

Dear parents

Exciting news about plans moving forward for our school.....

You may have heard on the news about the plans for all schools to become academies by 2030. Local authority support is decreasing and the need for schools to work collaboratively is now more important than ever. In Walsall, schools are encouraged to collaborate and work more closely together. There are a variety of ways schools can do this, from loose partnerships to more formal arrangements involving shared governance. Forming families of schools is becoming an increasingly attractive option for many schools.

Hillary Primary School in Pleck and **Shepwell School in Willenhall** have agreed to form a Family of Schools with us at Pinfold Street, from September 2022.

The headteachers of these 3 schools have been working together over the last few months and have already planned an exciting year of events for staff and children. These include: art, music and sports events; joint staff training and conferences. It will also help contribute to the local learning community and give children and young people more social and educational opportunities.

The three schools will remain independent and each school will keep its own identity, budget and governors. The main reason for the collaboration is because the headteachers have the same ethos and values. We work together well and will be supporting/learning from each of our strengths.

COMPETITION TIME – Winner receives £15 Amazon voucher

Although we will keep our own individual school names, we are looking for a name for our 'Family of Schools'.

To keep our children involved right from the start, we are launching a competition to come up with a name for our 'Family of Schools'.

Hints and tips for thinking of a name:

- Find information about the schools from the websites
- What colours are represented at each school (logos, uniform etc)
- Talk to family and friends with children who attend the other schools and find out the best features of the school
- Use knowledge from 'Round our way' topic

PLEASE HAND YOUR ENTRIES IN TO YOUR TEACHERS BY FRIDAY 8TH JULY.