

18th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a very busy week in school with pupils engaging in a wide range of activities. The weather has been really kind to us, so we have been able to explore the Sensory Garden that was lovingly created by Rosemary Perrow and her team of volunteers from Trinity Learning. It is a shame that we haven't had the grand opening that we expected, however our pupils are making full use of it.

There are constant updates that we are staying on top of as far as COVID-19 is concerned. After a detailed phone call with Public Health England I have used their information as well as the NHS and Government to produce a scaled down information sheet that will be attached to this newsletter. The statement from the beginning of the school year was:

What should I do if my child is ill (not COVID related)?

Normally, we would expect a child in school if they were a little 'under the weather', with a slight cold or a headache for instance. However, due to the situation, I will not be allowing a child who is showing even slight symptoms of being unwell to be on the school site. Please do not send your child in to school if they are ill.

I wanted to clarify the above statement for all parents. As we know, at the beginning of the year many children get sniffles and sore throats. **As long as your child does not have a temperature, they may attend school. However, if you are using medication such as paracetamol that would usually keep a temperature in check, they will not be allowed to attend.**

Thankyou for your continued understanding at this time.

Dates for your Diary

McMillan Coffee Morning is Friday 25th September

INSET Day-School will be closed for All Pupils on Monday 5th October

Have a great weekend

Lorraine

Our Kingfisher View

Kingfisher-a place where everyone is valued to develop independence through an enriching curriculum which is worthwhile



News from Spring Cluster

Green Class

This week in Green class we have been enjoying the sunny weather by spending lots of time outside. We have been continuing this terms topic and learning about ourselves, we have been exploring our reflections and thinking about what colour our eyes and hair are.

We have also been busy this week with lots of activities to strengthen our hands, pulling noisy tubes which make a great noise and pulling pipe cleaners out of holes.

The lovely Gina came to visit us and do some dancing to some of our favourite songs, everyone in Green class had some great dance moves.



Hope you all have a great weekend

Alicia, Kim, Amanda, Jackie, Julia, Maria and Clare



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

What a wonderful week we have had in Yellow Class, the weather has really helped. We have spent time exploring our new topic outdoors (new topic: likes and dislikes). From smelling the gorgeous flowers we have in our lovely sensory garden, to choosing our favourite and less favourite musical instruments while singing wonderful songs. The Sensory Garden this week has been full of excited students from the entire pathway and Yellow Class have really enjoyed waving to all their friends from a safe distance.



We have carried on designing our own portraits in our sensory art lessons and started designing some colourful and happy face mask prints related to our communication story. This has also given us the opportunity for our children to make their own choices and show preferences on their art utensils.



Swimming and the ball pool have also been a highlight in our class this week. Our children have made some great improvements on various movements and even some new movements we have not seen before, like standing by themselves.



News from Spring Cluster



Have a wonderful weekend,

Gal, Sally, Kerry Ann, Emma and Carrie



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

We are now fully back into the swing of things in Pink Class. All our familiar routines are up and running and all the students have responded to them beautifully. Everyone has been using their various communication aids, whether symbols, signs, PODD book or Eyegaze. Its lovely to see how well they have maintained their skills over the last few months- well done everyone.

The weather has been so beautiful this week that we have taken many of our activities outside which has been very popular with the students (and the staff as the mess was confined to the garden). We have enjoyed our hello sessions, messy play and music outside as well as some of our new garden toys. Our new music station has been a very popular addition.



The Resonance board has made a welcome return with some new songs for us to explore. This term as part of our likes and dislikes topic we will be focusing on choosing activities as part of our sessions on the board and Pink Class have been consistent in their choices. We are definitely a group that know what we enjoy and it is lovely to see everyone gaining skills in asking for 'more' clearly using their different methods.



Sensology this term has taken on a slightly different form as it is being combined with OT baskets based around personal hygiene and grooming. We are exploring different toiletries and equipment. Hair brushing proved very popular this week with everyone having a go at being as independent as possible. Have a lovely weekend- hopefully this sun will last a little longer.

Tor, Siobhan, Maria, Sue, Liza, Norah, and Daniel



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class

Good afternoon all, I trust you've been enjoying the September sun!



This week, Blue Class pupils have been hard at work as we continue to settle into our class routines. Pupils focused especially well in literacy as we have brought our work on "The Magical Toy Box" to a close, writing excellent 'I see' sentences involving objects and verbs. Other pupils chose hard toys and used these to do some mark making before washing them up just like the toys in the book washed up in the kitchen.

In numeracy we have continued our work on number, building upon last week's counting as well as considering 'one more' and 'one less' than our count. Some pupils practiced numbers up to 100, whilst others stuck to 1 – 20 forwards and backwards or even just 1-5 using concrete resources to support the activity.



Our first formal swimming lesson was a success on Thursday and we got to meet some new coaches for Tennis and Games.

Have a fantastic weekend and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday.



From Richard, Sarah, Teresa, Lynette, Ellie and Helen,

~ The Blue Class Team



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

We have continued our termly topic on '*Ourselves*' and this week we have focussed on likes and dislikes, creating personal shields detailing things we each really like. The shields are all very unique. We also painted prints of our own faces in the style of Andy Warhol. Students have also worked hard on their individual targets throughout the week at various times and have enjoyed participating in new incentives.

This week the Enterprise Group shopped at Tesco in the morning, complying with all the social distancing measures. They purchased what they needed and hosted a Bacon Roll Day for the staff. They managed to make £30! In the afternoon after our topic work, we were treated to delicious cake for Mary's birthday.

Roberto, Ben, Chan and Josh (and Monksey) shopped this week at Tesco for the Friday lunch ingredients and once again they all worked hard to follow the new rules. Students went on their wellbeing walk locally and recapped on road safety. Ceri was delighted to have a visit from Leo the cat!

Unfortunately, the class were unable to make their OXSRAD visit this week as the warning light came on in the minibus and so we sensibly returned to school. Luckily the weather has been glorious this week and we took advantage of the sunshine and shared time in the outside space, utilizing all the fabulous equipment. Some of the students had not been on the trampoline for a significant period of time but were still able to show off their skills! Sam was a natural and Brandon has mastered the star jump.

This week it was Roberto's turn to choose Friday lunch and he was quick to choose his favourite – fishfingers! Roberto, Kayah, Chan and Josh (and Monksey sometimes!) helped prepare and cook the lunch – fishfingers, home-made chips, peas and beans. They also made jelly to have with peaches for dessert. All the other students went cycling at Wheels4All and Matthew is making such good progress on his tricycle that he is now having a go on a balance bike!

The table was set ready for the other students to get back to school and most of the washing up had been done and put away! Good job guys! Ben has been super wonderful this week helping with a range of tasks and reminding us all of important things to remember. Thank you Ben what would we do without you!

We ended the afternoon with a special celebration as today our Josh turns 18!! Many happy returns Josh, we all wish you a fabulous birthday weekend!



News from Summer Cluster

Happy weekend everyone!



Leah, Mary, Dawn, Sian, Sarah, Lynette & Julie



News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

We have enjoyed another busy week in Orange Class, thinking some more about 'Ourselves'. We are learning to take care of our bodies, starting with washing our hands in the morning and before meals. This has quickly become part of our routine. We also have an OT basket session everyday where we act out different ways of looking after our bodies, singing 'This is the way we wash our face / comb our hair / rub our hands'. Everyone can join in!

Our Science work is all about teeth. We played a counting game where we rolled a die and counted out that number of "teeth" to put into our model mouth. The pretend teeth were edible - and we did eat a few - so we practised brushing our teeth properly afterwards.



In Maths we are using money in the context of shopping and visited 'Rachael's Shop' today to get used to exchanging a coin for an item. This was great fun! We will return to this role-play in the next couple of weeks as we continue to develop our skills for using money. You might like to set up your own play shop at home!

Enjoy the weekend!

Rachael, Tracy, Niki, Gill and Vikki.



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

Oh my goodness! Here we are at the end of week 2 already – the time is flying by. We are all settling in and learning the new routines. Our PE lessons with some new coaches have started and we are learning how to play tennis and team games where working together is the key. We have also been using the 'Scoots' in the playground. The children love them – they are a cross between a scooter and a trundle bike. The children learnt very quickly how to change them from one to the other and really enjoy them. One of our photos shows Isabel balancing on one with no help – we were so impressed and proud. There have been lots of proud moments this week. Henry was the first person in the class to complete his reward chart – well done Henry. The children chose their own rewards; Henry chose some play time in the swimming pool with the floats and toys. Lewis completed his too for play time in the pool so lots of fun and high jinks happened on Tuesday. All of the children are very close to completing their first chart so watch this space for the next success. We also had a special visitor on Wednesday; Leo the therapy cat came for a visit. I am not sure who enjoyed it most; the children or Leo but whichever way we are hoping he will be able to come for another visit soon.



Have a good weekend.

Lorna, Nicola, Laura, Pauline, Jo and Esther



News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

This week has just flown by with lots of good work from Gold Class and interesting activities. We have begun our new Read Write Inc. phonics programme, which pupils are enjoying and they are working hard in their small groups. I continue to be really impressed with how focussed Gold Class are in maths lessons. We practise counting in fives or tens daily forwards and backwards and some pupils are able to relate this to times tables. We have been doing lots of addition this week, both quick recall of addition facts and number bonds and written addition. We use concrete resources to support understanding.

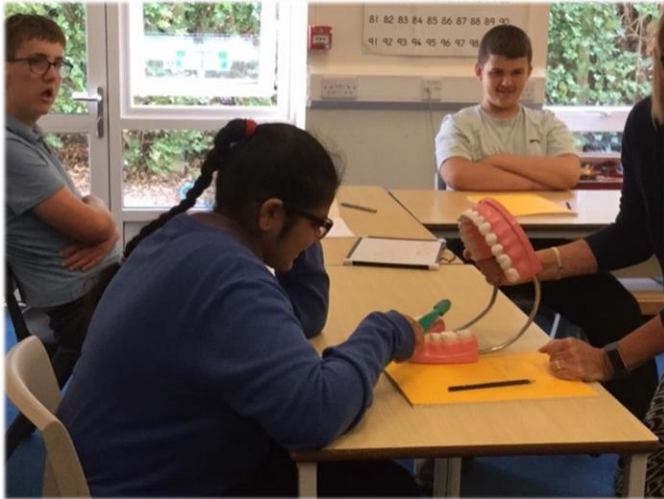
In Science this week, we discussed the importance of brushing our teeth twice a day and how we should brush our teeth. We practised brushing with a giant toothbrush and set of teeth. Pupils made sure that they brushed top and bottom teeth all of the way round the mouth and not to forget the back of teeth. They can tell you that you need to brush for two minutes each time to clean them properly. Perhaps you could get them to show you what they have learnt in class. Pupils then had a choice of follow up activity and some wrote instructions with clear steps and others made a poster explaining how to clean your teeth.

Tennis was great this week and after a short warm up our pupils got their skills back and were able to pass the ball back and forth over the net with some accuracy.





News from Autumn Cluster



Homework: I am not planning to give formal homework to Gold Class at the moment because I think that after the long break away from school it is important to have time to relax. However, it would be good to do some reading and practise counting in tens or fives. They might also want to share with you the addition that they have been doing in class. Pupils are learning to recall number bonds quickly and some are doing written column addition of 2 or 3 digit numbers.

Have a lovely weekend.

From Maria, Marie, Tess, Julie, Esther and Sarah



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

It has been another busy week in Silver Class. The children have been doing so well at joining in with all the different activities and have been working really hard.

We continued to enjoy our sensory story 'The Magic Toy Box' and especially enjoyed having a toys tea party using all the props from the story. We also did some great communication exchanging symbols for different toys and made some sentences about some different toys from the story.



In maths we have continued thinking about number. We enjoyed exploring the 10 fat sausages song using playdough sausages and singing 10 in the bed bouncing the teddies off the blanket. We have continued with our 1:1 matching and counting out amounts.





News from Winter Cluster

In art we continued to make our toy boxes and chose different decorations using symbols and communication boards and in cooking we chose different toppings for our crumpets.

We also practised our communication skills in topic when we sorted, matched symbols and chose different toys. We have all done really well exchanging symbols for toys we want and labelling different toys with symbols.



We also enjoyed our weekly walk to Radley Lakes as well as our 2 swimming sessions. We had a great time in dance where we did lots of movements and actions linked to the Magic Train Zoo story. We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Charlotte, Tina, Leann and Zoe



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

It's been a really busy week for white class, the children have been taking part in lots of enjoyable activities. During these activities we have discovered the children's wonderful, colourful and vibrant personalities.

The topic for this week is 'Toys I like and dislike', therefore it has been great to learn the children's likes and dislikes. We have discovered that White Class are big fans of music, bubbles, art, cuddly toys, messy play and flashing lights!



This week, we have continued to read 'The Magical Toy Box'. In art the children have been busy putting the finishing touches on their own magical toy boxes ready to store their favourite toys in. In topic we have been working hard on washing our favourite toys although lots of us enjoyed splashing about more!

The children have also carried on with other weekly activities such as swimming on Monday and Wednesday, dance on Monday and games on Wednesday. The children have also enjoyed trips to the light room and ball pool.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Caitlin and Ellie



News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

Another fantastic week in Black Class with lots of hard work and fun in the sun! It seems that everyone has settled back in now and become used to Black class routines. In Literacy this week we continued with our story 'The Magic Toy Box' and explored mark-making using toys. It was very fun and very messy! Next week we have a new story, 'Handa's Surprise.'

In our Art session this week we continued to make our very own toy boxes by choosing decorations and stickers. We will be sending them home with the children on Friday to enjoy at home.

In Numeracy this week we focused on Number and practiced counting in practical maths. The children rolled a dice labelled with numerals and identified the number. They then placed the correct number of beanbags onto the parachute for our group game. The children really enjoyed playing this! It could be a great activity to do at home using different objects to practice counting skills!



It was our first PE session back this week and the children practiced their ball skills. They practiced kicking, throwing and rolling the ball in different ways.

We continued to work on our independence skills this week by washing up and drying up. All of the children had a go at washing up and did a fab job! The children also sorted dirty and clean plates into piles to build their understanding. They all did very well. 😊

This week, the children had lots of fun in the sun too! I hope the weather stays nice for you all this weekend so you can enjoy spending time outside.

Katie, Amelia, Olivia and Pauline