



## Newsletter 11 –1<sup>st</sup> March 2024

### ‘Transforming lives through inspirational learning’

Welcome back to everyone for the second half of the spring term with an especially warm hello to the new parents who have joined us this week. It’s that great time of year where the days are getting longer and the sunshine has a bit more warmth to it however we could still face a second winter (and lots more rain!) so please do ensure that your children are dressed for all weathers (and always bring a waterproof coat)

Our new learning themes are well underway across the school with lots of engaging wider curriculum activities planned.

- Reception: Can you tell me a story?
- Year 1: Where the Wild Things are!
- Year 2: I will survive!
- Year 3: How do I look after my body?
- Year 4: Vikings – Let’s ride with the Valkyries!
- Year 5: How have the Ancient Greeks impacted our world today?
- Year 6: World’s Greatest Air Race!

### Escalating Skills...

Year 2 were invited to attend a Skills Escalator event in Mildenhall this week where they learnt about different careers. They spent time with the RAF, police, G Fresh, National Horse Racing Museum, the council and a building firm learning about the different jobs involved in each. There were lots of hands-on activities, such as building a roof, operating a riot van and making an RAF paper plane. A highlight was arresting their teachers with real handcuffs! It was a fantastic trip.

## Cheepy Cheepy Chirp Chirp...

Year 1 & 2 had some bald visitors who suddenly became very fluffy and noisy on Wednesday evening! The children's (and staff's!) excitement about watching the chicks hatch and fluff up was evident throughout Thursday.



## Communication Update...

Following your feedback and as mentioned in the last newsletter we have now got a 'Calendar Subscribe' button on our website. Please click [here](#) to add events and term dates to your calendar.

## World Book Day Reminder – Friday March 8th

We would like to offer our children (and staff) the opportunity to come into school dressed in either their pyjamas or dressed as a character from their favourite story for the day. We would also like to encourage the children to bring along one of their favourite bedtime stories to share.

Throughout the day we have organised several events to make this event extra special!

### **Miraiker's World of Puppets:**

The children in Pinecones and Reception will have a live performance of a fairy tale in the style of a traditional Punch and Judy show. This will be with the very talented Miraiker. The children will also have the opportunity explore the hand-made puppets and perform some stories of their own. The costs of this opportunity is going to be covered by the school.

### **West End Schools:**

The rest of the school will be taking part in drama workshops linked to traditional tales. This will involve the children learning to perform a story as part of a group and develop collaboration and drama skills. The cost of this event is being funded by our wonderful PFA!

### **Story in a Jar Competition:**

This year we will be holding a 'Story in a Jar' competition. This will involve the children creating a jar filled with items linked to a story they like. Use an old empty jar from home and decorate it in any way you wish to represent your chosen story. All entries will need to be handed into your child's class teacher by Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March. There will be a winner chosen from each class and they will receive a prize during our whole school assembly at the end of our World Book Day celebrations. See below some examples of what your 'Story Jar' might look like.

## Parenttalk: The Primary Years

We have 6 spaces available for anyone who would like to join us after Easter for our new 'Parenttalk' programme. These sessions are non-judgemental and are simply an opportunity to navigate parenting with like-minded people.

Although dates and times are still to be confirmed, this is it is likely to take place, in our school hall on a Tuesday or Wednesday morning from 8.45 for an hour.

Topics will include:

- The busyness of family life
- Understanding children's 'Love Languages'
- Communication
- Setting boundaries
- Preparing children for the outside world
- The importance of family time

If this is something that interests you and you would like to reserve a place, then please get in contact with me via [rcox@pinesprimary.org](mailto:rcox@pinesprimary.org).

Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be served.

**Parentalk:**  
The Primary Years



**A 6 week parent group, bringing people together to talk about the day to day challenges of parenting and to offer practical support and advice in a safe space**

**COMING SOON**

For further details please contact  
[rcox@pinesprimary.org](mailto:rcox@pinesprimary.org)



THE PINES  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Behaviour Policy

As some of you may be aware we have been working on developing and establishing a new Wellbeing and Behaviour Policy over the last year. We are now pleased to say that our new policy can be found in full [here](#) and a summary can be found below:

At The Pines Primary School, we have a holistic approach to supporting the behaviour and wellbeing of all children. The Well-Being and Behaviour Policy at The Pines School is a statement of good practice and should be read alongside the school's "Tackling Bullying" policy, Exclusions policy and our policies for Equal Opportunities and Special Educational Needs. It supports the ethos of the school and covers all aspects of the school that contribute to the development and maintenance of good behaviour. Children should be treated fairly, according to their individual needs.

All members of the school community are expected to help maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, with courtesy and mutual respect as basic requirements. All members of the school community should understand that behaviour is a form of communication and as such, children are supported in trying to understand their behaviour and develop strategies to manage difficulties positively.

### Aims and principles

As a school we define behaviour as everything a person says or does. It is our belief that our behaviour policy should increase pro-social behaviour and reduce anti-social behaviours through planned responses.

The aim of this policy is to set out the way in which we will support children to behave in a responsible, kind, and sociable manner. It applies to all children and all adults in the school.

We will ensure that:

- All children and adults in the school have a clear understanding of the behaviour procedures.
- Procedures are followed by everyone consistently and promptly.
- Children always understand the impact of their behaviour, positively or negatively, on others and why they are receiving a reward or consequence.
- Children are encouraged to increase their independence and self-regulation so they can manage their emotions and accept responsibility for their own behaviour.
- Adults in our school show children that they are valued, important and belong.
- Adults are provided with a clear framework to support the development of prosocial behaviour.

This policy is based on current educational research and the Cambridgeshire Steps Therapeutic Approach. Happy children who are ready to learn can be challenged and are able to thrive. This policy enables the children to work in a safe and secure environment where all children and staff are valued.

## Dates:

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March

Story In A Jar closing date  
9:00am - Wellbeing Café  
PFA Pre-loved book sale

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March

Celebrating World Book Day

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Bags4Schools due

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Y1 Phonics Information Event