



Welcome back following the half term holiday. The children have returned ready to learn and continue to look smart in their academy uniform. Thank you again for continuing to support the academy uniform policy.

This half term is full of exciting opportunities for the children and we look forward to sharing them with you over the next few weeks.

### Staffing:

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome Miss Hogg to the Pennyman team. She has joined our Office Team and will be happy to help you should you require any support.

Following her successful application for promotion, Mrs Brownsell will be leaving us at Easter to begin a Senior Leader post within Middlesbrough. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Brownsell for her enthusiasm and dedication to all the children at Pennyman. As well as her commitment to teaching she has had a huge impact on the development of our Performing Arts for which we are very grateful. We will enjoy this half term with Mrs Brownsell and share future staffing arrangements with you in our March newsletter.

### Academy Gates: Now opening at 8.30am

We now have an increasing number of children attending breakfast club and consequently we are using more of the playground during this time.

In order to ensure that we keep all children safe during this time the gates to Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 playground will now not open until 8.30am.

Thank you your cooperation with this matter.

### Parent Consultations:

You will now have received letters to invite you to parent consultation evenings at the end of the term. These are taking place between Monday 21st and Wednesday 23rd March.

Please make every effort to attend as we value the opportunity to talk to you about your child's progress. If for some reason you are unable to attend on any of these dates, please inform your child's teacher as soon as possible and they will make every attempt to arrange an alternative time before Easter.

### Online Safety:

Throughout this month we have been focusing on keeping children in safe on the internet. Work we have done has included work with the children in class as well as in assembly. The children and staff have all signed a 'class contract' on how to stay safe online. We have also held a very successful parent workshop. Our online safety workshop was a brilliant success and it was fantastic to see so many of our parents there! The workshop, run by Simon Finch, focused on promoting positive and safe

behaviour online to our children and talking openly with them about what they see and do online. Due to the success of this workshop, we will be running another online safety workshop later in the year. Again, thank you to all those that joined us!



## **Academy Aims: Mathematics Focus**

During the last newsletter we shared with you ways in which we can all support your child in English. We hope you found the information useful.

Developing maths skills are also vitally important and together we can ensure your child becomes the best that they can be in maths concepts they will use both in the academy as young people and in their adult life in the future. As always the academy staff work hard to ensure that your child receives the best opportunities and experiences possible. We talk to the children about how important key skills are and we encourage you to support them in the same way.



### **Mathematics:**

It is important that the children in Early Years and Key Stage One are able to read and write numbers correctly. They do lots of counting, both forwards and backwards, to help them understand how the number system works. The children are shown how to use equipment to help them with their counting, addition and subtraction and then as they become more confident they use written strategies such as a number line to help them with their working out. As the children progress through Key Stage One they begin to work with larger numbers as well as to learn their times tables and division facts.

As children move throughout Key Stage Two the expectation of children's mathematical understanding continues to grow. Children learn more sophisticated ways to solve number problems and need to learn all of their times table and division facts. They do lots of work on using the skills they have learnt to solve problems; showing they understand how to use their maths in real life situations.

As well as working with number there are lots of other concepts all children need to learn, which we work on in the academy every week. Some of these can also be supported at home including telling the time and using money.

### **Ways you can help at home**

Your child will bring counting and times tables home. Please try and work on these as often as you can.



Please ask your child to tell you the time at different times of the day. Encourage them to use a watch. They need to be able to use a clock as well as digital time.



Help your child learn about money. Help them learn all the coins as well as pay and work out the amount of change when you go shopping.



Please remember that the academy day starts at 8.40am. Children start their maths work at this time and so it is important that they are in the academy on time. Thank you.

### **Mobile Texting Service:**

As an academy we continue to use a texting service, where appropriate, to inform you of information. Please may we ask you to ensure that you keep your mobile numbers up to date in the academy office. By doing this you will be sure not to miss any important information. Thank you for your continues support.



### **ONE DAY MORE CONCERT** **SAGE, GATESHEAD**

**Wednesday 2nd March 2016**

**We still have a limited number of tickets available. Please speak to a member of the office if you would like any.**

### **Easter Raffle**

Letters and raffle tickets will be sent home next Friday.



### **PHOTOGRAPH DAYS**

**Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th April 2016**

*More details will follow later in the half term.*

### **HM Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday**

Tower Mint have produced a 2016 collector medal range for schools and councils to commemorate HM Queen Elizabeth II 90th Birthday. If you would like to order one of these, feel free to call into the Academy Office. For us to place the order, we need a minimum of 50 medals to be purchased, to get the special price of £1.99 per medal. Please note if we do NOT receive, more than a 50 medal order, we will not be able to go ahead with this.

### **Photo Gallery**



Please find on the back page our academy calendar for both the remainder of this year and for 2016-2017. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask a member of the academy team. Thank you for your continued support.

Miss K Morley  
Executive Headteacher

Miss K Still  
Head of Academy

## Pennyman Primary Academy Holidays

### 2016

**January 16**

M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**February 16**

M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29						

Bank Holiday  
School Holiday  
Teacher Training Day

**January 17**

M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
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**February 17**

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Bank Holiday  
School Holiday  
Teacher Training Day

**March 16**

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**May 16**

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**April 16**

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**March 17**

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**May 17**

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Bank Holiday  
School Holiday  
Teacher Training Day

**June 16**

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**August 16**

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**July 16**

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**June 17**

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**August 17**

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Bank Holiday  
School Holiday  
Teacher Training Day

**September 16**

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**November 16**

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**October 16**

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**September 17**

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**November 17**

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**December 16**

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**December 17**

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Bank Holiday  
School Holiday  
Teacher Training Day



**Pennyman**  
Primary Academy



**Pennyman**  
Primary Academy