

Spring 2017

Pentland News

Children & young people at the core of all we do



Looking back

A round up of news at Pentland Field School

It has been a full and active term here at Pentland Field – not only have we celebrated our 2nd birthday on 12th January 2017, we have had a number of firsts, including the launch of Read, Write, Inc - also known as Ruth Miskin Literacy or RML - a comprehensive synthetic phonics programme that teaches reading, writing and spelling that has been implemented across the school. We are very pleased with how all pupils are adapting to their regular phonics lesson and hope that the positive impact of Read, Write, Inc will be seen in the weeks and months to come.

Parent workshop

We will be holding a parent workshop on how you can assist your child in making progress in their phonic and reading skills in the early part of the Summer Term – see dates for your diary.

Sad goodbyes

We are saying goodbye to Angela Ihezue, Class teacher of Pascal Class and Janet Kweya, Class teacher of Squirrel class who are moving on to pastures new. We wish them both well in their new endeavours and thank them for all their contributions to the progress of the pupils in their care. We also have said goodbye to Teresa Hyde, LSA in Squirrel class who has left Pentland Field to work in a local mainstream setting. We also wish her well.

Maternity leave and congratulations

Two members of staff left the school at Christmas to start their maternity leave and I am pleased to announce that our Assistant Head of School, Jo Watts gave birth to a baby girl, Chloe Clara, on January 16th. Our Speech and Language Therapy teaching assistant Kerry McGarr gave birth to a baby boy, Edward on January 7th. I am sure that you will join me in wishing them well as they both get used to their new bundles of joy!

Welcome to Pentland Field School

Despite the national difficulties in teacher recruitment we have successfully recruited and welcome the following teachers to Pentland Field:

Samantha Swaysland
Class Teacher
Badger Class

Vanessa Martinez
Class Teacher
Pascal Class

Lindsay Hains
Class Teacher
Edison Class

Dates for your diary

Essential dates to look forward to

Please note the following important dates for the Summer term:

Tuesday 18th April
Pupils return to school

Thursday 27th April
Parent Workshop on RWI

Monday 1st May
Bank Holiday

Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June
Half term

Monday 5th June
Pupils return to school

Thursday 22nd – Friday 23rd June
Camping trip

Thursday 13th July
Parents' evening

Friday 14th July
Sports Day

Friday 21st July
Achievement assemblies
Last day of term (1.30pm finish)

On behalf of all staff, we hope that you have a fabulous Easter break and we look forward to seeing all pupils back for the start of Summer Term on Tuesday 18th April at 9.00am.

With my very best wishes,

Audrey Pantelis, Head of School

Pentland Field School

We are an all-through special school for children and young people with severe to moderate learning difficulties (including those with ASD) between the ages of 4 and 19 years old. Pentland Field School is proud to be part of the Eden Academy.

Audrey Pantelis, Head of School

The Eden Academy of Schools

[Alexandra School](#)
[Grangewood School](#)
[Moorcroft School](#)
[Pentland Field School](#)
[RNIB Sunshine House School](#)

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Events

We celebrated a variety of events this term



World Book Day

On Thursday 2nd March, Pentland Field celebrated World Book Day. Children and adults dressed up in book-related costumes to raise awareness for Book Aid international – a charity who send books out to children in sub-Saharan Africa.

The children attended a special World Book day themed assembly, took part in role play and drama activities and listened to popular stories.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support in helping your children to celebrate books and reading!



Red Nose Day

On Friday 24th March we came to school in pyjamas, onesies or slippers as chosen by the Student Council to help raise money for Red Nose Day. As well as taking part in lots of fun activities we used the day as a teaching and learning opportunity so that our children could learn about the issues other children across the world face, and how the money we raise can help them.

Chinese New Year

We celebrated Chinese New Year on 28th January. It was the year of the Rooster! The children got creative and made lanterns, dragons, fan and New Year cards. They role - played traditional Chinese stories from the past and attended a whole school Chinese New Year assembly.



Careers

Careers Curriculum and role playing

This term we introduced the Careers Curriculum into the Upper Key Stage 2 Classes and all of Secondary, to eventually embed across the whole school.

We have been learning a variety of things in these lessons; skills needed to fulfill jobs, employment process, what is needed when working. As well as this we have been doing internal work experience by practicing office skills in the school reception, customer service skills by selling decorations at the Christmas Bazaar. We have started to work with the older secondary pupils in transport skills through travel training and taking the train supported by the Local Authority.

As part of this education we have been able to take secondary pupils to Kidzania in London, to gain valuable role play skills as they tried out different jobs that they might like to do.

Pupils have been engaging in impartial careers advice through webinars by the National Careers service on a variety of topics.



PE & Sporting Achievements

Working in partnership

It has been a fantastic term for Pentland Field in PE and sport. The school have been working in partnership with the South Hillingdon School Sport Network, Middlesex Football Association, Ickenham Youth FC and the Harefield Academy Sports Partnership to train and take part in some fantastic events across the borough.



New Age Kurling

On the 8th of March Otter class took part in the Hillingdon New Age Kurling Competition at Barnhill High School, competing against numerous teams from across the borough. With lots of practice and hard work they won the competition and were crowned the champions of Hillingdon.



Dance Showcase

Hatch End High School, Harrow

On the 14th of March Pentland Field took part in Harrow's Dance Showcase at Hatch End High School with 12 other schools. After months of dance practice and rehearsals the dance squad put together a brilliant choreographed performance to 'Can't Stop the Feeling' by Justin Timberlake. They were extremely well behaved and performed fantastically, we are very proud of them all.



Table Cricket

In January Newton Class took part in our first ever Table Cricket competition at Meadow High School, they had a fantastic day and experience, ending up finishing in an outstanding 2nd place overall.



Panathlon Challenge

In January Dragonfly and Owl Class took part in the Hillingdon Panathlon Challenge competition, each class took part in 6 sports which culminated in an overall score. Dragonfly finished as runners up and Owl class finished 3rd making it to the West London finals in February, where they narrowly missed out on a place in the all London final finishing in 4th, a fantastic effort and we are all very proud of their achievements.



Football Team

The school football team have taken part in the Middlesex County Football Association SEN Schools League, with fixtures in both January and March this term. The team have benefited from support from Ickenham Youth FC and the expert coaching of Ray from 2Touch Rulz on Fridays. The team is making fantastic progress, our record is won 2 and lost 2 so far. In March we recorded our biggest ever win 11-0 against Woodfield School from Kingsbury, well done to all the boys we are very proud of you all.





Gardening Club

Developing the horticultural skills of the pupils

It has been exciting to launch Gardening Club – developing the horticultural skills of the pupils every Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes – every week!

Pupils have learnt about the different types of equipment used in gardening, how to make compost from scratch, looking after plants, growing from seeds and bulbs - we are successfully growing cress, carrots and runner beans as well as cala lilies indoors. We are growing spring bulbs in the outdoor areas and making bird feeders!

We are following the Royal Horticulture Society (RHS) School Gardening Awards and have already achieved Levels 1 and 2! We are planning to enter the RHS Scarecrow Competition which, if successful, will enable us to visit the RHS Hampton Court Flower Show in July 2017 to see our exhibit. As a result of the success of Gardening Club we are also going to be launching our class based potato growing competition! Pupils are beginning to understand how our garden is a valuable learning resource!

Family Services

The parent forum has been launched on the Eden Academy website www.theedenacademy.co.uk/parent-forum and there is also a link on the Family Services page on our school website.

Here you will find information and guidance on various topics and links to helpful organisations and resources.

Student Council

Each week, as a class, we all take part in student council meetings led and recorded by children. Pupils from Secondary and upper Primary classes come into the Early Years and Lower Primary class meetings to lead and support all children and ensure everyone has the chance to give their opinion and choose things for the school, such as playground equipment and how to celebrate special days.

Camping

We are pleased to inform you that we are organising our second camping trip for Thursday 22nd – Friday 23rd June. We are planning to take older pupils back to the Paccar Scout Camp in Chalfont and younger pupils will have the opportunity to join a sleepover at school – further details will follow after half term.