

Penketh High School Summer Newsletter 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

As the year draws to a close, it's extremely important for us to be able to reflect on the successes of our outstanding young people. It's been fantastic over the last couple of weeks to be able to take the time to celebrate the successes of our young people during both our Awards Evening but also during our end of year results days with all year groups this week.

Crucially, we've been able to celebrate the academic achievements of young people and the wonderful outcomes they have achieved as a result of their dedication to their studies across the year, but also their broader achievements in the arts, sports and other areas of extra-curricular activities in which they've developed beyond the classroom. I'd like to thank parents for sending across details of their children's achievements outside of school, it's been wonderful to recognise these things with pupils and for them to get the well-deserved plaudits from their year groups during assemblies.

We've once again been delighted with how pupils have engaged with school this year and the fact that 99% of all learning scores represent good or excellent engagement in the classroom serves to demonstrate the extent to which pupils have positively engaged with their studies. We've asked pupils to reflect on their year over the summer and think about the extent to which their engagement this year has reflected the outcomes that they have achieved. Pupils have commented that they recognise why the high expectations we hold are in place and they can see themselves that those who engage with the things that we expect have performed well and secured strong academic outcomes.

We were asked if a key worker who supports pupils in other schools could come and observe our practice. We were delighted with the feedback we received



received and I thought that parents would like to hear to positive things that were said about pupils and our school community;

"Firstly, I want to thank you for the opportunity to spend the day at your school and observe the routines and pedagogical strategies in place. It was amazing to witness the positive culture and atmosphere at the school...While walking through the corridors of your school, I was struck by the positive atmosphere and the respect and connection the students had with the teachers. In my classroom observations, I noted an environment very conducive to learning. In the afternoon, I learned that school finishes at 2:30 pm at Penketh High. Initially, I wondered why it ended so early, but I was informed that students have 45 minutes of enrichment activities afterward. I found this to be a truly wonderful idea that I plan to take back to the schools I work with. The variety of activities offered provides students with opportunities to explore different interests."

Visiting Penketh High School showed me that the school truly values improving students' life chances on all fronts. Moreover, my visit provided me with an enlightening perspective that students' life chances are not solely determined by their backgrounds and that in fact, schools can improve students life chances through putting good academic and social development systems in place."

Parents, I'm sure, will be aware of the range of trips, experiences and wider learning opportunities that staff have provided for pupils over the last few months. We're delighted to be able to offer pupils the chance to extend their learning and broaden their horizons and the attached newsletter will provide parents with an insight into what pupils have been up to.

I'd like to thank staff for taking the time to plan and deliver these experiences for pupils, often at the expense of time with their own families. I'm aware of how committed and dedicated the staff are and that they are determined to ensure that our young people get the best possible experiences during their time at school.

I'd also like to thank parents for their continued support. We're always grateful for the wonderful messages of thanks and support that we receive throughout the year. It's the collaboration between home and school and the understanding from parents about what we want to achieve and provide for your young people that helps us to drive improvement on behalf of pupils. We have a shared goal for our pupils and your children which is for them to be successful during their time at school and beyond as they pursue lifelong success, so working in collaboration to help them achieve this is built on strong home-school relationships.

We are looking forward to another exciting year ahead, but I would like to wish our pupils and their families all the very best for the summer break and we look forward to seeing pupils in September when we return to school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Carlin
Principal



A message from the Vice-Principal

Homework - a new approach

This year, we have revamped homework at the school to try and ensure students and families are better informed. The bi-weekly home-learning booklet contains all the knowledge needed at Key Stage 3 and students should engage with this at home to ensure that they know more and remember more. The booklet is designed to help students consolidate their learning, revise key concepts, and prepare for assessments. You can find the booklet on our website, the link is sent out to all parents/carers every second Monday.

Year 11 - a year of hard work and success

This year group have worked exceptionally hard this year and throughout the year showed huge commitment to their studies by staying after school and also coming into school on Saturdays and in the holidays. They have faced many challenges and uncertainties due to the pandemic, but they have shown resilience and determination to achieve their best. I am very proud of them and I am sure they will do well in their GCSE results next month. This is also my chance to thank staff because this offer is not common place. Our staff go above and beyond for Penketh High students and we love nothing more than when our students join us for the ride that is Year 11. We start again in September for the class of 2025!

Prom - a night to remember

A great year ended with a wonderful prom at Walton Gardens. Students and staff alike danced the night away as they celebrated the end of their five years at Penketh. They looked amazing in their outfits and enjoyed the food, music, and entertainment. It was a joy to see them having fun and making memories with their friends and teachers. They are a year group that will be sorely missed and we wish them all the best for their future.

Penketh Alumni - a shining star

We were thrilled last week to find out that an ex-pupil of ours, Beth Bond, graduated from Oxford with a first in English Literature. Not only did Beth achieve the highest possible accolade from one of the world's most prestigious universities but she also finished in the top ten students in a cohort of over 300 students. Beth was a student at Penketh from 2014-2019 and she always had a passion for reading and writing. We knew she was destined for greatness as she was awarded Penketh High Valedictorian for the class of 2019. We talk about life chances all the time with our students and this is just another example of how the sky is the limit for Penketh students. We are very proud of Beth and we hope she will inspire many more students to follow their dreams.

Reporting – the full picture

This year we have extended the information available to parents/carers when we report on your child's progress at the end of each term. Along with current test score percentages we also report on attendance, punctuality, reading age scores, career cluster choices, enrichment options and the number of postcards achieved. We hope this gives families a broader understanding of the academic and holistic development of students which ultimately leads to improved life chances. You can access your child's report online through the Parent Portal or request a paper copy from the school office.

Remembering our heroes – Cameron T

In June one of our very own Year 7 students, Cameron T was invited to take part in the D-Day 80 commemorations. Cameron is part of the Royal Marines corps of drums and the group were invited to join the West Yorkshire Police band who play at the service annually. Cameron was the youngest member of the group and spent hours talking to veterans about their experiences and life-stories. Cameron was even interviewed by Sky News which he handled superbly. Cameron produced a wonderful scrapbook of his memories of the event which you can see here. We are extremely proud of Cameron who embodies the very best of the Penketh Spirit



Let's Hear From Your Head of Year!

The year has gone so quickly, it's hard to think it's done, I wish you all individually, the best 4 years to come. Remember all that you have learnt this year, the achievements you have made, the hard work and dedication will become the foundations you have laid.

As the school year comes to a close, I want to say thank you and good luck in your next chapter...

It has been a tough year in spells, but you have done it, and you will continue to do it across the next 4 years.

I would like a shout out to the following... All the pupils involved in sports teams across the year and all the pupils who were involved in Mary Poppins - your hard work and dedication is admirable - continue to be amazing!!

Miss Fleming - Head of Year 7



Congratulations



Let's Hear From Your Head of Year!

What a year it has been to have the opportunity to see Year 8 grow into an amazing group of individuals whose talents and commitment have allowed them to be successful together as a group and as individuals. It's been a privilege to have become their Head of Year throughout this final term.

Throughout the year, we have had many successes across the Year group, with pupils representing our school at the highest levels, performing on an international level, and demonstrating their passion for the arts and sports alike. A huge well done to all pupils across the year for achieving huge numbers of Learning Score 1s, postcards and Golden tickets. It has been fantastic to see. A special mention to the 23 pupils across the year group that have secured their Gold award for 2 consecutive years, a huge achievement!

We've had a series of brilliant sporting successes across the year. The Rowing Teams demonstrated excellent teamwork and commitment in the Regional Regatta, with both the Girls and Boys teams finishing in medal positions. The Girls Rugby team for successfully won the 7/7 Rugby Finals and the Year 8 Boys team for representing the school so brilliantly all year. A massive thank you to Layla M for representing her cheer team in Barcelona and finishing in a medal ranking position.

It would be impossible not to mention the outstanding levels of commitment shown by our fantastic actors in our School Production of Mary Poppins. A huge level of dedication was shown by pupils, showing up to rehearsals each week and delivering a fabulous production.

As Head of Year, I have immense pride in their overall character and acknowledge their positive contribution to the school ethos. I applaud the achievements of Year 8 and look forward to witnessing their continued growth and success of these exceptional as we move into the next academic year.

Congratulations to Year 8 for a truly remarkable and inspiring year. I wish them a relaxing summer break and will see them ready to continue to excel throughout an exciting year!

Miss Brocklehurst - Head of Year 8



Congratulations



Let's Hear From Your Head of Year!

Year 9 is a pivotal year in any pupils education and our students have risen to the challenges striving to achieve at the highest level across all areas of the school.

I am incredibly proud of our sports teams who are amazing ambassadors both on the pitches and off, demonstrating the perseverance and dedication required to consistently deliver top performances.

The performing arts team have also worked tirelessly to ensure their musical and theatrical renditions exude quality and have a professionalism that is the envy of other schools.

Finally, academically year 9 have worked well preparing themselves for the rigours and expectations that await them in their GCSEs. I'm confident that the fantastic platform they have established will have given them ownership of their learning and they will go on to shine even brighter embarking on new and exciting pathways to secure success with their examinations.

Mr Billington - Head of Year 9



Congratulations



Let's Hear From Your Head of Year!

Well, what a year it has been and what a privilege to watch Year 10 grow into the amazing young people (and students) they have become today. Year 10 is a year group filled with talent, commitment, potential and possibility and with this in mind I know that great outcomes are ahead of them next year.

Though there have been so many individual successes across the cohort, it would be impossible to end the year without mentioning the following students – Dylan P for his amazing talent for English and Matt D for his mathematical achievements; Melissa W and Michael F for being our first students to reach the Gold Level in our Going for Gold Challenge and Abi S, Alex W, Anastasios A, Ethan B, Valerie C Abi Dand Grace R for repeated nominations in our Achievement Assemblies.

Likewise, Faye W must be mentioned for her dedication to the school play and her work as the Dance Captain with special praise also going to Lexi A for the support work she did for this year's performance of Mary Poppins. The Girls' Rugby Team have also stepped up this year and shown great commitment and motivation to their team both for school and for their local club. It also goes without saying, that we are immensely proud of Tom L who placed in medal position in the Tae Kwon Do World Championships. What an achievement!

So, as you can see, we really do have a wonderful year group. I could mention everyone in the year as every single pupil has done something to make me proud this year and I know that we have had "Students of the Term" who have gone unmentioned in this end of term round up – they know who they are and I know they will keep up the fantastic work in Year 11.

In conclusion, I am very much looking forward to finding out how the final chapter unfolds for this fabulous year and look forward to working with them again in Year 11. I wish them a relaxing summer break and will see them ready to excel in the preparation for the GCSEs in September.

Miss Lowe - Head of Year 10



Congratulations



Let's Hear From Your Head of Year!

As the Head of Year 11, it gives me great pride to reflect on the journey our students have undertaken this past year. The dedication and determination each of you has shown throughout your GCSE studies is truly commendable. The countless hours spent revising, attending extra sessions, and supporting each other have not gone unnoticed. Your hard work is the foundation for your future successes, and I am confident that it will pay off in the coming results.

We recently celebrated your achievements with a fantastic Prom night, a well-deserved event after months of intense preparation and exams. Seeing you all dressed up, enjoying the evening, and celebrating with your peers was a highlight of the year. I hope the memories of that night stay with you forever as a reminder of the friendships and experiences you've gained during your time here.

As you move forward, whether continuing your education, starting an apprenticeship, or stepping into the world of work, I wish you the very best of luck. Remember the resilience and tenacity you've demonstrated during your GCSEs and know that these qualities will guide you through the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Stay connected, support one another, and continue striving for excellence. Your journey is just beginning, and I look forward to hearing about all the incredible things you will achieve in the future.

Warm regards

Mr Pinder - Head of Year 11

Congratulations



ANGLSEY 2024



Adventures in Learning



Disney and CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S

MARY POPPINS JR.





Sports Spotlight



Carina H - Archery

Current level:

After attending the Archery GB National Training & Development programme, Carina is being put forward for the Archery GB National Age group academy.

Member of the Cheshire Junior Archery Squad.

Most recent competition results:

Cheshire Indoor open (Portsmouth round): Achieved 1st Junior Lady - individual recurve, recording 524, the highest ladies score for U21s (the highest possible indoor classification for her age group). Northern counties outdoor competition, Northumberland: 2nd place U14 Girls (individual) with a score of 1136 (12 doz. arrows)

Lilly May S –
Rugby League

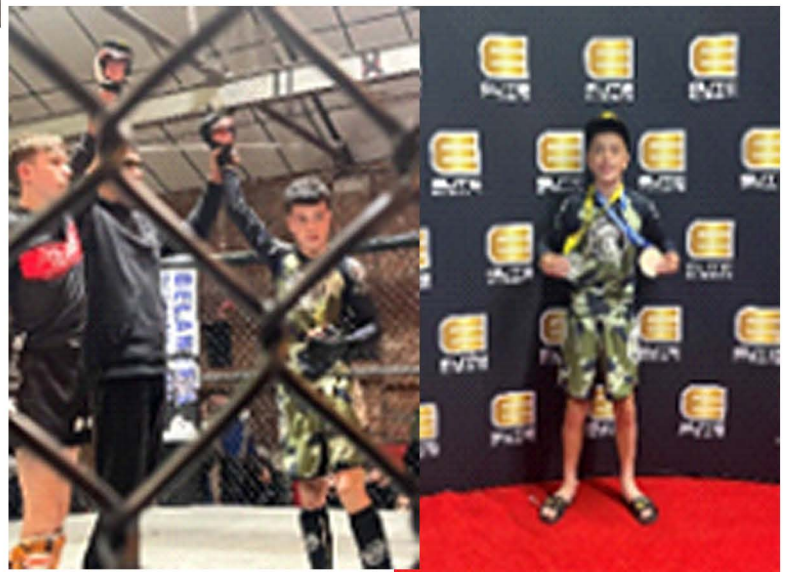
U16 Warrington
Wolves Prospects
Squad

Girls North-West
Talent Hub
Squad



Toa K L - Jujitsu

In the past year Toa has achieved his grey belt and then his yellow belts in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu and achieved a silver and Bronze Medal in the Junior European Championships, Toa has also taken part in interclub competitions for his club and submitted the opponent in each fight. Toa is due to attend the World championships in Wolverhampton and is hopeful for a medal and will continue to compete in further competitions throughout the year.



Sports Spotlight

Noah J – Brazilian JuJitsu

Current:

World – Silver medallist
European – bronze medallist

National – Silver medallist



Robbie S – Weightlifting/ Rugby League

RL – nominated and won u13 Man of Steel Award – Warrington Wolves. Offered 3 different scholarships but accepted St. Helens RLFC scholarship for next year.

British Weight Lifting Championships - Silver Medalist - Combined total - 153kg Under 15 Category 67kg aged 13

Snatch 66kg
Clean and Jerk 87kg

Selected to Represent England

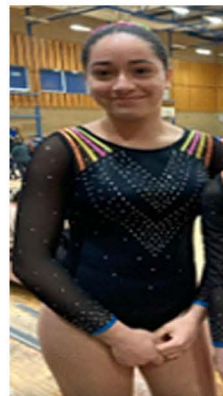


Tom L - Martial Arts

Currently 1st Dan Taekwondo

Participated in in the English championships early this year. Thomas got a bronze medal for sparring.

World Championship – Silver medal for sparring



Lara G - Trampolining

Regional Trampoline Championships
13-17 year olds
Round 1 – 4th out of 27
Round 3 – 5th out of 23



Pupil Leadership Team



The PLT have most recently been involved in the Transition Days for our new year 7 cohort. They worked incredibly hard to support our new pupils and welcome them to our school, making them feel comfortable and easing their anxieties surrounding the big change to high school.

The yearly PLT recruitment process will begin again in September, and we hope to see as many pupils as possible, across all year groups, applying for positions to be a part of a fantastic group of pupils who work continuously to make Peneketh High School the best it can be.



Designated Provision



First Aid

We enjoyed learning a new skill during First Aid sessions.



Ability Day May

We had an amazing time with Paul and the staff at The Buddha Group. We visited HQ, had a tour the depot and learnt all about the company and what they do. We even had a go at some tasks ourselves.



Retirement

We enjoyed afternoon tea in the DP to celebrate the retirement of the wonderful Mrs Darwin.

Designated Provision



Transition

This term we have enjoyed welcoming our new starters for September into our provision. Year 6 pupils have enjoyed touring the school, getting to know each other, meeting new friends and getting stuck into some curriculum lessons.



Careers

We had an amazing time with Paul and the staff at The Buddha Group. We visited HQ, had a tour the depot and learnt all about the company and what they do. We even had a go at some tasks ourselves.



Beach Day!

DP pupils spent the day in the sunshine at the beach in Lytham St Annes. We enjoyed beach school sessions linked to art and conservation, planted some pampas grass, built sandcastles and played beach football! A great day had by all!!



Presentation Evening 2024



Congratulations



Sports Day 2024



Sports Day 2024



Sports Day 2024



Sports Day 2024



Summer Reading letter KS3

Dear parents/carers,

First News is the leading source of news and news-based learning for children. It is age-appropriate (aimed at 7- to 14-year-olds but accessible for all ages), impartial and helps keep kids reading and developing their critical literacy skills.

We are thrilled to offer all Penketh High School students a free First News digital subscription over the summer holidays. It's packed with fun and educational content that will keep minds active and entertained.

First News digital is available via an app and includes:
Daily news stories which children can read, listen and react to. These include reports on the Euros, the Summer Olympics, and the upcoming general election.

- The latest issue of the newspaper and many past issues
- Weekly polls to vote on
- The latest episodes of Sky Kids FYI weekly news show
- Fun puzzles and games: great for improving vocabulary
- Tips & Talking points for parents and carers to help you talk about tricky topics with your children

Click here for our school's unique access link:

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/summer-reading-2024/?fn=WIGS7669>

Yours faithfully,

Jill Curties
AAP Learning to Learn



J. Curties
Learning to Learn



SAFEGUARDING

CHILDLINE -24 HOUR

HELPLINE FOR UNDER 18S
0800 11 11
WWW.CHILDLINE.ORG.UK

NSPCC

24 HOUR CHILD PROTECTION
HELPLINE 0800 800 5000
WWW.NSPCC.ORG.UK

THE PROUD TRUST

LGBT AND YOUTH SUPPORT
0161 660 3347
WWW.THEPROUDTRUST.ORG

CANCER SUPPORT

CANCER SUPPORT LINE
0808 800 1234
WWW.CANCERBACUP.ORG.UK

CRIME VICTIMS

VICTIM SUPPORT
0845 303 0900
WWW.VICTIMSUPPORT.ORG.UK

CRIMESTOPPERS

CRIME PREVENTION
0800 555 111
WWW.CRIMESTOPPERS-UK.ORG

NATIONAL MISSING PERSONS

PARENTS HELPLINE
0500 700 700
WWW.MISSINGPERSONS.POLICE.UK

RUNAWAY HELPLINE

PARENTS HELPLINE
0800 800 70 70
WWW.RUNAWAYHELPLINE.ORG.UK

SAMARITANS

24 HOUR SUICIDE PREVENTION LINE
08457 90 90 90
WWW.SAMARITANS.ORG.UK

STOP SMOKING

QUITTING HELPLINE 9AM-9PM
0800 00 22 00
WWW.QUIT.ORG.UK

KIDSCAPE

KEEPING SAFE, BULLYING & HOW TO COPE
020 7730 3300
WWW.KIDSCAPE.ORG.UK

YOUTH ACCESS

DISCUSS PROBLEMS CONFIDENTIALLY
020 8772 9900
WWW.YOUTHACCESS.ORG.UK

CALM

HELPLINE FOR BOYS AGED 15+
0800 58 58 58
WWW.THECALMZONE.NET

ANXIETY UK

ANXIETY HELPLINE
08444 775 774
WWW.ANXIETYUK.ORG

ST. JOSEPH'S FAMILY CENTRE

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES IN WARRINGTON
01925 635 448
WWW.SAINTJOSEPHSFAMILYCENTRE.CO.UK

MIND

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES HELPLINE
0300 123 3393
WWW.MIND.ORG.UK

CAMHS

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH HELPLINE
01925 579405
WWW.YOUNGMINDS.ORG.UK

CHILD BEREAVEMENT UK

CHILD BEREAVEMENT HELPLINE
0800 028 8840
WWW.CHILDBEREAVEMENTUK.ORG

HAPPY, OK, SAD

LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH WELLBEING HELP
01925 66 66 47
WWW.CANCERBACUP.ORG.UK

RELATE

RELATIONSHIPS HELP
0300 100 1234
WWW.RELATE.ORG.UK

BEREAVEMENT UK

BEREAVEMENT HELP
0300 100 1234
WWW.RELATE.ORG.UK

YOUNG MINDS

EMOTIONAL HELP
0800 802 5544
WWW.YOUNGMINDS.ORG.UK

BEAT YOUTH LINE

EATING DISORDER HELPLINE
0808 801 0711
WWW.B-EAT.CO.UK

PAPYRUS

YOUNG SUICIDE PREVENTION
0800 088 4141
WWW.PAPYRUS-UK.ORG

OCD UK

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER HELP
0845 120 3778
WWW.OCDUK.ORG

MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES HELPLINE
020 7803 1100
WWW.MENTALHEALTH.ORG

NO PANIC

HELP WITH ANXIETY DISORDERS
0844 967 4848
WWW.NOPANIC.ORG.UK

CRUSE BEREAVEMENT CARE

SUPPORT FOR BEREAVED CHILDREN
0808 808 1766
WWW.CRUSE.ORG.UK

GRIEF ENCOUNTER

SUPPORT FOR BEREAVED CHILDREN
0808 802 0111
WWW.GRIEFENCOUNTER.ORG.UK

SAFER INTERNET

HELP KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE
0344 800 2382
WWW.SAFERINTERNET.ORG.UK

HEALTH MAGAZINE

FITNESS AND NUTRITION INFORMATION
WWW.HEALTH.COM

KOOTH

ONLINE SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
WWW.KOOTH.COM

SAFEGUARDING RESOURCE HUB

RESOURCES FOR VENERABLE PUPILS
WWW.SAFEGUARDINGRESOURCEHUB.CO.UK

