



Penryn College News

Penryn College News 27.02.26

Issue 20

Mrs Croxall's Message



Good afternoon,

It has been a great week back after the half term break, and we are glad we have had moments where the rain stopped!

I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Oldrieve and her team for their hard work organising the Berlin Trip. It is always a successful visit and students who were on the trip had a brilliant time.

We welcomed lots of families into school on Tuesday to see our extra-curricular offer and our students did a fantastic job showcasing their clubs and activities.

We also welcomed Truro and Penwith College on Wednesday as they presented to year 10 and 11 their T level offer, our brilliant Careers team keep our students up to date with new qualifications and courses and have excellent links with local colleges, universities and businesses.

This week, our Ten Tors students had their rearranged practice which was postponed due to the awful weather last half term.

Mrs Croxall

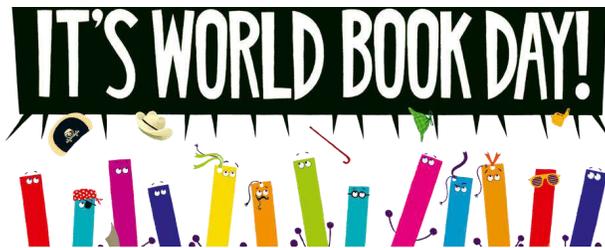
In This Issue



- **This weeks Assemblies**
- **Year 11 GCSE History Trip to Berlin**
- **Year 10 Subject Review - Wednesday 4th March**
- **UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge 2026**
- **World Book Day**
- **Cornwall Youth Council Elections**
- **Anti Bullying Ambassadors**
- **Term Dates 2025-2026**
- **Detentions: What you need to know**

- **News from the Careers Team**
- **BMX Club**
- **After School Clinics**
- **Important Dates for the Diary**
- **Contact Us**
- **Community Noticeboard**

Assemblies this week



Assemblies this week have been led by the English department and the National Year of Reading as we prepare for World Book Day which is next Thursday 5th March (more information below).

Mrs Ribenfors highlighted the importance of reading and its benefits including mental health and academic progress across all subjects.

This year schools are encouraged to 'Go all in' by reading about topics and hobbies that students are interested in as part of the National Year of Reading.

Please see below a really useful link and more information further down the newsletter regarding World Book Day.

[National Literacy Trust - Go All In](#)

Year 11 GCSE History Trip to Berlin

Our recent Year 11 trip to Berlin proved to be an unforgettable and deeply meaningful educational experience for all involved. Designed to enrich pupils' understanding of their GCSE History studies, the visit offered powerful insights into key sites connected to Weimar and Nazi Germany, and the Holocaust.

One of the most impactful moments of the trip was our visit to the memorial at the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp. Pupils approached the site with maturity and compassion,

engaging thoughtfully with the guide—who remarked that they had asked some of the most interesting questions they had ever received from a school group. It was a moment of great pride for our staff.

Pupils also explored the Olympic Stadium, the iconic site of the 1936 Olympic Games, gaining a deeper appreciation of how the Nazi regime used sport and spectacle for propaganda purposes. At the Jewish Museum, the group experienced the moving Shalekhet (“Fallen Leaves”) installation—an eerie and unforgettable artwork that resonated strongly with everyone.

A further highlight was the German Resistance Museum, where pupils attended a captivating talk on youth resistance under the Nazi regime. Many described this session as one of the most inspiring parts of the entire trip.

We were also very fortunate to visit Bebelplatz, the site of the 'Empty Library' memorial to the Nazi book burnings. This stop held special significance, as we were accompanied by Ely, whose grandfather designed the memorial. The group marked the moment with a reading provided by Ely’s family before placing a red rose at the memorial—a poignant and memorable tribute.

Throughout the trip, pupils were a credit to the school: engaged, thoughtful, and eager to deepen their understanding of history. Their conduct and curiosity made the experience particularly meaningful.

A huge thank you goes to Ms Smith Wells, Mr McDonah and Mr Holland for their support throughout the trip, and to our tour guide, Ian, whose remarkable knowledge of Weimar and Nazi Germany enriched every moment.

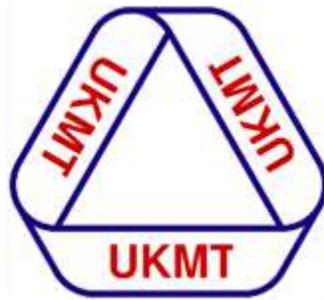
This was truly a trip that no one will forget. If your child is currently in Y10 and studying history we plan to run the trip next year. Please keep an eye out for its launch in future bulletins if your child would like to attend.

Year 10 Subject Review - Wednesday 4th March

A copy of the Year 10 report - Assessment Point 1 is available on the [Virtual School](#) for families. It can be found on the Assessment Reports tab. It includes their previously reported start of year effort score and their GCSE Target grade, but it now also includes their GCSE grade from their most recent subject assessment. The GCSE grades reported are only based on part of an exam paper and are not wholly representative of the full GCSE course.

Families would have made appointments with teachers for the face to face Yr 10 Subject review evening through the parent’s/carer’s individual School Cloud account login.

UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge 2026



On Wednesday 28th January 40 students from years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. These UKMT Challenges give an opportunity for our talented Mathematicians to solve problems in lots of different contexts. We are delighted that our students have achieved 5 Gold Awards, 7 Silver Awards and 9 Bronze Awards. We are super proud of all of our students who were selected to take part.

Congratulations to them all. We have even had 5 students qualify for the follow on round on Thursday 19th March. A Penryn College student also won the 'best in school award'.

Below are some examples of the sorts of questions they had to tackle.

11. Jill was given a large jar of jam. She gave one sixth of the jam to Jan. Jill then gave one thirteenth of the remaining jam to Jas. Jill was left with 1 kg of jam.
What was the weight, in kg, of the jam in Jill's jar at the start?
- A 1.2 B 1.3 C 1.4 D 1.6 E 1.9
21. A semicircle of radius 3 units is drawn on one edge of a right-angled triangle, and a semicircle of radius 4 units is drawn on another edge. The semicircles intersect on the hypotenuse of the triangle, as shown.
What is the shaded area, in square units?
- A $\frac{25\pi}{2} - 24$ B 12 C $\frac{25\pi}{2} - 6$ D $25\pi - 24$ E 24



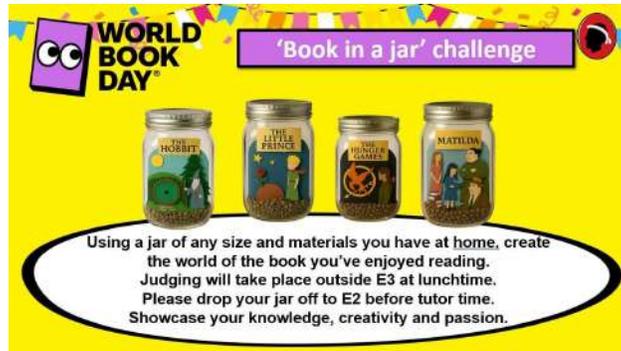
World Book Day

WORLD BOOK DAY
Thursday 5th March 2026

What's on at Penryn College?

- Book themed scavenger hunt
Library at lunchtime.
- Character costume judging
English corridor at breaktime.
- Scrap heap challenge
Library at lunchtime.
- Submit your entries to the 'Book in a jar' competition
English corridor at lunchtime.
- Vote for best staff costume and read their book recommendations in the newsletter.
- World Book Day lesson
In English classes (collect your free book vouchers there.)

GO ALL IN!



Cornwall Youth Council Elections

This week at Penryn College all students in Year 7 to Year 10 have taken part in Cornwall Youth Council elections.

Through our Period 4 SMSC programme we continue to develop students understanding of how a democratic voting process works in a real-world context and this week, with support from Cornwall Council, this was through action. Alongside others schools, and potentially 20,000 students across Cornwall, we voted to elect the new Youth Council for 2026-2028.

Cornwall Youth Council was established in April 2022. It's a group of young people age 11 – 18, who live or go to school in Cornwall. They come together to share the views of children and young people so they can be heard by decision makers.

Why it matters:

- It provides opportunities for children and young people in Cornwall to **develop new skills**, have **experiences** and **influence** their **now** and **future**.
- It helps to **develop** local, regional and national **connections** – being a part of something bigger and having **young people's voices heard**.
- It gives young people valuable experience **voting**, making **choices**, and **sharing** their views on what **matters most to them**.



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

We are delighted to share that over 70 students have shown an interest in becoming Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. This is fantastic.

They had their first meeting last week.

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors are building towards the **Princess Diana Anti-Bullying Ambassador training** and will work with local primary schools as well as shaping our school approach to tackling bullying.

This is an exciting opportunity for students to:

- Develop leadership skills and make a positive difference in our school community
- Support younger pupils in primary schools across our local area
- Help create a safe, respectful environment where bullying is not tolerated
- Be part of a nationally recognised anti-bullying programme

Want to Get Involved?

If your child would like to join this group, please contact **Mrs Roberts**. sroberts@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk

Term Dates for the 2026–2027 Academic Year

We are pleased to share the term dates for the 2026–27 school year. To ensure a positive, well-supported start in September, **Year 7 and Year 11 will begin the new academic year on Thursday 3rd September**, with **Years 8, 9 and 10 returning on Friday 4th September**. Staggering the start helps us welcome new pupils and provide key transition support where it's needed most.

Alongside the term dates, we have also included details of **school holidays, staff training days, and closure days** so that families can plan ahead with confidence.

All term dates and additional information will be available on our school website for easy reference throughout the year.

Penryn College term dates 2026-2027

PLEASE NOTE THE START DATE FOR Y7 AND Y11 ON THURSDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER, AND Y8, Y9, Y10 ON FRIDAY 4th SEPTEMBER.

September 2026	October 2026	November 2026
Mon 1 1 15 21 24 Tue 2 8 15 22 29 Wed 3 15 22 29 Thurs 4 15 22 29 Fri 5 15 22 29	Mon 5 12 19 26 Tue 6 13 20 27 Wed 7 14 21 28 Thurs 8 15 22 29 Fri 9 16 23 30	Mon 8 15 22 29 Tue 9 16 23 30 Wed 10 17 24 31 Thurs 11 18 25 Fri 12 19 26
Mon 14 21 28 30 Tue 15 22 29 Wed 16 23 30 Thurs 17 24 31 Fri 18 25	Mon 19 26 31 Tue 20 27 Wed 21 28 Thurs 22 29 Fri 23 30	Mon 22 29 Tue 23 30 Wed 24 31 Thurs 25 Fri 26
Mon 28 30 Tue 29 Wed 30 Thurs 31	Mon 26 31 Tue 27 Wed 28 Thurs 29 Fri 30	Mon 29 Tue 30 Wed 31

December 2026	January 2027	February 2027
Mon 1 8 15 22 29 Tue 2 9 16 23 30 Wed 3 10 17 24 31 Thurs 4 11 18 25 Fri 5 12 19 26	Mon 4 11 18 25 Tue 5 12 19 26 Wed 6 13 20 27 Thurs 7 14 21 28 Fri 8 15 22 29	Mon 8 15 22 29 Tue 9 16 23 30 Wed 10 17 24 31 Thurs 11 18 25 Fri 12 19 26
Mon 14 21 28 30 Tue 15 22 29 Wed 16 23 30 Thurs 17 24 31 Fri 18 25	Mon 19 26 31 Tue 20 27 Wed 21 28 Thurs 22 29 Fri 30	Mon 22 29 Tue 23 30 Wed 24 31 Thurs 25 Fri 26
Mon 28 30 Tue 29 Wed 30 Thurs 31	Mon 26 31 Tue 27 Wed 28 Thurs 29 Fri 30	Mon 29 Tue 30 Wed 31

March 2027	April 2027	May 2027
Mon 1 8 15 22 29 Tue 2 9 16 23 30 Wed 3 10 17 24 31 Thurs 4 11 18 25 Fri 5 12 19 26	Mon 4 11 18 25 Tue 5 12 19 26 Wed 6 13 20 27 Thurs 7 14 21 28 Fri 8 15 22 29	Mon 8 15 22 29 Tue 9 16 23 30 Wed 10 17 24 31 Thurs 11 18 25 Fri 12 19 26
Mon 14 21 28 30 Tue 15 22 29 Wed 16 23 30 Thurs 17 24 31 Fri 18 25	Mon 19 26 31 Tue 20 27 Wed 21 28 Thurs 22 29 Fri 30	Mon 22 29 Tue 23 30 Wed 24 31 Thurs 25 Fri 26
Mon 28 30 Tue 29 Wed 30 Thurs 31	Mon 26 31 Tue 27 Wed 28 Thurs 29 Fri 30	Mon 29 Tue 30 Wed 31

June 2027	July 2027	August 2027
Mon 1 8 15 22 29 Tue 2 9 16 23 30 Wed 3 10 17 24 31 Thurs 4 11 18 25 Fri 5 12 19 26	Mon 4 11 18 25 Tue 5 12 19 26 Wed 6 13 20 27 Thurs 7 14 21 28 Fri 8 15 22 29	Mon 8 15 22 29 Tue 9 16 23 30 Wed 10 17 24 31 Thurs 11 18 25 Fri 12 19 26
Mon 14 21 28 30 Tue 15 22 29 Wed 16 23 30 Thurs 17 24 31 Fri 18 25	Mon 19 26 31 Tue 20 27 Wed 21 28 Thurs 22 29 Fri 30	Mon 22 29 Tue 23 30 Wed 24 31 Thurs 25 Fri 26
Mon 28 30 Tue 29 Wed 30 Thurs 31	Mon 26 31 Tue 27 Wed 28 Thurs 29 Fri 30	Mon 29 Tue 30 Wed 31

Autumn Term
Tuesday 1 September 2026 – Staff Training Day (school closed to students)
Wednesday 2 September 2026 – Staff Training Day (school closed to students)
Thursday 3 September 2026 – First day of term for students in Y7 and Y11
Friday 4 September 2026 – First day of term for students in Y8, Y9 and Y10
Friday 11 September 2026 – Staff Training Day (school closed to students)
Friday 25 October 2026 – School Closure Day (school closed to students)
25 October – 31 October 2026 – October Half Term
Friday 11 December 2026 – School Closure Day (school closed to students)
28 November 2026 – 1 January 2027 – Christmas holidays

Spring Term
Monday 8 January 2027 – Students return to school following Christmas break
Friday 22 January 2027 – Staff Training Day (school closed to students)
15 – 19 February 2027 – February Half Term
Friday 24 March 2027 – Good Friday (school closed)
29 March – 9 April 2027 – Easter Holidays

Summer Term
Thursday 12 April 2027 – Students return to school following Easter break
Monday 9 May 2027 – May Bank Holiday (school closed)
31 May – 1 June 2027 – May Half Term
Monday 28 June 2027 – Staff Training Day (school closed to students)
Tuesday 20 July 2027 – Final day of 2027/28 school year

Red blocks are staff training days – closed to students
Green days are school closure days – closed to students

Detentions: What you need to know

Detentions are issued by teachers when behaviour expectations are not met, and are an integral part of our behaviour system.

Only a small minority of students receive detentions, and they serve as a clear opportunity to make positive changes.

How detentions are communicated:

- All detentions (including date and time) are recorded in ClassCharts
- **Students** can visit EST to check
- **Parents/Carers** can access this information through the ClassCharts app

- **Tutors** remind students to check ClassCharts regularly
- Students can request a reminder slip from their tutor

A Predictable Environment

We want a predictable environment so students know what is expected and can avoid consequences. Students who do not attend detentions risk facing further consequences as part of our behaviour policy.

As a school, we only consider moving after-school detentions for medical appointments where evidence has been shared with us.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact your child's Head of Year.

Year 7: Mr Pikesley

Year 8: Miss Allen

Year 9: Mrs Higgins

Year 10: Mr Reading

Year 11: Mr Shepherd

News from the Careers Team

The image is a promotional graphic for Helston College. The top half features a photograph of several students sitting around a table in a classroom or library setting, engaged in a discussion. Overlaid on the left side of the photo is the text 'HELSTON COLLEGE POST 16' in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the photo, on a dark grey background, is the text 'Tuesday 3 March – Post 16 Taster Lessons'. Underneath this, there is a bulleted list of three points: '• Helston College offering a range of A-level taster lessons', '• Choose up to 4 subjects to try', and '• Open to Year 11 students'. To the right of the list is a square QR code. At the bottom right of the dark grey area, there is a small logo for 'Activate Windows'.

APPRENTICESHIP SCHEMES

Pendennis - Luxury Superyacht Refit & Custom Build Facility

Pendennis started life in 1988 with the build of the 125' sailing yacht *Taramber*. We quickly developed and maintained a reputation for building and refitting luxury motor and sailing yachts to the highest of standards, including iconic yachts such as *Adala*, *Rebecca*, *Hemisphere*, *M5* and *Aquila*.

Our award-winning apprenticeship programmes have continued to grow and develop since they started in 1998. Today we employ over 450 craftspeople and support staff in Falmouth, of which more than a third are either currently undertaking, or have completed an apprenticeship. Recruitment varies every year, but we look to recruit enthusiastic individuals for the following programmes:

- 1 General Apprenticeship Scheme
- 2 Yacht Painting Apprenticeship Scheme
- 3 Trade Specific Apprenticeship Scheme

1 General Apprenticeship Scheme

Our four year General Apprenticeship Scheme typically starts in late August. Attending college three days a week during term time, in Year 1, new apprentices will follow a bespoke General Engineering & Electrical Programme which includes aspects of our various in-house trades. Subsequently, at the end of the first year apprentices will select their specialist trade to progress into from the following trades:

- Engineering (including Hydraulics and Plumbing)
- Electrical
- Joinery/Furniture Making
- Fabrication/Welding

Throughout the four-year apprenticeship, apprentices will spend time attending Cornwall College as well as working at Pendennis. Upon completion, General Apprentices will have gained qualifications in:

Year 1: the Level 2 Maritime Mechanical and Electrical Mechanic Apprenticeship Standard

Year 2: the qualification is dependent on the apprentice's chosen pathway:

- Electrical Standard Level 3
- Joinery/Furniture Standards Level 2 & 3
- Marine Engineer Level 3
- Metal Fabricator Level 3

To apply you will need to have, or be likely to obtain a minimum of 4 GCSEs at Level 4 or above (or equivalent qualifications). These must include Maths and English.



Yacht Painting Apprenticeship Scheme

The yacht painting programme will usually start in late summer each year.

This day release, four-year programme leads to Apprenticeship Standards at Level 2 and then Level 3 in Loan Manufacturing and Yacht Painting. It covers all aspects of yacht finishing, exterior coatings, varnishing, interior lacquer, and use of the latest application technology such as electrostatic spray guns. Apprentices will spend time building their skills at Pendennis and at college.

To apply you will need to have, or be likely to obtain Maths and English GCSEs at Level 4 or above (or equivalent qualifications).



Trade Specific Apprenticeship Scheme

This programme is typically between two to four years and enables apprentices with either previous experience of an apprenticeship or good transferable skills to develop a career in one of our teams. Starting in late summer apprentices will spend one day a week at college and the rest of the time working at Pendennis. Trade Areas include:

- Fabrication
- Joinery/Furniture Making
- Machining

Applicants must have GCSEs at level 4 or above in Maths and English.



Pay Conditions

As a first-year apprentice you will be paid the national apprentice hourly rate, with pay increments at the start of the 2nd, 3rd & 4th years or related to age. Normal hours of work are 8am to 4:30pm when at Pendennis with a 3:30pm finish on a Friday, and 9am to 4:30pm when at college.

Whilst on the programme all apprentices will participate in extra-curricular activities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award scheme, RYA Sailing qualifications as well as attend events outside of working hours. You will be entitled to 20 days annual holiday rising to 24 days over the four years plus statutory bank holidays. All apprentices will have employed status throughout their programme.



How to apply

Visit www.pendennis.com/apprentices for more details about apprentice recruitment or scan the QR code. For any questions or further information please email apprenticeships@pendennis.com



Pendennis Shipyard Limited
The Docks, Falmouth
Cornwall, England TR11 4SR
Registered in England no. 02949094

T: +44 (0)1126 311344
F: +44 (0)1126 313322
E: info@pendennis.com
www.pendennis.com



NEW CLUB STARTS APRIL 21ST

BMX RACE CLUB



**SIGN UP
ASAP!**

YOU WILL LEARN BIKE CONTROL, SAFELY RIDING THE FULL TRACK ON YOUR OWN AND AS A GROUP, CORNERING SAFELY, RACE LINES, PUMPING JUMPS AND START GATE TECHNIQUE.
Please see Mrs Albert in the science prep room for a letter.

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 Please email sreeve@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

Important Dates for the Diary

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

World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

Year 7 The Big Sing - Tuesday 31st March

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

Parents Forum - Tuesday 17th March

Spring Concert - Monday 30th March

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

Year 10 Mid Terms - Monday 27th April - Friday 1st May

Year 8 Subject Review (online) - Tuesday 28th April

Bank Holiday (School Closed to students) - Monday 4th May

GCSE Examinations begin - Week beginning 4th May - 24th June

Ten Tors - Friday 8th May - Sunday 10th May

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition - 16th and 17th May

Half Term - Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

Contact us

Penryn College

Kernick Road

Penryn

TR108PZ

01326372379

enquiries@penryn-college.cornwall.sch.uk

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

Community Notice Board



Cornwall Tech Jam



Returning to Hendra Hall in Truro for March. If you haven't been here before the hall can be found across the park from the skate park. Parking is very limited around the area.

As usual we will have the varied collection of technology for the children to code around with. And if they have any of their own projects they'd like to bring in to use we'd be happy to see them.

Event Details:

- Date: Saturday 14th March 2026
- Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Venue: Hendra Hall
- Address: Truro, TR1 3TP

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.