

September 2026

PARENT NEWSLETTER



Mr Richard Baker
Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

As we begin a new academic year at Penrice Academy, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our students and families.

A special welcome goes to our new Year 7 students, who are joining our community at the start of an exciting new chapter. We have been delighted to see how positively they have settled in, and we look forward to supporting them as they grow in confidence and embrace the many opportunities ahead.

The start of a new term is always a time of optimism and ambition. Our staff are looking forward to another year of learning, achievement and personal development, and we are excited to see what our young people will accomplish in the months ahead.

Whether in the classroom or in enrichment activities, we encourage every student to make the most of the opportunities available to them.

We are also looking forward to our upcoming Open Evening, one of the highlights of the autumn term.

Our students play a vital role in making the event such a success, proudly showcasing life at Penrice Academy and helping visitors feel welcome.

We would be delighted to hear from any students who would like to volunteer and represent the academy on the evening. Their enthusiasm and pride in our school always make a lasting impression.



Welcoming Year 7



Year 7 settling in



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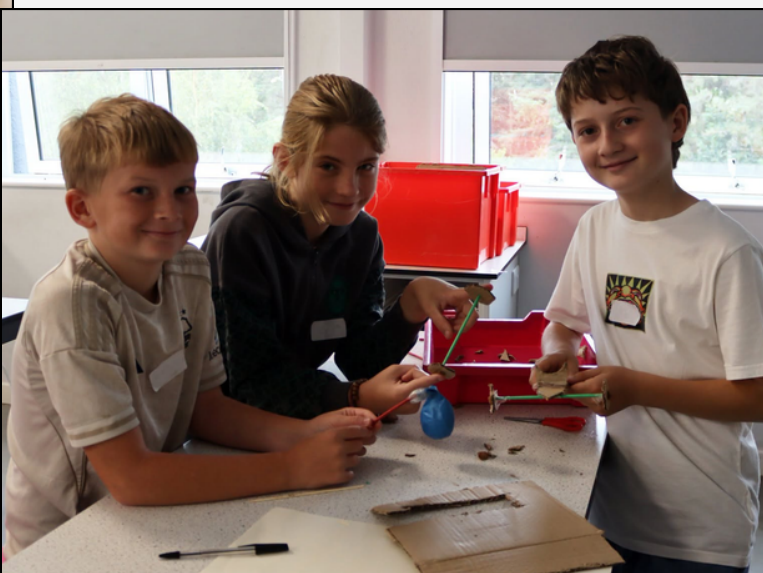
Summer Academy Gets Off to a Fantastic Start

Over the Summer break we were delighted to welcome a group of our incoming Year 6 students for the first day of our three-day Summer Academy, designed to support a smooth, enjoyable and confident transition to Penrice Academy before this term started.

Learners took part in an exciting range of activities throughout the day, giving them the opportunity to explore new subjects, develop new skills and begin building friendships with their future classmates.

Sessions included Music, Mandarin, Animal Instincts, Robotics and Coding, as well as hands-on Science experiments where students created lava lamps and enjoyed the fizzing reactions of the ever-popular 'Fantastic Fizz' activity.

Students embraced new experiences and started to become familiar with life at Penrice Academy. It has been wonderful to see new friendships already being form and confidence growing as learners prepare for the next stage of their educational journey.





GCSE Success

Penrice Academy is proud to celebrate another year of outstanding GCSE results, with learners achieving excellent outcomes across a wide range of academic and vocational subjects.

Among the many highlights, triple Science results are expected to be among the highest in the country. Beyond the grades, these achievements reflect the hard work, resilience, and dedication of every student throughout their time at Penrice.

Congratulations to all our learners, and thank you to families and staff for their unwavering support. We wish our students every success in their next chapter.

Pride at Penrice

There were smiles and happy tears as students opened their results and shared their achievements with their friends and families.

The atmosphere was filled with excitement, pride, and optimism for the future, making it a memorable day for the Penrice Academy community.

It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise not only academic success, but also the friendships and resilience, that has shaped each student's journey.

More photos [CLICK HERE](#)



Key Stage 3 Food & Nutrition

Food & Nutrition is a compulsory Key Stage 3 subject, helping students develop essential skills in healthy eating, food safety, nutrition, sustainability and cooking.

Penrice Academy will provide ingredients for all Pupil Premium students, and support is available for any family who may need assistance with costs. Students will need to bring a suitable container to take their dishes home.

If you would like the academy to provide ingredients for your child, please complete the Food Ingredient Request Form below.

[CLICK HERE](#)



Careers Fair -12th November

The Poltair, Penrice and Brannel Schools Careers Fair will take place on **12th November**.

This exciting event will bring together employers and training providers to help learners explore future pathways and career opportunities.

Location to be confirmed. Further details will be shared soon.



Mrs. April Stevenson
Pastoral Mentor
Head of Futures & Future Medics Lead

Year 11

This term's key Futures word is **Apply**. During tutor time, students will build communication skills and prepare for college applications, interviews and future opportunities. Students are responsible for completing their applications, but support is available for any student or family who may need it.

Year 10

The key word this term is **Experience**. Students are beginning work experience applications for placements later this year. We would welcome support from parents, carers and our wider community. If you can offer a placement or careers opportunity, please contact the school.

Miss Paris Brown
Teacher of History
Head of Year 9

Wow! What a welcome back from Team Year 9! I have really enjoyed welcoming back our year group this week. You have already set the standard high with being great role models to the lower years of KS3 with your excellent manners and kindness being at the forefront. I can't wait to see how you develop across this academic year with lots of opportunities to step up! Keep it up!

Miss Brown

Miss Joanna Lloyd-King
Head of Year 7
Teacher of Science

What an incredible start from year 7! Engaged, kind, enthusiastic, helpful and showing such pride in themselves and their school. New friendships are forming and they are settling in beautifully to the Penrice way. I am a very proud Head of Year.





Welcome Year 7

As we begin a new academic year, we would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new Year 7 students joining the Penrice Academy community.

Starting secondary school is an exciting milestone, and we are delighted to have our newest learners with us as they begin this important chapter of their educational journey.



We understand that moving to a new school can feel both exciting and daunting, but our dedicated staff, student leaders, and wider school community are here to provide support every step of the way.

We have already been impressed by the enthusiasm and confidence shown by our new students, and we look forward to seeing them grow and achieve throughout their time at Penrice Academy.

We wish all of Year 7 a fantastic start and a happy, successful first year with us.

MEET SOME OF OUR COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

As Community Champions, we are volunteers who help strengthen the links between Penrice Academy, families, and the wider community.

We listen to the views and ideas of learners, families, and residents, helping to ensure that different voices are heard and valued. By working alongside the school's existing channels and support networks, we aim to encourage positive relationships, strengthen community engagement, and help create a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone feels supported and able to thrive.

As Champions, we are proud to support Penrice Academy and help foster meaningful relationships across our community.

We're always keen to welcome new Community Champions and would love to have you as a part of our ever-growing Team!

'Hi, I'm Kay, mum of two boys, my eldest has just started in year 7 at Penrice. My professional background is in Operational Delivery with a focus on people management, HR and stakeholder engagement.'



Kay



Rachel

'I am a former primary school teacher who now works for Cornwall Council. With two sons having completed their education at Penrice Academy and another just beginning his journey, I am passionate about supporting learners, families, and our wider community.'

'I used to be a teacher and I now work to improve communication and support for families of children and young people with SEND.

This is a passion of mine that I aim to carry over into my Community Champion role.'



Sarah

Register your interest to become a Community Champion

CLICK HERE

CELT UPDATE

Information, messages and news from our trust

Dear parents and carers,

A warm welcome to all those joining a CELT school for the first time this September, and an equally warm welcome back to all those who are already part of the CELT family.

Travelling around our schools this past week, I've had the privilege to witness bright starts for children and young people from nursery to Year 13, and I couldn't be more positive about the year ahead.

A lot has happened over the summer. We have been working with Cornwall Council to create whole new specialist provisions in Newquay and St Austell, and growing our existing area resource base at Bodmin College.

Guided by your responses to our consultations, we are able to offer a total of 75 new specialist places to children who otherwise would not have had a school place at all this September, or would have had to travel out of area at great inconvenience and cost.

This has been supported by a huge programme of refurbishment in these schools and across the trust, which all our learners will benefit from.

This term also began with the publication of Ofsted reports for Fowey and Lostwithiel Primary Schools. Both are testaments to the incredible work of our school teams to deliver an exceptional educational experience.

CELT's three 'Big Moves' this year are:

- to empower more school-to-school collaboration
- to keep developing an equitable and ambitious curriculum
- and to better listen to, learn from and respond to our communities.

Children and their families are always at the heart of our decisions. This year, I want to put you at the heart of our decision-making too. I'll be in touch about that soon.

Warmest wishes,

Dan Morrow
Trust lead, CELT



A handwritten signature of Dan Morrow in black ink.

Dan Morrow
Trust Leader



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Learning Trust**



Community Food Parcels

We are currently assembling food parcels to support families within our community. We would be very grateful for any spare plastic carrier bags you may have at home.

If you have clean, reusable plastic bags that you no longer need, please consider donating them.

These bags help us package and distribute food parcels efficiently and ensure items can be transported safely.

Donations can be dropped off at the school office at any time during the school day. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of our school community.





Pride

Respect

Success

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2026
4.30PM TO 7.30PM

Be ambitious. Be a leader. Be yourself.

"Pupils excel at Penrice Academy."

Ofsted 2025

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

Register at: penriceacademy.org/open-event

Learn More



*Find where you **Belong!***


Cornwall
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BCX

POST-16 OPEN EVENING



Bodmin College



15 October



5pm-7pm



www.bodmincollege.co.uk/bcx





Discover why **Truro School Sixth**
is the top choice for your future.

No.1
for A-Levels
in Cornwall

TRURO SCHOOL SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 22 September 2026
5.00pm - 8.00pm

50% A*/A 80% A-B

2026 Results



Explore our Sixth Form facilities, meet our pupils and the Sixth Form Team, and experience the welcoming community that makes Truro School Sixth Form so special.
Book your place now at truroschoold.com/open-evening

KEHELLAND COLLEGE

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY
22ND OCTOBER

16:00-19:00

No booking
required



07909 497954



edadmin@kehellandtrust.org.uk



Tour our beautiful 16-acre site



Meet our Tutors



See the classrooms



Find out what our learners do



Discover our Duke of Edinburgh Programme



FREE parking



Light refreshments



Drop in at any time between 16.00 & 19.00



CORNWALL
COUNCIL
one and all - now and all

Adult
Education



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DIGITAL DEVICES & WELLBEING

Children aged 7 to 14 now spend roughly 3 to 5 hours a day on phones, tablets, consoles, and computers. That much screen time has parents and educators worried – not just about the hours logged, but about online safety and the knock-on effects on mental health. This guide brings together practical, expert-backed strategies so adults can nurture healthier digital habits and help young people thrive both on and offline.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SLEEP DISRUPTION

Excessive screen time, especially before bed, can interfere with melatonin production and delay sleep onset. Children may struggle to concentrate or regulate emotions due to poor sleep hygiene linked to late-night device use.

ONLINE PEER PRESSURE

Social media platforms expose children to unrealistic standards and peer validation loops. Likes, comments, and follower counts can influence self-worth and lead to anxiety or risky behaviour to gain approval.

CYBERBULLYING EXPOSURE

Children may encounter bullying through messaging apps, games, or social media. This can be persistent and anonymous, making it harder to detect. Victims often feel isolated and reluctant to report incidents.

REDUCED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Time spent on screens often replaces outdoor play and physical activity. This sedentary lifestyle can contribute to obesity, poor posture, and reduced cardiovascular health.

EMOTIONAL DYSREGULATION

Fast-paced digital content can overstimulate young brains. Children may become irritable, impatient, or struggle with boredom and emotional control when not engaged with screens.

PRIVACY AND SAFETY RISKS

Children may unknowingly share personal information or interact with strangers online. Without guidance, they may not understand the long-term consequences of digital footprints or unsafe online behaviour.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Establish screen-time limits and device-free zones, e.g. classrooms and dinner tables. Use parental controls and co-create a digital use agreement with children to encourage accountability. Trying a visual schedule or timer app can help children understand and stick to limits.

MODEL HEALTHY HABITS

Children mirror adult behaviour. Demonstrate balanced device use, take regular screen breaks, and prioritise face-to-face interactions to reinforce positive behaviours. Making a habit of putting your phone away during meals and conversations can show that real-life interactions come first.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DIALOGUE

Create a safe space for children to talk about their online experiences. Ask open-ended questions like, "What did you enjoy online today?" to build trust and awareness. Try setting aside 10 minutes each day for a digital check-in where children can share what they've seen or done online.

PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Teach children how to evaluate online content, recognise misinformation, and understand privacy settings. Empower them to think critically and act responsibly in digital spaces. You could use real-life examples from the news or social media to help children practise spotting fake information.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provision.



The National College®

THINK BEFORE YOU RIDE

KNOW THE RULES. STAY SAFE.

E-SCOOTERS

OWN YOUR OWN E-SCOOTER?



You **CANNOT** ride it in public places.

- Roads
- Shopping Centres
- Pavements
- Public Spaces
- Parks
- Cycle Paths



YOU CAN RIDE IT:



ON PRIVATE LAND ONLY



Your garden



Private property

You **MUST** have the
landowner's permission.

DID YOU KNOW?

E-scooters and e-motorbikes are classed as motor vehicles under UK law.



To be used
legally in
public, vehicles
need:



INSURANCE



THE CORRECT LICENCE

Private e-scooters cannot currently be insured for road use. This means using your own e-scooter in public is illegal.



RENTAL E-SCOOTERS ARE DIFFERENT



Only in approved
trial areas



Correct driving
licence required



Minimum age
requirements apply



Insurance provided by
the rental company



Must follow road
traffic laws

**YOUR
E-SCOOTER
= PRIVATE
LAND ONLY**



WHAT COULD HAPPEN?

POLICE MAY:



Seize your
e-scooter



Remove it
immediately



Dispose of it

YOU COULD ALSO BE FINED FOR:



Using a mobile phone
while riding



Riding on a pavement



Riding through red lights



Drink or drug driving



Anti-social riding



If you seriously injure someone, you could be investigated the same way as a car or motorcycle rider.

STAY SAFE



**WEAR
A HELMET**



**PUT YOUR
PHONE AWAY**



**STAY
ALERT**



**FOLLOW
TRAFFIC
SIGNALS**



**RESPECT
OTHER ROAD
USERS**

DON'T RISK LOSING YOUR SCOOTER



Devon & Cornwall Police
Keeping Young People Safe



**KNOW THE LAW.
RIDE RESPONSIBLY.**