

# Federation of Penny Acres and Wigley Primary Schools Newsletter

Issue 8 – September 2019



© Timest

## Welcome back

May I take this opportunity to welcome everybody back to a new academic year. Already we are seeing the same enthusiasm, desire to learn and support from our school communities that we worked so hard to strengthen last year. I am sure that this academic year will be just as busy as the others with many exciting opportunities for our children. As always, our doors are open; please don't hesitate to get in touch with any member of staff you may need to speak to.

Dave Ratcliffe – Executive Headteacher

### Key dates for diaries – subject to change



#### Holidays

28<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2019 = Half term break.  
23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 – 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 = Christmas break.  
17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 = February Half Term.  
3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020 = Easter holiday.  
25<sup>th</sup> May 2020 – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 = Half term break.  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 – Break up for Summer Holiday.



#### INSET days

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

#### Parents' evenings

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – Penny Acres  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - Wigley

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Wigley  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Penny Acres

#### Harvest festivals

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October – Wigley – 3:00pm-3:15pm.  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October – PAPS – 3:15pm– 3:30pm.

#### Christmas activities

Panto – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – 10:15am – Jack and the Beanstalk.  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Penny Acres Xmas performance - times/venue to be confirmed.  
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Wigley Xmas performance – times/venue to be confirmed.

#### Young voices

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Both schools.

## Lea Green – Residential journey

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – **All of KS2.**

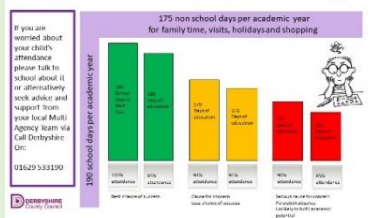
### KS2 SATS

W/B 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### Attendance

#### **Good Attendance Means**

being in school at least 95% of the time (between 180 & 190 days)



**Attendance is monitored each day and we set ourselves the target of 96% or above.**

**If for some reasons your child/children are unable to attend, please let the office know as soon as possible as to ensure that when the registers are closed at 9:00am, we are aware of where all of our children are.**

### Holidays during term time

Derbyshire County Council is taking a much tougher stance on holidays taken during term time. Please find below the latest guidance issued to schools r.e. the law on term time holidays.

**The law makes it clear that the headteacher should not grant approval for any leave of absence during term-time, including holidays, unless there are exceptional circumstances.**

**Parents are not entitled to take their children on holiday in term-time. Such holidays can only be taken with the written approval of the headteacher. Each case will be considered on its own merits and the decision of the headteacher is final.**

**Please remember that holidays taken in term-time without the headteacher's approval may result in:**

- Each parent receiving a penalty notice for each child for each period of absence
- A penalty notice will be issued regardless of the child's previous attendance
- A penalty notice will be issued without warning

**Taking or allowing your child to take a holiday in term-time without the school's permission is a serious matter. If we find that you have done so, we will not hesitate to issue a penalty notice.**

### Breaktime snacks and water bottles

Good health is vital and healthy eating, being one of many contributors to this, can influence physical, mental and social well-being. The Federation of Penny Acres and Wigley Primary Schools is dedicated to helping each child understand the role of healthy eating in achieving good health and so we ask that any snacks that children bring into school are 'healthy choices'. In recognition of the danger of anaphylactic shock caused by allergy, snacks should NOT contain nuts.

There is a free fruit scheme in operation for our infant children. Each child is given a piece of fruit each day. There is a different fruit each day e.g., apples, pears, oranges, bananas, cherry tomatoes and peeled carrots. This provides the children with a daily healthy snack and the social experience of eating together.



Alongside this, fresh water is available at all times and children are encouraged to bring their water bottles daily, taking them home each night to clean and refresh.

### Uniform and P.E kit.

In our federation, we are committed to the highest standards of uniform and appearance from all members of our community. We believe smart uniform and appearance are very important; providing our pupils with an identity, encouraging pride in appearance, allowing for positive community recognition and developing good habits for life after school. It also reflects the highest standards and expectations we set throughout our schools. All staff are asked to ensure pupil uniform and appearance are monitored and we ask parents/carers to support our uniform and appearance code.

May I also ask that children bring an appropriate P.E kit to school, enabling them to fully participate in curriculum activities. As to ensure that kit is available throughout the week, children are encouraged to bring their kit to school on Monday and take home on Friday. P.E kit is as follows:

- **Plain** t-shirt/Polo shirt (no school logo required).
- Shorts – dark in colour.
- Skirts/Skirts – dark in colour.
- Jogging bottoms/leggings (optional) – dark in colour.
- Pumps for indoor use (KS1).
- Trainers for outdoor use.



### Heritage Lottery Grant



**GOOD NEWS!!**

**Our Schools, Our Stories 1870 – 1920**



The decision meeting for the National Lottery Heritage Fund Midlands & East region took place during the Summer Break, and I'm delighted to say that our community project, 'Our Schools, Our Stories' project has been awarded the £10,000 as requested!

Obtaining such funding has become increasing more difficult and my thanks go to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for taking the time to consider my application and their willingness to work with me for the benefit of our wider school communities.

As you are aware, this project is aimed at the involving the wider community in school based projects and plans are already at an advanced stage. There will be many events throughout the school year, open to our wider communities, linked very closely to what our KS2 children will be learning in school during the Summer Term. A Summer time culmination is on the cards where one of our schools in the Federation may be a little more Victorian for a weekend! More details to follow at a later date.

Until then, I would like to make you aware of the following dates:-

| Date     | Event   |
|----------|---|
| 23/9/19  | 6pm Wigley British National Archive training - all welcome      |
| 26/9/19  | 6pm Penny Acres British National Archive training - all welcome |
| 7/10/19  | 6pm Wigley Ancestry training - All welcome                      |
| 10/10/19 | 6pm Penny Acres Ancestry training – All welcome.                |

Please do make the wider community aware of these events and when we say 'all welcome', we really do mean ALL. Grans, Grandads, friends, acquaintances, etc, etc.

**The federation of Penny Acres and Wigley Primary Schools**  
**Nurturing ambition and inspiring success in a federation where children thrive**