

Penpol School

2 St George's Road, Hayle, Cornwall, TR27 4AH



Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will have seen, some works were carried out during the half term break at the front of the school building. This project, funded by Cornwall County Council, was necessary in order to safely allow for the increased number of families we now welcome through our gates each day. The new fence was required in order to prevent pupils from falling from height onto the road, now that the wall is accessible. Also included in this phase of works was the relocating of the bin store away from the main building. This aspect was a legal requirement for fire-safety reasons.

When planning these works with the contractors, we agreed that keeping the two trees on the grassy area was important for environmental reasons and because they were an important feature of the school. Sadly however, when the contractors began to prepare the ground, they discovered that the trees had been planted directly on top of an older layer of tarmac and, therefore, had very fragile root systems that would not survive.

I am sorry for the distress this has caused many of you. We share your sadness at the loss of these trees and, like you, have a resounding commitment to teaching our children about the importance of trees and wildlife in general in the fight against climate change. We are also very conscious that the space currently looks far less welcoming than it should and would like to reassure you that we will shortly be beginning the next phase of development as detailed below:

- We will soon be receiving a delivery of 200 saplings from The Woodland Trust. This will include a variety of species, including rowans such as the specimen lost from the front of the school. The saplings will be planted in several areas around the school site.
- The front of the school will see plenty of additional planting, including more mature plants and trees with the aim of bringing colour to the space all year round.
- The space will also be used to develop more homes for wildlife such as bird hides, bat boxes and bug hotels.
- The fencing around the bin store will be fitted with a natural surround so that the bins are not visible from the outside.
- Finally, we are planning an exciting art project which will make use of reclaimed ocean plastics to bring colour and creativity to the new green fence.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your feedback and thoughts in helping us shape a space that we can all be proud of for many years to come. If you are interested in getting involved in the next phase of development of this space, please do get in touch.

With very best wishes,

Chris Chislett
Headteacher

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