

PENNINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
PENNINGTON
Nr. ULVERSTON
CUMBRIA LA12 ORR.

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Web: www.penn.cumbria.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Storey

Autumn Term Newsletter 06 - 11/12/2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Special Mentions

Congratulations to our children whose special achievements were celebrated with our Special Mention Certificates in our Collective Worship.



After School Clubs

Just a reminder that all After School Clubs finish this week and a list of the Clubs for next term will be sent out next week.

Christmas Parties

Christmas parties are taking part next week. Children may come to school in party clothes/ non uniform that day, with suitable footwear to wear at break. There will be traditional party games and a disco. Drinks, crisps and a snack will be provided by school.

We are asking for a donation towards costs of £1 per child via parent pay.

Parentpay for Reception Children and New Starters

We have sent emails out to parents of children in Reception Class and new starters to they can get set up and pay for events.

Church Services

The Reception/ KS1 Nativity service will begin at Pennington Church at 10am on Thursday 18th December. If you would like to walk to church with the children, they will be leaving school at 9.30am. Otherwise parents/carers are invited to meet us in Church. Parking at Pennington Church is very limited.

KS2 carol service will take place in the afternoon. Children will be setting off to walk at 1.15pm and the service will begin just after 1.30pm. Again, parents and carers are invited to walk with us.

We have had enquiries about the possibility of grandparents and other family members attending the services at Pennington church and whilst we will not turn anyone away, there will not be room for everyone. There may-be standing room at the back.

Church Decorations - **Please could we have these by Tuesday 16th December**

Pennington church have asked if the children will make some Christmas decorations for the church. This year they have a choice of creating:

- A Nativity scene in a shoebox.
- A candle (this may be a real candle which has been decorated or a candle drawing, painting or model).
- A Christmas bell.

This is a Christmas creative homework and we hope parents will be able to help children to participate. Be as creative as you can, decorations that light up look particularly effective. A little Christmas treat will be provided for those that participate.

The Choir have been invited to sing at the Pennington Church Christmas Carol Service on Sunday 21st December at 11.00am. We really hope that Choir will be able to support this annual community event. Mrs Storey and Mr Fleming will meet you there. Thank you for your lovely singing so far. The residents of Swarthdale Nursing Home and the audience at Swarthmoor Reading Rooms have enjoyed such wonderful musical performances and already requested that we sing next year.

Christmas tree

Thank you to **Ellie's Garden Centre** who donated 3 Christmas tree this year.

Christmas Holidays

On the last day of term, on Friday 19th December 2025, we will be finishing school at 1.30pm for Christmas. Please can you organise for your children to be collected at 1.30pm. Thank you.

Christmas Events

Friday 12 th December - pm	Reception Christmas Party
Monday 15 th December - pm	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party
Tuesday 16 th December - pm	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party
Wednesday 17 th December	Reception Class, Y1 & Y2 School Hub Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 17 th December - pm	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party
Thursday 18 th December - 10.00am	Nativity Service - Reception Class, Y1 and Y2 (parents invited)
Thursday 18 th December - 1.30pm	KS2 Carol Service (parents invited)
Friday 19 th December	1.30pm BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Sunday 21 st December	Pennington Church family carol service with school choir all welcome - 11.00am
Wednesday 7 th January 2024	Return to school

OPAL Play

We are delighted to announce that we received the Platinum Award for OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning). This recognises the development of our outdoor environment and the commitment to play. We aim to provide outstanding playtimes for all our children by offering a variety of play experiences. This encourages cooperation, friendship, resilience and fun amongst other things. We would like Orcina, the local business, who have provided funding for us to employ a Playleader and a contribution towards outdoor resources. And a big thank you to all staff involved. We are proud to be in the top 1% of OPAL Schools

Outdoor days

We will continue offering regular outdoor days for all classes this year. Children will need to wear suitable outdoor clothing for the weather conditions. They should have a waterproof coat, enough warm clothes and wellies or old trainers. Please see below dates for outdoor learning days.

Thursday 8 th January	Y4
Thursday 15 th January	Y5
Tuesday 20 th January	Y3
Thursday 22 nd January	Y6
Thursday 29 th January	Y1

Ulverston Pantomime - Puss in Boots..... Watch this space for more information

Facebook

Do you follow us on Facebook? We post all our activities on this page, including Special Mentions, classroom activities, outdoor learning days, sports events, school trips, school residentials and Friends of Pennington information. It is often the quickest way to receive information about what is going on in school.



SCHOOL TERM DATES 2025/2026



AUTUMN TERM 2025

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 3 September	Friday 19 December	Monday 27 October - Friday 31 October
Number of school days in term - 73		

SPRING TERM 2026

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 7 January	Friday 27 March	Monday 16 February - Friday 20 February
Number of school days in term - 53		

SUMMER TERM 2026

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Monday 13 April	Friday 17 July	Monday 25 May - Friday 29 May
Good Friday - 3 April Easter Sunday - 5 April Easter Monday - 6 April May Bank Holiday - 4 May		

Number of school days in term -64

Number of days in year - 190

INSET Days: Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 September
Tuesday 6 January

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2026/2027



AUTUMN TERM 2026

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 2 September	Friday 18 December	Monday 26 October - Friday 30 October
Number of school days in term - 73		

SPRING TERM 2027

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Wednesday 5 January	Friday 25 march	Monday 15 February - Friday 19 February
Number of school days in term - 53		

SUMMER TERM 2027

<u>STARTS</u>	<u>ENDS</u>	<u>HALF - TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Monday 12 April	Friday 16 July	Monday 31 May - Friday 3 June
Good Friday - 26 March Easter Sunday - 28 March Easter Monday - 29 March May Bank Holiday - 3 May		

Number of school days in term -64

Number of days in year - 190

INSET Days: Tuesday 1 September
 Tuesday 4 January

Friends of Pennington

Carly, Stella and Amanda.

Friends of Pennington School

Email us at FoP@penn.cumbria.sch.uk to get in touch

FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON

JOIN OUR FRIENDLY PTA!

THE FRIENDS OF PENNINGTON SCHOOL ENRICH SCHOOL LIFE BY ORGANIZING ENJOYABLE EVENTS AND CRUCIAL FUNDRAISING EFFORTS THAT BENEFIT OUR CHILDREN.

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR PTA EVENTS:

SCHOOL DISCOS | MOVIE NIGHTS | BOUNCEFEST | CHRISTMAS FAIR | FUN EVENTS | NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES | SKILL DEVELOPMENT

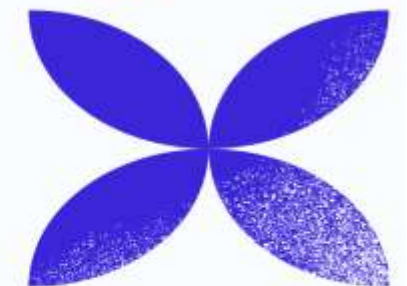
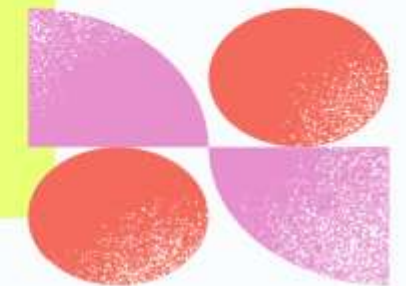
WE ARE SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST US IN THESE ESSENTIAL ROLES:

- CHAIRPERSON (FROM JAN 2026)
- TREASURER (FROM JAN 2026)
- SECRETARY (FROM JAN 2026)
- GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- OCCASIONAL VOLUNTEER SUPPORT AT EVENTS

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED OR WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE, PLEASE CONTACT US AT FOP@PENN.CUMBRIA.SCH.UK

APPLICATIONS BY:

MON 3RD NOVEMBER



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Dear Parents/Carers

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, we'll receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help pupils reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces

At Pennington, we get an extra £1,515 for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

Is my child eligible for free school meals?

To be eligible for free school meals, your family's annual household income must be no higher than:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with one child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with two or more children

This includes any wider income or support you may be getting and any earnings from employment.

You must also have less than £16,000 in savings, including any shares, investments and bank accounts - but not including your home.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - Provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit, also your annual gross income is no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if your household income is less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

- children who get these benefits paid to them, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also claim free school meals.

Your child may also claim free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the compulsory age for starting school
- in full-time education
- free school meals are available to statutory school aged children attending full time education. Full time education is defined as full days from 9am to 3pm, this excludes private nurseries and further education colleges.

When not to apply

If you receive working tax credits you may not be eligible for free school meals or clothing grants.

Universal infant free school meals

Currently, pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal thanks to a different government funding scheme known as universal infant free school meals (UIFSM). You shouldn't confuse UIFSM with free school meals and the pupil premium.

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and is eligible for free school meals according to the criteria above, you should still register because we'll receive the extra pupil premium funding.

Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Pupils who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register and for more information about applying for free school meals, please click on the following link:

<https://www.westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-school-meals-and-clothing-vouchers>

More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Kind regards

Mrs Storey
Headteacher



 <h2>Rainbows</h2> <p>For ages 4 to 7</p> <p>At Rainbows, girls play, learn and have tons of fun</p>	 <h2>Brownies</h2> <p>For ages 7 to 10</p> <p>At Brownies, girls have nonstop fun, learning and adventure</p>	 <h2>Guides</h2> <p>For ages 10 to 14</p> <p>At Guides, girls laugh, learn and expand their horizons</p>	 <h2>Rangers</h2> <p>For ages 14 to 18</p> <p>At Rangers, girls have fun, hangout, learn more and give back</p>
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Girlguiding

Lindal Rainbows and Brownies

Lindal Rainbows and Brownies have spaces for girls aged 4-10. Please search Girlguiding Join Us to register interest or email, 1peterand1vicki@gmail.com



Winter Flu catch up clinics

Please find below the dates & locations where our vaccination clinics are being held:-

- Wednesday 26th November @ The Blackhall Unit - WGH **Kendal** - 3pm-5.30pm
- Tuesday 9th December @ **Barrow** Library in the Hub - 3pm - 5.30pm
- Tuesday 9th December @ The Blackhall Unit - WGH **Kendal** - 3pm-5.30pm
- Monday 15th December @ **Ulverston** Community Health Centre - 3pm-5.30pm
- Tuesday 16th December @ The Blackhall Unit - WGH **Kendal** - 3pm-5.30pm

E-School Nurse Clinic

(By appointment only)

Twice weekly health support and advice for parents, carers and professionals who are supporting children and young people aged 5-19 years old.



Tuesday and Thursday

Telephone for an appointment

0300 304 9039

You will be able to talk to a school nurse, the contact will be private, secure and confidential. In consultation with you, the nurse will assess the child or young person's health problem and provide you with the support and advice needed.



Westmorland
& Furness
Council