

Friday 17th December 2021

Dear All,

Thank you all so very much for your support this year. Your support and engagement knows no bounds and makes a huge difference to the work of our school. I would like to thank our fantastic staff team too for rising to every challenge and giving our pupils the very best opportunities every single day. Congratulations also to each and every one of our pupils who have worked so very hard and shown our school values of respect, honesty, friendship, creativity, resilience and integrity each and every day this term.

Today we bid a fond farewell to **Jen Jones** who leaves her role as teaching assistant in Year 1 this week. Jen has been a hugely valued member of our team, as both teacher and teaching assistant, for a number of years. Thank you, Jen, for making such a difference for our pupils. We hope to see more of you very soon in one capacity or another!

It has been a privilege to witness Years 1 to 6 perform their **carol concerts** this week and your support for these was incredible – many thanks. Well done too to our Reception classes who performed some wonderful **Nativities** to proud family members. We are in the process of editing videos of the carol concerts. We hope to share these with you in the new year as an unlisted Youtube link. Only recipients of the link would be able to watch the video. **If you would prefer for your child not to be included in this video, please let me know at head@penpol.cornwall.sch.uk before the beginning of term** so that we can allow for this during editing – thank you.



Thank you to all those involved in this year's **lantern parade**. It was great to have the school represented at this important community event. We look forward to taking part again next year!

Important COVID Update:

As you will have seen in the news, the guidance has changed for contacts of individuals who test positive for COVID-19. **All** identified contacts from the age of 5 upwards are now asked to take a lateral-flow test every day for one week. More information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3sdWNll>.

Although the situation is changing daily, we strongly expect (and very much hope) to return to school as normal on Wednesday 5th January. (Tuesday 4th is an INSET day.) We will write to you as early as possible if there are any important updates. Please do help us to return safely in January by following all government guidance, taking regular lateral flow tests and booking your booster vaccine if you haven't already.

We are very grateful to all at **St Elwyn's Church** for hosting our carol concerts this week. The team have asked that we share information about services running this Christmas time:

- Christmas Eve – 4pm Crib Service at Phillack Church
- Christmas Eve – 9:30pm Service at both Phillack and Gwinear Churches
- Midnight Mass at 11:30pm at both St Elwyn's and St Erth Churches
- Christmas Day services – 9:30am at St Erth and 11am at Gwithian



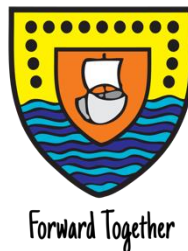
We are delighted to be running our first **walk and talk** session for parents, guardians and family members on Thursday 13th January. Meeting at the front of school at 9am and facilitated by members of our wellbeing team, this will be a chance to go for a stroll, meet new friends and talk about anything and everything whilst the children are at school. Pre-school children are welcome to join, as are well-behaved dogs. ☺

The most powerful way that children can continue their learning during the holidays is through lots of **talk** and **reading** – as much as possible! **Hayle Library** is open each Monday, Wednesday and Friday throughout the holidays except for 27th December.

From all of us at Penpol, we wish you a wonderful Christmas break filled with peace, love and happiness. As ever, please do not hesitate to reach out should you need any support. We look forward to seeing you in January.

Best wishes,

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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."