

PENNINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
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Spring Term Newsletter 01 - 06/01/2021

Dear Parents and Carers

How do I begin our usual weekly newsletter in the most unusual week?

First of all, can I thank all our fantastic staff for their commitment to making a quick change this week. As you know, after the government announcement on Monday evening, we swiftly had to change all our plans and reorganise all aspects of this half term.

This involved communicating with the local authority, governors, other local schools, staff and parents and establishing bubbles so that children of keyworkers and vulnerable children can continue to be cared for at school. We had a high number of parents requesting places and had to prioritise. We have managed to accommodate almost all requests.

There are 4 bubbles in school and they will not mix. Childcare and educational support is provided by teaching assistants. They will endeavour to access and complete some of the remote learning which will be planned by teachers working on a home/ school rota. Parents are still expected to support with remote learning at home as the main priority in school at the moment is childcare and welfare.

For those parents who are at home, we appreciate that remote learning is not easy. You, or most of you are not teachers and there can be other challenges such as motivation, concentration and confidence. - we understand from last time. However, you all did a great job and we were very impressed with the results of your labour. Working in a different way offered all of us new learning opportunities!

Our staff are here to support you and your children. I will be in school and teachers will be either on site or available to respond on Tapestry/ Class Dojo. Mrs Holland will respond to administrative requests if you email admin@penn.cumbria.sch.uk. We can suggest, advise or just listen!

As you know, we always try to approach all things positively. Some people felt very frustrated and worried that children attended school on Monday. Actually, the children enjoyed their day with their teachers and friends and since the majority will not be returning to school until at least after February half term, we see that as a gift for the children.

Stay safe

Helen Storey and all staff at Pennington