

Ref: 1-2009/10

14 September 2010

Dear Parent

This is an unusual start of term letter in many ways, not least because of the extraordinary circumstances that the school now faces and I will take this opportunity to update you regarding the progress we have made since I was greeted by a stream of water on my first morning as Headteacher!

First of all I should like to apologise to you and your child for their delayed return to school. My youngest son attends St Cyres and both my wife and I were anxious for him to return to his GCSE studies after the long summer break. However, because of the water damage I was advised not to open any part of the Penarth site until it was safe to do so. The Dinas Powys site has been operating as normal since the start of term.

The Vale Property services team have given us excellent support and responded to our needs immediately and in force. They are working seven days a week in order to open the site to all year groups as soon as possible. At the moment we have Years 11, 12 and 13 in lessons on the Penarth site and lessons are being taught as normal and homework is being set. Work has also been set for all absent year groups on our website: [www.stcyres.valeofglamorgan.sch.uk](http://www.stcyres.valeofglamorgan.sch.uk).

We now have a limited number of telephone lines operational so if you have any queries please telephone Reception on 02920 708708.

Owing to the Health and Safety requirement to have a separate entrance for the building contractors, our top gate at Redlands Avenue is now closed to pupils and parents. The gate on St Cyres Road should be used instead. May I remind you that parents should not bring their cars onto the school site. We have also told our sixth formers not to park on the site for the foreseeable future.

I am uncertain as to when our New Block will be operational. Even when power is restored, we will need to initiate new fire procedures and brief the pupils fully on their return to school on evacuation in the event of a fire alarm.

We are liaising constantly with the construction teams and remain optimistic that we should be open to all pupils in the near future.

I will continue to update you on a daily basis via ParentMail at [www.parentmail.co.uk](http://www.parentmail.co.uk)

I should also like to reassure parents that school uniform is available from J M Textiles should you wish to purchase any items.

May I also thank you for your continuing support at this very difficult time, which merely highlights our pressing need for a new school building.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jonathan Hicks  
Headteacher