



23 April 2021

### **Year 8 Update**

Dear Parents/Carers

After such glorious weather during the Easter holidays, staff and students have returned fully refreshed and ready for the Summer term. The weather certainly has a positive impact on everyone and it is wonderful to see this reflected around the school and students fully engaged ready to learn.

### **Academy Sport Training Day**

On Thursday 15 April, Team PE hosted an Academy Sport Day. The purpose of this day was to reintegrate Year 7 and 8 students into the School Sport Programme, and have some fun!

Over 130 pupils attended the day, focusing on developing their Netball and Football Core Skills. Student's attitude, effort and desire were clear to see throughout the day. Mr Williams designed some Sports Specific Strength and Conditioning sessions which were challenging.

Overall, it was a hugely enjoyable day for staff and students alike and something we will look to build upon in the future. A big thanks to the staff who helped out on the day.

### **Penrice Plus**

Wednesday 28 April sees the launch of Penrice Plus for Years 7 and 8 this term. Penrice Plus is a fantastic opportunity for students to take part in after school activities run by Penrice staff on a weekly basis every Wednesday. With a small programme of activities on offer this term, Year 8 students can get involved with either sporting or creative activities.

A brochure detailing the activities on offer as well as information on how to attend has been shown to students during tutor time and has also been communicated home this week. Please do encourage your child to attend, giving them a chance to learn new skills or build on skills they already have outside the classroom.

### **Curriculum Enrichment Week (CEW)**

It is with great pleasure that we can confirm CEW 2021 will run at Penrice this Summer, subject of course to any changes in government guidance in the roadmap out of lockdown. CEW will be held on the last week of the Summer term, Monday 19 July to Friday 23 July 2021. Unfortunately this year we are unable to hold the abroad or residential trips, however an exciting variety of activities will be held on the school site to enable students to participate in enriching activities giving them the opportunity to learn outside of the traditional classroom setting.





## School Day

We are extremely pleased to say that we are now holding whole year group assemblies in the Hall starting this week. The Heads of Years are more than delighted to be able to welcome their year groups into the hall and deliver their presentations face-to-face rather than virtually.

It is hopeful that once we return to school after our next half term in June that we can revert back to the normal 4 lesson day timetable. This will reduce the length of lessons which I know will be welcomed by both students and staff alike. We will also be reverting back to our standard break times (Break 1 - 10.15-10.45am / Break 2 - 1.15-1.45pm). Students will remain in their year group bubbles within separate yards and the canteen will be open on both break times for all students.

## Options

A reminder that this Monday we will be releasing an interactive Options booklet and videos, giving full details of the process from start to finish. On Tuesday 27 April you will receive your child's progress statement and the booking system will become live for you to book appointments with teachers for the virtual Progress evening on Thursday 6 May.

## Term Dates

Term dates for your diary are as follows:

- **Bank Holiday** – Monday 3 May
- **Half Term Week** – Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June
- **Last day of Summer Term** – Friday 23 July (CEW)

We would also like to make you aware of the start dates for the next academic year in September 2021 as they will be slightly different upon our return after the Summer holidays this year, as follows:

- Wednesday 1 September - INSET day, closed to all students
- Thursday 2 September – Year 7 & Year 11 IN SCHOOL (8,9 and 10 Remote Learning )
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- Friday 3 September – All Years return to school

The staggered start this year is intended to welcome our new Year 7's to Penrice. Due to COVID 19 and the restrictions put in place, the current Year 6's who will be our Year 7 students in September, have sadly missed out on the opportunity for time at Penrice, such as the usual planned Open Day and Primary Liaison Days.

Thursday 2 September is therefore a day where the school is slightly quieter than usual so Year 7's will have the opportunity to experience Penrice, it's layout and daily routine before the normal bustling, energetic school day commences with over 1400 students present.

Your child will be in Year 9 in September and will return in to school on Friday 3 September. Please be aware that Thursday 2 September will be a remote learning day for Years 8, 9 & 10, and your child will need to be ready to learn from home during the normal school hours.



## **COVID**

As always, **please continue to test every Sunday and Wednesday evening**, reporting your results on the government website [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result) as well as recording them on the Penrice Academy website [Student Home Testing Results](#).

A reminder in regards to misplaced or incomplete COVID test kits for students, as previously advised, we do not have any spare kits in school so please use one of the following options to obtain more testing kits:

1. **Online:** <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>
2. **Order by phone:** Call 119 if you are eligible and cannot order online. Lines are open 7.00am-11.00pm and calls are free.
3. **Collection from** (Monday to Sunday 1.00pm-8.00pm - You can collect two packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains seven tests):
  - Truro Park & Ride East, Truro, TR1 1RH
  - Chy Trevail Car Park, Bodmin, PL31 2FR

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucy Gambier'.

**Lucy Gambier**  
**Headteacher**