



Lucy Gambier
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write my piece for today's Parent Update, our motivated Ten Tors challengers are currently loading up the minibus at the front of school as they prepare to head to Dartmoor for the final event! Our students will be joining others from across the country as schools descend on Dartmoor for the 35, 45, and 55-mile endurance challenges.

They have been training regularly since the start of the academic year as they learn how to read maps, navigate moorland, become self-sufficient and prepare themselves for the physical demands of the Ten Tors challenge.

I must also say a big thank you to the Penrice staff who have given up their time help with the training walks over the past 8 months – partaking in events like Ten Tors wouldn't be possible without your support. We wish the whole team all the best for this weekend and we have a number of teachers and support staff who will be attending at the end of the route on Sunday to congratulate students as they enjoy that special, unforgettable moment of crossing the finish line.

Included in this Parent Update is the launch of our Year 8 Options Process, a giant cheque presentation by our Year 11s and news of a recent Mandarin field trip. Lastly, there are also reminders of our ongoing Parent Voice Survey and our upcoming Parent Forum. These are both great opportunities to have your voices heard and we warmly encourage all feedback as we strive to continually improve.

Wishing all of you an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend. - **Lucy Gambier**



Ms Penrose
Ten Tors Lead at Penrice Academy

“Everybody has put in enough work to complete the challenge with flying colours. They are all very capable and we look forward to seeing them across the finish line on Sunday!”





YEAR 8 OPTIONS

YEAR 8 OPTIONS PROCESS LAUNCHES

Each year, students in Year 8 complete their Options at Penrice, signalling the first time in their education where they have a say in what they study. Whilst this is an important milestone and some students will already be sure about what they want to choose, even what they wish to study beyond Penrice, others will be unsure and that is perfectly normal, especially having experienced covid disruption in their learning journey.

We are ambitious for our students, and we want to create every opportunity for them to be

able to study a broad and balanced range of knowledge and skills, as well as be competitive in an everchanging world.

On Thursday, we sent a text to all Year 8 parents/carers announcing the launch of this process. We hope to see you on Thursday 4th May at our Year 8 Options Evening (registration required).

More information about the Year 8 Options Process and the Year 8 Options Evening can be found below.

YEAR 8 OPTIONS INFORMATION



YEAR 8 - SAVE THE DATES

Year 8 Options Evening
Thursday 4th May 2023

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



YEAR 8 OPTIONS EVENING - INFORMATION & EVENT REGISTRATION:





YEAR 11s PRESENT 24-HOUR CHALLENGE FUNDRAISING CHEQUE TO CHILDREN'S HOSPICE SOUTH WEST

Sally Bridger, a St Austell representative from Children's Hospice South West (CHSW), visited our Year 11s yesterday to personally thank them for their efforts in the recent 24-Hour Charity Challenge.

In a short presentation, Sally talked the students through the work of Children's Hospice South West and explained exactly how the £2,080 can be used to support others.

£20 pays for one hour of care for the children and families who use Children's Hospice South West which means that our students have raised an equivalent of 104 hours of care for those in need.

Furthermore, with this latest donation, Sally shared the great news that Penrice has now raised over £10,000 for CHSW since their computer records began! Well done to all Penrice students who have contributed to this total,

both past and present!

Sally said: "Congratulations to Penrice Year 11 who recently completed the 24-Hour Challenge. There was lots of rowing, cycling and dancing and the pictures looked amazing. The funds raised will really help the families in our care, supporting those with life-limiting conditions. Thank you so much Penrice Academy."



£2080 RAISED



Mrs Lorraine Turner
Head of Careers

Year 10 Careers Update

Next week, we are busy beginning new and exciting projects relating to our Year 10 students. A group will be starting a work experience with a difference! [Newquay Orchard](#) have offered 10 of our students the opportunity to explore working in the horticultural sector. Students and staff will visit Newquay Orchard's farm over 3 separate days in May to learn about growing fruit and vegetables as a business and also developing their key employability skills like teamwork, communication and more.

Our second project beginning next week is the "[Ahead of the Game](#)" mentoring programme. A group of students will begin a programme to increase their understanding of the world of work and future studies with a mentor guiding them through their learning, step by step.

Year 11 Careers Update

Please don't forget there are lots of careers activities and open events taking place very soon across the colleges in Cornwall. These were shared in last week's [Parent Update \(PDF: 2.3MB\)](#)



Mr Fred Stokes
Deputy Head of Maths

Students Take on the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge

This week, 120 Year 7 and 8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge from the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT). The 60-minute challenge is one of the hardest mathematical competitions in the country and over 300,000 students will have taken part across the UK!

The Penrice students were exemplary, especially as the majority of them were sitting an assessment in the sports hall for the very first time. We look forward to finding out their results in a couple of weeks.



**United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust**



PARENT VOICE SURVEY

Parent Voice Survey 2023 - Final Reminder

Our Parent Voice Survey closes at the end of the Bank Holiday weekend (Monday 1st May at 23:59). Run annually, this is a great opportunity to have your voice heard and for Penrice to continue to improve.

[Access Parent Voice Survey](#)



PARENT FORUM

Parent Forum Reminder - Wednesday 10th May

Time is running out to register for our upcoming Parent Forum on Wednesday 10th May, 5:30pm - 6:30pm. At this event, you will be able to discuss your thoughts with other parents and members of Penrice leadership in round-table discussions.

Places are awarded on a first come, first served basis. In the event of oversubscription, any parents who registers but misses out on a place will receive first offer to apply for the next Parent Forum.

[Register to Attend](#)

FOLLOW US





Mr Gerald Parry
CEW Coordinator

CEW 2023 Update

It's getting closer and the excitement is building. Just 11 weeks to go until Curriculum Enrichment Week 2023!

A reminder that the final payment for your child's CEW activity is due on Friday 5th May (Years 8/9) or Wednesday 17th May (Year 7). Students will only be able to participate in their activity if payment has been made in full by this date.

If you are experiencing any difficulties in meeting the cost of your child's activity, please contact me at CEWenquiries@penrice.org.uk as soon as possible.

THE TERM AHEAD

On Monday, we shared updates specific to your child regarding the term ahead. These were sent out for parents/carers of students in Years 7-10.

'The Term Ahead' is a succinct 2-page document that lets you know what your child will be learning this term and all the highlights you can look forward to. In case you missed it, you can access each relevant document below:

Year 7 (PDF: 5.3MB)



Year 8 (PDF: 4.5MB)



Year 9 (PDF: 4.3MB)



Year 10 (PDF: 3MB)



Mandarin Students Enjoy University of Exeter Trip

Students on our Mandarin Excellence Programme recently spent a day at the University of Exeter to experience what it is like to study Mandarin at university. During the experience, students enjoyed a presentation in a large lecture hall (auditorium) before breaking out into activity groups in various classrooms.

Miss Rose, Mandarin and MFL Teacher at Penrice, said: "It was fantastic for the University of Exeter to invite our Year 7 and Year 9 Mandarin students to their campus for a day of Mandarin activities and lectures.

It was such an amazing opportunity for our students to learn in a further education setting, and many students expressed how they loved the languages experience and wanted to return for another day in the future. Several of our Mandarin students also said that they want to study Chinese at Exeter University after Penrice, which would create incredible career prospects for them in the future."



UPCOMING NEU STRIKE DAY

A reminder that the next industrial strike action by the NEU takes place on Tuesday next week (2nd May). The information letter sent out previously can be found below.

Strike Action Letter (PDF: 214KB)

