



Pride  
Respect  
Success

# Parent Update

## 28 November 2025



**Tanya Coleman**  
Head of School at  
Penrice Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

November has been a month of deep emotion and connection for our school community. Yesterday, we came together to honour the life of our much-loved colleague and teacher, Mrs Powell. As a mark of respect, we closed yesterday afternoon so that staff and students could reflect and remember all that she gave to us. As Mrs Powell visited us one final time, our staff gathered on Charlestown Road as a mark of respect, our flag flew at half-mast and we paid tribute to the remarkable woman she was and the lasting impact she leaves behind. Her dedication and warmth will forever be part of Penrice's story.

As we enter December in a reflective mood, we are once again reminded of the need to cherish loved ones and carve out time for creating lifelong memories with family and friends. Translating that into school life, the festive season brings us many opportunities to come together as a community and make those precious memories. On the next page, we share our exciting calendar of what's on over Christmas, including our annual Christmas Jumper Day and an opportunity for all our staff and students to come together as one community and enjoy a fabulous Christmas lunch.

We will also have a strong focus on fundraising throughout December, reminding students of the importance of giving. We have a Christmas Toy Drive which is accepting donations until the 10th, a Food Larder which is accepting donations until the 15th, and on the final few days of term our Year 11s will be taking part in the 24-Hour Charity Challenge. Further information is available overleaf.

We hope you will join us in making this a poignant, memorable and joyful end to the term.

**Ms Coleman**  
Headteacher



**Mrs Powell**  
Fondly remembered and forever  
a part of Penrice.



Pride

Respect

Success



Further details overleaf

## WHAT'S ON THIS

# Christmas



1<sup>st</sup>  
Christmas Tree  
Goes Up!



8<sup>th</sup>  
Celebration  
Assemblies Begin



10<sup>th</sup>  
Young Carers'  
Christmas Craft  
Workshop



15<sup>th</sup>  
Food Larder  
Donations End



11<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas Jumper/  
Accessory Day



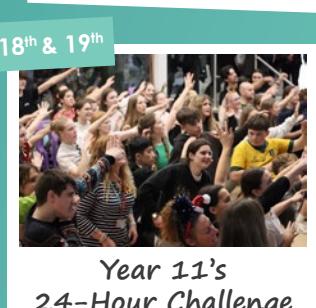
11<sup>th</sup>  
Penrice Winter  
Concert 2025



15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas  
Dinner Days



16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>  
Cinema  
Reward Trips



18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
Year 11's  
24-Hour Challenge

12 Days of Christmas!  
(Attendance Rewards Overleaf)



# Penrice Festive Season

As the countdown to Christmas begins, we are pleased to share the celebrations planned throughout December. Students can look forward to a variety of activities, seasonal events and opportunities to win prizes. We hope the month brings plenty of enjoyment and the chance to make some lovely new memories together as a school community!

## 1<sup>st</sup> CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

The school will start to look festive and we will have a large, decorated Christmas tree both in reception and in our main hall.

## 8<sup>th</sup> CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES BEGIN

Year 10: Monday 8th Dec

Year 9: Tuesday 9th Dec

Year 11: Wednesday 10th Dec

Year 7: Friday 12th Dec

Year 8: Monday 15th Dec

## 9<sup>th</sup> YEAR 7 THEATRE TRIP

Year 7 will be off timetable for the day as they head to the Hall for Cornwall to watch the pantomime Aladdin. This is a free, fun and exciting opportunity for students to experience live theatre and soak up the atmosphere.

## 10<sup>th</sup> YOUNG CARERS WORKSHOP

Our Young Carers will have the opportunity to decorate Gingerbread men and write cards to loved ones. A great opportunity for time to come together. If you feel your young



12 Days of Christmas!  
(Attendance Prizes Include)

person would benefit from this, please email our Young Carer lead. [hgill@penrice.celtrust.org](mailto:hgill@penrice.celtrust.org)

## 10<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE

Gathering new toys and gifts for children aged 4–16 who will spend Christmas away from home. Please donate new toys to the SFC in original packaging with labels attached.

## 11<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Always a highlight! Students can wear their most jingling, tinsel-covered Christmas knits and accessories in return for donating a non-perishable item into our Food Larder trolley in Reception.



## 11<sup>th</sup> PENRICE WINTER CONCERT

An enchanting evening of music and celebration at Penrice Academy's annual Winter Concert.



Gift  
Vouchers

Free  
Cookies



Star Prize  
Amazon Tablet



## 15<sup>th</sup> FOOD LARDER

Last day to donate for this Christmas' Food Larder. We're collecting non-perishable food items to create Christmas parcels for local families in need. A donation trolley is in Reception – every tin, packet or treat makes a difference.

## 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> CHRISTMAS DINNER DAYS

Free for all students, this special event enables everyone to come together. Split over two days as follows: Years 7, 8 and half of Year 9 to sit on Mon 15th Dec. Years 10, 11 and half of Year 9 to sit on Tue 16th Dec.

## 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> CINEMA REWARD TRIPS

Years 7 & 8: Tue 16th Dec  
Years 9 & 10: Wed 17th Dec

## 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> 24-HOUR CHALLENGE

Our Year 11s take on the challenge of non-stop dancing, cycling, rowing and exercising all through the night in aid of charity.

Free Pizza



# CLASS OF 2025

## GCSE CERTIFICATE COLLECTION EVENING

Thursday 4th December

4:30pm - 6:30pm



### YEAR 11 UPDATE

Thank you to our Year 11s who have been completing their PPEs over the past few weeks - you've taken to it really well. Attendance has been strong, and you've been commended for your behaviour in the Sports Hall and alternative venues. There have also been lots of positive comments in relation to the amount of effort that you've put into this process.

A number of you will be seeing the impact of the revision that you have been doing, and it's been great to see lots of smiling faces coming out of each exam. Long may that continue, and we hope to keep the positive momentum going forward for the remaining PPE exams and beyond. If students or parents have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Aside from exams, I am really excited to be building towards the 24-Hour Charity Challenge which will take place on the 18th and 19th December. It's a fantastic event and I hope to see as many of you partaking as possible. We need to make sure we keep getting the basics right to be a part of the team.

We're getting close to publicly announcing which charities we will be supporting this year, so watch this space!



Mr Kev Toms,  
Head of Year 11

### HPQ PRESENTATION EVENING SUCCESS

On Wednesday 12th November, over 25 incredible Penrice students took to the spotlight for our Level 2 HPQ Presentation Evening, sharing the results of months of research with live audiences, followed by question and answer sessions.

#### What is the HPQ?

Part of our Scholarship Programme, The Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) is a nationally recognised award that allows students to choose a topic they're passionate about, conduct independent research, and present their findings. A great addition to students' CVs, the HPQ all about developing critical thinking, communication, and project management skills - key qualities for future success.





## MIDWIFERY CAREERS TALK

DAISY KINCAID | CLASS OF 2020

A huge thank you to Daisy Kincaid (Class of 2020) for visiting Penrice last week to inspire the students on our Future Medics Programme.

Daisy, who is currently working in the post-natal unit at Treliske Hospital after completing her studies at the University of Plymouth, shared her journey into midwifery and gave invaluable insight into what the role involves. Our students were captivated by her talk and thoroughly enjoyed the Q&A session that followed.

We are so proud of Daisy and grateful for the time she gave to encourage the next generation of future healthcare professionals.

[Future Medics](#)



## REMINDER OF CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY APPEALS



### PENRICE COMMUNITY LARDER

ENDS 15<sup>TH</sup> DEC

We're inviting families to support our Penrice Community Larder by donating non-perishable food items. A donation trolley will be placed in Reception, and we'd love to fill it with contributions that will go directly towards creating Christmas food parcels for local families in need.

Every tin, packet or treat makes a difference. Donations will be gratefully received over the coming weeks. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

### CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE APPEAL

We are also collecting toys and gifts for children aged 4–16 years who will be spending their Christmas away from home.

It would be greatly appreciated if students, parents, and staff could donate a toy. Donated toys must be new, in original packaging, with labels attached.



ENDS 10<sup>TH</sup> DEC

## Polite Reminder - Coats

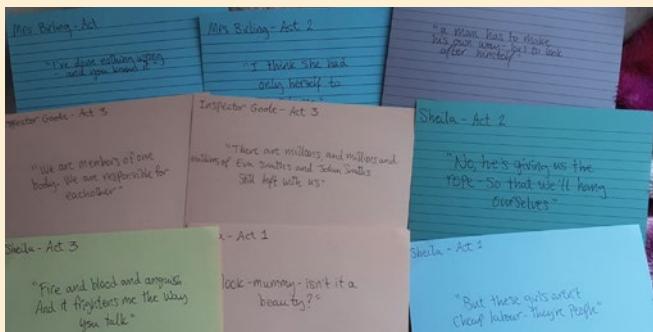
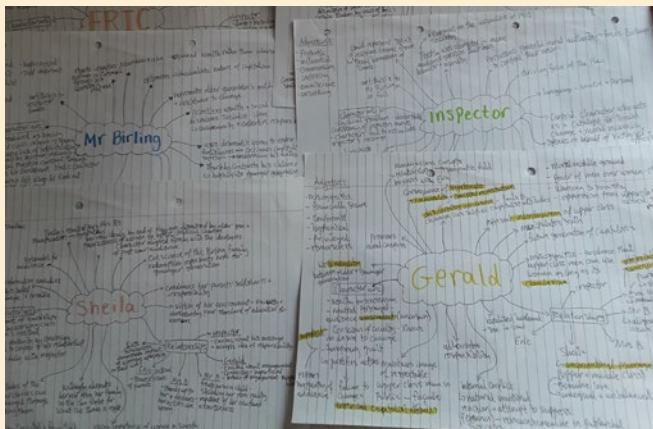
As we enter December, we kindly ask that you remind your child to bring a coat to school. Please also ensure that your child's coat is named - this helps us immensely when they turn up in lost property.



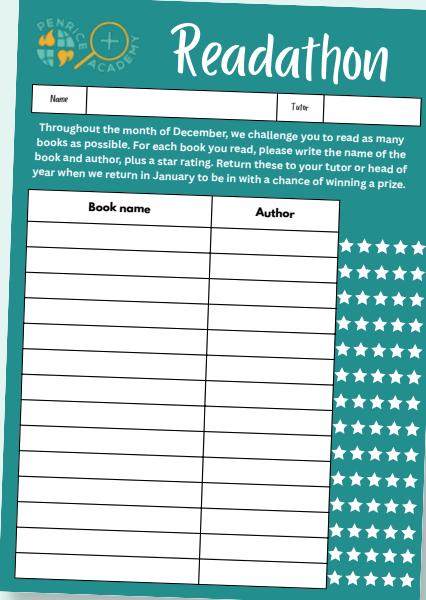
## Spotlight on Homework

This is a new feature where each fortnight we spotlight and celebrate some great homework, each time focusing on a different subject and year group.

This first edition's homework spotlights are from Rose and Evie and are examples of excellent English revision materials that students have created to help them revise for their PPEs. They are great examples of our 'Core Four' revision strategies in action, including some excellent mind maps and flash cards, which will hugely help their PPEs.



## December Readathon Challenge (Years 7-9)



We are excited to announce that we will be running a Readathon throughout December to encourage students to keep reading regularly over the festive season.

Year 7 and Year 8 students will each receive a printed A5 Readathon card. Year 9 students can opt in by collecting a card if they would like to take part.

## The Challenge:

- Students log their reading on the card during December.
- Cards are returned to tutors or Heads of Year when school resumes in January.
- Everyone who hands in their card will be entered into a prize draw.

We'll be sharing reminders in assemblies and tutor messages, as well as on our social media channels.

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to build consistent reading habits, discover new books, and enjoy the rewards of their efforts.

Prizes to be won – a great incentive to keep those pages turning!



# 2025 Winter Concert

PRIDE | RESPECT | SUCCESS

Penrice Orchestra  
Penrice Senior Choir  
Talented Soloists

11th  
DECEMBER

Rock Bands  
Excerpt from 2026  
School Production  
Plus many more acts...

---

CONCERT BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M.

---

Tickets going on sale  
week beginning 1st December.

# Festive Fun Craft and Colouring at Mid-Cornwall Family Hubs

**2  
DECEMBER**

10:30 - 12:00

**NEWQUAY  
FAMILY HUB**

**HEALTHY  
CORNWALL**

**3  
DECEMBER**

10:00 - 12:00

**ST BLAZHEY  
FAMILY HUB**

**NCT - BOOKING  
ONLY (SUGGESTED  
DONATION £2)\***

**8  
DECEMBER**

13:00 - 14:30

**THE PARK,  
FALMOUTH**

**HEALTHY  
CORNWALL**

**9  
DECEMBER**

10:30 - 12:00

**NEWQUAY  
FAMILY HUB**

**PARENTING  
CORNWALL**

**11  
DECEMBER**

9:30 - 11:30

**THE  
LIGHTHOUSE**

**HEALTHY  
CORNWALL**

**15  
DECEMBER**

9:30 - 11:30

**ST AUSTELL  
FAMILY HUB**

**WILD (INVITE  
ONLY)**

**16  
DECEMBER**

14:00 - 16:00

**ST AUSTELL  
FAMILY HUB**

**HEALTHY  
CORNWALL**

**18**

**DECEMBER**

13:00 - 15:00

**ST DENNIS  
FAMILY HUB**

**HOMESTART**

**PARENTING  
WORKERS AND  
HEALTHY  
CORNWALL WILL  
BE AVAILABLE  
TO CHAT**

[https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-  
services/family-hubs](https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/childrens-services/family-hubs)



**\*:HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NCTSOUTHEASTCORNWALL/**