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Parent Update 9 December 2022



Lucy Gambier Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

The countdown to Christmas is well underway and tinsel has appeared around the school in various places, adding to our Christmas tree decoration in Reception. The Penrice Farm in particular has turned very festive! Despite the various decorations, as we enter our penultimate week of term, we remain focussed on making the most of precious lesson time and we are reminding students that it is not the Christmas holidays just yet. Please help us by reinforcing this message at home.

As many families turn their attention to Christmas, I would like to reiterate that we are always here to help. With interest rates, heating bills and grocery shops all going up, please do not be afraid to ask us for help – be it uniform, stationary, transport costs or our morning breakfast club. On that note, we must say a special thank you to Asda who made a generous donation to our Breakfast Club earlier this week. If you need help, please contact enquiries@penrice.org.uk in the first instance. All emails are dealt with under the strictest confidentiality.

Looking ahead, next week is my favourite week of term – Celebration Assemblies. I look forward to celebrating all student achievements in these special, end-of-term assemblies which include awards for merits, attendance, Penrice Plus involvement, sports achievements and so much more. We also host our Winter Concert which, as it stands, is likely to be a sell-out audience!

End of Term Arrangements

The school term will be ending on Tuesday 20 December at 1pm.

Registration: As normal

Lessons 1 & 2: Normal timetable

Lunch: 12 – 12.30pm

Tutor Registration: 12.30 – 1pm

Buses will arrive for those who normally travel by bus and have a valid bus pass. The new term will begin on Tuesday 3 January 2023.





STREP A CASES

A Public Health England letter was sent out to all parents/carers this morning regarding Strep A cases at Penrice Academy. A copy of the letter can be found here. A guidance letter from the UK Health Security Agency can be read here.



Miss Zoe Garrod Science Teacher & Character Lead



Mr Gerald ParryMaths Teacher & CEW Lead

Your Input Please - Character Development in Your Child

We are looking to further develop our Character Curriculum offer at Penrice Academy. With this in mind, we are welcoming parent input on which areas of Character we should focus on next term. To help us collate this information, please complete the below 2-question short survey.



CEW2023 Update for Years 8 & 9

Due to the cancellation of some overseas trips and local activities, we are still finalising student allocations for CEW '23.

Those students who have been successful in their application for a residential (UK and abroad) will receive confirmation letters in the next few days. Local and school-based activity confirmation letters will be sent out at the beginning of next term.

We apologise for the delay in getting these out to you, but we have been working hard to adapt the trips that have proved to be the most popular to accommodate as many students as possible.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY REMINDER

We are encouraging everyone to wear their most festive jumpers to school next Wednesday for Save the Children. A small donation of £1 is requested, or bring in an item for our foodbank donation.



Mr Aaron Marks
Director of Sports and
Penrice Plus Lead

Spring Term 2023 Activities Brochure Launch

Earlier this week, we launched our Spring Term 2023 Penrice Plus programme, sharing an interactive digital brochure of all of the activities. Students will be asked to register for activities next week. This will then allow us to kickstart the programme of extra-curricular as early as possible in January 2023.

We're asking all parents & carers to sit down with their child over the weekend and pick out some activities to apply for. Pupils must apply via their tutors by Tuesday 13 December. Applications are not awarded on a first-come first-served basis.

As with every Penrice Plus sign up process, some clubs have limited capacity, therefore places

cannot be guaranteed. We will always try our best to ensure every child gets fair opportunities; those students who didn't get their first-choice activity in Autumn Term are more likely to get their first-choice this term.

Your child will be informed on whether or not their club applications have been successful when we return in January.



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Mr Pete BrodeyMusic Teacher

Winter Concert Update

Our Winter Concert takes place on Tuesday evening next week and there are only 5 tickets left at the time of writing!

We're keeping a close eye on the advice from Public Health England following some positive cases of Strep A. As things stand, we plan on running the concert with some extra precautions in place such as hand sanitiser and pre-event seat cleaning.

However, given today's information, we fully understand if you would no longer like to attend. We're hoping for a sell-out crowd, making sure every student can take to the stage in front of a full audience. If you have booked any tickets that will no longer be used, please cancel them via Eventbrite or by emailing events@penrice.org.uk. This will help us ensure that every seat is full and that more families have the chance to attend. Please remember that if your child is performing at the concert then they do not need a ticket reserved for themselves.



Ms Aimee Stevens Head of CLASS

Healthy Relationships and Online Safety – Student Survey Feedback

Next week during tutor time, we will be going through the survey results from the recent student questionnaire on harmful sexual behaviours and online safety. We will also be telling students what actions we are taking in response to their input.

This is all part of our mission to make Penrice a better, safer place, helping students understand what makes healthy relationships and how to use the internet safely.



Ms Kelsie Sutcliffe
Pastoral Support Mentor
for Year 9

Year 9 Rewards for Highest Attendance and Merits

A free cinema trip for selected Year 9 students will take place on Tuesday 20th December to celebrate the tutor with highest attendance and highest merits. We will be watching Home Alone!

We will also be celebrating team Year 9 achievements in our termly Celebration Assembly next week which will see many students rewarded for their efforts this term.

YEAR 10 CHILD DEVELOPMENT STUDENTS EXCEL

Our Year 10 Child Development students have been busy in the Penrice Kitchens this week learning how to present food to children of Nursery age.

The practical assignment is part of their Child Development coursework, encouraging children and toddlers to enjoy a healthy, balanced diet from the youngest age possible.





Mrs Lorraine Turner Head of Careers

Careers Update

There will be a variety of Careers sessions across Year 7 – 10 next week.

Year 7 will be exploring jobs of the future. Year 8 and 9 will be finding out about Careers in STEM (Engineering), and Year 10 will be preparing for Work Experience.

FOLLOW PENRICE













Entries revealed so far.







Missing Ring

Sadly, a ring of extreme sentimental value was lost this week at school. The band has a blue speckled stone and is created from the ashes of a loved one.

Please ask your child to keep their eyes open next week when in school - if we all look out for the ring then there's a chance it might be found and reunited with its owner.







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