



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

6th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It's great to be back for the start of another new term. You will be aware that once again we are in national lockdown until 2nd December in the first instance. We aim to continue to provide education to our usual high standards, however we have to be mindful of the impact of COVID 19 on our staffing levels. At present we have been able to cover staff absences in order to keep the school safely functioning as usual.

As there have been a few changes to procedures within the school to ensure we are following the most up to date guidelines from the Government, I would like to say thank you to parents who transport their children to school with the changes that have been made to drop off and pick up times. This has been put in place to ensure that we keep the adults in the car park to a minimum.

You will have seen a letter from Siobhan, our British Values Co-ordinator explaining what we are doing this year for Remembrance Day. In addition to this, pupils and staff are encouraged to wear red on Friday and make a donation if they would like to.

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 10th November-School Photos, please inform the class teacher if you do not want your child to have a photo taken.

Wednesday 11th November- Remembrance Day

Friday 13th November- Remembrance Day Raffle Draw

Please ensure you send your child to school with a warm coat as we aim to be using our outside spaces as much as possible to ensure fresh air and exercise.

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



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News from Spring Cluster

Green Class

I hope everyone had a relaxing half term, it has been lovely to see everyone back this week with lots of laughter and smiles.

This week we have been learning all about firework night. We began the week with a sensory story, during which we explored both the warmth of the bonfire with hot water bottles and how cold it is when we stand outside. Some of us really didn't like the cold ice cubes we touched for this bit. We watched and listened to videos of fireworks, we then popped bubble wrap to see if we could make the same noises.

In art this week we have been painting fireworks, we used rolled up pieces of card with lots of slits cut in them to make the shape of the fireworks. Afterwards we chose which colour of glitter to use and added it to our pictures



Hope you all have a great weekend

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



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

Welcome back from half term everybody, we hope you have had a lovely week and used the time to relax. Yellow class has had a wonderful week full of celebrations, Bonfire night has been present all week and I guess you will have noticed all the glitter too. We have been having lots of fun and creating lots of sensory art works to celebrate the special day. Fireworks (pipe cleaners), glitter, pompons and lots of sensory lights...



We have also had some wonderful sessions of sensology where everybody has worked hard. Everyone is getting really good at choosing themselves and this week we would like to make a special mention to Sienna who did some incredible tasting and smelling.



Yellow class is working on a really special display that will be finish by next week. For it, this week we created a large size kingfisher using different textures. Feathers have been the favourite with glitter and everyone has helped to create an amazing piece of artwork.



News from Spring Cluster



Yellow Class has concluded this week by working extra hard on exercising. Swimming is always a highlight but this week Yellow class has especially enjoyed ball pool. We have seen incredible walking, rolling and reaching.



Have a wonderful weekend,

Yellow Class

Gal, Sally, Kerry Ann, Emma and Carrie



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

We hope that you all had a good half term break. We have enjoyed welcoming Pink Class students back to school. Our topic for this term is Light and Sound, the first week back has certainly been busy. The students have been doing super communicating with Sienna and Louisa being very vocal in response to our daily recall song and Ryan has been using his Podd book and communication boards to express his opinions and to make choices.



Swimming sessions have been a particular highlight of the week for many of the students. Whilst it is a very important part of their Physio program, it is also a good opportunity for the students to engage in a physical activity with their friends. As you can see from the photos, Toby and Yujan had lots of fun playing different games in the water.





News from Summer Cluster

Due to Bonfire Night taking place on the 5th November, we decided that it would be great to have a Bonfire Night themed Sensory Cooking session. The Pink Class students had lots of fun, and the marshmallows were a particular favourite with Katie. We also included a bonfire and fireworks display in our sensory story. All of the students liked looking at all the different coloured leaves and everybody loved the leaves being thrown. Sienna watched the Firework display intently; whilst Chloe and Toby loved the bubble wrap being used to recreate the sound of fireworks.



We hope that you all have a great weekend.

Siobhán, Tor, María, Liza, Sue, Norah, Daniel and Clare



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



Welcome back to a new half-term all and what a beautiful week of weather it has been with those sunny but crisp autumn days.

Blue Class have settled back into routine well this week although there were some tired looking faces on Monday! Pupils have really enjoyed literacy this week as we have begun exploring the story 'Room on a Broom'. We read the story out together at the

start of the week and explored it, building our comprehension with props and role-play. Later in the week we worked on sequencing the story and enjoyed watching an animated version.



Numeracy has seen us working on place value this week. Some pupils have impressed, demonstrating their understanding of the value of 10s and 1s with Dienes Blocks and Pictorial Representation while others have doubled down, securing their understanding of early counting and addition during both morning activities and lessons.

Pupils missed Angela the swimming teacher this week, however we had a blast swimming as a whole group for once and carrying on the learning that she has set in motion. Lastly, dare I mention cooking?! Hats made out of biscuits, cones and melted chocolate... oh the

mess... but so much fun!

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

~ The Blue Class Team



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Term 2 has got off to a great start. We have welcomed our new TA Gill who has settled in rather well and who has already taken a lead with the Read, Write Inc group having gained plentiful experience previously at her last school. The students have been very understanding of the impending Lockdown and the need to cancel our offsite activities for a few weeks. We still have a very packed term however and of course the run up to Christmas! Students will have the opportunity over the next few weeks to focus more on their individual targets and have already this week started to help prepare their Accreditation files with pieces of work and photo evidence. We have also focussed on our Christmas song and started preparations for props to use in our video.

The Enterprise Group made a good start with making a plan for the term and started to prepare recipes and advertising posters to sell our special Christmas pumpkin and apple chutney. Staff have been most impressed with the focus, level and quality of the work produced by all. We will soon be displaying our posters around school and are hoping to receive some orders from parents also, so watch this space!

Our new topic for the term is 'Light & Sound' and we started this week with Light and Dark (Darkness being the absence of light). Luckily Headteacher Lorraine guessed what our topic was when she came into class and found us all in a darkened room! Harry has been keeping us all entertained with thinking of songs which represent our topic, 'FLASH Ahahhhhh'. We have also this week had a brief think about 'Tsunami Awareness Day' and watched some footage of a giant wave coming onto land. Ceri said she didn't know waves could be soooooo big! We also recapped on why we have Bonfire Night and watched a video about Guy Fawkes.

As our offsite activities have stopped temporarily, this week Brandon, Sam, Ceri and Mya helped with trying to arrange some online shopping at Tesco. The students helped to work out what we needed to buy and decide on how many of the items we would need. Other students worked hard on their targets and Ben has been gaining even more stars on his reward chart by choosing to help with the washing up and duties in class daily. Hopefully we will be able to spend our reward money just before breaking up for Christmas.

Kayah, Brandon, Ben and Sam prepared and cooked the Friday lunch chosen by Brandon this week – fish & chips with peas or beans, cookie and ice cream. Students have also helped with preparing a giant poppy for the upcoming 'Remembrance'. We all enjoyed a relaxed Friday afternoon spending some time in the Common Room and having a little celebration for our Dawn's birthday! (who brought in delicious chocolate cake – yum!). Happy Birthday Dawn!

Happy weekend everyone!

Purple Class – Leah, Mary, Dawn, Gill, Sian, & Julie



News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed half term week and had a good rest.

Our topic this term is Light and Sound, which offers plenty of opportunities for learning in Science but also ties in nicely with many of the celebrations at this time of the year. This week we have heard the story of Guy Fawkes and shared a poem about fireworks. The poem helped us think about different fireworks and their shapes and sounds. We also made firework patterns in chalk on the tuff tray, as well as drawing our own pictures on black paper.



In Music, we used instruments to explore loud and quiet sounds. We were able to make sounds of different volumes, although it turns out that we were rather good at being loud!

It may be different this year, but we hope you have a good Bonfire Night – and perhaps a sparkler or two.

Remember, remember, the 5th of November
Gunpowder Treason and plot;
I see of no reason why Gunpowder Treason
Should ever be forgot.

Enjoy the weekend!

Rachael, Tracy, Niki, Beccie and Sarah.



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

We finished Term 1 with a fabulous Halloween party. The children and staff all dressed up and looked very scary. You were generous with your snacks and treats and we had an amazing feast at the end of the afternoon – thank you so much for supporting us. The children worked hard on carving pumpkins during the morning and 3 lucky children won the pumpkins in a competition and got to take them home. They also did some great Halloween art and found eyeballs and spiders hiding in ice cubes. We also had a go at apple bobbing which was really tricky to do and took ages as we had to keep sterilising the bowl and keeping ourselves safe too. All the children managed to get an apple; some with a big bite and others by gripping the stalk with their teeth. But everybody thoroughly enjoyed it.

This term has started with a big bang! We have been learning all about why we have fireworks and how Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the houses of parliament. We have made lots of great firework pictures. I think the children thought that filling water pistols with paint and firing them at big pieces of paper was the most fun.

The children have been thinking about Remembrance Day; what it is for and why we have it every year. They watched some PowerPoints and talked a lot about what we had seen. They also read some poems by other children in other schools to give them some ideas so that we could write poems of our own. The poems are outstanding, some great word choices and some very thoughtful ideas. It makes me incredibly proud to be the teacher in Red class.



Have a good weekend.

Lorna, Nicola, Laura, Pauline, Jo and Esther



News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Term 2 has started well in Gold Class. Pupils have had a good week with a variety of subjects covered. We have enjoyed learning about the history of Guy Fawkes and the reason that we celebrate 5th November. Pupils wrote lovely poems to include some description about fireworks and they have done some of their own research using search engines to find out interesting facts about Guy Fawkes himself. We have also done some work around Remembrance Day and WW1 in school. This has involved some artwork, reading poetry and diaries of WW1 soldiers to understand what life was like. They have been asking lots of good questions while learning about WW1. Some pupils have gone on to write a diary as if they were a soldier experiencing the trenches in the war, which will part of the school Remembrance display.

In science we will be learning about light and sound this term and we began with talking about light and dark, different light sources and why we need light to see things. Pupils are getting more confident at counting in 5s, 10s or 3s and linking these to times tables. A few pupils are estimating amounts and then counting to see how accurate they are.





News from Autumn Cluster



Homework: Please read and talk about the books and practise counting in 5s, 10s or 3s. You could also have a go at estimating amounts around the home e.g. how many sweets in the jar, apples in the bowl and then check the accuracy of the estimate by counting?

Have a lovely, but safe weekend.

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



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

It's been great to see all the children back, full of energy and well rested, after the half term break. We have been busy thinking about our new topic 'Lets Celebrate'.

We started this term thinking about how different people might chose to celebrate Halloween. We have been exploring our first story 'Meg and Mog'. We really enjoyed wearing the witches' hat and wig as well as flying on the broom. We also liked playing with the toy mouse that Meg turned her friends into and trying the strawberries that she put in her potion. Our favourite though was definitely mixing our own potions using coloured water and creepy creatures. We followed up the story with some symbol work as well as some mark making.



In art we continued our 'Meg and Mog' theme by choosing different decorations to make our witches hat and in cooking we made ice cream cone witches hats using melted chocolate and sprinkles. Again, we all practised using communication boards and symbols to make choice about decorations. We also enjoyed our messy play session where we explored slimy jelly with eyeballs in.



News from Winter Cluster

In maths we have been working on our number skills. Some of us have been working on showing anticipation and joining in with number songs. Others have been working on 1:1 matching and counting out amounts to 5 and some of us have started to work on some adding using objects.

We were lucky this week to take part in an online music for autism session. We enjoyed listening to the flute and ukulele being played and enjoyed playing our own instruments alongside the music. We were all fascinated by seeing ourselves and our friends on the video call.



We have also carried on with our weekly swimming, dance and PE sessions. Our highlight was our parachute games in PE where everyone joined in. We loved being under the parachute and watching it move up and down and well as sitting on top and being spun and pulled.



We hope you have a lovely weekend,

Charlotte, Tina, Leann and Zoe



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Happy Friday everyone!

It's been a very productive week for white class!

Our topic for this term is light and sound. In numeracy this week, we have been looking at capacity, focusing on more and less, and small and big. We have been size ordering pumpkins, taking part in water play to explore more and less water and we have also been categorising big and small. Within literacy we are focusing on Halloween. We have been reading *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson. The children have really enjoyed exploring the sensory props, such as the puppets, the witch's hat, the broom and the ingredients for the potion. The children have been matching the props within the story to symbols. Some have even moved onto describing the props, for example black witches hat.

Within Topic lessons, we have been mixing potions, just like the witch does in 'Room on the Broom', the children have been choosing what messy play items to add into their potion and mix it with a spoon. In art we have been decorating witches hats with items we can stick on, the children have been requesting what item they would like to decorate the hat with using a communication board. In our cooking classes, we have been decorating ice cream cones to create their own witches hat, choosing what edible items to decorate with.

Within PE this week, we have been swimming with Angela, half of the class becoming more confident in the water, and half of the class working on using raising their arms outside of the water when doing the front crawl. We have found that no music is helping the children feel at ease within the water! During the tennis lesson this week, we have been working on agility and hand-eye coordination, holding onto bean bags/rackets and moving in and out of cones. In the games session, we have been working on our aim, throwing bean bags into coloured hoops, kicking footballs to knock over other footballs and throwing bean bags at balls to knock them off a bench.

Another busy week but successful from white class, we hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Caitlin and Ellie





News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

Happy Friday everyone! Hope that you all had a lovely break. The children certainly came back ready to learn and seemed happy to get back to their school routines.

Our topic this half term is 'Light and Sound' with a specific focus on 'celebrations.' In Literacy this week, we started our new story 'Room on a Broom' which was a real success. The children seemed to really enjoy the new sensory props and did some fantastic mark making and sensory exploration afterwards.

We linked our Cooking and Art to our new story this week. We made witches hats in cooking using an upside down ice cream cone and melted chocolate. We added sprinkles and sweets as decorations. The children were very good at following simple symbol recipes. Their highlight was definitely eating the end product! In Art this week, we chose different materials to decorate a witch's hat. The children were very



creative and practiced using communication boards to make their requests.

In Numeracy we have been focusing on measurement and capacity. Some of us have been comparing using the terms 'full' and 'empty' whilst some of us have been using non standard units of measurement to indicate capacity.

In Science this week we have been focusing on sound. To introduce our new topic, we explored different sound toys and explored how to make the toys make noise. Some of us were able to use a communication board to comment whether they were loud or quiet.

A great first week back and lots of fantastic work. Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Katie, Amelia, Olivia and Ellie