



# Parent Update 21 April 2023



**Lucy Gambier** Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back following the Easter Break.
Summer Term is always my favourite term of the academic year for reasons beyond the expected sunny weather. Between now and 21st July, we look forward to highlights such as the Year 8 Options Process, Sports Day, end of year Celebration Assemblies and, of course, the highly anticipated Curriculum Enrichment Week for Years 7, 8 and 9!

The Summer Term also represents the end of a memorable 5-year journey for our Year 11s as they sit their final GCSE examinations. Their Penrice

journey will conclude with the unforgettable experience of the Class of 2023 Prom where our students will be dressed up to the nines to celebrate the end of their exams. We'll be sure to capture all the glitz and glam of this red-carpet event!

Lastly, as the journeys of 300 students come to an end, we begin to welcome a new cohort of students and their families into the Penrice community at our Year 6 Welcome Day and Evening – we'll be announcing exact dates in the near future!

There are lots of announcements in this Parent Update with a large focus on Parent and Pupil Voice (see page 2). We also have news of an expanded Breakfast Club provision, various Save the Dates, and news of a surprise visitor (below).

- Lucy Gambier



### **SPEEDO MICK VISITS PENRICE**

An enormous thank you to the inspirational Speedo Mick for visiting Penrice's Year 9 students on Wednesday afternoon, dropping into 12 classrooms to take students by surprise each time! Speedo Mick features regularly in Mrs Razzell's weekly Year 9 assemblies as a role model for how tiny steps in the right direction every day can help you reach massive end goals, no matter what your circumstances.

Speedomick is nearing the finish line of his John o'Groats to Land's End journey and took the time to visit our students to share his powerful life story which included bouncing back from homelessness, mental health problems, adversity and addiction. As of today, from hiking in his Speedos, he has now raised a total of £983,000 for charity over 6 years and is so close to the £1 million mark!!

His current walk saw him climb Ben Nevis where it was a frosty -3 degrees at the bottom and an incredible -18 degrees at the top - all completed in his Speedos!!

If you would like to sponsor Mick on his current (and final) walk, 'The Final Stomp', please visit his <u>GoFundMe</u> page.

Speedo Mick with Mrs Razzell (Head of Year 9)



# ACADEMY COUNCIL WORK

The first week of the new term has seen all year groups attend an assembly regarding toilet access updates with a presentation led by our Senior Year 11 Prefects. During this presentation, our prefects shared the key outcomes following our extensive student voice work which has included open tutor group discussions, Year Group Council meetings and a number of Academy Council meetings. As always, if you have any questions then please contact us directly.

In addition, the Academy Council recently reported that opening the school's side gates in the morning would be more convenient whilst also easing congestion on the road, thus making students feel safer. In response, the school's side gates (next to the netball courts) are now open in the mornings with on duty staff present. Students may now enter the site through this alternative entrance in the mornings.





## PARENT VOICE SURVEY

#### Parent Voice Survey 2023

As we move forward and continue to work collaboratively, it is the perfect timing for us to open this year's Parent Voice Survey.

Run annually, this is a great opportunity for all parents and carers to have their voices heard and for Penrice to continue to improve. This survey is open for responses as of today and will close on Monday 1st May at 23:59. Please complete one survey per child.





**Ms Tanya Coleman**Deputy Headteacher

#### Parent Forum - Date Change

On a final note of canvassing parent opinions, our upcoming Parent Forum has been rescheduled to Wednesday 10th May due to industrial strike action taking place on the originally planned date. We apologise for this change of date.

Registration is now open. If you would like to attend the Parent Forum on 10th May, please complete the below form. Places are awarded on a first come, first served basis. In the event of oversubscription, any parents who register but miss out on a place will receive first offer to apply for the next Parent Forum.

Timings: 5:30pm - 6:30pm, Wednesday 10th May

**Register to Take Part** 





## Breakfast Club

8:00am - 8:20am Mondays - Fridays\*





### **BREAKFAST CLUB EXPANDS** THANKS TO MCKS PARTNERSHIP

We are delighted to announce the expansion of our Penrice Breakfast Club, which means that no child needs to start the day hungry in our school.

Through our collaboration with a charitable foundation, MCKS UK, we are able to offer a range of breakfast items, including cereals, fruit, breakfast bars and pastries every day from 8:00-8:20am in the canteen to any child who would benefit from it.

Children can sit in the canteen to have their breakfast, but also complete some homework or talk with members of staff to help lay the foundations for a successful day. Alternatively, students can 'grab and go' and have something to eat on their way to tutor time.

We hope that our Breakfast Club will support our local community and make life a little bit easier for our families. Furthermore, evidence shows that having breakfast will help our students to achieve their very best in lessons.

Advanced registration from parents/carers is required. Please sign up below if you wish for your child to attend.



Our School Pantry Cupboard is proudly supported by

MCKS Charitable Foundation UK

### **YEAR 8 - SAVE THE DATES**

Year 8 Options Evening Thursday 4th May 2023

Year 8 Progress Evening (virtual)
Thursday 11th May 2023

Further information to follow.

#### The Term Ahead

Keep an eye open for our new termly parent information document called 'The Term Ahead'.

You will receive this next week via email/SMS. 'The Term Ahead' contains year group-specific information regarding:

- What your child will be learning
- Exciting things to look forward to
- Messages from your child's Head of Year
- And so much more.



## QWELL - MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUPPORT

On Tuesday 9th May, Qwell will be hosting two free webinars for parents & carers in Cornwall. These sessions are for those who want to know more about Qwell and the digital mental health and wellbeing support they offer.

**Book Your Place** 



**More Information** 



# UPCOMING NEU STRIKE DAYS

Please be aware of the upcoming NEU strike dates on Thursday 27 April 2023 and Tuesday 2 May 2023.

A letter was sent to all parents earlier today (Friday).

Strike Action Letter (PDF: 214KB)





We're currently on the lookout for talented individuals to fill the below roles:

- Deputy Head of MFL (September 2023 Start)
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (Immediate Start Available)

Visit our <u>vacancies page</u> for more information and to apply.

Pride

Respect

Success



**Mrs Lorraine Turner** Head of Careers

#### **Work Experience Update**

Although the deadline has passed for Work Experience, we know there are still students who have stated they have a placement but have not yet returned their completed Approval and Consent form into school.

Without this documentation we cannot class your child as having a placement. Please ensure your child returns this form by Friday 28th April at the very latest. It can take several weeks for a placement to get approved/authorised after the form has been returned back to school fully completed by the students, parents/carers and the employer. After this date we cannot ensure this authorisation process will be completed and the placement may therefore not be able to happen.

If a form has been lost by the student or an employer, an electronic version is available to download from our website here.

Thank you to all parents and carers who are supporting our Year 10 students in securing their work experience placements this year.



FIND OUT MORE AT CALLYWITH.AC.UK

Meet the tutors | Tour the campus | Explore your options





FIND OUT MORE AT TRURO-PENWITH.AC.UK Meet the tutors | Tour the campus | Explore your options



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# **OPEN** EVENT

LL the career college



5pm-7pm





APPRENTICESHIP **JOB FAIR** 

THU 4TH MAY 5PM - 7PM

**Meet local employers** 

**Book online** 



#thecareercollege









Saturday 13th May, 10am to 3pm on Zoom

### A free healthcare careers event for Y10-Y11 students

Interested in a career in healthcare? Don't know where to start?

Join the **DR.EAM Big Conference** for the opportunity to hear inspiring talks from real healthcare professionals and interact with them live.

- √ Gain insight into studying healthcare courses at university
- √ Discover various journeys into health-related careers
- √ Witness the daily lives of doctors, nurses, midwives, and more
- √ Ask these healthcare experts your burning questions!





Birmingham Widening Access to Medical Sciences