

**PENWORTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL****Upcoming
DIARY DATES –
Autumn Term 2****October**

Tue 29th – School
Photographer in

November

Wed 6th – Year 3
Harvest Assembly
(Parents Welcome)
Mon 11th – Year 5
leading
Remembrance
Assembly –
(Parents Welcome)
Tue 12th – Parent-
Teacher Meetings
Fri 15th – Odd
Socks day
Tue 19th – Flu
Immunisations
Wed 20th –
Parent-Teacher
Meetings
Thur 21st – Year 5
Bikeability Fix
sessions
Fri 22nd – Non-
uniform day –
donations for
Children in Need
please
Fri 29th – Non-
uniform day –
donations for
Christmas Raffle
Prizes please

December

Thurs 5th – Project
Homework
Celebration

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well, and I hope that the half-term break has been a pleasant one for you. School re-opens tomorrow morning, as we commence the slow build-up to the annual festive frenzy! This newsletter contains some key information as we begin.

Updated Calendar Dates

An updated version of the Calendar of Events has been uploaded to the school website. This version contains updated information regarding events for this half-term. No other half-term dates have been altered.

Move-it Mornings update

The first half-term of this active lifestyles project was a great success. As such, we are continuing and expanding these opportunities. The topic for this half-term is '**Strike-ingly Fit!**', with all sorts of striking and fielding activities taking place.

The timetable for days this half-term is as follows:

Monday: Year 5 and Year 6
Tuesday: Year 1 and Year 2
Wednesday: Year 3 and Year 4
Thursday: Year 3 and Year 4
Friday: Year 5 and Year 6



We do hope many pupils are able to join us for these sessions – to join in from this point on, all you have to do is turn up! They begin in the main school hall at 8am and end at 8.45, when children are taken directly to their classrooms. Children can wear school uniform (with training shoes/pumps) for these sessions. Children should bring a drink. All sessions are free of charge.

Please note, due to the late confirmation of these days/dates, for the first two weeks back, children can also attend on the day of the week they attended last half-term, if the new days have caused any childcare arrangement challenges for you.

Mr Mitchell

Mrs Hall to partially retire

This week will be Mrs Hall's final week in her cleaning role in our school. I would like to express how grateful I am to Mrs Hall for working so tirelessly every day for the school – her commitment to keeping her areas impeccably clean is legendary! Thank you Mrs Hall. Fortunately we will still be seeing Mrs Hall every day, as she has agreed to continue in her role as our Head Lunchtime Welfare Assistant, which is great news.

Zone 15 proving very popular

Part-way through last half-term we were delighted to be able to launch 'Zone 15'. Zone 15 is a facility that is available to our pupils during the second half of each lunchtime throughout the week. It is hosted in the library by Mrs Watkinson, and provides a calm, friendly space for pupils to read, play board games or simply quietly entertain themselves. It has proven very popular and with the coming colder months will no doubt continue to be so. Thank you to Mrs Watkinson for her commitment in setting up this facility.

Year 2 Road Safety

During the final week of last half-term our Year 2 pupils went out in small groups and completed Stage 3 of our Road Safety programme. As expected, they behaved exquisitely and were a credit to us – well done! Thanks go to Mrs Cameron, Mrs Whiteside, Mrs Watkinson and Mrs Jones (Miss Bowker's sister!) for leading this important project.

Parent-Teacher meetings

Dates for these meetings are shown on the left of this Newsletter. A letter will be sent home at the end of this week giving more details and booking arrangements.

Meet the teacher meetings

Thank-you to all who attended these important meetings before half-term.

Well done football teams!

I huge well-done to the 22 pupils who represented the school so well in the first-half of the local schools football league. Great fun was had by all and the commitment to both winning and losing with style was 100%. Both of our teams competed really well, with the B team winning a number of their games, and the A team topping the league overall! As such the A team will be representing the league in a regional tournament in early November! Well done to everyone, it was great fun.

PTFA update

At the PTFA AGM on 30th September we thanked and celebrated the work of our current PTFA committee, as they stood down from their roles. They have achieved many great things for the school, and I thank them sincerely for their commitment. In the last three years they have raised over £20,000! Below I list just some of their event successes and contributions to the life of the school:

- Christmas fairs totalling £6100
- Summer Fairs totalling £5500
- School Discos totalling £2700
- Easter Bingo totalling £2500
- Cinema Events totalling £450
- Sponsorships raising £3500

This has been spent on:

- 3D Printer
- Defibrillator & Training
- Additional School Stage
- Laptops
- Middle Leadership Projects - cost support for staff
- Christmas Panto's (50% of all costs)
- Modern Microphones
- Espresso Primary Subscription for all pupils in school
- Big Draw event
- Y6 Hoodies
- Sports equipment and kits
- Waterproofs for Reception
- Infant Christmas Books & presents
- Numicon Maths Resources
- Story Tellers in school
- Cinema Screen
- And... £6.00 of worms for a wormery!



We will miss them!

Unfortunately, the PTFA AGM was only attended by committee members and myself. As such, we currently do not have an active PTFA, which is a shame, as this means events such as the Christmas Fayre will not be able to take place this year.

Reminder: Collection at the end of the School Day

Please may I remind parents of the need to telephone the school office if there is a last-minute change to the usual collection arrangements for your child. Without this contact children will not be able to go with someone else, even if it is someone we know well (like the parent of another pupil, for example). Many thanks for your support with this.