



# The Pinvin Fed-Express

Newsletter Issue 4 December 2017



## Staffing Arrangements January 2018

The Chair of Governors has already informed you all of the interim arrangements that will be in place for the Spring Term at St Nicholas CE Middle School and Pinvin CE First School. Mrs Bex Chatterton will assume the Acting Head role at both Pinvin CE First School and Himbleton CE First School, whilst Miss Natalie Rushton will assume responsibility as Acting Head of St Nicholas CE Middle School. They will work very much in tandem and will be supported by an experienced local Headteacher for two days a week. The Federation has, in addition, a number of very experienced Assistant Headteachers who will also provide further leadership support during the interim period.

Mr Huw Evans will be leaving us at Christmas following a successful term with us at the Federation. He will be very much missed as a good work colleague who is very positively perceived by the students. We have appointed Mr Robert Pugh to replace him. This is an exciting appointment and Mr Pugh will join the team full time and will also deliver the teaching that both Mrs Chatterton and I have had. He will share the tutor group with Miss Sarah Darby and has already spent time in the school. We wish Mr Evans well for the future, although here a short time, he has had a really positive impact.

Mrs Sanders will be increasing her teaching time by half a day and will be delivering all of Mrs Bowkett's PPA cover after Christmas, replacing Miss Rushton in Year 2.

We have appointed Mrs Elaine Powell as a teaching assistant at St Nicholas CE Middle School. Elaine re-joins the team and brings a lot of experience to the table.

Finally, as this is my final newsletter, I would like to thank all the pupils, parents, staff and governors for their support and commitment to the school over my last three and a half years. Both St Nicholas and Pinvin First have achieved much in this time and this is down to the staff on the ground and our fantastic students. We can look at an improvement in Ofsted at SNMS or an Outstanding SIAMS inspection at PFS but what matters most is that I feel our students are better prepared now for their next phases of education.

I will continue to give my all until the day I leave and know that the team I leave behind share the same passion for getting the very best from our students and are also not afraid to change, tweak and refine what they do.

I wish the Federation every success for the future knowing that it will continue to go from strength to strength.

Mr A J Best.

## Change of Age

The consultation period for Change of Age is now nearing its end. Overwhelmingly, all the feedback that we have received into the Federation office has been supportive of the current 3 tier system. Mr Best has put together a very detailed 13 page response to the proposal that provides the educational and financial arguments to retain the system as it is.

Please take the opportunity to respond and please copy us in.

[consultation@pershore.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:consultation@pershore.worcs.sch.uk)

[office@st-nicholas.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-nicholas.worcs.sch.uk)

## Christmas Festivities

We are now in the period of Advent across our two schools and with this comes many opportunities and events for children and adults alike to participate in. The Carol Service that was hosted yesterday was a wonderful opportunity to come together as a school community and the annual, traditional PFS Nativity I am sure will be enjoyed this evening. It doesn't stop there though. We will be having a Federation Christmas Lunch on Wednesday 13th December, which is always enjoyed by staff and pupils alike. In the final week we also have the POPS Disco with a special visit from Father Christmas straight after school at PFS and the Friends Disco at St Nicholas. The week will be completed at St Nicholas with our festive governor awards on the final Friday morning and an end of term Gold Celebration on the Friday afternoon at Pinvin First.

## Health and Safety (Federation)

**PFS:** This is a reminder to all parents and carers that the First School tower should not be accessed by pupils at either the start or the end of the school day. For the same reasons, we also ask that the undercover area outside the Year 1 and 2 remains child free please at the beginning and end of the school day and that parents supervise their children at all times. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

**SNMS:** We do ask that parents and carers of pupils who travel by bus support us in reminding your children of the importance of wearing their seatbelts and in staying seated for the entire duration of the journey. Everyday, we check all the pupils on the coaches prior to leaving and want to emphasise the importance of safety both to and from the school.



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## School Meals

We have been delighted by the take up for the Christmas Dinner that will take place in the final week of term and expect to see a very festive event.

This is a really good time of year to try the Service again. Since 2017 we have been using Parent Pay as the method of payment for the school meals and feedback from parents has been extremely positive about the service. Chartwells, the catering company are keen for new parents or returning parents to try the menus in January once again. All the food is freshly cooked on site and lovingly prepared by the dedicated team of staff.

As of the 26th February the meal price will increase to £2.30 in line with other schools. Many of you though will be able to access the Universal Free School Meals. If you have a child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, this entitles you to a daily hot meal for free and we encourage uptake on this.

If you are currently not accessing our hot meal service and would like to provide us with any feedback as to what might tempt you take up the offer, please contact the school office. We meet regularly with the management team of Chartwells and will always take back any feedback that you may have.

## 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 are:

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.

## 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 the weather, we will update you via the following means at the earliest opportunity:

The Federation website [www.tpfos.co.uk](http://www.tpfos.co.uk) (Principle Source)

Our text messaging system

The Worcestershire Council website

It may be 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.

## PFS Trips and Visits

It has been Cinema World at PFS, pupils from all year groups have had the opportunity of visiting Number 8 in Pershore. For some the cinematic experience was one of Trolls whilst our oldest students in Year 4 had the pleasure of seeing the Diary of a Wimpy Kid. Watch this space as the next event will be the annual panto ... this time in school for the very first time.

## Trips, Visits and Residential at SNMS

A huge thank you to all the staff involved in making the Year 5 Residential to the Pioneer Centre in Shropshire a fantastic few days. This was a great opportunity for pupils to experience high quality, outdoor education and to develop new friendships with their peers. The Year 6 pupils in contrast, have had the opportunity, as part of their History and Geography curriculum, to visit the Dudley Canal Museum. This was a fantastic day out for them all. The Year 7 pupils have had two very different experiences. Firstly, they attended the NEC in Birmingham for the Skills Show. This was an opportunity to look at future careers, along with time to collect a few freebies. This was followed by a Virtual Reality event in the school, which was enjoyed by the pupils.

