



## Headteacher's Message



Dear families,

Once again we are at the end of another incredible year at The Pines. I really don't know where the time goes, it seems like only yesterday we were welcoming the children back after the summer holidays!

As ever it has been a really successful year in school. The magnitude of this was evident in the children's end of year reports – which really were a delight to read. The reports are a great reflection on not only the academic progress made, but also of the social and emotional progress.

We have celebrated many achievements including being awarded the rights respecting sliver award, acknowledging the work we do in empowering the rights of the child.

Sports days proved to be a huge success and the children really enjoyed a visit from Myles Hesson, a professional basketball player who has represented Great Britain at the commonwealth games. The pupils were really impressed with his basketball skills but also his height – 6ft 6inches!

This year we started the Duke of Edinburgh award for our secondary pupils and this has been a great success and we have been able to tailor this to the needs of our pupils.

We also had a visit from Dr Anjna Chouhan who edited the book that they have been studying – Shakespeare's first Folio: all the plays. Anjna very kindly came to do a question and answer sessions and shared her wealth of knowledge about



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*Shakespeare. The pupils in 4W spoke with her and asked her some super questions, we were also really grateful for the donation of a signed copy of the book.*

*Our year 11 leavers have worked incredibly hard and have made us all really proud with their determination and hard work towards their accreditations. They have demonstrated a really positive attitude to their studies and we are really going to miss them as they move onto the next step of their journey. It was a pleasure to be able to say goodbye to them all at their prom and was also lovely to see this event supported by their wider families. Goodbye and good luck to Joe, Dhruvan, Katie, Charlie, Raihan, Madeena, Zubair, Tinka-Belle, Thomas, Ben, Maya, Elshaday, Teneil, Jacob, Elijah, Bilal, Max, Lewis, Archie, Tyler, Dante, Oscar, Liam, Jayden and Nahid.*

*We have 20 of our current year 6 pupils making the transition into secondary this year, they are all very excited to be moving up the school and this was reflected in their leavers assembly, which is always a privilege to see as it really does demonstrate how much progress that they make during their time in primary. We would like to wish Jayden, Rebin and Mikhail all the best as they leave us to start at new secondary schools in September.*

*As you will be aware, the staff team at the Pines really are second to none, and the support and dedication that they show to the pupils and the school is one of the reasons children progress and are happy and settled in school. As such it is always sad when we have to say goodbye to staff. There are a few members of staff who are leaving at the end of the summer term. Gina is leaving and is taking early retirement, Gina we are going to miss you and hope that you manage to relax and do lots of lovely things. We will miss you. We are incredibly proud of Rehmana and Amahz who are both leaving us to complete their PGCE and become the next generation of SEN teachers. We would like to wish them both lots of luck - not that they will need it. Amreen is leaving us and will be working in a local special school. We wish you lots of luck, our loss is their gain! Finally, we are saying goodbye to Stephen Bradbury who is leaving us to take up an Assistant Head*



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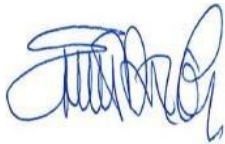
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*Teachers post. We know that he will be amazing at this and leaves big boots to fill keeping our website up to date and looking fantastic! We have a number of new staff starting with us after the summer and we will write out to you introducing them in September.*

*Finally, and most importantly thank you all for your ongoing support this year. Without the support of families, we would not be able to do what we do. By working together, we ensure that we can work towards the very best outcomes for all of our children.*

*On behalf of the staff and governors, we would like to wish you all a wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing the children back in school on Tuesday 3rd September.*

*Best wishes*



*Emma Pearce*



Let's see what our classes have been up to this term....

## Caterpillars Class

This term, our topics in Caterpillars have been the Farm and at the Seaside. We have enjoyed learning and exploring these themes. We have shared several books relating to the topics and have also completed related play and learn activities.

Last half term Caterpillars were learning about the farm. We shared farm books and farm activities during our play and learn sessions. We went to Sheldon Country Park where we saw lots of animals and we had a fun time at Spencer's Retreat Farm.



During our seaside topic, we have been creative using different materials; making star fish, paper plate crabs, jelly fish and lots more. We enjoyed a Math's seaside treasure hunt and explored several sea themed sensory activities.

We have made our own beach area where we have sand, water and deck chairs. We have looked closely at shells and sea creatures. Our role play area has been an ice-cream parlour, where we are using PECS to ask for our choice of ice creams and toppings.

We have been on several trips out this term including the park, garden centres, the farm and the allotment. We are doing really well with walking and following instructions when we are out. We all enjoyed our end of year visit to SNAP where we had a fun filled day in the sunshine.

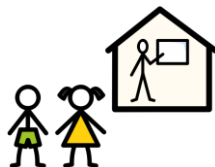
Caterpillars have had an amazing first year at The Pines and we are all very proud of the progress they have made!



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## Primary Department



### 1B Class



This term in 1B, we have explored the topics Stories and Rhymes and People Who Help Us.

In the first half term, we explored the topic Stories and Rhymes, as part of this topic we enjoyed listening to a range of different rhymes including: The Three Little Pigs Song, Each Peach Pear Plum and What Rhymes with... We used different paper collage materials to collage items related to the story and enjoyed finding objects related to each of the texts hidden in different sensory materials – sometimes getting very messy. This term we have also been working really hard on our mark making and have been exploring using different tools to make marks as well as exploring sensory materials. In science, our topic was plants. During our science lessons we explored different types of flowers and planted our own seeds to grow cress, beans and sunflowers. As part of our geography topic, we explored our local and wider environment by walking around school and the local area – visiting the school allotment. As part of this topic, we also went out and about on the school minibus; which we all enjoyed and had lots of fun!

In the second half term, we explored the topic People Who Help Us, as part of this topic we explored the following texts: Emergency, Let's meet people who help us and Miss Polly had a dolly. As part of this topic we explored lots of different people who help us through sensory exploration. We have also dressed up and role played being doctors, firefighters and police officers! During our Attention Autism sessions, we have been using water pistols to put out fires! As part of our History topic we all became nurses and used bandages to look after sick babies and dolls. In science this term we have been exploring how different materials mix, we have made gloop, created fizzy shapes and watched how some materials dissolved in water.

During our math's sessions this term we have been working really hard on developing our understanding of number through a range of practical activities and familiar songs. We have also explored position and direction where we explored weighing and measuring different objects and exploring them with our hands. We have also continued to explore a range of 2d and 3d shapes for a range of purposes.

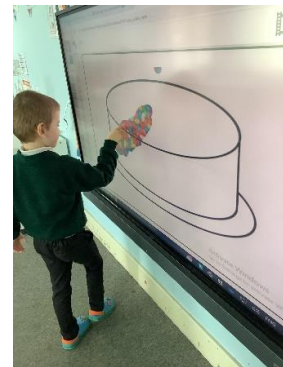
In PSHE, we have explored relationships and changing me. As part of these topics we have been learning our basic body parts and exploring photos of our families as well as looking at photos of



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ourselves as babies. We also worked on being a good friend and sharing and taking turns as well as greeting people we know.

We have had a very busy Summer term in 1B and have worked really hard. We really enjoyed participating in sports day where we were able to explore a range of gross motor activities and bounce on the bouncy castle! We also had lots of fun at our end of year trip to SNAP, and have really enjoyed our forest school sessions this term, where we have loved exploring our environment! We are also looking forward to our fire station and McDonalds trip.



## 1W Class

This term, our topics have been Stories and Rhymes and People Who Help Us. In the first half term, we read some traditional tales such as The Three Little Pigs and stories which had a play on words that made us giggle, such as Rhyme Crime. We made collages of traditional rhymes such as Humpty Dumpty and built our own houses like the Little Pigs. In science, our topic was Plants, and we planted beans, peas and marigolds. We watered the seeds and watched them grow with magnifying glasses. As part of our geography work, we went for walks in the local area. We visited the allotments to look at the plants and walked to two local cafes to have a drink and a snack! This half term, we have been learning about some of the people who help us and we have dressed up and role-played being doctors, police officers and fire fighters! In history we have been finding out about the lives of two famous nurses, Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. In Maths we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes. We have been on a shape hunt around school, and we have also been making pictures and building models with shapes. 1W have had the most amazing year and our teachers are very proud of us.



## 1R Class

For our third and final term in 1R, we have covered the following topics:

- Stories and rhymes and People who help us

Across all of our subjects, we have been practicing our writing and reading skills in English. Exploring our counting skills, exploring position and direction as well as exploring geometry in Maths. In Science, we have looked at Plants and Materials. We have also discovered Healthcare in History and Local Environments in Geography. In PSHE we have looked at Relationships, as well as, Changing Me. We have visited the local community, visited people who help us, as well as lots of messy activities inside and outside in the lovely weather.





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## 1S Class

We have fitted a lot into our final term in 1S. We very quickly got used to our two new teachers and it did not take long for them to get used to us and realise what an amazing class we are!

In the first half of the term our topic was 'Journeys.' We enjoyed 'Rosie's Walk' and 'Around the World' books. We have worked really hard on our writing skills and our reading skills. We have also done some fun Speech and Language activities and every one of us has made good progress either using our voices more, or communicating and engaging better with the adults and children around us. As part of our History work we went to the Motorbike Museum and enjoyed seeing the hundreds of shiny motorbikes, both old and new.

In the second half of the term our topic was 'On Safari.' We enjoyed some fun Shape, space and Measure work linked to the book 'Dear Zoo,' and hid animals in different boxes. We even got inside some boxes ourselves to see if they were big enough to fit us in! Our trip to Twycross Zoo to see the animals was great! We all enjoyed finding the animals that we had seen in the book but we all secretly enjoyed finding the Gruffalo more!!! (Shhhhh, don't tell our teachers!)

We have particularly enjoyed our Attention Autism sessions and taking turns to do fun things like holding the umbrella while it 'snowed' on us (as part of our science weather topic) and having a go at 'driving the bus' (as part of our poem/ song work- The Wheels on the Bus). We also enjoyed setting up an obstacle course in our classroom as part of our healthy me topic.

We are looking forward to settling into our new classes in September, but we will always remember what a great class 1S has been. Our teachers are very proud of us.



## 2R Class

2R have had a fantastic Summer term exploring our topics 'Body wise' and 'The Rainforest'. During our body wise topic, the children had the opportunity to explore how the human body works, learning the name of different body parts, and exploring the function of different organs. During our Rainforest topic 2R explored what we can find in a rainforest, it's climate, the animals and plants. For our science lessons, 2R have been developing their understanding of plants and how they grow. 2R enjoyed watching time lapses of plants growing and also planted their very own sunflower. It has been a highlight of their day watering their plant and seeing how much it had grown each morning. 2R also explored different parts of the human body using a skeleton learning to identify body parts and their function.

During Art, 2R have been learning to work with clay. The children have explored how they can mould, and shape clay to create sculptures. The children did a fantastic job making a sculpture of a spider and learning how to mould and shape clay independently.

We have also had a fantastic Sports Day. Thank you to all the parents that's showed up to support us. The children had a fab afternoon.



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## 2F Class

2F have had a fabulous term. Highlights include our trip to SNAP in May, where the children made us proud. Of course, our Sports Day was another memorable occasion, which everyone really enjoyed.

In the curriculum, the children have continued to make progress in Math's and English, especially with times tables and punctuation. We have learned about capacity as well. Elsewhere, the children have looked at Australian animals in Geography and Food chains in science.

I'm sure everyone is now looking forward to a well earned rest, so I'd like to take the opportunity to thank parents for their support, and children for their hard work. Hope you have a great summer.





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## 2S Class

Our topic this term is plants. We have been exploring different parts of the plants and seeing what happens when they grow. We have also been exploring beans and placed them in a plastic wallet so we could see the roots grow, we have kept a diary each week and measured the beans to see how big they have grown. We planted the class bean in soil and watched it grow taller and taller.



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## 2W Class

Hi there from 2W.

We have had such a busy term looking at The Rainforest. We have been looking at the animals and the stories Animal Boogie and Rumble in the Jungle. We have worked really hard using our ALD sheets to name the animals and explore different words linked to the stories.

For Mathematics we are looking at time, we have explored clocks and different symbols linked to our daily routine. We are really working hard on our numbers and some positional language activities such as "where is the monkey?"

We all had great fun on Sports Day, and we had fun bouncing on the castle and exploring the sports activities. It has been an exciting year and we have learnt lots of new skills.





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## 2M Class

Happy Summer from 2M

WOW! We can't believe it, this year has flown by!

Our first topic this term was Fighting Fit. We had lots of fun listening to the stories Daisy Eat Your Peas, The Runaway Pea and Jesse Owens. We had lots of fun creating our own menus, decorating our own peas, trainers for Jesse Owens and using symbols to create our own shape poems. We also continued to enjoy visits to the school library where we would choose a book to look at and take one home. This term our topic has been celebrations. We have enjoyed listening to the story 'The Birthday Presents' by Paul Stewart and learning about lots of other celebrations such as Diwali and Bonfire Night through non-fiction books and rhymes. We have also been very lucky to work with Lori from the Hippodrome. We have been doing lots of drama work to do with celebrations and have had a tea party with mole and created our own banana puppets to go with the story 'Kitchen Disco'.



We have been continuing to work hard in Maths. We have learnt all about time, making our own clocks, ordering key events of our day e.g. breakfast, school, minibus, dinner, bath and bed and doing lots of jigsaws related to time. We also had lots of sensory fun when learning about heavy and light. We are also more confident with our Number skills, practicing our counting, addition, subtraction and number formation.

In Science this term, as part of our Animals and Humans topic we explored pictures of our friends as babies and children. We

also had lots of fun matching our pictures, using mirrors to explore our facial features and using imaginative play to role play different activities within the home e.g. brushing hair, having a bath and setting the table. We have also continued to explore materials as our final topic, this term.

In Art, we have been mixing different paints together, to explore the different secondary colours. We were also fortunate to have been invited on a trip to the Midlands Art Centre (MAC) to see the work we created as part of the Common Arts Project in the Spring term and participate in an Eco printing workshop. We had lots of fun! We also got to visit the cinema where we watched a film about the project. Thank you to Miss Roberts and the MAC for organising.





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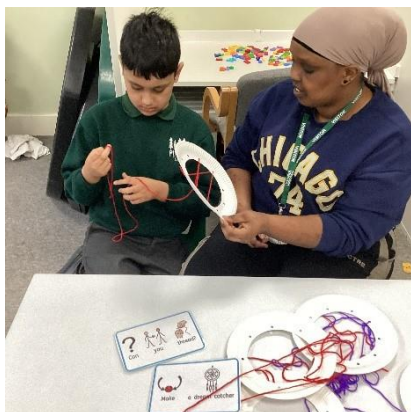
## 2P Class

2P have had a very busy Summer term. We started in Summer 1 with our 'Roald Dahl' topic. The children enjoyed lots of Roald Dahl themed activities, including making dream jars and dream catchers, exploring the 'chocolate river,' painting Mr. Twits beard and exploring 'Wormy Pasta.' In Summer 2, we explored our 'Creepy Crawlies' topic, looking at key texts 'Walter's Wonderful Web' 'Bugs' and 'Incy Wincy Spider.' The children have enjoyed lots of mark making, decorating and colouring different bugs, tracing and making their own spider's webs, and sequencing pictures from our key texts.

2P have also been working hard in Math's, exploring numbers, completing lots of counting and sorting activities, and exploring and identifying shapes.

In Science lessons, in Summer 1, 2P explored sound – using different instruments and everyday items to make different sounds and exploring sound buttons and noisy toys. In Summer 2, we looked at 'what we need to stay healthy' – with lessons focusing on brushing teeth, washing hands, healthy foods and being able to make a drink.

2P are well and truly ready to break up for Summer after a fantastic, but very busy year. 2P hope everyone enjoys the 6 weeks' holidays and looks forward to coming back to school, to do it all again, in September.



2C Class 

Summer term seems to have flown by this year. In the first part of the term, our topic was 'Fighting Fit'. We read the book 'Daisy Eat your peas' by Kes Gray and also looked at what children liked to order when they go out to eat, looking at different menu's We also looked at Non- Fiction Jesse Owen- Little People Big Dreams by Marie Isabel Sanchez Vegara. We looked at Jesse Owens Biography and wrote about his life events. Over the last term our topic has been about celebrations. We have been looking at how different people celebrate different events around the world. The children had a trip to The Mac Canon Hill Park. On arrival at The Mac, we watched a video about Art workshops from the different schools. The class enjoyed the art workshop where they used rollers and material to make different patterns. We also looked at the art displays of all the other schools that took part.

In Maths we have been looking at telling the time, we have learnt what the different hands on the clock mean and our following topic was fractions where we learnt how to share items equally and split them up into varying fractions.

Our Geography and Art topic has been Japan and we have learnt lots about the differences between our community and theirs. We have looked at their traditional dress, the kimono, and even had a go at designing our own. In the Japanese culture, they have children's day which is a holiday where they fly Koinoboroi, which are carp fish kites, and they represent the strength and perseverance the children should have.

We also have started having open theatre sessions where the children have been dressing up and expressing themselves through acting and role playing which they thoroughly enjoyed.

As the weather has been slightly warmer, we were able to have our sports day and our parents were able to come in and watch. We had different events like the egg and spoon race, long jump and toss the bean bag, the parents also had a go at some of the races which was very fun.





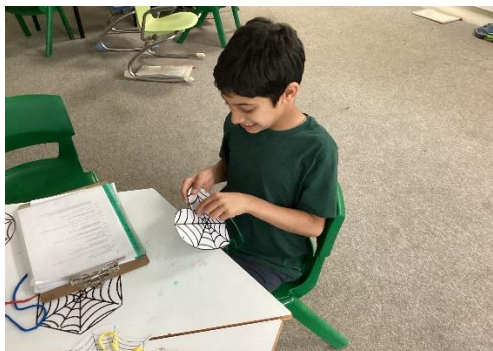
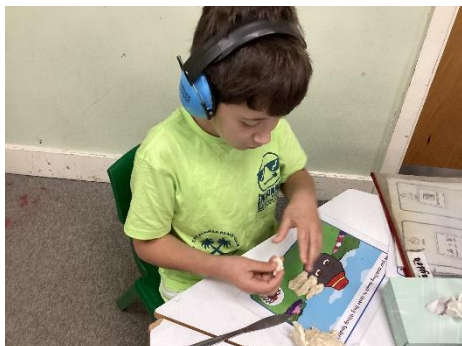
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## 2H Class

This half term 2H have been exploring 'Creepy Crawlies'. In English we have been reading Walters Wonderful Web, The Bug book and have been enjoying the poem Incy Wincy spider. We have been creating our own webs using crafts, tracing and copying words and patterns for our webs and using ALD boards to comment on what we can see stuck on different sensory webs.

In Maths we have been exploring number and shape through our key texts for example, by making sets of insects and sorting different bugs into their corresponding groups. In Science, we have been looking at animals and humans. We have looked at healthy living including tasting healthy and unhealthy foods, brushing teeth and explored different animals and their habitats. In Art we have focused on using chalk to draw and colour different insects. We specifically enjoyed using our fingers to rub the chalk in. In PSHE we have been looking at our bodies. We have explored our senses, recreated our own human bodies and labelled the different parts of the body. In Geography, our country of focus has been Australia. We have enjoyed recreating the Australian flag, making Australian foods such as fairy bread and exploring Aboriginal art.

We have been working on walking in the local environment this term and building up how long we can walk far. All the children have progressed superbly in this and listened really well to instructions in the community. We are super excited for our end of year trip to West Midlands Safari Park! It has been an amazing year in 2H and all the staff are so proud of all the achievements the pupils have made! Well done 2H!





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## 2B Class

Class 2B have had a busy final term this year. Let's see what Class 2B have been learning this term. Our themes for this term are Fighting Fit and Celebrations.

In English, we enjoyed reading the story Daisy Eat Your Peas. The children created a menu for Daisy, exploring various food choices she might like. We also loved reading The Birthday Present by Paul Stewart. The children sequenced and ordered parts of the story, matching symbols or words to pictures. In Maths, the focus has been on numbers, money, and time. The children have been learning number words and practicing their number formation. They had great fun participating in a role-play shop, exchanging coins for food or their favourite toys. We have also been learning about days of the week and practiced telling time to the hour and half-hour.

In Geography, the children explored Japan. They decorated a Japanese flag using different collage materials and located Japan on a map. They also explored famous landmarks and matched pictures and symbols. In Art and Design, the children have been painting and experimenting with colour mixing. They mixed primary colours to create new ones and made a colour wheel.

Class 2B have also enjoyed working with our Forest School Leader, Sami! She planned many fun activities this half-term, including making butterfly pictures using natural materials, creating magic wands with sticks and string, learning how to light a fire safely, and cooking popcorn and marshmallows! Our swimming lessons at Kingstanding Wellbeing Centre have been a highlight, with children growing more confident in the water over the term.

This half-term, Class 2B has had the pleasure of working with Lori Hopkins from the Birmingham Hippodrome. Lori is a puppeteer, and the children have had a fantastic time engaging in drama and role play over the last five weeks.

It has been a wonderful term, filled with exciting activities and new learning experiences for Class 2B. We are incredibly proud of all their achievements and the progress they have made. Well done, Class 2B!

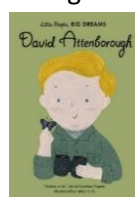
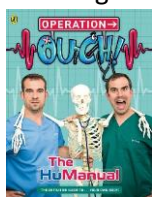
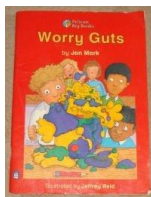


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## 2D Class

This term 2D have enjoyed the topics electricity and evolution and inheritance in Science. In PE we have improved our knowledge and skills on invasion games and athletics. In topic we have explored different people who have changed the world and environmental issues. In PSHE we have covered relationships and changing me topics, learning about ourselves.

We have read a wide range of books, which offered us a range of skills to develop.



We have represented our school at Aston Villa FC (football tournaments) and at The Alexander Stadium (a commonwealth games legacy multi sports event).



We have made a variety of clay models with the MAC, visited Erdington Library, Mosques and Gurdwaras.

We have also been regulars down the allotment, doing some maintenance and planting pumpkins, fingers crossed for over the summer growth.

We have also had Forest school sessions and have cooked a wide range of things on an open fire. These included :- smores, popcorn, garlic bread, pasta, pizza and chocolate orange cake. All the pupils have improved their fire safety skills and fire lighting skills with a flint and steel.





## Secondary Department

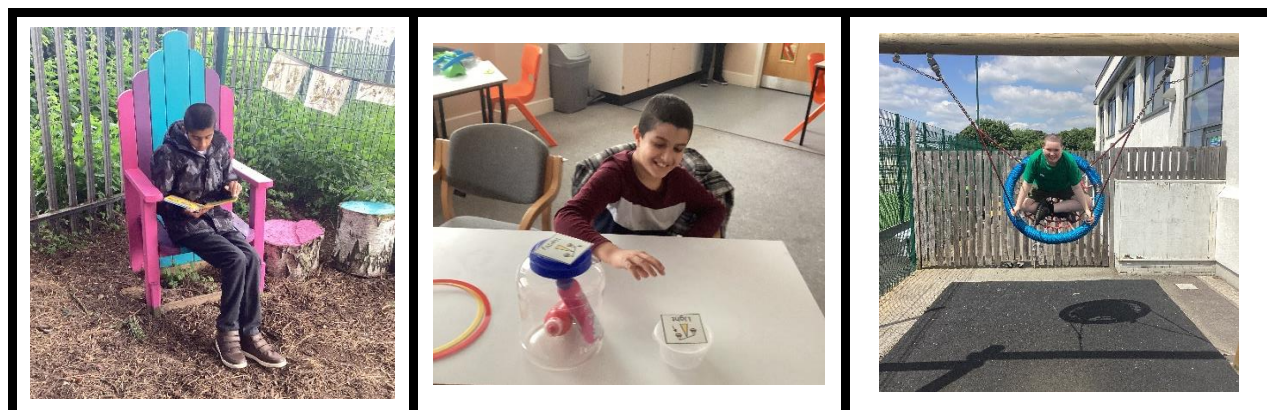


### 3C Class

The final term in 3C has been a blast. It has been wonderful to look back at how far the pupils of 3C have come and to celebrate these achievements. In recent weeks we have enjoyed our geography topic 'A Forest School Case Study' where we have explored different Forest activities. Shaan and Hafsa have particularly enjoyed using the hammocks and swings. For sports day we enjoyed showing off some of our skills. Jade fearlessly climbed to the top of the climbing apparatus, and Reggie has transitioned to action indoor for the bouncy castle, as well as using the astro turf. In Geometry Ismail has been showing us how well he can compare weights, capacities and heights, whilst Jacob has been working on his timetables. In English we have looked at the stories 'Tap, Tap, Bang, Bang' and 'The Brave Knight'. Eisa and Jade loved using some of the tools from the story.

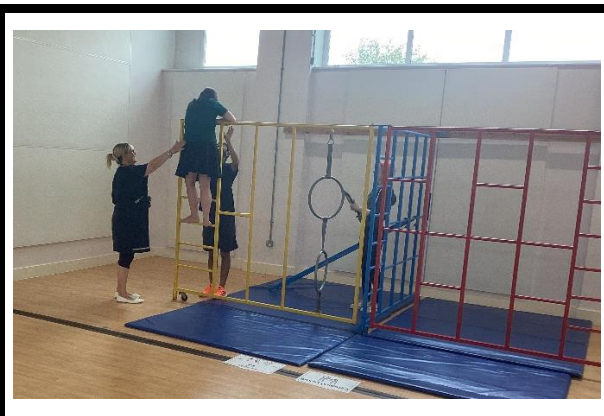
We have enjoyed a shared trip with 3Z down to the allotment with some very messy Attention Autism stages. In Information and Technology, we have been using the iPads to communicate through multimedia. The 3C parents received a dojo from the 3C pupils as well as creating a stop animation video. We all had lots of fun with this. In the first half term we explored mixtures in our science lessons. We made colourful flames in the fire, elephants' toothpaste, coke and mentos, and salt and lemonade.

It has been truly wonderful to watch 3C develop throughout the year.





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## 3V Class

3V have had an amazing summer term. The children have continued to work hard and we are so proud of them. They have been engaged and a credit to our class.

Our themes for the Summer term have been 'Enterprise Project' and 'Lights, Camera, Action'.

In English we learned all about limericks and how to write one. The children were really good at coming up with their own funny ideas for their poems. We also read 'If I Ran The Circus' by Dr Seuss and we did lots of writing based around the circus theme. For 'lights, camera, action' we read Matilda and looked at characterisation and themes in the book.

In History we focused on the beginnings of Cadbury's chocolate. We learnt about how chocolate is made and how it has changed over the years. In Geography, our learning was based around the natural and physical world and we studied the features around us that can be identified as human or physical. The children had lots of fun exploring the areas around the school.

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In Art we took lots of photographs as our theme was photography. We were able to edit them by adding filters, cropping and deleting the ones we didn't want. We learned how cameras have evolved over time and were able to look at old cameras to see the differences.

Sports day was enjoyed by all who took part. The children had a lovely day and got to meet Myles Hesson, a gold medallist basketball champion. Parents and children were both amazing during the activities and it was lovely to see them all enjoying themselves.





### 3F Class

During this term year 8 are taking part with the Green Business Challenge organised by Willmott Dixon. The pupils have learnt about construction, who are WD, job roles and the safety wear worn on site. They have also learnt about renewable resources and why they are important in the building sector, learning about 4 specific job roles which include management, design, budgeting and sustainability. Further to this, students have planned, costed, designed and built a model eco village working in teams of four and taking on one of the job roles above.

Year 8 took part in a Holi Art session where they had the opportunity to learn about The Holi festival which is cultural significance among various Hindu traditions of the Indian subcontinent. It is the festive day to end and rid oneself of past errors, to end conflicts by meeting others, a day to forget and forgive. People pay or forgive debts, as well as deal anew with those in their lives. Pupils made some lovely pieces depicting this.

We visited Brookevale park the first week back after half term to celebrate 'world environment day'. This day fell on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024. It is a day the United Nations encourages worldwide awareness and action to protect our environment. 3F had a lovely time looking for the different types of wildlife on the day. And learning about this history of the park. It was a welcome relief from class based lessons!

Later on in the term we revisited the allotment to see the potatoes we placed in for seed earlier in the year. We had lots to harvest and were really impressed with our farming ability. We also did an overall tidy up and watering of all that is growing there.





## 3M Class

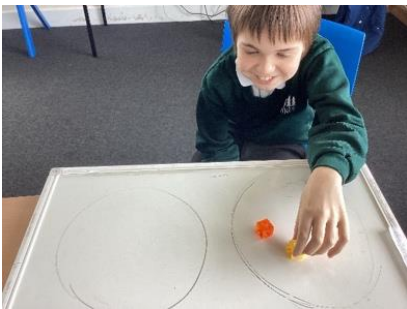
This summer term has been an exceptional period for 3M, filled with remarkable achievements and memorable moments. The students have demonstrated outstanding progress across various subjects, showcasing their dedication, hard work, and enthusiasm for learning. From academic accomplishments to extracurricular successes, 3M has truly excelled. The collective effort of the students, combined with the support and guidance from their teachers, has led to significant growth and development, making this term a resounding success.

In English, 3M have covered a range of texts such as Eddies Toolbox, Limericks and Yeti Turn Out the Lights. The children's favourite text was Yeti Turn out the lights. In the first term, 3M have looked at Limericks and created their Limericks. They have also explored different types of tools and what they are used for. In the second term, 3M have created their own story using pictures and written sentences about the story they have read. In addition, 3M had created their autobiography on Superheroes where they created their characters and wrote an autobiography on their character. 3M have explored and looked at famous people in history and created fact files about them. Amazing work!

In the first term, in Maths we have looked at position, direction and statistics. 3M has explored bar charts, block diagrams, tally charts and line graphs, and are beginning to have an enhanced understanding of different types of charts. In the second term, 3M have been exploring fractions such as halves, quarters, and thirds. 3M have been finding a half or a quarter practically, whilst others have been finding and naming fractions. 3M have also been looking at multiplication and division facts. We have been able to recall multiplication and division facts by using arrays. I am impressed as 3M has exceeded in this! We have also been adding and subtracting one-step word problems and 3M has thrived in this. Well done!

As we wrap up this summer term, it's clear that 3M has had an incredible journey filled with both fun and learning. From engaging classroom activities to exciting outdoor adventures, each day has brought new opportunities for growth and discovery. The students have embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and have made impressive strides in their academic and personal development. We are immensely proud of their achievements. Here's to celebrating a term well spent and looking forward to more adventures in the future. Enjoy a well-deserved summer break, and we can't wait to see what next year holds for our wonderful 3M!

THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



# THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## 3Z Class

3Z have had an amazing summer term, they have continued to work really hard and have really enjoyed learning about rockets and space.



We have enjoyed getting out to the local allotment which was super fun. We recently had great fun on sports day and showed off our skills, we are all great jumpers and really enjoyed the bouncy castle.

We have learned all about Ancient Egypt and we had fun turning the dolls into mummies. Have a lovely summer!





## 3R Class

3R have enjoyed a very busy term. In English the children created some lovely imaginative writing based on A River by Marc Martin. They also created holiday brochures and leaflets about an imaginary visit to a sea life centre. 3R wrote sea themed Haiku poetry and shape poems. Meet the Planets inspired the children to create their own planet and Stephen Hawking's story got the children thinking which led them to write formal and informal letters.

In Maths they joined in with place value activities, addition and subtraction, including some columnar representations. Fractions, multiplication including games and different ways of writing multiplication. They also looked at commutative, multiply and add numbers in any order and how the answer will always be the same as well as inverse operations.

In science they looked at lots of different experiments, including the screaming jelly baby. They also discovered the interactive periodic table! Electricity sparked a shocking reaction (thanks Ryan for the terrible joke).

The children enjoyed sports day preparations. In DT they really enjoyed making friendship bracelets. History was all about change in the USA, the children looked at Martin Luther King Jnr and Rosa Parks. The Egyptian topic was a 'sandy' experience, thanks again Ryan!

Sports Day was fun and the children enjoyed a visit to the park and allotment.



# THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## 3L Class

This Term in 3L we have been very busy. In History we have looked at Birmingham, what life was like in the past, lifestyle and cultural and we have complimented this with Geography and our research into Sutton Park and the areas surrounding it.

In Art we have studied Henry Moore and his work and sculptures. We have tried to create our own sculptures with drawings and playdough. Whilst in Science we have looked at Physics and the energy both around us in the environment and within us, using food as fuel.

We especially had fun making ice cream after studying one of the books we read in English – ‘The Mystery of the Straight Ice Cream’. Apparently, it tasted good too.

It is great to be back in 3L again and spending time with the wonderful children in it. I look forward to seeing the same smiling faces next year, when we will be all together again in 4L.



# THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## 3K Class

3K have had a fantastic last term to the year. They've worked extremely hard and enjoyed topics that have included looking at our climate and how it affects our world and how we live in it, which led on to some brilliant information gathering about people who are doing their best to keep our planet safe, including Greta Thunberg who is only about 8 years older than some of the class and David Attenborough who is much older than them. Talking of time, we've worked well on how long things take to do, the order of the Days and Months and what happens within our day here at school.

In DT we made some extremely successful adjustable mobile phone holders out of wood which included using a saw and a drill as well as a lot of effort with sandpaper. ICT has been fun with animation using Scratch Jr and Chatterpix, which kept us highly entertained. In cooking we've been finding out about how NOT to use some ingredients as people may be allergic or not like them and we've been very successful, making some yummy things, most of which haven't made it home due to them being eaten in class!

PE has seen us working as part of a team both in our 'Expedition' topic when we walked with rucksacks on down to and around the allotment and had our lunch there, and with our parachute skills where we're increasing our listening and watching abilities. In Art we've learned a lot over the year about different artists, but finished off with Henry Moore who produced some huge abstract sculptures with holes in the middle and we've created our own mini sculptures with this in mind. Last week as part of Geography we had a great visit to Sutton Park to look at our local area. It would have been rude not to have an ice cream while we were there, so we stopped off and sat on the grass enjoying our lovely planet.

3K have worked very hard this year and we hope that the whole school has a safe, fun and fabulous holiday.





# THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## 3W Class

This term we have met an Olympic medal winner, Myles Hesson, been to Sandwell Valley Park on a Geography Field Trip (see photo below), and made lots of lovely dishes in Cooking! The class has been working hard, as always, and we have also managed to celebrate a few birthdays. Some of the class also had a theatre visit to The Wizard of Oz. The term is racing ahead and we have had our Transition Day, everyone meeting new staff or students, a taste of next year! Our Sports Day was exciting and we have another visit to a park to look forward to before the end of term. The class has also taken part in Kindness by Post, hopefully a card to us will arrive before we break up, something else to look forward to. Students have also been sharing what they are looking forward to doing (or not!) during the holidays.

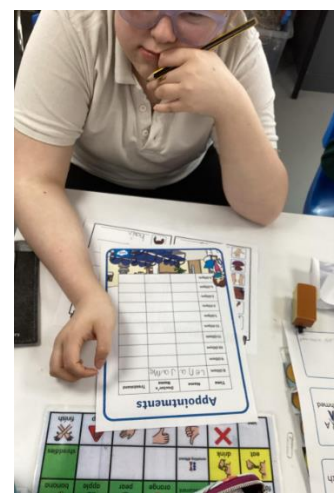
Have a lovely, fun packed (and hopefully sunny) holiday!



# THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## 4H Class

4H have worked extremely hard this term across all subject areas, our topic has been 'switching on'. In English we explored the story 'Boy and bot' and the poem 'eletelephony' whereby we had lots of fun reenacting the poem in which an elephant tries to use a telephone and gets all tangled up. In Maths we have continued to build our geometry and number skills on a weekly basis through a range of activities. As a class we continue to complete our independent learning trays (ILTs) and additional activities in English and Maths on a daily basis and have all taken brilliant ownership and responsibility over this routine which is great to see. In PE we practiced the sports we took part in our sports day of which we all joined in well and had lots of fun, especially seeing the parents and teachers all race! We were also lucky enough to have a visit from Myles Hesson the basketball player who was representing our red team! In Art we have looked at the work of the artists Henri Matisse and Andy Warhol; we enjoyed seeing their artwork and having a go at re-creating our own inspired work. Cooking is one of all of our favourite lessons, especially making some yummy snacks. We have all improved our ability to follow a recipe and developed our chopping, mixing and weighing skills through lots of practice. In ASDAN we have worked hard to build our knowledge around the health services, it is important we are aware of who we can go to help, particularly in an emergency and the number we need to call. We have also covered communicating with others, following instructions from others and taking account of other group members in different scenarios to build real life contexts around these skills needed in everyday life. We have completed group theralympics session to continue to work our way through this programme and developed our skills on the computer and IPAD during ICT sessions to build our functional skills. We are all looking forward to our summer holidays after all our hard work this year!



## 4R Class



Wow! Their final year has flown by! 4R have had a very busy term with lots of exciting activities. They have worked so hard with the GCSE arts/arts award along with their Entry Level qualifications and have enjoyed the relaxation before finishing their final few days at the Pines! Within our English lessons, we have read "Tales from the Caribbean" – a selection of stories which contain morals and teach us a lesson. 4R enjoyed reading this book and over the last couple of weeks have worked towards creating their own stories which they read aloud to the rest of the class. There were some lovely morals. Excellent work 4R! Sports Day was a huge success – thank you Mr. L and Mr. C. **Go Green team!** We were visited by Myles Hesson – British Basketball player. Here 4R had the opportunity to ask him all sorts of questions and get to know all about him. Thank you to both the students and parents who supported 4R and made it a lovely day. Towards the end of the term, we visited our new settings on Transition Day (they could not wait to tell us all about it), travelled to Dudley Zoo and Queensbury New Horizons. I think we can safely say the class enjoyed these trips out. 4R have been looking forward to their PROM and cannot wait to celebrate! We have also been visited by Charis McRoberts, who is a dramatist and playwright, and they spent the day working with us. It was a lot of fun! They have continued to have a fantastic final term and we cannot wait to see what the future has in store for them. Fantastic work 4R! You have worked so hard over the past two years and should be proud of all your work! Good luck at college and you will all be missed by everyone at the Pines. Please come back to visit us, as we would love to see you all again! Have a lovely summer!





# THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## 4A Class

This term 4A have been enjoying their cooking lessons and have made some tasty treats.

They really enjoyed making mini cheesecakes and flapjacks.



We have also been out and about looking for our local health services.



We also completed our Duke of Edinburgh expedition.



## 4W Class

This term 4W have continued to work hard in all of their core subjects but have also had an eye on raising money for their school trip. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June, the class washed 22 staff cars earning over £100. The hard work and incredible team performance was impressive and they have now paid for their much deserved trip to GRAVITY Trampoline Park.



## 4B Class

4B have worked tremendously hard this term in preparation for their GCSE and Entry Level exams. They have done a phenomenal amount of work in preparation but, although some of them felt a bit stressed, they all managed to complete the exams. All the exams are now finished and they are able to relax a bit.

They had a visit from the Hippodrome and did a music composing workshop which they found very enjoyable. They created their own riff and put their own vocals to it. They used instruments to tell a story and create the background atmosphere.

A visit to Edgbaston cricket ground to watch a test match was a highlight of the term. Pupils were impressed by the speed of the ball and how fast everyone moved.

They carried out a cake sale to raise some funds for a trip out to the local café. All the pupils were involved with the planning and selling of the cakes. They are all now independent cooks and were able to cook all the cakes the day before the sale.



## Attendance

Thank you for your continued support in raising attendance here at Pines! Next year we will continue to strive in raising our attendance, and will aim for 96% next year!

We have made our procedure easier for parents/carers to inform us of their child's absence:

- Answering machine between 5pm and 7.30am on weekdays and all weekend
- Direct messages to class staff via Dojo
- Email: [j.mccarthy@pines.bham.sch.uk](mailto:j.mccarthy@pines.bham.sch.uk)
- Calling the school office before 9.15am

**Under the new national framework that comes into force from August 2024, all schools will be required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (five days) for unauthorised reasons.**

**The fine for school absences across the country will be £80.00 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days.**

| Attendance during one school year | equals this number of days absent | which is approximately this many weeks absent | which means this number of lessons missed |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 95%                               | 9 days                            | 2 weeks                                       | 50 lessons                                |
| 90%                               | 19 days                           | 4 weeks                                       | 100 lessons                               |
| 85%                               | 29 days                           | 6 weeks                                       | 150 lessons                               |
| 80%                               | 38 days                           | 8 weeks                                       | 200 lessons                               |

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



## Mental Health

### Mental Health and Wellbeing

#### **Children**

##### **Emergency services**

If you are concerned you may harm yourself you can contact the emergency services (999) or the NHS on 111 or get yourself to your nearest A&E department.

##### **Forward Thinking Birmingham**

If you need urgent help right now, call us on 0300 300 0099 and you'll be able to speak to someone.

You can also contact the Birmingham and Solihull 24/7 crisis number:

**0800 915 9292**

**Helpline** – Childline For under 18's Child-Line is available on 0800 1111 24 hours a day. More information is at [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)

**Helpline** – Papyrus The Hopeline is open 10am-10pm for any young people experiencing suicidal thoughts on 0800 068 441 and you can visit them at [www.papyrus-uk.org](http://www.papyrus-uk.org)

#### **Adults**

##### **Emergency services**

If you are concerned you may harm yourself you can contact the emergency services (999) or the NHS on 111 or get yourself to your nearest A&E department.

**NHS 111** – for urgent help you can contact NHS 111

**Neighbourhood Mental Health Team** – Based at GP Surgeries. Contact your GP to see if this service is available for you.

**Text** – text 'Shout' to 85258 available 24/7

**Helpline** – Samaritans call 116 123 24/7

### **Useful Contacts**

[Anawim](#) | Support for Women in Birmingham regarding well-being, relationships, finances, housing or anything else that's on your mind.

Helpline: 0800 019 8818 and webchat

[Cruse Bereavement Care](#) | Bereavement Support

Phone: 0121 687 8010

[Living Well](#) | Free Mental Health Services in Birmingham

Phone: 0121 663 1217 | Email [info@livingwellconsortium.com](mailto:info@livingwellconsortium.com)

[The Waiting Room](#) | Birmingham and Solihull Health and Wellbeing Directory

## The 5 ways to wellbeing:

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Connect</b>       | Connect with people around you. Spend time with your friends and family. Make new friends. Find new ways to communicate.  |
| <b>Be Active</b>     | Go for a walk or a run. Cycle, dance or play a game. Walk instead of getting the bus. Go to the park. Play a game.  |
| <b>Take Notice</b>   | Take time to be still, reflect, and become aware of your surroundings. Notice what you are thinking and be aware of what is going on in the world around you: the everyday and the unusual. Be curious. |
| <b>Keep Learning</b> | Set yourself a goal. Learn something new. Research something you are interested in.   |
| <b>Giving</b>        | Do something nice for a friend. Thank someone. Smile. Volunteer your time. Raise money for charity  |

## Tips for Talking About Mental Health

- 

**1 Make conversations about mental health a normal part of life:** Anywhere is a good place to talk; in the car, walking the dog or cooking together. Model everyday talk about feelings such as by talking about a TV character's feelings.
- 



**2 Give your full attention:** We all know it's horrible to be half listened to. Keep eye contact, focus on the child and ignore distractions.
- 3 Check your body language:** Try to keep it open and relaxed and make sure you come down to the child's level.
- 4 Take it seriously:** Don't downplay what the child is saying or tell them they're "just being silly". Resist the urge to reassure them that everything is fine.
- 5 Ask open questions:** Such as "How did your day go today?" This will help to extend the conversation.
- 

**6 Calmly stay with the feelings that arise:** It can be our automatic reaction to steer away from difficult emotions.
- 7 Offer empathy rather than solutions:** Show that you accept what they are telling you but don't try to solve the problem.
- 8 Remember we are all different:** Respect and value the child's feelings, even though they may be different to yours.
- 9 Look for clues about feelings:** Listen to the child's words, tone of voice and body language.
- 10 Some ways to start a conversation about feelings might be:**  
 "How are you feeling at the moment?"  
 "You don't seem your usual self. Do you want to talk about it?"  
 "Do you fancy a chat?"  
 "I'm happy to listen if you need a chat."



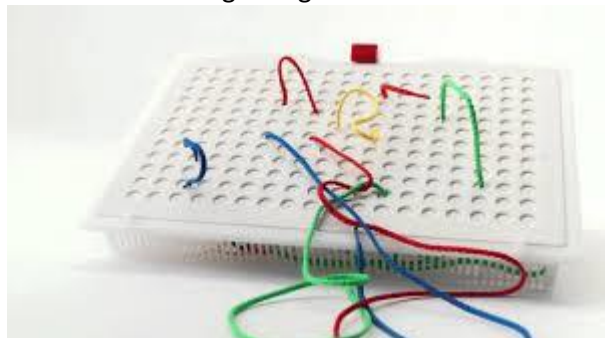
## Occupational Therapy (OT)

Over the last term we have been busy delivering two workshops for parents, one focussing on developing skills for independence looking at foundational skills including promoting a pincer grasp and midline crossing. The second workshop was an online webinar focussing on sensory processing differences and how you can support at home. I thought I would share with you all some of favourite activities that you can try with your children at home over the summer to promote regulation and develop motor skills.

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>Zoom Ball</p>      | <p>This is a great activity to promote bilateral integration (using the two sides of the body together). It also works on timing and sequencing movement and really promotes connection with the other person. The rhythmical action of the activity is calming, and the proprioception provided through the movement is regulating.</p> |
| <p>Pop up tunnel</p>  | <p>A pop-up tunnel is a great activity that promotes proprioceptive input through weight bearing as the child crawls, you can make it part of an obstacle course or pass and ball back and forth through the tunnel.</p>   |

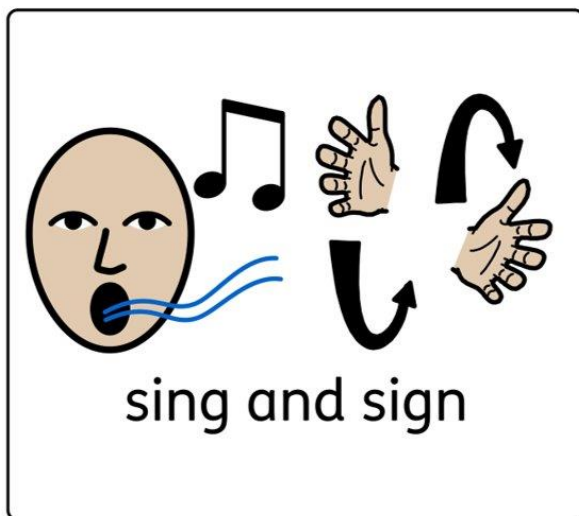


Pull the string lacing board



This threading activity promotes pincer grasp, manual dexterity and sequencing all important foundational skills in handwriting and other independence skills such as dressing.

## Music Therapy



### Sing and Sign Assemblies

Throughout this year interested classes from both primary and secondary have been participating in weekly sing and sign sessions, facilitated by our Music Therapist Leanne and class teacher Jackie. Sing and sign sessions have many benefits, including increased social awareness and tolerance, engagement in creative and musical activity, increased wellbeing and exploration of new communication tools. Song choices have included Disney favourites, pop songs, action songs and nursery rhymes. The children have engaged well in sessions during the year, improving both their singing and signing. More recently, classes who have chosen to participate have been rehearsing for a concert/assembly on 11<sup>th</sup> July where they showcased to parents their achievements, progress and love for music.

## Art Project

### Art Exhibition 22<sup>nd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024

This term, The Pines have once again been given the amazing opportunity to work together with the other schools in our trust and contribute to an arts exhibition – The Co-operative Trust Arts Project. This project aimed to develop the arts within our school and resulted in creating a piece of artwork to be proudly displayed within the exhibition at the Midlands Art Centre (MAC).

As a school, we have worked with an amazing artist called Sam and have focused on using three different types of clay; air drying clay, colour clay and foam clay. Over the past couple of weeks 2M, 2D, 2C and 2W have all had the chance to participate within the art activities, focusing on a sensory approach. We have worked with Sam to create a collaborative piece of artwork incorporating different creative ideas. Here, she was able to share her experiences with the classes. They were able to develop both their communication and art skills, moving away from using paint and paintbrushes to using a range of different sculpting tools, egg slicers to create even clay slices and different techniques such as; slicing, peeling, stenciling, puncturing and mark-making. The class thoroughly enjoyed this experience and especially relished seeing their artwork being proudly displayed within the MAC. It was a fantastic experience and they were even able to participate in an Eco printing workshop and watched themselves in the film about the project within the cinema. They had lots of fun!

Thank you so much to the students who have worked together to create something beautiful which will be proudly displayed within our school. I know the students – and the staff – enjoyed this experience and hopefully we will be able to invite more artists in to share their experiences with even more classes.

#### What do our students have to say about the opportunity?

“It feels good”. “It makes me feel like I am in an art club”.

“I liked making fruit. I want to be a famous artist”.

“I wish we could do this again. I wish we could do this again next year”.

“It’s very fun and very creative”.



## BOSS

The Behaviour Outside School Support (BOSS) group met earlier this term and had a general chat. We try to base the meetings around what parents and carers want to talk about at the time, rather than having a specific agenda, although we start off with something to get us talking. This time it was Causes of, and Strategies for Distressed Behaviour, but we were soon off that and onto specifics, which is great.

We are trying to have the meetings on different days to try to include as many parents / carers who wish to come as possible.

Anyone can come, right from our youngest to our oldest children, and after you've had your summer holiday it would be great to see you in September, which can be a difficult time as there are lots of changes. Often talking about what is happening and trying out ideas, some of which may be new (or others that might have worked before but been stopped because the behaviour has stopped) can help.

Wishing you a good holiday.

Pam

## Extra-curricular opportunities

### **Hippodrome**

This year we have been very lucky to be a part of the Hippodrome Education Network again. As part of our collaboration with the Hippodrome some of the pupils have been able to visit The Hippodrome and watch a show. KS1 went to see Dear Zoo and some of KS3 went to see The Wizard of Oz. Both visits were very successful. All children represented the school well and enjoyed the visit. KS2 and KS4 classes worked with an artist facilitator for half a term each completing drama activities. These sessions were all linked into class topics and have been an excellent way for our children to build confidence and engagement outside of the curriculum. Our artist facilitator also ran a drama and puppeteering lunchtime club which was thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils who attended. In July our Year 11 classes will take part in workshops. 4B are going to be producing music and 4R are going to be taking part in a drama workshop. We can't wait to see what they produce.

Tinka Belle, Tom, Neo and Raihan all took part in a two-day work experience at The Hippodrome. They were able to work behind the scenes and were also able to scan tickets for members of the public. This was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils who all had to submit an application and have an interview before they were offered a place. We were extremely proud of them. They all thoroughly enjoyed their work experience and did a fantastic job of representing the school.



## Pines Ambassadors events and fundraising

**COMIC  
RELIEF**

**NSPCC**



### **NSPCC Day**

This year we will be took part in the NSPCC's Childhood Day based on a theme of moving a mile. Each class took part in a movement/physical activity to show our support. The Pines Ambassadors invited pupils to wear sports clothes. Thank you for your support we raised £102.95.

### **Comic Relief**

This year for comic relief The Pines Ambassadors invited pupils to wear red. Thank you for your support we raised £83.30 for Comic Relief.

### **Autism Awareness Day**

For Autism Awareness Day The Pines Ambassadors invited all pupils to wear rainbow colours to school. It was wonderful to see so many of our pupils wearing rainbow colours to represent our differences.

## Lunchtime Clubs

Lunchtime clubs have been a real success this year and have offered our pupils activities to enjoy outside of the curriculum based on their personal interests.

Each term pupil voice has been used to determine which clubs will run for the term.

These are the clubs our pupils chose and have been able to enjoy this year.

- Forest school
- Art
- Sport
- Ipad
- Sensory
- Disco
- Cinema
- Computing
- Games
- Nail painting
- Girls club
- Immersive room
- Puzzle club
- Outdoor games

## After School Clubs

This year has seen the introduction of After-School Clubs across school. From 4th March we have offered weekly after school club for secondary pupils every Monday and every Tuesday for primary pupils. We were able to offer a place to all the pupils whose families requested a place, 16 of those were secondary pupils and 16 were primary, with children being split in to two cohorts, offering each cohort a block of 7 sessions each.

The secondary pupils have enjoyed weekly cooking sessions and have made a wide array of different dishes, that included pasta, curry, cakes and milkshakes!

The primary After-school club also offered weekly cooking sessions which was well received by the first cohort of pupils and it was demonstrated through pupil voice that they enjoyed cooking and being with different people. The second cohort of primary pupils saw us able to offer access to the sensory circuit room, forest school, the bikes and scooters in the outdoor area, the sensory room and the iPad's... always a firm favourite!



### The Pines Parliament.

All the members of the parliament have responsibilities for areas around school, which are school lunches, sports, environmental, computing, playground and Forest School, they have all championed them well so far.

We have achieved the silver award for rights respecting schools, during this term. This is a whole school initiative that everyone has been working towards.

Members of the parliament were interviewed as part of the assessment process.

We have ordered some new playground equipment and have been responding to requests made by members of the school, such as getting a net above the forest school fence, being more environmentally aware, increasing play and sports equipment available at playtimes.



We have represented the school at the Birmingham Rights Respecting schools conference. We must say a goodbye and a great big thank you for the long standing parliamentarians who are leaving the school to go on to college, Tom and Katie. We wish them all good luck in their futures. We are also saying farewell to Mikhail who is moving to a new school.



## Home School Updates

Wow! What a busy year we've enjoyed this year. We've welcomed various speakers in to school including external speakers from the Department of Work and Pensions, Dr. Prithvi and Kooth Mental Health. We've offered a range of exciting workshops presented by some of the fantastic staff in school, including Laura Graham (Occupational Therapist), Sami (Forest School), Michelle H (Mental Health week), Miss Rudd (Early Reading Skills) and Mrs Jenkins (toileting workshop). We are starting to put together another year of exciting guest speakers for parent/carer workshops for next year!

A huge thank you to our committed group of parents and carers who regularly attend our monthly coffee mornings, it's always lovely to welcome families into school. We hope you find this useful and look forward to welcoming more families next year. Coffee mornings are held once a month, look out for our calendar of events early in September.

## Duke of Edinburgh Award



This term, pupils completing the Duke of Edinburgh Award have successfully completed their Bronze Expedition. We conducted an Urban Expedition with our M pathway; Restricted Spaces with our M/E and E pathway pupils. Our M pathway aimed to walk a total combined distance suitable for a mountain hike, completing 264km in total (equivalent to a walk from Everest Base to Summit, and back.) Our M/E and E pathway group set a target to develop their communication skills in different areas: accessing forest school to make a warm meal and bunting, allotments to help support with tasks to help maintain and upkeep the allotments and taking part in physical activity in the community at Action Indoor Sports.

During their time completing the award, pupils have collectively spent 709 hours Volunteering - around school with recycling, magic breakfast, helping teachers to name a few, 672 hours completing physical activity - through PE and clubs, visits into the local community and accessing sensory circuits and 720 hours developing their skills - such as Art, Cooking, Music and Tesco.

We are sending off the awards for verification over summer and hope to share with you their successes in the 2024/25 academic year ahead of our new cohort beginning their Duke of Edinburgh journey.

### Pupil Voice: **How have you found the Duke of Edinburgh experience and expedition?**

"I found it pretty exciting and fun, to be fair. I mean, I walked to Tesco's and back in an hour for the expedition it was probably the best moment of it. I'd say involved like mental strength that's what I would say we needed. My one word to describe the Duke of Edinburgh is entertaining."

Words to describe DofE experience from pupils: Proud, Happy, Challenging, Fun.

## Ci's Fundraising

Ci works in the office at Pines, he has a diagnosis of Autism and has expressed how he can relate to some of the challenges that the pupils face on a daily basis. Ci felt really strongly about supporting other people with Autism so set himself a challenge to walk 9.2 miles from Sutton Coldfield to Birmingham New Street Station, calling in at all the stations in between, on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

Ci raised an astonishing £2,780 for school, which has been used to purchase a PA system with DJ effects and lighting that will be put to good use to host school discos, awards, presentations and school fayres!

Well done Ci and a big thank you from everyone at The Pines! Thank you to everyone who supported him and donated.

| Estimated Timetable<br>Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2024 |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Station   | Estimated Times |
| Sutton Coldfield  | 12:00           |
| Wylde Green   | 12:52           |
| Chester Road  | 13:21           |
| Erdington   | 13:41           |
| Gravelly Hill   | 14:11           |
| Aston   | 14:39           |
| Duddeston   | 15:10           |
| Birmingham New Street<br>(Main Concourse)                 | 15:46           |



**£2,780 raised. Thank you Ci!**

Chair of Governors, Wendy 

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fabulous Summer Term we have had at The Pines.

Today I received the wonderful news about our outstanding SAT results. Congratulations to everyone that worked hard this year.

Personally for me the term started with an invitation to the launch of the Inclusive Art project that many of our students were involved in. I was overwhelmed by the amazing work I saw and interacted with. I thoroughly enjoyed watching the short film that chronicled the work being completed. What a proud moment for all involved. I would like to extend of word of thanks to the staff from The Pines that worked alongside the artists.

It was also an honour to be present at the Third Pines Prom. Congratulations to all our pupils and good luck in your future endeavours.

As your Governing Board, we are working hard to support Ms Pearce, her senior management team and all the staff, to keep our vision to Protect, Inspire, Nurture, Embrace and Succeed alive, to enable all of our children to receive the best experience they can.

Finally, on behalf of the Governing Board, I would like to wish you a restful summer.

Kind regards

*Wendy Sartain*

Chair of the Governing Board



## Parking at The Pines:

Please can we remind all visitors to the Pines to consider how and where they park, particularly at the start and end of the school day. We need to make sure there is emergency access to the site at all times and that transport has clear access. Cars should only be parked in designated parking bays and not on the grass verges or Kerbs.

## New School Lunch Menu Autumn Term 2024

**THE PINES SCHOOL LUNCH MENU (From September 2024) Please note, this is the proposed menu, some items may be subject to change. We will be starting the term back on WEEK ONE.**

### WEEK ONE

| Monday   | Tuesday                               | Wednesday   | Thursday                              | Friday   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Lamb burger<br>Quorn burger                    | Spaghetti Bolognese                   | Roast Chicken   | Chicken curry                         | Pizza  |
| Hot Dog<br>Quorn hot dog                       | Mac and cheese                        | Halal fillet or<br>Quorn Roast<br>with Yorkshire<br>puddings and<br>gravy | Vegetable curry                       | Battered cod<br>fillet                         |
| Sandwiches/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar | Wrap/ Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar | Sandwiches/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar                            | Wrap/ Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar | Sandwiches/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar |
| Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans)                | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans/tuna)  | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans)   | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans/tuna)  | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans)                |
| Sweetcorn<br>Peas<br>Seasoned<br>Wedges        | Sweetcorn<br>Beans<br>Garlic Bread    | Roast Potatoes<br>Carrots<br>Green Beans<br>Baked beans                   | Rice and Naan<br>Sweetcorn<br>Beans   | Chips<br>Peas<br>Beans                         |
| Special: Fish<br>fingers                       | Special: Fish fingers                 | Special: Fish<br>fingers  | Special: Fish fingers                 | Special: Fish<br>fingers                       |
| Flapjack and<br>custard                        | Cup cakes                             | Chocolate<br>crunch and<br>custard  | Vanilla shortbread<br>and milk        | Flavoured ice<br>cream and<br>jelly.           |



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**WEEK TWO**

| Monday   | Tuesday                                  | Wednesday                                      | Thursday                                 | Friday   |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Chicken burger<br>Vegetable burger             | Lasagne                                  | Brunch; Sausage (& veggie)<br>Bacon<br>Egg     | Katsu chicken<br>curry with rice         | Pizza  |
| Cheese and onion<br>pasty                      | Cheese and<br>tomato pasta<br>bake       | Veggie brunch                                  | Vegetable<br>curry / Quorn               | Battered cod fillet                            |
| Sandwiches/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar | Wrap/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar | Sandwiches/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar | Wrap/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar | Sandwiches/<br>Baguettes<br>Bread<br>Salad bar |
| Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans/tuna)           | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans)          | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans/tuna)           | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans)          | Jacket potato<br>(cheese/beans/tuna)           |
| Herby diced<br>potatoes<br>Beans<br>Carrots    | Wedges<br>Sweetcorn<br>Beans             | Hash browns and<br>beans                       | Rice and Naan<br>Sweetcorn<br>Beans      | Fries<br>Peas<br>Beans                         |
| Special: Fish fingers                          | Special: Fish<br>fingers                 | Special: Fish fingers                          | Special: Fish<br>fingers                 | Special: Fish fingers                          |
| Jam donut                                      | Ice lemon<br>sponge and<br>custard       | Chocolate cracknel<br>and custard              | Cookies and<br>milk                      | Flavoured ice-cream                            |

Secondary pupils school dinner cost £2.55

Primary & Nursery pupils school dinner cost £2.40

# THE PINES SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## School Website and Social Media



### School Website

We have a new and improved school website. If you have a moment, we would love you to check it out and provide us with some feedback.

Our school website is: [www.thepinesspecialschool.com](http://www.thepinesspecialschool.com)



### School X Account

Our school has a X account which is @ThePinesSpecial. We are starting to use this social media platform more frequently now to keep you informed of our school news and events. Please follow us to stay updated.





## Term Dates 2024/2025



|   |
|---|
| <b>Autumn term</b>  |
| Term starts: Monday 2 September 2024<br>Term finishes: Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2024               |
| <b>Half term</b><br>Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2024           |
| Term starts: Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024<br>Term finishes: Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 |
| <b>Christmas Holiday</b><br>Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2024 – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025   |
| <b>Spring term</b>  |
| Term starts: Monday 6 January 2025<br>Term finishes: Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February 2025                |
| <b>Half Term</b><br>Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025                                    |
| Term starts: Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2025<br>Term finishes: Friday 11 April 2025                 |
| <b>Easter Holiday</b><br>Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2024               |
| <b>Summer term</b>  |
| Term starts: Monday 28 April 2025<br>Term finishes: Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025                      |
| <b>Half term</b><br>Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025  |
| Term starts: Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025<br>Term finishes: Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025         |
| <b>Summer holiday</b><br>Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025 Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2025           |

|   |
|---|
| <b>Teacher Training days – School closed to pupils.</b> |
| Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2024                   |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2024                 |
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025                     |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2025                   |
| Monday 21 July 2025                                     |

