

Name..... Class.....

L'hebdo

14th October 2016

Menu for week commencing 17th October 2016 **Week 1**

Growth mindset thought for the week.

Around here we don't look backwards for very long... We keep moving forward.

Dates for your diary

October 21st - Finish for Half Term.



Star Pupil of the Week

Week Beginning 3rd October 2016

Year 5

Charley Wood	5JB
Chelsea Pearson	5LM
Katie Williams	5CWK
William Wright	5SC

Year 7

William Simpson	7LW
Keira Manning	7EN
Joshua Porter	7JW
Tyler Hawley	7KM

Year 6

6SB
6AP
6LK
6CA

Awards given at Laches Wood

Year 8

John Challenor	8SH
Alexandra Morris	8SS
Hannah Booth	8RC
Lucy Fletcher	8CWT

Harvest Festival today

Many thanks to all of those who kindly contributed food donations to our Harvest Collection. It was also lovely to see parents/carers at our Harvest Celebrations - we hope that you enjoyed our presentations.

Visible Learning

Whilst children were in the Harvest today, teachers were busy doing further training on how to become 'Expert Teachers' through our exciting journey to becoming a Visible Learning school. Teachers are learning to measure their impact on learning in the classroom and also how to train the children to be 'assessment capable' independent learners.

Class Teacher evening

It was super to see so many parents at our Y5 'meet the teacher' evening this week. Parents of pupils in Y6, Y7 and Y8 will be able to meet their child's Class Teacher on Thursday 17th November.

Anti Bullying policy

We are currently reviewing our Anti Bullying policy to ensure that it is compliant with current DfE guidelines. To view our draft updated policy please visit our school website by searching for Penkridge Middle School. Our new draft Anti Bullying policy is in the section labelled policies. Please email any comments or suggestions to office@penkridge.staffs.sch.uk for the attention of Mr West by Tuesday 18th October.

YEAR 6'S AWESOME ADVENTURES

Here is the news from last week's Year 6 Residential Visit to Laches Wood as reported by Kai Wollaston, Eddie Doig, Harry Beckett, Harvey Pitt and Callum Brassington.

Kai begins: So all set with waterproofs and life-jackets, we followed Mr R. to the canal. Soon after, he tipped us carefully into the disgusting brown water. Off I paddled with my bright yellow banana-coloured paddle. Soon after, we were called in. "Now guys, all jump in the raft!" shouted Mr R. Mrs Harwood got soaked. It was epic!

Eddie reports: We arrived at Carding Mill Valley on a cold morning. All the trees were deformed and gnarled. Large yellow flowers bloomed and the rushes intertwined through the bottom of the valley. It was a fabulous day for a walk. We started to ascend up and through the valley. I found two tiger moth caterpillars. They had black fur with an orange tinge. At the top, you could see the whole of the valley. When we were coming down, we all saw a buzzard swoop down to pick up a mouse and drop it in its nest.

Harry comments: Another day and we were all excited to hear what activities we were doing. When the instructors said, "BMXing and canoeing," everyone in our group went, "YES!" BMXing it was and we had a practice with the bikes. It's never been so hard because I was wearing wellies. When we set off into the woods, the track was awesome. All the bends and bumps were difficult but wicked. Then it was obstacle time and we went over ramps, bridges and seesaws - it was mega fun!

Harvey remarks : My most memorable day at the wonderful Laches Wood was Thursday. Now I will tell you why. I woke up dying for the deliciously-cooked breakfast; all my friends were fast asleep snoring like sloths. Once we had had the legendary breakfast, I was fuelled up like a hot rod. When we arrived at the dazzling and vast climbing wall, we walked efficiently to a medium-sized shed where I was given a heavy harness.

Callum continues: When it was my go, I got to the top of the climbing wall, stood up and did a victory dance. Archery however was my favourite activity. On my first go, I didn't hit the target; on my second go, I hit the red. I think that was a real achievement but I would have liked to have hit the yellow, even more so the bullseye, but I am happy with what I got. It was outstanding.

Mrs Ashelford concludes: Outstanding sums up the week - new friendships were forged, fears conquered, personal goals reached and memories made to last a lifetime. Having shown tenacity, resilience and a determination to succeed, our Year 6 children are more than ready to face the educational challenges that lie ahead. Well done to all!

Year 5 only

Professor McGinty Visit 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

The Humanities department have arranged a visit from **Professor McGinty** which will run on **Wednesday 23rd November 2016**.

Professor McGinty - 'The Time Travelling Detective' will visit our school to present an interactive workshop on the theme of Ancient Egypt to Year 5 pupils.

Each class will have an hour's workshop with the professor with exciting artefacts, special effects, sounds, vision and music.

The visit is to complement your child's learning about Ancient Egypt in their Humanities lessons this year. The Professor has been visiting the school for the many years and he is a very popular, knowledgeable and entertaining performer.

As this visit takes place in school time it is necessary to ask for a voluntary **contribution of £5 per student**. There is no obligation to contribute and no student will be omitted from the visit because they do not pay or do not pay in full. However the visit cannot go ahead if the school does not receive sufficient parental contributions. We would be grateful if you donate using **Parent Pay by Friday 21st October**.

If there are any questions you would like to ask about the presentation, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Cole (Head of Humanities & RE) or your child's class teacher.

Yours faithfully

Mr R Cole

Head of Humanities & RE

Please only return if you're **NOT** paying by Parent Pay

Presentation by Professor McGinty on Wednesday 23rd November 2016

PARENTAL CONSENT

I agree that my son/daughter/dependent can take part in this activity

I enclose the **£5** to cover the costs of this presentation.

Name of son/daughter Class

Signed..... Date..... Person with Parental Responsibility

Year 8 only

Visit to Coventry Cathedral 2016 – Monday 28th November 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

We have arranged for the children in Year 8 to visit Coventry Cathedral as part of their studies in RE. The team at the cathedral offer our students a wide range of experiences within and around the building to explore and understand issues around conflict, peace and reconciliation.

The students will leave for Coventry at 9.00am 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 place of worship and they will need to be attentive, sometimes silent and at all times respectful. Cooperation 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 **£17 for each child** which includes all transport costs and the costs of the tour. Can parents please pay by **Parent Pay by the 21st October** 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.

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.

Yours faithfully,

Mr R Cole
Head of Humanities and RE

Failure to complete this form will result in your child being unable to attend the trip.

PARENTAL CONSENT FOR A SCHOOL VISIT

Please complete this form and return it to the school reception by **Thursday 20th October 2016**.

EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO: Coventry Cathedral

On **Monday 28th November 2016** leaving school at 09:00 AM. The predicted time of return is 03:30 - 03:45 PM.

Medical Details: My son/daughter has the following medical/special needs.

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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.

Return to Home: I understand the predicted time of return and as this is outside the normal school hours. I will attend to collect my son/daughter or my son/daughter will be returning home by.....

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 detailed above and 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