



Penn Fields School Newsletter

Where every moment is a learning opportunity and that every moment matters

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Innovative Sixth Form offer here at Penn Fields School

We are happy to share with you all that our new innovative Sixth Form is up and running! Mrs Stirling Edge has spent the last year redesigning the sixth form offer here at Penn Fields School. The sixth form is designed to prepare students for adulthood and bridge the gap between Penn Fields School, College or Alternative Educational Provision. Sixth Form students attend Penn Fields School for three days a week, focusing on the core curriculum English & maths as well as local leisure, Duke of Edinburgh Award and vocational studies. Two days a week our students are off site studying at one of three alternative education providers, Rodbaston (part of South Staffs College), NOVA Training and WVTC (Wolverhampton Vocational Training Centre) and so far it has been a great success.

On Monday 28th September 2020, 14 Sixth Form students set off for Rodbaston, where they are working towards a BTEC in pre vocational studies, consisting of lessons in a number of subject areas including cooking, woodwork, horticulture & animal care.



On Wednesday 30th September 2020, our other students started their courses – a City & Guilds Multi-Craft Diploma at Nova Training and a Certificate in Employability and Development Skills At WVTC (Wolverhampton Vocational Training Centre).



All students will attend college for 2 days a week throughout the year to reduce the impact of post 16 transition (i.e. leaving Penn Fields School), with the plan to be these students are ready to leave Penn Fields School after this year, or they remain at Penn Fields and increase their time at the provider for an additional year.

Parents and students of years 10 & 11 should look out for an invitation to our 'Coffee & Careers MS Teams' event on Friday 23rd October, time TBC - You will be able to find out more about the Sixth Form and the providers we work with.



Summer Term - Parent / Carer Survey

A Summer term parent / carer survey has been designed to both gather your feedback from the most challenging term to date and to gain additional feedback on how all of us at Penn Fields can improve moving forward. The survey can be accessed via the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XH8H8N5> or by accessing the school website www.pennfields.com and you will find the link on the homepage Notice Board. The survey will close on Wednesday 21st October 2020 at 12:00 noon.



A Message from Mrs Whitmore - Head of English

This year, every student in upper school will be given a "word of the week" in their English lessons. They will learn the meaning of the word and put it into sentences to check their understanding.

Each week, we are listening out for students to see if they can use the word in their daily lessons and we will award Dojos for those who do this.

So far we have had: apprehensive, ravenous and serene. I will publish each week's word of the week in our newsletter.

This week's word has been: **Fragile**



Makaton Corner

Makaton is a unique language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable people to communicate. It supports the development of essential communication skills such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall and organisation of language and expression.

For those who have experienced the frustration of being unable to communicate meaningfully or effectively, Makaton really can help. Makaton takes away that frustration and enables individuals to connect with other people and the world around them. This opens up all kinds of possibilities.

Top tips for signing with your child:

Make sure you always speak when you sign - this can help to promote speech development

Face your child so that they can see your hands, the signs and your facial expressions



home

Mr Ellis - Deputy Headteacher

Mr Ellis joined Penn Fields School in June 2020 and many students did not get the opportunity to meet and find out more about him. This week, a number of students have been quizzing Mr Ellis on why he wants to work at Penn Fields School, his favourite childhood book and his favourite football team.

Why did you want to work at Penn Fields?

Penn Fields is a school that shares the same education ethos of inclusivity and high aspirations for all students that I strived to work to in my career. The staff are committed, caring and talented and there is a real sense of being part of a supportive community from the moment I first visited the school.

What is the best part of your job?

There are so many elements of the role that are enjoyable but the best part is supporting staff to help students reach their potential. It is really fulfilling to see students achieve their goals.

What was your favourite book from your childhood?

Charlie and the chocolate factory by Roald Dahl. I loved all the funny characters and the idea of winning tickets to go to the factory. As a child, I always wanted to try the Fizzy Lifting Drinks.

What is your favourite TV programme?

When I was at school I liked Grange Hill. It was a program about a school in London. Now I like Gogglebox which is a program about people who talk about watching TV!

What is your favourite sport?

Football has always been my favourite sport.

Do you support a football team?

I am a big fan of Tottenham Hotspurs! I am looking forward to the day that I can go back to our amazing new stadium and cheer Spurs on. I always love to watch Wolves as they play great football and hope to get to the Molineux when I can.

Which country would you like to visit that you have never been too?

I have never been to Italy. I love Italian food so it would be amazing to visit Rome and have a pizza, or should I have pasta?

What is your favourite animal and why?

Easy question for me. Monkeys! They make me laugh but also they are very clever and they look after each other.



Dates for your Diary

End of Autumn Term 1:	Friday 23 October 2020
Half Term:	Monday 26 to Friday 30 October 2020
Monday 2 November 2020	School Closed – INSET Day
Start of Autumn Term 2:	Tuesday 3 November 2020



Parents, please remember to

Keep your distance from others & wear a face covering when dropping off and collecting your child from our school.

Thank You

#WolvesBackToLearning

