

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to thank families for the feedback on our new style of reports which we sent out last term. In general families and students appreciate the fact that they are in colour and so this gives a very quick and visual summary of how well a student is doing in their subjects. One aspect we have been asked to consider is the choice of colours themselves. A few parents have suggested that perhaps the colour yellow is not the best choice for when students are achieving their targets because yellow is often used as a sign for 'danger'.

We will take all these comments on board and then plan any changes ready for the new academic year. In the meanwhile we will continue with the colour scheme as it is at present so please do forward any further comments.

This term we have been planning a new merits and rewards system which we will launch with students from next term. The new system has been presented to our students in assemblies and will allow them to collect merits and points for good work in lessons and of course for good behaviour in class and around the school. Once the system is fully operational we will inform families on how they can monitor the child's merits from home through a personal login. Over the next two terms we will also be launching our school council and school parliament too. We aim to do this to coincide with the national general election due to take place in May.



Pent Valley's remembrance of WW1

The school has recently been involved with Thamesview school from Gravesend and two schools from Belgium in a European project supported by Kent County Council. Before Christmas Folkestone played host, with the backing of Prince William to a re-creation of the famous Christmas truce football match (picture below). This was followed in January with a visit to Flanders where the students researched and visited some of the WW1 sites and more recently at the end of February the schools were back in Folkestone where they visited historical sites around Folkestone associated with the Great War and worked with a cartoonist (picture below). The project ends with the creation of a giant mural to be shown in all four schools which will include depictions of spies and refugees as well as scenes from coastal Kent and the Western Front.



Promoting Maths and English

We have been helping two of our local primary schools improve their work in these subjects.

In the most recent project some 15 pupils were asked to create a children's book, both writing and illustrating it.

They were then tasked with doing market research into costing, funding and sales.

Finally they had to present their books to our Heads of English and Maths.

Important information regarding attendance!

Unauthorised absences can result in either the Local Area Education Authority issuing fixed penalty notices of £60 per parent per child or KCC Attendance Services may decide to take legal proceedings against parents which could result in a fine of up to £2,500 or a prison sentence of 3 months.

Parental Survey

The Governors are keen to seek the views of parents and carers on the school. In the next couple of weeks a questionnaire will be sent to all parents/carers seeking your views on a such things as progress and behaviour.

To encourage responses there will be 3 £50 food hampers available as prizes in a draw for all completed questionnaires.



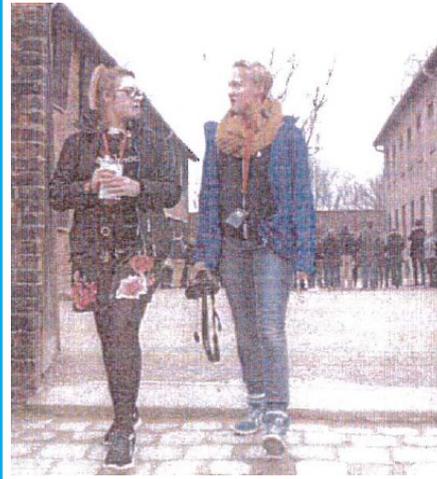
School Uniform

Just an early reminder to parents and carers that for the new academic year starting in September the responsibility for purchasing the uniform is with you. The Blazer, Coat, Trousers, Skirt and tie need to be purchased on line from our supplier -Price and Buckland. White shirts and blouses can be purchased from any shop.

Pent Valley teacher and student on breakfast television sofa

Mrs Zoe Baker and Lottie Schulze a Dyson student appeared on the BBC Breakfast programme as part of the nations memory of the Holocaust.

Lottie visited Auschwitz last November to see the horror of the camp for herself and it was particularly tough for the German student who is studying here at Pent Valley for a year before returning home to finish her studies in Berlin.



Year 11—Parent Evening

This was held on 12th February when over 50% of our parents/carers turned up to discuss their students progress and future plans. As part of the evening parents/carers were asked to complete a survey and the analysis of those returned showed that:

- 100% found the evening helpful
- 95% believed their child was taught well at school
- 90% would recommend this school and
- 85% believed the school was well led and managed

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