

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

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Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey



## Autumn Term Newsletter 02 - 22/09/2023

Dear Parents and Carers

### 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.





## Attendance

You will probably be aware from the news that the government are concerned that children's attendance at school has not returned to where it was before Covid. This is for a number of reasons. One reason is due to parents generally feeling more cautious about illness and often keeping children at home at the first sign of illness. Unfortunately, this can sometimes contribute to children lacking resilience. If they feel they can stay at home, if they do not feel 100%, poor habits may develop. We would encourage you to bring your children to school if they are well enough to play on I pads, watch TV etc and only stay off if they are definitely ill or there is a good reason. (If they have been physically sick or have diarrhea, they must stay off 48 hours to avoid infecting others).

Secondly, more families are choosing to take holidays during term time as prices are cheaper. Whilst we acknowledge that the pricing is unfair and we appreciate the value of family holidays, we also know that by taking holidays in term time, you are sending the message to your child that attendance at school is not of paramount importance. It contradicts the message we are giving children from school.

Nicky Braund-Smith (our Education Welfare Officer) attended the Furness Primary Collaborative meeting last week and spoke to 16 headteachers. She reminded us of our responsibilities regarding attendance and encouraged us to share her message with you.

- If children's attendance drops below 90%, they are considered to be a persistent absentee and therefore a cause for concern as they are not likely to achieve what they are capable of at school and reach their full potential.
- If holidays contribute to your child's attendance being below 90%, you will be required to cooperate with school and create an attendance action plan stating that you are aiming to improve your child's attendance and how you intend to do this.
- If your child's attendance is already below 90% and you choose to book a holiday in term time, you will receive a fine which will be issued by Nicky Braund-Smith. This can be done at the time or in retrospect.

The Department for Education provides us with fortnightly information so that we can monitor our attendance and compare it to other schools.

To provide you with an honest picture, before Covid at the end of 2019, two children were persistent absentees with attendance of below 90%. At the end of 2022/23 fifteen children were recorded as persistent absentees. The majority of these children had been taken on holiday in that academic year. We do not want attendance to become a barrier to learning in our school and actively seek to help you make the right decisions for your children's education.

Your support is much appreciated.

## Parking

We are aware that parking outside school continues to be difficult at times, particularly on wet days when the majority of children arrive by car. Please can you park sensibly, be patient and avoid parking on the yellow lines both at the back and front gate. Unfortunately, parking is an issue outside most schools.

**One space at the front of the layby is reserved for a family who have specific needs. Please leave this space free.**



## National Flu Immunisation Programme

Just a reminder that the team will be in school on Monday to carry out the flu immunisations - if any forms are still to be returned to school, please can you bring them to the office on Monday morning. Thank you.

PENNINGTON IN SCHOOL  
25<sup>th</sup> September



# flu: 5 reasons to vaccinate your child



### 1. Protect your child

The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia

### 2. Protect you, your family and friends

Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable friends and family

### 3. No injection needed

The nasal spray is painless and easy to have

### 4. It's better than having flu

The nasal spray helps protect against flu, has been given to millions of children worldwide and has an excellent safety record

### 5. Avoid costs

If your child gets flu, you may have to take time off work or arrange alternative childcare

For more information visit  
[www.nhs.uk/child-flu](http://www.nhs.uk/child-flu)

Help Desk 01900 70504

Flu **i**mmunisation

Helping to protect children, every winter.

## School Vacancy

### TEMPORARY, PART TIME SENIOR TEACHING ASSISTANT

Required for immediate start or as soon as possible to the end of the school academic year.

PCD7 £24496 to £25409 FTE £12,380.18 to £12,841.61 pro rata/actual, term time only

Pennington are looking for a dedicated and inspirational senior teaching assistant who can work well with others to be part of our successful school team. The post is temporary for 25 hours per week. 9am-12 and 1-3pm

The role is likely to be supporting children in Year 2 with Maths and English and running intervention groups/supporting individuals to make progress in their learning. We will require some flexibility and if needs change across school, we would expect you to be adaptable and willing to work in other year groups to support children who need it.

We would like someone who:

- is a friendly team player with high expectations
- with classroom experience of supporting pupils with differing needs
- is a good communicator who enjoys collaboration and sharing ideas
- is calm, understanding, kind and supportive
- will promote the schools chosen Christian values
- is creative, inspiring and committed
- knows how to support children to achieve their potential

You will be working alongside the class teachers to provide a high standard of support and will need to be able to contribute to planning, delivering and monitoring, as well as adapting materials to support pupil's learning and development.

Our school has a team of experienced teaching assistants who work together to ensure that the needs of every child are met and you will be welcomed and supported.

Pennington C of E Primary School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of our children and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this expectation. Applications will be subject to checks from past employers and an enhanced check with the Disclosure and Barring Service.

For further information or an application pack, please contact the school office on 01229 587253 or email [admin@penn.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:admin@penn.cumbria.sch.uk)

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm

Interviews: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

### **School uniform and P.E. Kits**

Children should wear full school uniform including black or dark school shoes or smart black trainers. Please can we remind you that children should have their PE kits in school every day. Pupils will need black shorts, red 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.

We hold a second hand uniform sale at the end of each term.

### **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.

### **Breaktime Snacks**

KS1 children are provided with a fruit snack every day. KS2 children may bring a fruit snack to have at breaktime.

### **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.

### **School Milk**

Every child over the age of five is entitled to milk at a subsidised price, if your child wishes to have milk, please go online and quickly register your child for school milk at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)

## School Hub - Lunches

Please can we remind parents to choose their child's lunch from the School Hub 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 still sign into School Hub and choose the option of 'packed lunch from home'.** Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

## Keyboard Lessons

Spaces are available for Year 3 - 6 children who are interested in keyboard lessons for those interested Sessions will begin on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September. Please contact Mrs Ord direct, as soon as possible, for more information [ordheather@gmail.com](mailto:ordheather@gmail.com)

## 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 - Autumn 1 2023

Day	Activity	Leader	Where?	Time
Monday	Year 5 & 6 Computing Club (16) <b>£5.00 (Starting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September)</b>	Mr Hodgson	Year 5 Classroom	3.15-4.00pm
Tuesday	Year 1, 2 and 3 Football <b>£15.00</b>	Jack	School Playing Field Hall when wet	3.15-4.00pm
	Year 3 - 6 Reading Club (20) <b>£6.00</b>	Miss Barnes	Year 3 Classroom	3.15-4.00pm
Wednesday	Year 4, 5 & 6 Football <b>£15.00</b>	Corey	School Playing Field Hall when wet	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

### STARTS

### ENDS

### HALF - TERM HOLIDAY

Wednesday  
6 September

Tuesday  
19 December

Monday 23 October -  
Friday 27 October

Number of school days in term - 70

## SPRING TERM 2024

### STARTS

### ENDS

### HALF - TERM HOLIDAY

Wednesday  
3 January

Thursday  
28 March

Monday 12 February -  
Friday 16 February

Number of school days in term - 57

## SUMMER TERM 2024

### STARTS

### ENDS

### HALF - TERM HOLIDAY

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



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*Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey*

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Pupil Premium and Free School Meals**

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

### **What is pupil premium funding?**

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Pennington, we get an extra funding for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

### **Is my child eligible for free school meals?**

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit

### **Universal infant free school meals**

Currently, pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

**Does my child have to eat the free school meals?**

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

**How do I register?**

You only need to register once.

To register, please click on the following link:

[Free school meals and clothing vouchers | Westmorland and Furness Council](#)

**More information**

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Kind regards

Mrs Storey  
Headteacher



# Onside Sports Development Half Term Holiday Camp

## Onside Football & Multi Sports Academy (4-12 year olds)

The camp will consist of fun and enjoyable warm up games and then allow the children to experience numerous sporting activities during the day. All coaching will be delivered by coaches with enhanced DBS disclosures to work with children enabling us to provide a fun, safe environment for your child to work



**FURNESS COLLEGE**  
**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct - Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Oct**



**Limited places available. Book early  
to avoid disappointment**

- Each camp will run **9am-3pm** (Age group drop off and collection times will be confirmed prior to the start date)
- We have use of a huge hall and 3g playing facilities so if the weather is poor the camp will run as normal.
- Participants will require appropriate sports kit and trainers. Also, a packed lunch and still drinks will be needed for their lunch break.

- **INDIVIDUAL DAYS £15**
- **FULL WEEK BOOKING £70**

For further info please contact Gavin Butler  
T – 07887940150

Email – [Gav@onsidesportscoaching.co.uk](mailto:Gav@onsidesportscoaching.co.uk)

Facebook - [Onside Sports Coaching Development](#)

Instagram – [Onside Sports Development](#)

Photographs/Videos may be taken for publicity, training and advertisement purposes. By circling YES it will indicate you DO have objections to this, please contact Onside Sports Coaching with any questions



LOPPERGARTH PLAYGROUND & COMMUNITY GROUP



# PUMPKIN TRAIL

27th - 31st October

Pick up your Pumpkin Trail Map  
from Loppergarth Playground.

Wander around Pennington & Loppergarth,  
making a note of where you find the pumpkin  
displays. When complete, return your trail maps  
to Loppergarth Playground treasure chest.

Prizes for the best Pumpkin Display  
and ALL correctly answered  
treasure maps.

**FREE TO ENTER**





### **Lindal Rainbows**

Rainbows are the youngest members in Girlguiding aged 5-7.

We do lots of interesting things at Rainbows; games, painting, trails, crafts, songs and opportunities to go on adventures.

We meet on a Wednesday at the Buccleuch Hall, Lindal from 5 – 6pm.

If you would like your daughter to come to Rainbows, please use Girlguiding's 'Join Us' website, put in her details and I will add her, to the waiting list. This enables me to contact you when your daughter is able to come and join us.

If you would like to contact me to ask any questions or find out more my number is 465557 or you can email [1peterand1vicki@gmail.com](mailto:1peterand1vicki@gmail.com)

Thank you  
Vicky Smith



# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

*EXCITED, NERVOUS, ANXIOUS?  
NOT SURE HOW THEY'RE FEELING?*

EMOTIONAL HEALTH CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE  
TO CHILDREN'S PROSPECTS IN SCHOOL AND BEYOND

In Cumbria, we believe in supporting children's emotional health development, and that's why we've invested in online courses in understanding your child for parents.

By understanding how your child's brain develops and responds emotionally, you can better support their needs as they navigate the big milestones in school.



- Learn to better read and understand behaviour
- Help them to communicate how they feel
- Gain psychologist-informed ideas to support your child



**GO TO [INOURPLACE.CO.UK](https://www.inourplace.co.uk)**  
AND ENTER THE CODE WORDSWORTH  
FOR FREE ACCESS TO THE ONLINE COURSES