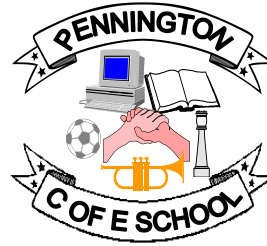


PENNINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL  
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Head Teacher: Mrs Claire Thomson

## Autumn Term Newsletter 14 – 14/12/2016

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.



Well done to those children who received recognition for their achievements out of school.



### **Christmas Jumper Day**

On Friday 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.

### **Family Fun Night/Christmas Fair**

We had a fun and very successful Christmas Fair last Thursday. Thank you to all who contributed by bringing chocolate, bottles of wine, cakes for the cake stall and tombola items. Thank you also to everyone who joined us and supported on the evening. We raised £1,300 towards school funds.

### **Mrs Varley – Year 1**

Mrs Varley will no longer be teaching Year 1 on Mondays. She will continue to work in school as SENCO and will still pop in to see the children. She has made the difficult decision to reduce her hours and concentrate on her SENCO responsibilities due to her ongoing back issues. We respect her decision and would like to thank her for all her hard work.

Year 1 will be taught on Mondays by Mrs Barron, an experienced teacher who has visited school already and met the children. We look forward to welcoming her onto the team.

### **Christmas Services**

Our Christmas services at Pennington Church will take place on Thursday 15 December. Reception, Year 1 and 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 9.20. The service will involve all the

children and promises to be musical and magical. The service will begin at 10am and will last approximately an hour.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will walk to church in the afternoon, setting off soon after 1pm. Again we invite parents, grandparents and friends to join us. Walkers please meet at school at 1pm. The service will begin at 1.30pm and will last approximately an hour.

### **Picking up and Dropping off**

It has been brought to our attention that some parents are dropping children off in the morning and stopping on the zig zag lines at the back gate. Please can we remind you that this is not safe and also illegal. We will be monitoring the situation as we only have the children's safety at heart. We would also like to warn you that the Police have issued at least one fine to a parent who was parked illegally.

### **Lost Property**

There is still a large number of unclaimed items in our lost property box in the entrance hall. Please can you come and check that nothing belongs to you before the end of term.

We have two red Pennington School hoodies missing. We have checked round classrooms etc. and we are unable to locate them. Please can you check you have not taken this home by mistake. If you find that you have, please return to the school office. Thank you.

The children and staff have had a busy and enjoyable Autumn Term. We wish you all a peaceful and restful Christmas with our very best wishes for the New Year.

### **Dates for Autumn Term**

Thursday 15 December

Church Services – 10.00 am Reception, Year 1 & 2  
1.30 pm Years 3, 4, 5 & 6

**Thursday 15 December**

**Pennington School children singing carols at  
The Miners Arms, Swarthmoor 6.30pm start  
Mulled Wine and Hot Dogs – Proceeds to School**

**Friday 16 December**

**School Finishes for the Christmas Holidays  
The Miners Arms, Swarthmoor – Children's Christmas  
Disco 4.45 pm – 7.45 pm – All welcome**

**Wednesday 4 January**

**Back to school for the Spring Term**

**February Half-Term**

**Monday 20 – Friday 24 February 2017**

**Easter Holidays**

**Monday 10 – Friday 21 April 2017  
(Good Friday – 14 April)**

**May Bank Holiday**

**Monday 1 May 2017**

<b>Half Term</b>	<b>Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June 2017</b>
<b>Finish for the Summer Holidays</b>	<b>Friday 21 July 2017</b>
<b>Autumn Term starts</b>	<b>Wednesday 6 September 2017</b>

### **A GOVERNOR MESSAGE**

I recently had the privilege of attending Pennington School's Choral Speaking Festival and wanted to tell you what an enjoyable experience it was. Every child in the school participated as an individual, part of a group or with their whole class. There was storytelling, acting and poetry recitation with many children having written their own pieces. During the performance I was stirred to laughter, sadness and fear. The whole performance ended with a particularly poignant poem, written and recited by one child, which epitomised the whole ethos of Pennington Primary school. (I understand that this particular poem is to be framed and displayed in the school entrance). An atmosphere of unity, pride and togetherness and could be felt throughout the performance.

I know that Mrs Storey would like this to be the first of an annually recurring event, which would be tremendous. It would be better, however, if such events could be seen by all parents. Given the constraints of the school building this is not easy to achieve. We are, however, exploring avenues by which performances could be opened up to everyone.

I really did consider it a privilege to attend the Choral Festival and must congratulate the staff on their professional skill in fostering and developing the talents displayed by your amazing children.

I would also like to thank the members of the school choir who entertained everybody at Pennington Church Christmas lunch, held recently at the Memorial Hall, with their delightful singing. A big thank you also goes to the parents and staff who accompanied the children on this visit and who gave up their Saturday morning to do so.

Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Janet Caine (Foundation Governor)



# After-School Activities

## Spring 2016

<b>Day</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Leader</b>
<b>Monday</b>	Gymnastics (3pm-4pm) (Year groups to be confirmed)	Mrs Nevinson and Mrs Storey
<b>Tuesday</b>	Football Club KS2 - 3pm-4pm)	Tom
<b>Wednesday</b>	Choir Yr 2- upwards  Lego Yr 5 & 6 (limited to 20 places)  Multi Sports KS1 & KS2 3pm-4pm	Mrs Solloway and Miss Kenny Mrs Kitts  Tom
<b>Thursday</b>	Chess Club (Lunchtime)  Cowran Farm A year group each week) 3.00 – 4.30 pm  Ukuleles KS1 – 3pm – 3.45pm	Mr Byrne and Mrs Hockaday
<b>Friday</b>		