

JANUARY 2013



# Penn Fields School News Letter

## KS 1 & 2 Christmas Production

### 'Hey Ewe'



The Key Stage 1 & 2 Christmas Production was another great success. The production called 'Hey Ewe' was the Nativity story seen through the eyes of a sheep. Tyreece Malcolm took the lead role as the Curious Sheep. He did a beautiful solo and told the story well. All the children were involved and thoroughly enjoyed learning the songs and taking part in the performance.

Dear Parents/Carers, Friends and Governors

The first term in our new building has been a very busy but successful one. I have been amazed at how quickly the children have settled into their new environment and how they have enjoyed working in the new, amazing facilities. Having an Ofsted inspection so soon after our move was not ideal but we managed to attain a very positive report with outstanding grades for pupil behaviour, safe-guarding and spiritual, moral, social, & cultural education.

Thank you to those of you who supported our lower school Christmas production of 'Hey Ewe'. It received many positive comments. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the parties, disco, trips and the visit from Father Christmas.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year and look forward to meeting with you in 2013.

Miss E. Stanley  
Headteacher

## Busy Term for KS1 & 2



This Term KS 1 & 2 have enjoyed a Major Mustard Puppet Workshop. They watched how to make a range of puppets and then made their own puppet. In the afternoon the children learnt how to use their puppets in a show. Everyone enjoyed the day.

Tettenhall Fire Station kindly invited Acorn and Ash class to visit their Santa's Grotto. The children enjoyed visiting the Grotto and seeing Santa.

Everyone was well looked after with drinks and cakes. The Fire Station donated money to the school which was used to have 'Jimbo the Clown' in to entertain all Key Stage 1 & 2 children. The children had great fun!

## Penn Fields Share Group

Please remember, everyone is welcome to Penn Fields Parent Support Group. We had a wonderful Christmas Party with plenty of good food and fun. This year we have so many items on the agenda, i.e. Fire Service in to give a talk, St John's Ambulance giving first aid lessons, Connexions talking about your children's career's, Helen Nicholls from the Carer Support Team and Beth Wyn Williams to talk about short breaks. We have so much to look forward to, please come along and join in. Mrs Hill (School Welfare Officer).

## Second Place for Pennfields in Sumdog Maths Game

This term pupils have enjoyed using Sumdog free maths games on the computer. Penn Fields came second in the Wolverhampton contest at the end of October with 5 pupils in the top 20 and 17 in the top 50. Jordan Biggs 1<sup>st</sup>, Jason Oakley 8<sup>th</sup>, Kayleigh Denson 13<sup>th</sup>, Patrick Halford 15<sup>th</sup> and Jake Garcha 16<sup>th</sup>. Pupils have to answer maths questions while playing games. In the national contest held on the week December 14<sup>th</sup> to December 20<sup>th</sup> Patrick Halford answered 1000 questions getting a wonderful 838 correct answers. Jordan Biggs achieved the amazing result of 1000 out of 1000 questions answered correctly and came 1<sup>st</sup> in the country! Well done to all those who have taken part. The competitions will continue in the New Year.



### Science Work at West Park for Elm Class



Elm class visited West Park as part of their Science work on 'Plants and Growth'. Pupils found lots of different types of leaves and we found out that the leaf is an important part of a plant.

### Christmas Card Contest 2012.

It has been another great year for the Christmas card contest. Pupils across all Keystages tried their hardest and produced some brilliantly artistic entries. After a very difficult decision, the winners were decided.

1



2



3



4



Keystage 1. Winner was Kane Shambare (class 2)

Keystage 2. Winner was Ethan Tunstall (class 4)

Keystage 3. Winner was Ben Williams (class 9)

Keystage 4. Winner was Jordan Biggs (class 11)

All the winners have won an art themed prize and had their cards made into official Penn Fields Christmas Cards and sent out to all the people and organisations that our school deals with.

### Creating Art with Ruth Spaak

This term the pupils have been working with the artist Ruth Spaak on a sculpture to be placed outside Ks1 & 2. The pupils have been working with natural material such as willow to produce interesting 3D shapes. The pupils really enjoy working with Ruth as she never fails to inspire them to create great work.



### **KS2 Music Workshop**

This term KS2 enjoyed a Brass workshop session provided by Wolverhampton Music School.

We are also taking part in the Whole School Music Project again provided by the Music school. This term Elm class have enjoyed singing sessions and they are now starting on a violin unit.

### **Speech and Language News**

We are enjoying our new Speech and Language Therapy room and have been busy settling in together with our pupils during this term. Children who receive Therapy have been making the most of our new superb facilities. They have settled in well and are now familiar with the setting and most importantly are all working hard. With so many of our pupils making such good progress it has been very difficult to select the 'Star' of the term as all deserve our congratulations. However, following much careful consideration we have identified a pupil in Acorn Class to receive our 'Special Star' certificate.

We are a growing team of practitioners here at Penn Fields. We are fortunate to have two visiting Speech and Language Therapists and two support staff facilitating Speech and Language Therapy programmes. We aim to continue to deliver therapy both to individuals and small groups of children and continue to support classroom practice with language programmes and ideas such as our current 'Time to Talk' intervention.

During the forthcoming spring term Mrs Smith is aiming to introduce a new Language Programme known as 'Languageland'. This is a language resource providing new ideas and picture material for children with Speech and Language needs. The group sessions are set around an imaginary journey to a place called 'Languageland' where the children will learn 'good listening' and 'good talking' skills. We may at times provide pupils in the group with homework tasks, and will be most grateful for your support in helping them to achieve their aims. We will include an update of progress with this programme in our next newsletter article.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and wish everyone a very Happy New Year!

### **6th Form News**



Our first ever 6<sup>th</sup> form group have settled really well into their role. They have been given extra responsibilities and privileges such as their own kitchen area to use. They have been to Macdonalds as part of their money management work and enjoyed a Christmas outing to the cinema followed by a meal at Pizza Hut. Well done 6<sup>th</sup> form.

## Oak Class visit to St Bart's Church and Winter Wonderland

Oak Class visited St. Bartholomew's Church to see a candle that had been lit for the children at Penn Fields School. Oak Class joined in the activities that the church



had to offer and contributed their own thanks and prayers on the prayer wall.

Oak Class also enjoyed a Christmas visit to see Father Christmas

at Winter Wonderland. Pupils had a wonderful time seeing Santa and his real reindeer as well as enjoying the rides at the fair.



## Upper School & 6th Form Youth Club & KS4 Christmas Celebrations



KS3 & 4 Youth Club has been well attended again this term with 17 pupils taking part in a range of activities on alternate Thursday evenings. This term's activities have included football and basketball with the 'Believe to Achieve' team who have enjoyed using the sports hall, crafting activities for Halloween and Christmas, computer activities and pool games in our new swimming pool.

Our new 6<sup>th</sup> form also decided that they wanted their own youth club and at the moment meet once a month on a Friday evening. They have been bowling with supper in McDonalds, and raising money by planting and selling hyacinth bulbs to staff. They also help to cook their own tea!

KS4 enjoyed a very successful couple of days in the run up to Christmas. On Wednesday we visited Hollywood Bowl at Bentley Bridge for a morning of bowling. It's a fabulous place to spend a couple of hours and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed their bowling experience – especially those who had not bowled before. In the afternoon pupils selected activities which they wanted to take part in – basketball, football, ipads, arts & crafts, snooker, dvd or swimming. On Thursday we had our annual KS4 Christmas buffet at lunchtime – our first in our new school - the food was superb thanks to our new kitchen staff. Pupils ate sandwiches, wraps, samosas, bhaji, sausage rolls, jelly, mince pies, and cake in very large amounts!!! Another afternoon of activities rounded off the day successfully.



## **PE Department News**

All pupils from Key Stage 3 & 4 have had the opportunity to work on their skills and to try to improve their National Curriculum levels by working on 6 different sporting activities this term. The pupils have been taught football, tag rugby, handball, basketball, volleyball and badminton. There has been a marked improvement in many of the pupils' skills and this is in part due to the brand new, fantastic facilities available at the new Penn Fields School. Pupils have worked really hard and have enjoyed their PE lessons.

During each week there have been 4 extra-curricular clubs which are available Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday lunchtimes. These are:-

|          |                                 |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Monday   | Key Stage 3 & 4 Boys Football   |
| Tuesday  | Key stage 1 & 2; Girls Football |
| Thursday | Basketball                      |
| Friday   | Boxing                          |

The clubs have been extremely popular with the pupils. They have helped pupils to understand the playing and competition side of PE as well as the enjoyment side of learning new sports and skills.

### **Inter School Sports**

A number of pupils have represented the school in various sporting activities. On October 10<sup>th</sup> we took part in the WMSSSA Cross Country at Two Rivers High School in Tamworth. There was some fantastic running by a number of the pupils but the pupil who stood out the most that day was Ben Williams of Class 9, who won Gold or 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Under 14 boys event. Well done Ben. Brilliant effort. You should be proud.

### **Football**

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November Wolves Community Trust organised a football tournament at the Wolves Dome. 2 teams from Key Stage 1 & 2 took part in a competition and 2 teams from Key Stage 3 & 4 took part in a competition. The football was very well contested and everyone who took part really enjoyed themselves. Well done those who came along.

On 30<sup>th</sup> November the Under 16 football team played Westcroft. In a very one sided affair the players stuck to their task very well and even managed to pull 3 goals back which meant a loss of 8-3 but some notable players played very well. Mackenzie in Year 8, Jordan in Year 11, Josh in Year 10 and the girls were fantastic. The man of the match was Asif in Year 11 who put in a fantastic display of defence. Well done all involved as Westcroft had all Year 11 players playing.

### **SMILE**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December saw 6 pupils taking part in the SMILE event at Aldersley stadium. Once again Ben Williams has been asked to further his Tennis skills by attending a local tennis club. All had a fantastic day and really enjoyed themselves. Well done, Simran ( Class 8 ), Ben ( Class 9 ), Patrick ( Class 7 ), Tyrese ( Class 8 ), Nathan Hadfield ( Class 7 ) and Morgan ( Class 7 ).







JANUARY 2013

# Penn Fields School Spring Term News Letter

## Quick Check – Diary Dates

### JANUARY

- 15th— Lower School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 16th—Share Group Starts this term
- 17th—Upper School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 25th—6th Form Youth Club
- 29th—Lower School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 31st—Upper School Youth Club (selected pupils only)

### FEBRUARY

- 12th—Lower School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 14th—Upper School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 15th—6th Form Youth Club
- 15th—Break up for Half Term
- 18th-22nd—HALF TERM**
- 25th—Pupils return back to school
- 26th—Lower School Youth Club (selected pupils only)

### MARCH

- 5th—Lower School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 7th—Upper School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 11th—Annual Review Week (selected pupils only)
- 19th—Lower School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 21st—Upper School Youth Club (selected pupils only)
- 22nd—6th Form Youth Club
- 28th—Break up for Easter (End of Term)

**29th March—12th April EASTER BREAK**

### APRIL

- 15th—**INSET DAY**
- 16th—Pupils return back to school

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