



10th March 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Incredible Achievements

We are proud of our broad and inspiring curriculum at Penpol and the opportunities that it provides for our pupils.

This week, two teams of remarkable Penpol students competed at the **First Lego League** Cornwall finals. Involving a range of complex tasks from programming robots to presenting solutions to real-world problems, these tournaments are challenging and highly competitive. Teams from both primaries and secondaries take part, raising the bar further still. Happily, Penpol pupils enjoy a challenge and they each did an incredible job.

Each competing on a different day, our teams stole the show and placed **first place** on both occasions. Judges commented that their performances were an honour to witness and we could not be prouder of their achievements. Both teams will travel to the **national finals** in Harrogate next month once more. Well done all!



Our **football teams** have been busy also. Last week, we entered both a boys' and girls' team in the inaugural *Leading Edge Cup*. Each team performed brilliantly with the boys **winning** their tournament in style. This week, our girls' team have been competing again at the Penwith Football Festival. Incredible performances all round saw them win every match with the highly convincing scores of **4-0, 4-0 and 7-0**. Huge congratulations to all involved!



Staffing Changes

This week, we have sadly said 'goodbye' to Teaching Assistant **Amber Seddon**. Amber and her family have moved out of the area and we send them best wishes on their new adventure. Amber worked in the Penpol team for a number of years providing care and support to some of our most vulnerable pupils. Thank you Amber for your invaluable contributions to the Penpol team.

We will soon also be saying 'goodbye for now' to **Maureen Paul**. Maureen has worked at Penpol for an incredible 32 years, supporting children during lunchtimes. Maureen, who retires at Easter, will be much missed by all, and we hope will be visiting often. Thank you Maureen for your incredible service to the community of Penpol.

I would also like to congratulate **Jonathan Peck** who has been appointed as the new Strategic Lead for the Cornwall Association of Primary Heads (CAPH). Jonathan has played an instrumental role in our teaching and leadership teams for the past six years and I am delighted to say that he will be remaining with us for one day each week from September.

Looking Ahead

Thank you all for your support and understanding around our **strike days** next week. If you have any questions or challenges at all, please do pop me an email or give us a call at the number below.

A reminder that **Red Nose Day** takes place on Friday 17th March. Children are invited to wear their own clothes, including something red if they wish, with any donations gratefully received. You can donate directly at this link if you choose: <https://rb.gy/xqes3d>

In support of Brain Tumour Research and of members of our community affected by the disease, we will be taking part in **Wear A Hat Day** on Friday 31st March. For more information about the charity and what they do, please do follow this link: <https://www.braintumourresearch.org/fundraise/wear-a-hat-day>. Children are invited to wear a hat on the day (in normal school uniform), with any donations to the charity gratefully received. As this falls within our science week, children *may* wish to apply the theme of science to their hat choices!

Our next **Forest School Stay and Play** takes place on Friday 31st March at 1pm. For children starting school soon and their parents/carers, this is a chance to explore, play and meet others in our forest school. If you are planning to join, please do pop me an email so we can plan accordingly. Thank you.

The last week of this term, starting 27th March, is **Science Week** at Penpol. This will involve all manner of scientific escapades throughout the week across the school. If you are involved in a scientific field of work and would like to get involved, please do pop me an email at the address below. In Years 1-6, children will be involved in some eggcellent eggperiments involving real eggs. Any donations of hen's eggs in the week beginning 20th March would be eggstremely well received. **Please do not bring eggs to Reception classes due to specific allergies.** Thank you all.

Breakfast Club

We do keep the charges for our wraparound care to an absolute minimum. However, costs for schools have risen enormously in recent months and it is necessary for us to increase the rate we charge for our breakfast club. From Monday 17th April, breakfast club will cost £2.50 per session, up from £2. As before, breakfast is not provided (in order to keep costs as low as possible) and your child is invited to bring a snack with them if they would like. Thank you all for your understanding here.

Thank you for responding to our **nursery questionnaire** so far. Once again, the link is here and your views are gratefully received: <https://forms.gle/V4nfZ7YXSLKuvZ9y7>

Finally, well done to our Year 5 **geographers**, honing their orienteering skills ahead of putting them into practice in the wilderness soon!



Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

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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."