

AUTUMN TERM IN PINE CLASS



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that you all had an enjoyable Summer break and that your children are ready to come and join us in Pine Class. The Autumn Term is one that is spent mostly outdoors as the weather tends to be favourable, and learning really does take off so your children are in for lots of fun!

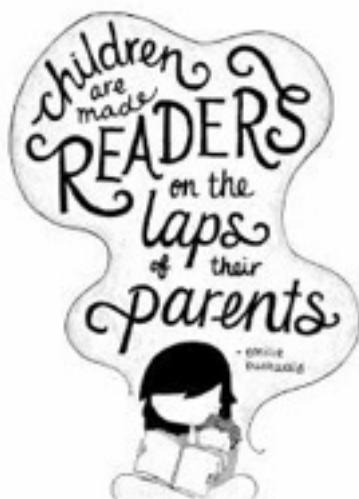
We often gather together for our learning which allows us to give children rich and exciting experiences so we name the year groups as follows:

Reception – Acorns

Year 1 – Conkers

Year 2 - Chestnuts

- **Topic** - Our topics for the Autumn Term are 'All about me' and 'The Arctic.' We will be looking first at the learning styles and interests of the children and tailoring the curriculum to their needs.
- **Reading** – For the Year 1's it is expected that children are heard read at home each day please. Many parents do this already and it makes such a difference to children's learning as reading opens up every other area of the curriculum. Children that read every day really are the ones that achieve well. This is the term in which a real difference can be made at home. We find that it helps to get into a routine with reading by doing it at the same time each day. Children like a routine, and it will become part of a regular pattern after a while. We will continue to hear the children at every available opportunity in school, but this should not be their only source of reading.



For Reception children (acorns) the priority for the first half term is for them to listen to stories, learn their initial sounds and enjoy playing with rhyme. We will let you know when we feel that your child is ready to begin their journey in reading.

- **Colder weather** - As the weather gets colder please do provide your child with suitable **NAMED** clothing. It can be very cold at playtimes and lunchtimes and the expectation is for them to be outside as part of their provision. We would suggest a hat and gloves as they do feel the cold.
- **Book bags** – All that your child needs to bring to school is a book bag with nothing more in it than their reading book and home link book. Please, don't put water bottles into book bags, in our experience they leak and can ruin expensive books. We have a tray in school which the children just put the bottle into as they get to school (again clearly named please.)
- **Red Books** – Your child will have a new red home link book for you to let us know of anything you feel would be useful to us. For example if your child is going home with someone else. Mornings are very busy in an early years' classroom, so sadly we don't always get to speak to all the parents every day. But, rest assured that these books are checked first thing in the morning should you need to let us know of something.
- **PE** – All children need to have their PE kits with them every day please. Please end them in and we will keep hold of them and send them home every half term. Reception children have Learn, Play, Grow sessions on a Thursday afternoon and Year 1's (conkers) have a session on Tuesday afternoon and Friday afternoon. In addition to this we have a session of 'Outdoor learning' every Wednesday afternoon across the Key Stage. So, your child will need to have a pair of wellies and a waterproof all in that we can keep in school as we do go out in all weathers. These can be found on AMAZON for as little as £11.00. Please name the clothing and it would be very helpful if you could put the outdoor kit into a clearly named bag – thank you.
- **VALUE FOR LIFE** – As a Church of England school we follow the values for life, and this term it is Trust. So please do take every opportunity to chat to your child about this as we will be reflecting on this as part of Collective Worship and as part of daily school life.

'LEARN TOGETHER, WORK TOGETHER, GROW TOGETHER'

With the love of God, we will create a learning environment where high expectations and the teaching of Christian values ensure that everyone is cared for, valued, encouraged and able to achieve their full potential.

Our priority is always for the children and as part of this we find that those parents who become partners in learning truly improve the outcomes for their children. When parents are involved children achieve more, they are happier, they develop greater self esteem and demonstrate good behaviour so please do get involved as it is the most wonderful time in their lives and it whizzes by in a flash!

As always, if you have any questions or queries then please do come and see us.

(After school is always preferable please)

Many thanks,

Kate Easter and Elizabeth Cooper