



### Holidays & COVID

Unfortunately, we are still seeing a rising number of positive COVID case in the Hertfordshire area (and indeed across the United Kingdom). We are preparing for the return to school in September as per the government's current guidelines, which include no 'bubble' groups in school.

Any arrangements made at this present time will be subject to change and we will notify parents/carers as soon as possible via email. Updates will continue towards the end of the summer holidays.

Twice weekly lateral flow testing is now not part of the government guidelines over the summer holidays and Pinewood have not been supplied with test kits for pupils. You are welcome to test over the holidays but you will need to obtain your test kits from pharmacies or local councils.

2-day testing will commence on return to school in September for Pupils and staff.

Enjoy the summer holidays, we look forward to welcoming you all back in the Autumn Term. Pupils return 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021

### Headteacher Note



Firstly, further to recent communication sent to parents I would like to thank you for the many overnight messages of support for the staff.

This year has been a hugely challenging one. We have gone through some difficult moments with changes of policy at a national level affecting us on a sometimes day to day basis. Plans have had to be made and changed regularly but the support we have received has been invaluable to us.

I want to end the term with a big thank you to staff, the students, and to you as parents/carers for all that we have achieved this year. It has been emotional, at times, for everyone, but we have got to the end.

We are sad to say goodbye to Miss Oswick and Mrs McDevitt, wishing them well with their future endeavours. We are excited for Miss White with the intermittent arrival of the new addition to her family, and also for Miss Hurrell-Wills as she prepares for her wedding in just a few days' time.

I hope you all have a good, restful and enjoyable summer, and most of all, I hope you have a safe summer.

We look forward to welcoming you back in September

**Mr D McGachen**  
**Headteacher**

### Summer Variety Show

Ms Hathaway and the music/drama department organised the Pinewood Variety Show this term. There was fantastic acts from pupils – please click the link below to watch.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJISSaDXJgs>

## 9T Trip to Ware Town

9T were blessed with fine weather after a long spell of rain. To consolidate classroom work we walked to Ware and visited St Mary's Church to compare its interior and exterior to pictures of a mosque.

We were able to listen to a harpist practise ahead of a lunchtime performance, the children were mesmerised - what a treat!

After spending some pocket money on an ice-cream, we walked to the park, armed with magnets and experimented with the playground equipment. In the afternoon we shared Eastern and Western party food and discussed different celebration between the two faiths.

**Ms. Alfieri, 9T Class Teacher**



## Science Garden

We have had a busy time growing in the garden this year, from sunflowers to radishes and potatoes to runner and broad beans.

By far the students' favourite job is harvesting the potatoes. The amazement in seeing faces as they pull up the little tubers is rewarding.

Lots of learning has been done on where food comes from, what is good for us, what plants need to survive, and team work.

Some pupils (& staff!) have overcome fears of touching soil and the mini-bugs that live there. Of course, working outdoors has been good for us all.

**Mrs. Wilson (Science)**



# INSIDE OUT



**Mr. D. Picton**

## **Why are you becoming a teacher?**

I am currently training to become a teacher. I have always thought I wanted to work in the fitness industry but after experiencing it first hand, I quickly changed my mind and luckily got the opportunity to be a TA at Pinewood. After a few years at Pinewood, I found I really enjoyed teaching - helping the pupils discover who they are and allowing them to be as independent as possible. So, I decided I wanted to pursue it as a career. I have completed my level 4 teaching training this year and next year I will be completing my level 5 teacher training.

## **What other jobs have you had?**

I previously worked at a few gyms for about 3 years – First, I was a sports assistant, this job involved getting everything ready at a leisure centre (table tennis, badminton, hockey, football). I then moved onto being a gym instructor, I thought it would be more gym instructing but ended up being more about cleaning the gym equipment. So, I left those jobs and joined Pinewood in 2016.

## **Who do you admire most and why?**

The person I admire the most is Jordan Henderson, the Liverpool F.C captain. Jordan got awarded with an MBE in 2021, an MBE is given for an outstanding achievement or service to the community. He was awarded this for his 'Players together' initiative that encouraged professional footballers to donate to the NHS. He subsequently became an ambassador for the NHS Charities together organisation which supports the staff, patients and volunteers of the 240 NHS charities in the UK. Henderson also supported Cybersmile's anti-cyberbullying campaign 'People Not Profiles' by handing over control of his social media accounts to the foundation in order to raise awareness of the impact of online abuse. Modern day footballers are often referred to as greedy and selfish, but players like Jordan Henderson and Marcus Rashford are the voices that the community need.

## **What do you most dislike and why?**

I dislike rudeness. It doesn't hurt to say sorry, please, thank you and excuse me. Being nice and polite goes a long way, it will make everyone around you feel better and also make them like you more.

## **Mr. D. Picton Cont...**

### **Your most embarrassing moment?**

When I was in sixth form, my class teacher got us doing some workouts (PE) – I did some squats and split my trousers! I had to cycle home to change my trousers.

### **Best Holiday?**

My favourite/best holiday was in Switzerland. I went there to play in a hockey tournament, the first holiday I had with my friends.

I also really enjoyed going to Amsterdam and Las Vegas with my partner, hopefully I will be visiting Amsterdam again very soon!

### **What is your favourite:....**

**Item of clothing:** trainers

**Pastime:** Gym

**Food:** Indian

**Film:** Shawshank Redemption

**Car:** Lotus Exige

**Music:** Arctic Monkeys

**TV Programme:** The Witcher

**Book:** Cell by Stephen King

### **Who would you like to meet from history and why?**

I would love to have met Robin Williams, he was my favourite actor when I was younger.

### **Who would you like to spend an evening with & why?**

I would spend an evening with my partner. There is no one else I would want to spend the evening with.

### **Who or what scares you most?**

In horror films you always have those pale white girls with long black hair that cover their face & they either crawl or stagger towards the camera. That is probably the thing that scares me most. Oddly, my partner has long black hair.....

### **Who or what makes you laugh most?**

My dogs make me laugh the most, they are absolute clowns

### **What is your favourite saying?**

I actually don't have a favourite saying, they all make me cringe!!! But if I get one, I'll share it....

## Pinewood Year 11 Prom

Our Year 11 Prom managed to go ahead despite restrictions and pupils looked amazing and had a great time celebrating their end of secondary schooling at Pinewood. Click here to see the video: <https://bit.ly/2V3Bqxa>



## Pinewood Year 12 Prom

Due to restrictions and lockdown last June our Year 11 2020 were unable to hold their prom, we held a 'belated' celebration, which they all enjoyed and it was great to see the pupils again



## Exciting News

We are excited to announce a new parent pay system. Details will be sent out to all parents over the summer holidays. The new system will enable us to process payments & refunds easily and enable parents to be able to pay for trips, school meals etc all in one place. Another step towards progressing to an easier cashless system within Pinewood

**Don't forget to join our Pinewood 100 Club**

**'WIN WIN WIN WIN WIN WIN WIN'**

Contact [admin@pinewood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@pinewood.herts.sch.uk) for more information on how to sign up

## Lower School



It has defiantly been a year to remember! Lower school has worked so hard in very difficult circumstances. Every day has been different and mixed with enjoyment, challenges and successes.

We have done lots of learning this year and teachers in both Year 7 and 8 have been creative and resilient in their determination to teach their classes. We have had fun days, themed days, mental health awareness days and charity events.

On Friday, Year 7 had an end of year BBQ picnic and train rides. The pupils had lots of fun and it was great to get out doors and dance to the music!

Now with the summer holidays in sight... I would like to wish all of Lower School a happy, restful, enjoyable and most importantly a safe summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you all in September and the new academic year!

8S earned 83 gold coins and are the Year 8 winners with the most gold coins over the year



**Miss Meehan**  
**Head Of Lower School**

## Upper School



We said a sad Goodbye to our 2021 year 11's and wished them well with their next adventure on to college. They celebrated with their prom evening on 25<sup>th</sup> June, which was a fantastic event, all the pupils looked very smart, there was lots of dancing and photos and everyone had a thoroughly good time. We wish them 'Good Luck' for the future

We also managed to hold a 'belated' prom for the 2020 leavers, again which was a fantastic evening, it was wonderful to see all the pupils again and catch up with their first year at college. Wishing them all the best for the future.

Enjoy the summer holiday, and we look forward to welcoming our Year 10 in to year 11 and the year 9's to Year 10 and the upper school.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer - thank you to all parents and staff for their help and support over the last year.

**Ms Muirhead**  
**Head Of Upper School**



### 9C and 9S visit to the seaside

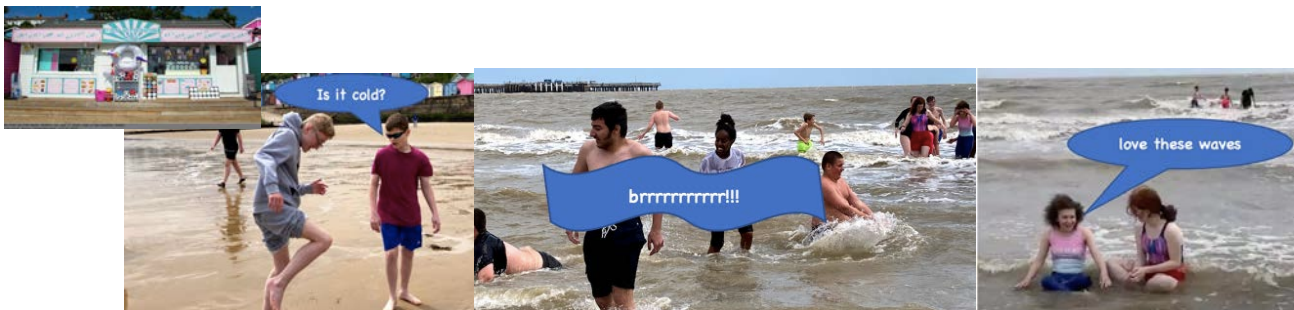
Frinton-on-Sea here we come!

Mrs Jones, Mrs Scott and Mrs Wilcox leave Pinewood in convoy on the A120. Sat Navigators Buddy and Jay directed minibus number 1, and the rest of 9C kept lookout behind for our following green and silver vehicles. Everyone had looked forward to a day out for over a year, and it was worth waiting for, what an amazing day!

34 Pinewood students and staff grabbed their towels, buckets and spades and made their way to the beach at Frinton-on-Sea only to find the tide in covering all the sand. Oh, what a disappointment! A change of plan was quickly actioned. Boules, tennis and football on the grassed area kept everyone entertained until lunch time. We enjoyed a nice picnic and checked the tide, ... no, still too far in.

We drove 5 minutes down to Walton-on-the-Naze and were ready for an ice cream on the promenade. A lovely lady called May served up delicious flavours; Candy floss, Eton mess and bubble gum were popular and tasty.

The tide went out and the beach was ready for us. A mass of year 9 ran into the sea, splashing and enjoying the waves.



### We also created interesting beach art



We dried off and finished the day slotting coins into the 2p pusher machine. We all won a small toy.

It was a lovely way for us to celebrate the end of 2 years with the class.  
Well done year 9 and good luck in key stage 4.

Mrs Jones🦋 Miss Boyd🌻 Mrs Hill🎀 Mrs Scott👱 Mrs Wilcox🦋 Mrs Gant🍪 Mrs Bailey🐾 Mr Picton🏈

## Farewell

### Miss Oswick & Mrs McDevitt

Miss Oswick and Mrs McDevitt are leaving us at the end of term to pursue different ventures.  
We wish them all the best for the future



**A. Oswick** – thank you to all the students at Pinewood school for making my time here so special



**Mrs. McDevitt** I would like to thank you all for making my life so much brighter. I have been lucky enough to support you as a Teaching Assistant and as Medical over the past 5 years. Even though it's my time to go, I move onto my new adventure with so many fond memories of you all. I have loved working at Pinewood and it will be extremely hard to say good bye to everyone.

To the students I wish you a fun filled time at Pinewood and wish you all the best for your future but remember always strive to do the best you can be and enjoy the roller coaster along the way.

Love Mrs McDevitt (Pupil Welfare)

## Welcome

### Mrs Klein & Mr Sowunmi – Class teachers

### Miss Foster & Mrs Shaw – teaching assistants

Ms Klein & Mr Sowunmi have been appointed as class teachers and will start with Pinewood in the autumn term.

Miss Foster & Mrs Shaw will join us in the autumn as part of our TA staff.



*Mrs Klein*  
Class Teacher



*Mr Sowunmi*  
Class Teacher

**We are sure you will join us in welcoming them to the Pinewood family**

**\*\*Save the Date\*\***

- 29<sup>th</sup> September 5.45pm - Post 16 Evening for year 9-11 pupils