



Lucy Gambier
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels like it was only yesterday that I was welcoming everyone back after the winter break and yet half-term is upon us already! The past 6 weeks have really flown by and there have been some fantastic curriculum highlights including a [WW1 History workshop hosted by guest speakers](#), field trips to [Bodmin Jail](#) and the Hall for Cornwall, the UKMT Maths Challenge and ['whodunnit' investigations](#) for our Year 7s in Science.

But the highlights don't end there! We have some big announcements included in today's Parent Update. Read on for more information regarding:

- Seat bookings/reservations opening for Matilda Jr. (below).

- A review on National Apprenticeship Week 2023.
- The Penrice Plus Green Team officially launching 'Penrice Pre-Loved'.

Year 11 Exam Preparation Evening

I'll finish by quickly mentioning our Year 11 Exam Preparation Evening which took place last night. We would like to thank parents and pupils for the high turnout to this very important event which shared key information, preparing students for the final part of their 5-year Penrice journey. We're always open to feedback on such events; you can send your thoughts to enquiries@penrice.org.uk where all feedback will be collated and passed on to the senior leadership team.

Wishing everyone a lovely half-term and I look forward to welcoming students through the gates again on Monday 20th February.

Kind regards,
Lucy Gambier

MATILDA JR. SEAT RESERVATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

Penrice Academy is thrilled to present our 2023 School Production of Matilda Jr, the award-winning musical based on the original Roald Dahl classic. This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have you rooting for the "revolting children" who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson!

Full information, including how to reserve seats, can be found on the website.

Further Information





GREEN TEAM OFFICIALLY LAUNCH PENRICE PRE-LOVED

The Penrice Plus Green Team have officially launched our Penrice Pre-Loved Uniform Store this week, coinciding with the creation of a Penrice Pre-Loved Marketplace on Facebook.

Penrice Pre-Loved is all about giving old uniform and school equipment a new home, re-using perfectly good items and reducing carbon footprint together.

Penrice Pre-Loved is available in the following locations:

- Our in-school Uniform Store (in the Medical Room).
- Online, via a [Facebook Marketplace page](#).

Who can get involved?

Both the Uniform Store and the Facebook Marketplace are available to all Penrice parents/carers, including:

- Those who wish to do their bit for the planet.
- Those who wish to earn money for old uniform.
- Those who wish to clear space in their house and offload old uniform.
- Those who may wish to donate uniform to support others.*
- Those who wish to swap an existing uniform item for a different size.
- Those who are struggling to afford brand new uniform and/or second-hand uniform.



The key difference between the Uniform Store and the Facebook Marketplace page is that there will be no financial transactions in the Uniform Store. The Uniform Store will only accept swapping items and donations/drop-offs*, whilst also providing free uniform support.



MATILDA (YEAR 8) - GREEN TEAM MEMBER

Penrice Pre-Loved is a great way of sharing unwanted school items and doing the right thing for the planet. I'm really excited about this launch.



The Green Team has been involved in some school projects up to now, including making bug hotels and recycling posters for the school, but this is definitely the biggest project we have taken on. We definitely feel empowered!

**The Pre-Loved Uniform Store will undoubtedly rely on the continued generosity of the Penrice community. Any donations will be gratefully accepted. Please ensure that uniform donations are cleaned and dry before drop off at the school gates.*



Mrs Lorraine Turner
Careers Lead



Mr Dave Lewis
Deputy Headteacher and
Designated Safeguarding Lead



Apprenticeships

National Apprenticeship Week
6th to 12th February 2023

National Apprenticeship Week 2023 #NAW2023

This week we have been celebrating everything that apprenticeships have to offer, including hearing some powerful stories from our alumni who are enjoying successful careers thanks to apprenticeships.

There have been a wide range of talks, visitors and workshops this week, covering all year groups. From planting those initial seeds of inspiration with our Year 7s, to practical workshops on how to search for apprenticeship vacancies with our Year 11s, there has been something for every student.

Did you know?

The Apprenticeships landscape has changed massively over the past few decades with a much broader range of entry levels.

In the latest figures covering the 2022/23 academic year so far, the UK government reports that Under 19s accounted for only 31.5% of apprenticeship starts. A huge number of young people and adults are embarking upon advanced apprenticeships (41.8%) and higher-level apprenticeships (34.4%) as successful pathways into their chosen careers, receiving full training on the job and valuable industry experience.

Continue the Conversation

We warmly encourage you to continue the conversation at home with your child. There are some fantastic resources and parent & student packs on our website's apprenticeships page to give you all the latest information in a readable and digestible manner.

[Case Studies & Resources](#)



Let's Talk Teenagers – Safer Cornwall

Being the parent or carer of teenagers can be a challenge. The Cornwall safeguarding board is offering some support through a new programme called 'Let's Talk Teenagers'. It involves a series of online support sessions, providing an opportunity for parents and guardians of teenagers and pre-teens to hear about the challenges young people are facing today. These sessions will be running over February and March.

The sessions will discuss the things we can do as parents and guardians to support our children. To find out more and to sign up for the programme, please see the poster at the end of this Parent Update.

Safer Internet Day

This week we took part in Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 7th February.

This year's theme was: 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'.

Recent research is showing the importance of not only educating children about how to keep safe online, but also creating a relationship where they feel supported and understood if they get things wrong. We all make mistakes and the most important thing if something bad happens is that our children feel that they can tell us.

As we move into half-term and our children are likely to be spending more time online, now is a perfect time to have a conversation with your child about their life online; taking time to listen.

More help and guidance on this can be found on the following link.

[Find out more](#)



Pride

Respect

Success



Freya Reaches National Final of Springboard Future Chef Competition

We are delighted to share the news that Freya in Year 9 won the southwest regional final of the Springboard Future Chef competition last Friday at Bridgwater and Taunton College in Somerset.

With an outstanding high score of 41/50, Freya 'smashed it' and has now qualified for the national final in London in March. Congratulations Freya and best of luck in the national final!

GHANA FUNDRAISING

This summer, a group of Penrice students are going to Ghana to complete voluntary work at a school. We are looking to raise funds to support our trip and to help us provide much needed resources for the school we will be working at. Many of the Ghanaian children who attend the school also work to support their families in fishing or agriculture. For this reason, the children attend school for fewer hours each day and some children do not attend school at all.

After half-term, on a number of Fridays, we will be running some fundraising events in school (see right).

All of these events will be advertised each week in assembly. If you would like your child to get involved in any of these activities then please remember to hand them a small amount of cash.

This is our first year running this trip and our hope is that we are able to offer this experience for our students in the future.

Thank you in advance for any support you are able to offer.

Miss Garrod, Ms Chandler and Mr Sullivan
Trip Coordinators

UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Friday 24th February

A delicious bake sale at the front of school outside Reception (purchases via cash only)

Friday 4th March

Gym Challenges (press ups, pull ups, dips)*

Friday 17th March

Keepie-uppie challenge*

Friday 24th March

Half Court and Quarter Court Basketball Challenges*

**50p entry and prizes for the winners.*



Online Academy Shop

A reminder that you can buy a wide range of school resources, revision packs and equipment online via the Academy Shop.

The link to the Academy Shop can be found under the 'Parents' tab on the website. Alternatively, you can just keep the below link safely bookmarked/stored on your device.

[Access the Academy Shop](#) 

Year 11 Half-term Coursework Catch-up Sessions

We are running Art, Photography and Health & Social Care coursework catch-up sessions on **Thursday 16th February (during half-term), 9am to 3pm.**

All Year 11 students who study one or more of the above courses are welcome to attend. Simply sign in at reception upon arrival.

YEAR 9

ADVANCED NOTICE OF DATE CHANGE

Year 9 Parent & Student Information Evening

The Year 9 Parent & Student Information Evening that was scheduled for Thursday 23rd February will now take place on **Thursday 9th March**. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

The event will be an opportunity for parents and students in Year 9 to come in and listen to key information from our Raising Standards Lead & Assistant Headteacher, Gavin Thomas. Attendees will be informed about the second half of the journey through to GCSEs and beyond, highlighting how to be successful and get the most out of the remaining time at Penrice.

Exact timings and booking information will be sent out nearer the time.



UNDEFEATED

Congratulations to our Indoor Girls' Cricket Team who won 3 out of 3 matches this week to win their regional round of the County Cup. Good luck in the County Final later in the academic year!



LET'S TALK TEENAGERS

Dates:

- Tuesday 21st February, 7pm
- Tuesday 28th February, 7pm
- Tuesday 7th March, 7pm

Free support sessions for parents and carers



Have you got teenagers? Join us online for a chat about some of the challenges young people are facing today, and find out what tools you can use to support them.



We'll be running weekly 90 minute twilight sessions covering topics such as:

- drugs and alcohol
- body image
- safety online
- mental health
- social risks
- peer pressure



Visit **cornwall/teenagers** to find out more about each session and book your free place.



**SAFER
CORNWALL**

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