



## Newsletter 22 02/02/23

Dear Parents and Children,

**Teacher Strikes** – The National Education Union members will be striking on the following days **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March; Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March.** At present, the school will be closed to children with the same arrangements as Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. If anything changes either locally or nationally we will let you know immediately, but please expect the school to close to children on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March.

**Plans to improve Road Safety around the school** - As you know there have recently been several accidents involving children, thankfully none from Pendeen but several near misses involving Pendeen children in recent years.

The plan [West Penwith MHIP TRO EDG2138](https://www.engagespace.co.uk/cornwall/default.aspx) is currently on the council website at <https://www.engagespace.co.uk/cornwall/default.aspx>

Please could you register and express any opinion you may have before the closing date of 16/02/23.

Please note that the plans are with the full support of the school, the governing body, Pendeen shop and our local councillor. The sole aim is to address the danger faced every day by school children, their families and the wider community walking to school, walking to the bus stop and using the car park opposite the shop.

**Attendance Policy** – As you know, the governing body is changing the attendance policy from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023, link to the policy (Number 90) [is here](#). Main changes are:

*After more than 7% absence over time, no further absence will be authorised unless there is receipt of evidence or information in relation to the absence and its duration. This may include a doctor's note, prescription, appointment card, and/or other relevant information provided by services supporting the child.*

*We will not ask for medical evidence unnecessarily. The school belongs to the Learning Well Partnership which exists between local schools and GP Surgeries. The school may contact a child's surgery in relation to safeguarding concerns, including those linked to a child's attendance. If the school is not satisfied about the authenticity of the illness, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.*

The 7% absence figure is not retrospective, so each child begins with a figure of zero from the date of the beginning of the policy.

Please also note:

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 £60 if paid within 21 days or £120 if paid after this but within 28 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice may result in legal action. Absence not authorised by the school may 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. Cornwall Council may also apply for the costs incurred in taking the matter to Court.

We understand parents may have mixed feelings about the new policy, but please note that it is in line with other local school policies, the [Local Authority Guidance](#) and [DFE guidance](#).

**Shakespeare** – Peswara class will be performing at the Minack on the 8<sup>th</sup> February, details of how to get free tickets for families with a TR19 postcode have been sent to all parents. All classes will be doing a “Play in a Day” on Macbeth on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

**Sport Events** – Cross Country at St. Ives Rugby Club on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January and football matches v St. Erth (re-match) on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 7- a side, and Ludgvan on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

**Pendeen Pantomime** – presents Sing a Song of Sixpence - for tickets and bookings: 07765117234  
Dates: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm Matinee on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2pm.

**Half term holiday** – Please note that we break up on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February and return on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**Marie Curie Cancer Care** – Please help us and the shop support this charity by donating to a non-uniform day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, noting only football kits allowed are Aston Villa – to allow children greater freedom Aston Villa home, away and third kits will be allowed.

**Minibus** – Huge thanks to Chair of Governors Lucy Ellis and Parent Governor Megan Oldcorn who have spent an incredible amount of time over the last week preparing a bid for the [Cornwall Levelling Up Fund](#) If successful, and in partnership with a local charity who have agreed to part fund, would allow us to purchase an electric minibus which would allow us to offer so much to our children. Fingers crossed.

Enjoy your weekend.

Chris Wilson