PENSANS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning today, brighter tomorrow ♡

KINDNESS
CURIOSITY
RESPECT
BELONGING
A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

6 NOVEMBER 2026

ISSUE 8

Headteacher's Update ♡

Dear Parents, Friends and Families,

I hope you all had a wonderful half-term break. It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school this week. They have returned happy, enthusiastic and ready for learning.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our parent consultations this week. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to celebrate progress and discuss the next steps in learning together. If you were unable to attend, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative appointment.

As always, attendance remains a key priority for us, as we know that children achieve their very best when they are in school every day. I am delighted to share some fantastic news: we have recently been informed that **Pensans is ranked 2nd out of 21 similar schools nationally for attendance**. This is a tremendous achievement and reflects the commitment of our children, families and staff. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that your children attend school regularly and arrive ready to learn.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated attendance team who work closely with families to provide support whenever it is needed. Mrs Miles is always available as a friendly point of contact if you have any concerns or would like advice regarding attendance.

As the weather becomes colder, please ensure your child comes to school with a **named coat** every day. If you have a spare pair **of wellies** at home that your child could leave in school, we would be very grateful. Having wellies available helps us make the most of our outdoor spaces and continue learning outside, whatever the weather.

School clubs will resume next week. Please note that there will be **no football club this half term**, but it will return in the spring term.

We are also looking forward to welcoming families back to our **Family Learning Robotics Group**, which continues to Monday afternoons in the Meeting Room.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you all have a lovely weekend and look forward to another busy and successful half term ahead.

Best wishes,
Niki Ambrose

Upcoming Dates

WED/THU 11/12 NOV — **Bikeability**



TUE 17 NOV — **Scooter and Skate day!**



WED 18 NOV — **Speed watch police day**



THU 19 NOV — **School photos**



MON 23 NOV — **Parliament week**



More information about these events will follow nearer the time.

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Local Attendance ♡

Let's keep making every day count! ♡

Sennen	Porthcurno	Godrevy	Cape	Porthminster	Porthmeor	Gwithian
99%	93%	96%	87%	100%	93%	91%

WELL DONE!

Amazing work everyone! ♡

Attendance Matters!

Autumn Term 2026 ♡

TOGETHER, EVERY DAY COUNTS

Be here Be brilliant ♡

Did You Know?

Students who **attend school** regularly are **more likely to achieve better grades and build stronger friendships.**

Read more here:
The link between attendance and attainment

Here at Pensans CP School, we recognise that there are occasions when it is appropriato authorise an absence, such as when a pupil is genuinely too ill to attend school.

However, the Government **does not** support parents taking children out of school unless the school agrees this is appropriate under 'exceptional circumstances'. Any request for leave should be made in writing to the Headteacher using the school's 'Leave of Absence Exceptional Circumstances' request form.

DfE statutory guidance is clear holidays during term time will not be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Unavoidable leave of absence requests for school-aged children are generally related to one off events that are rare, significant, unavoidable, and short in duration. Family holidays are **not** considered unavoidable.

Taking your child out of school without permission may result in a **Penalty Notice** being issued.

What this means:

- **A Penalty Notice** may be issued if your child has unauthorised absences, including holidays.
- The fine is **£80 per child, per parent** if paid within 21 days, rising to **£160** if paid within 28 days.
- Failure to pay may result in prosecution.
- There is **no right of appeal** – if you believe a notice was issued in error, you must contact the school directly.

We understand that holidays are important for family time, but we are legally required to prioritise your child's education and wellbeing. **Every school day counts.**

"A brighter future starts with being in school today."

Further Information

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996, We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.

If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days.

Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.

'Parent' as set out in Section 576 of the Education Act 1996, defines parent to include: natural parents, whether they are married or not, any person or body who has parental responsibility for a child (as defined by the Children Act 1989) and, any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a whom a child lives and who looks after a child, irrespective of what their relationship is with said child.

You are welcome to contact the school to discuss any concerns you may have regarding this or if you feel you would like advice or support in helping your child attend more regularly. Pensans CP School is committed to enabling every child to reach their full potential and aims to work with parents to ensure this can be achieved.

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Stars of the Week ♡

Celebrating our amazing pupils!

Small steps make big waves ♡

Be kind
Be curious
Be your best
Be proud ♡

Sennen Star
Abdullah
for outstanding effort in his functional skills.

Porthcurno Star
Anotida
for her determination in column addition skills!

Porthminster Star
Elijah Corona
for trying his best in functional skills.

Porthmoer Star
Ziggy
for beautiful sitting and signing during circle time.

Godrevy Star
Ellie
for great determination and being a fantastic friend.

Gwithian Star
Mrs Vincent
for all the amazing support she has given us – we will miss you!

Gwithian Preschool Star
The whole class!
Mrs Vincent has loved teaching you all and will miss the joy and smiles you all bring her every day!

Cape Star
Skylar
for being a kind friend and becoming more independent.

Special Awards ♡

Great Reader EYFS/KS1
Kyrenn H

Great Reader KS2
Archie

Maths Award
Liko + Isla

Writer Award
Lowen

Headteacher's Award! ♡

Lowen!!!

House Points Winner!

Crofty (Red)

Porthcurno class

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At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ADVERTISEMENTS AIMED AT CHILDREN

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Children are particularly vulnerable to the persuasive effects of advertising because of their still-developing critical thinking and impulse control skills. Children are regularly and passively exposed to advertising online, whether through influencers, paid advertisements, or sponsored content. Although 92% of 12-17-year-olds felt confident recognising online advertising, only 37% correctly identified sponsored adverts in search results.

INFLUENCER MARKETING

Influencers are an increasingly prominent part of children's online experiences, with four in ten 8-17 year olds following content creators, actors, celebrities or influencers on social media. Influencers can appear credible, relatable and trustworthy and aspirational. Although seven in ten 12-17 year olds recognised a paid partnership, some believed some products were promoted because influencers liked or thought they were 'cool'.

HARMFUL ADVERTISING

Children can encounter online advertising through games, videos, social media comments, meaning they may see content that is inappropriate for their age. This can include products or messages that influence attitudes towards body image, health or behaviours such as gambling. Repeated exposure to beauty content can normalise adult-orientated beauty routines and psychological pressure.

PARENTAL PRESSURE TO PURCHASE

Children's exposure to online advertising can pressure parents to buy products they see being advertised. When told no, children may feel upset, treated unfairly or left out when comparing themselves with peers. With children potentially seeing up to 40,000 adverts a year, parents cannot meet every request. This can lead to arguments and put strain on family relationships.

UNINTENDED PURCHASES

Online advertising can encourage young people to make purchases. Ofcom found that 58% of 6-17 year olds spent money online, with 27% saying adverts encouraged them to spend and 22% influenced by influencer marketing for site influencer content. Despite this, a third of the children regretted an in-game purchase, while nearly half said they were buying. This can lead to children into making purchases without fully understanding the cost and greater financial pressure on parents to spend.

UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Advertising often focuses on the positive effects of a product, which can create unrealistic expectations among young people. Online when they do not. Frequent exposure to these idealised images can contribute to feelings of dissatisfaction, negative self-comparison, body image concerns or body shame or body shame concerns.

LACK OF ADVERTISING TRANSPARENCY

Advertising is not always obvious to children, particularly [illegible] Brands or online influencers sometimes blur the lines between entertainment and boundaries, making it difficult for children to recognise when they are being sold to.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TEACH CHILDREN HOW TO SPOT ADS

Help children to recognise when content is trying to sell them something. Teach 'sponsored', 'paid partnership' as well as promo codes or product links attached. Explain to your child that these adverts can be embedded within videos, social media posts, games or influencers posts and are not always obvious to identify.

ENSURE PAYMENT DETAILS ARE LOCKED DOWN

Avoid saving your bank card details on children's devices, games or apps wherever possible. This can help reduce the risk of children making accidental or impulsive purchases following seeing an advert. Check the purchasing settings on games and social media accounts and use parental controls or purchase approval settings where possible.

DEVELOP CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

It is important to encourage children to question what they see online rather than automatically believing it. Encourage them to stop and think before clicking. Have them ask themselves 'Why am I seeing this?' and 'What are they trying to get me to want/buy?'. Remind them that adverts and influencers only highlight the positive aspects of a product.

ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION

While it is important to set age restrictions on games and social media, inappropriate adverts can still slip through. Talk regularly with your child about adverts or influencer content they see online. Open communication makes it easier for your child to come to you if they have any questions about products or inappropriate content.

Meet Our Expert



Dr. Claire Sutherland is an education consultant and digital safety expert, with a background in primary teaching. She combines her PhD research in cyberbullying with hands-on experience, delivering impactful digital wellbeing workshops and policies for schools across Australia and now in the UK.

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NHS
Cornwall Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM - MHST

Join us for our 5-week online **Parent-Led CBT** or **Behavior as Communication.**

Sessions are available on Tuesdays or Wednesdays beginning 12 January 2027 at 10am or 1pm.

Parent-led cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) is a short psychological intervention that helps parents and carers apply CBT principles in their child's daily life, to support with childhood worries.

Behaviour as communication provides parents with some practical strategies to foster positive behaviour and communication at home.

Please sign up via the online form here: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/XF4BNsCjsF

Sign up closes 09/12/2026 at 5pm

All sign ups will require an individual pre group assessment phone call

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PENHALIGON'S FRIENDS INSIDE OUT DAY

www.penhaligonsfriends.org.uk
Charity No: 1189323

FOR CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS WEEK

IN SIDE OUT DAY



FOR CHILDREN'S GRIEF AWARENESS WEEK

SUPPORT PENHALIGON'S FRIENDS AND RAISE AWARENESS BY WEARING SOMETHING INSIDE OUT BETWEEN 16TH – 22ND NOVEMBER

BECAUSE SOMETIMES BEREAVED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL DIFFERENT ON THE INSIDE TO THE WAY THEY SEEM ON THE OUTSIDE.

www.penhaligonsfriends.org.uk
Charity No: 1189323

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PENSANS PRIMARY SCHOOL *is supporting...* ♡

BBC Children in Need®

Children in Need

Friday 13th November

Dress up in something spotty!

Donations encouraged and welcome!

Congratulations Harley Brown! ♡



A huge congratulations to **Harley Brown** for his fantastic effort of raising

£730

and walking ***over 100 miles*** in October for **Autism Awareness!**

Well done, Harley! ♡

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