

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**  
**Please take time to read this newsletter.**

**Pinewood Infant School and Foundation Unit**  
**Pinewood Avenue, Arnold, Nottingham.**

**September Newsletter 2016**

A great start has been made to the year by all children and staff! A great big welcome to all our new children in the Kittens, welcome to all the Cats and Panthers and welcome to our new children around school. We hope you will be very happy with us. Everyone has settled well, our middays have commented how well the Cats and Panthers have settled into full time school- they have been brilliant.

**Induction**

We spend the first week or so of school 'Inducting' the children into Pinewood life again! It's very important for all children and parents/guardians to feel happy and safe and our induction hopes to achieve this. Children have taken part in lots of activities to encourage togetherness and team work. KS1 have planned to go out on local walks and visits and all classes have been taken round school to meet everyone. I have had lots of visitors in my office to come and say hello and I have managed to get into all the classes to read a story to help the children get to know me. I am busy trying to learn children's names -aiming to learn 5 new ones a day and am being tested – the pressure is on!! By now you should have received an invitation to meet the staff and discuss learning and what this means for your child and I will be around school at these times too if you'd like to pop in and say hello.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 8.45am or 5.00pm **Jaguars and Leopards**

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 8.45am or 5.00pm **Panthers and Cats**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 8.45am or 5.00pm **Lions and Tigers**

**School Opening/Security**

School hours: 8.40am-3.05pm

Foundation 1: AM- 8.30am-11.30am

PM- 12.15pm-3.15pm

The side gate and bottom gates are locked from 9.00am- 3.00pm and the Foundation 1 gate (at the bottom of the school drive) is open from 11.20am-11.40am and 12.15pm-12.30pm. Any arrivals outside of these hours are to report to the school reception.

**Learning times**

Please remember school begins at 8.40am and finishes at 3.05pm. Please be prompt at the beginning and end of the day. These are crucial times for your child.

**End of school**

If your child is being collected by someone different at the end of the day you **MUST** either tell the class teacher in the morning or contact the school office and tell them who is collecting your child. The person collecting must be aged at least 14 years or older. Unless we receive confirmation from you about who is collecting your child they will **NOT** be allowed to go.

**Text messaging**

You will receive messages via parent line texting service. **Please ensure school has your current mobile number** and please keep your numbers up to date with the office as the messages will be important and informative.

**School attendance**

In order to do well and meet their potential children need to be in school every day. You can help us by:

- Making sure your child comes to school regularly and on time.
- Letting us know as soon as possible why your child is away.
- Try to make appointments outside the school day.
- Do not let your child have time off unless it is really necessary.
- **Do not take holidays in term time as they cannot be authorised.** Further attendance information will be sent out in a couple of weeks.

**Children's illness**

Please contact the school office if your child is too ill to be in school. If they are ill with sickness and diarrhoea please do not return them until at least 24-48 hours after their last bout.

### **Inset Days/Staff Training**

#### **Friday 23rd September:**

AM: We have staff training on the teaching of Reading

PM: A highly recommended consultant from the city is leading some Maths training

Please note our next inset after this one will be **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2016**

Other inset days this academic year **20<sup>th</sup> February 2017** and **26<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

### **Staffing**

Rachel Otter - Head Teacher

Claire Reville - Deputy Head Teacher & SENCO

### **School Office**

Sally Berridge - Business Manager

Carol Hill - Office Manager

### **Kittens- Foundation Unit-F1**

Stacie Stuart - Teacher

Kellie Reilly - Senior Teaching Assistant

Kerrie Anthony -Teaching Assistant

Sally Holmes - Teaching Assistant (p/t)

Bridget Fahey - Teaching Assistant (p/t)

I am sure that many of you will have noticed that Mrs Stuart is expecting a baby at the end of this year so she will be starting her maternity leave some time in November. We are currently looking into options of covering this maternity leave.

### **Cats – F2**

Becky Guy - Lead Teacher

Chris Caines - Teaching Assistant

Tracey Kershaw - Teaching Assistant (p/t)

### **Panthers – F2**

Amy Farnsworth - Class Teacher

Jane Chambers - Senior Teaching Assistant

Rachael Mitchell - Teaching Assistant (p/t)

### **Jaguars – Year 1**

Abigail Purdie - Class Teacher

Claudette Taylor- Teaching Assistant

Katie Wilson - Teaching Assistant

### **Leopards – Year 1**

Sophie Florian - Class Teacher

Sue Grant - Teaching Assistant

Paula Dixon Smith - Teaching Assistant

### **Tigers – Year 2**

Claire Reville - Deputy Head Teacher (Class Teacher)

Emma Kelly - Class Teacher (3 days)

Hayley Woodward - Teaching Assistant

### **Lions – Year 2**

Naomi Lander - Class Teacher

Paula Bramley - Senior Teaching Assistant

Kelly Cogman -Teaching Assistant (across Year 2)

### **Midday Supervisors**

Rebecca Acquah - Senior Midday Supervisor

Rebecca Erickson

Emma Cliff

Tracy Ridgway

Tracy Kershaw  
Victoria Rogers

Rachael Mitchell helps to run breakfast club with Paula Dixon Smith.  
Gary Moseley, site manager, Paulette our cleaner and Ron our gardener continue to do a great job and look after the school.

### **Chef/ School Dinners**

Cherise, our chef, and her team continue to provide excellent school dinners for our children. Dinners here are of a very high standard and most of our children take advantage of the universal free meals offer! Fantastic!

### **Literacy Volunteers**

We are very fortunate to have 2 fantastic literacy volunteers who support our children with reading skills Kath Ford and Cathy Hobbs. They have been with our school for a number of years and we are very happy that they are continuing to work with us.

### **School Bags**

No rucksacks in school please. Our cloakrooms are very small and it is a struggle to fit everything in. Every child needs a school book bag before they can take books home. These are available from the office at £3.50. Do not put water bottles or food in book bags as the books can be ruined if they leak.

### **Savings cards**

We offer a very rich and varied curriculum here for the children, but at a price! School contributes at least 50% to most activities and trips and 100% to some. We do offer a savings scheme where you can pay in as much as you like (minimum £1) every month and the money you save can be used to help pay for school trips or events held in and out of school. We are offering a 10% discount on school trips to people who use this scheme.

### **Website**

Please visit our website for school information and current/future events [www.pinewood.notts.sch.uk](http://www.pinewood.notts.sch.uk).

### **Parents Board**

There is a Parents/Guardians board in the main entrance area. With it being a new term this is work in progress but please check it regularly for information. Every class has a parents/guardians board so please check this regularly also. Our governor display is now up so you can see the faces of our governing body and the staff board will also be up shortly.

### **Yellow Zig- Zag Lines**

It is an offence to park on the zig-zag lines outside school and you will be prosecuted if caught. It is for the safety of all children, parents and visitors to school. Please take extra care when driving and parking around school. We have already had reports this term of dangerous parking around school so we ask for your support on this.

### **PE**

Children need to have a small PE bag, white t shirt, black shorts. These are available from School Wear Solutions or Tesco on line (Not Foundation 1).

### **After school clubs**

All of our key stage 1 children attend an after school club on a Tuesday after school where we offer a variety of clubs including cooking, craft, games, dancing and children are rotated around these clubs every 6 weeks making their own choices of which clubs to attend. Our sports coach runs a club on Mondays and Fridays – this half term she is focusing on football.

### **New Curriculum and Assessment**

As you will have been informed last year a new curriculum started in key stage 1 last year and the government has made the content much more challenging for our children. This naturally meant that a lower percentage of our Year 2 children reached the nationally expected standard than in previous years. This term we have changed our assessment system to work fully in line with this new curriculum and will run an information session for you early in the new year. Parents evenings are later this term but please feel free to talk to your child's teacher at any point regarding academic attainment and progress.

### **Year 2 tests**

Year 2 children will take end of key stage 1 tests in May. The tests are statutory for all children at the end of key stage 1.

### **Gardens**

We are yet to know whether we have won an award with 'Arnold in Bloom' but our gardens continue to look lovely. Gary and Ron have worked tirelessly in the holidays to continue to make our school grounds look amazing and Mrs Chambers and our new eco team are already getting to work on eco issues through school.

### **Summer Fair**

Thank you to the parent helpers and all the Pinewood team for an amazing effort in the Summer Fair – £1309 was raised!

### **Macmillan coffee**

We will be organising our usual Macmillan coffee afternoon. Please try and come after school on **Friday 30th September at 3.05pm** in the school hall. It's a worthy cause and there will be yummy cakes on sale provided by the staff. Miss Reilly and Mrs Hill are already getting a little competitive about the whole cake making thing as you can imagine, mistaking the event I think for the great British Bake Off! But please donate home or bought cakes if you can to this very important cause – they do not have to be fancy!

### **Free School Meals entitlement**

If you are receiving any of the benefits below, you may be entitled to Free School Meals. It is very important to let us know this as it may mean more funding for your child to support him/her at school. If your circumstances change and you become eligible for these benefits at any point in the school year, please let us know.

- Income Support
- Income - based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, but you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your yearly income (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs) if not more than £16,190
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

If you need any further information, either call 0844 9808080 for an application form or call into the school office.

### **Head Lice**

Head Lice is a continual problem in school. Please check your child's hair regularly and treat them if any are found. If your child is found with hair lice we will contact you to collect your child to treat them with lotions that are available from the chemist (this is free from Pharmacy First if you are claiming benefits).

### **Killisick**

This week I went to Killisick to meet Sarah Page and I look forward to working closely with her. We will meet regularly to discuss issues and we work hard to ensure a seamless transition from here to Killisick. We plan many activities together and always consider dates with all children in mind, such as Inset days.

### **Finally**

Please remember that we are here to offer the best education your child can receive. We offer an open door policy which means that anything that concerns you or if you need more information, please contact us.

FUTURE KNOWN DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Leopard & Jaguars parent meetings
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 1 visit to Nottingham Castle Cats and Panthers new parent meetings
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Tigers and Lions new parents meetings
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Sam, the vicar to take service
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Reading Track Assembly for Cats and Panthers- more news later
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Macmillan Coffee afternoon at 3.05pm- more news later
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Clothing recycle collection
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 2 children- Healthy Eating all day with Tesco
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 2 children- Healthy Eating all day with Tesco
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	Health Week begins Year 1 children- Healthy Eating all day with Tesco
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Foundation 1 to visit the Hobbucks- Autumn walk
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Foundation 2 to visit the Hobbucks – Autumn walk
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Puppet Man to work with the whole school- more news later Year 1 children- Healthy Eating all day with Tesco BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM
<b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>RETURN TO SCHOOL</b>
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Parents Evening 2.00pm-5.00pm
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Parents Evening 3.15pm- 6.00pm
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Parents Evening 3.15pm- 6.00pm
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Foundation 2 to visit Brookfields- more news later
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Fair 3.00pm-4.00pm
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00- Key stage 1 Christmas Play- Killisick only 2.00- Key stage 1 Christmas Play- With toddlers
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00- Key stage 1 Christmas Play- Adults only 2.00- Key stage Christmas Play- Adults only
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Blunderbus Theatre for whole school- more news later
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Christmas Craft and Play- more news later
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Key stage 1 Christmas parties
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation Christmas parties BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>RETURN TO SCHOOL</b>

# School holidays

September 2016 to July 2017

September 16						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30		

October 16						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 16						
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28	29	30				

December 16						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 17						
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30	31					

February 17						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 17						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 17						
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May 17						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 17						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 17						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 17						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



School Holidays



Public Holidays



Administration Day



INSET days