



# Penryn College News

Penryn College News 23.01.26

*Issue 16*

## Mrs Croxall's Message



Good afternoon

It is always great to meet families, and we hope that we will see many of you next week at our next Parents' Forum. We will be discussing ClassCharts and also gaining parental opinion on homework as we start to review our school policy. If you have not been able to download ClassCharts yet, we will be around to help parents and carers log in. ClassCharts will be our main point of communication moving forwards so it is important you can access this to receive key messages.

Our student leadership groups have been meeting this week to look at their areas from teaching and learning to sustainability. I am looking forward to meeting with their lead representatives next week to hear about their main priorities for improvement at Penryn College.

We have been recruiting more Penryn College anti-bullying ambassadors this term and these young people will be training as part of their roles in creating a zero tolerance to bullying in our school. If your child would like to join our team, please ask them to speak to Mrs Roberts about this opportunity.

Please see the attached document outlining how to contact key staff at school. We are currently updating our website which we hope will also improve communication.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Croxall

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## Uniform Reminder



Thank you to all families who work with us on school uniform. Our students are looking smart, and we appreciate your support in maintaining our high standards. Here are some simple reminders from our uniform policy:

### **Jewellery:**

- One plain stud earring per ear only (plain silver or gold, less than 5mm diameter)
- No facial jewellery - nose studs, spacers, hoops, or other facial piercings are NOT acceptable

### **Make-up:**

- Discreet, minimal, and natural make-up is permitted
- NO false eyelashes

### **Nails:**

- Natural coloured nail varnish only
- NO false nails or acrylic nails
- NO nail extensions

**Not Permitted:**

- Excessive make-up
- Body art (pen/ink marks, tattoos, including henna)
- Bandanas or hair scarves
- Nose studs, spacers, or hoops

**Our Commitment:** We are committed to supporting all students and families in meeting these expectations. If you need assistance to ensure your child can wear their uniform with confidence, please contact us.

Thank you for your continued support in helping our students look smart and feel proud to be part of Penryn College.

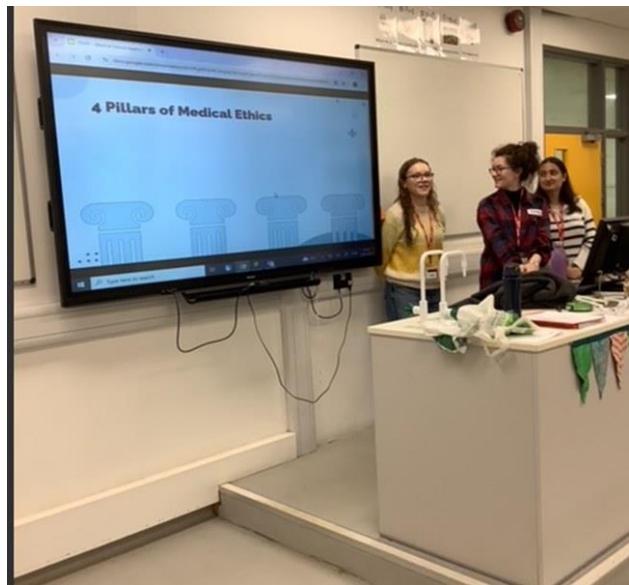
## Potential Medics Group

It has been a busy few days for the potential medics group. On Thursday we had three 3rd year students in from Exeter University- they gave us a run down of their journey into medicine and how they are enjoying their time in Cornwall as part of their degree. Then they gave us a couple of tricky ethical questions to think about introducing our year 10s and 11s to the 4 pillars of medical ethics- which run through any medical career. Thank you to Ellie, Emma and Sareena who were so enthusiastic and to Dr Scott who facilitated the visit.

This was followed on Monday by Matt Thomas from Cornish Paws who ran a lovely 'hands on' session learning to suture using bananas- It turns out that it is far harder than it looks ! Matt was able to answer questions as the student practised stitching and emphasised the importance of perseverance when looking for veterinary work experience. Thank you very much Matt for giving up your time and letting the students have a go at a skill that is relevant to all our potential medics.

The potential medics group is an information hub that is aimed largely at the older year groups, but is also open to everyone - so if there are any KS3 students with a strong drive towards a medically related degree please come and talk to Mrs Alsop in person or join the group via showbie - code DYACV.

We are hugely grateful to the parents and members of the local community who give up their time to provide our students with these enrichment opportunities, and I am always very happy to hear from anyone who may be able to offer something for the potential medics group. If this could be you, please contact Mrs Alsop at [calsop@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:calsop@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk)



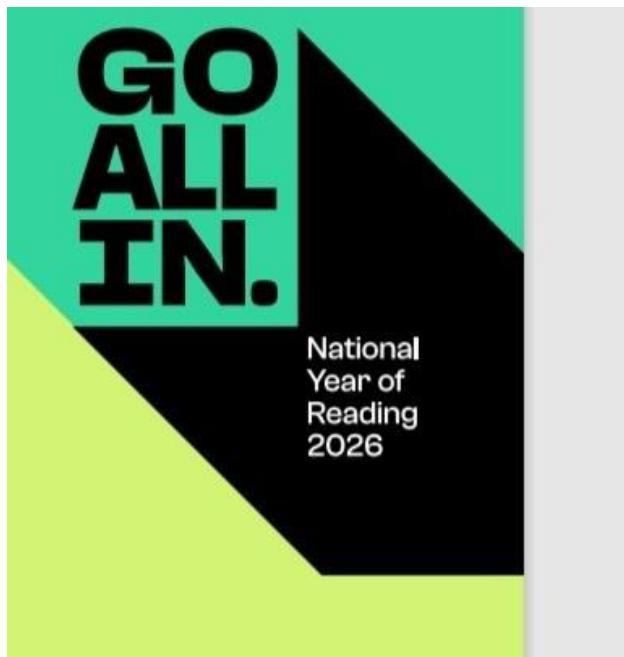


## Languages in Professional Sport

In the run up to options evening, Year 9 have been considering where a language could take them and watched a series of videos in which different business leaders from the world of sport, technology, politics, tourism, charities and music, talk about how having a language has helped them in their careers. This morning, we were lucky enough to have Lori, from Mingalaba (<https://www.mingalaba.co.uk/meet-the-team>) talk to Year 9 about the importance of languages if you want a career in the world of professional sport, be it as a player, manager, coach or a behind the scenes role. As a former employee of Arsenal, she was able to share her experiences of travelling the world with a Premier League football team and how her languages helped her in her career. She spoke about the wide range of international sponsors and companies she has worked with subsequently and how the transferrable skills acquired through studying a language are so important.



## National Year of Reading 2026



**Penryn College are delighted to be part of the 2026 National Year of Reading- 'Go all in' - A year to reimagine reading. Together.**

- The aim of the campaign is to start with what young people love:***

*The National Year of Reading helps schools use pupils' passions – football, music, gaming, nature, fashion, anything – as the spark that brings reading to life. When students see that reading connects to who they are and what they care about, motivation follows naturally.*

- ***Reading doesn't just mean books:***

*It includes stories, ideas and information in print, digital and audio – from graphic novels and lyrics to articles, podcasts and games.*

We are really excited about this as reading is already at the heart of our lessons and we are currently planning even more opportunities for reading moments to incorporate reading for pleasure, celebrational National key dates on reading and important links to our whole school curriculum.

Example activities already being planned are being part of the National Story Telling Week in February, celebrating World Book Day on March 5th 2026 and commemorating our infamous Bard on National Shakespeare Day in April.

These activities and more to come will complement our Sparx Reading homework in Key Stage 3 English, our students who are part of Exeter University's 'Books and Stories' programme, the students that are part of the 'Book Buzz' initiative in English classes and our whole school lesson 4 work centred around reading and links to Social and Moral culture.

Keep an eye out for more information on ideas on how to support your child's reading and future events and celebrations via the school newsletter and social media.

**Nicola Pointon**

English Teacher/Reading Co-ordinator

Penryn College

## [Lockers](#)

We have been relocating students lockers so they are more accessible. Lockers being based near tutor rooms is proving helpful to students. We want to provide more guidance on suitable locks. The diameter of the padlock shank needs to be 6 or 7mm. (The thin luggage style locks are not suitable). Please can we reassure you that our amazing Lily from the premises team is here to help students. Students just need to speak to their tutor about which time slots Lily is available to support them.



## Parents Forum



Our next Parents' Forum meeting of this academic year is on **Tuesday 27th January 17:00-17:54** in the school library. This meeting will be an opportunity to explore further into ClassCharts now we have this more integrated within our school communication system. Following the recent storm, it would be useful to reflect and discuss on how we are using ClassCharts as our first route of communication. If you would like to attend this Parents' Forum

or are unable to attend but would like to share your thoughts, please email [parents@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:parents@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk)



The Pauline Quirke Academy will be using our school for their new branch to deliver their exciting programme, providing wonderful opportunities for our students who have signed up and the wider community to engage in the performing arts.

We were also thrilled to welcome Reuben from the Pauline Quirke Academy, who delivered inspiring workshops to our KS4 Drama students. His energy and passion made a real impact, and many students are now eagerly looking forward to taking part in the taster session this week.

Students in our Drama club were invited to apply for scholarships with PQA, and following a shortlisting process, two students have been awarded scholarships. We are very proud of their achievements and look forward to sharing more about their experiences in the coming weeks.

Local families interested in booking a free session or attending the open day at **PQA Penryn & Falmouth** can find more information and register online at:

[www.pqacademy.com/academies/penryn-falmouth/](http://www.pqacademy.com/academies/penryn-falmouth/)

We can't wait to share regular updates on what they have been creating and learning.

## News from the Careers Team



It's been another exciting and inspiring week supporting our students' futures! Here's what we've been up to:

### 🔧 Engineering Insight

— Our Year 11 students visited **Cornwall College** for their weekly Engineering course, gaining valuable hands-on experience and exploring future technical and vocational pathways.

### ⌚ Catering Experience

— Our Year 11 students visited **Cornwall College** for their weekly Catering course, gaining practical skills in a professional kitchen and exploring exciting pathways in the hospitality industry.

### 🎖 Royal Logistics Corps Visit

— We welcomed the **Royal Logistics Corps**, who spoke with students about the wide range of Army careers, apprenticeships, and training opportunities.

### 🎓 Oxford University Trip

— A fantastic group of 20 ambitious Year 11 students spent the day at **Exeter College, University of Oxford**, experiencing university life and discovering pathways to top-tier higher education.

### ♻️ SUEZ Recycling Facility Visit

— Our Year 8/9 ARB students visited the **SUEZ Recycling Facility in Bodmin**, learning about sustainability, waste management and how our recycling is processed.

### **Practical Skills in Action**

— Our Year 11 students visited **RG Kellow** for their weekly hands-on learning session, gaining valuable practical experience in a real working environment.

### **Work Experience Support**

— Throughout the week, we continued helping our Year 10 students secure and prepare for their upcoming **Work Experience placements**.

Are you students ready for a career packed with adventure, real-world skills, and recognised qualifications?

Join our **free online webinar** and discover the exciting opportunities offered by **British Army apprenticeships**.

 **Tuesday, 3 February 2026**

 **16:00 – 17:00**

 **Online Event**

### **Why attend?**

- Explore a wide range of roles: engineering, logistics, healthcare, IT, and more
- Learn how students can **earn while they learn**
- Hear first-hand from soldiers and apprentices about training, career journeys, and day-to-day Army life

This event is a great way to support your careers programme and meet Gatsby Benchmarks by giving students direct insight into real-world opportunities.

Why not attend the event as well to support your students career journey.

[Register Now](#)

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kind Regards

**Amie Pettitt | Partnerships & Marketing Manager | Army Recruiting Group**

E: [Amie.Pettitt@capita.com](mailto:Amie.Pettitt@capita.com) | RPP – Recruiting Partnering Project, part of Capita plc



## Free Online Session for Parents and Carers

Ben Kinsella Trust are running a FREE online session for Parents and Carers on Wednesday 4th February; 18:00-20:00 covering:

- The signs and stages of child exploitation
- Gangs and gang-life
- Exploring the link between trauma and exploitation
- Consider online harms, social media, slang and gang-related music
- Understanding how 'issues' with peers can escalate and how young people can manage them
- Having meaningful conversations about difficult topics
- Helping our children stay safe; the SAFE 'T's approach

Book your space here:

<https://benkinsella.org.uk/knife-crime-training-for-parents-and-carers/>

## After School Clinics



**Headteacher Clinic** - Thursdays 3pm - 5:30pm. Please email [tsmith@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:tsmith@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk) to make an appointment.

**SEND Clinic** - Wednesdays 3pm - 5pm. Please email [vcooper@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:vcooper@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk) to make an appointment.

**Head of Year Clinics** Please email [squinn@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:squinn@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk) to make an appointment for Key Stage 3 and 4.

**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



### **CAPA Dance Returns**

We're delighted to announce that CAPA Dance is back up and running from Thursday 15th January, and we're excited to welcome both returning dancers and new faces for another fantastic term of creativity and movement.

### **What is CAPA Dance?**

CAPA (Creative Arts Primary Academy) offers pupils from our local primary schools the chance to take part in weekly dance sessions at Penryn College. Running for almost 10 years, CAPA has supported many young dancers from Year 3 right through to professional training and provides a brilliant introduction to life at Penryn College.

 When: Thursdays, starting 15th January

 Time: Years 3–6 | 4.00–5.30pm

 Cost: £50 per term (10 weeks) – just £5 per session

Term dates:

15, 22, 29 January

5, 12, 26 February (no session 19 Feb – half term)

5, 12, 19, 26 March

 A fun, inclusive and energetic environment where creativity, confidence and friendships flourish, led by our inspiring Cornwall Dance School dance teachers.

 Register here: <https://myedventure.co.uk/school-events/>

We can't wait to see our CAPA dancers back in action and welcome new members to the group.

## Important Dates for the Diary

**Parents Forum** - Tuesday 27th January

**Year 11 Mock Exams** - Monday 2nd February - Friday 13th February

**Year 7 Subject Review (in person)** - Tuesday 3rd February

**GCSE Berlin History Trip** - Thursday 12th February - Monday 16th February

**Half Term** - Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February

**Term Begins** - Monday 23rd February

**Year 10 Subject Review (in person)** - Wednesday 4th March

**Year 7 The Big Sing** - Friday 13th March

**Staff Training Day (School Closed to students)** - Monday 16th March

**Spring Concert** - TBC

**Year 11 Subject Review (online)** - Thursday 26th March

**GCSE Bay of Naples Geography Trip** - Wednesday 1st April - Tuesday 7th April

**Last Day of Term** - Thursday 2nd April

**School Easter Holiday** - Friday 3rd April - Friday 17th April

**Summer Term Begins** - Monday 20th April

Contact us

**Penryn College**

Kernick Road

Penryn

TR108PZ

01326372379

[enquiries@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk)

Visit us on the web at [www.penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk](http://www.penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk)

## Community Notice Board



**NHS**  
Royal Cornwall Hospitals  
NHS Trust

# Your Future in Health and Care Starts Here

Explore exciting opportunities in both clinical and non-clinical roles within the health and care sector; find a rewarding career that really makes a difference to people's lives.

**Book your spot**

**Discovery day**

- Meet professionals working in a range of careers!
- Interactive stands
- Learn about educational pathways into careers
- Behind the scenes tours



Saturday 28 February 2026 10am – 12noon or 1pm – 3pm  
Knowledge Spa, Royal Cornwall Hospital, Truro, TR1 3HD

