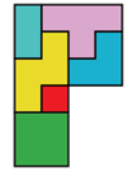


# PRU's News!



## Message from the Headteacher.

I'm really pleased to be writing in our first school newsletter. These will be going out termly in the future, but this one finishes off our year.

This has been my first year as head teacher, and I can honestly say I have enjoyed every minute of it. Most of all, I have enjoyed the time I have spent with the children on all our sites. No matter what issues I have had to deal with in my working day, time with them always brings my mood back up!

We have had a successful year as a school.

Early Years Assessment Centre has more children which makes it a lovely busy environment. Katie S has taken over as lead, and we welcome Kate D onto the team. They have developed outside play, music, life skills and key worker roles.

The hospital site continues to be successful, and we have educated more children than last year. Close ties have been made between us and the hospital staff which supports the children more effectively.

Wrenthorpe site have had students on work experience, several on travel training, we have had an enterprise day, successful off site visits, are piloting a community cyber café for the elderly of our Wrenthorpe community, taken part in the local churches Christmas event and have had an art exhibition in a local church. Our Christmas and Summer Fayres have become legendary and well worth attending.



## Enterprise!

On the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2017 students and staff took part in an Enterprise day. They were helped by the Ahead Partnership, who advised, guided and challenged us to produce a project based on organising a Music Festival. We were split into 3 teams who worked to formulate a business plan and then pitch them to a group of invited judges who then picked a winner!



100% felt activity met learning objectives



89% say it helped them think about the future



100% improved understanding of world of work



89% improved team working skills



89% improved speaking and listening skills



78% improved confidence and self belief



100% improved knowledge of how business



100% awareness of own skills and aspirations



## **Trips**

In today's paper we are going to be talking about various trips. Also there will be our favourite quotes of the day to top it all off. The trips we have been on have varied from YPO and even Newmillerdam. The trips were exiting, informative and new. The only problem was we didn't get a single pen for free from YPO. Special quote from YPO "No we don't do no freebies" Makes me sick the way that they couldn't spare a single pencil I had to have two weeks off from 'stencilitis' it's just not right. Now that's a Russell joke!



## **The Hospital Site.**

At our hospital site, based at Pinderfields, we provide education for children and young people whilst they are sick or injured and support their transition back to their own school. We work with children between the ages of 5 and 18, but we also accommodate older children if there are special needs to consider.

Children who are inpatients for less than 3 days are taught from our planned topics which are based on the National Curriculum. Children who are inpatients for longer periods have their own school curriculum delivered to them to enable them to keep in line with their peers as much as possible.

We are also a registered exam centre so we are able to accommodate and deliver exams such as GCSE's.



## **Student council success.**

Some people might think that student councils are for big mainstream schools but our first PRU student council meeting couldn't have gone better. Our unique student perspective helped us come up with creative ideas to make Pinderfields Hospital PRU a better place. Subjects on the agenda include recycling bins, year 11's celebrations, and ordering from a local café at lunch time. We even took an anonymous vote on what activity to do on the year 11 trip and we decided on a trip to Xscape. Everyone's voice was heard in a way that wouldn't work in a large mainstream school. Student representatives were also elected, these roles included secretary (to take minutes) and vice and head chair. The head chair took the minutes to the head mistress and she had the final decision on what ideas to carry out. As a result of the student council every Friday we are allowed to bring money in to order from the local café in Wakefield. Student council has the potential to improve our education at Pinderfields Hospital PRU and make sure our voices are heard.

## Management Committee:

My name is Olive Hughes and I am Chair of the Pinderfields Hospital PRU Management Committee.



Firstly, may I thank students and staff for inviting the Management Committee to contribute to their newsletter. We are very pleased and proud to do so and thought it would be useful to begin with a description of the committee and what we do.

The Management Committee is part of the leadership and management of the PRU, working with the Headteacher, who is a member of the committee, alongside the Senior Leadership Team. The Headteacher is responsible for the day-to-day management of the PRU; the committee's main responsibilities are:

- ◇ Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- ◇ Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the PRU, its pupils and the performance management of the staff;

Overseeing the financial performance of the PRU and making sure its money is well spent.

In addition, Members have a duty to ensure that staff and children are kept safe.

The membership of the committee includes representatives of parents, staff and the Local Authority. Other members are recruited from schools, where possible, and from the local community.

The committee meets six times during the academic year. At each meeting, members receive very comprehensive reports from the Headteacher and PRU Business Manager, as well as a presentation from a member of staff about their areas of responsibility within the PRU.

## SNAKE HUNT

On Friday mornings every week we do a P.E. lesson mostly off site. Last term we went to the gym at the sports and social club in Pontefract. We did many different activities. This term we are currently going on countryside walks. We have been to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park and we have been to Newmillerdam. We have recently been told that there were possibly snakes on site at Newmillerdam. So a few students went and were looking for the snakes. But unfortunately it was the wrong type of weather to see the snakes. The walks are interesting and eye opening because there are lots of different animals to see such as sheep and cows there are also different types of birds that have been seen there and also different types of insects can be seen. The walks are about 2 hours .

