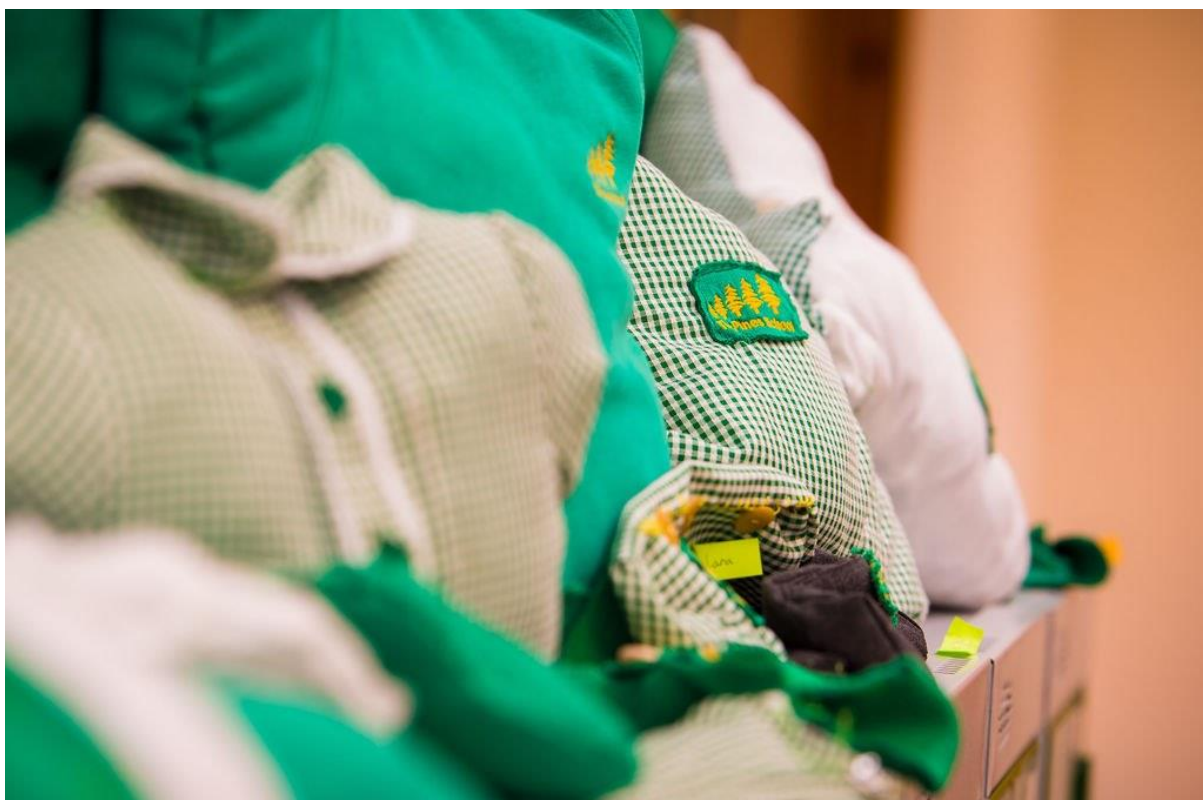




Weekly Newsletter

Week End 12.06.26 (If you would like a paper copy please ask)



This edition will contain: -

-
- *Introduction from Mrs Davies*
 - *Head Teacher Awards*
 - *Spotlight on Learning*
 - *OPAL Spotlight*
 - *Pines Got Talent 2026*
 - *Class with the highest attendance of the week*
 - *Best House attendance of the week*
 - *Important Changes to Free School Meals Eligibility & Action Required*
 - *Coffee Morning*
 - *Important Dates*
 - *Information sent out this week*
 - *Lost Property*
 - *Flyers*
-

Introduction from Mrs Davies

Dear Parent/Carers,

Summer Fayre

What a fabulous week at The Pines although we are all a little bit exhausted from the brilliant summer fayre. What a wonderful event despite the rain. It was really lovely to see

so many of you and some wonderful pictures of all the children who took part in the colour run. A really BIG thank you to all the staff, parent volunteers, parents and children who made this event SPECTACULAR!

Summer Fayre - we raised a total of £2,883!

Children's Commissioner

We have been asked by the Children's Commissioner to share this survey with children and parents. It will be really helpful to complete so that your child can help shape education in the future.

*Children's Commissioner's Survey - please click on the following link
<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TheBigFuture/> or refer to the attached flyer.*

Learning

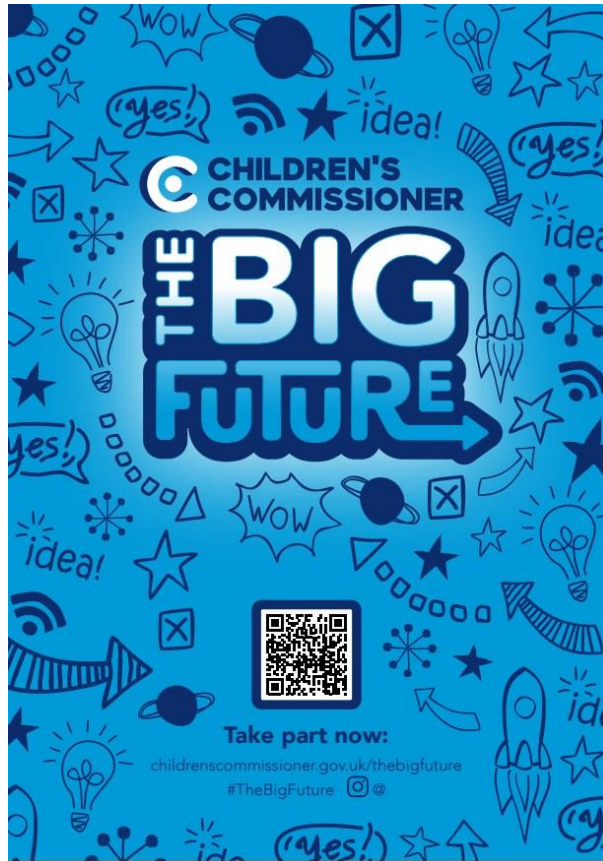
I have spent lots of time in classes this week and it has been lovely to see all of the work that children are doing. Year 1 have been completing their phonics assessments this week and Year 4 have now finished their multiplication tables check (MTC). The writing across the school is really coming on and I have been very impressed with the content and handwriting of all the children across key stage 2. I popped into Year 6 today and heard some lovely sentences about Sprites!

The children have been really focused this week!

I know the weather is improving this weekend so I hope you can all have a well earned rest and enjoy the outdoors.

Many Thanks

Mrs Davies



Head Teacher Awards



Be Your BEST

Believe - Excellence - Safe - Team

Congratulations to the following children who were awarded with our Head Teacher Award this week: -

*Elm - **Ronnie S***

*Maple - **Demi-Leigh***

*Sycamore - **Chloe***

*Willow - **Joey***

*Oak - **Ela***

*Cedar - **Georgia***

*Ash - **Nicky and Mila***

*Rowan - **Stanley and Harry L***

Juniper - Kenzie

The Orchard - Oscar

Well done to all of the children who have received an award and are demonstrating our school values on a daily basis.

Believe-Excellence-Safe-Team

Spotlight on Learning

Last Friday, Year 5 had a wonderful time at the Winchester Science Centre. They designed and launched rockets, had a tour of the universe at the Planetarium and explored all the exhibits. Their behaviour was exemplary and they were fantastic ambassadors of our values of being your BEST. They asked and answered questions, were polite and kind and displayed a fantastic enthusiasm for learning.

I am very proud of the children and staff in year 4 this week. They have been working hard all year on teaching and learning the multiplication facts up to 12x12. Over the last two weeks, they have completed their multiplication tables check. We look forward to finding out how well they have done. Results will be included in the end of year reports.

The lower building has been full of singing this week as year 6 start preparation for their end of year production. The children have been telling me about their roles without giving away too much of the story - can't wait to see the final show.

The children in Year 3 are loving their current science topic on forces and magnets and were very enthusiastic testing which materials were magnetic. In French they have enjoyed practising ordering ice creams while working on their pronunciation!

OPAL Spotlight

OPAL Play at Lunchtimes

We are really excited to share how much the children have been enjoying our zones at lunchtimes. It has been wonderful to see their creativity and teamwork developing through play.

The children have especially loved using the suitcases to pull one another around, creating lots of laughter and opportunities for turn-taking and cooperation. They have also been making fantastic use of our loose parts, working together to build rain shelters and houses, showing great imagination and problem-solving skills.

OPAL play continues to support independence, resilience and creativity, and it has been lovely to see so many children fully engaged and having fun outdoors.

Donations Needed

To help us continue to build and improve our OPAL provision, we would really appreciate any of the following items:

 *Old suitcases (with wheels where possible)*

 *Small world toys (e.g. figures, animals, cars)*

If you have any items you no longer need, we would love to give them a new life in our play spaces. Thank you for your continued support!



Pines Got Talent 2026

THE PINES HAS DEFINITELY GOT TALENT!

The School Council are proud to present that 'Pines Got Talent' is back!

On Thursday 25th June, as part of our Health and Well-Being Week, we will be holding our final. Children will be asked to audition as a solo act or group act of up to 6 over the coming weeks and 2 finalists per class will be chosen for the grand finale. They will have up to 3 minutes for their performance.

Children who wish to audition will need to bring in any specific props or instruments they need for the audition and then if they are chosen for the final, can bring the props they need and a costume change if they wish.

Class teachers will provide the date for their auditions to help children prepare. We should be able to find the music they need for their act, but they must ensure it is appropriate for all ages.



Class with the Highest Attendance of the week



Be Your BEST
Believe - Excellence - Safe - Team

*The class with the highest attendance this week is **Willow** with **99.14%**.*

*Well done **Willow Class!***

Best House Attendance of the week



Be Your BEST
Believe - Excellence - Safe - Team

*The best house attendance this week is **Emma Watson** with **95.63%**.*

Well done - who will it be next week?

Important Changes to Free School Meals Eligibility & Action required

We are writing to inform you about important national changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility which will take effect at the start of the 2026/27 academic year, following updated guidance from the Department for Education.

*From September 2026, the government is expanding free school meals to **all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit**, regardless of your household earnings.*

*At the same time, the previous national "transitional protection" arrangements are ending. This means that previous or existing eligibility will **not automatically** roll over into the new*

school year. Under the new rules, schools and local authorities are now legally required to conduct annual eligibility rechecks.

Moving forward, benefits-based free school meals will be divided into two categories:

- **Targeted Free School Meals** - for households on Universal Credit with annual earnings of £7,400 or less. This also includes families receiving income-related Employment and Support Allowance, the guarantee element of Pension Credit, support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, or those with no recourse to public funds (NRPF). This category provides free meals and secures vital extra Pupil Premium funding for the school to support your child's education.
 - **Expanded Free School Meals** - a new category for households on Universal Credit with annual earnings above £7,400. This entitles your child to free school meals, but will not Pupil Premium funding.
-

If you believe you might be eligible, you must submit a new application for your children to receive free school meals from September 2026, **even if you currently receive Free School Meals.**

What actions do you need to take?

To ensure that your child's meal arrangements and entitlements are correctly recorded and ready for September 2026, you must complete a new application.

- **When to apply:** Applications for the 2026/27 school year opened on 1 June 2026. Please apply as early as possible, ideally before the end of the summer term, so everything is verified and in place for September.
 - **How to apply:** Applications must be made online via the Bracknell Forest Council website via this link: [Free school meals | Bracknell Forest Council](#)
 - **What you will need:** To complete the verification check, you will need to provide:
-

- o the contact details of the parent or carer receiving the benefit

o parent or carer's National Insurance number

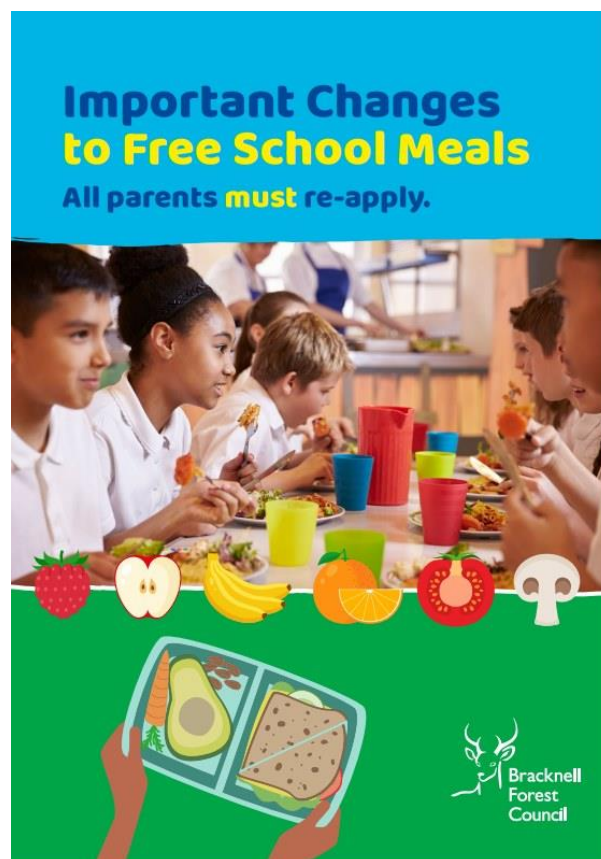
o parent or carer's date of birth

o the name, date of birth and school attended for each child.

Do you need help?

*If you are unsure whether you qualify, or if you need any support completing your online application, please do not hesitate to contact the Bracknell Forest Free School Meals Team directly at **fsm@bracknell-forest.gov.uk**.*

Thank you for your cooperation and prompt action in helping us prepare for a smooth transition in September 2026.



From September 2026, free school meals eligibility is changing.

If you think your child may qualify, please apply so their entitlement can be checked, and your school can receive Pupil Premium funding where applicable.

What is changing?

From September 2026, free school meals will be available to all children in households receiving Universal Credit. The current transitional protection arrangements will end, and eligibility will need to be checked under the new national rules for the 2026/27 school year.

All parents must re-apply for free school meals for September 2026. Previous eligibility will not automatically continue under the new rules.

(This does not apply to children who receive UIFSM; Universal Infant Free School Meals, which are provided to all eligible age groups regardless of application.)

Why apply?

- You could be eligible for Free, healthy meals for your child.
- Applying helps the school identify children who may attract additional funding.
- This funding will be invested in your child's school to improve educational outcomes.
- annual eligibility checks will now take place.
- Applying now helps make sure your child's entitlement is correctly recorded for September 2026.



Eligibility

There will be two types of eligibility:

Targeted free school meals

- Children in households receiving Universal Credit with earnings of £7,400 a year or less.
- Children from households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less.
- Households qualifying for free meals because they are in receipt of support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Households in receipt of Income-related Employment and Support Allowance or the guarantee element of Pension Credit or families with no recourse to public funds (NRPF).

This gives entitlement to free school meals and may help schools receive additional pupil premium funding.

Expanded free school meals

- Children in households receiving Universal Credit with earnings above £7,400 a year.

This gives entitlement to free school meals only.

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still receive a free school meal automatically. However, families should still apply so their eligibility can be checked, as this may help the school receive Pupil Premium funding.





When to apply

Applications for the 2026/27 school year open on **1 June 2026**. Please apply as early as possible, ideally before the end of the summer term, so arrangements are in place for September.

How to apply

Use the free school meals application form on the [Bracknell Forest website](#).

Further Information

For further information on the recent changes, eligibility criteria, and how the changes may affect you, please visit our website.



Need help?

If you need support completing an application or are not sure whether you qualify, contact the Free School Meals Team at: fsm@bracknell-forest.gov.uk.

Coffee Morning



Our next coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 8th July** after morning drop off in the upper hall - Free School Meals

It would be lovely to see as many of you as possible, there will be coffee and biscuits available. Please let me know if you would like to attend fsa@thepinnessschool.org.uk

Many thanks

Mrs Williams

Important Dates



-
- **17.06.26** - Y3 and 4 Tri Golf Event
 - **19.06.26** - Junior Musical Festival at the Hexagon 7pm
 - **22.06.26 to 25.06.26** - Health and Wellbeing Week
 - **24.06.26** - Reception Sports Day 9:30am-10:30am / Reception 26 Starters Stay and Play Session 1:30pm - 2:45pm / Nursery 26 Starters Stay and Play Session 1:30pm - 2:30pm / Y5 Presentation Evening at 5.30pm (Lower Hall)
 - **25.06.26** - Pines Got Talent
 - **26.06.26** - Years 1 to 6 Sports Day 1:30pm - 2:45pm
 - **30.06.26** - Year 5 and 6 Cricket Festival

- **01.07.26** - Meet The Teacher Event 3:30pm and 6:00pm
 - **01.07.26 to 02.07.26** - Year 6 Transition Days to secondary school
 - **01.07.26 to 03.07.26** - The Pines Transition Days (current reception children to Year 5)
 - **07.07.26** - The Pines Sports Awards 5.30pm - 6.30pm (Lower Building)
 - **08.07.26** - Coffee Morning / Reception 26 Starters Stay and Play Session 1:30pm - 2:45pm
 - **16.07.26** - Year 6 Performances 13:30 and 18:00 (tickets can be purchased via the school gateway app)
 - **17.07.26** - Nursery Sports Day 2:00pm - 3:00pm
 - **20.07.26** - Year 6 Leavers BBQ and Water fight 16:00 - 17:30
 - **21.07.26** - End of Term Assembly at 9:10am (parents of children getting certificate will be invited)
 - **22.07.26** — Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 9.10am / Term Ends at 2.00pm / After School Club finishes at 5.00pm
-

Information sent out this week



-
- *What we are learning in Nursery this week*
 - *What we are learning in Reception this week*
 - *Summer Fayre - Thank You!*
 - *Ash Class Dot Reward - Friday 12th June*
 - *Year 4 Cedar and Year 2 Sycamore Class PE Changes*
 - *Coffee Morning 10.06.26*
 - *Bags to School Collection - Reminder*
 - *The Pines Sports Awards Evening - Tuesday 7th July 2026*
 - *Meet The Teacher Event 01.07.26 (Reminder)*
 - *PSHE Lessons - Term 6*

- *Action required - Important changes to free school meals eligibility*
 - *Free School Meal Changes*
 - *Public Consultation now live - Proposed changes to Bracknell Forest Councils 2027/28 Education Transport Policy*
 - *Year 6 Leavers Book 2026*
 - *Year 6 End of Year Events*
 - *Residential May 2027*
 - *Telephone Issue*
 - *Health and Well-being week (22nd to 26th June) / Sports Day Information*
-

Lost Property

As you can see our lost property box is really starting to overflow, please come and claim any items that may belong to your child/ren. It is located outside the school office.



Flyers

 **KING'S**
ACADEMY
EASTHAMPSTEAD PARK

Coffee 
MORNINGS

— FOR PARENTS OF THE —
RAISING YR 6 CHILDREN
COMING TO
KING'S ACADEMY
EASTHAMPSTEAD PARK

 *in Sept 2026* 

 **Wednesday 1st July**
Thursday 2nd July

 **8.45 – 9.30am**

 *Please come to*
MAIN RECEPTION 

SUMMER EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT CODE

EXPIRES TUESDAY
30TH JUNE 2026

USE CODE "GMX718" AT CHECKOUT

25%



PROPLAYERCENTRES.CO.UK
01344 609934

Myshellartstudio

Summer Holiday club!!

Primary school years 2-6

Morning Art

Kickstart the day with colour, creativity and hands-on fun. Children dive into painting, drawing, crafting and exciting art projects that spark imagination and build confidence.

Mulching, wool craft, painting, famous artist creations, experimenting with different mediums, t-shirt design and make & much much more!!

Afternoon Music

Our afternoons are full of rhythm and energy. Children explore instruments, movement, singing and group music-making – the perfect mix of fun, expression and teamwork.

Dates available:
July 27th/28th/29th
August 4th/5th/6th; August 12th/13th/14th

St Paul's Primary School,
Oxford Rd, Wokingham,
RG41 2YH
Drop off at the main gate- MILLER ROAD

 Half day Morning 8.30am-12pm £23	 Full day 8.30am- 4.30pm £35	 Half day afternoon 1pm-4.30pm £23
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A fruit based snack and drink will be provided for each session.
PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH

Michelle & Tom
07437 879 473
Email: Myshellartstudio22@gmail.com
Myshellartstudio.com



YOUR SCHOOL HAS BEEN ADOPTED

by your local Everyone Active Centre

WHAT IS THE ADOPT A SCHOOL PROGRAMME?
Everyone Active's Adopt a School programme is a brilliant opportunity for both Everyone Active and local Schools to work together in an effort to get the local community more active.

WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO YOU?*
During the 2 week period that your school is adopted, a variety of perks will be available to **parents/guardians, school pupils & school employees**, these will include the following:
FREE Swimming for School Pupils (Aged 10 & under)
FREE Junior Gym & Swimming for Pupils (Aged 11-15)
FREE Membership for Parent/Guardians (Aged 16+)
FREE Membership for School Employees (Aged 16+)
*Please note, the offers may vary by centre depending on the facilities available at your local centre.

Your adopting centre:
Bracknell Leisure Centre
Bagshot Road
RG12 9SE

Scan here for more information on the programme:



everyone ACTIVE

everyoneactive.com everyoneactive @everyoneactive @everyoneactive

The Pines Primary School Uniform



The Pines School



School approved garments:

- Sweatcardigans
- Sweatshirts
- PE Kit

plus many more

Order Online
Fast Order turnaround



Scan the QR code to shop your uniform directly

www.schooltrends.co.uk

SCHOOL TRENDS
GROWN OUT BEFORE WORN OUT

Order before **July 21st** and get 15% off with
code: **FRESH26**



Trusted Quality



School Approved



Great Value

Friends of The Pines

HELPING HANDS

Want to help the children of your school join our WhatsApp group to be notified of any events coming up that the PTA need help with for more info speak to any member of the PTA






WHY JOIN?

8 REASONS TO JOIN OUR PTA

- 1. YOUR CHILD BENEFITS**

The PTA is an important part of the school and helps to enrich your child's school experience. We support the school by helping to provide new playground/sports equipment, IT equipment, fun activities for the children and much more!
- 5. BECAUSE IT'S FUN**

Be part of the team which organises the best events and get-togethers. Debrief over a glass of wine (or two). Suggest your most hair-brained idea and watch as it catches on and everyone wants a piece of the action. Laugh. Cry. Be there for each other.
- 2. TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

As well as fundraising, the PTA organises events which add so much to our children's school experience. Our PTA organises the School Disco, Christmas Market and the Summer Fair, along with many more fun events. This creates a real sense of community and benefits our children.
- 6. BE BETTER CONNECTED**

Create closer links with the head teacher, teachers and staff. If you're new to the school, the PTA is an excellent way to find out how things work and become part of the community.
- 3. FEEL INVOLVED**

As a parent or carer in our school you are already a member of the Parent Teachers Association (PTA). Every parent is welcome to our meetings and we love to see new faces. Please consider coming along to our meetings, or volunteer an hour of your time at an event.
- 7. IT'S NOT JUST FOR MUMS**

Everyone is welcome, grandparents, aunts or uncles and it's especially important to have dads and male carers represented, as male role models are crucial in children's upbringing. Dads can bring different skills; they can bring a different perspective, and they can bring other dads.
- 4. ITS TOTALLY FLEXIBLE**

Whether you're a full-time parent or working nine to five, anyone can get involved. It's less commitment than you think and you don't always have to attend meetings. Small jobs like putting up a poster, helping sort uniform or running a stall keeps everything running smoothly.
- 8. KEEP THE PTA GOING**

As parents move on from the school, there is a real danger that there will no longer be a PTA. Please do consider helping, maybe teaming up as a group of parents, to keep the PTA going, year after year.

Email : pta@thepinesschool.org.uk



Did you know we have a school lottery?

What is it?

Your School Lottery is an exciting weekly online lottery for parents/carers who want to get involved and support the school's fundraising efforts.

There is at least **one guaranteed cash winner for our school each week** plus the chance to win the £25,000 jackpot.

The best bit is that 40p from every ticket goes directly back to the school.

How to get involved?

Tickets cost £1 per week.

They offer flexible payment options: pay by direct debit, monthly or one-off ticket bundles, or just for the Super Draw!

Sign up to our page on Your School Lottery today to have a chance of winning a share of great prizes! Each ticket you purchase makes a huge impact.

https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/the-pines-school?utm_campaign=cause-page-social-share&utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_content=Hyperlink

Raise funds for us for FREE

with easyfundraising



Join as our supporter today at:
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause
Just search for:

FRIENDS OF THE PINES PTA

8,000+ retailers will donate to us whenever you shop with them



Start at the
easyfundraising
website or app



Click out
to where you'd
like to shop



Checkout:
prices are exactly
the same!



The retailer sends
a % of your spend
to easyfundraising



They pass
it on to us
:)

Plus, you'll get...



Exclusive retailer offers



Competitions



A warm feeling inside!

Over
£60m
raised for UK good causes

£0
extra cost to anyone



THE PINES
SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

Autumn term 2025

INSET DAY: Wednesday 3rd September 2025
INSET DAY: Thursday 4th September 2025
INSET DAY: Friday 5th September 2025

Term starts on: Monday 8th September 2025
Term ends on: Thursday 23rd October 2025
INSET DAY: Friday 24th October 2025

October half term holiday: Monday 27th October to Friday 31st October 2025

Term starts on: Monday 3rd November 2025
Term ends on: Friday 19th December 2025

Christmas holiday: Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 2026

Spring term 2026

INSET DAY: Monday 5th January 2026

Term starts on: Tuesday 6th January 2026
Term ends on: Friday 13th February 2026

February half term holiday: Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February 2026

Term starts on: Monday 23rd February 2026
Term ends on: Friday 27th March 2026

Spring holiday: Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April 2026
Bank Holidays: Good Friday: 3rd April 2026, Easter Monday: 6th April 2026

Summer term 2026

Term starts on: Monday 13th April 2026
Term ends on: Friday 22nd May 2026

May half term holiday: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2026
Bank Holidays: Monday 4th May 2026, Monday 25th May 2026

Term starts on: Monday 1st June 2026
Term ends on: Wednesday 22nd July 2026



THE PINES
SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027

Autumn term 2026

INSET DAY: Tuesday 1st September 2026
Term starts on: Wednesday 2nd September 2026
INSET DAY: Thursday October 22nd
INSET DAY: Friday October 23rd
Term ends on: Friday 23rd October 2026

October half term holiday: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026

Term starts on: Monday 2nd November 2026
Term ends on: Friday 18th December 2026

Christmas holiday: Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027

Spring term 2027

INSET DAY: Monday 4th January

Term starts on: Tuesday 5th January 2027
Term ends on: Friday 12th February 2027

February half term holiday: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027

Term starts on: Monday 22nd February 2027
Term ends on: Thursday 25th March 2027

Spring holiday: Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027
Bank Holidays: Good Friday: 26th March 2027, Easter Monday: 29th March 2027

Summer term 2027

Term starts on: Monday 12th April 2027
Term ends on: Friday 28th May 2027
May half term holiday: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027
Bank Holidays: Monday 3rd May 2027, Monday 31st May 2027

Term ends on: Tuesday 20th July (End of term assembly on Monday 19th July and Year 6 Leavers assembly on Tuesday 20th July)

INSET DAY WEDNESDAY 21st JULY

The Pines School



Be Your BEST
Believe - Excellence - Safe - Team

Hanworth Road

Bracknell

Berkshire

RG12 7WX

01344 426413

admin@thepinesschool.org.uk

<https://www.thepinesschool.org.uk/>

<https://twitter.com/thepinesprimary>

<https://www.facebook.com/thepinesschoolbracknell>

Our Vision and Values

