

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

TEL: 01229 587253

Email: admin@penn.cumbria.sch.uk

Web: www.penn.cumbria.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey



Spring Term Newsletter 01 - 05/01/2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Attendance

As you would expect, our whole school attendance has been affected by Covid and illness is the main reason for absence from school. There are also sometimes other unavoidable reasons why children cannot attend. There are also however, occasions when children are not in school and could or should be. Please be aware that absence and lateness is monitored. The school inclusion officer Nicky Braund-Smith works for Cumbria County Council and helps to monitor the attendance of children in our school and when children's attendance drops below 90% it becomes a cause for concern. Mrs Storey will be contacting parents/ carers by e mail to inform you if your child's attendance has dropped below 90%

Temporary Suspension of Confirmatory PCR Tests in Education and Childcare Settings

Confirmatory PCR testing following a positive result on a lateral flow device (LFD) will be temporarily suspended from today, Tuesday 11 January. This means that for all education and childcare settings, staff and students who have tested (either at home or through ATS) and reported a positive LFD result will no longer be advised to get a confirmatory PCR test.

This change is informed by public health advice. With high COVID-19 rates, the risk of a positive LFD result being false is very small. We therefore don't need to ask people to do a confirmatory PCR unless they:

- have symptoms (in which case they need to follow the stay at home guidance, self-isolate and order a PCR test)
- wish to claim the Test and Trace Support Payment
- have been advised to take a PCR test because they are in a clinically vulnerable group
- have been advised to do so as part of a research or surveillance programme

Education and childcare settings are not expected to trace contacts of a positive case as this will remain the responsibility of NHS Test and Trace. From today, Tuesday 11 January, contact tracing is triggered once a positive LFD test is reported.

Students should be strongly encouraged to test twice weekly at home and to [report all results to NHS Test and Trace](#) and to their setting. Anyone with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate and follow self-isolation guidance.

Information on the new arrangements can be found in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

After School Clubs

We are not going to run after school clubs this half term and will avoid unnecessary mixing of classes in school for the time being whilst Covid cases are high locally. This is to try to protect ourselves and avoid a situation like we had before Christmas when school had to close. Sorry for any disappointment. We know our clubs are valued by staff and children. They will resume as soon as we feel it is appropriate.

Party Day

As school closed early and year 5 and 6 missed their Christmas party, we are now holding separate New Year Parties for Year 5 and 6 on Friday 14th January 2022.

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 drink, crisps and a cake for children. If your child has any allergies or you do not want them to have this, please send an alternative snack. We look forward to lots of fun and dancing.

Bikeability - Year 5

WHAT IS BIKEABILITY? Bikeability is a national training cycle training programme funded by the Department for Transport. The course will give your child the skills and confidence required to safely ride their bikes for the rest of their lives. Funding is secured from the DfT by Cumbria County Council - we are contracted to deliver training to your child FREE of charge. Bikeability is delivered by qualified, professional, DBS checked instructors www.bikeability.org.uk for more information. The aim of Bikeability is to get everyone cycling more safely, more often - as of 2021, Cyclewise has successfully delivered this training to 45,000+ young people throughout Cumbria, on behalf of Cumbria County Council.

Year 5 children will be bringing a letter home this week requesting permission to take part in Bikeability. Please can you return to school by **18th January**. Thank you.

Ulverston Pantomime Society - Aladdin, Thursday 27th January 2022

There are still a few tickets available for Aladdin. Please see letter below - if you no longer have a cheque book then cash can be sent in to school in a named envelope.

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Dear Parents

PANTOMIME 2022 - ALADDIN - THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY 2022

Pantomime Time - for traditional family fun to brighten up the months after Christmas, Ulverston Pantomime Society are putting on 'Aladdin' 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. Of course, this could not take place last year but it is so good that we are now able to offer the children the opportunity to see live theatre again. This year the production is Aladdin and the performance will take place on Thursday 27th January 2022 at 7.00pm. This event is always well supported and is a fun evening, 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 to attend, please complete the permission slip below and return to school by Friday 14th January 2022. 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 £12.00 each. Cheques should be made payable to Ulverston Pantomime Society and should be included with the order.

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 came 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

PANTOMIME 2022 - ALADDIN - THURSDAY 27TH JANUARY 2022

I would like the following tickets for the performance of Aladdin on Thursday 27th January 2022

Child's name Year No of tickets..... @ £12.00 = £.....

Total payment enclosed (cheques to be made payable to Ulverston Pantomime Society)

Signed Parent/Carer

**Ulverston
Library**

Tuesday Chess Club

Pick up a
new skill!

Sharpen
your game!

Get a game or two in at our friendly
after school sessions on Tuesdays.

From after school until 4.45pm

(Children under 8 must be accompanied by a responsible person)

Guidance, support and sets
provided by Ulverston's

**“Leave ‘em
Laughing”
Chess Collective**

Screen-free
fun!

**Beginners
Welcome!**

Little Explorers



Tuesday 2022
11th, 18th, 25th Jan
1st, 8th, Feb
10:30am-12:00

Parent and toddler sessions 18 months - 4 Years
Ulverston Children's Centre: Lund Terrace, LA12 9BE
Enjoy singing, stories with props, play and craft ideas.
Top tips for parents on health and child development.
A group to make friends and share experiences.
See below to book your place.

Places limited please contact:
sharon.norton@actionforchildren.org.uk
Mobile: 07545 701232



Rhyme time

For parents and children aged 1 - 4 years
Come and sing songs, hear a story, do craft activities and develop communication skills. An opportunity to make friends and enjoy time together with your child.
Ambleside Library, Kelsick Rd, LA22 0BZ
Starts 12th January 1:40 - 3:10pm for 5 weeks
To book contact:
sharon.norton@actionforchildren.org.uk
Mobile: 07545 701 232

Limited spaces!

New Beginnings

For parents to be: Wednesday 10-11am
Online antenatal weekly drop in (MS Teams) to make friends, share information and support each other.
Topical discussions led by a trained practitioner.
Baby Beginnings: Once baby arrives, come and meet other new parents. Weekly drop in sessions held in Kendal and Ulverston.



Other events

Infant feeding group - supporting parents with any feeding issues. In partnership with infant feeding coordinator and the HV team.
2nd & 4th Monday starting 10th Jan. 10-11:30am Kendal West Children's Centre. LA8 9PP To book call Sharon 07545 701232

Information session for parents - Online Safety
Wednesday 2nd February 7:00 - 8:00pm
Information session for parents - CPR / First Aid
(in partnership with Cumbria Fire and Rescue Service)
19th January 7:00 - 8:00pm