



Pine Class Newsletter **Autumn Term 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,



We would like to welcome you all to Pine Class and look forward to us sharing a happy and successful year together. This week we have been incredibly proud of how well all the children have settled and thank you all for your continued support during this time.

In Pine class this year, your child will be taught by myself, Mrs Bush (Monday – Thursday) and Mrs Bright on a Friday. Ms Groves will teach Forest School on a Thursday and our sports coaches will be delivering PE on a Monday.

Listed below is some information we hope you find useful.

Inquiry Question - Magnificent Me?

Humankind and Ourselves

Foundation Stage Early Years Curriculum

Central to our early year's curriculum are the three key characteristics of effective early learning,

Playing and Exploring

Active Learning

Creating and thinking Critically

As a school we have adopted an inquiry curriculum which alongside our characteristics of effective learning enables pupils to be active in their learning process. Our curriculum allows them to engage with an idea or topic in an active way, asking questions and being curious.

Learning Skills

Through our inquiry we continue to teach specific learning skills. Children are recognised for these skills through the weekly Learning Skills Class award. The skills we encourage children to develop are: **Thinking, research, communication, social and self-management skills.**

Outlined below are our curriculum plans for this term.

Communication and Language

- Daily circle time - Our Life Time!
- Speaker of the Day - Daily question time
- Talking Partners
- Helicopter Stories - stories created by pupils, scribed by an adult and retold in class.

Maths

- Special numbers
- Months of the year and days of the week
- Shape and Pattern Week
- Numbers 1-5
- Positional language
- Number songs/rhymes.

Literacy

Comprehension and Word Reading

- Daily Class read
- Group Read-Twinkl Level 2
- Daily Nursery Rhymes
- Stories from other Cultures
- Stories linked to our topic
- Reading our favourite stories together
- Non-Fiction - Topic related
- Level 2 Twinkl Phonics
- Hot seating

Literacy

Writing

- Story Mapping
- Mark making areas in Continuous Provision - Inside and outside Literacy shed and table
- Traditional Stories - Story Maps/Hot Seating
- Stories from around the world?
- Writing simple statements all about me and my family.

Understanding of the World

- Seasonal change -Signs of Autumn - Autumn walk - I can observe closely like a Scientist!
- Cultures from around the world.
- Baking - Change of state.
- Understanding our past - When I was a baby!
- Family stories and exploring our personal past

RE

Christian Values - Community

Special Me- Who am I?

Harvest Worship

Computing

Beebots, Code a Pillars and iPad

Forest School

- Changes in the seasons
- Mud Kit
- Bug, bird and plant hunting.

PSHE

- Axbridge Emotions Toolkit.
- JIGSAW -
- A New Beginning at BIG school!
- 'Our Special Boxes'
- Our families
- Where do we live?
- Celebrating Differences - I can talk to my friends about similarities and differences.
- Name games - familiarising each other with our new class.

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills

Dough Disco, funky fingers, Pen Disco

Sports Masters

Gross Motor Skills

Building our special places - Den building - Inside and Outside.

Jumping, climbing and moving outside

PE

Ball skills

Expressive Art and Design

- Music from around the world, Sparkyard
- Sparkyard Music -Daily routine songs and rhymes
- Autumnal Art printing and painting
- Junk modelling
- Self Portraits with paints and sketching pencils
- Leaf Man collage
- Clay leaves and Autumn objects
- Designing and making resources for our Role Play Areas led by the children's ideas.



Tapestry

On line Learning Journal

Like many early years settings, we use Tapestry in Reception. Tapestry builds a very special record of your child's experiences, development and learning journey through their Reception Year using photographs, videos and diary entries. We along with you as parents/carers, will regularly add to your child's Tapestry profile. For those children that attended Busy Bees, we will continue to their Tapestry journal and you will have the same password and log in details. For children that are new to our school we will send you a new password. If you have any difficulties logging into Tapestry please come and see us.

We really enjoy sharing and celebrating all your children's achievements and interests. In Pine Class, we ensure that this is a special part of our school day. Please keep uploading all your child's wow moments!



Information about Pine Class

Class DoJo



ClassDojo

We use ClassDojo, an online platform, to support learning and engagement with parents and pupils. Class Dojo is used to send assignments to be completed and give feedback to pupils. We engage with parents through ClassDojo and post updates on the class story and school story app functions of ClassDojo, to keep you up to date. In addition, you can message us directly through Class Dojo, we will get back to you when we are not teaching. For all urgent matters please phone the school office. If you have any difficulties logging into Class Dojo, let us know.

RBA (Reception Baseline Assessment)

As mentioned in our EYFS Parent meeting last term, your child will be participating in Reception Baseline Assessment over the next six weeks. The RBA (Reception Baseline Assessment is a short, interactive and practical assessment of your child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematical skills when they begin school). We will be delivering the RBA in a fun, practical manner. Your child cannot pass or fail the assessment it is simply giving us a starting point to measure the progress schools make from Reception to Year 6. If you wish to find out more about the Reception Baseline Assessment, please read the documents attached to Class Dojo this week. A short summary will be available to parents later this term once your child has completed their RBA.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to see one of us.

Reading Books

Reading books will be changed frequently throughout the week. Please make sure that you have listened to and checked your child understands their reading book and when finished, please sign, recording any comments in the Reading Record Book. There are some suggestions at the front of each Reading Record book for discussion points with your child.

Reading Awards



The reading awards scheme has been popular amongst our pupils and has had a positive impact on the quality, enjoyment and engagement with reading. It will continue again this year, with a few changes and reminders.

- 1) The books that are counted towards the awards have to be books from the school reading scheme.
- 2) This year, your child receives a point towards their award for every day they read. They could earn up to 7 points a week, if they read every day.
- 3) We have revised the Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum requirements.
 - Bronze - Read 50 times
 - Silver - Read 100 times
 - Gold - Read 150 times
 - Platinum - Read 200 times

Reception Phonics

This term we will be introducing Level 2 of our phonic programme 'Twink Phonics' to our Reception children. This will be delivered daily, through short lessons in which will introduce a different phoneme/initial sound each day, play sound games, learn to blend and segment words using our sound knowledge and learn our tricky words. The reading books we send home will link with what your child has learnt in their phonic lesson. This term we will be introducing s a t p i n m d g o c k c k e r and the tricky words to, the, go, no, I

Reception Special Boxes

Each year pupils in Reception decorate and fill a box with their favourite things to talk about in class. If you could decorate a box and get your child to fill it with some of their favourite things, but not a special teddy they need to sleep with each evening, as the boxes will be in school for a few days. Please could these come into school by next Friday 18th September.

Games/PE

Pine class have PE on a Monday and Tuesday. Please can we ask that your child wears their PE kit to school on a Monday for the Sports Coaches lesson and bring their PE kit into school on a Tuesday for PE with us, as getting changed independently is part of our PE curriculum in Reception. Later in the term, when the weather is colder, please ensure your child has warm clothing e.g. jogging bottoms and track suit jacket/jumper to wear.

Medical Conditions

It is important that we are made aware of any existing or new medical conditions that your child may have, as well as making sure that their medication is in date and in school. This includes pupils who have asthma. All medication must be accompanied with full instructions for use and a medical form must be completed in the school office, this includes antibiotics, cream and any pain relief medication.

Water Bottles

We encourage children to bring in water to drink during the day when they are in class. Please make sure that the bottle is named. This is in addition to their lunch box drink and is for **water only**.

Fruit and Milk Scheme

Reception children receive a piece of fruit or vegetable everyday under the Government scheme. You can also order milk for them if you wish (see the office for details or the link on the school website).

Reception Forest School

Reception children will have Forest School on a Thursday with Miss Groves. Please can your child bring a named waterproof coat and wellies.

Information

In our endeavours to help our environment we will be aiming to send as much communication as possible via our digital platforms. Therefore, please refer to the School Jotter app and your Class Dojo accounts to receive up-to-date information.

This term we will be inviting our Reception parents to our Foundation Stage workshops on Thursday 8th October at 9am-9.45am and Thursday 8th October at 2.15-3.00pm. During this workshop you will learn more about the Early Years curriculum, get an insight to your child's day and be given practical ways to support your child's learning journey at home. A letter will be sent home shortly with more information.

School entry documentation will be sent home this week, this includes permission for local trips, photographs/media and contact details, we kindly request that you return them to school as soon as possible.

Finally, if you have any queries or concerns regarding school, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are all looking forward to an exciting Autumn Term with your child.

Many thanks,

Mrs Bissett, Mrs Bush and Mrs Bright