



The Pinvin Fed-Express

Newsletter Issue 5 January 2017



Two Good schools with Outstanding features under one Federation (A Day in the Life of TPFOS)

All in the last 8 months, the Federation has undergone two Ofsted Inspections, two Local Authority moderations, a SIAMS (Church Inspection) and countless Due Diligence audits as part of our conversion to DOWMAT. As a result, all of the reports produced conclude we are a good quality educational establishment with capacity to go from strength to strength. We have always been very clear that our successes are built from the team of people that we have — our staff, governors, parents and pupils; this isn't about one person, but a celebration of a collective sense of togetherness, underpinned by our Christian values and ethos. So how do we collaborate to *'Inspire, Discover, Achieve'*? Well, there is no simple answer because our organisation is large and our operation so organic, but perhaps you will allow me to take you on a journey through a typical day in the life of the Federation to begin to unpick what this actually means... The day begins with a turn of a key. At 6.30am, when the Site Manager, Mr Grubb, is gritting the path to ensure the children have a safe route into school. Soon after, Mrs Brown talks with some of the pupils at Breakfast Club and Mrs Coote meets parents at the First School gate. Across at the Middle School, the pupils begin their Rock Star Maths, whilst Mrs Pask is facilitating a Numicon intervention. The day progresses at pace, with Miss Gorton sharing the learning intention for her Y5 narrative English lesson and Miss McSwinney modelling core skills in the kitchen and cooking up a storm with Year 7. At the First School, phonics is in full flow: Mrs Prudden is working in the hall with some pupils on their initial sounds and, by contrast, Mrs Bowkett is changing words to become plurals by adding -ies. The hall is vacated shortly after to accommodate the Pinvin Pre-school's weekly PE lesson. After much *'inspiring, discovering and achieving'*, it's lunchtime: In the kitchen, Serena has made the pupils (and Mr Modley!) a hearty lunch; Ms Edwards administers daily medication and outside Mrs Ford is having her usual day-to-day catch-up with the pupils. Inside the building, the office team are busy preparing letters that need to go out on the day, whilst Mrs Bates prepares an article for the Pinvin Post newsletter. The school field is flooded with enthusiasm as Mr Kehoe (Senior) is preparing the future of English rugby, Mr Dodson and Mrs Hooper are in the music room with the future singers, whilst others complete homework with support from Mrs Zaynchovsky. In the blink of an eye, the afternoon is upon us. After registration, an eager Year 3 child has their much awaited violin lesson at First School and there is a calming period as Relax Kids commences at the middle school. Both schools then become a hive of activity: Year 1 take a walking visit to St. Nicholas church whilst Year 5 take a swim at the leisure centre. As I take my walk through the Middle School, I can hear learning in so many ways: From spoken French with Ms Bowden, the probing questioning of Mrs Francis in a Year 7 Science experiment to Mrs Davey explaining skilfully the subjunctive mood to her class for Y6 SATs revision. It is time for one of the highlights of the week at Pinvin First - welcoming our Open the Book friends to lead Collective Worship. At St Nicholas, Reverend Claire is sharing a story from the bible with the pupils and, in doing so, using the projector and screen the 'Friends' have funded. The bell goes...Mrs Roberts begins cleaning at the First School; Mr Keogh (Junior) is leading a Federation Football Club whilst other staff are out on bus duty, ensuring the pupils are signed off and safely belted up for travel. Meanwhile, back in the warmth, staff are laying out pupil books (from Reception to Year 7) in preparation for the weekly staff meeting. This time it's the Writing Standards through a Pupil Progress Forum - a time to share learning and pedagogy, as well as challenge our colleagues to further develop the teaching and learning process. The day concludes with a Governor's meeting, where Mr Watkins, a governor, discusses the new Sectional Building and the financial timetable of converting to DOWMAT. At the same time, just down the road, there is a POPS meeting at a local pub, that plans and discusses the next events to raise valuable money for the pupils at PFS. At 9.30pm, the alarm is set and with a turn of the key the school is locked, giving a chance to reflect on the people and personnel that have created two good schools under one Federation. We cannot mention everyone, but this is very much a typical day for us, in a typical week.

Parking

Please can all parents across the Federation be mindful of where they are parking. In terms of the Federation itself, at no point should parents/carers park on the yellow zig-zag or double yellow lines by the school. We have a crossing patrol officer based at the Pre-School who needs total visibility along Main Street and sadly, at times, this is impeded. There is parking available at the Village Hall and further along Main Street. We have raised our concerns with the Council though in support of local parents, in relation to the number of temporary traffic lights in the vicinity, as this is causing inconvenience at key times in the school day. In addition we have had members of the public report concerns in relation to parking at drop off and pick up for school transport in outlying villages and towns. There have been concerns that residents in our wider community have had their drives blocked. We ask for every courtesy to be shown to all residents of the communities that we serve.

Academy Update

The Federation along with other schools in the Avonbrook Cluster is moving closer to Academy conversion. Our chosen provider, the Diocese of Worcester Multi-Academy Trust is working hard behind the scenes with us towards this.

Lead Federation

At regional level, the Federation is increasingly becoming recognised as a successful organisation and we have a positive growing reputation. The Local Authority have already contacted us in relation to providing advice and support to other schools, which is no surprise. In addition, we have been approached by the DOWMAT to provide some lead support as they prepare a bid for a new Free School. We are always very excited, but equally cautious, by such opportunities: we always want to ensure that any work we do outside of the organisation can then be used to further develop and improve both establishments. The key for Mr Best and his team is that any work will enable us to move more aspects of our practice to outstanding over time.



PFS News

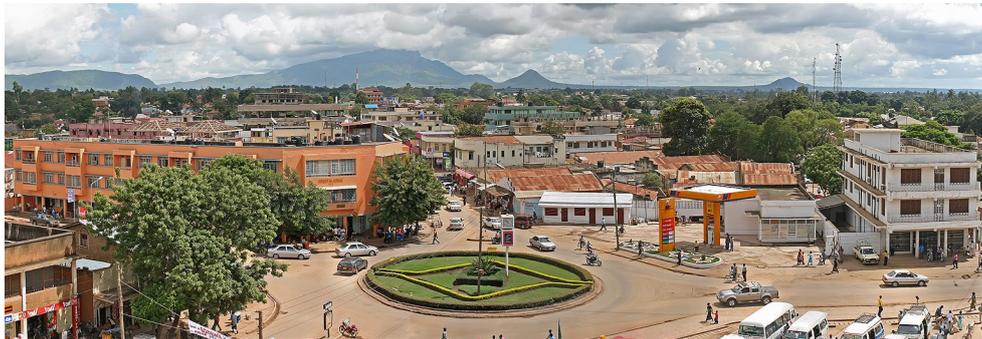
We would like to pass on our congratulations to Mr and Mrs Groves who have a new baby boy. Arthur Jude Groves arrived last week and both baby and mum are doing well. We welcome Miss Jade Grubb to the First School team on a temporary basis, as a new lunchtime supervisor. She knows the school well as she has previously provided temporary cleaning cover. We are still wanting a permanent lunchtime supervisor at PFS and are welcoming applications.

Mobile Phone Agreement

We have now put in place a mobile phone agreement following the last Parent Forum for pupils of the Middle School only. We do ask though that parents consider carefully before signing the agreement as we are not actively encouraging phones but do appreciate that for some children, especially those travelling on school transport, this is something that is needed. Please remember that phones should be turned off at all times whilst on the school site.

Morogoro

The Federation is now on the period of countdown for a special Headteacher visitor. Misufini B is our link school and this is in Morogoro, Tanzania - shown below. A huge thank you to all those who have donated money in our many fundraisers. We particularly enjoyed the Matchbox challenge, where one child managed to secure over 200 objects in the box!



Skills Show

We would like to thank Miss Newman, Miss L Smith and Mrs Chatterton for putting on the Skills Show for English and Mathematics in the First and Middle School hall this week. The event involved pupils sharing with parents key skills that they are being taught in English and modelling calculation methods for mathematics. We appreciate that events during the school day cannot be attended by all our parents, so Mr Dodson will be working in the next few weeks on developing a section of our website that will have the pupils demonstrating these skills in action. The aim is that this will become a reference point for parents and carers and will enable you to support learning at home. We will make the Skills Show an Annual Event moving forward.