



**PINE CLASS TOPIC LETTER SUMMER TERM 2025**

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Easter holiday – the weather was pretty good but I have to say the rest was well earned and has left me rejuvenated for the home stretch! Pine Class have made a good start to the term and have been enthused by our new topic of 'A NATURAL LEGACY?' This is predominantly a humanities-based topic; studying Ancient Greece in history while looking at volcanoes, earthquakes and also mapping and fieldwork skills in geography. A lot of our activities will be linked to both of these concepts, and where possible we will also link this with our work in reading and writing. In this topic letter I shall aim to outline our programme of study throughout the Summer Term and aim to clarify my expectations regarding homework and other routines. PE days for this term are now Wednesday and Friday – Wednesday with our Aspire coaches and Friday with firstly the Sussex Cricket Coaches and then secondly me. We are also lucky enough to be joined by a student teacher from the University of Chichester: Mr. Richardson, who will be teaching various lessons to the class.

Firstly, here is a brief outline of our areas of study:

- **Science:** Finishing our unit of study on Earth and Space. Chemistry based looking at materials, separation and dissolving (my favourite!) Also, Biology based – Animals including humans – the excitement of puberty and changes!
- **History:** Ancient Greece and its legacy – what are the greatest achievements of Greek civilization and how do they still influence society today?
- **Geography:** Mapwork and Fieldwork based Geography including work on compasses, directions, sketch maps, OS maps and symbols. Looking at the impact of volcanoes and earthquakes as natural disasters and doing some comparative work on London and Athens.
- **Art:** Exploring Greek patterns and jar designs through printmaking. Discovering the Dutch graphic artist Escher through patterns and perspective.
- **Religious Education:** Understanding Christianity – Are freedom and justice important in the world? What do different religions and world views say? What does the Qur'an reveal to Muslims about Allah and his guidance?
- **Computing:** Purple Mash software – following units looking at game creation, content, concept maps, as well as work on Excel covering budgeting, formulae and calculating.
- **Music:** Charanga units covering: singing, playing, composing and performing. We will also be looking at notation. Alongside this a study of the history of music encompassing various great composers.

- **Physical Education:** Aspire on Wednesday and striking and fielding (predominantly rounders and cricket) with our Sussex coaches for the first half term and then me on Friday afternoon.

In addition, **Mathematics** and **English** lessons will be taught **daily** (linked to our topic work when appropriate). We aim to hear the children read once a week, more with certain children. This is usually done by our fantastic volunteer – Mr. Thomas and our teaching assistant, Miss Lewis. As well as other opportunities to practise reading skills through our work in class. When you hear your child read at home, please remember to write in the yellow homework diary. I have been remiss at checking these with as much rigour as I would like, so we will be changing how we manage reading in class. From now onwards it will be the expectation that the children write a daily summary of what they have read about – this will be checked by an adult in class (Miss Lewis, Mr Richardson or myself) every day. Failure to complete a reading summary means completing it at breaktime.

The children will have regular spellings and times tables to learn – these are set weekly. Spellings are given out on Monday and tested on the following Friday, while times-tables are tested every Thursday. We will also be setting homework using the SATS companion software OR Freckle. If your child will have trouble accessing a device in order to complete this homework please do come and speak to me.

<b>H/W</b>	<b>SET</b>	<b>DUE/TESTED ON</b>
<b>Spelling</b>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
<b>X Tables</b>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
<b>Revision Homework</b>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Monday</i>
<b>Reading summaries</b>	<i>Daily</i>	<i>Daily</i>

We are looking forward to an art and culture trip to Champs Hill in June as well as various sports fixtures and tournaments that the Summer Term inevitably involves. I would like to remind everyone that the best way to support your child at home with learning is reading lots and encouraging use of online games such Times Tables Rock Stars and Spelling Frame.

By the time you receive this letter we will have completed the first week of term already! If there are any further queries I am very happy to answer these and can usually be found in the classroom at the end of the day. I wish you a very safe and productive Summer Term and can assure you that we are ALL working very hard in class to prepare the children for next year. We are doing this in a way that still nurtures the children's personal wellbeing and confidence.

With all my best wishes,



Mr. S. Ind

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Ind', written in a cursive style.