

SEPTEMBER 2008

Penn Fields School Autumn Term News Letter

Quick Check - Diary Dates

SEPTEMBER

Mon 1st Sept—Inset day. School closed to pupils

OCTOBER

Weds 22nd—Parents Evening

Tues 14th AM—Harvest Festival

Fri 24th—Inset Day. School Closed to pupils

Mon 27th—Fri 31st—Half Term

NOVEMBER

Mon 10th—Fri 15th—Annual Review week

Tues 11th—Remembrance Assembly 10.50am

DECEMBER

Tues 2nd AM—Xmas Production (Primary)

Weds 3rd PM—Xmas Production (Primary)

Tues 9th AM—Xmas Production (Secondary)

Weds 10th PM—Xmas Production (Secondary)

Fri 12th—Xmas lunch

Mon 15th—KS1&2 Party

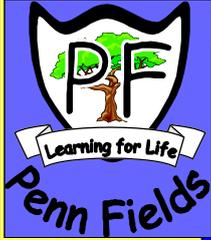
Tues 16th—KS3 Disco

Weds 17th—KS4 visit

Fri 19th 2pm—End of term assembly

School re-opens to pupils on Monday 5th January 2009

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



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RAIN HIT SUMMER FAIR



Once again Penn Fields School chose the wettest day of the year to hold its summer fair, but despite the weather the event was once again a resounding success. The main hall and corridors were packed to bursting with stalls and activities (although we did make the staff running the BBQ go outside!) The event raised over £1700

which goes towards Christmas presents, parties and trips out for the children, minibus running costs, subsidising residential visits etc. Thanks to everyone for their support for this year's event. Your donations for prizes, and stalls were invaluable.



Welcome back.

I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer.

As always this will be a busy term for our pupils, culminating in hopefully two separate Christmas productions, one for secondary, and one for primary.

Our congratulations to the pupils who left this year. Their achievement in G.C.S.E. and Entry Level examinations, were outstanding.

I look forward to seeing you this term.

Mr B A Briggshaw
Headteacher

Class 3 Trips

With a record number of field trips, Class 3 ended their year with a trip to Dudley Zoo. The rain failed to dampen the pupil's spirits, as they enjoyed looking at animals such as the giraffes, pen-



guins and reptiles. The highlight of the day for the children, was a chimpanzee, who followed them everywhere they went! Lets see if they manage to break their record for trips next year!



Balloon Races

Class 10 organised this year's successful balloon race, selling nearly 250 balloons, to parents and friends of the school. All the balloons were blown up and sent up on the day of the summer fair, and were released by different classes at various times during the day. The weather conditions were not good and as far as we know the furthest travelling balloon only just crossed the A5 into South Staffordshire, with the vast majority coming down around Tettenhall and Codsall. Once again thank you to everyone who bought and sold balloons, to make this activity so successful.

Drayton Manor Park visit

A group of pupils from the upper school were very lucky to go to Drayton Manor Park, as guests of the Rotary Club. It was a fantastic day out and everyone had the freedom to go on any rides they wanted. The intrepid group took full advantage of these opportunities to experience these white knuckle rides, especially Apocalypse, Storm Force and Maelstrom!!

Class 2

Class 2 children have been learning about animals. They have had first hand experience with animals when the animal man came in to visit. The children also visited Hoo Farm, where they got the opportunity to milk a pretend cow! They also got to watch a sheep race, where our chosen sheep, Tiny Tim actually won the race!

Numeracy

It has been a very successful year in keystage 3 & 4 numeracy. Five year 9 pupils sat the SATs in May. We are hoping for good results very soon. All five pupils put a lot of effort into their preparation and deserve to do well. In both key stages pupils enjoyed studying using more games and ICT programs. They have become quite competitive, which has raised the level of their work.

Class 1 trips out

In Knowledge and Understanding of the World, Class 1 have been learning about 'people who help us'. As part of this work, the children have enjoyed visits to the Police Station and Fire Station. In addition, a nurse and fire fighter visited class 1 to talk about jobs that they do.

Time to Talk

During this academic year, some pupils receiving speech and language therapy, have been involved with the 'Time to Talk' programme developed by Alison Schroeder. These pupils have improved their communication skills, gaining knowledge of spoken language, through a range of social and language activities together with Ginger Bear, as a central character. Ginger is a firm favourite, and the children have enjoyed listening to stories about her family and friends. The programme has been a great success and will continue with class one throughout the next academic year. Parents will regularly receive a letter reporting activities and topics taught during the session, suggesting home activities to reinforce skills learned in the classroom.

Sainsbury Activkids Vouchers

Once again thanks to all who have brought in to school, the Sainsbury Activkids vouchers. This year we have collected 10,275. These will be exchanged for footballs, sports whistles, golf equipment and food technology equipment, which are due to arrive during this autumn term.

