Pondhu Primary School

Penwinnick Road, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5DS

Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Clift

NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th September 2024

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back into school this week. The teachers are pleased with how well the children have settled into their new classes.

This week we have also welcomed our new Reception children to Pondhu. We are so impressed and proud of how they have transitioned to school and what amazing learners they are ready to be. They have been happily exploring their new learning environment, learning each others names and getting to know lots of new routines. We cannot wait to see all of the amazing things they are going to achieve this year.

OUR FIRST DAYS AT SCHOOL









DIARY DATES

<u>September</u>

27th Harvest assembly

October

Week beginning 14th
October Parents
evenings
17th October end of
term

November

4th November start of term

Over the holidays, the builders have been incredibly busy completing the new flooring across the school after the flood. They have also been completing building work in what will be our new Nursery.

We have also had a fantastic new 'Sand and Water' garden installed which is almost ready for use. A huge thank you to Wendy Titman and the team who have enabled us to have this wonderful outdoor learning space. This is only the start of our work on the outdoor environment. On Wednesday, the staff team worked with Wendy Titman on developing our outdoor learning provision. I am excited about our project over the next year to develop the outdoor learning environment. Watch this space!





WRAP AROUND SUCCESS

In Wraparound club, some of the children took part in a drawing competition. They had to draw and name a monster. All of the children's work was so amazing that it has been published in 'Monster madness'. Well done to everyone who took part!



ATTENDANCE REMINDER

August saw the changes to the National Penalty Notice Framework come into force. Specifically, the changes were:

- 1. A new national threshold of 10 unauthorised sessions for any reason (equivalent to 5 school days) within a rolling 10 school week period for which a penalty notice must be considered. A penalty fine can be issued for any combination of unauthorised absences over a 10- week rolling period. They can be consecutive or non-consecutive and can span over two terms.
- 2. An increase in the penalty fine from £60 to £80 if paid in 21 days. If the fine is not paid by the first 21 days, it will rise to £160 if paid within 28 days of being issued.
- 3. If a 2nd penalty fine is issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period, the fine will automatically rise to £160 with no option to pay the lower rate of £80.
- 4. If a parent then commits a third offence in a 3-year rolling period, the local authority will need to consider options available to them to improve attendance. This will include a consideration to prosecute under section 444 of the Education Act 1996.
- 5. The current penalty notice warning letter used for unauthorised absence (not holiday) will be changed to a Notice to Improve.

Please be aware of these changes when you are booking your holidays.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE





Attendance this week

Montessori (R/Y1) – 100%

Jemison (Y1/2) - 98.3%

Attenborough (Y3) – 98.1%

Franklin (Y4) - 95.7%

Einstein (Y5) – 100%

Gandhi (Y6) - 100%

SCHOOL UNIFORM

<u>Winter Uniform</u> <u>Summer Uniform (Easter to end of October)</u>

Black/grey trousers or shorts

Black/grey trousers or shorts

Black/grey skirt/pinafore dress Blue and white gingham dress/playsuit or

grey skirt/pinafore dress

White polo shire White polo shirt

Blue sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece (available from school office)

Blue sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece

Grey/white socks or black/grey tights Grey/white socks

Black sensible shoes (not trainers)

Black sensible shoes (not open toes

sandals)

Please note that Crocs (or other similar type of shoes) are not suitable or safe for school.

PE DAYS

PE lessons this year will be on the following days.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Thursday	Friday	Friday	Tuesday	Friday	Tuesday	Wednesday

On PE days children can wear their PE kits to school. I would like to remind you about what we expect children to wear on PE days.

PE Kit

White t-shirt

Dark tracksuit bottoms or shorts

School jumper or fleece

Trainers

Alternatively we have new school tracksuits which can be ordered on parent pay or with a pupil premium form.

Here is a reminder of this year's terms dates.

Term Dates for the Academic Year 2024-2025

Here are the term dates for this academic year.

Autumn Term 2024

Autumn term 1 2024: Thursday 5th September - Thursday 17th October 2024 Autumn term 2 2024: Monday 4th November - Friday 20th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Spring term 1 2025: Monday 6th January - Friday 14th February 2025 Spring term 2 2025: Monday 24th February - Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Summer term 1 2025: Tuesday 22nd April - Friday 23rd May 2025 Summer term 2 2025: Monday 2nd June - Friday 25th July 2025.

Non pupil days Monday 2nd September, Tuesday 3rd September, Wednesday 4th September, Friday 18th October, Friday 20th June, Monday 23rd June

HARVEST FESTIVAL

On Friday 27th September, we will be holding a harvest assembly. We would like to support St. Austell foodbank as we know they support so many families in the local area. We will be collecting items for the foodbank from Monday 23rd – Friday 27th September. Please see the poster below for suggestions of donations.





UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 11th September - Y5 Polkerris Watersports Friday 20th September – SCD Parent Group

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Mrs Rachel Clift

