

PENNINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
PENNINGTON
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Autumn Term Newsletter 01 - 09/09/2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been back at school almost a week now and staff and children are enjoying working together again after a long time apart. We have all adapted quickly to new rules and routines and have settled back into school life. Despite the changes we have implemented, there are lots of smiling faces around school and it has been an extremely positive start to the new school year. We are particularly happy to welcome our 27 new Reception children who have had their first full day together today. Thank you to Mrs Hockaday and team who have ensured a smooth transition in difficult circumstances. We know our Year 6 children are looking forward to being their buddies and hope to reinstate the popular buddy system in a few weeks, perhaps at first through virtual means.

Thank you again for your cooperation and patience, particularly with drop off and pick up. Please can we ask that parents who usually park or wait on the other side of the road, come to meet your children when you see them to cross them over safely. PC Madden was impressed and will continue to monitor the road safety aspect and parking outside.

We will continue to follow national government guidance with regards to Covid 19 and are kept well informed of any local issues. We will pass on information and keep you informed of any changes as they occur.

Symptoms

If your child shows any symptoms of Covid 19 (a persistent cough and a temperature), then you should book a test. If you are having any problems with this, please contact us. Following a test, please email the results and then your child will be able to return to school, providing it is negative. We will inform parents of any positive results. Three children have been tested as a precaution this week and all results were negative.

Thank you from Staff

Staff would like to thank all parents and children for cards and presents received at the end of last term. They were very much appreciated.

ParentPay

As you will be aware we are becoming a cashless school and you will have received an activation email to enable you to use Parentpay - please can you set up your account to enable you to pay for future after school sports clubs, non-uniform fundraising, swimming, trips, residential etc.

What does ParentPay do?

- offers a highly secure payment site
- gives you a history of all the payments you have made
- allows you to create a single account login across all your children that attend a ParentPay school
- shows you all items available for payment relevant to each of your children

- emails a receipt of your payment to the email address you register
- offers you the ability to set automated email/SMS payment reminders.

How does ParentPay help you?

- gives you the freedom to make payments to school whenever and wherever you like
- stops you having to write cheques or search for cash to send to school
- gives you peace of mind that your payment has been made safely and securely
- helps with budgeting; payments are immediate, there is no waiting for cheques to clear
- payments for many of the larger trips can be made by instalments up to the due date
- you will never need miss a payment, or have insufficient credit, with automated email/SMS alerts
- ParentPay is quick and easy to use.

How does ParentPay help your school?

- reduces the administrative time spent on banking procedures
- keeps accurate records of payments made to every service for every student
- reduces paper 'waste'
- allows for easy and quick refunds to be made back to the Parent Account
- improves communication between the school and parents concerning payments
- offers a more efficient payment collection process, reducing the amount of money held on school premises
- helps us improve school-home communication with its integrated email/SMS messaging centre.

School uniform and P.E. Kits

Children should wear their normal school uniform including black or dark school shoes rather than trainers. We continue to advise you to wash clothing daily. Please can we remind you that children should have their PE kits in school every day. Pupils will need black shorts, white t-shirts and (well-fitting) pumps for indoors/ trainers for outdoors. Red hoodies with PENNINGTON printed on the back can be worn. You can purchase these and children can wear them for outdoor PE if it is cold, as well as travelling to and from school in them. They are smart and practical and can be personalised with initials. They are an optional addition to our school kit.

Please can we remind everyone that earrings **should** be removed for PE. If children cannot do this themselves, earrings should be removed at home on PE days. Unfortunately, staff will not be able to tape earrings as this takes time and can cause irritation to small ears.

Medicine

Following advice, we can only administer prescribed medication. If the prescription states that your child requires medication 3 times per day, this should be administered at home or outside of school hours. If your child requires a prescription 4 times per day, we can administer medication at lunchtime. We can also administer medication that needs to be taken at fixed hourly intervals. You will be required to sign and complete a form from the school office. Medication must be provided in the bottle or box that has the prescription details affixed.

We understand that there are reasons that children may require pain relief such as Calpol before they arrive at school. We will not be able to administer another dose during the school day and should a child require further pain relief, we will telephone parents to collect them.

Functional Medication/Inhalers

This type of medication is usually prescribed but is, in the main, necessary to ensure that a young person can function normally. Where functional medication must be given, staff will require training in the correct administration procedures. Inhalers and functional medication will be kept in the child's classroom. Please ensure that all inhalers are in date, (an asthma plan is included) and clearly marked with the child's name.

Lunchshop

Please can we remind parents to choose their child's packed lunch from the Lunchshop website. You can order up to 2 weeks in advance. If you have any problems with your login details, please contact the school office. For those children in Reception Class, Year 1 and 2 who prefer to bring a packed lunch from home please can you inform the school office if not already done so. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Water bottles

Children will only be allowed to drink water in classrooms. They may bring juice to have with their lunch but at other times of the day will only be allowed water.

After School Clubs

Emails will be sent out when we introduce new clubs. For those clubs that need payment a letter will be sent out to the whole year group the club is aimed at to enable parents to give permission and pay by Parentpay. If your child does not want to take part in a paid after school club, please can you email admin@penn.cumbria.sch.uk and the payment request will be removed from your Parentpay account.



After School Clubs - Autumn 1 2020

Day	Activity	Leader	Where?	Time
Tuesday	Year 6 Sports with Tom - <u>£14.00</u>	Tom	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.00-4.00pm
Wednesday	Year 5 Sports with Tom - <u>£14.00</u>	Tom	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.00-4.00pm

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.

Loppergarth Playground and Community Group

AGM

Thursday 10th September 2020 at 10am

Please meet at the Park

We are looking for help with fund raising and maintaining the park,
please come along and help us to keep the community group going