



Weekly Update - Friday 4th February 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

What a busy week at Penpol!

Lego League:

Firstly, I mentioned last week that two teams from Year 5 were competing in the Lego League regional finals. They were up against hot competition from across Cornwall's primary and secondary schools, with twenty-six teams in total. I am delighted to say that our teams placed **first** and **fourth** respectively – an absolutely incredible achievement for our nine and ten-year olds. The competition involved designing, coding, presenting and innovating and both teams performed exceptionally. *Creative Coders* from Class 11 topped the table and have secured an automatic place at the upcoming UK finals in Harrogate (yes, the one in Yorkshire!). *Lego Leaders* from Class 12 came in fourth position and achieved the highest 'robot games' score of all at 345 points. Huge congratulations to each of our remarkable teams and to our Computing team – Jacob Woolcock and Paul Hudson.



Footballing Heroes

Staying with Upper Key Stage 2 for a moment, congratulations are also owed to our fabulous Years 5 and 6 girls' football team who competed at the Penwith Girls' Football Qualifier on Thursday. The team played some fantastic matches and were placed joint first, along with St Hilary School. They will now go on to play at the Cornwall Games later in the year. Well done to all and thank you to Mark Pollard, Jack Emery and Amanda Aspden for their coaching and support.



Challenge Partners



We hosted our first Challenge Partners Quality Assurance Review this week, running from Wednesday afternoon until this lunchtime. I am pleased to say that this was a rigorous but hugely positive process for all. Involving pupils, governors and staff at all levels, our visiting reviewers were provided with a clear picture of what life is like at Penpol, the journey we have made and the impact of our provision.

The warmth of our community, unwavering enthusiasm of our pupils and passionate dedication of our whole staff team was clear for the reviewers to see and will be evident in the forthcoming report that we look forward to sharing. Once again, I would like to thank my colleagues here at Penpol for all that they do each and every day – what an incredible team!

COVID Update:

Although a small number of COVID-19 cases have reported amongst our pupils and staff in the past seven days, these continue to decline significantly. Thank you all for your support in following the government guidance. As ever, if you or your child are isolating, we are here to help in any way that we can.

Pick-Up Timings

It is important that we continue to review our COVID measures to ensure that they are balanced and proportionate. Since we returned from the first lockdown, we have operated a staggered collection time for most pupils from 3:00 – 3:15pm. After the half term break, we will be ready to return to the pre-pandemic collection times as follows:

Reception and Key Stage 1 – 3:10pm
Key Stage 2 – 3:15pm

We will continue to maintain our one-way system and morning routines will remain as they are for the time being. Should you have any questions about this return to previous timings, please don't hesitate to get in touch.



Finally, well done to our Year 4s who transported us to **Hogwarts** today. In the past few weeks, some rather curious spells, potions and wands have been appearing and, today, these were joined by sixty fantastically-dressed wizards, witches and magical creatures. *Wingardium leviosa!*

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

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."