

PENAIR SCHOOL

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Penair School,
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January 2017

Dear Parents,

I wanted to write to you in order to welcome back all of our students for the spring term. We are looking forward to a successful 2017 at Penair. It was an exceptionally busy end to the autumn term with so many activities taking place in and around the school including events such as the wonderful Christmas Carol concert and also the GCSE Presentation evening for our summer 2016 year 11 leavers. I would like to thank students and staff for all of their hard work up until the Christmas break. With Christmas now a distant memory we have come back and 'hit the ground running' and are looking forward to an exciting term ahead.

You may have noticed that the 'League Tables for Secondary Schools' has recently been published by the Government. <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/>

It's very pleasing to see that Penair continues to perform strongly both in comparison to schools within the County and Nationally on a range of measures and our thanks go to all the dedicated staff who have helped to ensure the school has made tremendous progress. We should also not forget our students who have worked so hard and the support that you, as parents, have given them.

Attendance at Penair continues to rise and for the autumn term the whole school figure was approximately 96% (in line with the school target). The figure for the same period 2 years ago was 94%. Up to Friday 9 December 311 pupils (35% of the school population) had 100% attendance (the figure for the same period two years ago was 181 pupils or 19% of the school population). These are fantastic achievements and we continue to be extremely grateful for the ongoing support of parents placing a high value on children getting to school.

On Thursday 12 January we have a session with Dr Martijn van der Spoel for year 11 students; these sessions will be pre-booked and Mrs Eastburn-Cutts will shortly be writing to parents with further details.

Dr Martijn van der Spoel is a chartered psychologist. He will explain how an individual can create a 'learning momentum' by focus, motivation and study behaviour. To achieve a balance between these three aspects of effective studying is not something that we are born with but takes time to learn. Creative and constructive guidance by parents at home makes a huge difference to the development of the young person's brain as they aim to become a lifelong learner.

Alongside Dr van der Spoel's session will be a series of revision workshops which will support year 11s with constructing a timetable and useful tips and advice.

I also wished to take this opportunity to remind parents that all students will be expected to be wearing the new school uniform including the compulsory school blazer by September 2017.

The uniform from September 2017 is outlined below.

Compulsory items: Penair Aspire Blazer/Suit matching Navy style Trousers and or Pleated skirt, Atlantic Blue Shirt, Penair School clip-on tie, black, navy or white socks, black leather formal shoes (no trainers, 'Vans' style skate shoes and or canvas shoes).

Optional item: Penair V-neck jumper, tights for girls- black or navy in colour.

All of the items can be purchased at Keywear who also stock our PE kit. Keywear is located at 1 Church Walk, Truro, Cornwall TR1 1JH. Their website and online sales are at: <http://www.keywearuniforms.co.uk/>

School shoes, shirts, tights and socks are widely available at a number of retailers such as Marks and Spencer and other supermarket chains

I hope the reminder of these requirements will enable you to plan your uniform purchases for the new academic year.

May I take this opportunity to wish all of our families a happy New Year and thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



James Davidson
Headteacher