

The Pinvin Fed-Express

Newsletter Issue 3 November 2016



Headteacher Review of October 2016

The month of October has seen some big changes to the Federation as we continue to develop the provision that we offer. It has been really good to have the office team in a single base, working collaboratively and sharing their expertise. The office amalgamation has resulted in an increase in the number of phones we have in operation, greater purchasing power and is enabling the team to focus on their specialist areas. Furthermore we have greater staffing levels in the office overall, particularly from 8.30am, traditionally a very busy time. If you have any queries in relation to the office changes, please don't hesitate to talk to the team, the aim is to make the change as seamless as possible. **In terms of Friday Gold Collective Worship, we will continue opening up the doors at the First School and will have a member of staff available at this time. This is a special time of the week and we want to make it as accessible as possible. In terms of a child being unwell and needing collection, we will either take the child to the dedicated Federation medical room or we may keep the child at PFS depending on their needs. We will discuss with you the most appropriate place for collection.**

We are pleased to be able to inform you that we have made some new appointments to the Federation team. Mrs Louise Rammage joins the Year 4 team as a teaching assistant for four mornings a week and comes with a lot of Special Educational Needs experience. At PFS we will provide you with information shortly on the cover that will be in place for Mrs Julie Groves

New PFS Sports Kit Unveiling

We will be unveiling the brand new Sports Kit for Pinvin CE First School during the Gold Collective Worship on Friday 18th November 2016. As you will be aware from the last newsletter we have had a football kit made up in honour of Mr Warren Bennett. The kit is in the Stoke City colours, the team that Mr Bennett supports and we will be photographing the event and providing Mr Bennett with a picture in a frame, as a way of saying thank you for his years of service. Please come and join us for this special event, which will take place alongside the Year focus and traditional Gold Book Awards.

SNMS Cooking

The Middle School came alive during the last week as Mrs Gemson opened the Food Technology doors in a celebration of cooking. Pupils and teachers from across the Federation participated in a cooking competition and the atmosphere in the room was buzzing. I must pay tribute to Mrs Gemson who managed to inspire pupils and staff to cook a whole host of different cakes and dishes.



Snow and Emergency Closure

It is that time of year again when we begin to watch the weather forecasts for up and coming inclement weather. Therefore I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that in the event that either school is closed due to snow we will update you via the following means at the earliest opportunity:

The Federation website www.tpfos.co.uk (Principle Source)

Our text messaging system

The Worcestershire Council website

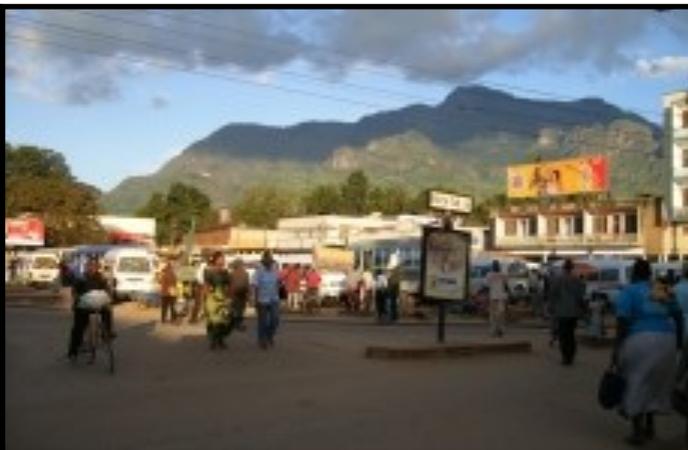
It maybe on those icy mornings that we put some additional actions in place to ensure a safe entry into school. On these days, we will often close the Middle School gate and take the pupils in through the front of the building. At the First School we will usually grit a safe route across the playground and into the hall. We will have staff on duty who will be there to guide you on these days. We also have staff who will be supervising in both school halls on these occasions.

Changes to Contact Details

If, for whatever reason, there are changes for you at home, please can you communicate them to the schools. If you are to move house or change telephone number for example, please notify the Federation office and we can then update our records accordingly. Many thanks.

Early Intervention and Support

The Federation Inclusion Leader, Miss Rushton, has been busy this term training support staff in specialist waves of intervention that complement the work that children are undertaking in the classroom. Pupils from across the Federation are benefiting from targeted maths and English interventions. We have also invested in specialist Speech and Language Therapist support that is being delivered at the First School but in tandem with the work undertaken by the class teacher and teaching assistants.



Improvements in morning and afternoon routines

A huge thank you to parents across the Federation for helping to improve our routines at the beginning and end of the day. We have halved the number of pupils arriving late for the start of school and collected late after school and this is making for a much smoother start and end of day. Please keep up the good work, it is really appreciated by the staff team.

Morogoro

We welcomed back Mrs Sheila Dobell and Ms Sharon Edwards following their recent visit to Tanzania. They were made to feel very welcome by our partner school Misifini B. We will be welcoming Mrs Tarimo the headteacher to the Pinvin Federation in a return visit that will take place in May next year.

Character Education and 'Soft Skills'

As a Federation we have focused this year on developing Character and the skills that pupils need to be successful in the workplace. The skills we are particularly honing in on are:

- Communicating
- Making decisions
- Showing commitment
- Flexibility
- Time management
- Leadership skills
- Creativity and problem-solving skills
- Being a team player
- Accepting responsibility
- Ability to work under pressure



Safeguarding (Federation)

We hope you find the following information useful :

Help keep your children safe online

Gain an understanding about your child's use of the internet; what they find interesting and exciting. Find out what sites they visit and what they love about them. If you show an interest and they know you understand, they are more likely to come to you if they have any problems.

Related links

Thinkuknow for Parents and Carers

Safe Network online safety guidance

We regularly have visits from the Community Police and the School Nurse to reinforce some of the messages contained within the advice.