



Penryn
College

Achieving through Challenge

November 2016

Dear Parent/Carer(s)

Thank you for your support during the first half of a very busy and successful term. We hope your child has learnt new and exciting things! Please take note of the essential information below.

We have made some very important changes to the way we assess your child's progress. Please read the enclosed "Why our assessments are changing" which helps to explain the enclosed Progress Report for your child. All information about your child's progress, and more besides, is detailed on your child's Virtual School Page. Every time your child completes an assessment, this page is updated so that you are always able to see how your child is doing at school.

Subject Review Evenings:

Years 8 and 9 – Wednesday 9th November 2016

Years 10 and 11 – Wednesday 7th December 2016

Year 7 – Thursday 12th January 2017

These Reviews are always popular with parents. Book your appointments on line by either:

- **Logging on to the Website's Virtual School. You will find the Booking System on REVIEW EVENING. You will need your Virtual School Password and Username. If you do not have this, or if you have any other technical difficulties, please contact Mrs Head on shead@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk 01326 372379 Ext 1241. Please note there is a Help Box on the top row, left hand side of the booking grid.**
- **Emailing subjectreview@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk or phone the Educational Support Team: 01326 372379 Ext 1508 between 9.30am and 2.30pm.**

This year, we will also be inviting parents and students who are not making the progress they should, to meet us on **Friday 20th January 2017. We will be sending requests to meet you in early January, following the assessments in December.**

Attendance

Children who have good attendance perform better at school and gain significantly higher GCSE results. Thank you again for making sure your child attends school regularly. Attendance should be at least 97%, if not higher. Students who are absent are expected to catch up on the work they have missed, please remind your child and check that they have done catch up work as quickly and as thoroughly as possible.

Uniform

Thank you for your continued support in improving the standard of uniform, especially that jeans, canvas trousers, chinos or leggings are not part of the uniform code. Trousers must be full length, not $\frac{3}{4}$ length or rolled up. For your guidance, there should be a space between the fabric of the trousers and the skin from the knee down. Skirts should be closer to the knee than the bottom. Shorts are only allowed in the summer term. Students who do not wear the correct shoes or trousers will be issued with pumps or the correct trousers to wear for that day.

Snow Alert

If it snows and the roads are dangerous, you can find out if the College is closed by:

- Listening to local radio which will read out the list of **school closures only**.
- Looking at the College website which will tell you if the College is open or closed.



Head Teacher: Marie Hunter

Penryn College, Kernick Road, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 8PZ

T: 01326 372379 F:01326 373194 e:secretary@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk www.penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk

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If you need to contact us directly, the line(s) may be busy or unavailable because a large number of parents are calling at the same time. A full list of all schools closed in Cornwall can be found at <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=2295>.

You may also find the following websites useful:

Cornwall Snow Advice www.cornwall.gov.uk/snow
Met Office www.metoffice.gov.uk
Environment Agency www.environment-agency.gov.uk
Devon & Cornwall Police www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

Free School Meals

Please claim your entitlement to Free School Meals, even if you do not wish to take up the benefit. The College receives additional funding for every Free School Meal claimed.

This is because as well as being entitled to a free school meal, your child is also entitled to free instrumental lessons and could be allocated additional support in their learning. Providing you do not claim Working Tax Credits you may be eligible if you are in receipt of any of the following:

- Income support.
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance.
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
- Child Tax Credit – as long as the individual is not also in receipt of Working Tax Credit and has an annual income of less than £16,190 (October 15 figure).
- Support under Part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

If you are unsure if your child qualifies, telephone Free School Meals on 0300 1234101.

Pupil Premium

If a child has a parent in the Armed Forces or was adopted from care and you have not told us, please inform Miss J Carter, Office Manager, jcarter@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk. Your child could receive additional support in their learning because the school receives a small amount of extra funding.

Important Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 8 th November	Year 9 Careers Choices and Pathways
Thursday 10 th November	Parents Forum (All parents welcome)
Tuesday 13 th December	Christmas Concert
Tuesday 3 rd January	Staff Training Day – school closed to pupils
Thursday 12 th January	Year 7 Subject Review
Monday 16 th January	Year 9 Options Evening for parents
Friday 20 th January	Years 7-11 Concerns Day/Aspirations Day
Tuesday 21 st March	Spring Concert
Thursday 23 rd March	Year 11 Subject Review
Tuesday 28 th March	Carrick Dance

Have a wonderful Christmas and every best wish for a happy and healthy New Year!

Yours faithfully

Marie Hunter
Headteacher



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