

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

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*Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey*



## Autumn Term Newsletter 03 - 03/10/2023

Dear Parents and Carers

### New Reception Children

A lovely photograph of our new Reception class who all look very smart and happy. We would officially like to welcome them to the Pennington family and look forward to many successful years ahead.



## 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.



## Parents Evening

Parent consultations will be held the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> October

Reception Class - Tuesday and Wednesday evening

Year 1 - Wednesday and Thursday evening

Year 2 - Tuesday and Thursday evening

Year 3 - Tuesday and Thursday evening

Year 4 - Tuesday and Wednesday evening

Year 5 - Tuesday and Thursday evening

Year 6 - Tuesday and Thursday evening

Lists are displayed in the classrooms of Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6. For Year 3 please find the lists in the Year 3 cloakroom. Year 4 and Year 5 lists will be in the entrance area by the office. Please sign up to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. We encourage everyone to attend to discuss how your child has settled into their new class and discuss next steps for the coming year with the class teacher.



### **Year 4, 5 and 6 Residentials**

Just a polite reminder that deposits for the Year 4, 5 and 6 Residentials needed to be paid via Parentpay by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you to those who have logged on and paid already. If you are going to have difficulty paying for these trips but would like your child to attend, please phone to speak to Mrs Storey to discuss a payment plan and how we might be able to support.

### **Pennington C of E School Open Days - 30<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

We will be holding an Open Week for parents of potential new Reception children (2024-2025) the first week back after half term. If you know of anyone who would be interested in an appointment, please advise them to ring the school office.

The procedure for applying for a place will be found on the Cumbria Westmorland and Furness Website.

Please apply online. **The closing date for applications is 15 January 2024.**

<https://legacy.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lss/schooladmissions.asp>

### **Transfer to Secondary School: September 2024**

We have received a reminder from Westmorland and Furness Council for those parents who have not yet applied for a Secondary School place. Parents can make an application online at:

<https://legacy.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/childrensservices/schoolsandlearning/lss/schooladmissions.asp>

If you have a query about school admissions please email [school.admissions@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk)

### **Individual School Photographs**

Our school photographer will be visiting school **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November**, to take individual photographs of the children. If you wish to have a photograph with younger siblings who do not attend Pennington, then please come into school from **8.00am**. Proofs will be sent home with instructions of how to purchase on line.

### **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.**

## 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.

## 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.

## FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON

### Christmas Cards and other items

The children will be bringing home their designs and an order form of their Christmas card designs shortly. This year you will be able to order cards, mugs, coasters, wrapping paper/gift tags, thank you cards and even cushions. You will receive an email to pay for your items through Parentpay as we are unable to accept cheques and cash.

Orders **MUST** be brought back to school by **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October** in order for us to send them back to the company. Your goods will be sent to school for distribution around the end of November

This is a great fundraiser for school - last year we raised approximately £700.00

Dates for your diary - Autumn Disco - 19<sup>th</sup> October (details to follow)

# 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

### STARTS

### ENDS

Wednesday  
4 September

Friday  
20 December

### HALF - TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 28 October -  
Friday 1 November

Number of school days in term - 73

## SPRING TERM 2025

### STARTS

### ENDS

Tuesday  
7 January

Friday  
4 April

### HALF - TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 17 February -  
Friday 21 February

Number of school days in term - 59

## SUMMER TERM 2025

### STARTS

### ENDS

Tuesday  
22 April

Friday  
18 July

### HALF - TERM HOLIDAY

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

# **NASAL FLU CATCH UP SESSIONS**

**The following clinics have been arranged for children who missed their nasal flu immunisation in school.  
School years Reception -year 11**



**Kendal clinic -at Blackhall unit-Westmorland General hospital**

**TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 3.30-6.30 (APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

**MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023 3.30-6.30 (APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

**Barrow clinic -Barrow 102 Dolton Lane-Furness General hospital**

**TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 3.30-6.30 (APPOINTMENT ONLY)**

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2023 3.30-6.30 (APPOINTMENT ONLY)**





# 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**

