

Spring 2017 Update

www.penetnetwork.co.uk

News

Anne Longfield, the Children's Commissioner for England, has said that **Northern parents should learn from "pushy" Southerners** to help their children get the best grades. She believes that the parental pressure put on schools in the south have driven them to perform better. The majority of the worst 20 local authorities for GCSEs were in the North.
www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-38207685

Dame Louise Casey in her report into **social integration in Great Britain** is calling for more to be done to bridge division between people and bind communities

together. She recommends a new programme to help improve community cohesion and reduce segregation. <http://bit.ly/2gXOELO>

PEN News



- New leaflet "Applying for a school place" produced in response to requests from member schools

- We have been awarded a **£20,000 grant** to develop **parental engagement projects in Suffolk**
- We are currently working with **Z-arts** on a new **mental health family singing** project..

Engaging Parents Effectively

Esmée Fairbairn/Sutton Trust funded project

Schools involved in Phase 2 have been overwhelmingly positive about the project, which involves using workshops, home activities and tip sheets to engage the families of disadvantaged children in the early years.

"It's been very successful and had a massive impact on the progress of the children involved. It's just right for targeted children in receipt of Pupil Premium funding."

Vicki Lord, Irk Valley Primary School

- Six out of the nine schools involved saw considerable improvements in outcomes compared with the nursery children overall.
- Over 80% of the targeted disadvantaged families remained involved over the year – 74 out of 82 families.
- All staff felt they'd grown in confidence in working with parents.

"It has helped his confidence and helped him to concentrate. It helped me to understand how to help my son. I love all the activities, I would recommend them to all parents"

Parent, Hollingworth Primary School



Please see training overleaf for the **Mouse Club Transition Project** which runs between May and October to help children prepare for school. We will also be running **training in the Summer Term** on the **Nursery or Reception Home Learning Project**, which runs October – July to engage parents in their children's learning.



Get in touch...

email: emma@penetwork.co.uk tel: 0161 860 5039
web: www.penetnetwork.co.uk twitter: @PENetworkUK
facebook: www.facebook.com/Parental-Engagement-Network



In the Spring Term we will be sending out regular updates on Twitter. Follow us now! @PENetworkUK

Training (Available to all Primary Schools)

Developing the PSA role within an 'Outstanding' school

£60 (£50 PEN Members)

Clare Pitts, PSA at Kingsway Community Trust, will talk about parenting courses, home visits, Ready for School, working across schools, linking with agencies, other key staff and the SIP. The session will include sharing good practice, planning templates for weekly/monthly termly plans, hearing from parents, and a tour of the school.

Thu 9 Feb, 1.30-3.30 at Green End Primary School, M19 1DR

Please book by 31 Jan

Senior Staff Briefing and Consultation Meeting (for Primary & Special schools)

FREE to all schools

This will include discussion about new funded projects, community cohesion and fundraising.

Includes £25 voucher for PEN support. Governors welcome to attend.

Tue 14 Feb, 9-10.30 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 4 Feb

KS2 Family Detective Reading Project

£150 (£135 PEN Members) for up to 2 places on the training, resources & teacher's notes.

Introduction to the resources and training on how to run the project in school. Year 3, 4 or 5 children and their families work together on an exciting challenge to solve a mystery, developing their comprehension, inference and questioning skills.

Tue 28 Feb, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 18 Feb



PEN Mini Conference

Engaging Families in Mental Health and Wellbeing

£60 (FREE to PEN Members)

Including workshops and resources. Further details will be available on our website www.penetnetwork.co.uk nearer the time.

Wed 1 Mar, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 10 Feb

Consultation with Parents

£75 (£65 PEN Members)



Schools need to show how they are listening to parents' views. This session will look at a range of strategies including surveys, parent councils and forums.

Wed 15 Mar 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 5 Mar

Mouse Club Transition Project (for Nursery & Reception)

£299 (£265 PEN Members)
Early Bird £250 (until Jan 31)



Training and resources to help parents get children school ready.

Workshops and tip sheets for parents, Mouse toys, and activities for children to do at home. Includes input on routines, toilet training, language, physical development etc. Ideal for Pupil Premium funded children.

Tue 28 Mar, 9.30-3.30 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 18 Mar



FREE to PEN Member schools

Network Meetings (Primary & Special schools)

£60 (FREE to PEN Members)

Central/South

Provisionally to include Beanstalk reading volunteers, Self Help Services and supporting EAL parents.

Wed 1 Feb, 9.15-12 at Z-arts, 335 Stretford Road, Hulme, M15 5ZA

North

Programme tbc

Thu 16 Mar, 9.15-12 at St Mary's Moston, M40 0DF

Family Support Worker Network for all staff working with vulnerable families

£60 (FREE to PEN Members)

Opportunity to share ideas and best practice of working with families to improve learning outcomes.

Includes specific input on new (Jan 2017) attendance and behaviour guidance, and the new government initiative to help schools support young people's well-being.

Wed 15 Feb, 9.30-12 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 5 Feb

Parental Engagement Co-ordinators' Network (for Primary & Special schools)

£60 (FREE to PEN Members)

Planning and coordinating parental engagement across the school, engaging other staff, consulting with parents and building communities.

Thu 23 Mar, 1.30-3.30 at the Windrush Centre, M16 7WD

Please book by 13 Mar

Parental Engagement Resources

Don't forget PEN CIC and Playbags Ltd offer a range of exciting, interactive resources to help engage parents in their children's learning. Visit penetwork.co.uk/resources and www.playbags.co.uk to find out more.

