

Menu for
the week...



Growth mindset
thought for the week



Week 2

If at first you don't succeed...you're normal.

5th January 2018

Dates for your diary

11 th January	KS2 SATS information evening (see details below)
18 th January	Visit to France information evening. 7.00pm
8 th February	Y5 Parents' Evening to meet Subject Teachers 4-7.30pm
13 th February	Y7 Parents' Evening to meet Subject Teachers 4-7.30pm
1 st March	Y6 Parents' Evening to meet Subject Teachers 4-7.30pm
15 th March	Y8 Parents' Evening to meet Subject Teachers 4-7.30pm



Star Student of the Week

We will start again next week.

Student achievements

Daniel Sargent attained his Blue Belt in Tae Kwon Do on December 16th. Well done, Daniel!
Andrew & Stephen Hill and Ethan McCormack were awarded the Chief Scout Silver Award before Christmas.
Congratulations and well done!

Happy New Year! We hope that you all had a good break.

Staffing Changes

We are pleased to welcome back Mrs Bennett, our Head of English who has been off on Maternity Leave. We are equally pleased that Mrs Evans will be staying with us to do English intervention work and to teach some of our RE groups. Mrs McVittie and Mr Meredith have this week started to teach in the Y6 Maths Team and Mr Mobberley is now teaching some of our KS3 Computing.

Unfortunately, Mrs Matthews who is a Y7 Class Teacher and Maths Teacher has been very unwell recently. We were hoping that she would be back after Christmas but hopefully she will be back later next week. Mrs Thomas, our Maths Specialist cover teacher has been covering her classes and will continue to do so until Mrs Matthews is well enough to return to work. We thank you for your patience in this matter and wish Mrs Matthews a speedy recovery.

Equipment and Reading books

Please can you ensure that your child brings into school every day: a pencil case containing pencils, a writing pen, ruler and rubber, as well as an appropriate reading book and a clean water bottle? As children move around the school and can easily lose equipment we recommend that everything is named and they bring plain, cheap stationery as opposed to designer stationery such as smiggle, which is allowed but obviously expensive if lost. We do have a stationery shop, which is run by students, which sells stationery at very competitive prices- it is open at lunchtime in the library most days for students to go and buy what they need.

Chess Club

Thank you to those of you who expressed an interest in Chess Club- the majority of interest was for a lunch time club so this will start next week on Wednesday lunchtime. This will be run by Mr Ruffle , who is a specialist Chess teacher. Any student is welcome to attend but they must bring £2 each week and attend regularly so that tournaments can take place. The club will run for the whole lunch hour. Students involved will take their packed lunch or get a special dinner pass so that they can take their hot dinner with them.

Reading Café

Reading Café will start next Friday afternoon at 2.45-3.30pm in school. Students in a particular class (see rota below) will be asked to bring their current reading book or their favourite reading book to the 'Café'. A Parent/Grandparent for that child is invited into school to enjoy a hot drink and a cake/biscuit and sit and enjoy listening to them read as well as talk about their book, using some guided reading questions which we will provide. This is to promote an enjoyment of reading. If you are a working parent and are unable to make it then we will have a number of Y8's that will pair up with the students who are on their own. Year 8's Café will have more of a Careers Focus – more details will follow.

Reading Café Rota

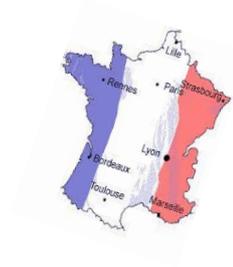
5CWK 12 th January	7KM 4 th May
5SJ 19 th January	7EN 11 th May
5JB 26 th January	7JW 18 th May
5LM 2 nd February	7LW 25 th May
6LK 9 th February	8SS 8 th June
6SB 16 th February	5CWK 15 th June
6CA 2 nd March	5SJ 22 nd June
6AP 9 th March	5JB 29 th June
6PM 16 th March	5LM 13 th July
8BH 23 rd March	
8SH 20 th April	
8RC 27 th April	

KS2 SATS information evening.

Thursday 11th January, 6.00pm

This is a really informative evening and no parents will be put on the spot by being asked a Grammar or Maths question! We hope that as many of our Y6 parents can attend as possible.

A crèche will be available for the children if you wish to bring them.



Year 8 Study Visit to France

30th April- 4th May 2018

Happy New Year to you all!

As mentioned in my last letter, there will be an information evening in the school hall for parents/carers of the children going on the study visit to France on:

Thursday 18th January at 7.00pm.

I have sent out a letter today with further details about the evening. Your child will also be bringing home important documentation, which will need to be completed in readiness for the visit. Could you please make sure that your child has passed these on to you.

Thank you and I hope to see you on 18th January.

Mme. Wilson

Visit to Stafford Castle 2018

Tuesday 20th March or Wednesday 21st March 2018

We have arranged for the children in Year 7 to visit Stafford Castle as part of their studies in Humanities. The team at the castle offer our students a wide range of experiences within and around the site to explore and understand issues around the Norman Conquest.

The students will leave for Stafford at 9.15am prompt and we hope to be back in time for the end of the school day at 3.30pm, but this does depend on traffic. The students will need to bring a packed lunch for the day (which should not include glass bottles). All students will be expected to wear their school uniform. Students will also need to bring a coat.

Can I remind students that we are visiting a public place and they will need to be attentive and polite. Co-operation and good behaviour is paramount, not only for the reputation of the school, but also for the health and safety of the students.

We are requesting a donation of **£12 for each child** which includes all transport costs and the costs of the tour. Can parents please pay by **Parent Pay by Monday 26th January 2018** or as soon as possible. Please also note that if we do not have enough donations to cover the cost of the trip, the visit will not be able to go ahead and we will incur charges from the bus company for cancellation.

Advance warning is needed of any participants with special medical or other needs to ensure all health and safety considerations have been made.

Parents must inform the school of any relevant medical or other needs on the visit consent form. This form will be issued two weeks prior to the visit and failure to complete this form will result in your child being unable to attend the trip.

All bona fide educational visits undertaken by Penkridge Middle School are covered by ACE Insurance provided through our Stafford County Council. This visit is considered to have only normal everyday risks and no further insurance has been provided.

If you have any questions about this visit please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr R Cole

Head of Humanities

Only complete the consent slip if not paying by ParentPay.

PARENTAL CONSENT FOR A SCHOOL VISIT

Please complete this form and return it to the school reception by **Monday 26th January 2018**

EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO: Stafford Castle

On **Tuesday 20th March or Wednesday 21st March 2018** leaving school at 09:15AM. The predicted time of return is 03:30PM.

Students will be travelling by coach and your child will be expected to be responsible enough to wear any seatbelt provided until informed it may be released.

I understand this visit includes:

- Walking, therefore appropriate footwear, outdoor wear and school uniform must be worn.

I agree to my son/daughter attending the visit and I enclose a contribution of £12. I acknowledge that to be included he/she will need to maintain responsible behaviour.

Name of son/daughter..... Class.....

Signed..... Date..... Parent with Parental Responsibility