

## Safeguarding & E-Safety

Keeping our children safe is paramount as both parents and professionals.

Games and apps can be a minefield of concerns, so we will update you on games and apps that have been flagged as a concern. This doesn't mean children cannot use these (unless they are very unsafe with no safety measures). It means that as parents/carers we need to ensure that we eliminate possible dangers.

All games and apps are now rated for age groups, one way we can keep our children safe is by ensuring they are not viewing/playing anything that is not age appropriate.

The following websites will help you with reviewing games and apps safety:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

[www.nspcc.co.uk](http://www.nspcc.co.uk)

### Dates for your Diary

**Wednesday 5 December - World of Science Theme Day**

**Monday 17 December - Whole School Christmas Dinner**

**Wednesday 19 December - First Day of Christmas break**

**Thursday 3rd January 2019 - Return to school**



The Pinetree  
School

## Pinetree Life

Autumn 2

### Our Budding Chefs!



### Pinetree Pupils of the Week

**Paige, Leland-Ramone, Reece**

**Tutor Group of the Week**

**Year 9, 10, 11**

**Amazing work - Congratulations to you all**

## Headteacher News

What's the point of school? How often has your child/ward asked this, especially in the morning before they leave for school? The answer might seem straightforward: to provide them with an education, so that they can pass exams and enter the workplace or further education with the right tools to get them ahead in life.

However, with many of pupils believing that they will not or cannot be successful at school, the challenge we as school staff face is trying to impart knowledge and understanding to children who struggle with emotional distress, poor concentration and behavioural issues.

To support and help our children to self-reflect, increase their powers of attention and concentration and to develop resilience, conflict resolution and improved academic achievement, we will be adopting a whole school approach to introducing a mindfulness lesson at the start of each day as of the Spring term.

The lessons are intended to increase awareness of the contents of their minds and provide ways to respond to their thoughts and feelings 'skilfully' and positively.

As mindfulness is a relatively new approach in many schools, you are reassured that it is not: about going into a trance, trying to blank the mind or religious in any way.

It is about teaching our children techniques to address the difficulties and worries they face either personally or socially so that they are ready to learn each day.

If any parent/carer would like to know more about the daily lesson, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

## Pupil News & Achievements

Congratulations to Paige and Aiden for being the first pupils to achieve their SAM Learning certificates, both Paige and Aiden completed 100% of their set tasks.

Our online learning platform, SAM Learning, is being used to enhance your child/ward's learning. All pupils have been given their username and password. If you would like a copy, please contact the office. For details on how to access and use SAM Learning, please visit their website.

<https://samlearning.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/categories/115000224114-SAM-Learning-For-Learners>

## Information and Guidance

Please find below a the link to National Careers Service which provides a huge amount of information based around careers. Included the following:

Job Profiles - Gives you information about the requirements for a specific job.

Find A Course - You can search for a course you are interested in, they will provide a list of providers who deliver that course.

Contact An Adviser - Advice is provided via phone, email, text, web chat and more. Guidance given on all aspects of careers and learning.

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>

## Community Partnership

### Update on the 'Therapeutic Garden'

Planning is in full effect! The children and staff have been talking through ideas for the garden. Vegetable patches and pallet furniture are high on the list of wants! As for the build stage, we are currently working on getting some new fencing for the therapeutic garden - if you are aware of any contractors that would be able to help, then please get in touch.

We are still looking for volunteers to help in school. If you would like to be added to our list, please contact Sam Burgoyne on [pa@pinetree.org.uk](mailto:pa@pinetree.org.uk).