

REF: SAF/tlb/Autumn1P&C

Friday 13th October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for supporting us in another successful half term at Newquay Tretherras. We have so much to celebrate and tell you about that this letter may seem rather long - apologies, but it seemed more sensible than sending several letters and filling your Inbox!

Well done to all our students:

We are so proud of our Tretherras family. At the time of writing, our students have achieved 60,730 positive points, which equates to 91% of all points given being for praise. We've sent 143 postcards home; celebrated 16 students who have already reached an amazing 100 positive points and have taken students of all year groups on some incredible trips: Year 7 to DairyLand Bull Pen; Year 8 and 9 to London on a Harry Potter Trip; Year 9 to Thorpe Park; Year 10 to Alton Towers; and some of Year 11 are currently in Spain on an exchange visit.

Year 11 are building up rewards in the Golden Ticket scheme and this week, all form tutors are celebrating their stars of the half term... something that form tutors report to be a hard task to select. Well done everyone!

Maintaining high standards:

Uniform:

It goes without saying that we want your children to attend a school with the best possible learning environment: one that is free of distraction; one that challenges and inspires; and one where your children can achieve their potential. As explored in the expectations evenings this term, having high standards of all parts of school life, including uniform and equipment, helps secure our culture of excellence.

Our students have looked really smart this term – thank you. As a quick reminder:

- The new school skirt is the only skirt permitted.
- Dickies trousers (of any style) are not permitted in school, and trousers must not be rolled at the bottom.
- All belts should be plain black.
- Ties must be correct length.
- Shoes must be all black – with Year 7 in a proper shoe (years 8 – 10 to follow next academic year)
- Socks, plain black
- No socks over tights
- No jewellery other than one small stud per ear and one ring per hand (no nose piercings; bracelets; necklaces; fake nails; fake eye lashes or skin graffiti etc.)
- Hair styles must be acceptable as per the school policy.

Please do not allow your child to get a nose piercing, coloured hair, unacceptable hair styles, fake eye lashes or nails etc. over the October half term (unless they are fully removed before the first day of return to school on Monday 30th October 2023) to avoid your child attending our RESET room until they are in full school uniform.

Equipment:

The learning packs for Years 7, 8 and 9 have been successful in supporting our students to be ready to learn with all the required equipment, every lesson. Years 10 and 11 are also expected to have the equipment needed to successfully access their learning.

Being prepared for every lesson makes such a difference to a smooth start to learning. Please can we ask that if there is any missing equipment, such as a pen, ruler, pencil etc. students source this over the holidays, or come prepared to top up their packs at the library or student services (through payment on parent pay).

Finally, a reminder that students will need their student ID cards for catering, printing, buying equipment and the library.

We appreciate your support in all of this, and as you can see from 91% of all points given being positive, our young people are already meeting these high standards, so thank you.

Next half term – enhancing safety in our school:

At NT, we take safeguarding and the safety of your child very seriously. It's important that we put procedures in place and plan even for those events that are very unlikely to occur.

Like many schools across the country, as part of this, we have introduced a new safety procedure called "security lockdown". We are planning to practise this procedure next half term.

A security lockdown procedure is a standard health and safety procedure, similar to a fire drill, and would be used when there is a threat to the safety of our pupils, staff and others in the school, and when it's safer for everyone to remain in school rather than evacuate. The aim is to keep people safe by confining them to a secure place of safety.

We have already informed your child about this during a Teams assembly, where we calmly informed them of how the procedure will run, emphasising that it is nothing to worry about. We reassured our students that practising procedures like this will make sure that the school remains a safe place to learn, but that the lockdown procedure is highly unlikely to be needed.

If you or your child have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Israel/Palestine conflict:

We want to acknowledge the tragic events in Israel and Palestine and recognise that of course it can lead to increased tensions in communities and may impact on our school community. I am sure that we all want to express our sincere sympathies to the victims of the conflict, and everyone affected by this crisis.

We appreciate that there will be potentially distressing images that are shared both through news channels and online media. The following agencies are providing age-appropriate support for anyone affected either by the events or exposure to online material:

- [Child line](#)
- [Educate against hate](#)

EduRio Survey:

Please find at the bottom of this letter the results of our parental survey. We really value parental voice and have spent time reflecting on your comments, so thank you.

Happy half term

We'd like to end where we began – we've had a thoroughly enjoyable half term working with and celebrating your children. We wish you an enjoyable half term holiday and we are looking forward to welcoming all our young people back to school on Monday 30th October.

With very best wishes

Yours sincerely



MRS S FAIRBAIRN
Executive Headteacher

Edurio Survey

Thank you very much to the 336 parents and carers who responded to the Parent Experience Survey at the end of the summer term, especially those who left helpful and constructive comments. We take your points seriously and will be refining aspects of our work to address the areas you are telling us we need to improve. The highest satisfaction ratings were given to meeting pupil needs, information for parents and the awareness that Tretherras is part of a group of schools working together in a multi-academy trust:

- 95% of respondents said it was easy for students to access the internet at home.
- 91% of respondents felt well informed about their child's attendance.
- 84% of respondents knew about the work of Tretherras as part of the Cornwall Education Learning Trust.
- 79% said they would be interested in receiving suggestions on how to support their child's learning and development.
- 77% said clear language is used in school communications.
- 75% felt well informed about their child's punctuality.
- 74% said it was easy to contact the school if you need to.
- 73% said it is easy to understand the reports sent by the school.
- 73% said the school's approach to attendance met their child's needs.
- 71% said they would recommend Tretherras to another parent.
- 69% felt parents' evenings were useful.
- 67% felt well informed about their child's behaviour in school.
- 66% said the school expectations for parents were clear.
- 64% were confident that teachers can keep your child safe.
- 63% said curriculum evenings were useful.
- 62% said they were confident in supporting their child's development at home.
- 61% felt welcome in this school.
- 59% valued our social events.
- 57% said the school's approach to behaviour meets your child's needs.
- 57% felt that your child was treated fairly by teachers.
- 55% said the school's approach to marking and assessment fits your child's needs.
- 53% said the school's approach to the learning process overall fit your child's needs.
- 53% found school reports helpful for understanding individual pupil progress.
- 55% said the school's approach to marking and assessment fits your child's needs.

We received very positive responses against the trust benchmarks. Respondents felt that it was easy to access and attend school events and, most importantly, would recommend Newquay Tretherras as a school to other parents.

We have been reflecting on all the feedback comments. The areas we need to get better at communicating with you about are:

- 49% said they felt well informed about their child's learning and progress.
- 47% How confident do you feel that you can discuss complex issues with the school.
- 46% said it was easy to discuss your child's progress or other issues with the school if needed.
- 46% said the school's approach to homework fits their child's needs.
- 44% said they felt satisfied with the school's communication with you.
- 42% were satisfied with the school's efforts to engage you as a parent.

A key area for development is informing you about the work of CELT:

- 33% said the role of the trust in this school was clear.
- 30% said they were confident that being part of a trust is beneficial for pupils.

Following your feedback in the survey, we need to focus on two key areas going forwards:

- 24% said they don't often see that their feedback to the school has impact.
- 21% felt informed with regard to how their child is doing socially at school.

Although there were some opposing views (some parents and carers really value online parents' evenings, others prefer face-to-face), what came across strongly was that parents and carers value Class-Charts, and e-mail communication from Heads of Years and Form Tutors. You told us that our letters and communications have improved in recent years, too.

Please remember that you are very welcome to come and see staff in person if you have anything at all that you'd like to discuss – you just need to make an appointment through enquiries@tretherras.net.