

Welcome to Pine!



Wednesday 19th September, 2018

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.

Staff

Acorn teachers:- Mrs Mercer-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday pm
Mrs Coombes- Wednesday am, Thursday and Friday
Conker teacher- Mrs Freeman

Shared teaching assistants- Miss Davanna, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Watts, Mrs Prior and Mrs Haxell

Teachers release time will be covered by Miss Davanna and Mrs Ware

Book Bags

If your child does not yet have a book bag, please could you purchase one from the school office. The children place their book bag in a box in the morning and any letters are put into the book bags by an adult. If your child doesn't have a book bag, s/he may miss out on important letters. Your child is welcome to bring a rucksack to school in addition to their book bag.

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) or contact us via email:-

Acorns-Mrs Coombes- shaline.coombes@firslower.org

Mrs Mercer - kerry.mercer@firslower.org

Conkers- Mrs Freeman- hannah.freeman@firslower.org

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.

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Read, Write, Inc

We will be starting to teach Read, Write, Inc (RWI) from Monday 24th September, 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. Look out for the folder containing the first sound sheet in your child's book bag on Monday. The folder is to be kept at home so that you can help your child consolidate their knowledge of the letter sounds.

Each child will also be bringing home 'My Set 1 Speed Sounds Book'. More detailed information about this will be sent home with the book.

Reading books will be sent home week beginning 1st October and for most children, this will be a picture book.

PE lessons

PE lessons will start week beginning 1st October 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-Thursday

Labelling clothes and shoes

Please could you ensure all your child's school clothes including shoes are labelled. Thank you.

We have a child in Pine with cystic fibrosis, a serious illness which affects the lungs, mucus membranes and stomach. This child is particularly susceptible to illnesses which affect the chest and so we would ask you to please make sure that if your child has a bad, chesty cough and is bringing up lots of mucus to keep them at home until they are fully recovered. With most children, if they pick up a chest infection, they may need a few days off school, but for a child with cystic fibrosis, picking up a chesty cough or chest infection could result in hospitalisation and a prolonged period on antibiotics. We know that due to the seriousness of this child's illness, you will respect the need for vigilance regarding your own child's health. Many thanks.

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 your support

Pine Team