

School Update

Well, we have finally made it to the end of a hectic term, and it certainly is time to enjoy a break with family and friends.

It has been a fantastic term packed with trips, events, and activities both in and out of school which have been largely unaffected by the pandemic (until the final week).

As the national picture changes and what now is a normality of checking for updates on the news it is likely that there will be some changes for us to factor in following the Christmas break. As always if there are things you need to be aware of, we will get them to you via class charts and social media so that you can be as prepared as we are.

All KS3 pupils will be required to have an LFT in school before returning (with consent of course). This information was sent out this week so please check class charts. This will mean that for Tuesday 4th January their school activities will resort to being on the VLE under the 'useful links' section. Please guide your child to this during that day.

KS2 will start as normal on Tuesday 4th so please ensure they are ready as usual.

We want to thank you for all your support this term with uniform (including shoes), and ask that this continues into the new year as we know that children grow, and items will need to be replaced. Please see the [link below](#) for the uniform that pupils should have as a reminder for the new academic year.

Clubs will once again restart in the new year, and we will communicate with the children where and when these will be so that they are not missed.

In light of the cancellation of activities this week we will be moving our parents' evenings scheduled for the start of the new term online so that they will be virtual. Information about booking for this will be sent via class charts in the new year so that you do not miss your slot to see your children's' teachers.

Mr Corbett will be looking for all budding musicians in the new year in preparation for the start of a school band. If you play piano/keyboard, guitar or drums then please make yourself known to Mr Corbett who would love you to be involved.

Finally, can I wish all the PMS family a restful Christmas and New Year and hope that whilst we ponder over the year that we have had, we look forward to the new year and new prospects it may bring.

Take care

Mrs Frost

[Check out these links](#)

Trick Box-[Click Here](#)

Volunteer Request-[Click Here](#)



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS/CARERS

We are a Trick Box School!

TRICK BOX[®]

WHAT IS TRICK BOX?

We all need a few tricks up our sleeves.

It's not always easy being a young person working out who you are and how to navigate challenges and changes in the world.

Building Happy Life Habits

Trick Box is a simple, evidenced based, whole school, whole journey, emotional management and personal development programme. It supports children, young people and their families from pre-school to sixth form. Each programme, which is available across the Academy Trust, (Early Years to KS5) builds on the others but also stands alone.

We are utilising this programme in school to support the mental health and wellbeing of your children. In TRICK BOX time, children will be taught a series of 'tricks' to help them deal with everyday situations.

In KS2, these tricks are printed on cards and used throughout the school. If you would like box of TRICK BOX cards to use with your child at home, then please order these via [ParentPay](#). They are very reasonably priced at £3.

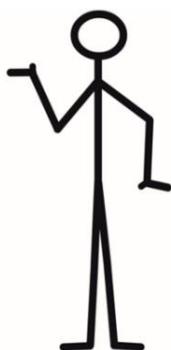


to purchase a ParentPay.

In KS3, children will be provided with a journal to be filled with the tricks. An overview of termly habits and tricks will be provided that they can reflect on when further support is needed for their well-being.

Years 5 and 6- The 4 C's

The Trick Box programme develops personal skills in 4 key areas



Trick Box programmes from Reception to year 6 develop personal skills in 4 key areas through positive habit formation.

Children develop self-coaching skills and use tricks from their Trick Box to help them manage everyday life.

Teachers use the tricks in class and parents are able to practise these with their children at home (cards are available to order).

introduced and practised regularly everyone is confident about using Trick Box offers the personal skills need to not only manage ourselves but to take up positive opportunities and thrive!



24 Tricks



Self-Coaching Model

= Happy Habits

The tricks are so that them. we all

life

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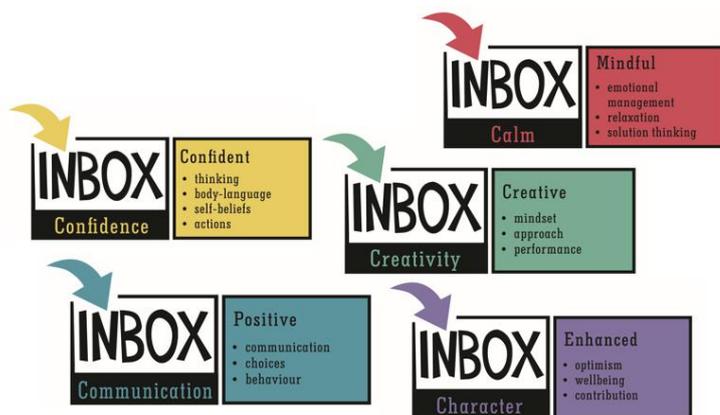
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This programme is already in place in some of our first schools and will be in all our trust schools imminently.

Years 7 and 8- Inbox

The **Inbox programme** for KS3-5 (Middle years 7-8) is all about developing personal habits and skills in 5 key areas (building on the skills already practised with Trick Box).



Less is more

Developing personal habits doesn't have to be hard work. Inbox tricks in the 5 key areas are introduced weekly, building on the skills learnt previously with Trick Box.

The habit-based tricks develop progressive skills and subskills in line with age-related experiences and development.

This programme will then continue if they transition to Wolgarston High School or The Rural Enterprise

Academy.

Independence is key

The Inbox programme encourages young people to build individual strengths.

Using a self-coaching model alongside the habit-based tricks helps to manage challenges in the here and now and create motivating for the future.

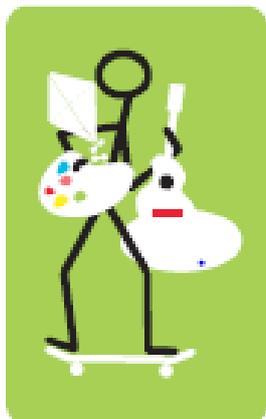
Everyone is unique and we all need to find our own paths

Some young people may prefer to keep which tricks they're practising to themselves. Some may wish to share with parents/carers and gain further support. The family can choose to work on some tricks together. Others prefer to talk to peers or get a little extra help from staff.

We are very pleased to be introducing this programme and hope that we see the benefits soon. Please do not forget to order your Trick Box cards for KS2 children, via ParentPay.



them plans



KS2 TRICK BOX example:

With this trick there is a focus on facing new challenges, with the 'I can do new things' strategy.

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Volunteer Request

PMS are looking for a volunteer to help on Tuesday mornings from 10.00am to 12.30pm to escort children along with a member of staff to swimming classes at Penkridge Leisure Centre. Your help will be required to ride on the minibus with the children, help our female students in the changing rooms and check that no items have been left behind for two sessions of swimming each week.

PVAT is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This position is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure check under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

Further details regarding this check are available from schools or by visiting

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Mrs Blakeway in the PMS school office.

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Uniform Summary

PENKRIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our uniform is simple and readily available. We are well-supported by parents in maintaining a smart, distinctive appearance.

We hope that parents will continue to encourage their children to take pride in themselves and their school.

Boys

- Dark Grey/Black tailored school trousers are the **ONLY** trousers allowed. (wide, flared, denim, jeans, skinny or fashion trousers are **not** allowed)
- White shirt which buttons at the neck long enough to tuck into waistband.

Summer uniform

- School approved black, knee-length, tailored city shorts.



All Students

- Y7/8 Black Blazer with school badge
- Y5/6 Scarlet Sweater (V neck sweater or V-buttoned cardigan).
- House Tie
- Sensible, sturdy, black leather low-heeled shoes without coloured branding/decoration/trim (**not** trainers, canvas or boots)
- In bad weather, pupils can walk to school in boots/wellies and change into shoes at school
- Plain black socks
- School Bag
- Coat



Girls

- Dark Grey/Black knee length skirt (**not** tight, figure-hugging stretch material (e.g. no lycra / jersey materials), please)
- Dark Grey/Black tailored school trousers are the **ONLY** trousers allowed (wide, flared, denim, jeans, skinny or other such fashion trousers such as leggings are **not** allowed)
- White **school** shirt/ blouse which buttons at the neck long enough to tuck into waistband.

Summer Uniform

- For those wishing to wear a summer dress we recommend: Material – red and white candy stripes or gingham.
- School approved black, knee-length, tailored city shorts.



KS2 (Years 5 & 6)



KS3 (Years 7 & 8)

To be read in conjunction with the school uniform policy

HOME