

PINVIN FEDERATION



A Message from the Chair of Governors

I'm sorry to share with you the very sad news that Mrs Jennings has decided to leave her role as Federation Headteacher at the end of this calendar year to take up new career opportunities. Mrs Jennings started as Headteacher in April 2020, having previously been Head of St Nicholas C of E Middle School. I was fortunate to be on the interview panel which appointed Mrs Jennings and we were all hugely impressed by her passion, commitment and dedication to providing the best experience possible for our children. She has continued to demonstrate all of these qualities throughout her tenure as Headteacher.

We didn't know at that interview that when she took up the role this would be just a few weeks into the first lockdown and that Mrs Jennings would spend a considerable part of the next year or so leading the schools through the immense challenges of the Covid pandemic with lockdowns, remote learning, bubbles and social distancing, enforced class closures due to staff and pupil covid cases, followed by the return to full school opening and bringing children back up to speed. It is a huge testament to Mrs Jennings and all of the staff that despite all of this and other challenges too we have seen so many improvements and positive developments across the Federation during her leadership – which I will reflect on more fully in a future newsletter.

I am delighted to advise you that Mr Hawthorn, our current Deputy Head, has kindly agreed to take on the role of Acting Headteacher pending the appointment of Mrs Jennings' permanent replacement. I'm equally delighted to report that Mrs Greenfield will be stepping up to the role of Acting Deputy Head role during this time. As you know Mr Hawthorn and Mrs Greenfield are both excellent and experienced senior staff and members of the current leadership team. They know both schools well and care deeply about them, so the ongoing leadership of the schools is in very safe hands.

Nonetheless, Mrs Jennings will be a huge loss to the Federation. All the Governors, pupils and staff will miss her and and I'm sure, like me, you are all very sorry she is leaving.

We will all hopefully have the chance in the coming weeks to thank Mrs Jennings properly for all of her outstanding work and her wonderful leadership of our schools.

Regards

Trevor

Trevor Knight
Chair of Pinvin Federation Local Advisory Board



PINVIN FEDERATION



Dear All,
October was a fantastic month across the Federation and November has kicked off in the same style. Thank you to all the parents who attended the parent evenings and for all your lovely comments about the school and what we do! Mr Hawthorn and I really enjoyed meeting and greeting you all .

As you will see from the letter Mr Knight has written, I am going to be leaving the Federation at Christmas. This was a hard decision to make as I really love working with everyone and have enjoyed my time here greatly, however I do believe that now is the right time for me to move on and I know I am leaving you in fantastic hands with Mr Hawthorn and Mrs Greenfield. I will miss everyone, although I am excited about the next stage of my life journey and new opportunities that have arisen. Sadly Miss Smith (Year 5) is also leaving us at Christmas to take up a new role. Miss Smith will be sadly missed by everyone but I know we all wish her every success in her new post and wish her and her children a happy remaining half term.

We are pleased to announce that Miss Williams will be returning from her maternity leave 3 days a week and will be taking over from Miss Smith as a job share alongside Mrs Abi Clark whom the children already know well. Miss Williams will be transitioning back into school for the last 2 weeks of this term to make the change as seamless as possible. Mr Summers will continue to be class teacher for his Year 7 class for the remainder of the year. He is doing a great job, so this is fantastic news! In Pinvin First school, as Mr Knight has said already, Congratulations go to Mrs Greenfield who will be acting deputy headteacher. This does mean however that year 1 children will have new teachers in January. I will be contacting Year 1 parents later this week with these details and the assurance that the children will continue to receive the best experience possible following this change.

Please go back to your calendar dates list which was emailed out to you for all the up and coming events planned in December. Tickets will be available soon for the First School Christmas Production and also for St Nicholas Middle School Carol Service. Please note that the children will be required at both these events. Tickets will be limited to 2 per family in the first instance due to numbers at each event.

The pantomime trip and magician performance are also fast approaching. Thanks to the Pinvin Friends—we really need more members to be able to continue doing such lovely work. Please see how you can help further on in the newsletter. Here's to an enjoyable run up to Christmas!

Best wishes

Mrs Jennings and All the staff at The Pinvin Federation.



Reception - Sycamore - Mrs Bennett



The children in Sycamore class have been embracing Autumn, enjoying playing with and collecting the leaves, as well as helping to tidy up the flower beds so that some new bulbs could go in.

We were also very lucky to have a special visitor; Reverend Claire, who came to talk to the children about baptism to support our R.E. theme of 'belonging'

Our last P.E. lesson of the half term was very exciting as the children got the chance to use the apparatus and wall bars.

Year 1 - Ash - Mrs Greenfield

PSHE: We have been looking at our rights and responsibilities. We have thought about important things we could teach 'jigsaw Jack' to help him follow our rules.

In Music we have been looking at Rhythm & Pulse. We can recognise tuned and untuned percussion instruments.

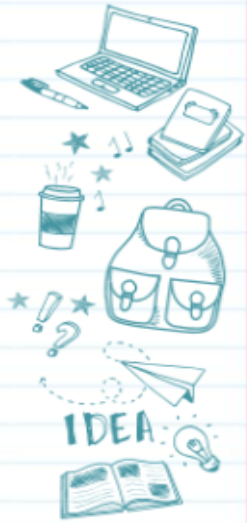
During our music lessons we can now follow a simple melody and accompany this with a tuned Percussion instrument.

PSHE: Some of the things that make us feel safe, special and valued

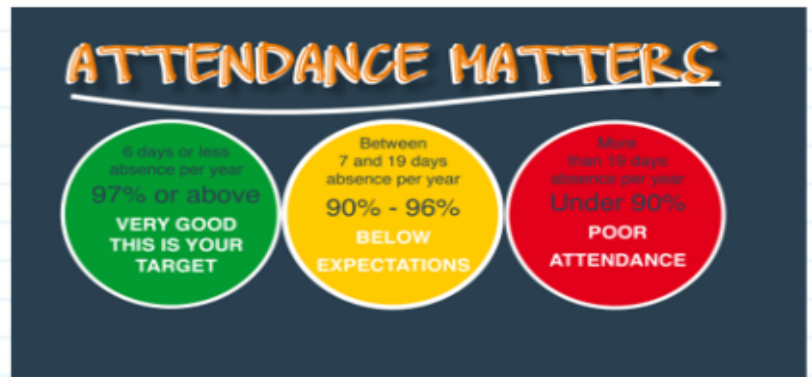


3-10-22
Hudson, K. O.

Attendance



- Reception – 88 %
- Year 1 – 89 %
- Year 2 – 91 %
- Year 3 – 96 %
- Year 4 – 90 %
- Year 5 – 97 %
- Year 6 – 92 %
- Year 7 – 94 %



Year 6 – Heron – Mrs Ali

Heron class did some fantastic learning last half-term and had lots of fun learning about all the exciting topics we studied.

In English the children wrote some very exciting fantasy stories based on our class book Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. They created mythical beasts, imaginative characters and settings to take the reader on a fantastic adventure.



In Art the children created some Greek inspired vases using oil pastels and scratched in their very elaborate patterns. They were all very proud of their excellent designs.



Year 2 - Maple - Mrs Sanders



History this term.

To Identify the characteristics of a rich and poor Tudor House. To compare to a modern day home.

We began our new DT unit on Tudor houses. We have looked at the differences between Tudor homes and a modern day home. We are able to annotate the differing features.

We have used some new key vocabulary: wattle & daub, jetty and ornate and the children can tell you how these relate to a Tudor home.

Year 3 - Cherry Blossom - Miss Bristoll



We conclude our unit of Art With these amazing Stonehenge paintings. sketched with artist pencils and infilled.

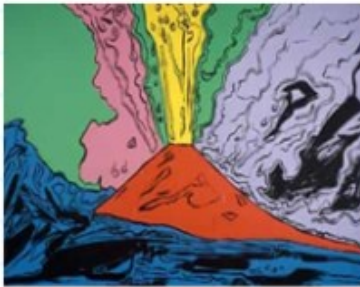
Using mixed berries (used as a paint during the Stoneage era). The children have then enhanced these by using charcoal to give a more defined look.

Some extremely talented pupils here!!



Year 4 ~ Mrs Sinnett's Art

New Art unit: Volcanoes



We have recently started looking at famous artists that are renowned for Volcano art. Above are a few well known artists: Andy Warhol, Joseph Turner and Margret Godfrey. As we move through the unit we will explore and experiment with everyone's style and will be creating our own artwork!

Year 4 ~ Mr Ash



Science – We are continuing our topic of 'states of matter'. This week, we continued looking at what happens when we heat and cool different substances. We investigated the question "Do different types of chocolate melt at the same rate?". Of course, the biggest experiment was whether we could investigate this without eating any first (we succeeded!!)



RE – We are studying the Old and New Testament over the next few weeks in RE. We spent our time this week learning to navigate the Bible – a big learning curve!



Maths – We finished a long string of lessons on 'rounding' in Maths this week. We have become very confident at rounding numbers with up to 4 digits to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000 – not an easy task.





Forest School



In Forest School at PFS, Year 2 have been recreating the story of the 3 little pigs using natural materials to build their houses. We discussed the properties of the materials, and all joined in with familiar speech: "Little pig, little pig, let me come in..." The children did a great job of constructing their own piggy houses, as well as enjoying the chance to find minibeasts and use their imaginations on the new climbing log.

Year 5 - Swan - Miss L Smith



In Swan class we have developed our painting skills. Inspired by the famous 'Starry Night' Painting by Van Gogh the children have incorporated textures, tones and blending To produce some fantastic artwork...



Year 5 – Melin – Miss Gorton



The children are still fully enjoying forest school. They all learnt a lot and showed great teamwork when building dens. .

The whole class are showing a love of music and they were very excited when they were asked to use their musical talent to create and perform Viking songs.

In Science last half term, we carried out a lot of investigations. The children are learning how to become good scientists. We now know how to plan an investigation effectively and have used new scientific equipment such as the newton metres.

Year 6 – Raven – Mr Dodson



- Just before the holiday we were looking at Greek vase design. The class made 'scratch-off' vases using oil pastels, and black paint mixed with washing up liquid, and then made coil pots to match. They have turned out brilliantly as you can see!



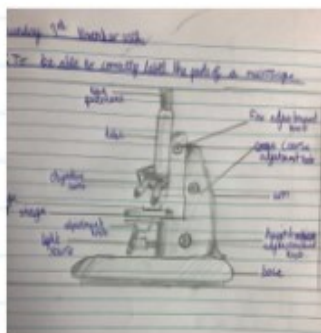
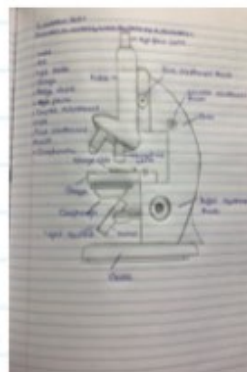
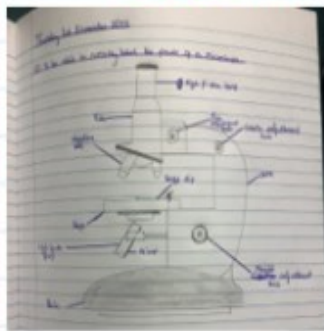
Year 6 – Swallow – Miss K A Smith

At the end of last half term, Swallow Class created some Greek vases in art. They turned out fantastically well – here are some examples!



Year 7 – Eagle – Mr Summers

In Science this term, our unit is on 'building blocks of life' in which we focus on using microscopes and cells. So far, we have identified the key features of the microscope and its purpose as well as looking at careers related to biology. The class showed great enthusiasm during these lessons and are excited to be going back into the lab and examining various types of cells under the microscope.



Year 7 - Robin - Miss Mackenzie

- In Art we have continued our topic on 'under the sea' We have been working on our watercolour skills while looking at an artist called Tamara Phillips. The children picked a piece of her work as inspiration to create their own version. Here are some amazing examples:



Year 7 - Falcon - Mr Davids



This term we will be reading *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo and one of the themes in the book is the use of horses in war. We will also be looking at the changes during the 20th century and this will include studying the First World War. In preparation for this the class have debated whether horses should or should not have been used in the war.

We learned how to debate properly and not just argue but to state points carefully and respond respectfully to objections.



Sporting events



The Year 7 boys football team celebrated their first win this week in their match against St Barnabas. Special mention has to go to MOTM George who scored plenty of goals!

The team have a few more tough matches coming up over the next few weeks, which they are more than ready for. Also coming up in November is a girls football tournament at Pershore High School, and Cross Country training is underway for an inter-school event early in the New Year.

Careers



This term, Year 7s have begun the first of a course of Career sessions, to be held once a month throughout the year. The aim is to get them thinking about their future career paths, so that they are motivated to learn and focus on their own individual skills and talents.

In October, visiting author Kevin Brook and illustrator Seraphim Bryant talked about opportunities using English and art, and this month we will have a visiting FA referee coming in to talk sport to our football crazy cohort!



Do you have to drive to school?

Most children live close enough to walk or cycle to school. Please consider this option. It's often faster than driving in the rush-hour and looking for a safe and legal place to park. Walking is good exercise for children... and for you! Additional benefits include significantly better air quality outside cars (especially if you use quieter back streets) and children arrive better prepared to settle in class and learn after an active, stimulating and energetic journey to school.

If you really must drive, allow time to park safely and considerately, and do not block entrances, driveways, or junctions - you may have to park some distance away from the school and walk the rest. Morning arrival and afternoon departure of pupils inevitably results in traffic jams near schools so allow plenty of time for your journey. Try walking or cycling one day, it may be faster!

If you can walk, hold your child's hand, especially when crossing roads and teach them correct road safety skills for life. You can play your part in reinforcing the road safety education which your child receives at school.

No Parents should be parking on the yellow zig zags or in the bus turning circle area. This is dangerous! Please don't!

Year 5 – Miss Reid - Osprey



At the end of last term, the children created fantastic 'ologys' in relation to a topic they found interesting. There were some fantastic ones created including sheep, space, monsters, dragons, Pokémon and pirates.

This term we started by launching our new theme topic. Our topic of Frozen Kingdoms was met by great delight of all year 5 and we spent the day exploring budgets for Arctic explorers and what they eat.



Social Media is often scrutinised as having a negative impact on children's mental health. Whilst currently there is not enough evidence or research to say whether this is true or not, there are certain 'modern pressures' connected with social media which trusted adults need to be aware of. Children and young people are constantly connected and whilst this comes with some benefits, it also comes with a feeling that you are constantly visible. This guide is designed to encourage trusted adults to think about their children's mental health and their social media activities, providing them with some useful tips on improving and supporting mental health among young people.

1. Have you noticed a change in your child's personality? They may not be acting or feeling like themselves.
2. Any recent uncharacteristic anxiety, anger, or moodiness?
3. Is your child experiencing social withdrawal and isolation?
4. Is there a sudden lack of self-care or risky behaviours?
5. Does your child have a sense of hopelessness or feel overwhelmed?



**National
Online
Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday

Meet our expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school, integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture and systems. She is also a member of the advisory group for the Department of Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



Educate yourself about social media sites your child is using so you can really understand what they are experiencing and how this may be making them feel.

Talk about the importance of face-to-face time with friends and family, and what enjoyment this can bring. Encourage your child to focus on their relationships with people who make them feel good about themselves.

Encourage your child to take regular breaks from checking their social media platforms. You could suggest that they turn off their app notifications during certain times of the day so they can focus on other things.

Spending time away from their phone and devices will offer them an opportunity to discover other interests and activities they may enjoy. This could be sports, playing a musical instrument or creative interests such as arts and crafts.

Inappropriate and harmful content can be accessed on the internet which may impact your child's mental health. Explain to your child that not everything online is real and ensure they know that you are there to support and advise them about any worries or anxieties they may have.

HELPFUL APPS:

- Hub of Hope
- Mindshift
- Smiling Mind

OTHER SERVICES:

- Childline (0800 1111)
- Bullying UK (0808 8002222)
- Young Minds (0808 802 5544)

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