



Whit Newsletter 2019

May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

This half term has flown by and we break up on Friday 24 May 2019 for the Whit Half Term and school re-opens on Monday 3 June 2019. It has been a very busy and exciting half term.

Examinations – KS4 pupils been sitting final examinations and Y6 pupils have had their SAT's. Pupils have worked hard revising and preparing for their papers and assessments. We wish them all well during this important time. We hope KS4 pupils have a good rest over half term because their exams continue after the holiday.

Target Setting/Termly Progress Meetings – We held our third target setting / termly progress Meetings on Tuesday 30 April 2019. The purpose of the meetings is to review pupils' progress and to set academic and behaviour targets for the Summer Term 2019. Thank you to those parents who attended.

Highlights this half term – 3 Pupils received prizes in the Art Competition '**Posters 4 Health**' and several Y8 and Y9 pupils participated in a Crime Prevention Project hosted by Radio City in Liverpool. The project is called '**Merseyside is Bright**' and Penkford is the only school in St Helens fortunate enough to be nominated to take part.

Deaf Awareness Week (DAW) – During Deaf Awareness week 6-12 May 2019, we raised awareness and challenged perceptions of hearing loss and deafness. There are 11 million people with hearing loss across the UK and 50,000 children.

Mental Health Awareness Week – Took place during week 13 – 19 May 2019. This years' theme was 'Body Image' – how we think and feel about ourselves. Everyone has a right to feel comfortable and confident in their own bodies.

Governing Body - Our Governors continue to be very active in supporting and challenging us. We thank them.

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.

New Timetables - New timetables to accommodate maternity leave of two staff members were successfully launched after the Spring Break.

Maternity Leave - Mrs Laughton goes on Maternity Leave from 3 June 2019. We wish her well.

National 3 Peaks Challenge – During this half term Mr Collins will attempt the National Three Peaks to raise funds for our Forest School provision. The aim is to climb the highest mountains in Scotland (Ben Nevis), England (Scaffel Pike) and Wales (Snowdon) in 24 hours. The attempt begins at 4pm on Thursday 30 May 2019 in Fort William and will end the next day at 4pm in Llanberis. Details are available on the school twitter page.

School start time- It is not possible to supervise pupils before 08:30 am. Please ensure that pupils arrive **after 08:30 am** when staff are available and classrooms are open. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Finally - I am sure you will agree that there are many exciting new initiatives taking place 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 break over the half term. We look forward to seeing our students on **Monday 3 June 2019** at 9.00am in good shape, in full school uniform and ready to embrace the challenge and opportunities of the Summer term.

Julie Johnson
Headteacher



Dates for your Diary

Friday 24 May 2019	<i>End of half term - school closes for pupils at 2.45 pm</i>
Monday 3 June 2019	<i>School re-opens at 9.00 am</i>
Friday 28 June 2019	<i>Official leaving date for Year 11 pupils</i>
Friday 19 July 2019	<i>End of year Achievement Assembly and end of term - school closes for pupils at 1:15 pm</i>
Thursday 22 August 2019	<i>GCSE results</i>
Monday 2 September 2019	<i>Staff Training site not open to pupils</i>
Tuesday 3 September 2019	<i>Staff Training site not open to pupils</i>
Wednesday 4 September 2019	<i>School re- opens to all pupils</i>