

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

TEL: 01229 587253

Email: admin@penn.cumbria.sch.uk

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Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey



Spring Term Newsletter 01 - 12/01/2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the Spring term of 2024. This is the first newsletter of the new year. Although Christmas seems ages ago, staff would like to thank the children and their families for cards and gifts they received at the end of last term. They are not necessary but much appreciated. We hope you all had a good break and wish you all the best for a healthy and happy new year.

We want welcome Mrs Edwards to Pennington who is working alongside Mrs Hockaday in Reception class. She is getting to know everyone and has really enjoyed her first weeks.

Special Mentions

Well-done to our children who received this weeks' Special Mention awards. It is great to hear that many children have been able to attend hobbies and events outside school and they were very proud to receive recognition in front of their peers and teachers.



Staffing

We have some news regarding Miss Huddleston. She has been successful in securing a teaching job nearer to where she lives. This unfortunately means that she will be leaving us at February half term. Whilst we will miss her, we would like to congratulate her and wish her well with her new Year 1 class at St Marks C of E Primary School in Natland.

This leaves a vacancy in Year 2. Mrs Muir who currently works 3 days a week across school is keen to increase her teaching commitment.

After February half term Mrs Muir will teach 3 days in Year 2 (Wednesday, Thursday and Friday). She will share the class with Mrs Dearden who will teach on Monday and Tuesday. Both teachers are excited to be working together and both know the Year 2 children well. Mrs Muir will continue in her role as SENCO to support children with special needs across school.

Mrs Dearden will also continue to teach outdoor learning to classes on Thursdays and teach Year 1 on Fridays.

Mrs Muir currently teaches Reception class on Wednesdays and Mrs Barron will take her place after February half term. Mrs Barron already supports in Year 2 and Year 6 and has taught classes across school. She is an experienced, supportive teacher and Mrs Hockaday is looking forward to welcoming her to the Reception team. Mrs Barron will also teach in Year 3 on Fridays to cover Miss Barnes who is provided with time to monitor reading across school as part of a local primary schools reading project.

We would like to thank Miss Huddleston for all her hard work at Pennington and look forward to sharing the next few weeks with her. She has told Year 2 her news today. Thank you also to our teaching team who have flexibly changed their timetables mid-year to accommodate the change so that the children will be working with strong, committed teachers who they know.

Donation Towards Outdoor Play Equipment



We are grateful to receive a £1000 donation towards outdoor play equipment from Cumbria Nuclear Solutions Ltd. We are intending to spend some of it on scooters for the older children and on improvements to our outdoor mud kitchen. You will also notice that we have a new container on the school playground for storing all our resources.

Panto Reminder

Please see letter below regarding the The Snow Queen - the last day to log onto Parentpay to request tickets is Wednesday 17th January.

Wet Weather Play

You may have noticed our new welly sheds which are positioned next to the hedge at the side of the Pennington Paces track. In Opal Play, we encourage different types of play in all weathers and in order for the children to be able to enjoy it, they need the correct clothing and footwear. **Please can you provide your child with waterproof coat and trousers to be kept in their cloak-room and a pair of wellies (named and pegged together) that will permanently be kept in the welly sheds.** If you have items that your child has grown out of, perhaps you could think about donating them for families who are in need of help.

A Friendly Request

A parent has made the following suggestion: Please be mindful when dropping off and collecting your children. If your older children are capable of walking independently up the road to meet you at the car, please leave spaces nearer to school for those who are managing buggies and younger siblings.

A Polite Reminder

Just a reminder that any children who arrive late at school (after 8.45am) should be signed in at the office by a parent or carer.

If parents need to collect their children within the school day (eg urgent medical appointment), please also come to the school office to sign your child out and a member of staff will contact your child's classroom.

Thank you

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Dear Parents

PANTOMIME 2024 - THE SNOW QUEEN - THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY 2024

Pantomime Time - for traditional family fun to brighten up the months after Christmas, Ulverston Pantomime Society are putting on 'The Snow Queen' at the Coronation Hall.

I am delighted to be able to continue with our annual tradition of organising a trip to see Ulverston Pantomime Society's production every January. This year's performance of The Snow Queen will take place on Thursday 25th January 2023 at 7.00pm.

This event is always well supported and is a fun evening and for those of you who haven't been before, it would be lovely to have you involved.

If you would like you and/or your child/ren to attend, please log into **Parentpay** to pay for tickets by **Wednesday 17th January 2024**. The performance will begin at 7:00pm and we wish children to be dropped off outside by 6.40pm where they will be supervised by a member of staff. Alternatively, you are welcome to join us as both adults and children's tickets will cost £13.00 each. The performance will finish at approximately 9.30pm and would appreciate parents being available outside to collect their child/ren at this time.

Reception children may come if you feel they have the maturity to sit through a two-and-a-half-hour performance but we would have to insist that an adult come with them on this occasion.

As in previous years this has been an enjoyable evening and we look forward to Pennington representing a good presence.

Kind regards.

Helen Storey
Headteacher

After School Clubs

We aim to offer a range of after school activities throughout the year. The timetable for this term is displayed below. **There will be a nominal charge for clubs run by school staff to cover resources. We will continue to charge for clubs run by sports coaches.** All clubs need to be booked, paid for and permission given through Parentpay. We still consider this to be good value. Thank you to staff for giving their time freely to offer these opportunities.



After School Clubs - Spring 1 2024

Day	Activity	Leader	Where?	Time
Monday	Colouring Club - Year 1 & 2 (20 places available) £5.00	Mrs Shaw Kilburn	Year 1 Classroom	3.15-4.00pm
	Watercolours - Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 (20 places available) £5.00	Mrs Barton	Year 4 Classroom	3.15-4.00pm
Tuesday	Football - Year 1, 2 and 3 £15.00	Jack	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.15-4.00pm
Wednesday	Football - Year 4, 5 & 6 £15.00	Corey	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.15-4.00pm
Thursday	STEM LEGO - Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 (FULL) £5.00	Mrs Gilbert (Governor)	Year 6 Classroom	3.15-4.00pm

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

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023/2024



AUTUMN TERM 2023

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 6 September	Tuesday 19 December	Monday 23 October - Friday 27 October

Number of school days in term - 70

SPRING TERM 2024

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 3 January	Thursday 28 March	Monday 12 February - Friday 16 February

Number of school days in term - 57

SUMMER TERM 2024

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Tuesday 16 April	Friday 19 July	Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May

Good Friday - 29 March
Easter Sunday - 30 March
Easter Monday - 1 April
May Bank Holiday - 6 May

Number of school days in term - 63

Number of days in year - 190

INSET Days: Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 September
Monday 15 April

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024/2025



AUTUMN TERM 2024

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 4 September	Friday 20 December	Monday 28 October - Friday 1 November

Number of school days in term - 73

SPRING TERM 2025

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Tuesday 7 January	Friday 4 April	Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February

Number of school days in term - 59

SUMMER TERM 2025

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Tuesday 22 April	Friday 18 July	Monday 26 May - Friday 30 May

Good Friday - 18 April
Easter Sunday - 20 April
Easter Monday - 21 April
May Bank Holiday - 5 May

Number of school days in term - 58

Number of days in year - 190

INSET Days: Monday 2 and Tuesday 3 September
Monday 6 January

FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON

AGM - Tuesday 20th February @ 7.30pm (venue to be confirmed)

coniston2barrow

A few of the FoP committee have entered coniston2barrow and are looking for a team of up to 12 people. If anyone genuinely fancies joining in, you have to be a registered member - please see link below:

<https://keswick2barrow.co.uk>

The deadline for registering is 29th January - this is very popular so please register as soon as possible.

Once you have registered, please email FoP@penn.cumbria.sch.uk and let Amanda know so you can be included in the team. Thank you for your continued support.

Chess Club

Pop-up library

Ulverston Market Hall

Tuesdays 3.15 to 4.45pm

Chess Club is back! All young people welcome - if you don't know how to play already find out here!

Under 8's must be accompanied by an adult

Free event



The Big Ambition

I hope everyone at Pennington CofE School enjoyed the much-needed Christmas break. I just wanted to ask for your support with my national campaign 'The Big Ambition' which will be **closing on Friday 19th January**.

More than 300,000 children, young people, parents and carers have participated, making it one of the largest surveys of its kind, but I want to give even more people the chance to have their say.

This is the final push before the survey closes, every child in England has an opportunity to share their views with policy makers ahead of the General Election.

We can make sure that the children and young people of Ulverston are fairly represented in the results.

Children and parents or carers can complete the survey here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

I am so very grateful for your support, and I am beyond excited to share the findings.

Very best,



Dame Rachel De Souza
Children's Commissioner for England

Cumbria Fostering

Become part
of Cumbria's
biggest
family

Find out more about

Fostering



Could you make fostering your goal in 2024?

Come along to our fostering information evening
(with short presentation) on **Wednesday**
31 January at the conference room, Barrow AFC
So Legal Stadium on Holker Street in Barrow. Doors
open at 6pm and presentation starts at 6.30pm



0300 013 2065



Westmorland
& Furness
Council

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