



**Lucy Gambier**  
Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very warm welcome back to the start of a new term and to our first Parent Update newsletter of the 2022/23 academic year. We hope that all families had a restful summer break, and are ready for the term ahead.

### **The Passing of Queen Elizabeth II**

The end of this week is marked by the sad passing of the Queen - Britain's longest-serving monarch. In tutor time this morning, all students were shown a presentation on the life of Queen Elizabeth II, highlighting all she has done for our country over her 72 years on the throne. At 1pm, 1430 of our students impeccably observed a reflective silence whilst watching the 96 rounds of gun salutes fired in tribute to our late monarch on big screens in the

classroom. Our thoughts are with the Royal Family at this time.

### **Thank You to Parents & Carers**

I'd like to take the opportunity in this first Parent Update to say a big thank you to all parents and carers. The students look fantastic in their uniform and are representing the school with tremendous pride from day one! Students have also been coming to school fully equipped with stationary and ready to learn.

It is a requirement that our highest standards are maintained throughout the year. Students are expected to look after their uniform and stationary and regular checks will be made throughout each week to ensure that all students are 100% ready to learn. Please do remember, if you experience any financial difficulties in purchasing any essential school items, please contact Kirstin Hooper, Student Support Lead, via [khooper@penrice.org.uk](mailto:khooper@penrice.org.uk) and we will be happy to assist.



**Paul Johnson**  
Head of Year 7

### **Welcome Year 7 Parents**

Hello Parents,

It has been a fantastic first week with Team Year 7. The year group have shown what an amazing team they are already, demonstrating kindness, curiosity and our values of Pride, Respect and Success with lots of merits being awarded. As they settle into secondary school we want them to embrace the opportunities on offer including Penrice Plus and the array of sports clubs that are starting up.

### **Celebrating Success**

Please help us celebrate your child's successes by emailing me their achievements (ideally with

a photograph) so we can collectively say well done in our Friday assemblies. My email address is [pjohnson@penrice.org.uk](mailto:pjohnson@penrice.org.uk).

### **Preventing Lost Property**

To help us, I would ask that all students have their names on their items, particularly their blazers, ties and PE kit which makes it much easier to find and reunite them across a site of our size! We also ask that students have a coat each day (with their name in it) as we continue to line up outside for our lessons and move around the school using external routes.

### **Policies**

We ask that you take some time to read through the [policies on our school website](#) before signing the Home School Agreement in your child's school planner. This allows you to best understand the systems and processes here at Penrice we use to support your child. There will be a reward for the tutor group who manage to have a 100% signed first!

...continued overleaf

## Welcome to Year 7 Parents (continued)

### Parent Pay

If you have any queries around ParentPay please contact our reception. Students are able to access the Canteen and our 'snack-shack' at break and lunchtimes if funds have been added to their account. We are also finalising a plan for lockers and I will let you know more as and when they become available.

### Year 7 Parent Information Evening – Next Week

Next week (Thursday) we are inviting you to an important information evening to help set out the keys to success in Year 7. It will be an additional opportunity to speak with staff here who are all supporting your child. There is a separate section in this bulletin with further details.

### The Penrice Academy Summer Challenge

I have seen some outstanding Summer Challenges being brought into school this week. The deadline for submission is Monday 12th September. Students should submit theirs to their tutor and then successful entries will receive their badges very soon!

### Final Words

Starting secondary school presents challenges and lots of opportunities. I hope your child has had successes with us this week and can recharge their batteries over the weekend ready for next week. Please contact your child's tutor in the first instance if there is any support required from the school so we can help your child succeed together.



YEAR 7

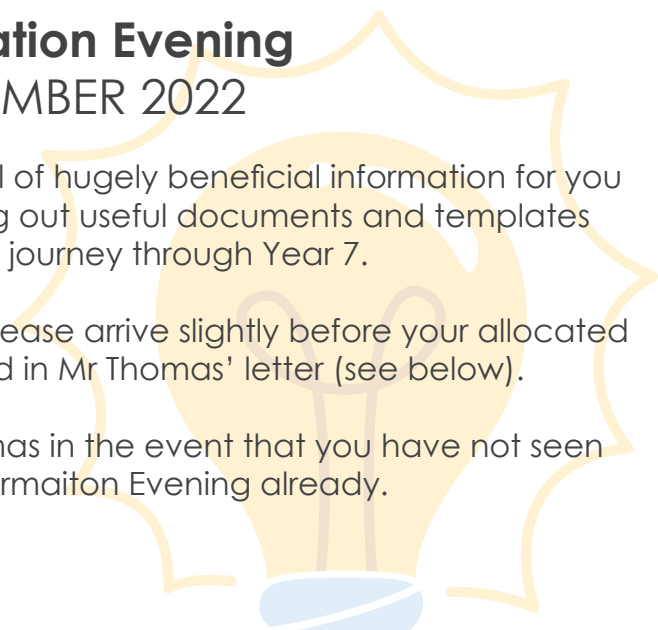
# PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

## Year 7 Parent Information Evening THURSDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2022

We look forward to welcoming you to an evening full of hugely beneficial information for you and your child. On the evening, we will be handing out useful documents and templates which allow you to track your child's journey through Year 7.

Choice of either 4.30pm or 6pm presentation time (please arrive slightly before your allocated time). The event registration form can be found in Mr Thomas' letter (see below).

Please [click here](#) to read the full letter from Mr Thomas in the event that you have not seen anything about our Year 7 Parent Information Evening already.







CLASS OF 2022

# GCSE Results

Ms Gambier has been talking to all students in assemblies this week about the school's recent GCSE results. Our Class of 2022 celebrated tremendous success and we are challenging all students to aspire to these standards and do even better!

This year was the first set of externally assessed exams since before the pandemic in 2019, so a lot could have changed in that time. We are pleased to share that we are absolutely delighted with the recent GCSE results and, as parents, you can be

reassured that our standards remain very high.

August's GCSE results are our best on record and, whilst we are still waiting for national benchmarking data to still come through, we fully expect to be in the top 10% of schools nationally, and to possibly be pushing the top 5%!

More information on our latest GCSE results can be found on our website.

[Full Story](#)



## GCSE Results Headline Figures

**83%**

Achieve a standard pass of Grade 4 or higher in both English and Maths GCSE

**92%**

gained at least a standard pass of Grade 4 in Science GCSE, with 72% of those taking separate science gaining a 7+ in Physics.

**44%**

of GCSE History students achieved Grade 7 and above, with 10% achieving the top Grade 9

**80%**

of BTEC Drama students achieve a Merit or above, with 50% achieving a Distinction or Distinction-Star

## Homework

Years 8-11 will be set homework as normal from this week moving forward. You can see all set homework on the Satchel One app (also known as Show My Homework).

Year 7 parents should have received their log in details to Satchel One (Show My Homework). Year 7 students are currently in the process of receiving their logins in their Computer Science lessons where they can be supported to access their login for the first time. As a result, Year 7 homework will not be set until the week beginning Monday 19th September.

## HPV Vaccines for Years 8 and 9

Kernow Health will be visiting Penrice Academy on Monday 26th September to administer HPV Vaccines. Links to copies of the Kernow Health letter to parents can be found below.

Please note that we have brought forward the Consent/Registration Deadline to Wednesday 21st September at 15:00 as we need extra time to prepare for the vaccination day.

[Year 8 Letter](#)

[Year 9 Letter](#)

## Penrice Plus Launches



Our first Penrice Plus of the academic year took place this week. Over 30 activities were on offer on Wednesday night, stretching across 4 key themes of Arts, Wellbeing, Academic and Sports.

There's still time for your child to sign up to a Penrice Plus activity. Simply visit our Penrice Plus webpage, identify an activity and then get your child to register through their tutor in the morning\*.

\*Please note that activities have limited spaces and some may be fully booked. Your child's tutor can advise on availability.

[View Penrice Plus Clubs](#)



**Laurie Goodlad**  
Director of Arts & Technology

## Ingredients for Food, Hospitality & Catering Lessons

Learning how to cook with fresh, seasonal ingredients is a skill that will serve our students for a lifetime. Not only do we want our students to learn how to live healthy lifestyles, we want them to be confident in the kitchen so that they can provide for themselves and their families, both now and in the future. Our Food & Nutrition lessons are an integral part of our curriculum and provide students with these opportunities.

We recognise that the additional cost of purchasing ingredients for Food & Nutrition lessons in Years 7 and 8, or Hospitality & Catering lessons in Years 9, 10 and 11, can be challenging for many families and that this challenge is going to increase in the coming months. We are keen to ensure that the cost of ingredients is not a barrier to participation in these practical lessons.

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium funding, ingredients will automatically be supplied by the school and there is nothing further for you to do.

If your child is not in receipt of Pupil Premium funding but you think that providing ingredients for these lessons may cause financial hardship, Penrice Academy can support the purchase of ingredients. To help us plan our ordering accordingly, please complete the short form [available here](#). A separate form will need to be completed for each student. All submissions will be treated with the strictest confidence.

If your child is not in receipt of Pupil Premium funding but you think you may be eligible, you can find out more on [our website here](#).

## Coat Reminder

A polite reminder to please send your child to school with a coat – particularly with the stormy weather we have experienced this week.





# GIRL POWER!

## Success in the National SatelliLife Competition

A huge congratulations to Neve, Faye, Amber and Lily who finished as runners-up in the national SatelliLife Competition towards the end of July, winning a mega £8,750 prize!

The competition, run by the UK Space Agency, asks students to concept innovative ideas on how satellites can improve life on Earth. Over 100 Year 10 Penrice students took part in the SatelliLife2022 Challenge back in Spring 2022 as they searched for new, innovative ways in which satellites could improve life on Earth.

The girls' concept, called 3Mergency, is a necklace/pendant fitted with a covert emergency beacon that can alert three emergency contacts of the wearer's location and emergency. After capturing the imagination of Miss Garrod and the other judges, their presentation was shortlisted to be filmed and entered into the competition.

More information on the girls' concept, along with other national entries, [can be read here on the official Gov.uk website.](#)



**Miss Garrod - Science Teacher**

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3mergency came up with a fantastic and innovative idea to utilise satellite data to help keep people safe. They demonstrated impressive teamwork, perseverance, and determination to develop their idea and present it to some industry experts. This was a national competition and the girls have represented themselves and Penrice Academy admirably. We are so proud of their achievement - well done!!



# OPEN EVENING

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
September 2022

