

## Newsletter – Spring 1



### Student Led Spanish Club

In February we started a new lunchtime club. We are very proud of Tyler Smith from 11C who has kindly volunteered his time to deliver Spanish to a group of Pinewood students and staff.

Ms L. Alfieri



### 11S Trip to Ware

11S had a busy morning in Ware.

Walking down to town, we were able to consolidate several assessment targets: We looked out for all the road signs and discussed what they meant and how they keep us safe.

We visited St Mary's Church and compared the external and internal of the building to a Mosque and a Temple. We were treated to a recital of the organ; we were all mesmerised.

We spent some time in the local library and the students' read books of their choice and shared their stories with the class.

Finally, we spent some well-earned pocked money in the sweet shop. The students managed their money well, they realised they could buy a bag of pick and mix in place of a small chocolate bar.

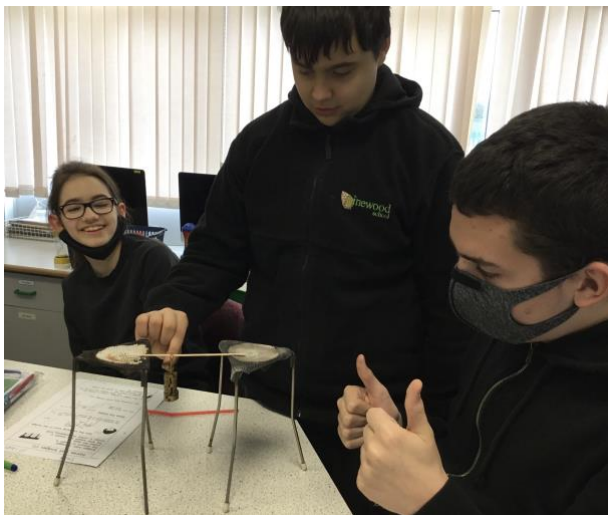


## Science

In Science this term we have been investigating bridges.

We have tested which materials are strongest and what shapes are best.

We ended the topic in a competition to see who could build the strongest bridge.



## Chocolate Heart Recipe



Prep: 40 mins    Easy    makes 8  
Cook: 15 mins - 20 mins

Got a sweet tooth? Treat someone special on Valentine's Day with these rich chocolate cupcakes hiding a secret white chocolate truffle centre

### Method

#### Ingredients

##### For the muffins

175g butter  
200g light muscovado sugar  
50g cocoa  
140g self-raising flour  
2 large eggs  
8 white truffles

##### For the decorations

150g butter, softened  
300g icing sugar  
1 tsp vanilla extract  
2 tbsp cocoa  
8 white chocolate hearts (we used Dr Oetker)

1  
Preheat the oven to 180C/160C fan/ gas 4 and line a muffin tin with eight paper cases. Melt the butter in a small pan, then leave to cool for 5 mins. Tip the sugar, cocoa powder and flour into a food processor and whizz until smooth. Add the butter and eggs, and blitz to form a smooth batter.

2  
Spoon a little of the mixture into each case, then lightly press a white chocolate truffle in the centre. Spoon the remaining mixture, making sure the truffles are covered. Bake for 10 mins until the mixture has firmed up. Leave to cool.

#### STEP 3

To decorate the muffins, tip the butter and sugar into a large bowl, add the vanilla and beat with an electric hand whisk until really smooth. Thinly spread a little of the vanilla mixture over the top of the cakes to cover them, taking the icing down the sides to meet the paper case. Beat the cocoa powder into the rest of the icing, then put in a piping bag fitted with a large star nozzle and pipe hearts onto the top of each cake. Add a chocolate heart to decorate for the final flourish.

**Step 4 – Eat & Enjoy !**

## 8H Flying Visit with Essex & Herts Air Ambulance

8H went on a Pinewood Outdoors trip to the woods and playground on the Pinehurst Estate in Hertford.

Above us, in the sky, we could hear a helicopter, circling, the helicopter circled us once quite low, then came back around and to our amazement came in to land in the playing field right next to us.

The children were very good and all followed instructions to stay well out of the way. This was a real-life emergency situation and the paramedics were on their way to treat a patient!

Once the paramedics had left the helicopter to go and treat the patient in a nearby house, the pilot was kind enough to allow the children a closer look and talked to them about the kit on the helicopter (a mini A&E!) and the work they do to help people.

The students were all brilliant, asked lots of questions and thanked the pilot for his time. A huge thank you to Essex & Herts Air Ambulance for their time & patience (excuse the pun!) in allowing us this opportunity to see the helicopter up close.



# Parent Governor Election

Dear Parent/Carer,

## PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION

I am writing to invite you to stand for election as a parent governor, or to nominate another parent to do so. In our school we have provision for 3 parent governors and there is currently 1 vacancy. The governing body, with the headteacher, has overall responsibility for the running of the school. Governing bodies have three core strategic functions:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

No special qualifications are needed and the most important thing is to have a keen interest in the school and be prepared to play an active part in the governing body's work. However, we would particularly welcome nominations from parents with the following skills: Human Resources, legal expertise, premises management and accounting and finance. Training is available for all governors and this board of governors has an expectation that those new to being a governor attend induction training.

The enclosed sheet summarises the circumstances under which someone cannot serve as a governor. Nominations must be from parents or carers with children at the school on the day that nominations close.

If you would like to stand for election, please complete the enclosed nomination form and return it to the school via [admin@pinewood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@pinewood.herts.sch.uk) **no later than Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022**. You may also include a short personal statement to support your nomination, which should be no longer than 250 words. Self-nominations will be accepted, but if you are nominating another parent, please seek their prior consent. If there are more nominations than vacancies the election will be by secret ballot. If that is necessary, voting papers will be sent to all parents together with details of the ballot procedure.

Yours Sincerely

**Mrs A Peacock**  
**School Business Manager**

Please see the access links below to the documents on our website:

<https://www.pinewood.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Parent-Governor-Election-Letter-Feb-2022-Word.docx>

<https://www.pinewood.herts.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Parent-Governor-Election-Letter-Feb-2022-PDF.pdf>

# INSIDE OUT



## Inside Out – Mr M Giblenn

### **Why did you become an Teaching assistant?**

It was a job I had always wanted to do. I feel it is a very important and rewarding job making a difference to young people. helping them through their school years and their education. helping them to build a brighter future.

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

I have worked at a Doctors surgery answering questions and queries on the phone and by email. I also sorted paperwork and medical forms. I have also worked in retail.

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

The people I most admire are my god mum and a very good friend of mine. They have both always been there for me.

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

I dislike getting something wrong or feeling I could have done better.

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

My most embarrassing moment was when I did a play in my primary school and forgot my lines.

### **Your best holiday?**

My best Holiday abroad was with my mum. We went to Los Angeles for my 18th Birthday. In the UK it was visiting some friends of mine in Brighton.

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

**Item of clothing:** My favourite item of clothing is my biker jacket.

**Film:** My favourite film is Skyfall.

**Pastime:** talking to friends / family watching tv and listening to music **Car:** Tesla

**Food:** My favourite food is Indian/ Italian

**Music:** My favourite band is The Verve and a singer called Heather Nova

**TV Programme:** Top Gear

**Book:** Marley and Me

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

Winston Churchill, because he was Prime Minister at such a terrible and scary time and would be a very interesting person to talk to.

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

I would like to spend an evening with Freddie Flintoff. I like his personality. He is funny and is someone who has gone on a journey and discovered who he is and has had difficult times throughout his journey.

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

Fear of the unknown

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

Having a laugh with friends / family and watching something funny

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

My favourite saying is that great minds think alike

# Wellbeing

This half term we have continued to support Wellbeing in school with our usual Ethos, positive atmosphere and interventions. We have added to this by welcoming Grace Randall from the Mental Health Support Team into school on Fridays and by increasing Helen Farrell's (the school counsellor) days in school to three (at least temporarily).

This week is Children's Mental Health Week and the theme is "Growing together." We have celebrated this in school with a poetry and photography competition. A big thanks to Mrs Hooton for arranging this, good luck to anyone who entered the competition.

Please remember the  
5 Ways to Wellbeing are:

Connect,  
Get Active,  
Be Mindful,  
Keep Learning,  
Give to Others.

Have a great half term.

*Mr T Baines  
SENCO & Deputy Headteacher*



**2020–2023**

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