

## **Local Research Unit launch change of name and new website!**

The Peninsula Cerebra Research Unit for Childhood Disability Research (PenCRU) is a research team based at the Peninsula Medical School in Exeter. You will probably have seen articles that we have written in previous school newsletters, but we have changed our name! In consultation with families, we have renamed ourselves from the Cerebra Research Unit to distinguish ourselves as an independent academic research unit, separate from the charity. We have also launched our new website which you can find at <http://sites.pcmd.ac.uk/pencru>.

### **A reminder of what we do...**

With core funding provided by the Cerebra charity, PenCRU carry out a broad programme of research that aims to improve the health and wellbeing of disabled children and their families. We work closely with families affected by childhood disability in all aspects of our research and related activities.

PenCRU responds to questions from families about therapies and health services for children and young people affected by disability or who have special or additional health needs. In response to these questions PenCRU will either signpost families to relevant sources of information or provide summaries of the existing evidence. Where evidence is lacking we may seek funding to conduct clinical trials to assess the effectiveness of interventions, or carry out other types of research to address topics of interest to families. The focus is always on outcomes that families tell us are important, such as function, social inclusion and participation, and quality of life.

Please have a look at our new website and let us know what you think. We particularly like the pictures of all the lovely children! If you would like to know more about PenCRU and how you can get involved, please contact Camilla or Claire at [pencru@pcmd.ac.uk](mailto:pencru@pcmd.ac.uk), or phone 01392 722968/2901.