



Thursday 21st October 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As this first half term of the year draws to a close, I would like to **thank you** all for your continued support and engagement throughout an incredibly busy time. For many, this term has been hugely tiring as we have rapidly returned to a version of 'normal' whilst still tackling so many COVID challenges. Your children have been incredible in their efforts, every single day and we are immensely proud of the progress that they have made. Thank you also to our wonderful staff team for keeping the momentum moving and bringing our pupils' learning to life each day.

We have today bid a fond farewell to **Jane Richards**. Jane has worked on our lunchtime team for many years, supporting our children with unwavering warmth and patience, even during the busiest fish and chip Fridays. Jane – we will all miss you very much. Thank you for all that you have given to Penpol over the years.

The half-term break is an important time for children to unwind, enjoy the great outdoors and relax wherever possible. Keeping **daily reading** going throughout really helps children's confidence when they return and [Hayle Library](#) will be open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday next week.

The local authority have updated their **COVID guidance**:

- They now request that close contacts of confirmed cases take a PCR test. These are available [here](#).
- They also ask that close contacts who are attending a school, as a staff member or pupil, takes a daily lateral flow test for 7 days. Although these are not usually advised for primary aged children, the local authority recommend parental choice in this instance.
- All adults are asked to continue with regular (twice weekly) lateral flow testing, throughout the half term break, to allow us to return to school on 1st November as safely as possible.
- Please continue to wear a **mask** onsite at all times, particularly as cases are rising locally. Thank you all for your support here.

Although we must remain as cautious as possible, as time goes on, it is important that we continue to review our adjusted start and finish times to mitigate the impact upon learning. From 1st November, we are asking that **all Year 5 and Year 6** pupils remain at school until **3:15pm each day**, allowing them to complete the afternoon together. The flexible collection window remains open to other year groups for the time being.

Wishing you all a wonderful half-term break. We look forward to welcoming pupils back on Monday 1st November.

Best wishes,

Chris Chislett
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*"Penpol pupils are **curious, creative and courageous** learners. Our school community believes in **authenticity** as the foundations of **deep-rooted** learning. Through our **rich and relevant** curriculum, we nurture **community-minded, forward-facing** international citizens of the future."*