



Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Staffing Changes

The summer term is always a bittersweet time. Not only do we prepare to wish Year 6 all the best on the next stage of their adventure but, in a school our size, it is always time to say good-bye to some much-loved colleagues too. I wanted to bring you up to speed on some of these today.

Firstly, our wonderful School Administrator **Vicki Woolcock** will sadly be leaving us this August after an amazing twenty-six years at Penpol. Vicki's role is far-reaching and her love for our school unsurpassed. She has seen Penpol and its community through so many changes, challenges and triumphs whilst, at all times, being completely and utterly calm and in control. Her compassion for our pupils, for staff and for families knows no bounds and her impact upon the broader community has been huge.

Also from our office team, the fantastic **Heather Gilman** is leaving this August. As Business Manager for eleven years, Heather's astute financial oversight coupled with her sincere care towards all stakeholders have played a huge role in making the most of our finances whilst keeping everyone safe and well. It is with Heather's diligent support that we have been ready to make the most of each and every penny of our school funding.

I would like to thank Heather and Vicki for their incredible contributions to life at Penpol. We will miss them both hugely. We will shortly be advertising for two new office roles and will share the links for these as soon as possible. If, in the meantime, you have any questions about these roles, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Mark Pollard has been a much-loved teacher at Penpol for twelve years. More recently, Mark has also been following another passion of his in the antiques business, dividing his working week between teaching and auctioneering roles. He has decided that now is the time for him to move into auctioneering full-time and this will be his last term at Penpol. Mark has taught hundreds of children in his time here, building powerfully positive relationships with all. He has also been instrumental in the development of our careers curriculum and annual careers fairs.

Em Bodmer has taught with us at Penpol since 2019, bringing with her a wealth of skills and experience. Her deep commitment to ensuring that every child thrives has had a huge impact upon the children that she has taught and across the rest of the school. She was also instrumental in driving significant progress in our early reading provision – a legacy which will remain for many years ahead. Em will be leaving us this August also.

Antoinette Anthony is also leaving us this summer. Having worked here as a Teaching Assistant for the past twenty-one years, Antoinette's warm and empathetic approach has been a lifeline for so many pupils, not least those with additional needs. Antoinette will be continuing her career at a nearby nursery and we wish her every success in her new role.

Again, I would like to thank Mark, Em and Antoinette for their unwavering commitment to Penpol and its pupils. We look forward to enjoying the remaining summer term together.

I am very pleased to say that we have already recruited for new teachers and, following a huge number of very strong applications, have made some excellent appointments for the new academic year. We will update you further next week.

What an incredible few weeks it has been at Penpol. Near and far, indoors and (most often) outdoors, your children have tackled new challenges, accomplished incredible feats and had a wonderful time in the process. Well done all and thank you to everyone involved in making these **magical memories** possible.



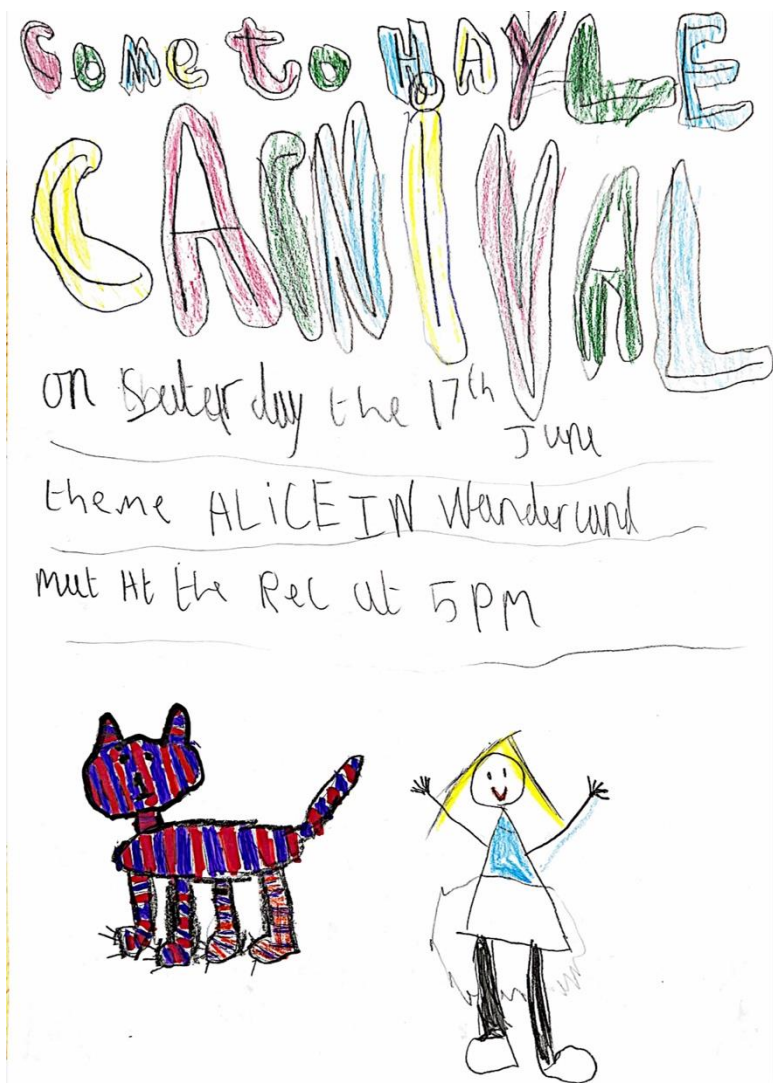
As the weather continues to be warm, it is important that every child arrives to school with a **water bottle, sun hat and wearing sun cream please!** Thank you for your support.

We wrote last week about the **graffiti art project** involving Penpol, Bodriggy and Hayle Academy. The official opening event was held earlier this week and the artwork can now be enjoyed by all at Hayle Train Station. Listen out to BBC Cornwall on Saturday morning for a full report and thank you again to Tate St Ives for leading on this fantastic project.

Thank you to all involved in this week's **careers fair**. An incredible afternoon was enjoyed by all, with exhibitors from across a huge range of industries and professions inspiring our pupils to dream big. Once again, we were particularly grateful to our exhibitors for giving up their time for such a valuable cause. If you are looking for further inspiration, why not visit Falmouth University's Degree Shows: <https://www.falmouth.ac.uk/falmouth-shows?fbclid=IwAR3eixMd3hHt-7kUDhMv1aBDMknawbEIRCxMy5HXndQK7CNVL6qFxbb6AUQ>

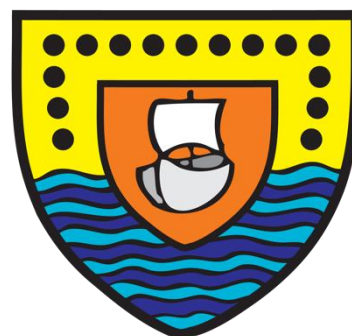


Thank you to everyone involved in raising funds for the **Penpol Pumpkins**. Incredibly, thanks to your support, they have reached their target and are looking forward to representing GB and Penpol School in Massachusetts. Particular thanks to **Hayle Academy** for raising £141 in a 'throw the sponge at the teacher' contest today. Any funds raised beyond the Pumpkins' target will be reinvested into supporting local schools in the community in developing opportunities for STEM learning through the use of robotics as a lasting legacy of these achievements.



Continuing the theme of fundraising, a member of our community is raising funds for medical fees. If you are interested in supporting, please follow this link: <https://gofund.me/171b0e81>.

Finally, as this excellent poster shows, **Hayle Carnival** is taking place on Saturday 17th June with the theme of Alice in Wonderland. All are very welcome to get involved and children will be creating props one afternoon in class to prepare.



Forward Together
War-rag War-barth

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."