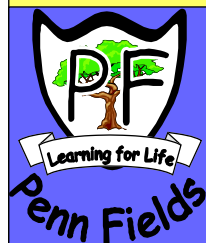


JANUARY 2008



Penn Fields School Spring Term News Letter

Quick Check - Diary Dates

JANUARY

7th—School closed to pupils—teacher training day

8th—School re-opens to pupils

14th—Governors meeting

16th—Theatre for Youth for whole school

21st—GCSE Science (Physics) Examination

FEBRUARY

11th—15th Half Term

25th—29th—Annual Review Week

MARCH

5th—12th—Entry Level Examinations (Yr 11)

11th—GCSE Maths—Yr 11

13th—Parents Evening

20th March—End of Term

21st March—7th April—Easter Holidays

Monday 7th April—School closed to pupils—teacher training day

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

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

ASSEMBLY ROTA

Parents/visitors are welcome to attend class assemblies. Please note, they take place on Wednesdays at 9.50 am until 10.10am.

JANUARY

14th (Monday) - Class 7

23rd—Class 8

30th—Class 9

FEBRUARY

4th (Monday) - Mr Roalfe

6th—Class 10

20th—Class 11

25th (Monday) - Mrs Callister

27th—Class 4

MARCH

3rd (Monday) - Mr Hussain

5th—Class 2

12th—Class 3

17th (Monday) - Mr Yates

19th—Class 1

IMPORTANT

Please remember that children should not arrive at school any earlier than 8.30am and should always be collected at 3.05pm. The school is not insured for pupils to be on the premises either before or after these times.

School Dinners

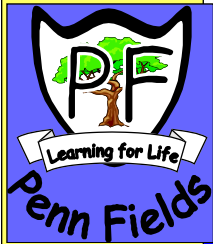
The cost of school Dinners is £1.50 per day. This should be paid weekly, in advance, on the first day of the week. Please ensure you give the office at least a weeks notice if you wish to change your child's meal arrangements

Breakfast Club

If your child attends Breakfast Club, the cost is £1 per day, payable on the day or paid weekly in advance, on the first day of the week.

Milk Money

If your child is in class 1-4 and you would like them to have milk, the cost is £4 per term. This should be sent in by Friday 18th January at the latest.



JANUARY 2008

Penn Fields School News Letter

Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat

At the end of last term, pupils from classes 4, 7, 8, 9 10 and 11 put on their annual Christmas performance. This year they performed the musical 'Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat'.

Joseph is the most challenging musical ever to be undertaken by the pupils, as the words to the songs tell the story. This meant that the pupils had to learn the complete version of the musical - a challenge for even professional actors.

However, as always the pupils of Penn Fields School rose to the challenge and with great enthusiasm and commitment pulled off two magnificent performances!

Congratulations must go to Jerron Taggart (Joseph) and Hannah Sambrooks (Narrator) whose hard work and dedication guaranteed the success of the production. I must also mention those pupils who played the eleven brothers, whose wholehearted, high spirited and passionate performances wowed our audience.

Every pupil who participated in the production played their part to the very best of their ability and with a distinct air of pride in what they were achieving. I applaud them all.



A happy new year to you all. May I personally and on behalf of all staff, thank you for your cards and kind gifts.

This promises to be a short but extremely busy term, especially for Year 11 pupils, who sit their final exams. I am sure, as always, that their results will make us all very proud.

Mr B A Briginshaw
Headteacher

The Meaning of Christmas

Key Stage 1 & 2 performed a successful performance of 'The Meaning of Christmas'. KS3 pupils narrated the story with all lower school children either acting or singing songs to tell the story of the birth of Jesus. The children looked fantastic in their costumes and they really enjoyed participating in their performance. The school choir supported the Christmas story with enthusiastic voices and some lovely group performances.

Christmas at Penn Fields



KS1 & 2 celebrated with a their own party, with a very special guest in attendance!

KS3 celebrated with a Christmas disco.

KS4 spent the morning bowling and then returned to school for a special buffet lunch.



Food Technology

A group of pupils from Class 7 spent two afternoons in the food technology department at St Peter's Collegiate School. They looked at a variety of topics, including food hygiene and health and safety before planning their recipe for apple crumble. The pupils decided what additional ingredients they would add to their individual creations. Chocolate chips and sugar sprinkles were most popular choices.

On week 2 pupils put their recipes into practice under the direct supervision of the St Peter's technology teacher Mrs Hardwick. As the crumbles came out the oven, our pupils had to evaluate or judge how well their crumbles had turned out. The smells alone scored 10/10.

The finished crumbles were taken home to eat and from all reports tasted as good as they smelt.



Class 1 Visits and trips.



To help us learn about different celebrations, Class 1 visited Beckminster

Church and the Sikh Gurdwara. The Children par-



ticularly enjoyed the traditional dressing up and celebration parties for the wedding and

christening.

A good time was had by all when we visited Santa in his workshop, we even got to see all the animals at the zoo.



KS1 Science

Class 2 have enjoyed sorting and classifying materials in Science this term, and they have particularly enjoyed making fairy cakes to see how materials change when they are heated.



Chanel Walrond, Mandeep Douley, Richard Dickson and Davina Cook are working together to mix the ingredients of the cake together.

Class 3 visits and trips

Last term Class 3 enjoyed trips to Selly Manor, Ironbridge and Moseley Old Hall. At Moseley Old Hall they took part in a Christmas activity morning, where they explored the gardens and made cinnamon biscuits.

Class 3 are looking forward to many more trips next year.



Romanian Shoe Box Appeal 2007

Many thanks once again to all the pupils who contributed to the Romanian Shoe Box Appeal. We filled 26 boxes and these started their long journey to Romania back in October. On arrival they were given out to families in Yasi, in time for Christmas. Thank you everyone.

WMSSSA Cross Country Championships 2007

Back in October Penn Fields took part in the Cross Country Championships held in the superb grounds of Two Rivers School, Tamworth. Conditions were perfect with a crisp, sunny Autumn day. Penn Fields entered three teams, Boys U14, Boys U16 and U16 girls.



All pupils worked hard and gave 100% on the day, with the boys doing particularly well to finish in the top half of all the teams entered. Individually there were some exceptional performances, in the senior race, Ferelle Gray finished 4th and Jerron Taggart finished just outside the top 10. In the U14 race there were good performances from; Michael Brown, Carl Edge, Kyle Lee and

Jack Noden. Tammileigh and Terianne Edwards performed well in the girls race. Well done to all who took part!!

WMSSSA Water Sports Day

September saw the first ever Water Sports Day take place at Gailey reservoir, organised by Penn Fields School. The day was open to Special Schools from the West Mids, which attracted five schools to participate. Each school

tried two activities in the morning and two in the afternoon. The activities available were canoeing and sailing, in toppers, rover, access and the skipper boat. Although it was a sunny day the wind was quite strong with the occasional sailor capsizing!! 50 children took part in event with Penn Fields sending Year 11



pupils. Our pupils were a credit to the school through their behaviour and willingness to engage in the challenging activities.

School Football Teams

Involvement in football training during the week, and the numbers participating, continues to grow. We now see KS2 pupils training on a Monday (20+) supported and coached by Year 11 pupils notably; Ferelle Gray, Aakash Sidhu, Ray Lawton, Geoffrey Jones and Conor Moran, a big thank you for your commitment and support!!

The U14 team remain undefeated so far this year, claiming the scalps of both Westcroft and Wightwick Hall in home and away games. This is the first time that this age group has a squad of nearly 20 players training regularly!



Girls train on a Wednesday and their numbers continue to grow. They are looking forward to some 5

a side fixtures after the Christmas break.



Speech & Language

This term Emily has worked on her social use of language skills in speech and language therapy sessions. She has identified social communication tasks for herself and has achieved success in communicating with people in the local community. Emily has used symbol sentence strips independently to ask questions, and has received positive feedback from bus drivers, shop assistants and other service providers.

We hope that these tasks will continue to support Emily in the wider community and her post sixteen-transition period. Here she is at her visit to the railway station finding out the times of trains to Birmingham!

KS2 PE

KS2 pupils have enjoyed participating in a Swimming Disability Gala. Everyone joined in with a range of width races on their front and back. A similar event is planned for the summer term.

Class 3 & 4 pupils have had the opportunity to play some 'friendly' football matches against another special school from Telford. Everyone who took part thoroughly enjoyed the matches and it was played with good sportsmanship. There are going to be some further matches organised for next term.