



Newsletter 1 –8th September 2023

‘Transforming lives through inspirational learning’

Welcome Back

What a fantastic start to the new term. The children have shown great enthusiasm for learning in their new classes, and we’ve enjoyed hearing all about their summer adventures.

I would also like to extend our warm Pines welcome to the new families that have joined us this week and I hope that your children have enjoyed the start of their learning journey with us. As I’ve been in and out of the classrooms this week I’ve been really impressed by how quickly all our new arrivals have become part of The Pines family.

I apologise for the unusual length of this newsletter but there are a lot of important updates and information to share with you at the start of term!

New Staff

I am delighted to welcome Hannah Levine (Year 5 Teacher) to our ever-growing Pines team.

In addition, we welcome Mrs Warwick (nee Stewart) back after her maternity leave and also congratulate Mrs Poytner (nee Duker) on her wedding over the summer.

Miss McCleary, a student from West Suffolk College, has also joined us and will be primarily based in Year 1.

Meet The Teacher Evenings

Our Meet the Teacher sessions will take place over next week. These short informal after-school sessions will allow you to find out more about what is happening in your child's class this year, including rules and routines and provide you with the opportunity to ask any questions that you may have.

The sessions will be a maximum of 30 minutes long and will take place on different days next week at 3.30pm to allow those with siblings in different classes to attend:

Monday 11 th September	Year 1	Mrs Poynter
	Year 2	Mrs Stopps
Tuesday 12 th September	Year 3	Mr Cocks
Wednesday 15 th September	Year 5	Mrs Levine/Mrs Warwick
	Year 6	Mr Sloane
Thursday 14 th September	Year 4	Mr Weller

Important – Attendance and Punctuality Information

As you may have seen in the press, the government are committed to raising school attendance and improving punctuality. Educational research clearly shows that children who are persistently absent and those who are regularly late face considerable disadvantages in their education.

Children need to be in their classrooms by **8.55am** for registration. The gates are locked at 9am to give parents chance to leave the grounds. Children who arrive after 8.55 will be marked as 'Late' and those who arrive after 9.10 will be marked as 'Unauthorised Absence'.

No holidays will be authorised and parents **will** receive a fixed penalty notice if holidays are taken during term time.

All children who are persistently absent and/or late will be referred to the Educational Welfare Officer.

Collection After School

If someone new is collecting your child after school, please can you let the school office know ahead of collection time so a message can be passed to the class teacher. This also includes childminders and St Christopher Robins.

Communication With Staff

As our numbers have grown once again it may be helpful for you to have an update on ways to talk to us...

If you have a concern please always talk to the class teacher in the first instance as they are best placed to help. You can email office@pinesprimary.org or telephone the school office and we will ensure that they get the message as soon as possible.

And of course, we have Racheal Cox our family well-being lead! Racheal will continue to run the well-being cafe this term. Please see the well-being hub on our website [here](#) for further information.

Premier Education After School Club

Booking for the after-school club is still open. The club has had a really successful first week with lots of fun activities available. There are still a few spaces, so if you would like your child to attend, please book [here](#).

Movement Around the School Grounds

As you will be aware we now have six classes entering and exiting in the playground. Please be reassured that the outside space has been designed to accommodate a school of potentially up to 630 pupils so there is plenty of room. However, please help us keep the site safe by ensuring that pupils/siblings do not cycle or scoot within the grounds. There have been previous incidents where children have been injured and/or knocked down.

In addition, please do not let your children play with the outside equipment or use the climbing equipment. Our risk assessment prohibits this equipment being used unsupervised by school staff.

On a safeguarding note, if you are buzzed in or out of the pedestrian gate by the office, please do make sure you close the gate behind you.

Thank you.

Dates

Wednesday 20th September

Tuesday 17th & Thursday 19th October

School Photos

Parent Consultations

Headteacher's Awards

Here are this week's proud recipients:

