

SEPTEMBER 2007

Penn Fields School Autumn Term News Letter

Quick Check - Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

- 3rd—School Closed to Pupils—Teacher training day
- 4th—School re-opens to pupils
- 21st—Class 4—Crucial Crew

OCTOBER

- 9th—KS3 No Go/To Go
- 11th—KS3 No Go/To Go
- 16th—Harvest Festival
- 18—Parents Evening 6pm - 8pm
- 22nd—26th—Half Term
- 29th—2nd Nov—Annual Review Week

NOVEMBER

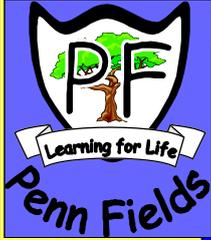
- 13th—Remembrance Assembly
- 28th—Classes 3 & 4 Crossing Patrol Visit

DECEMBER

- 11th—AM—Xmas Performance
- 12th—PM—Xmas Performance
- 17th—KS1 & 2 Party
- 18th—KS3 Disco
- 19th—KS4—Xmas visit/buffet
- 20th—Christmas Lunch
- 21st—End of Term

School re-opens to pupils on Tuesday 8th January 2008

Please keep this page as it contains important information for the coming term.



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Class 9's visit to Gelliweg

'Having escaped the wet of Wolverhampton Class 9 enjoy the sea air at Criccieth.' This was the scene on our first evening in North Wales. We spent an enjoyable time exploring the beach and skimming stones. We stayed in a big house in Porthmadog called Gelliwig and all had to help with the cooking, washing up and cleaning. It was a good experience for us all! Wales is a beautiful place and we visited King Arthur's Labyrinth in Corris, travelled to Tan y Bwlch on the Ffestiniog Railway, walked round the forest at Llyn Mair and on our last morning we went to Beddgelert. This means the 'grave of Gelert', and we used the story of Gelert in our class assembly. The weather was very kind to us and this made our stay at Gelliwig so enjoyable.

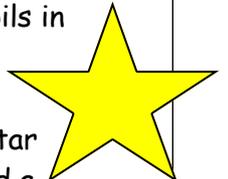


Last year proved to be a very successful year for all our pupils, but especially those in year 11, in terms of academic and social achievement. Exam results for year 11 were the best ever recorded. With the addition of extra accredited subjects and social skills focussed courses, we are able to cater more effectively for all pupils.

Mr B A Briginshaw
Headteacher

STAR OF THE WEEK

This year we have been running a new rewards scheme for pupils in each class. In each lesson a star has been awarded to at least one pupil for effort and good work. In classes 1-4 pupils have a star chart on the wall and in classes 7-11 pupils have had a star chart to carry round with them. Each class has also nominated a Worker of the Week and both these pupils have been recognised in Good Work Assemblies on Friday. At the end of each year the pupils with the most stars are:



<u>Class</u>	<u>Star of the Year</u>	<u>Worker of the Year</u>
1	Kerriann Langan	Mandeep Douley
2	Chanel Walrond	Chanel Walrond
3	Emerlene Michaels	Karandeep Bahra
4	Paige Hickie	Carl Edge/Paige Hickie
7	Stephen Swain	Bill Carley
8	Jason Ballard/David Carless	Amy Davies
9	Raveena Jassel/Rhys Footman	Kyle Griffiths/O'Shea Kerr
10	Geoffrey Jones	Daniel Sicilia/Aakash Sidhu
11	Michelle Jones	Kurt Hickman/Dan Lowbridge

Overall Stars of the Year

KS1 & 2 - Kerriann Langan
KS3 & 4 - Geoffrey Jones

Summer Fair 2007

Despite the terrible weather, Penn Fields Summer Fair was very well attended by friends and families. With hot food and drinks proving more popular than ice creams this year, the barbeque did a roaring trade with long queues all evening. During the day over 250 balloons were released by the children in the ever popular balloon race. Travelling east through grey skies and heavy rain, the winning balloon did extremely well, landing in Laekenheath, Suffolk, some 136 miles from here. In excess of £1500 was raised from the fair overall and our thanks go to everyone for their support.



Work Experience for Year 11

The Year 11's undertook a week of work experience in June. The week previous had seen the pupils finish off the last of their exams and then prepare for their week at work, ensuring they knew where they were going, what the dress code would be and of course reminding them to bring their packed lunches. As the Monday morning arrived, Class 11 appeared a little nervous, but by 10am all pupils had been dropped off at their various different locations of work. Pupils had the opportunity to experience different trades ranging from hair-dressing, building work, residential care work, classroom support in schools and even assisting at the sailing centre. During the week, all pupils were visited at their placement by a member of staff and all were doing well and received excellent comments back from their placements. Thanks should go to Mrs Causer, Miss Jones, Miss Osbourne, Mrs Millington and Mrs O'Connor for ensuring the pupils arrived safely and were collected each day.

Patshull Park visit for Class 3

On Thursday 5th July Class 3 went to Patshull Park for the annual Wolverhampton Healthy Schools Showcase, as Penn Fields is currently working towards 'Healthy School' status. The children were invited to sing some of the songs that they had learnt for this year, in a very grand country setting to a large audience of grown-ups. The children sang with their usual enthusiasm and were congratulated by all on their performance. Well done to every one who took part.

Six-a side football



After the disappointment of the cancellation of the Special Schools football tournament, Penn Fields organised their own competition which saw 33 pupils involved from KS3 & 4. The tournament was run on a round robin basis with teams qualifying for the semis and final. The eventual winners were Ferrelle's team. For the first time the competition was opened up to KS2 and 18 pupils took part in 3 teams. 1st place was taken by Carl Edge's team and all these matches were refereed by year 11 pupils.

SAINSBURY ACTIVEKIDS

Many thanks to all who have collected the Sainsbury Activekids vouchers. We collected nearly 11,000, which has enabled us to order a wide variety of sports equipment such as badminton racquets, footballs, agility cards and much more. The equipment will be delivered to school in September.

Speech and Language Therapy

This year the speech and language therapy department have introduced a new social communication programme that combines



principles from ASDAN and Sulp (Social Use of Language Programme). Emily Wolverson and Harkeerat Virdee have participated in the programme taking

part in a series of activities for which they have gained evidence towards their ASDAN accreditation. They have both enjoyed the programme, particularly their visit to Wolverhampton Art Gallery. At the end of the programme they invited a friend for a short presentation and refreshments. Stephanie and Maya were both entertained by a recollection of the girl's favourite activities. Harkeerat has now left school to join her sixth form college and we wish her well for the future.



YEAR 8 IRONBRIDGE VISIT

As part of their history studies, year 8 travelled to Ironbridge where they visited Blists Hill and the Ironbridge Museum, as well as walking over and under the Ironbridge itself. Fortunately the River Severn was not too high on this particular day! Life in Blists Hill both interested and amazed the pupils, with the shops, fairground and houses all depicting what life was like years ago. However it was the washing and toilet arrangements that appeared to shock the children the most. All decided that they were glad they lived in this present day!!

KS 1 & 2 ATHLETICS

The KS 1 & 2 WMSSA Athletics Day was unfortunately cancelled due to the poor weather conditions. However this has been rescheduled for Wednesday 19th September. Pupils will participate in running, throwing, jumping and obstacle events.



Hellos and Goodbyes

We said goodbye to several members of staff at the end of last term. Mrs Shafery and Mr Millington have taken up new posts in Wolverhampton, while Miss Cousins and Mr Smith have moved slightly further a field to Nottingham and Stafford. Mrs Hayfield left us to start her new life living in Greece. We wish them all well for the future.

However, we have also said hello to some new members of staff. Mr Yates will be teaching DT & Art. Mr Hussain will be taking over the role of Science teacher. Miss Cooper and Miss Chaunkria have joined us to teach in KS1 & 2. Miss Howells and Miss Nicholls have also started as Classroom support assistants. We would like to offer a warm welcome to all of them and hope they will enjoy a long and rewarding time here at Penn Fields.

