

Spring Break Newsletter 2019

April 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

This half term has flown by and we break up at 1:15pm on Friday 5 April 2019 for Spring break. School re-opens at 9:00 am on Tuesday 23 April 2019.

End of term Achievement Assembly - Our end of term Achievement Assembly will take place on Friday 5 April 2019.

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.

St Helens Youth Open Art Competition – We are extremely proud to congratulate 3 of our pupils on their art work being selected for exhibition in the St Helens Youth Open Art Competition 2019. The exhibition is open from Saturday 23 March – Friday 10 May at the World of Glass.

Tesco Bags of Help Scheme – Excellent news received this week that Penkford have been awarded a Grant of up to £4,000 on behalf of the *'Tesco Bags of Help Scheme'*. This grant is specifically for the purpose of Developing Outdoor Learning at Penkford.

A very big thank you to Mr Collins for putting the successful application together and many, many thanks to all of our parents, family friends, staff and shoppers who have supported this scheme on our behalf.

Newton-Le-Willows Rotary Club – Community Crocus Competition 2018-19 – During Spring term pupils at Penkford participated in planting Crocus bulbs on school premises in aid of the *'Purple 4 Polio'* awareness campaign to eradicate polio worldwide. I am very pleased to confirm that Penkford School has been judged as the winning entry and that we were presented with a framed certificate and a cheque for £100.00 from Newton-Le-Willows Rotary Club on Friday 22 March 2019. Well done everyone!

Green Tree School Award – Woodland Trust – Well done to all pupils and staff for achieving the Bronze Award for Penkford school. Miss Maxwell member of MLT led this project.

Attendance - Overall school attendance figure this academic year so far – 82%. Punctuality - 97%. There are 10 pupils who have achieved over 96% attendance this academic year, 3 have 100% - Well done !

Maternity Leave Mrs Bainbridge goes on Maternity Leave from 23 April 2019. We wish her well. Mrs Barton will be teaching maths in Term 3.

Y11 Revision - Y11 will begin a programme of structured revision after the Spring Break overseen by Mrs Laughton Assistant Head. Exams begin in mid May and run until mid June. Good Luck and a reminder to do some revision over Spring Break.

New Timetables – In order to accommodate maternity leaves of two staff we will be launching new timetables after the Spring Break. Form tutors have done preparation work with tutor groups so that this transition goes smoothly.

School Uniform – High standards - I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing support with the issue of school uniform. **“Hoodies” and Baseball caps are not suitable for school.** Please support school and ensure Hoodies and Caps are left at home so there are no issues. 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 should be plain and dark and suitable for school. Trainers are not suitable for school. Please support school and ensure your child is set off from home wearing uniform. This avoids issues upon arrival.

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 – Safeguarding – We ask that pupils do not bring mobile phones into school. If they do need to bring a mobile phone it will be stored very safely at Reception. Pupils may not take a mobile phone into the main part of the school building. 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.

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.

Penkford Gazette - It is full of news, views and stories. Well done to the team who produce *The Penkford Gazette*. The newspaper showcases all the good work that goes on at our school.

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 we look forward to seeing our students on **Tuesday 23 April 2019** 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 9.00am on Tuesday 23 April 2019

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

Julie Johnson
Headteacher

