



The Firs

Lower School

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

### **Welcome to Pine**

We hope your child had a fantastic time on their 'taster' days and are thoroughly enjoying Pine. We are taking great pleasure in getting to know all the children and we are so pleased with how well they are all settling in.

We would like to say a big well done to all those children who are coming into school by themselves and we really appreciate your support with this. It has helped the children to become really independent and this does help to boost their confidence.

### **Communication Book**

In your child's book bag, there is a 'communication' book. You can write any messages (alternative pick up arrangements, medical appointments etc) in this book. On the inside cover, there are also some other suggestions as to how this book can be used.

Staff are available in the morning and afternoon to answer any quick questions or take messages you have, but if you require a longer conversation about your child, then please make an appointment to see the class teacher after school (unless it cannot wait).

### **Morning routine**

As you can appreciate, with all the children in Pine, we do not have time to check every child's book bag on a daily basis so we would be really grateful if any letters/money/communication books can be placed in the box next to the gate in the morning. You only need to hand in your child's purple communication book if there is a message in it, otherwise, please keep it in the book bag (as we may occasionally need to write a message in it for you.)

If your child is brought to school by somebody other than yourselves, we would be very grateful if you could share this routine with them.

### **Read, Write, Inc**

We will be starting to teach Read, Write, Inc (RWI) next Wednesday (20<sup>th</sup>), which is the programme we use to teach reading and writing. We teach a sound a day and when the children have been taught a new sound, they will bring an associated 'sound sheet' home the same day, which will help to reinforce what they have been taught. These 'sound sheets' are to be kept in a folder which your child will be bringing home with them next Wednesday. It also contains the first sound sheet! The folder is to be kept at home so that you can help your child consolidate their knowledge of the letter sounds.

Reading books will be sent home week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> September and for most children, this will be a picture book.

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**PE lessons**

PE lessons will begin next week (wb 18<sup>th</sup> September) so please could you ensure your child's PE kit is in school (your child does not need plimsolls until the spring term). Half of the class have their PE lesson one week and the other half have it the following week. PE days are as follows:-

**Conkers-** Thursday

**Acorns-**Friday

**Labelling clothes and shoes**

We have come across quite a few pairs of unnamed shoes. Please could you ensure all your child's school clothes and shoes are labelled. Thank you.

We hope that this letter has answered some of your questions, but if not, please do not hesitate to come and speak to a member of the Pine team. Thank you for all your support and welcome to Pine!

Yours sincerely,

The Pine Team