



Parent Update 14 July 2023



Lucy Gambier Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're within touching distance of Curriculum Enrichment Week and Work Experience which begin next week! There's definitely a sense of excitement buzzing around the school today!

As for the week gone by, the remaining end of year Celebration Assemblies were in full swing. It was Year 7's and Year 9's turn to gather in the Assembly Hall this week as students celebrated merits, attendance, extra-curricular successes, tutor group awards and so much more, all whilst reflecting on a memorable first year at Penrice. Well done to all students who picked up awards during Celebration Assemblies, demonstrating Penrice Success in full colour.

Student Leaders Shine at Year 6 Welcome Day

On Monday 3rd July, we welcomed a new cohort of Penrice students into the school for their Year 6 Welcome Day. Students started the day with an assembly and were introduced to Mr Darbourne who will be their Head of Year. They then attended two lessons in the morning before enjoying their chosen Penrice Plus Taster Activity!

The day ended with our new Year 6 families visiting the school for a Welcome Evening, receiving lots of essential information from Mr Darbourne and the Senior Leadership Team. We must also say thank you to our newly-appointed









Year 10 Student Leaders who helped our Year 6 pupils throughout the day, representing the school with great enthusiasm whilst wearing their new prefect ties!

Sports Day 2023

It was a special day here at Penrice yesterday with so much camaraderie on display during Sports Day 2023. All students demonstrated exceptional teamwork skills and respect whilst competing and cheering on others. Congratulations to team Charlestown who lifted the trophy with 1,331 points.

The day ended with all students cheering on the staff relay and there was plenty of laughter in the staff tug-o-war where the rope snapped just a few seconds in, causing all competitors to fall over!

Thank you to all pupils and staff for sharing such a wonderful day. Some pictures from the day are contained within this Parent Update with more available on social media.

Changes Following Annual Policies Review

Looking even further ahead (to September), we have completed our annual review of Penrice uniform, behaviour and expectations policies and there will be some changes for next academic year. Mr Foster shares all of the information later in this Parent Update. The changes being made are to align us to the behaviour policies of other CELT secondary schools.

Your Voice Matters

Finally, as mentioned in the previous Parent Update (on 26th June), CELT are running a Parent Voice Survey which expires at 8:00am on Wednesday 19th July following an extension. If you haven't done so already, please spare 10-15 minutes to complete the survey which will help us benchmark against other schools within the trust and make improvements based on your feedback.

CELT Parent Voice Survey



- Lucy Gambier



GHANA TRIP UPDATE

Our students have arrived in Ghana and the adventures have begun!

After an amazing journey across the Volta Region of Ghana, our students arrived at their guest house before enjoying an evening walk on the beach.

Our students had a great first day meeting children at the school they will be working with before exploring the local market.

Day two was jam-packed! Our student teaching team taught lessons in reading,

spelling and netball. Experiencing education in Ghana has been eye-opening for our students. They have responded brilliantly, being innovative and creative in the lessons they plan and deliver to the children at our partner school. It was also a busy day for our construction team, who started work on plastering a new library building for the school.

We are immensely proud of all our students and regular updates can be found on our social media accounts.

PENRICE PLUS - AUTUMN TERM 2023 ACTIVITIES UNVEILED

We have just launched our Autumn Term 2023 Penrice Plus programme, sharing an interactive digital brochure and matrix of all of the activities. For the first time, students/families will be asked to register for activities via an online form. This will then allow us to kickstart the programme of extracurricular as early as possible when we return in September.

We're asking all parents and carers to sit down with their child(ren) over summer holidays and pick out some activities to apply for.

The application/preferences form will open at midday on Wednesday 21st July and remain open over the holidays. Please remember that applications are not awarded on a first-come first-served basis - so there is no rush! 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.

Your child will be informed on which preferences they have secured during the first full school week of September.





Carl Foster
Deputy Headteacher Behaviour and Attendance

Policy Reviews for 2023-24 Academic Year

I write to you to offer a further thank you for your continued support over the last six weeks. You may remember that six weeks ago, I delivered an assembly to all students and wrote to parents/carers regarding some changes to uniform and behaviour expectations. Uniform in particular was chosen as an initial focus because it is the foundation to a successful school, creating a positive culture and a sense of belonging.

Over the past 6 weeks, students have really risen to the challenge and there has been significant improvement in uniform standards and how students conduct themselves throughout the school. As a result, the school is calmer and students are positive and are kinder to each other. This would not be possible without the support of Penrice parents and carers and we thank you wholeheartedly for assistance.

Policy Changes for 2023-24 Academic Year

Each year, Penrice conducts a review of all uniform, behaviour and expectations policies and I am writing to update you with regards to changes to our policies which will commence in September. Some rules are being dropped or loosened, whilst others are being introduced and/or clarified, all with the aim of closer-aligning us with the behaviour policies of other CELT secondary schools.

To ensure that all students are aware of these changes, this week I have spoken to students in assemblies. Some of the key points can be seen below.

Uniform

- Students are still permitted to wear one studded earring in each ear. The stud must be no wider than 5mm in diameter and must be silver or gold in colour. However, from next year, the stud can be placed anywhere in the ear, rather than just in the earlobe.
- From September, rings are no longer permitted. No other jewellery is permitted. This includes nothing placed on the wrist apart from a watch however please note that smart watches are not allowed.
- A polite reminder that students are not allowed to wear false nails, acrylic nails, or painted nails. Further to this, students are not permitted to wear false eyelashes.
- The rule on haircuts being no shorter than a Grade 2 has been removed. However, please ensure that hairstyles continue to not include tramlines. As with the previous policy, all hair should be of a natural colour.

The full 2023-24 Academic Year Uniform Policy can be accessed here. If you are unsure if any items of uniform are permitted, please check with the school and ensure any receipts are kept in the event that a return is required.

Behaviour

There are also some changes to the behaviour policy and the new policy can be found via this link. Please make yourself familiar with this policy to make sure your child in successful in September and beyond. Our aim is to promote excellent behaviour in which lessons are free from disruption. As mentioned earlier, this policy has been revised to closer follow the policies of other CELT schools, providing greater consistency across the Trust.

New Rewards and Behaviour Platform Launching in September

Finally, to help with better communication with parents and further consistency when managing behaviour, Penrice Academy are moving to a new behaviour management platform.

From September, Penrice are investing in Class Charts. Class Charts is an online platform that will show your child's attendance, merits, and behaviour points, all via a mobile phone app. More information will be given to you in September when you will be provided with login details so that you can greater monitor your child's progress.

Final Words

Thank you once again for your ongoing cooperation as we continue to improve here at Penrice Academy. When the summer holidays arrive, I wish you and your family a restful, happy and safe break from school.

Penrice Uniform Policy 2023-24 Academic Year (PDF: 1.9MB)







CELT PARENT VOICE SURVEY 2023

Your feedback is extremely valuable in helping us to continuously improve here at Penrice, as well as helping to improve schools across the trust. We really appreciate your time and the survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete.

This CELT Parent Voice Survey will take place annually and replace the annual Penrice Parent Voice Survey.

Response Deadline: Wednesday 19th July

Access Parent Voice Survey



Primary Specialist Teacher (Fixed Term Contract)

Closing date for applications: 9.00am, Thursday 20th July 2023.

Interviews to be held: Friday 21st July 2023.









YEAR 7 - A LOOK BACK

As we come to the end of a school year, we look back and see how far we've come. Year 7 have made an excellent impression on the school and I know will take a step up in maturity as they move into Year 8 and become role models for the younger students.

We have some changes in the tutor team as we sadly say goodbye to Mr Richardson, Miss Jamal, Miss Brown and Mr Jefferies. I'd like to say thank you to them for all their work and support with their tutees this year. The new tutors will be confirmed as soon as possible.

In case any students or parents are interested in 'dot-watching', I'll be wearing a GPS tracker during the Lakeland 100 race that starts on the 28th July. I mentioned it in a recent assembly linked with all the character virtues I will need to get through it! My race number is 346 and this website will have the online tracking.

The recent trips to Newquay Zoo and Charlestown have been a taster for the many more opportunities that Year 8 will have in store. More information will follow about the Year 8 Options process of looking at GCSE subject choices, as will our latest offer of exciting and varied Penrice Plus activities for the Autumn term! There will be lots to get involved in and my message to Year 7 all year has been to make sure you take the opportunities!

I wish all students and parents and happy summer.





GET INVOLVED

Please ask your child to speak to Mr Brodey, Mr Goodlad or Mrs Hall if they would like to be a part of the cast, backstage crew or set/prop design team.

Students Attend The Big Sing at Hall for Cornwall

On Monday 26th June, Penrice Academy joined a host of other Cornish schools in attending the Big Sing 2023 at the Hall for Cornwall.

The event, organised by ASONE Music Hub, was an opportunity for children to sing in unison with other students representing a range of secondary and primary schools from across Cornwall.

Penrice took a group of thirteen students from Key Stage 3 who had been busy learning and preparing the songs for the past few weeks. The students were led through the songs by Angela Renshaw, Music Hub Vocal Lead and Director of Cornwall County Choirs. Ms Renshaw was joined on stage by a select group of ten students from Cornwall Youth Choir, which also included two Penrice Year 11 students, Vienna and Mahala, and former student, Isaac!

Highlights included Ben from Year 7 being selected to sing on stage as well as Mr Brodey being coerced into joining an unrehearsed teachers' choir performing Happy by Pharrell Williams to the packed audience of Cornish students.

Mr Brodey and Ms Clarke were proud of the students who were fantastic ambassadors for Penrice and even gained praise from a teacher from another school, who commented on the enthusiasm and vocal talent of our students.









Mr Gerald Parry CEW Coordinator

CEW 2024 - Interest in Residentials

Yes, we're talking about CEW 2024 before CEW 2023 has even begun!!

We are currently in our planning phase for CEW 2024 and need your help making a decision on the residential trips we include as part of the 2024 offer.

Due to the ongoing cost of living crisis, we are eager to gauge the level of interest in both our UK and overseas residentials via an 'expression of interest' form. Having a rough idea of the number of students interested in visiting Barcelona, Paris or somewhere in the UK will help us secure a booking early and potentially bring the cost down for parents.

If you would be interested in sending your child on a UK residential (starting from £400), or an overseas residential (starting from £800) next year, please complete the form below by 3pm on Friday 21 July (the last day of term).

Expression of Interest Form









CEW2023 for Year 7

We look forward to celebrating the end of the academic year with Year 7's first CEW experience! The full activity schedule has been emailed to Year 7 parent/carers but can be accessed again below for those who missed it.

Updates throughout the week will be shared on social media and on our CEW web page.

> CEW2023 Year 7 Schedule (PDF: 308KB)

































