



Penicuik High School Parental E Newsletter Issue 5







scottish credit and
qualifications framework



KINDNESS



INCLUSION



DETERMINATION



RESPECT

Our new school values

As part of our work towards achieving our Gold Rights Respecting Schools award, we have been reviewing our school ethos. Earlier in the year we established our new vision statement for Penicuik High School. *“At Penicuik High School we aim to create a caring community where everyone is respected, included, treated with kindness, and feels safe. We believe in nurturing*

a learning environment that strives for excellence, values diversity, promotes dignity and encourages personal growth, preparing students to succeed in a connected world.” As part of this review, we have also revisited our school values. Our PRIDE values have served us well over the years, but it was felt that a refresh was needed. After consulting staff and student groups we believe that Kindness, Inclusion, Determination and Respect will help us achieve our vision for Penicuik High School and serve our community over the coming years. The next stage of the review is to take both the vision and values and incorporate them into our new relationships and behaviour policy.

A message from Mr Biddick Headteacher



I hope that all our families had a great break over October week and took the time to recharge and spend time together.

This is a busy time for seniors with prelim exams looming. This year they will start on 25 November and only run through until the 18 December. This will mean more time for review of progress in January onward and we will include parent / carers where necessary in discussion of how to support young people and improve their progress so they reach their target grades. Research shows that regular and structured retrieval practice using revision materials/ past papers and online sites such as Achieve or E-Sgoil is the best preparation for exams.

We are also aware that this is an understandably stressful time for many young people. We will be offering a session in school on managing anxiety and this will be run by Catherine Kassis a trained psychotherapist who worked with senior students last May prior to the SQA Exams.

Catherine is also available for individual therapy work with young people via a reduced cost business arrangement with the school. Further details are available via myself.

Finally, and most importantly, if you have any concerns about the mental health of your child prior to exams and would like support please do contact their Guidance teacher in the first instance.

Kind regards

Craig

In addition, Can you think of a better name than "Penicuik High School E-Newsletter" for this bulletin? We are asking the pupils as well. Suggestions to penicuik_hs@midlothian.gov.uk with the tile newsletter name.



Parent Partnership meeting dates:

Wed 4 December is the next meeting date.

Thurs 13 March, Wed 11 June are dates for the rest of the year.

Unless stated, meetings start at 6.30pm and held in person at school. This is an opportunity for you, as parents and carers, to hear more about what's happening across the school, raise issues

and ask questions. There will also be smaller meetings for the Parent Partnership committee members. If you're interested in becoming a committee member, or would like to find out more, please get in touch with Pauline Kerr paulinemkerr71@googlemail.com or join our Facebook page - Penicuik High School Parents Association



Free Study Support from e-Sgoil

Registration for the 2024/25 National e-Learning Offer Evening Study Support programme is now open. This Scottish Government funded provision is focussed on delivering equitable access to all Senior Phase learners and is completely free. Students will need their Glow login and password to access. Students should see their guidance teacher if they have lost their details.

Study Support comprises live, interactive webinars and are delivered by experienced, GTCS registered teachers. In excess of 50 different webinars are on offer each week during term time, covering the most popular curricular areas as well as an extensive range of other subjects.

Link - <https://e-sgoil.com/senior-phase/study-support/#FAQs>

Music News



BURNT OUT RECORDS PRESENTS

HALLOWEEN 31.10.
ARTIST 2024
SHOWCASE 7.15
PM

**MUSIC HUB,
2 BELLMANS ROAD
PENICUIK**

*TICKETS
AVAILABLE AT
THE DOOR, OR
FROM ANY
MEMBER OF
CREW*

£3/TICKET

**HALLOWEEN DRESS UP ENCOURAGED!
THEMED BAKESALE ON THE NIGHT**



Burntout Records Halloween Concert - Thursday 31st October:

Burntout Records are holding a Halloween gig and bake sale to celebrate the spookiest night of the year.

Burntout Records is our school record label and live music agency which run evening concerts in The Hub. The gig will feature our own artist with several first time performances from S2 students.

The event starts at 7.15. Tickets are £3, and can be bought at the door. Our first Burnt Out Records gig of the year will take place on Thursday 31st October and will be a showcase of our own artists. Burnt Out Records is a pupil run record label and live music agency who have been successfully running events Music Hub on Bellman's Road over the past seventeen years. If you would like to come along, tickets are £3 and are available from the music department. Keep an eye out for more events coming soon.



On Wednesday 9th October we had a fantastic teatime concert. This featured some of our young musicians in S1 & S2 who currently receive instrumental tuition in school. Parents, extended families and staff were treated to a wide range of music featuring, strings, woodwind, brass, percussion, guitar and clarsach. The pupils were all superb....well done to everyone involved!!



The DofE group met in school this week for an introduction to DofE and to collect sign up letters. These need to be returned as soon as possible with the £25.50 registration fee to enrol students on the DofE system so they can start logging evidence for their Skill, Sport and Volunteering. Any interested pupils that did not make the meeting need to see Mr Merson to collect the letter and form ASAP.



YPI Update

S3 are well underway with their YPI journey, with most teams having made contact with a local charity. Teams are now in the process of arranging interviews with their charity, and many charities have kindly invited pupils to visit their meeting place to see first hand the impact on service users. Soon pupils will begin to collate their findings and present their pitches in the semi-finals in December. One of our school teams will win £3000 for their chosen charity at the final in March 2025.



Save the Date! Thursday 21st November, 6pm-8pm, Careers Fair at Penicuik High School. We will have representatives from all the major Universities, local colleges and a range of employers, some of whom will have active apprenticeship opportunities. This is open to all students from S2 upwards as well as parents and carers.

Careers Fair



S1 Science Trip

On Tuesday 29th October there will be an S1 science trip to 'Careers HIVE' at the National Museum of Scotland.

Reminder - please ensure permission forms are returned. Thanks.

<https://www.nms.ac.uk/schools-sessions/careers-hive>





1 - PHS School Clubs



- **Monday Lunchtime**
- **S3-4 Indoor Football (Miss McShannon)**
- **S1-2 PHS Swifties (Mrs Sneddon, room 45)**
- **Debate club (Miss Astor) room 42**
- **Burnt Out Records (Music Dept The Hub)**
- **BGE Science Homework Help**
- **Monday After School**
- **Spin (Miss McShannon)**
- **Senior Vocal Group (Mrs McIntosh room 4)**
- **Chemistry N5 and AH**
- **Tuesday Lunchtime**
- **Eco Schools (Mr Johnston)**
- **S1-2 Maths homework (Mr Knox)**
- **S1-S2 Indoor Football(Mr Hogg)**

- **Creative Writing Group (Ms Henderson)**
- **Wind Band(Mr Walker)**
- **Percussion Group (Ms Waddell)**
- **Guitar Group (Mr Mcleod)**
- **Tuesday After School**
- **S1-3 Netball (Miss McShannon)**
- **Modern Languages Homework Club Mrs McEvoy's Room**
- **Wednesday Lunchtime**

- **LGBTQ+ and Allies (Miss Graham)**
- **Young Carers (Mr Milligen - fortnightly)**
- **S1-S6 Badminton (Miss Gungui)**
- **Rights Respecting school (Mr Murphy)**
- **STEM club (Ms Forbes room 49)**
- **Jazz Band(Mrs MacRae)**
- **String Group (Miss Dance)**
- **Wednesday After School**

- **S4-6 Basketball (Mr Witton)**
- **Book & Biscuits (Ms Henderson Reading Room)**
- **Dyslexia homework Support group (Mrs Wood, room 5)**
- **Thursday Lunchtime**

- **S1-2 Cheerleading (Miss Tavakoli)**
- **S6 Indoor Football (Mr Hunter)**

- **Junior Vocal Group (Miss Hamilton rm 3)**
- **Thursday After School**

Code Club (Ms Giorgi) 3:40-4:10pm

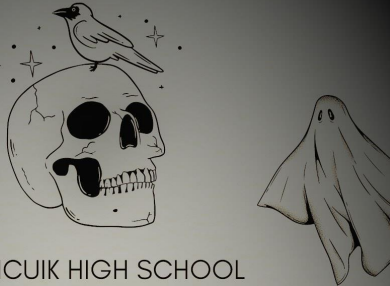
S1-3 Rugby (Mr Witton)

S1-S6 Songwriters club (Mr Murphy)

We are having a Halloween disco for our S1 pupils



COSTUMES
OPTIONAL!



PENICUIK HIGH SCHOOL


SI DISCO

WEDNESDAY 30TH OCTOBER
7.30PM - 9PM

£3

TICKETS ON SALE

BREAK AND LUNCH IN THE LIBRARY



Daisy Wilkinson has been invited to join the Great Britain Cycling Team as part of the development squad for mountain biking. Huge congratulations to Daisy from all at PHS on this fantastic achievement.



A number of PHS staff are taking part in Movember this year. We are doing so on behalf of Prostate Scotland. We are selling badges and growing mustaches to raise funds. It's a very worthwhile cause as you can see from the following mission statement -

We are a Scottish charity set up to provide information, advice and help on prostate health and [diseases test and treatments](#). Nearly 1 in 2 men in Scotland will be affected by prostate disease at some stage of their lives and 1 in 10 are likely to develop prostate cancer. [Prostate cancer](#) is the most common cancer in men in Scotland. Our Mission is to 'inform, educate, support, campaign and advance on prostate disease in Scotland'. We want to see and help enable:

- *More men in Scotland to be aware of prostate disease and know where/how to get help treatment;*
- *Public policy taking prostate disease into account and prostate diseases and treatment are higher up the policy agenda;*
- *More men in Scotland surviving prostate cancer, and an increase in the numbers of men seeking early diagnosis;*

- *Men in Scotland with prostate disease have access to the latest and most appropriate forms of treatment*

Should anyone like more information or wish to purchase a badge or perhaps even make a donation please contact Mr Smith, Mr Wynne or Mr Wakefield at penicuik_hs@midlothian.gov.uk with one of our names as the subject. in addition Badges will be available all month from the PHS library for a £1 donation.



2 - RMPS TRIP

The Higher RMPS class had a trip to Edinburgh Central Mosque Tuesday 8th October. They had a tour of the Mosque, including the extensive library, and the opportunity to ask many questions. All of the pupils represented Penicuik High School wonderfully!.

The Penicuik Heritage Regeneration Project

PHS students have been involved in a repurposing workshop as part of this project over the past several years.

The Project Manager has extended his invitation to any families of those involved who would like to pop along.

Penicuik Townscape Heritage (TH)
and Conservation Area Regeneration
Scheme (CARS)

Penicuik
Heritage
Regeneration



A Celebration

Event Invitation

to celebrate the completion of
the Penicuik Heritage Regeneration Project.

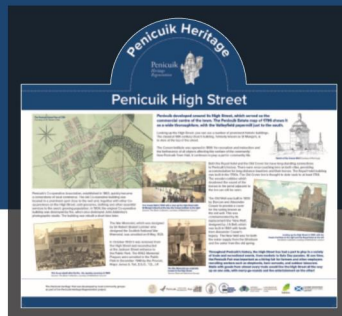
Saturday December 14th 2024 at 10am

The Penicuik Heritage Regeneration Project Team
invites you to Penicuik Town Hall to help celebrate the
successful completion of the Project which has run from
2018 to 2024.



Programme

- 10.00am** Doors open to the Town Hall for quests/members of the Public, refreshments.
- 10.15am** Brief welcome and presentation from the PHRP Chair and Project Manager.
- 10.45am** A celebration by Fergus Nicol of Macastory.
- 11.45am** Stephanie Walker and Heather Muchamore present some community engagement activity.
- 12.30pm** Buffet lunch and chance to meet with partners and view the exhibition.
- 1.30pm** Event closes and guests depart from the Town Hall.



- Historic Environment Scotland (Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme-CARS)

- The National Lottery Heritage Fund (Townscape Heritage -TH)
- Midlothian Council
- The Scottish Government (Town Centre Capital Fund and Place Based Investment Fund)
With support from:
- The Penicuik Community Development Trust
- The Penicuik Historical Society
- Penicuik Arts Association
- Penicuik and District Community Council
- The Penicuik Alliance



S1 European Day of Languages

T-Shirt Logo Competition 2024: Winners!

Outstanding Effort:

Anna Welsh 1C3

Best Art work:

1st – Aila McEwan-Muir 1C3

2nd – Sarah Drummond 1L2

3rd – Lucas Davies 1C3

Runners Up - Sam Betteridge 1L4, Andrew Lennie 1C5

Best Original Idea:

1st – Arran Dawson 1L4

2nd – Oskar Kisiel 1L4

3rd – Leo McLeish 1L4

Runner Up – Katie Jackson 1L4

Best Overall Logo:

1st – Zofia Wisnik 1C1

2nd – Rhona Whatford 1C1

3rd – Olivia Wilson 1L2

Runners Up – Maddie McBeth & Jessica Murdoch 1C1

Best Text:

1st – Edith Bennett 1C3

2nd – Fern MacGregor 1L2

3rd – Louis McCall 1L4

Runners Up – Ross Yule 1L4 & Ava



RRS terminology explained

Word of the week -

Inherent: This means that your Rights are with you from birth.

How to best view this newsletter



When you open a Sway you will see the navigate button on the bottom right of the screen.

The navigation menu is accessed via this button



Customised views

The menu on the top right of the Sway provides options for customising how the content is presented.

Click on the **cog wheel** to open the layout and play options. This allows you to change the layout for scrolling to either vertical or horizontal. You can also turn off animations from this menu. Sway provides an autoplay feature to loop the content continuously. By clicking on the **3 dots** on the top right of the Sway more options are available these include **Accessibility View, Export** and **Print**.

The Accessibility View

Sway [Accessibility mode](#) will present a non-interactive view of the presentation that is readable by screen readers online. In accessibility view the colour scheme is changed to black and white for high contrast and the layout presented vertically. The layout is also simplified with grouped images presented separately and animation removed to avoid distractions.

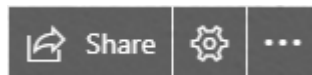
Search a Sway

A useful feature that is activated in Accessibility view is **Find** this provides a **Search** box for you to search the text content of the Sway.

Export as PDF and Word

Sway provides the option to convert to PDF and Word for downloading. In converting the content the layout is similar to Accessibility view with vertical layout and grouped media presented on separate pages. Content can be edited in Word to adjust the font, presentation and layout.

Print mode will convert the Sway into PDF for printing. If the layout is not satisfactory try converting to Word before printing.



Autoplay settings



Loop continuously

Start

Change layout



Default

Animations On