

Pensans Post

Autumn term 11/09/2015



Welcome to the Autumn Term at Pensans. It's lovely to see a mixture of familiar and new faces in school and we have had a great start.

I have visited all of the classes and seen the children's enthusiastic response to their exciting learning environments. We want all of the children to be motivated and have fun when they are learning. With your encouragement and support and the commitment of Pensans Staff I am confident that they will achieve great things this year.

Expect an invitation to join your child in their class to arrive very soon, if you haven't had one already. You know that you are the most important people in your child's life and you have a huge impact on their success in school. We value the contributions that you make and look forward to seeing you learning alongside them in class.

We have a number of new members of staff and we will use this newsletter to introduce them over the coming weeks. For those of you who are not familiar with the school, I wanted to let you know that if you have any concerns about your child, their teacher is always the first person to go to, they will always try to see you as soon as possible. If after having spoken to them you need further help please ask for:

Helen Smith if your child is in Nursery or Reception

Sarah Trow if your child is in Year 1 or 2

Tiffany Pope if your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6

Thank you for your flexibility and understanding at the beginning and the end of the school day while the new office extension is being built. When it is finished, we will have a welcoming space for you and all of our visitors and our hardworking office staff will at last have an environment that helps them to keep the school running smoothly.

If you can walk your child/children to school it will have a positive impact not only on the parking outside but also on their health and well being.



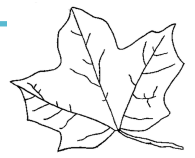
Our **Virtue** over the next two weeks is UNITY.

When we work together as a community we can achieve so much more. Thank you to the parents who came and started the ball rolling in our Monday assembly, the children look forward to seeing you soon.

We are going to have a fantastic year and as a school commUNITY I am sure that we will go from strength to strength.

Ms Angela Clay – Acting Headteacher

Dates for the autumn term



- **Thurs 17th Sept** KS1 Parent Meeting 9-10.30am
- **Mon 21st Sept** Phase 3 Parents Meeting 9-10.30am
- **Tues 22nd Sept** Phase 2 Parents Meeting 9-10.30am
- **Weds 23rd Sept/Thurs 24th Sept** Y6 Surfing
- **Tues 29th Sept** Y6 MBA Curriculum Day
- **Thurs 1st Oct** Y6 Humphry Davy Curriculum Day
- **Thurs 1st Oct/Friday 2nd Oct** Y5 Minack theatre Workshop
- **Thurs 8th Oct** EYFS/Phase 1 Harvest Festival
- **Tues 20th Oct/Thurs 22nd Oct** Parents Evening Meeting
- **26th – 31st Oct** – Half Term
- **Fri 4th Dec** Phase 1 Exhibition
- **Mon 7th Dec** Phase 3 Market
- **Thurs 10th Dec** EYFS Nativity to school 10am
- **Fri 11th Dec** EYFS Nativity to parents 10am
- **Weds 16th Dec** EYFS Xmas Party am
- **Weds 16th Dec** Phase 1 Christmas carols
- **Thurs 17th Dec** Phase 2 and 3 Carols
- **Fri 18th Dec** Last day of term

Spotlight on Violet class

We wanted to introduce our newest teacher “Miss Matthews” who has been teaching in Violet Class since late June and is covering Mrs Stoddern’s maternity leave.



We are lucky to have Miss Matthews who having recently qualified as a teacher from Plymouth University is full of energy and great ideas! Having completed some work experience here during her training, Miss Matthews is very familiar with Pensans School! Violet class have already been on an exciting trip this week to Pendennis Castle. Along with Amber and Magenta Classes, they were lucky enough to experience a real cannon firing to celebrate the Queen’s long reign. It was so loud that they all had to cover their ears and have their mouths open to avoid pressure building up – what a great picture that would have been!

Congratulations to...

Mr and Mrs Stoddern who welcomed Finn Stoddern into the world on 26th July at 1.26am, weighing 6lb 12 ¼ oz. Finn is already growing like a tree as you can see. Lots of staff are waiting for a cuddle and are looking forward to meeting him when his mummy brings him in the next week or two.



Are you entitled to Free School Meals?

Is your child in Y3 to Y6?

To receive Free School Meals in Y3 to Y6, parents must be in receipt of one of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State 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 - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit



If you think your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, complete a form (available from the office) and we'll send it to the local authority for you. If your child can begin to have Free School Meals we will receive the funding to cover the cost.

Is your child in Reception, Y1 or Y2?

Children of this age are automatically eligible for free meals as part of a government initiative that started last year. **HOWEVER** if parents of children in this age group receive one of the above benefits then **please** do ask for a form from the office if you have not already done so since your child has started school. This will ensure that we receive valuable funding from the government. We put this funding called "Pupil Premium" towards many essential resources such as additional teaching groups for children who require extra help; breakfast club and whole school training to enable us to give your children the best learning opportunities. Further details can be found on our website.

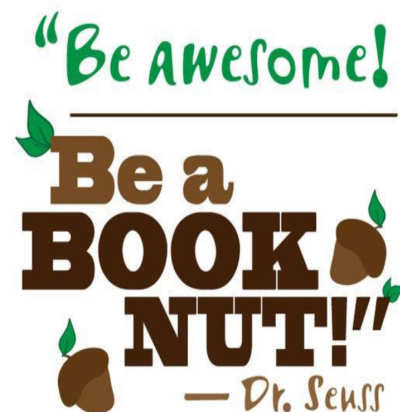
Unfortunately we do not get this funding unless parents complete and hand in the form.

If your child is having Free School Meals already and you have filled out the form at any point during their time in school because you were eligible, then you **do not** need to fill out another one.

Summer Reading Challenge - Congratulations to all those that took part in the summer reading challenge at local libraries. If children completed the whole 6 book challenge and they bring their challenge book list into Mrs Crummay they will get a prize from school.

Read every night at home! - All children are expected to read their reading book every night at home and just in time for the new term we have lots of lovely new books in the library and lots more on the way, so there will be no shortage of books to choose from!

Late library/reading book reminder - some children still have overdue books from last term please could they be returned or paid for ASAP.



In school bags today is a **Pupil Arrival and Collection Leaflet** that must be signed by **all** parents and carers please. The leaflet has a form (page 3) regarding drop off and collection arrangements which needs to be returned to class teachers ASAP.

On the reverse (page 4) is the new term's **Car Pick Up Scheme** form. Please could this be returned by every parent wanting to use the pick up point after school, even if you are currently using it. This will ensure we have everyone's current details. Spare copies are available online if you have a printer or from the office.

On the topic of forms, there are still some outstanding **Student Personal Information** forms. As a result there are many students with out of date permissions and parent contact details. Please ask at the office if you need another copy. We need these returned for our files as a matter of urgency.

Is your child's class on track?

Each week we publish an attendance report. The autumn half termly target is 97% and at 97.60% we have had a great start to the term. Congratulations to joint winners Lime and Amber for an amazing 100% attendance this week!

Class	Weekly %	Rank
Lime	100	1
Amber	100	1
Violet	98.75	2
Butterflies	98.67	3
Indigo	98.57	4
Turquoise	98.05	5
Butterflies2	97.1	6
Magenta	96.67	7
Emerald	91.72	8
Orange	95.19	9
Green	95.09	10
Whole school	97.60%	

The **school dinner menu** is available on our website on the "School Kitchen" tab. A supply will also be available from outside the school office. Week commencing the 14th September is Week 2.

This **newsletter** is a really valuable way of communicating news and reminders. We are finding however that printing costs are really restricting how much news we can trumpet! As a result, we have decided that this will be the last newsletter that will be sent out in school bags. From next week, we will only be publishing the newsletter on our website each Friday afternoon. We will send text reminders to parents to look for it – so please ensure we have your correct contact details.

If you do still need a paper copy, there will be a supply outside of reception.

