

PENTLAND FIELD SCHOOL



Newsletter - Volume 1 No 2 Christmas 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a very busy start to the academic year at Pentland Field and it is with pleasure that I write to you letting you know of the progress that we have made this term.



Monitoring Visits from the Department for Education October and December 2016

As a Free School, we are visited by our dedicated education adviser from the Department for Education (DfE) who ensures that we are providing quality education for your children. We are not permitted, as specified by the DfE, to reveal the exact contents of the monitoring visits but I can inform you that the DfE are pleased with the school's efforts to provide a standard of education that is of a high quality. Like any school, there is always more that we can do to improve, but we are on the right lines. This is great news for Pentland Field and your encouragement in achieving what we have done so far has been invaluable. A huge thank you for your continued support.

SMSC activities – Autumn Term 2016

We have had a variety of activities and events that have raised the awareness of the world for our young people – both locally and nationally. This has included:

- Harvest Festival assemblies – October 2016. All food that was donated was distributed to local churches and foodbanks – the pupils took the food directly to the local churches and foodbanks.
- Black History Month – October 2016. Pupils, during assemblies and throughout the curriculum, learnt about the importance of black inventors, artists, performers and icons.
- Remembrance Day – November 2016. Pupils created displays showing their understanding of what war is and the importance of poppies



Fund raising events: Children in Need, Slippers for Shelter and 'Save The Children' Christmas Jumper Day – November and December 2016. Pupils have increased their awareness of raising money for others through the wearing of fancy dress, slippers and jumpers. Pupils were also able to choose the theme of the fancy dress. Children in Need costumes were worn through a whole school vote and the winning theme was Disney!

Community Events



The school for the second year took part in the local Ickenham Festive Community Night in December and this year the school partnered up with Coopers, the local estate agents in Swakeleys Road, where we were based during the evening of Friday 9th December. Coopers estate agents raised money on our behalf during the evening by asking visitors to guess the amount of sweets in the jar. We also sold cards and decorations made by the pupils.

A fantastic total of £500 was raised for the school on the night. The school has made great links with Coopers and we look forward to future collaborations.

Newsletter - Newsletter - Volume 1 No 2 Christmas 2016

Friends of Pentland Christmas Bazaar – Friday 2nd December

Our first Christmas Bazaar took place in our new Sports Hall and it was opened by the Mayor! Santa made a guest appearance in the morning and gave each of our pupils a present which was gratefully received! Local businesses joined us in the afternoon to sell their wares and our local primary school neighbours, Glebe Primary School, provided us with amazing music that entertained all! We raised a fantastic £1300 for the school. It was such a success and if you missed it, you missed out! Make sure that you don't next year!!!! The Friends of Pentland are always looking for volunteers to get involved so if you have any time that you are able to give please get in touch by calling the school or emailing fop@pentlandfieldschool.co.uk



Staffing

Recruitment of teachers in schools is currently going through a national shortage and this crisis has impacted on Pentland Field School as well as the other schools within the Eden Academy. We have been able to retain quality teaching staff at the school but we will have some staffing changes that will take effect from January 2017. They are as follows:

LEAVERS

Jo Watts – Assistant Head of School – maternity leave

Kerry McGarr – Speech and Language Therapy Teaching Assistant – maternity leave

Daisy Gilder – Administrative Assistant

Nishita Patel – Class teacher

Georgia Scherini – Agency Class teacher

Rachel Smith – Kitchen SMSA

NEW STAFF

Paige Egan—LSA

Grace Fitchett—LSA

Donna Mullen-Levett—LSA

Lilya Dunsdon—SMSA

Carrys Sinclair—SaLT TA (maternity cover)

We would like to thank all our staff leaving us for their valuable contribution to Pentland Field School and wish them well in their future endeavours. We look forward to Jo and Kerry returning after the births of their babies!

Newsletter - Newsletter - Volume 1 No 2 Christmas 2016

School Organisation from January 2017

With the departure of Jo Watts on maternity leave, I am pleased to announce that Sarah Pierpoint and Liz Cox-Greene will be increasing their management duties to assist myself and Liz Edwards in the leadership and management of the school. The leadership structure of the school will be as follows from January – July 2017:

Audrey Pantelis – Head of School

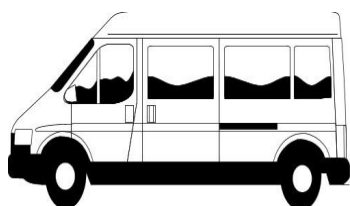
Liz Edwards – Assistant Head of School

Sarah Pierpoint – Senior Teacher – Teaching & Learning Responsibility for Pedagogical Teaching Support

Liz Cox-Greene - Senior Teacher – Teaching & Learning Responsibility for Pedagogical Teaching Support

Jo Richards – Administration Manager

New Minibus



The school is taking delivery of a new leased minibus that will enable us to extend the provision of community based learning activities for all classes. All staff that apply to drive the new minibus will undertake specific training to ensure full safety for all pupils that they transport.

Swimming from January 2017

Until now, all pupils at Pentland Field have accessed weekly swimming lessons, with much of the provision provided at Highgrove Leisure Centre and Pool. We have reviewed the amount of provision and feel that we will continue to provide weekly swimming lessons but we will now provide half termly swimming sessions for classes. Please see the timetable attached to this newsletter to see how these changes affect your child. Pupils will take part in additional literacy provision through a new whole school initiative when they are not attending swimming lessons.

We have had a busy Autumn Term, with 125 pupils on roll!

On behalf of the staff team, may I wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and restful break. Thank you very much for your ongoing support this term – as ever, gratefully received!

Kind regards

Audrey Pantelis

Head of School

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

First day of school

Wednesday 4th January 2017—9.00am

Swimming starts Monday 9th January—please see timetable attached.



Newsletter - Newsletter - Volume 1 No 2 Christmas 2016

Swimming timetable

Spring 1 from 9th January to February half term — Spring 2 from February half term to Easter

Day	Class		Time of swimming slot
	Spring 1	Spring 2	
Monday	Ladybird		10.00 – 10.30
	Badger	Hedgehog	11.30-12.00
	Edison	Franklin	11.30-12.00
	Otter	Owl	12.00-12.30
Tuesday	Butterfly	Squirrel	10.00-10.30
	Swan		1.00-2.00
Wednesday	Newton	Pascal	10.00-10.30
	Caterpillar Bumble Bee		10.00-11.00
	Darwin	Dragonfly	11.30-12.00