

Pencalenick School

Preparing our pupils for a full, interesting and productive life at Pencalenick and beyond



Newsletter 15.12.2022



Update from Mr Oak, Head Teacher



Happy Christmas everyone!

What a year! It's been quite a journey since last January and I am personally delighted in the way we have emerged from the shadows of Covid so positively. This is no small thanks to the staff, pupils and parents who have worked in honest and open partnership in creating a school we can all be proud of. On a personal note, this week marks the end of my first year as Headteacher which has been full of excitement and surprises! I wanted to thank you all for the kindness and support you have offered me throughout the year.

I think the Pencalenick community can be summed up by the warmth and generosity shown at the Christmas evening last week, where I was humbled by the effort of pupils, parents and staff alike. An extra special thanks to the Pencalenick Friends committee, in particular to Kate Williams, Amelia Thurlow and Tracey Bennetts for the wonderful raffle prizes and cakes. It was lovely to fill the school with such cheer whilst making money for Pencalenick Friends. The event confirmed my pride in Pencalenick.

So, I'm looking forward to 2023 already - but let's do Christmas first! I wish you all a peaceful couple of weeks.

Forthcoming Events

Tues 3 rd January:	Pupils return to school
Friday 27 th January:	Inset Day – school closed to pupils
1 st -3 rd February:	Parents Meetings (timeslots to be allocated)
6 th – 10 th February:	Children's Mental Health Week
9 th February:	Pupil Questionnaire sent home
13 th -17 th February:	Half Term Break
TBC	Coastal Field Trip for Geography

A Warm Welcome to our new Deputy Head

Jodie Watkins- Young joined Pencalenick at the end of November as Deputy Head Teacher. Jodie has re-located from the Midlands to work at Pencalenick. She has previously worked in a senior leadership role at an alternative education provision.

Jodie has special interests in personal development, post 16 destinations and vocational courses.

Jodie is very much looking forward to working with the students and parents of Pencalenick.

Congratulations to Angela Whitfield, HLTA Pastoral Lead, Drawing & Talking Practitioner

Ang has recently completed the Anna Freud Training and is now our Senior Mental Health Practitioner. She is qualified to work with pupils and staff to support them with their wellbeing and mental health

Ang is located in our Pastoral building and will always make time for a cup of tea and a chat.



Class Highlights



Heligan have been learning about Space this term, looking at the artwork of Peter Thorpe and creating our own pieces inspired by Thorpe. We have found out about Mae Jaemison and Tim Peake, investigated moon craters and found out about the planets. We have created our star constellations, listened to Gustav Holsts 'The Planets' and created our own space themed dance. In life skills we have been practicing our shopping skills in preparation for doing our own Christmas shopping, and in recent weeks we have enjoyed taking part in a variety of Christmas activities. We really enjoyed our recent trip to the Pantomime, and we are looking forward to our Christmas dinners and Secret Santa next week.

This half term **Caerhays** have been busy in class and also out in the Community completing tasks for ASDAN.

We have been covering calculations in Maths and Year 9 pupils have been doing very well at grasping new multiplication skills. In English we have been looking at novels and short stories – How to Train your Dragon. The Year 11's have been working very hard on Functional Skills English and Maths papers and ELC Science.

We have continued to cook each week and a new Dungeons & Dragons club is proving successful.

We are looking forward to our Christmas shopping trip and our trip to the pantomime. Finally the Caerhays team would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas.



We have had a lovely second half of the Autumn term here in **Trelissick**. We particularly enjoyed baking and decorating biscuits and cakes for the parents evening/Winter fayre-in which our stall raised almost £50!! We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year, best wishes Trelissick.



Port Quin have been busy getting ready for Christmas this half term. Alongside our usual studies we have been busy making Christmas tree decorations to sell at our Christmas Fayre. We have made them from scratch with everybody helping to make the salt dough and then decorating them individually. The last week of term is going to be really exciting as we are going to the pantomime, Christmas Shopping and to decorate the tree at St Clements church! Port Quin wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Class Highlights

We have had another exciting half term in **Eden class**. In English, we have been focusing on using conjunctions and writing character descriptions which has culminated in the students designing their own cheeky elf character. We then completed some elf art where the children turned themselves into elves!! In Maths, we have been looking at calculations and 2D and 3D shapes and in History we have been learning about The Vikings which the students found interesting. The children had a super time at the pantomime at Hall for Cornwall, they were wonderfully behaved and where a credit to the school. We have been hard at work this half term and have thoroughly enjoyed all the preparations and the build up to Christmas. It has been a very exciting time and the children have been a pleasure to have in school their enthusiasm and joy is infectious making Eden Class a wonderful place to be.

It was lovely to meet so many of you at the Christmas Fayre, it was super to be able to show you all learning that the children have been up to this half term. Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and New Year.



Since half term **Towan** class have enjoyed a day out on a speedboat at Mylor where they all got to have a go at driving the boat and it is safe to say they all survived and came back in one piece. Cooking has again been a highlight each week for the boys with them making themselves a variety of lunches including curries, croque monsieur and spicy chicken wraps. They have been making Christmas cakes for their families and decorating them over the past few weeks. We hope they are enjoyed over the Christmas break. On drier days, the boys have been making the most of our surroundings by taking walks along the river and up the drive looking for the different types of wildlife living around the school.

From Towan class we hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and look forward to the boys return for more adventures in the New Year.

Trerice have had another busy half term, teaming the academics of Maths and English with more practical activities including science experiments, fitness room fun, cooking flapjacks and mince pies, and lots of socialising during the daily mile. The pupils have worked incredibly hard and definitely earned their Christmas break. We wish you all a happy holiday.



Class Highlights

This term **Bedruthan** have been working hard on our basic operations in Maths. In English we have been focussing on grammar and sentence structure as well as handwriting especially cursive. In Art we have been doing lots of painting but focussing on tint and shade. Our Rights has been our ASDAN focus. PE has been indoor hockey and specifically ball skills. Cooking has been various dishes including quesadillas, flapjacks and tarts. We also had our Christmas bowling competition! Well done Bedruthan on working hard!



What a fantastic Autumn Term 2 **Lanhydrock** has had! Highlights include some phenomenal portraiture in Art, as we explored ways of seeing and contrasting the styles of Impressionism and Realism. Our students have been busy analysing data in Maths, and have each produced a bar chart in Microsoft Excel. In the garden, we have added a flower bed and our broad beans and elephant garlic are coming along nicely. We have recently begun our second year of Lego League. This season the theme is energy. We have been building models and coding our Lego robot to interact with them in preparation to compete against other schools in March. A big congratulations to Jacob who was elected as our class MP! We are sure he will do a great job. **Well done everyone, have a restful Christmas holiday.**



Pencarrow have had a busy half term learning about the Vikings in History which we decided as a class should of maybe been called The Vicious Vikings! The boys enjoyed making their Viking shields and weapons, some even had a Cornish theme.

In Art, Pencarrow have been learning about the artist Picasso and have done some amazing self-portraits "Picasso style" which are so good we decided to put them up on display in the classroom.

In English we have been reading the Ickabog and the boys enjoyed drawing and writing about what they thought the Ickabog would look like.

As always, the boys have loved their weekly lessons at forest school learning life skills and having lots of fun! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at Pencarrow!



Class Highlights

Botallack have had a busy half-term, we have worked hard in all subjects and written some excellent character descriptions alongside learning about acids, alkalis and developing our knowledge of shapes. We all enjoyed having everyone's parents and carers in for our coffee afternoon on the 3rd of December and seeing many people again at the Christmas evening event. Students in Botallack loved showing their hard work to their families.

We had a lovely trip out to the Cathedral in Truro where we enjoyed some hot chocolate and cakes courtesy of Pencalenick Friends. Everyone enjoyed looking at the Christmas tree in the Cathedral and looking at the Christmas displays.



This half term **Trebah Class** has been on some lovely trips out. We visited Bodmin and Wenford Railway to meet Father Christmas.

We also went to The Hall For Cornwall to watch the pantomime. As an extra adventure we went to Plymouth on the train to do a bit of Christmas shopping for our families.

In class we have been looking at The Vikings, we made longboats, decorated a shield and had a go at indoor archery.

As part of our ASDAN qualification we made Christmas cards to be sold at the Christmas Fayre.

On behalf of all in Trebah Class have a lovely Christmas.

Pendennis Class have been really busy this half-term, completing ASDAN, Science, English and Maths assessments on a range of topics from telling the time to identifying acids and alkalis using red cabbage.

As a well-earned reward the class visited Trelissick treat and a Christmas house looked simply enjoyed spotting the 12 scoffing down chocolate

Next term we will be 'Hobbies and Interests' as and find out what available to us in

six students in Pendennis regularly attending drama and dance clubs, with one recently appearing on stage at the Hall for Cornwall, so drama and dance will feature prominently in the New Year.



for their considerable efforts, House and Gardens for a sweet themed treasure hunt. The stunning, and the students all Days of Christmas before brownies in the stable cafe.

exploring the theme of we get out into the community activities and clubs are Cornwall. We currently have

Other News....

Proper Job Izzy!!

Izzy in Year 11, has completed a very successful five day work experience placement with Proper Job Café. The café manager, Kim, was full of praise for Izzy, commenting "Izzy was smartly presented in her uniform and arrived eager to get stuck in with a smile".

Izzy was fully involved with the running of the café from taking orders to making sandwiches and even a cake. Kim continued "Izzy has excellent customer service skills and she worked on making extra conversation with the customers such as finding out about their day as well as taking their order." She has grown in confidence and has been offered a one day a week placement as a result of her success.



Pencalenick Pupil Parliament 2022-23

There was a fantastic response to our Parliament Week activities culminating in a whole school election day on November the 18th. Pupils attended the polling station, received a ballot paper showing the candidates for their tutor group and made their mark in the polling booth. At the end of the day the votes were counted and verified. The students who will be making up the Pencalenick Pupil Parliament 2022-2023 are shown below. We look forward to our first Parliament meeting on Friday 13th January.



Heligan – Ali
Trelissick -Bentley
Lanhydrock – Jacob
Trevrice - Amy
Bedruthan - Jarrod
Pencarrow – Joe
Botallack - Ava-Rose
Eden - Lowena
Liaison - Kai



Calling all Year 10 Parents...

If you haven't done so already, a gentle reminder that you need to go and visit post 16 placement options for your child. The local colleges all have more Open Days coming up in January. Your child's Year 10 Annual Review will be held after Easter 2023 and you will be asked to name their preferred next placement, so it is important that you have visited the local colleges and other providers that you may be interested in. If you would like some support with this, please contact our Careers Development Consultant Fran Dolan on the number below or drop her an email.

Tel: 07805 809362 Email: fran.dolan@cswgroup.co.uk

Other News....

Football Golf comes to Pencalenick

Caerhays class have kindly created a course of 12 holes/ goals around the school site for all pupils to enjoy and practice their aim.



A group of 20 students from Years 10 & 11 have started working towards their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. They are initially focusing on the physical and volunteering aspects.



Our lovely pupils raised **£106.26** for Children In Need

Well done Everyone!

Pencalenick Football Club

The squad of 25 boys and girls from across the school are training on a Friday lunchtime. They are now on the look-out for a match with another school or college.

Christmas Fayre

A big thank you to all those that came along to support the event. It was a lovely to see so many of you. The evening was a great success and raised over £900 for Pencalenick Friends.



With the weather finally turning colder, we would like to remind you that the **School Emergency Closure Policy** can be viewed on our website under the Parents section. Please ensure that we have an up to date emergency contact number for your child.

Reminder....

Attention on Attendance

We all know that good attendance has a positive impact on progress, so it is important that your child is in school as much as possible. Of course, we understand that there are times when this is not possible and would like to remind you of our procedures around reporting absence.

- If your child is not going to be in school you **MUST** call the school and speak to someone in Reception or leave a message on 01872 520385. Ideally, phone calls need to be made by 8.30am at the latest please, so we can inform the class tutor and record it on the register.
- It is also important for us to know if your child is running late. Again, please call the office, or leave a message. If your child is not in school by 9.30am and we have not heard from you, Reception will call you to ensure that your child is safe with you, and to determine the reason for absence.
- If there is no reply, we will begin the process of working through all the contacts you have provided. Please always ensure that we have a correct, up-to-date number for you, and for all your emergency contacts.
- If your child is ill, please call Reception each day of the illness unless you have been advised to keep your child off for a certain amount of time, and we are aware of this. If there are any exceptional circumstances for absence, including medical appointments, these must be authorised in advance.
- If you are collecting your child during the school day you must come to Reception and your child will be brought to you. Children must only be collected from Reception and Signing Out slip completed.

Thank you for your support with this very important process, which is focused on keeping your child safe.

One final note regarding any change to the end of the school day....

If there is a change to the way your child is travelling home, this must be received in writing in advance or verbally agreed with the tutor. We need to know the identities of who will be collecting your child. Otherwise we are obliged to follow the default arrangements and your child will be sent home in the usual method.