



Newsletter 14 –3rd May 2024

‘Transforming lives through inspirational learning’

The sun finally shone this week allowing for lots of opportunities for some outdoor learning fun. Although, Forest School is not running this term we are still making plenty of use of this area through our gardening program. Led by Miss Saunders, with the help of Racheal and Ms Nickerson, this will be an ongoing project where we hope to involve all the children when it is more established. If any parents wish to volunteer with our gardening projects please do contact the office for more information.

Chicken run...

Hedgehog class have welcomed some fluffy, yellow (and very hungry!) new additions to their classroom last week. Almost as soon as the eggs arrived, they started to hatch and all the chicks have been actively and chirpily participating in the learning ever since. Although we will be sad to say goodbye to them today as they leave for their forever home we have really enjoyed watching them grow and thrive while they have been with us.



Uniform

We appreciate that the cost of living crisis shows little sign of abating despite what recent media reports may claim, and constantly strive to keep costs as low as possible for parents while still managing a very limited school budget.

We keep branded items of our uniform to a minimum and these will remain optional. Plain green sweaters and cardigans are available at local supermarkets as well as chain stores. Our PFA hold regular pre-loved uniform sales and we continue to welcome donations. More information on our uniform policy can be found [here](#). Thank you for your continued support in ensuring that our pupils are suitably dressed for school.

Attendance

It is the time of year when people's thoughts turn to the holidays and we are bombarded with adverts for sun-filled adventures. We all recognize the importance of family time and understand how much the cost of everything from day trips to flights increases during the school holiday periods. However, The Pines has a legal obligation to follow the attendance policy to help promote positive attendance.

Our school attendance is monitored by our governing body, Trust, Suffolk local authority as well as by the Department for Education. Unfortunately, under the legal guidance, holiday issues are not considered to be 'Exceptional Circumstances' and therefore cannot be authorised and will often result in a fixed penalty fine. More information on our attendance policy can be found on our website.

School Lunches – we need your views!

Earlier this week you should have received an invite to complete our Trust's survey on the catering services provided at The Pines. It is really important that you share your views whether your child has school meals or not. The survey is quite short and takes a maximum of 6 minutes to complete.

You can complete the survey before 10th May by clicking on this link:

<https://ci.litmuspartnership.co.uk/form-6636295/2024-anglian-learning-trust-primary-schools-parents>

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback.

Speed Kick Challenge

Thursday saw the eagerly anticipated Speed Kick Challenge where even the staff battled it out to beat the fastest score (the results of which shall remain confidential...) Thank you to everyone who completed the sponsorship forms; please hand these in to the school office in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class on it by Tuesday 14th May.

Headteacher Awards

.... Back soon

Dates

Friday 10th May

Monday 13th May

Wednesday 15th May

Monday 27th – Friday 31st May

PFA Doughnut Sale

Year 5 Visit to Dalham Hall Stud

Year 5 Visit to the National Horseracing Museum

Half Term