

PENNINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
PENNINGTON
Nr. ULVERSTON
CUMBRIA LA12 ORR.

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Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey



Autumn Term Newsletter 12 - 05/12/2018

Dear Parents and Carers

Special Mention

Congratulations to our children whose special achievements were celebrated with our Special Mention Certificates in our Collective Worship on Friday.



Gold Sports Mark

Our school, for the third consecutive year, has been awarded the Gold Sports Mark. This is a nationally recognised award. We are now aiming for platinum. There is only one school in Cumbria which currently holds a platinum award. It is fantastic that we have been recognised for the quality of PE provision and the range of after school activities and events that we have on offer for our children. Thank you again for your ongoing support and encouragement.



Sportshall Athletics

Yesterday some children from Years 3 and 4 travelled to Furness Academy to take part in a Sportshall Athletics event. The event was attended by 22 schools in the area and was a fantastic afternoon of indoor track and field events. The children were extremely well behaved and great ambassadors for our school. Although we haven't heard the final results each member of the team performed to a high standard! Well done team!



Christmas Craft Day

A big thank you to all those parents who came in to school to help. School is now fully decorated with artistic creations and we look forward to the Christmas Fair tomorrow evening. Please come along and support. Thank you once more for your donations of bottles and chocolate.

Parking and dropping children off

Please park properly and take extra care when dropping off and collecting your children from school. A couple of near misses have recently occurred during the dark wet mornings. PC Helen Madden is involved in monitoring the situation.

Data Collection Sheets

We are still waiting for a number of data collection sheets from parents. Please could you check the information contained on the data collection sheet and make amendments where necessary. It is vital that you **SIGN AND RETURN** this form, even if you wish to make no changes to the sheet. It is also important that you notify the school, in writing, of any changes to your child's details whenever they change

Taking children out of school

Attached below is a letter that has been sent into schools this week regarding holidays in term time. Our school attendance is good and certificates are awarded to pupils at the end of each term recognising 100% attendance. We appreciate that there are genuine reasons for children to be absent from school and do not expect poorly children to attend. Only in exceptional circumstances can Mrs Storey grant an authorised absence. If your child's attendance drops below 90% this is a cause for concern and parents will be informed by letter.



November 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

RE: LEAVE OF ABSENCE IN TERM TIME

Absence from school due to family holidays taken in term time can be disruptive to children's education. It can also be disruptive to other pupils in the class. In addition, I am concerned that there could be some misunderstanding of the law in relation to absence from school because of holidays taken during term time. Any absence from school should be avoided unless for medical reasons, as it can have a serious effect on your child's educational progress, and can create difficulties for them on their return to school, particularly if they are joining a new school or class. It is important to note that only the Headteacher can authorise absence from school. Parents/Carers cannot authorise the absence themselves.

Changes to legislation have removed the discretionary 10 day period of absence which covered family holidays. Schools can only grant requests for holiday absence in term time in exceptional circumstances. If you believe that your circumstances are exceptional you can make a request to the school. In considering a request, the school will take into account the child's age, the time of year of the absence, and the nature of the visit. The Headteacher will also consider the child's stage of education and progress and the child's overall attendance record. It is highly unlikely that leave will be authorised if examinations or other important tests will be missed. Headteachers will not authorise absence unless they believe your circumstances are exceptional. In all cases it is best to have a discussion with the Headteacher in order to look at the issues as they affect your child.

All unauthorised absences, including holidays that have not been sanctioned by the Headteacher, are accumulated and parents who fail to ensure regular attendance of their children at school can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice. The amount is £60 if paid within 21 days and £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days. It is therefore essential that parents take this into consideration if they are thinking of a family holiday in term-time. The Department for Education define persistent absenteeism as below 90% attendance and schools may wish to use this figure to determine whether or not to pursue legal action such as the issuing of a fixed penalty.

Many people are working very hard to help your child to succeed. I trust you will support us in this matter, in partnership with your child's school.

Yours faithfully

John Macilwraith
Executive Director – People (Deputy Chief Executive)

KS1 Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be served for children in KS1 on Wednesday 12th December. There has been a glitch on our Lunch Shop system - please can you go into the system and order for Thursday 13th. Sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 14th children are welcome to wear Christmas jumpers/non-uniform to school. There will be a bucket on the gate for donations that will be sent to Save the Children.

Party Day - PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE LAST WEEK OF THE SCHOOL TERM

We are holding Christmas Parties for the children on the afternoons of:

Monday 17th December - Year 3 and Year 4

Tuesday 18th December - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Wednesday 19th December - Year 5 and Year 6

Children may come to school in non-uniform/suitable party clothes (party shoes can be brought into school to change into for the party but not be worn during the morning). There will be music in the hall and traditional party games. We will provide drinks for children and are asking for donations of finger food (cakes, biscuits, crisps, sausage rolls etc.) from parents. We look forward to lots of fun and dancing. (Sorry - dates in last week's newsletter were incorrect)

Christmas Services

Our Christmas services at Pennington Church will take place on Thursday 20th December. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will walk to church in the morning. Parents are very welcome to join us. If you can walk with us, please meet at school at 9.20am. The service will involve all the children and promises to be musical and magical. The Nativity Service (Reception children will lead) will begin at 10.00am and will last approximately one hour. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will walk to church in the afternoon, setting off soon after 1.00pm. Again we invite parents, grandparents and friends to join us. Walkers please meet at school at 1.00pm. The service will begin at 1.30pm and will last approximately one hour.

The Miners Arms - Swarthmoor

Our choir have been invited to sing at The Miners Arms on Friday 14th December at 6:00pm - please come and support us join in the fun. All the children in the local community have also been invited to a Christmas Party on Sunday 23rd December between 6.00pm - 8.00pm, to include Pauls Puppets, fun and games, prizes and magic.

After School Clubs

There will be no **Netball or Hockey** after school clubs for the remainder of this term. Next week will be the last week for Football, Multi-skills and Theatre Club. The last week of term we will only be running Choir and Curling.

After school activities

We aim to offer a range of lunchtime and after school activities throughout the year. The timetable for this term is displayed below. **There will be a charge of £10 per half term for any clubs marked in red as there is a cost to the school to run these clubs.** We still consider this to be good value. Money should be placed in an envelope with your child's name and the club they will be attending marked clearly and given to the class teacher/put in the box. All children attending after school activities will need a slip completing. More of these can be obtained from the entrance hall. Thank you to staff for giving their time freely to offer these opportunities. **After School Club Attendance** - To enable that we know your child is safe, please can you let school know if your child is not going to be able to attend their after school club. Thank you.



Dinnertime/After-School activities Autumn 2 2018

Day	Activity	Leader	Where?	Time
Monday	Year 2 - 6 Choir	Mrs Solloway & Miss Kenny	YR2 classroom	3.00-4.00pm
	Year 3 - 6 Curling (12 places available)	Mr Lyon	Hall	3.00-4.00pm
Tuesday	Year 3- 6 Football	Tom	Field/ Hall if wet	3.00-4.00pm
Wednesday	Year 1 and 2 Multi-skills	Tom	Hall	3.00-4.00pm
	Theatre Club Years 3 - 6	Mr Wragg	YR5 Classroom	3.00-4.00pm
Thursday	Year 5 and 6 Netball Club	Miss Barnes	Outside/ Hall if wet	3.00-4.00pm
Friday	YRS 3-6 Hockey	Mrs Deardon	Outside & Hall if wet	3.00-4.00pm

PENNINGTON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

After School Club consent form

Child's name

Class

I give permission for my child to attend club, held on a
(And enclose £10.00 - for Football and Multi-skills)

Signed Parent/Carer

Print

Friends of Pennington

Friends of Pennington School

Christmas Fair

Thursday 6th December 2018

6.00pm – 8.00pm



1 day to go!!

Tickets will be on sale before and after school, from the office
Tickets - £5 for a family ticket, £2 for an individual ticket,
this includes a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie for adults, and juice and biscuits for children, plus one visit to Father Christmas (children only!).

As usual we will be having all the popular activities for the children including – nail painting, tattoos, tombolas, (chocolate, bottle and traditional) and cake stall as well as a number of craft stalls for parents to partake in a little bit of Christmas shopping.

We have some fantastic raffle prizes again this year!

Thank you to everyone for their donations so far but we are still in need of toys (in good condition), books, bric a brac and soft toys.

Donations can be made for the 'Fair Trade' cake stall on the morning of 6th December and can be left in the entrance hall.

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year, your continued support is very much appreciated by the Friends of Pennington



To the parents of all Reception-Year 5 children

NASAL FLU

If your child missed their Nasal Flu when the nurses came into school, the following dates and venues are available for you to bring your child to:

- KENDAL Monday 17th Dec 4pm until 6pm - Blackhall Unit - Westmorland General Hospital
- AMBLESIDE Tuesday 18th Dec 4pm until 6pm - Central Lakes Medical Practice
(formerly Ambleside Health Centre)
- BARROW Wednesday 19th Dec 4pm until 6pm - Atkinson Health Centre
- ULVERSTON Thursday 20th Dec 4pm until 6pm - Ulverston Community Health Centre



PENNINGTON CHURCH CHRISTMAS LUNCH
TUESDAY 11TH DECEMBER
AT 12 NOON

RECREATION HALL PENNINGTON

£5 PER PERSON



Soup and Sandwiches
Mince Pies and Shortbread
Tea and Coffee

ENTERTAINMENT BY
PENNINGTON SCHOOL CHOIR



TICKETS IN ADVANCE
FROM CHURCH MEMBERS
OR RING - 01229 582312