



Tanya Coleman
Head of School at
Penrice Academy

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is a short but very important Parent Update to show our gratitude for your incredible support this term. There have been so many highlights since the start of September which include students shining at our annual open evening, a gold music enrichment award, maintaining our position as Cornwall's top-performing state school and, of course, last night's magnificent Winter Concert! None of this could be achieved without you, our community of Penrice parents and carers who support your children magnificently in their studies and all things extra-curricular.

Attendance: 3% Milestone Achieved!

Your support has been particularly highlighted in the past few weeks during our attendance drive. When we set a target of our attendance reaching 3% above national average for the academic year, we thought this might be achievable by the end of Spring Term. Never in our wildest dreams did we think this would be possible before Christmas! This is a credit to you and your children for making the most of their educational time and for not being deterred by the coldest and darkest months of the year. As a gesture of thanks to our students and to celebrate reaching this milestone, today was a thoroughly deserved non-uniform day.

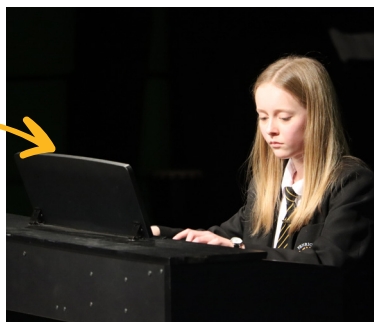
Cinema Trips and Ballroom Dancing

Well done to all students in Years 7 to 10 who were selected to attend this week's Cinema Trip.

Year 7: 7SB for attendance and 7VGP for most merits.

Year 8: 8LK for top attendance + the 30 top merit earners in the year group.

P.T.O



Year 9: 9SS for top attendance + the 30 top merit earners in the year group.

Year 10: Picked by Mrs Razzell, Head of Year based on the values of attendance, behaviour, character and progress.

The recent PPEs represented a challenging but very important learning experience for our Year 11s. They were rewarded for their efforts today with their first ballroom dancing lesson during lessons 2 and 3 in preparation for the Prom!

Support During the Holidays

With school closed over Christmas, I would like to draw your attention to the final page of this Parent Update. You will find a poster containing an array of support organisations should you need them between now and the return to school in January. There are also further avenues of support available by clicking the poster which will take you through to a dedicated webpage.

Farewell Mrs Watkins: 29+ Years at Penrice

Finally, before I wish you all a Merry Christmas, I must take this opportunity to bid farewell to Mrs Watkins who is retiring today after almost 30 years of service at Penrice. Mrs Watkins was our longest serving teacher who will have no doubt taught some parents reading this right now! She has seen many generations of students through their Penrice journeys and has been an absolute advocate for arts, creativity and for inspiring the next generation of young artists. She will be greatly missed, but she will always remain a part of the Penrice family. We do hope that she stays in touch and comes back to visit from time to time. We wish her all the best in her retirement.

Have a Merry Christmas

Thank you one more time for all of your incredible support. We wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy new year! See you next on Monday 8th January.



280KG + £500

FOODBANK DONATIONS FROM CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Great effort Team Penrice! An enormous amount of donations were received for St Austell Foodbank on our Christmas Jumper Day last week.

The weight of the food donations totalled a whopping 280kg! There was also just over £500 in cash donations!

Mrs Stevens and a selection of student helpers dropped off the donations at the foodbank yesterday afternoon. In addition, our talented catering students also baked two cakes for the staff at the foodbank to say thank you for all they do.



CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS

(Cost of Living Support)

We can confirm that all families who requested a food hamper for collection are now guaranteed to receive one. Please visit Penrice to collect your hamper between 12 (midday) and 3pm on Wednesday 20th December. Please note the change of times as previously communicated.

We have also recruited enough staff volunteers for those who require deliveries. Our helpful elves will reach you between 12 (midday) and 5pm on Wednesday 20th December. Thank you and have a merry Christmas.

Support Organisations



**In an emergency,
call 999**

ChildLine

0800 1111



Worried about a child?

Multi-agency Referral Unit (MARU)

0300 123 1116

Out-of-hours number 01208 251300

multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk



Support for children and young people is available from

Cornwall's Early Help Hub

(01872) 322 277

earlyhelphub@cornwall.gov.uk

NSPCC

0808 800 5000

**citizens
advice**

Cornwall



Citizens Advice Cornwall who will be able to issue you with a **food bank voucher** - call 0800 144 8848

Financial support or advice on care and support services for families

0808 208 2138

www.supportincornwall.org.uk



YOUNGmINDS

Support young people with the tools to look after their mental health

Parents helpline -

0808 802 5544

Young person -

Text SHOUT to 85258



free, safe & anonymous advice at kooth.com

"It's alright to ask for help"

SAMARITANS



116 123

shout
85258



0800 58 58 58

Helpline for men

www.thecalmzone.net



Christmas Online Support

27 - 30 December

3pm-6pm

youngpeoplecornwall.org

SAFER

FUTURES

**Ending Abuse in
Cornwall &
Isles of Scilly**

0300 777 4777

Mon-Fri 9am-9pm

Sat- 9am-5pm

HOPELINE247

0800 068 4141

TEXT: 07860 039 967



PAPYRUS
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE



LEARNING TOGETHER
CORNWALL EDUCATION LEARNING TRUST