



Pine Newsletter 2024-25

Spring Term 1



Upcoming Diary Dates:

Number Day

7th February

Safer Internet Day

11th February

Cross Country

12th February

HALF TERM WEEK

17th –21st Feb 2025

General Class News:

We hope you've had a lovely Christmas and a good break from routine. We're looking forward to a new term with your young people, helping them with any concerns and celebrating their successes.

Just before Christmas we were joined by Mrs Hunt who is our new TA. It is lovely to have her here. In a couple of weeks we will be joined in school by Felix, a French trainee teacher who asked to complete an internship placement with us. I'm sure we will all have a lot to learn from each other—it will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn some French words well as understand more about French culture.

We were delighted to hear that Freddie arrived safe and well into the world in early December—congratulations to Miss Byram!

Thanks you for your continued support—with all best wishes for 2024 Pine Team staff

Maths

In Maths Pine will continue their work on multiplication moving from knowledge of times table facts towards representing multiplication in groups and then more formal written multiplication. Following on from this they will develop their understanding of division as groups and sharing, moving on to written division methods. We will finish the half term looking at measures, including metres, centimetres and millimetres as well as introducing perimeter.

English

We will immerse ourselves in the wonderful world of The Hobbit with emphasis on the setting and how it is used as another character in both the book and film. We will also be looking at character, relationship, binary oppositions and exploring the genre of Science fiction and fantasy and look at its appeal to the wider audience.



RSHE

In RSHE we will continue to study the themes of self-regulation, empowerment and resilience. We will also be looking at the topic of 'changing and growing' which includes healthy and unhealthy relationships and behaviours and parenthood and learn about different types of families.

Science This half term we will be learning about physics, focussing on speed and pressure. The students will take part in various experiments investigating factors which affect the speed of an object. We will cover ways of either increasing or decreasing speed and the situations where this is used in the world.

PE

During this term students will take part in Cross Country lessons and follow a route around the school site. They will look to understand the importance of pacing and how to do this effectively using a stopwatch. They will look to give their best effort and improve their time each week.



Other subjects: In RE we will be looking at how different religions have influenced art and music over time through looking at examples of architecture, music in Christian worship and Islamic art.

In Music and Drama we will carry on with performance skills and in Outdoor learning we will start to classify plants and insects. We will be exploring abstract art this term through looking at the work of Jackson Pollock, Piet Mondrian and Wassily Kandinsky. We will also combine our work in RE and make our own tiles based on the tradition of Islamic tiles. Colour will be central to both these projects.

In History we will be asking ourselves what was life like in the Middle Ages and how Medieval Britain has shaped life today. In geography later, we will be learning about how mountains are made and what causes earthquakes and volcanoes in certain parts of the world.

In Computer Science pupils will continue programming with Blockly and introducing text-based programming with Python. In Food Tech children will start by learning how to safely prepare and cook chicken and other poultry before experimenting with making puddings!

Useful information

Below are links to organisations who offer help and advice to families with SEND children. There are some really interesting articles and resources for parents and carers which you may find useful.

<https://senmagazine.co.uk/>

<https://sossen.org.uk/> – offer a free, friendly, independent and confidential telephone helpline for parents and others looking for information and advice on Special Educational Needs and Disability