



Marsh Hill, Erdington, Birmingham B23 7EY
Tel: 0121 464 6136

Email: enquiry@pines.bham.sch.uk www.thepinesspecialschool.com

Headteacher: Miss Emma Pearce, B.Ed. (Hons), MEd, AdvDipEd

4th September 2020

Dear families.

Welcome back!

I can't tell you how lovely it is to see all of the children back. They have all come back in happy and content and most of them seem to have grown lots! Besides the issues with transport, it has been a really positive start. Many apologies for any delays or mix ups with transport. We will share our concerns with transport, but would ask you to do the same to travel Assist directly.

I know some people were unable to get through to school today, the phones were extremely busy and we were working through calls as quickly as we could. Again, apologies for any inconvenience or concern caused.

PE kits – for this half term we are asking that on the day your child has PE that you send them in, in clothing suitable for PE. We appreciate that this is another change for children, but it means that we are able to ensure the children aren't wearing each other's clothes in the post PE mix up! Also we are unable to use the changing rooms safely at present. This just means that on PE days children come to school in joggers and appropriate footwear. PE will be going ahead but will be modified keeping government guidelines in place.

Communication: Class teams will be using Class dojo to make contact regularly, we have asked that they put a class story up daily and have 1:1 direct message contact with you weekly. Obviously you can contact the staff as and when you feel necessary – but staff may not reply after work hours. If you do not access Class Dojo then please phone school and we can get you set up or arrange another method of communication. We will try to share a weekly update with you via a letter also.

Staffing: We would like to say a huge welcome to all of our new staff who have joined us this term. I am sure that they will be very happy here!

Illness: Just a reminder if someone in the home has positive test for COVID, they need to stay at home for 10 days from the day their symptoms started. Everyone else in the household needs to stay at home for 14 days from the day their household member's symptoms started. They should do this even if they have no symptoms themselves.

If a child falls ill at school, with COVID symptoms, a temperature, cough, cold like symptoms or sickness and diarrhoea then we will be insisting that the child is collected from school by the family as soon as possible, even if this occurs close to the end of the day.



Birmingham Special Schools'
Co-operative Trust





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I appreciate this may be difficult and cause some concern and challenges, but we have to be really hyper-vigilant and ensure that we take rapid action to prevent any potential illness spreading. We will be asking for families to support us with this, as many of you have done in the past. We will not routinely be taking temperatures in school but will do so if we feel that a child is unwell or has a temperature.

If a child displays any symptoms of Coronavirus (cough, temperature, change in taste or smell) then we will be asking for a test to be booked and the child will not be able to return to school until we have seen that the test result is negative. We fully appreciate that there are going to be coughs and colds as we enter the winter months, however we will always air on the side of caution.

We would ask that you send back updated contact lists, just so that we have the most up to date details on record for your child. We would appreciate it if you could list any medication that your child has.

Have a good weekend and we are looking forward to a lovely week in school next week – hopefully transport will all be sorted, fingers tightly crossed.

Many Thanks

Emma Pearce



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