



Penicuik High School
Parental Newsletter Summer 2012
www.penicuik.mgfl



Dear Parents and Carers

This is the last parents' newsletter of this year and I would like to start by thanking each parent and carer for the excellent support you have given to the school throughout this session. I know that many of the events and activities that we have been able to offer to you children this year have only got off the ground because of your support.

Procedures for reporting absences

We request that all parents follow the established procedures for reporting pupil absences i.e. phoning the school office on each day of absence preferably prior to the start of the school day. Medical and dental appointments should be notified to the school office for entry in the diary, asking permission for time off in term time should be done through a letter to the **Head Teacher** with a request for the time off giving reasons for the absence.

School Dress Code

Our school dress code which is:

- White shirt or blouse
- School tie
- Black trousers or skirt (please ensure that this is of a modest and respectable length)
- Black shoes
- Black V neck jumper or cardigan
- All pupils should bring a bag with all necessary equipment for school.



For PE we would ask that students wear the following: Plain white T-shirt (no logos), Jogging trousers (no combat style trousers) or shorts and training shoes.

As you are buying your children their clothes for returning to school in August **can I please ask that you follow the school dress code and NOT** the advice of your son or daughter. We have made our dress code simple, affordable and practical to make sure that all pupils can adhere to it. This year we have had a number of girls turning up to school in unacceptably short skirts that are inappropriate for school. Can I ask for your support in ensuring that they are of a respectable length.



Examination results

SQA examination results will be posted out to all pupils to arrive on Tuesday 7 August 2012.

Activities week

Each year as a school we offer all our pupils from S1- S6 the opportunity to take part in our activities week. This week is fundamentally important to developing aspects of health and well being, a key feature of the Curriculum for Excellence, and as such it forms an integral part of the work that we do as a school. Each year however I do receive a small number of letters from parents requesting permission to take their children on holiday during Activities Week. This is disappointing because as a school we very much value the effort that staff give to organising and running the week. The residential/overnight activities that were offered this year included trips to New York and Washington, Catalonia, Water Sports in Spain, a visit to Disneyland Paris as well as a trip to York. We also had daily activities including Ready Steady Cook, Sports Challenge, Sun, Sea and Detectives, Beach, Pentlands, Artwork, the Army Barracks, Zoo, Make a Movie, Sailing, Sports Spectacular, Girls Pampering, Build a Band, Traditional Crafts and our Eco Garden. The school has made sure that there are activities that suit all pockets so that everyone can take part.

MUN Conference at Earlston High School

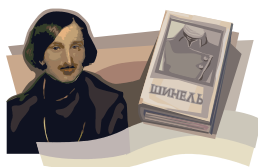
Penicuik High School MUN team swept the boards at the recent Model United Nations Conference at Earlston High School winning 3 out of 4 best delegation prizes. Many congratulations to all who were involved.

Staffing

We bid farewell at the end of session to a number of staff who are leaving us. Mrs Linden Nicholson – PE teacher, Mrs Trish Nicol - Principal Teacher of Chemistry, Mrs Kathleen Keys – Support for Learning Teacher, Mrs Mary Stewart - Principal Teacher of Guidance, Mr Robert Anderson - Design & Technology teacher and Mrs Margaret Grainger – our School Librarian.

Arts Week

Many thanks and congratulations to everyone involved in our excellent Arts Week. We had some superb musical performances, author visits and art workshops, a great opportunity to celebrate the wonderful artistic talent in the school.





Senior prefect appointments for session 2012-13



Head Girl

Ima Bishop

Head Boy

Oliver Lemarchand

Deputy Head Girls

Dominique Pelosi and Amy McNeill

Deputy Head Boys

Craig Murray and Andrew Brown

House Captains

Liddell

Kieran Burt, Jenny Johnstone, Greg Mackenzie and Aimee Cooper

Clerk Maxwell

Beth Casebow, David Hall, Andrew Young and Ashleigh Cotter

Senior Prefects

Andrew Malcolm and Heather Laing

Awards Ceremony

We celebrated a very successful awards ceremony on Tuesday 12 June with a packed Assembly Hall and a table laden with prizes for every subject area. Our guests of honour for the evening were former Penicuik High School teacher Cllr Donald Wilson. The Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh and Cllr Joe Wallace, Provost of Midlothian.

Concert

Our end of term concert took place on Thursday 21 June when once again we had a hall full of proud parents and family members as well as guests. We were treated to a wonderful evening of musical talent. Our thanks and admiration goes to all who took part in this superb event and to all who had a hand in the organisation of the concert.



Congratulations to our Leavers

As a school we bade farewell to our leavers at a very enjoyable leavers evening. This event, which can only take place through the very generous support of the Parents' Association, is the school's formal goodbye to those pupils who leave at the end of each session. We were able to present each pupil with a commemorative gift as they move on from school. We are grateful to Fr Rob Warren who presented the gifts as the final act of the pupil's time here at Penicuik High School.

Fr Rob Warren

This summer we bid farewell to Fr Rob Warren our school chaplain. Fr Rob has been associated with the High School for many years and during this time he has given very thought provoking assemblies for all year groups. Fr Rob is leaving us to move with his family to Clermont-Ferrand. We wish Fr Rob, Caireen and Stewart all the very best for their new life in France and thank Fr Rob for all the devoted service he has given to the school.

Cells Project

A number of S1 pupils have taken part in a joint art project with the School, The National Portrait Gallery and The Roslin Institute. Congratulations to all who were involved.

Inter School Athletic Championships

At the above event Penicuik High School had some spectacular performances:

Jenna Richards – 1st in the Hurdles + a new record

Jenna Richards – 1st in the Long Jump

Aaron Hodge – 1st in the Hurdles

Iain Lawson – 1st in the 800m + a new record

Beth Gorrie – 1st in the High Jump

Andrew Lunbong – 1st in the High Jump + a new record

Well done to all of our performers.



Happy Holidays

Can I finish by wishing you all a very warm and sunny summer holiday and we look forward to seeing our pupils again on Thursday 23 August for the start of the new session.

Mark Edie
Headteacher



August 2012