



Newsletter - October 2015

Headteacher's Message

Welcome to our termly newsletter. Term 1 at Pent Valley has been very busy. The school site has transformed and we have had three weeks of Open Morning tours for prospective Year 6.

Pupils and staff continue to work really hard. Our staff survey told us that 100% of staff are proud to work at Pent Valley. In the pupil survey all pupils said that, "Teachers expect me to work hard and do my best". All parents are invited to attend the termly Parent's Forum with myself and on Wednesday 18th November 2015 to find out the latest initiatives at Pent Valley and your feedback is invaluable.

I hope you have a safe and restful half term.

MRS GIBSON, Acting Headteacher

House System

Our House system is based around the Battle of Britain aeroplanes.

The most famous fighter aircraft used in World War 2 were the

British Hawker Hurricane and
Supermarine Spitfire.

We use our House system to encourage a sense of belonging and for our school wide competitions for both pupils and staff.



Head Boy and Head Girl

In our first term as head boy and head girl we have taken over the running of Pupil Parliament and together we are starting to tackle all the issues raised in our meetings, such as prevention of bullying, introducing prefects and rewards for good behaviour. Next term we will be discussing the anti-bullying charter with the Pupil Parliament and we hope to lead some assemblies for anti-bullying week, in order to raise awareness of the impact of bullying on an individual.

Our main goal is to have a platform for the pupil body to be heard and for next term their suggestions will be brought to fruition.

James & Laura

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Staff joined in the Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 25th September, to raise money for the charity. Cakes were baked and donated and generous donations were made.

Pupils had raffles and games with prizes in the Library at break and lunchtime and in total we raised £280.00.



A Day Trip into Space

On Wednesday 23rd September Year 7 students went to space.

The day started with a visit into space when pupils were treated to a 50 minute planetarium show by The University of Kent. Pupils sat in awe as they were immersed in the sights of 3D space images, which centred on current technologies used in the search for extra-terrestrial life and real-time images focusing on the solar system planets during a question and answer session.

Pupils then made model solar systems to scale and investigated how the drop height of a meteorite would affect the size of the crater it made. Rocket height investigations using different chemical reactions were demonstrated with pupils suggesting different variables that could be trialled to make the rockets travel higher.

Year 7 pupil Rhys Blackman said; 'It was cool. We made a solar system model to scale and we learnt about the number of moons on different planets in the solar system.'

Another Year 7 pupil Kieran Young made the comment; 'The planetarium was brilliant. I really enjoyed the 3D effects.'

Head of Science said; 'The purpose of the Year 7 Science Day was to allow pupils who have never had the opportunity to visit a planetarium to experience the thrill of seeing space up close and to inspire the pupils to start to question the world (and space) around them and to feel confident to ask questions of their teachers, to trial practical ideas and to investigate possible answers to their questions.'



Attendance

Our attendance figures at the school are the highest they have been in any one term and we now we have introduced an attendance email address and freephone number for parents to contact the school about any absences. Call free on:

08000 322995 or email:

attendance@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk

We also have our own on site school nurse, Mrs Sharon Messenger, who may be able to help you with any minor problems your child may have to save you having to get an appointment with the Doctors.

Either please call the school to talk to her on:

01303 277161 ext. 2229

or contact her by email on:

s.messenger@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk

Hairdressing Trip

On Sunday 20th September, staff took 4 pupils to Coty International for their annual conference. The girls worked really hard and between them they completed 116 manicures.

Open Mornings

Over the last 2 weeks we have been holding tours for parents of Year 6 pupils and the turnout has been overwhelming, so much so we extended the tours for a further week. We have received some really good positive feedback and we have been proud to show off our newly refurbished calm and orderly school. Our pupils have shown care, courtesy and consideration to all of our visitors.

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