or finishes to the school day. All children will need to be in school ready for an 8.40am start. In order to get pupils into lessons and learning straightaway we are moving morning registration and **starting Lesson 1 at 8.40am promptly.**

School starts 8.40am and finishes at 3pm

8am	School gates open
8.40am	Lesson 1
9.40am	Tutor time
9.55am	Lesson 2 * *Includes half hour break
11.25am	Lesson 3
12.25pm	Lesson 4 * *Includes half hour lunch
1.55pm	Lesson 5
3pm	School finishes



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Staff changes

Staff leaving this summer

We have a number of staff leaving this summer and we wish them the very best for the future.

A particular mention for Mrs Brewer (Miss Lloyd as was), Sarah has been a member of staff here since 2002, when she started as a newly qualified teacher, since that time she has had a number of promotions, culminating in becoming one of our Assistant Headteachers.

She has been an outstanding member of staff, always very professional in everything she does and very dedicated to the staff and children in Morrison. She will be greatly missed but we also delighted that she has been promoted to a senior Assistant Headteacher role in Stanwell School in Penarth, where she will be an undoubted success. Good luck Sarah from everyone in Morrison.

Staff leaving this Summer

Mrs Brewer	Senior AHT Stanwell School
Mrs Bellingham	D&T teacher Olchfa
Mr Waters	6th form teacher Coleg Sirgar
Ms Williams	Maternity – end of contract Dec 21'
Ms Harding	Wellbeing officer - INSPIRE



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Staff joining us

This year we delighted to have so many new staff joining us in September. We look forward to them making a real contribution to Morrison

New starters for September

Samuel Williams Assistant Headteacher (St Teilos)

Daniel Hancock, DT Teacher

Richard Edwards, Science

Ffion Annandale, History (autumn term)

Christanthi Praki, Science

Meredith Harman, Maths

Phoebe Hughes, Maths

Allison Gough, Cover Supervisor

Laura Macaulay, Cover Supervisor

Emily Davies, Sixth Form Wellbeing Officer

Changes to the School Senior Leadership Team

For September we have three new members of staff joining the senior leadership team of the school.

Mr Williams joins us from St Teilo's School in Cardiff, replacing Mrs Brewer, whilst Mr Mattey, our Department Leader for Mathematics and Miss Miller, our ALNCO have also been promoted as Assistant Headteachers.

Due to these promotions Mrs Powell has now been appointed as Department Leader for Mathematics and Numeracy, with Miss Minnett becoming Assistant DL. Mrs Sharon Jones is now Assistant ALNCO under Miss Miller.



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Mr Williams



The Greek philosopher *Socrates* is credited with saying that *education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel* and I believe this notion speaks to my own philosophy on education.

I began my teaching career in 2010 and have held a number of teaching and leadership positions across South Wales, most recently as the Senior Teacher at St Teilo's CIW High School responsible for the design and local implementation of the Curriculum for Wales. I am passionate about teaching and learning and the transformational power of education - I am delighted to be joining Morrison Comprehensive as an Assistant Headteacher at a very exciting time for educational change in Wales!

In recent months, I have been fortunate enough to visit the school on a number of occasions and would like to thank both students and staff for extending me such a warm welcome! As a member of the leadership team, I hope to strengthen and develop the school's capacity to inspire and engage all learners to achieve their very best and I look forward to working with you all, parents, guardians, colleagues and students to achieve this aim.

I can assure you that I expect to play a very active role in the life of the school and I look forward to the opportunity to meet with you all, in due course. However, for now, I hope you all enjoy a very well deserved summer holiday.

Gyda phob dymuniad da,

S. L. Williams MA:Ed, EdD



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Mr Matthey

I am delighted to be joining the Senior Leadership Team in Morrison. I qualified as a Mathematics teacher in Swansea University in 1989, teaching in three comprehensive schools; Fitzalan High, Bishop Vaughan and Pontardulais Comprehensive before becoming Head of Mathematics in Morrison Comprehensive School in September 2000, a position I occupied for 21 years. During this time, I taught pupils of all ages and abilities, taking pride in their achievements.

I encourage pupils to get involved with all aspects of school life, to widen their experiences and reach their potential. I always drive pupils to perform at the highest standard they can and have confidence in their own ability. My proven track record as a successful department leader is based around developing high standards of teaching and learning, while creating an atmosphere of collaboration, commitment, and honesty. I constantly remind myself; it is not just about trying to close the gap between groups of learners, but about having high expectations for all.

As Assistant Headteacher, I look forward to working as part of a team to fulfil the vision of our fantastic school and create opportunities for all pupils and staff to develop the skills needed for future success.

Mr Matthey
Assistant Headteacher



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Miss Miller

I am delighted to be able to introduce myself as the new Assistant Headteacher of Morrison Comprehensive School. I feel extremely honoured and privileged to have been chosen to continue to build upon the success the school has already achieved under the leadership of Mr Franklin and lead the school into its next phase of improvement and growth. At the heart of my vision for the school is a commitment to excellent teaching and learning, high standards and inclusion.

In 2019, I was appointed as ALNCo and Leader of Inclusive Education at Morrison, prior to this I spent a number of years teaching in schools in Swansea and Rhondda Cynon Taff gaining a wide array of experience in the field of education. I have a strong understanding of Morrison Comprehensive School having previously completed my PGCE here many years ago! Together, these experiences provide a strong foundation of knowledge and understanding of our local community, and our school's incredible potential.

Being a mother of two girls, I am very much aware of the responsibility that we have in ensuring that the highest standard of teaching and learning is achieved. We have a hugely committed team and wonderful pupils, which of course, is a great place for any new Assistant Headteacher to start! The needs of the pupils are always paramount in the life and decision making within a school. I hold a strong belief in the power of education to change young people's lives and the right of every child to receive an excellent education. I am dedicated to building opportunities for our pupils to achieve the highest academic standards, ensuring that they are known well as individuals and that their unique personality, talents and interests are nurtured and developed to the full.

I think it is crucial to involve our pupils and their families as partners in their education. I know how vital working in partnership with parents really is in order for young people to find school a positive and rewarding experience. You can be assured that as Assistant Headteacher, I will strive to create the best education for your child whilst they are members of our school community.

I look forward to meeting you over the course of the next academic year. In the meantime, I would like to wish you a happy, relaxing and safe Summer holidays.

Katie Miller

Assistant Headteacher/ALNCo



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Uniform and school expectations reset.

Since we returned after lockdown we deliberately decided to take a lenient approach and concentrate on getting the children back into learning and routines. In our previous letter we laid out our expectations regarding uniform, equipment and mobile phones.

From September we want to reset our expectations and would ask that all parents support our rules for the new term. The main points to stress are:

- **Correct uniform**
 - ✓ Black sweatshirt/jumper with school badge
 - ✓ White polo shirt with school badge
 - ✓ Black trousers/skirt[no leggings/jogging bottoms/jeans]
 - ✓ PLAIN Black Footwear-no visible markings, black soles
 - ✓ School PE kit.

- **No mobile phones**

- **Correct equipment**
 - ✓ Suitable school bag (any colour)
 - ✓ Pencil case – Pen, pencil, ruler

- **Punctuality**
 - ✓ School starts at 8.40am – be in school in advance of this time
 - ✓ Getting to lessons on time ready to learn.



Other important dates

INSET Training days when pupils do not have to be onsite

Date	Reason
Thursday September 2 nd 2021	Staff training INSET day
Friday September 3 rd 2021	Staff training INSET day
Friday October 22 nd 2021	Staff training INSET day
Tuesday January 4 th 2022	Staff training INSET day
Friday April 8 th 2022	Staff training INSET day
Monday June 6 th 2022	Staff training INSET day

Queen's Jubilee bank holiday

The Welsh Government have allowed us to calendar an extra bank holiday for the Queen's Jubilee as the National day falls within our normal Whitsun half term. In agreement with our cluster primaries, this day will be **Friday 29th April 2022**.

Parent Pupil Progress Evenings

Year group	Date
Year 7 parents meet their child's form tutor	Week beginning Mon October 11 th 2021
Year 7 Progress evening	Thurs April 28 th 3.30-6pm
Year 8 Progress evening	Tues May 24 th 3.30-6pm
Year 9 Progress evening	Thurs February 10 th 3.30-6pm
Year 10 Progress evening	Wed May 11 th 3.30-6pm
Year 11 Progress evening	Tues January 25 th 3.30-6pm
Year 12 Progress evening	Mon March 21 st 3.30-6pm
Year 13 Progress evening	Mon November 15 th 3.30-6pm



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Open Evenings and Parent information events

Event	Date
Year 5 Parent Open Evening	Thurs November 4 th 2021. 6-8pm
Year 6 Parent Open Evening	Thurs July 7 th 2022. 6-7.30pm
Sixth Form Open Evening	Wed January 12 th 2022. 6-8pm
Post 18 and UCAS Information Evening for Y12 Parents	Thurs June 23 rd 2022. 6-7.30pm