



Penryn College News

Penryn College News 07.11.25

Issue 8

Mrs Croxall's Message



Good afternoon,

What a wet and wild week we have had! We are certainly missing the TISA and the cover it provides in PE lessons and break times. We have welcomed the construction company onsite and hope that the vital repairs we have been waiting for will be completed in January. We will keep you posted. In the meantime, please do make sure that your children wear a waterproof to school, some students are arriving very wet!

Thank you all for your votes for parent trustees, the 3 candidates who received the most votes were Ruth Green, Hannah Thomas and Ryan Ohly. We are thrilled to welcome them onto our trustee board and excited to work with them. Thank you all for your votes.

I have enjoyed delivering assemblies to our students this week on how to maximise their learning and make the most of their lessons at Penryn. We are looking at the science of learning and the importance of practice and building our memory.

I am writing this newsletter before we know the outcome of our famous annual Redruth-Penryn rugby match so I am unaware of which team has successfully won the Terry Pryor and Benji Thomas Cup so will reveal the outcome next week.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Croxall

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Autumn & Winter Weather



With the cold and wet weather now setting in, please can we remind students to wear a coat to school. We still want to allow students to be outside during break and lunchtimes if the weather isn't too inclement, however pupils must have a coat to be allowed outside.

Coats and scarves must not be worn inside the building during the school day for learning and should be removed when asked by a member of staff.

Attendance

Here at Penryn College, we recognise that there are occasions when it is appropriate to authorise an absence, such as when a pupil is genuinely too ill to attend school.

However, the Government does not support parents taking children out of school unless the school agrees this is appropriate under '*exceptional circumstances*'. Any requests for leave should be made in writing to the Headteacher using the school's *Absence Request Form*.

If your child is absent from school without authorisation, you will be committing an offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid after this but within 28 days.

If your child is further absent from school without authorisation within any 3-year period, you will be committing a further offence under the Education Act 1996. We may submit a request to Cornwall Council for a Penalty Notice to be issued, in accordance with Sections 444A and 444B of the said Act. Penalty Notices for a second offence are issued per liable parent, per child and each carry a fine of £160, payable within 28 days.

Importantly, fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may also result in legal action. If you are prosecuted and attend court because your child has not been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

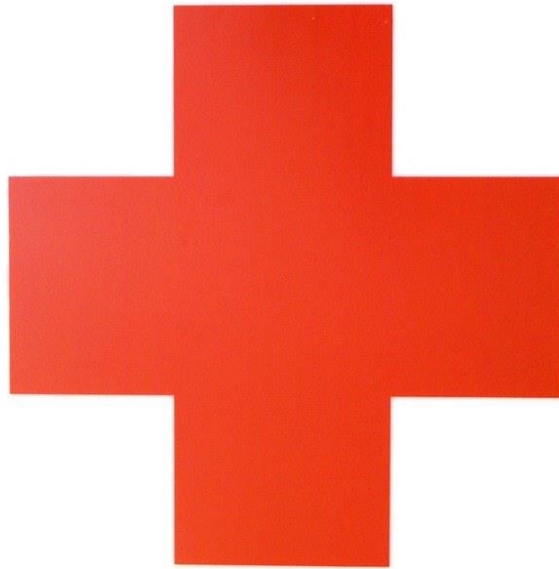
Absence not authorised by the school may also result in a prosecution in the Magistrates' Court under Section 444(1) or Section 444(1A) of the Education Act 1996, leading to a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a custodial sentence. Again, Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court, including legal costs.

Money raised from fines is only used by the local authority to cover the costs of administering the system, and to fund attendance support. Any extra money is returned to the government.

'Parent' as set out in Section 576 of the Education Act 1996, defines parent to include: natural parents, whether they are married or not; any person or body who has parental responsibility for a child (as defined by the Children Act 1989) and; any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child. Having care of a child means a person with whom a child lives and who looks after a child, irrespective of what their relationship is with said child.

You are welcome to contact the school to discuss any concerns you may have regarding this or if you feel you would like advice or support in helping your child attend more regularly. Penryn College is committed to enabling every child to reach their full potential and aims to work with parents to ensure this can be achieved.

School Nurse Drop Ins



This service is provided for any secondary school age child to have the opportunity and easy access to low level advice from a school nurse. The school nurse will be able to resolve or answer any questions or refer on to an appropriate service.

Any child who raises a higher level of need can be referred via the Early Help Hub for a full assessment and a piece of work over a period of 6 sessions.

Monday 1st December: 12:50 - 14:00

Monday 12th January: 12:50 - 14:00

Monday 2nd February: 12:50 - 14:00

Monday 2nd March: 12:50 - 14:00

Monday 30th March: 12:50 - 14:00

Monday 27th April: 12:50 - 14:00

Monday 1st June: 12:50 - 14:00

Monday 6th July: 12:50 - 14:00

News from the Careers Team



Join us at the upcoming Cornwall Tech Jam event, where your children can explore the world of coding and technology in a fun and engaging environment. Whether they're beginners or experienced tech enthusiasts, there's something for everyone to enjoy!

The Cornwall Tech Jam next month will be at the Museum of Cornish Life in Helston. As well as seeing the technology of the past in the museum you can build the tech of the future too. As always if you are making any of your own projects do please bring them along to show others.

Event Details:

Date: Saturday 8th Nov 2025

Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Venue: Museum of Cornish Life

Address: Market Place, Helston, TR13 8TH

What to Expect:

At the Cornwall Tech Jam, your children will have the opportunity to tinker with various tech gadgets and tools. Our lineup includes:

Code in Scratch, Makecode, Arduino, Sonic Pi & Python Robotic rovers to drive around
Raspberry Pi500 computers & screens Raspberry Pi Pico, Microbits and Arduino

Raspberry Pi AI Camera, SenseHats, LED Galore, Mini Traffic Lights, Exciting Add-ons

Participants will have the chance to engage in hands-on activities, workshops, and coding challenges. Our team of volunteers will be there to assist and guide the participants throughout the event. Don't worry if you're new to coding – we welcome all skill levels!

Parent Involvement: Parents with children under 16 do need to stay at the event with your children, providing an opportunity to watch them explore and create with technology. It's a great chance to learn alongside your child or simply enjoy seeing their enthusiasm in action.

Support the Tech Jam: The Cornwall Tech Jam is made possible through the support of generous sponsors and dedicated volunteers. If you're interested in contributing to the event by volunteering or making a small donation, Please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Stay Updated: To stay up-to-date with event announcements, news, and additional information, be sure to follow Tech Cornwall on Facebook. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming you and your children to an exciting day of tech exploration at the Cornwall Tech Jam!

Important Information regarding Tech Jams:

Children under 16 must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times.

Feel free to bring your own equipment, though we'll have everything needed for the activities.

Doors open at 10:00 am, and the event wraps up at 2:00 pm.





ARE YOU READY?

YOUR CHILD'S FIRST PHONE EVENT FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Nov 11th | 18:30 - 20:30

Bayspace St. Ives, TR26 2BH

Hands-on session helping families navigate their children getting their first phone safely and confidently.

Learn about:

- How to use parental controls on iPhone & Android
- Manage app use, screen time & privacy settings
- Understand social media risks and new AI features
- Explore alternative options
- Foster healthy digital habits and open communication

Includes a takeaway guide with top tips & safety steps.

SIGN UP BY

CL <https://www.tecgirls.co.uk/event-details/cyber-guardians-first-phones-parent-workshop>

SCAN THE QR CODE



Light refreshments including coffee, tea, and biscuits will be provided.

Funded by
UK Government

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GOOD
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GIRLS

This project is part-funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Cornwall Council is responsible for managing projects funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund through the Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Shared Growth Programme.

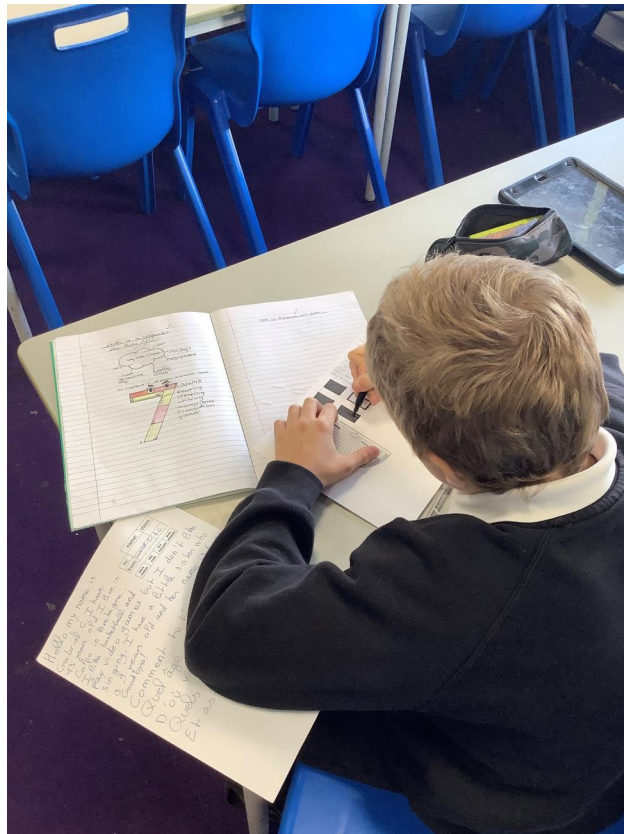
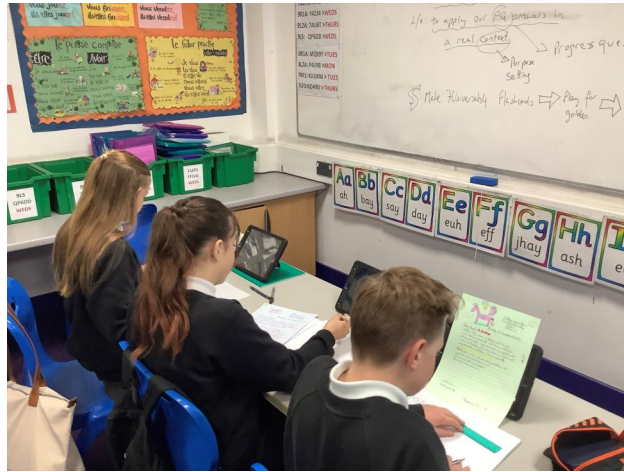


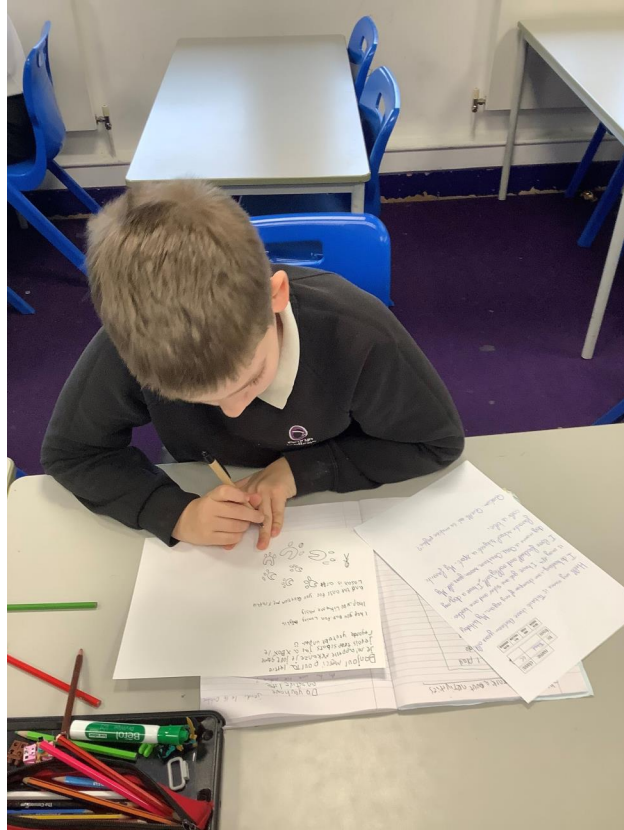
GCHQ, one of the UK's intelligence agencies, is running its annual National Language Competition (NLC) from 17th-21st November 2025 for Year 9 students. You need to be in a team of up to four. Over the course of five days, teams will compete to score points by tackling a variety of fun, immersive, language-themed challenges of varying difficulty levels hosted on a virtual platform. No prior knowledge is required, only a keenness for languages. The winning team with the most points at the end of the competition will be invited to GCHQ's Headquarters in Cheltenham, to be presented with their trophy!

....et bonjour de Collège Saint Louis!

This week over 200 pen-pal letters arrived from our partner school in Brittany and have been distributed to a variety of our Y7, Y8 and Y9 classes. During the next couple of lessons students

will be using their progress question answers to write back in French and describe life at Penryn. The letters will be posted next week and hopefully we will have replies early in the new year!





MFL Autumn Duolingo competition...

The competition has been running for a few weeks now and will remain open until Friday 12th December at which point prizes for each year group will be awarded. Students can still sign up with their Duolingo account by entering the relevant code on the posters throughout the MFL

corridor and there is still all to play for as scores are still pretty low in all categories other than Year 9.

After School Clinics



Headteacher Clinic - Thursdays 3pm - 5:30pm. Please email tsmith@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk to make an appointment.

SEND Clinic - Wednesdays 3pm - 5pm. Please email vcooper@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk to make an appointment.

Head of Year Clinics

Key stage 3, Year 7 and 9 - Tuesday 3.15pm - 5pm

Key stage 4, Years 10 and 11 - Wednesday 3.15pm - 5pm

Key stage 3, Year 8 - Thursday 3.15pm - 5pm

Please email kpruetz@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk to make an appointment for Key Stage 3 and 4.

Cornwall Youth Council Election



A vibrant poster for the Cornwall Youth Council election. At the top left, a yellow speech bubble contains the word "Join" in bold black letters. Next to it is the Cornwall Youth Council logo, which consists of a blue speech bubble with the words "Cornwall YOUTH Council" inside. Below the logo, the text "DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?" is written in large, bold, blue capital letters. Underneath this, a paragraph in smaller text explains the council's purpose: "Cornwall Youth Council is for young people aged 11-18 and is made up of 5 roles. We are currently recruiting candidates to stand as Elected Members! We come together to share the views of children and young people so they can be heard by decision makers and we work on pledges voted for by other young people." To the right of this text is a collage of five photographs showing young people in various settings: some are speaking at a podium, others are smiling for a photo, and one is holding a sign. Below the text, a purple arrow points to a QR code. To the left of the QR code, it says "Registration closes on 23rd November". Below the QR code, the URL "https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/youth-council" is provided, followed by the note "Youth Council is supported by Cornwall Council". The background of the poster features abstract yellow and blue shapes and starburst patterns.

Join

Cornwall YOUTH Council

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A CHANGE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Cornwall Youth Council is for young people aged 11-18 and is made up of 5 roles. We are currently recruiting candidates to stand as Elected Members! We come together to share the views of children and young people so they can be heard by decision makers and we work on pledges voted for by other young people.

If you are interested in joining Cornwall Youth Council scan the QR code to find out more!

Registration closes on 23rd November

<https://letstalk.cornwall.gov.uk/youth-council>

Youth Council is supported by Cornwall Council

Important Dates for the Diary

Year 11 November Mocks - Monday 10th November - Friday 21st November

Year 10 Start to GCSE and Work Experience - Tuesday 11th November

Immunisations - Thursday 27th November

Year 11 Subject Review - Tuesday 9th December

Christmas Concert - Tuesday 16th December

School Closure Day - Friday 19th December

Contact us

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Visit us on the web at www.penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk