

# Federation of Penny Acres and Wigley Primary Schools Newsletter

Issue 1 – 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018



## Welcome



I would like to thank you once again for the support and warm welcome I have received since starting in early November. I have enjoyed meeting you all and am excited for the future ahead. I am proud to be the Executive Headteacher of two wonderful schools, full of enthusiastic, well-mannered, caring, energetic and confident children. Changes to the format of this newsletter aim to celebrate the work of my federation, a federation we should all be immensely proud of.

David Ratcliffe – Executive Headteacher

## Dates for diaries

### Wigley

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November - PTFA movie night (17:00 – 19:00).

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November - Non-uniform day (chocolate donations instead of money please).

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December - PTFA Coffee and carols (14:30 – 16:00 Fox and Goose).

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas dinner for children (Y6 parents are invited to attend)

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Visit to Chesterfield panto.

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas production (14:00 start).

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas party lunch.

### Penny Acres

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November – Reception height and weight checks.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November - Next PTFA meeting (19:30 – George and Dragon).

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Flu sprays for children.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December – KS1 Christmas in Chesterfield.

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Dental hygienist visiting school to talk to children.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Visit to Chesterfield panto.

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas production (14:30)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas dinner for children.

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December – PTFA Christmas disco (17:30 start).

## Attendance

Attendance is monitored each day and we set ourselves the target of 96% or above. Below are both schools' attendance for the year so far.

Penny Acres attendance: 96.90 %

Wigley attendance: 96.38 %

During 'Anti-bullying week', children at both schools enhanced their understanding and awareness of what bullying is and how best to deal with it.



## Thanks to our PTFAs

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both PTFAs for their continued support of both schools. Without such support, we would be unable - due to decreasing budgets - to continue the wonderful work of school. Ideas are already flowing for future events and I aim to involve myself as much as possible in both the planning and running of such events. That said, after my attendance at the recent Penny Acres fancy dress disco, the challenge has been set to get me dancing.

Challenge accepted!



Children at both schools paid their respects during our teaching and learning activities, which focussed on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW1. All children observed a two-minute silence, doing so with the upmost respect and admiration for those that have lost their lives during conflict.



## Children in need

The children in both schools once again showed their kindness and generosity by giving generously to Children In Need. Amounts raised can be seen below:

Penny Acres – £49.97

Wigley - £43.15



## Penny Acres News



The children enjoyed our 'Eco' afternoon. They learned about composting and listened to the



story of 'Grumpy the Hedgehog'. The children reused scrap paper to make their own hedgehogs.



Tasked with designing and building nests for birds, our infants blew us away with their ingenuity, creative flair and their ability to collect and use appropriate, natural materials.



## Wigley News

Despite the cold, wet weather, our 'Eco-team' - myself included - have been very busy providing homes for bugs and planting new hedges.



As part of our Infant Fire and Ice topic, the children created their own moving dragons using their Design Technology skills! Rawrrr! I think you'll agree that they look terrifying (the dragons, not the children!).



KS2 designed and made 'Green Man' tree art using air dried clay.



## Qualitas update

Our partnership with the Qualitas sports organisation has continued to grow, with a number of our KS1 girls attending a very wet and windy football event at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School. Here's looking forward to the warmer weather and lighter evenings so that we can explore the extended school provision on offer!



Our Juniors welcomed Sarah Champion, Labour MP for Rotherham, into school. She spoke in depth about her role and the children were given the opportunity to ask questions. As expected, the questions were thoughtful and considered, broadening the children's knowledge and awareness of the role of government.



Our Infants went on a Pudsey Spot Hunt, searching the grounds for Pudsey's spots. Once found, the children recorded their results on Tally charts. Doesn't Miss Gregory look lovely!



Our Juniors decorated Pudseys and held a paper aeroplane flying competition.



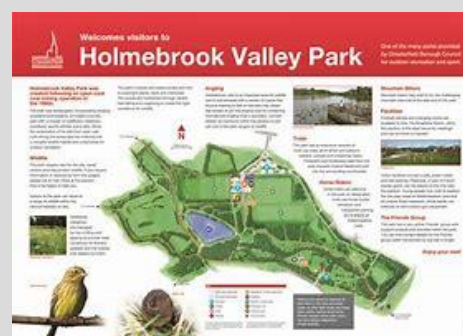
## Music partnership update

As you are aware, both schools play host to the Music Partnership on a weekly basis. Our Juniors are very busy learning how to play the Fife and I have asked that the children build up to a performance to parents during the Summer term. I envisage welcoming you to an outdoor performance at each school where you and the Infants can celebrate the hard work and efforts of our Juniors.

## Our federation takes over Holmebrook Valley Park!



All the Juniors spent a pleasant day (the sun was out) at Holmebrook Valley Park. The children participated in a range of activities and skills such as land use, photo orienteering, creating a field sketch, using a compass and completing a questionnaire – being brave enough to ask members of the public why they used the park.



## The Federation of Penny Acres and Wigley Primary School

Wigley Primary School  
Old Brampton  
Chesterfield  
Derbyshire  
S42 7JJ  
Telephone number: 01246 566432  
Email: [info@wigley.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@wigley.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Penny Acres Primary School  
Main Road  
Holmesfield  
Derbyshire  
S18 7WP  
Telephone number: 0114 2890330  
Email: [enquiries@pennyacres.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@pennyacres.derbyshire.sch.uk)

**Nurturing ambition and inspiring success in a federation where children thrive**

Please continue to use our school APPs to keep updated on dates, times and events.  
Please contact either school office if you require further information.