



Spring Break Newsletter 2018

March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

This half term has flown by and we break up at 1:15 pm on Thursday 29 March 2018 for Spring break. School re-opens at 9:00 am Monday 16 April 2018.

Parents'/Carers' Week – Parents' week took place week beginning Monday 26 March – Wednesday 28 March 2018 again we used a new arrangement offering several different time slots across a week. Parents agreed that this new, more flexible approach was helpful. Thank you to parents/carers who attended. I am sure that you found talking to staff useful and informative.

Art/History Trip – A group of pupils went to the Manchester Museum and Gallery on Tuesday 20 March 2018. They had a fabulous time. Thanks to staff for arranging this trip. See out Twitter feed for further details.

In House Counselling Service - We have a new therapist from Barnardo's Counsellor Hazel. She is in school on Mondays and Tuesdays. We are pleased to have this intervention. The initiative is funded by Pupil Premium.

School Uniform – Zero tolerance - I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support with the issue of school uniform. Any pupil who arrives out of uniform will be given items from our uniform store and will be asked to change. This is not open to negotiation. Footwear needs to be dark. Coloured trainers are not part of Penkford School uniform. Extreme hairstyles are not permitted at Penkford School. Part of our Home/School Agreement states that extreme hairstyles such as 'shaven sides' or 'tramlines' are not allowed. If there is a problem with a hairstyle I know you will understand that we will ask Parents/carers to put this right as a matter of urgency.

Mobile Phones – Zero tolerance - I would also like to thank you for ensuring that your child leaves their mobile phone at home. This is a safeguarding issue. Phones are a distraction. They are not allowed in school. Any pupil found to have a mobile phone on them on the school site will have it taken from them. Any pupil needing to make a genuine call can use the school landline.

Please continue to support us and ensure your child is in full uniform and their mobile phone is left at home.

Attendance - **Overall Attendance Figures this academic year so far - 80%**. Two pupils have 100% attendance since September. Well done!

Holidays/Leave of Absence - A reminder about holidays in school time. St Helens Local Authority rule is that holidays should not be taken during school term time and could lead to a fixed penalty fine. Further advice can be found on St Helens Council website.

End of term Achievement Assembly - Our end of term Achievement Assembly will take place on Thursday 29 March 2018.

Well done to all the pupils who are nominated for a certificate/prize. Pupils must be in school, on time, in full uniform and present at the assembly in order to be eligible for an award.

Farewell – We say farewell to Mr Wilkinson Teaching Assistant in Outdoor Education who has been at Penkford School for 8 years. He is moving on to a different role within transport. We also say farewell to Mr Worgan lead for Outdoor Education who has been at Penkford School for 7 years. Mr Worgan is moving on to a similar role across a number of schools in the North West. We thank them both for all their hard work and wish them well for the future.

Updates - Fundraising – Mother’s Day Fundraiser proved very successful. The school raised in excess of £46 for charity. We hosted a cakes and biscuits sale. We held a tombola, helped pupils create their own fingerprint bookmarks and cards. Monies raised will be donated to Sports Relief.

Book Fair and Easter Egg Hunt – We will be holding this event on Thursday 19 April 2018 from 3 pm until 5 pm, please bring along your old books and swap them! They will be chances to win Easter eggs, we will have a selection of refreshments, so please come down and join us!

Penkford Twitter – Please access Penkford Twitter to see all the exciting events and activities that are going on in our school. I am sure you will agree that our young people are offered lots of wonderful experiences and opportunities. Please follow our Twitter feed on the school website

Finally - I am sure you will agree that there are many exciting new initiatives being introduced here at Penkford. Our aim is for our pupils to experience “Success Every Day”. Thank you for your support throughout this academic year so far and I hope that you and your family have a good Easter Holiday and look forward to seeing our students on **Monday 16 April 2018** in good shape in full school uniform and ready to embrace the challenge and opportunities of the Summer term

Reminder that the new term begins at 9am on Monday 16 April 2018

We expect all pupils to be on time for school every day and in full school uniform

