



Pinvin Matters

The newsletter of the Pinvin Federation
December 2016

Diary Dates:

December

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| Tues 13 th | Federation Christmas Lunch |
| Wed 14 th | Father Christmas at PFS PFS Pantomime at the Swan Theatre |
| Thurs 15 th | SNMS "Friends" disco, 7-9pm |
| Fri 16 th December | term ends |

Spring Term 2017

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| 3 rd January | Spring term begins |
| Thurs 16 th Feb | SNMS "Friends" disco, 7-9pm |
| 20 th to 24 th Feb | half term holiday |
| 27 th Feb | bikeability week |
| 9 th March | Travelling Books fair arrives |
| 9 th March | Y7 district athletics |
| 7 th April | term ends |

Summer Term 2017

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| 24 th April | School closed for staff training |
| 25 th April | Summer term begins |
| 29 th May - 2 nd June | half term holiday |
| 21 st July | term ends |

Macmillan Coffee Morning - update

Very many congratulations to everybody who participated in the Macmillan coffee morning on 30th September 2016. Together, you helped raise £414.49 for a very worthy cause. The event obviously took a lot of planning in advance, and an equal amount of hard work on the day itself, from both pupils and staff. Thanks also to all friends, parents and carers who attended and helped to make the event such a success.



Open Days

We welcomed a huge number of visitors to our series of successful open events recently at both the First School and the Middle School. Very many people attended each of the sessions and we were pleased to have such a large number of enthusiastic pupils join in with hosting the events, ready to sell our school to prospective parents and pupils. Very well done to all those involved.

Green Team Bring 'n' Buy

Green Team's annual Bring 'n' Buy Sale was a massive success. All members of Green Team tried their hardest, with some very good deals available, including a microscope for £1, flapjacks for 50p and lots more, the result being that in excess of £60 was raised! Thank you to everyone who donated toys or books to the cause.

Building our links with Misufini B School, Morogoro, Tanzania

On Wednesday 19th October we flew to Tanzania for 8 days in order to establish a link with the Misufini B School in Morogoro. We were in the company of ten other travellers from Worcestershire schools who had already set up partnerships with schools in the Morogoro District and were visiting their partners again.

First we met Mrs Anna Tarimo, the Headteacher of Misufini B, and all the other partner schools staff, and had to visit the District Commissioner for Education in Morogoro to get his permission to visit the schools. Once this was done we set off for the school; as we arrived the children were lined up to sing the national anthem and the school song, and then welcomed us and presented us with cards.



We met all the staff and visited the classes and were treated to a warm welcome wherever we

went, including a display of singing and dancing from Standard 1 and Standard 6 children. The children were very excited to meet us and have their photo taken, wanting to carry our bags, hold our hands, and saying hello in English. The school has 220 children with only 5 classrooms, no electricity and no running water. On Monday we would return to teach some classes and learn more about how children learn in Tanzania.

During the weekend we visited Mikumi National Park and saw lions, elephants, giraffes, hippos, crocodiles, zebra, impala, monkeys, Marabou stalks, water buffaloes and wildebeest throughout the park. We also visited a snake park, and travelled up into the mountains around Morogoro to really appreciate the view of the whole city. Even up here, on dusty unmade roads that our vehicle couldn't travel

on, we found a little café advertising Man Utd vs Chelsea - the power of football!

Over the next three days we taught lessons to all the children at Misufini B, teaching them about Pinvin and our schools, telling the story of the Very Hungry Caterpillar and also a lesson about the skeleton. We took out lots of resources such as paper, pens and pencils, paints, maps and books to help the children learn and produce work. We also taught the children songs and parachute games and they taught us Swahili and singing games. Every day we were welcomed warmly. We were given breakfast and lunch, despite there being no running water or electricity. We observed lessons taught by the teachers including a Long Multiplication lesson for Standard 3. The style was not like ours, with the teacher explaining things on the blackboard and the children then sharing text books to complete the relevant exercise. There were not always enough desks for everyone and the children had to provide their own exercise books and pencils and pens, with very little else used in the way of teaching aids, but they always applied themselves immediately to the task and worked quickly and neatly, both in Swahili and English.

On our last day we were treated to a farewell party and concert from the children with visitors including parents and a member of the school committee. We exchanged presents and pledges to pursue the links between our schools, with Mrs Tarimo accepting our invitation to visit Pinvin in May 2017.

By the end of November we had already raised £400 to cover the cost of her visit, with this figure being added to by proceeds raised from carol singing around Pinvin and stalls at the Christmas Fair. If you have any ideas for fundraising please come and talk to us as we'd love to hear them. Donations can be made at the school office.

Thank you for your support.

Miss Edwards and Mrs Dobell



First School Nativity



Well done to all of the children at the First School who performed so beautifully at Pershore Abbey on Wednesday 7th December. The whole school sang & provided music whilst the Reception class acted out a very traditional nativity performance.

Middle School Carol Service

On the 6th of December, all children from St. Nicholas C of E Middle School participated in the carol service held at Pershore Abbey. The performance (The Greatest Journey) was a huge success and finished with a standing ovation from the congregation!

Children in the choir enjoyed singing a range of carols accompanied on the piano by Mr Dodson. Great thanks to Mrs Hooper who led us all in song as our conductor. Also thanks to Miss Gorton for the dances and Mrs Davey who organised the transport from the school to the abbey.

Thank you to everyone who attended St. Nicholas C of E Middle School's carol service.



By Maisie Fox, Rosie Edwards and Samantha Pyne



Congratulations to Phoebe Dudley, Farrah Orme, Evie Darling and Georgia Lee who graduated from the Children's University on 7th December 2016 along with 112 students from across Worcestershire. The ceremony, held at the University of Worcester, celebrated the many hours the children have attended school clubs and other events outside the school day. Following a special tea, the children had to wear cap and gowns and were presented with their certificates in front of a packed audience of supporters. Here's to the next graduation in summer 2017!

Mrs Hooper.

The PFS Children in Need event

Staff and children got into the spirit of Children in Need this year by dressing up. The children wore spots and yellow and brought in cakes to sell. Through an excellent effort and with great support they raised £227.20 for a very worthy cause.



CREW

Recently, on the 21st of November, fourteen CREW members attended a worship forum in Kidderminster. At the forum we created paper angels, shepherds, Christmas cards, prayer chains and mangers with paper baby Jesus inside. We also learned and played percussion instruments to the Calypso Carol and sang it altogether at the end.

Year 5 residential trip to the Pioneer Centre

On Wednesday 9th November 2016 you may have been one of the lucky students who got to come with us to the Pioneer Centre in Shropshire.

Thankfully it only took one hour to get there however, when we arrived it started to rain so we ran inside with our suitcases and the instructors showed us around.

After our tours we went to our dormitories and made our beds. Lucky me! My bed was already made! (Phoebe D.) It was really posh! There was room for all our belongings and of course, our sweets!

On Thursday the instructors led us into the woods where we walked around a huge fire to find our seats. We were introduced to our campfire leaders. We sang a few songs then had a competition. The banana competition was a ton of fun!

The meals were delicious at the Pioneer Centre and there was a huge variety of sauces! There were meals such as burgers, jacket potatoes, roast dinners, sandwiches and a full on English breakfast.

Favourite activities: high ropes, zip wire and caving (Phoebe); high ropes, caving and climbing (Cara). There were also initiative games, big bounce, abseiling, low ropes, archery and fencing. We loved them all!

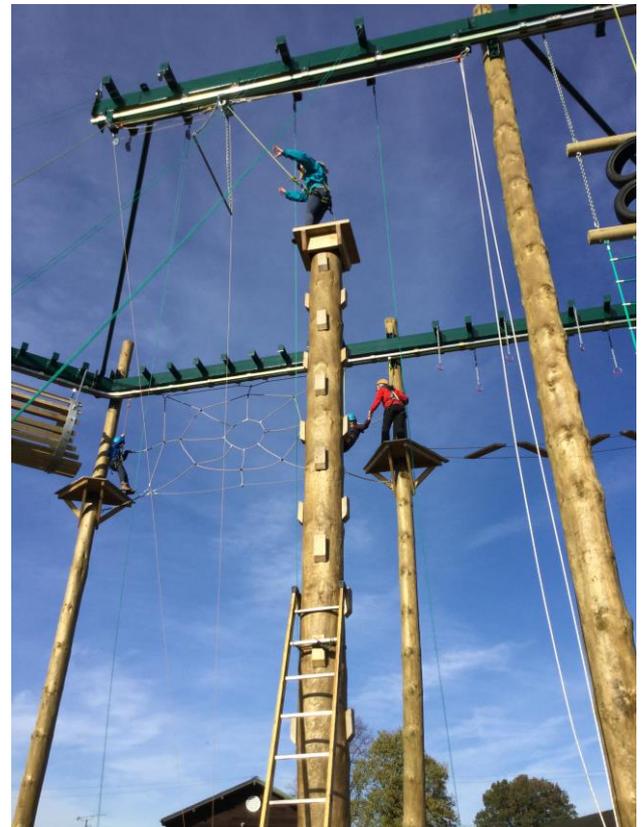


We were really sad to go but the fun had to end at some point. We waved like mad to the

instructors who were standing on the fence posts on the way out.

Thank you to all of the teachers and instructors who let us go on this trip.

Cara Bates & Phoebe Dudley



"My favourite part of the trip was zip wire and big bounce, they were both fun!"

Rubie Greenshields

"My favourite bit must have been the time when I reached the top of the high ropes!"

Gemma B, 5A



Year 7 visit to skills show

We went to the Skills Show at the NEC on 17th November. We were split into groups and were allowed to choose what we wanted to see. We chose IT and Hospitality. In IT we met a robot called Pepper who could interact with us. In Hospitality we saw a pig's body. The trip was really fun.

Charlotte Taylor & Izzy Paul



Year 6 trip to Dudley Canal



Year 6 visited the Dudley Canal Trust on Wednesday 2nd November 2016 as part of their Industrial Revolution focused History and Geography lessons. During the visit pupils were able to experience a narrow boat ride, engage in a science and social history workshop about Black Country canals and industry, as well as enjoy the interactive exhibits in the new Portal building.

Christmas fayres

Very many congratulations to everyone for all of their hard work at the Christmas Fayres at both the First School and the Middle School on Friday 2nd December.

The Middle School Christmas Fayre was a huge success, raising £1,001! We thank everyone who was involved in running a stall or spending their money. The money was raised for loads of different charities, supporting those less fortunate. Thank you for your generosity.

Pupil Parliament



Over at the First School, there were similar stalls with an added festive feeling provided by the children singing carols around the Christmas tree. Funds raised at this event were destined in two directions: POPS (Pals of Pinvin School) and £100 was raised as a contribution towards the cost of Mrs Tarimo making a return visit from the Misufini B School in Morogoro, Tanzania.



Christmas Advent

Staff and pupils at the Middle School are hoping to spread a little extra cheer to families this Christmas time by operating a 'giving based' advent calendar. We have been collecting donations of food items for Pershore Food Bank throughout the 12 teaching days leading up to the Christmas holidays.

Children have been learning about how, at this time of year, it is more pertinent than ever to consider others less fortunate than themselves. With the rising costs of food and fuel and more people falling into poverty, an increasing number of people turn to food banks for help - especially during the winter months. We hope that by launching this initiative, children will be able to help others whilst gaining a heightened appreciation for the festive season.



We have been over-whelmed by the response and would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who made such generous donations.

Cookery competition

The recent cooking competition that was organised and run by the green team was a huge success. Every entry had to include local, organic or Fairtrade ingredients and we were lucky enough to taste everything from a very special apple pie to delicious lemon cake. The overall winner, voted for by the pupils, was Scarlett Mochan of 5A.

School Lunches

Chartwells have advised that there will be a new, improved on line ordering system



available for use next term, called ParentPay. The new system is in the process of being set up and will be available from January 2017. We will send additional information in the New Year. In the meantime, please use the paper ordering form (copy available on the school website) and make cheques payable to Chartwells.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact our catering staff directly (01386 550360) or Chartwells Head Office (01633 265787). Thank you.

Cross Country

The Year 6s and 7s gave a great account of themselves at the South Worcestershire School's inter-school cross country event on November 11th.



The year 6 girls came away with the team event trophy and both year 6 and 7 girls saw our pupils gaining both first and third places, with Lydia Cooper coming first and Katherine Burgess third for the year 7s and Jess Jarvis first and Rosie Barker a very close third for the year 6s. Other creditable performances included Ben Hone coming in 6th for the year 6 boys.

All of the pupils represented their school with pride and were a credit to themselves and to the school.

The top 6 from each event will go on to represent South Worcester in the county championships in January.

Remembrance Day - Bumper Sales

Very well done to all the children who helped with sales of poppies, stickers, snap bands and wrist bands this year. We had a bumper year for sales and had to ask for more stocks on a couple of occasions! The Middle School raised a mammoth £227.57 and the First School raised £80.07.



out a roll call of names during a more formal service.

Mr Best said, "It was good to be able to get all of our pupils and staff members together to remember."



Remembrance Day - how we remembered



On the morning of 11th November Mrs Hooper took a small group of children to Pershore Abbey for the Armistice Service.

Additionally, staff and pupils from Pinvin Pre-school, Pinvin CE First

School and St Nicholas CE Middle School came together in a service of remembrance on the middle school playground, to commemorate the end of the First World War. The two minute silence was observed to remember and honour the British servicemen and women who died or were injured in service.



In the afternoon, a special assembly was held in both the First School and the Middle School. A veteran soldier of Gulf and Bosnian wars, Russell Dalton, talked and shared stories of war. The head boy and girl of each school laid wreaths, and at the Middle School, they read

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all pupils, parents and staff. We look forward to welcoming children back into school on Tuesday 3rd January.

