



Penn Fields School Newsletter

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

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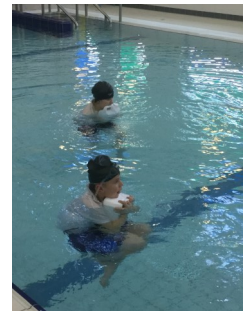
Issue 19 Friday 20 November 2020

Oak Class - Swim Rescue

Students in Oak Class have been enjoying their swimming lesson this term, so much so they have asked to share what they have been learning with everyone.

This term Ellie PB, Kaiden and John have been learning lifesaving skills. During one of their lessons, the students put on their PE kits and learnt how to stay safe and warm if they were stranded in water. During the lesson, the students displayed excellent listening skills and focus, following instructions from Mrs Simkiss our school swimming teacher.

Great work Oak Class - Well Done!



Artist of the Week

Artist of the week is Piya from Nurture.

Piya has made a Mandala in the sensory garden from natural objects. Piya watched a demonstration by Penn Fields current Virtual Resident Artist, Hannah Ayre.

The circular designs of Mandalas symbolize the idea that life is never ending and everything is connected.

The Mandala Land Art is inspired by Andy Goldsworthy. Andy Goldsworthy is a British artist known for his site-specific installations involving natural materials and the passage of time. Well done Piya, what a beautiful piece of work.



School Photos - Cancelled

The school photographer has been cancelled for next week due to the current National lockdown in England.

The reason for this discussion, is due to Government guidance stating that non-essential visits should be avoided during the lockdown and this is a non-essential visit. The school senior leadership team, will continue to put the safety of our staff, students and the families we all return home too as our daily priority.

The photographer will visit the school in the Spring term and parents & carers will be informed of this date nearer the time.

Word of the Week

Next weeks "word of the week" is Swiftly. All Upper School students in their English lessons, will learn the meaning of the word and put it into sentences to check their understanding.



Twitter - head@pennfields



Ms Thackaberry now has a head@pennfields Twitter account, where she will be sharing information on the school for parents to see. This already has included, a welcome back message, the staff INSET day, word of the week, Coopers supervision of students arriving at school and Sixth Form students working in the outside sensory garden space. Please take a look and give the account a follow.



Makaton Corner

It is really important to speak when you sign or use symbols. Makaton is designed to support spoken language. This means that we usually sign or use the symbols to support the Key Words (information carrying words) in a sentence. When we do this, we are making a link between the spoken words and the signs or symbols. This is to encourage speech where possible.

Many people, who initially rely on signs or symbols, will drop them naturally, at their own pace, as they develop speech and no longer need them. Research has shown that using signs and symbols actively encourages the development of speech and language skills.

Top tips for signing with your child:

Offer lots of encouragement and give praise when a sign is attempted.

Head to the Penn Fields website www.pennfields.com for past Makaton Corner information, tips and signs.

For more information on Makaton, please visit: <https://www.makaton.org/>



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SIMs Pay

So that we can reduce the amount of cash and cheques that enter the school premise and provide parents with greater convenience for school trip, clubs and school meal payments, we're inviting you to use our secure e-payments solution SIMS Pay; allowing payments online.

Letters were recently emailed out to all parents/carers who have not already signed up to this service.

To access SIMS Pay you will need an account with one of our supported identity providers: SIMS ID, Microsoft, Office 365, Google, Facebook or Twitter. It's likely you already have an account with one of these providers but don't worry if you haven't, Microsoft and Google accounts are free and easy to create.

You can create a Microsoft Account at: <https://signup.live.com> You can create a Google Account at: <https://accounts.google.com/SignUp>

Registering Your Account

- 1) Type the following link into your tablet, PC or smartphone web-browser: <https://www.sims-pay.co.uk>
- 2) Select Register
- 3) Choose the identity provider you want to use to access SIMS Pay (e.g. Microsoft).
- 4) Enter your unique Invitation Code and then your child's Date of Birth. (If you require a new code then please contact office@pennfields.com)

Account registration is time limited for security reasons.

Further Information

If you have a question about SIMS Pay you can find out more online in our Help Centre at: https://support.capitasoftware.com/csm?id=kb_article_view&sysparm_article=KB0036857

Using SIMS Pay will dramatically improve the safety and security of Penn Fields School and will reduce time spent on payment administration. Your support in adopting SIMS Pay will therefore be greatly appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you need further assistance.

Dates for your Diary

Start of Autumn Term 2:

Children In Need Day:

School Photographs - Cancelled

Christmas Jumper Day:

Last Day of the Autumn Term:

Tuesday 3 November—Friday 18 December 2020

Friday 13 November 2020

Cancelled

Friday 11 December 2020

Friday 18 December 2020 **(School closes at 13:30)**

