

Pensans Post



Spring term 24/03/2017

Thank you to everyone who has enabled Red Nose Day to be such a success this week. And we hope that mums and grannies enjoyed their lunch today with their children. Tomorrow is our second community event with tree planting on our school grounds between 10-12pm. We have had a great response and look forward to a busy morning - don't forget your spades/trowels and wellies.

A massive congratulations to KS1 children for their amazing 'What Lies Beneath' exhibition at the Penlee Gallery's Coach House today. We hope parents and carers enjoyed the opportunity to see their children's work in such a great location. A reminder that the exhibition is also open tomorrow (Saturday 25th) between 10am and 2pm for any Pensans family and friends - see page 3 for a sneak preview!

We are introducing a new attendance and punctuality reward system which is detailed on the following pages. Thank you for all of your support with this.

And finally - we let you know last week about the proposal for our Trust to join Truro and Penwith Academy Trust. We would like to invite all parents and carers to attend a consultation meeting on Tuesday 25th April at 5pm at Pensans School. If that day is not convenient you are welcome to attend a meeting at a different Trust school:

Wednesday 19th April, 5pm - Newlyn School
Tuesday 9th May, 5pm - Alverton School

Have a lovely weekend.

Angela Clay - Headteacher

You are practising **Flexibility** when you ...

- Learn from your mistakes
- Are willing to change bad habits
- Try imaginative new ways to do things
- Are open to the ideas and feelings of others
- Can adjust when something unexpected happens
- Go with the flow. Trust the unexpected.

Affirmation

I am flexible. I keep changing for the better. I use my creativity. I welcome surprises.

Are you following us on Twitter?



Keep up-to-date with all the exciting things that are going on @pensansschool.



Here are this weeks Phase 3 Mathletes:

Emerald - Niamh
Turquoise - Marshall
Indigo - Ruby
Amber - Deano
Lime - Kari
Orange - Tegan
Green - Kyle

* New attendance rewards system *

Dear Parents and Carers,

So that we can work together to improve children's attendance and punctuality I am introducing new information sharing and rewards systems in the school.

Information:

- Every half term your child/children will receive an attendance letter
- The colour of the letter will indicate their current level of attendance
- A **GREEN** letter will show that their attendance is at or above the national average which is currently 96%.
- An **ORANGE** letter will show that their attendance is below the national average and you will be offered the opportunity to discuss ways to improve attendance with myself and the Education Welfare Officer.
- A **RED** letter will show that their attendance is below 90%. An appointment will be made for you to meet with the Education Welfare Officer to discuss ways that attendance can be supported to improve.

Rewards

- Children who receive a Green letter will also receive a voucher for that half term:
 - Reception children will receive a Play Zone Voucher
 - Year 1 to Year 6 will receive a Book Bank Voucher.
- Children who receive a Green letter for two consecutive half terms / a whole term will be rewarded as follows:
 - Reception children will receive a Play Zone voucher and five stickers on their chart
 - Year 1 to Year 6 will receive a Book Bank Voucher and a Play Zone voucher.
- Children who have 100% attendance across a whole year will receive a certificate and a book token.
- The class with the highest attendance each week will have an extra playtime and will be awarded 'Sam the Monkey' and the school attendance medal

Why is good attendance important?

- Learning is developed on a daily basis. Your child will achieve their potential and develop a love of learning if their attendance is good.
- Children with good attendance are more confident and are motivated to enjoy their learning.
- Children with good attendance feel more secure and develop the ability to have and grow friendships with their peers.
- According to the Encyclopaedia of Children's Health, children with steady friendships throughout the school year enjoy school more, and children who can make new friends tend to perform better academically.
- Low attendance has a powerful effect in reducing children's achievement now and in the future.

Punctuality

We all run late sometimes and for your child to be late very occasionally won't cause major disruption but regular - chronic - lateness impacts severely on your child in the following ways:

- According to the national initiative 'Attendance Works', missing just 10 percent of the school year in the early years causes many children to struggle in primary school, and lateness in Secondary School is associated with increased failure and dropout rates.
- One of the most important aspects of school is that it is organised, scheduled and predictable. Children depend on the structure of the day. They know where they have to be and when. They know the main purpose for being in school is to learn and that routines are in place precisely to help them focus on that learning. When children are repeatedly late, these routines are disrupted. Children who are often late have trouble settling in and mastering routines. Lateness can throw off their whole morning or even their day, especially if the late journey to school was stressful.
- The social experience has a powerful impact on a child's feelings about school and his or her ability to be successful. When a child is continuously late, other children are distracted. Attention is drawn away from the teacher or learning and towards the child who has just arrived which can be uncomfortable for them.
- Children who are routinely late at primary school level are more likely to fail in secondary school - or even drop out. Morning routines are critical to daily learning. Warm-up activities may introduce topics that will be learned later in the day, or review work offers children an opportunity to review previously learned skills.
- Attendance is one of the ways children show they can meet their obligations. In many cases, a child's attendance depends on his/her parents' ability to help him/her to be on time. Parents can teach their children organisational techniques that will help them get out of the house faster, such as packing their bags and laying out their clothes the night before school. But parents who drive their children must also remember to be punctual and responsible. After all, you are the primary role model.

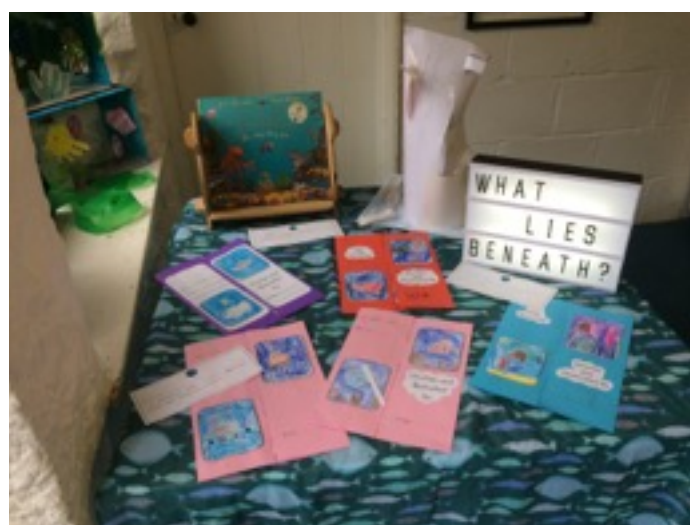
Thank you for your support in raising your child/ children's attendance and therefore their social and academic achievement.





What Lies Beneath

Don't miss KS1's
exhibition at The
Coach House, Penlee
Park,
Saturday 25th March,
10am - 2pm



Dates for your diary

- Friday 24th March - Last day for ALL after-school clubs
- Saturday 25th March - Volunteers needed for Tree Planting Community Project @ Pensans
- Monday 27th March - Mother's Day Lunch
- Monday 27th March - School Homework Projects on display after school- ALL welcome to come and have a look
- Wednesday 29th March - T.L.C coffee morning for parents / carers
- Thursday 30th March - Nursery Stay and Play Session 9-11.30am
- 3rd - 17th April - Easter holidays
- Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 2nd May - Summer term clubs start
- 8th - 12th May - KS2 SATS WEEK - 100% Attendance needed
- 29th May - 2nd June - Half term
- Monday 5th June - INSET Day - no school



Please remember that these diary dates and more are on the school website as well. Always useful if you don't have a newsletter handy!



Is your child's class attendance on track? Our Spring attendance target is 97%. At 93.97% we are below target this week.

Class	Weekly %	Rank
Butterflies	93.12%	8
Butterflies 2	96.83%	2
Orange	98.02%	1
Green	96.55%	3
Lime	95.08%	5
Violet	93.7%	6
Amber	88.21%	11
Magenta	93.75%	7
Emerald	90.57%	10
Indigo	95.17%	4
Turquoise	92.83%	9
Whole School	93.97%	



Congratulations to the three girls football teams who took part in the festival on Thursday at Mounts Bay. The girls have never played before so this was a great opportunity to introduce them to the game. The girls persevered through the rain but all said that they would love to play again despite the terrible conditions! A massive thank you to Mrs Pocock, Corinne and Jason for accompanying the girls.

Reminder about water in school

Please could all parents and carers remember that children need to bring in water to school and not juice. They get juice with their lunch but their bottles through the day need to just have drinking water in them.



School Dinners

School menus are on our school website and on the noticeboard by the school reception. There is also a handy guide to tell you which week is which. Week commencing 27/03/2017 is week 3. A reminder that Monday is a special Mothers Day menu!

Artist and writer (and Pensans TA, art and design) Jeremy Poolman will be holding a course of drawing lessons for adults beginning after Easter. There will be a series of six, running from 6pm to 8pm on Thursdays. The cost will be approximately £2 per session. Would anybody interested in joining us please contact me on jcpoolman@hotmail.co.uk or by signing the list in reception.



Stars of the week

Butterflies	Harry	For gentleness towards friends and toys in the classroom.
Butterflies 2	Owen	For being brave about his splinter and super progress with his literacy and maths.
Orange	Toby	For a positive attitude to school life and for using his virtues.
Lime	Kari	For a super smiley attitude to all her learning.
Green	Elijah	For settling so well into green class and using his virtues.
Violet	Chloe	For uplevelling her map to a much higher standard using critique advice.
Amber	Saul	For his huge determination in using his self-discipline. Well done Saul, keep it up!
Magenta	Mia	For good listening skills and for always trying her best however hard the work.
Emerald	Evie	For being very flexible with her new start at Pensans! Welcome back!
Turquoise	Alice	For practising flexibility throughout our assessment week and her never ending creativity inspiring our Sushi Maths!
Indigo	Harry	For the effort and application he has shown recently - keep it up!

County Cross Country results

Congratulations to Hyelie and Adam who took part in the County Cross Country race this week. They used lots of determination and perseverance and did fantastically well on a tough course against some very experienced runners.

Hyelie placed 7th, coming in as the 1st Penwith girl and Adam placed 18th and came in as the second Penwith boy.

Thanks very much for Mrs Lewis for accompanying the children to their event. Well done to you both!

A few parents have asked us to remind everyone about the new law regarding booster seats for children which was brought in on 1st March.

The new laws stopping younger children using backless booster seats have been implemented. The change affects both families and manufacturers, who can no longer introduce new models of backless booster seats for children shorter than 125cm or weighing less than 22kg. Previously, those weighing as little as 15kg could use backless booster seats, but experts have warned this was unsuitable.



- Children can sit in forward-facing seats once they've reached the age of 15 months.
- Children are required to use car seats until they are either 12 years old or 135cm (4ft5in) tall, whichever comes first.
- If your child is under 12 or smaller than 135cm and requires a child seat, these can be selected based on height or weight
- Children who are in seats must have one with a diagonal seat belt, unless the seat is designed for lap belts or has ISOFIX anchor points.
- Children over the age of 12 or taller than 135cm must wear a seat belt.
- Tots should be in baby carrier, as opposed to a child seat, until they weigh at least 9kg.
- Youngsters must travel in rear-facing car seats until they are at least 15 months old, and then they can face either the front or the back of the car.
- If your child has any disabilities, they may need a specially designed seat.

For more information on the new car seat laws, see the government's website.

A driver can be fined up to £500 if a child under 14 does not wear a seat belt or child restraint. Anyone 14 and over not wearing a seat belt must pay the fine themselves.

Is your child turning 3?

Then come along to our

Nursery Stay and Play Sessions

9.30 - 11am - Thursday 30th March 2017

Bring your child along and stay with them to meet the team and see the learning environment.