



Friday 17th July

Dear Parents/Carers,

Retirement

Firstly, I must ask you to join me in thanking two of our longest serving, much-loved colleagues who will be retiring this summer.

Marlene James has worked at Penpol for an incredible thirty-one years. Marlene is an absolute inspiration to us all at school where her impeccably calm, kind and patient approach has supported thousands of children to learn and grow. She is passionate about early reading and has had a profound impact upon so many lives. Marlene also developed and led our Play and Learn sessions, providing the youngest members of our community a fantastic first experience of school. We will continue with these sessions, when it is safe to do so, as one of many lasting legacies of Marlene's work.

Barbara Edwards has worked at Penpol for an amazing twenty-five years. Barbara's commitment to Penpol has been truly remarkable and many of our pupils, past and present, will fondly remember benefiting from her supportive and nurturing approach. Barbara's drive and determination to ensure that every child succeeds is truly outstanding. The lasting impact of this will be felt for many years to come by so many former pupils - across our community and beyond.

We thank you Barbara and Marlene for all that you have done for our pupils, families and colleagues. You will each be very much missed but will always remain a central part of the Penpol family that you have been so instrumental in building.

Reopening in September

Our plans for reopening in September are now more clearly formed and, although nothing can be set in stone until nearer the time, we would like to share key points with you now:

Dropping Off

- Start times will be slightly staggered to space out the usage of key entrance points although this will be a flexible approach, allowing siblings to enter at the same time. Further information about these start times will be provided closer to September.
- We will be using the driveway entrance for (new) Years 3 and 4 and the pedestrian gate for other year groups.
- Children ready to walk onto the school site by themselves will be encouraged to do so. Entrances will be carefully staffed.

Collection

- Departure times will be staggered to manage the flow of pedestrians.
- We will operate a one-way system on site for Years 3-6. Parents will be able to collect from the school playgrounds, observing social distancing at all times. Specific collection points will be confirmed closer to September.
- Exits and 'pinch points' will be staffed at all times to help manage the flow of pedestrians and to keep children safe.

Social Distancing

- Children will remain in their year group 'bubble' of sixty pupils throughout the day.

- Lunchtimes and breaktimes will be staggered, with all spaces around the school site used.
- As we will be welcoming almost five hundred children and staff back onto our relatively small school site for the first time, the integrity of these bubbles will be vital. Temporarily closing on Wednesday afternoons will allow us to avoid the movement of colleagues between bubbles and to carry out enhanced cleaning measures. Remote learning opportunities will be provided and a provision will be made where this is not workable for families. If this affects you and you have not done so already, please get in touch on head@penpol.cornwall.sch.uk
- We plan to reopen our breakfast and after school clubs as soon as we have safely embedded our control measures for the school day itself. We understand that this delay is hugely challenging for many families and sincerely thank you for your patience.

Hygiene

- An enhanced cleaning programme will ensure that we keep all shared areas and resources as safe as possible.
- Children will be asked to follow rigorous respiratory hygiene and hand washing principles.
- We expect for our uniform policy to be reinstated shortly after we return to school, once we have been able to sell uniform items once more.

Recovery Curriculum and Wellbeing

- Every child (and adult) has been affected by recent events and our support for your pupils' wellbeing will be of equal priority to their academic progress. Children will not learn well until they are feeling safe and ready to do so. Our recovery curriculum will ensure that every child is given the support they need to make a positive return to school.
- We have in place a broad range of wellbeing support. Please do get in touch if you have any concerns about your child's mental health or wellbeing.

Transition

- Children will spend the first day back (Monday 7th September) with their current class teacher, allowing them to celebrate their successes this academic year. They will join their new class teacher on Tuesday 8th September.

Contingency Planning

- It is important that we are ready in the event of any further restrictions. Following the success of the Showbie platform for our older pupils, we have purchased additional licences for our team in Years 1 and 2, allowing for further interaction between home and school in the event of any further closures.

Our full risk assessment will be published on our school website once it has been ratified by the governing body. Please look out for emails during the summer break regarding specific details such as drop off and collection times.

Summer Events

Nothing could stop the Penpol Team from organising exciting summer events. Thank you to Nic Stanlake, Jacob Woolcock and all involved in this week's fantastic Rainbow Games and Music Without the Marquee events. Mr Stanlake will post results of the Rainbow Games on the website shortly and Music Without the Marquee launches at 2:30pm today!

Parent/Carer Survey

Your views matter and help us shape the future of Penpol. It is also important that our team knows when we are getting it right. We would be very grateful if you could please take a few minutes to complete our survey here:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeT3YpBelongKjFkZH9tQhYmlMyhkxmw3jPfq4fPdIV-xv4iw/viewform>.



Self-Care Packs

The Anna Freud charity has produced some fantastic self-care packs for children to enjoy over the summer. These are highly recommended and can be found here:

<https://www.annafreud.org/schools-and-colleges/resources/selfcaresummer-primary-pack/>

INSET Days

Attached to this letter is a calendar for the 2020-2021 academic year, showing our INSET days. Children in Years 1-6 will return to school on Monday 7th September, with our new Reception pupils beginning their phased introduction the following day.

Support During the Holidays

We know that the impact of recent events will not disappear during the summer holidays. Please do not hesitate to reach out for help or support wherever it is needed, using the email address below. If you have been affected by the financial impact of coronavirus, we can work in partnership with a local foodbank currently holding very good levels of supplies and able to make deliveries. Please have confidence that we treat all requests for support with respect and confidentiality.

In case you need some inspiration for holiday learning ideas, our remote learning portal will be remodelled as a holiday learning portal where you will find useful links and suggestions. You will be able to access this from the school website: www.penpolschool.co.uk.

Thank You

Thank you all for your continued support during these turbulent times. Huge challenges have been faced by all and we are enormously proud of the way our community has pulled together in hope and support. Thank you also to each of my colleagues whose determination, courage and resilience in such uncharted waters has been awe-inspiring.

We will update you further in the coming weeks but, for now, I would like to wish you all a wonderful summer.

Best wishes,

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