

20th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It been a busy week again at Kingfisher, there have been opportunities for all pupils to get out and about in our grounds. The Sensory Garden is always a great experience for all pupils. There is so much to see, smell, taste, feel and hear. We are so grateful to all our friends who have supported us with this project.

Purple Class organised a guess the baby competition whereby many of our staff gave them pictures of themselves when they were children. Apparently, I didn't win..... Sarah, one of our TAs guessed 16 out of 34. Well done Sarah, it was really hard.

We have been discussing the other 'C' word, which has got everyone excited. We will be going ahead with our Christmas performance and we are also making preparations for a visit from Santa. Each class will have their Christmas Performance filmed and collated to ensure parents, carers and friends can still enjoy this amazing event. We will be sending our permission slips for you to sign to say you are happy for your child to be in the performance which will be posted on our website. Please return these as soon as possible to ensure we do not inadvertently film your child for this purpose.

Thank you to everyone who donated and bought raffle tickets and entered the Name the Bear competition for the Poppy Appeal. We drew the Name the Bear last week, the winners were Ryan (Pink Class), Ceri (Purple Class), Maria (TA Pink Class). There are some pictures at the end of the newsletter. We don't find out exactly much we raised until we hear back from The Royal British Legion, however we know we raised in excess of £125.



Dates for your diary

Friday 11th December-Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children

Friday 18th December-Last Day of Term-2pm finish

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

Building upon our resonance board session last week we took it in turns to choose an activity to explore on the board using either pictures or symbols. Coloured rice was definitely a popular choice, we listened really quietly as the rice sprinkled onto the board and then we made loud banging on the board to make the rice jump up and down. The loud activities were everyone's favourite.



This week was world kindness day and we created some handprints for our school display. We were all really curious about putting our hands in the green paint.

As always, we have also been working hard on our movement targets this week, crawling through the really long tunnel. Some of us even met our friends coming the other way through the tunnel.



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



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

What an incredible week we have had this week in Yellow Class. Firstly, we would like to say thank you to Lou (hearing and visual impairment specialised multisensory teacher) for spending this week with us. We started the week exercising our fine motor skills using our hand function activities. Grabbing, pulling, stretching and warming up those hands ready for a busy week.



Communication has been one of the highlights this week, especially choice making. The students have done excellent choosing and the choices have been consistent across the week. On Tuesday and Thursday, we had some amazing resonance board sessions where we spotted a lot of response and interaction from everyone using vocalising, choice making and copying. On Tuesday yellow class children experienced the resonance board by feeling with their feet, which showed really good movements and coordination. On Thursday, they had the chance to communicate with their arms which showed concentration as they also used their visual skills and an incredible capacity of choice making.



We have also been doing some really good independent art where children have been recognising the colours of the sky using their chosen paint colour. They all enjoyed painting and feeling with their hands.



News from Spring Cluster



Sensology has also been a highlight activity this week, as everyone is becoming more confident with feeling, smelling, looking, listening and some even tasting our Christmas sensology experiences. This week we have been looking at the Christmas lights we place on our trees doing a zig zag movement, we have tasted carrot soup which is the reindeers favourite meal, smelt some orange and cinnamon scents, listening to the bells and feeling some of the tree decorations. We have also gone further and use two senses at the same time listening and looking at our beautiful snow gloves.



Finally, thanks to this week's weather we have been able to enjoy a little bit of outdoor exploring and outdoor play. We have seen that all the leaves are on the floor of the garden and we have been playing and listening to the noise they make once dry. We have also managed to have some beautiful walks around the sensory garden listening to the autumn-wintery noises.



Have a wonderful deserved weekend,

Gal, Sally, Emma, Katia and Kerry Ann



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

We have had another busy week in Pink Class. Firstly, we would like to start by congratulating Ryan for winning the Bear from our Poppy Appeal "Name the Bear" competition last Friday. Ryan was so thrilled to win his bear. We would also like to say a big well done to Toby, who won the box of delicious cakes, from the Raffle that was held, to support the Poppy Appeal. Toby was extremely pleased with his prize.



The students had a fantastic time in their Dance session with Gina. Chloe, in particular has such great fun in these sessions and she is always the first to start moving when the music begins. Yujan and Katie also enjoyed dancing with Gina and other members of staff. Ryan did a brilliant job of tapping to the beat of the music and Sienna had lots of fun moving and vocalising to the music. Well done Pink Class.





News from Summer Cluster

Toby was delighted to have the opportunity to ride his bike around the playground, with Norah. He had an amazing time. His joy at this activity was so lovely to see.



Our PE session served as a highlight for the students. It has been great to see the progression that the students have been making. Yujan enjoyed practicing his bowling skills and Sienna had a brilliant time on the Physio ball. Louisa has done so well with her Physio- she has stood in her standing frame for up to an hour this week



We hope that you all have a great weekend.

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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



Good afternoon all, I trust you've had a good week. This week has been very enjoyable in Gold Class with a host of crafty activities rolling around for the festive season.

Our class book this week has been 'Dipal's Diwali' and we have been using this to explore how different people celebrate Diwali. As ever, pupils have enjoyed a sensory telling of the story followed by associated mark-making and sentence construction tasks.



In numeracy we have continued to think about capacity and though we were sad to miss out on swimming, we used the time to introduce our Christmas play/story/song and make our own Rangoli patterns for Diwali

Please be aware that we have re-started home-schooling reading and have sent books and reading diaries home appropriate for your child's phonics phase. Please return the books each day with any relevant comments or feedback as we aim to read with Blue Class pupils on rotation every afternoon, changing books as necessary. We hope that you will support us by further sharing these books with your child at home.



Have a fantastic weekend and we will see you all soon

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

~ The Blue Class Team



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Wow another busy week!

The Enterprise Group made another batch of their special Christmas pumpkin and apple chutney and this week the Communication Group helped Gill to master signing all her letters!

We have focussed a little on the Diwali '*Festival of Lights*' which started on Saturday and lasts 5 days. We looked at a video of how Diwali is celebrated and all agreed it is very similar to how we celebrate our New Year with family and friends, delicious food and fireworks. We also listened to the story of *Rama and Sita* which is remembered during Diwali and we heard how they finally found their way back home by following the row of diya lamps.

For Art we have focussed on creating our own Rangoli pattern display for outside the classroom as this is how Hindu's decorate their homes during Diwali in order to welcome the Goddess Lakshmi.

Kayah completed the banner for the Kindness Tree which is gathering kindness hands from all around the school!

Leah chose Friday lunch this week – Macaroni Cheese with bacon, Garlic Bread and salad. As it is Harry's favourite lunch choice, Harry, Sam, Ceri and Josh took turn to cook.

Harry, Sam, Josh and Roberto supported by Mary helped choose the shopping we needed and then helped with the online shopping at Tesco. This week the school had a '*click & collect*' slot, so the group had a little drive out to go and collect the items from Tesco. The Tesco staff at Click & Collect were very friendly and helpful and were happy to have their photo taken!

Students have continued to work hard on their targets. Chan has continued to make up her own gluten free tuna mayonnaise each day to have with her jacket potato. Whilst the shopping group were out for collection, Ceri has been using both arms throughout nearly all the session. Mya has worked hard on her number recognition. Kayah and Ben have worked hard on Place Value. Brandon has worked on asking and answering questions and has continued his research project on Abingdon College. All students have tried their best! This week we were lucky to have a visit from Clare who has kindly agreed to play guitar for our Christmas song – thank you Clare!

Harry, Sam, Ceri and Josh prepared and cooked the Friday lunch. The other students made some clay art with Julie using Autumn leaves. With any spare time during the day we are utilising for Christmas song rehearsals.

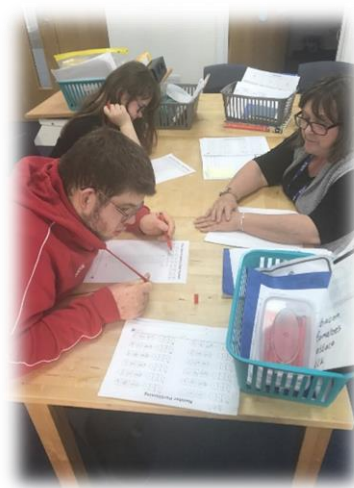
Finally, we have a winner for the '*Guess the Baby*' competition. A huge well done to Sarah Johnson who guessed 16 out of 34 babies right! She takes home with her a delicious cake made by our very own Mary Berry (Organ).

Happy weekend everyone!

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



News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

This week Orange Class finished painting their diva lamps and we are pleased with how they have turned out. Look out for them in your child's bag as we will be sending them home to you very soon.



We have started reading the story *Owl Babies*, which ties in with our topic on light and dark because owls are nocturnal. The children enjoy listening to the story and joining in with the bit where Bill, the smallest baby owl, says "I want my Mummy!" We have used our own owl babies made from pompoms to retell the story. We made an owl nest for them from twigs, leaves and feathers because the book told us that's what their house was like. If you would like to share the story at home, a lovely animation can be found by following this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPQRiSTYFH0&safe=true>



Enjoy the weekend!

Rachael, Tracy, Niki, Gill and Vikki.



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

We have been watching the weather closely this week in Red Class. It has definitely turned colder but we haven't let that stop us looking for signs of Autumn. We have wrapped up warm and looked carefully around all the different outside areas of our school to see what different signs of Autumn we can find. The most popular area was the huge pile of leaves that had blown into Pink Class's garden. Not only have we enjoyed collecting some different coloured Autumn leaves and seeds, we also had great fun ticking off all the different things we saw on an 'Autumn Hunt'.



As well as finding signs of Autumn, we have been thinking of Autumn words to put into our own poems. Colours were a favourite theme which we continued to learn about in our Art lessons using plenty of red, orange and brown. We used these colours to decorate our nocturnal animals, we will be continuing to learn about these over the next couple of weeks. This is part of our Light and Sound topic. This week we particularly focussed on hedgehogs, linked to our Autumn work, and Owls.

We have had a few different faces this week as some of our regular members of staff have been unwell or having to self-isolate. I would like to say how proud I am of all the pupils for coping with this, each with a lovely welcoming smile for everyone and working just as hard as always. Well done Red Class!

Homework: As our Autumn walk was such a success, going for a walk to look for signs of Autumn would be fantastic. We did find lots of signs but as we are currently restricted to staying on the school grounds there are many more signs of Autumn we didn't see. I have sent home an 'Autumn hunt' in case you get an opportunity to do this, we'd love to see any pictures from your walk too!

Have a good weekend.

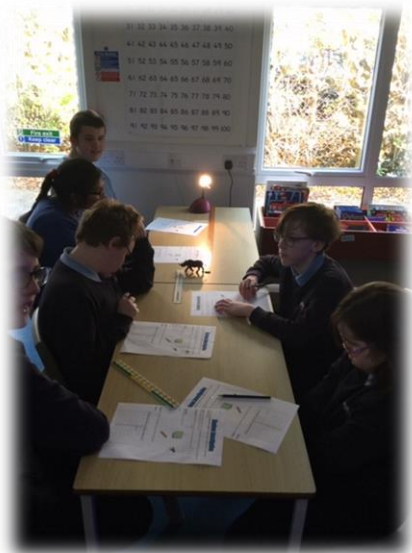
Lorna, Nicola, Laura, Pauline, Jo, Esther, Teresa and Lorraine G this week



News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

This week we have been learning all about shadows. We know that light travels in straight lines and that we need a light source and an object to block the light in order to make a shadow. Pupils enjoyed carrying out an investigation in science to see how the size of shadows change when you move closer to the light source. They worked in 2 groups to carry out the investigation and set up the experiment together. Some pupils made a prediction first. Then they carefully measured the distance from the light source, moved the animal and measured the shadow. Results were recorded in a table. There was lots of great teamwork!



They also had a lot of fun making shadow puppets and performing to the class in a puppet theatre. We took lots of photos and some video of the puppet shows while the whole class watched each performance and gave each other a huge round of applause. Making shadow puppets is something that they could easily do at home and they really enjoyed it.





News from Autumn Cluster



Homework: Please read and discuss the books pupils are reading as always. Practise times tables or mental addition and subtraction of 1-digit numbers from 2-digit numbers.

Have a lovely weekend.

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



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

This week in Silver Class we have continued to think about celebrations and have moved on to looking at Diwali.

In literacy we have been reading the story 'Dipal's Diwali'. This story explores different ways that people might celebrate Diwali. We enjoyed exploring the different props including using pom poms as fireworks, feeling clay pots and having curry powder to smell. Some of us were a bit surprised when we tried to eat the curry powder.

Following on from the story, our art lesson focussed on making Rangoli patterns where we enjoyed using communication boards to choose different coloured sand to make our own pictures. In cooking we made a sauce to try with our poppadom's. Again, we were working hard on following the instructions.



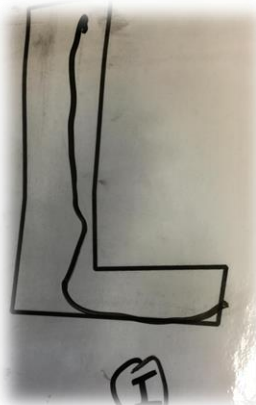
In maths this week we have been thinking about the language 'empty and full' as well as comparing sizes of containers. Some of us have been practising copying emptying and filling containers. Others have been sorting containers by whether they are empty or full and some have even been ordering and sorting containers by size.





News from Winter Cluster

We have also continued to work on all our different targets this week. Lots of us are doing really well taking our coats off by ourselves and hanging these up. Others of us have been working really hard on our toileting and some of us have been practising our mark making and writing. We are really proud of all the steps the children have made towards their ILP targets. A special mention to Matthew who has been copying using lots of instruments and Leo who managed to write the first letter of his name himself as well as Quinn and Jake who managed to make 3-part sentences by themselves.



As always, we enjoyed our messy play session. We are getting so much better at exploring different materials and using these in different ways i.e. mixing, stirring, dropping. Here are some photos from our spaghetti messy play last week.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Charlotte, Tina, Leann and Zoe



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Happy Friday everyone!

It's been another successful week for White Class!

Within literacy we are focusing on Diwali. We have been reading Dipal's Diwali, to learn about different traditions and celebrations. The children love playing with the sensory props, such as the rangoli patterns, traditional clothes, Diya lamps, firework displays and statues of colourful God's. The children have been matching coloured and pattern symbols to certain clothing, requesting different colours for rangoli patterns and identifying familiar foods. Within mark making, we have been using chalk to create our own rangoli patterns on the floor, we have also been colouring in rangoli patterns. Within Messy play, we have been using stencils, sieves and coloured sand to create our own bright rangoli patterns.

In art we have been using stencils and lentils to create rangoli patterns. The children had to choose between different colour lentils and beans to scatter on the stencil to create a rangoli pattern. Within cooking this week, we have been following instructions to create yoghurt based dips with poppadum's, to experience food that is eaten at Diwali celebrations. The children were very good and patient at following the steps, and most of them enjoyed the snack. Within Science, we have been introducing a range of items that make light. The children have learnt how to use these items and shown where the light comes from.

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 are still working on using raising their arms outside of the water when doing the front crawl. In gymnastics, we have been working on log rolls, the children really enjoyed this. Within dance, we have been looking at how frogs and fish move, bouncing up and down, swimming actions and jumping around. Overall, the children have had a really good week, and have enjoyed learning all of these new skills! On Tuesday, we celebrated one of our children's birthdays. We celebrated by eating chocolate cake, listened to Disney music and had a dance party.

We hope you all have a lovely lockdown weekend.

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Caitlin and Lynette





News from Winter Cluster



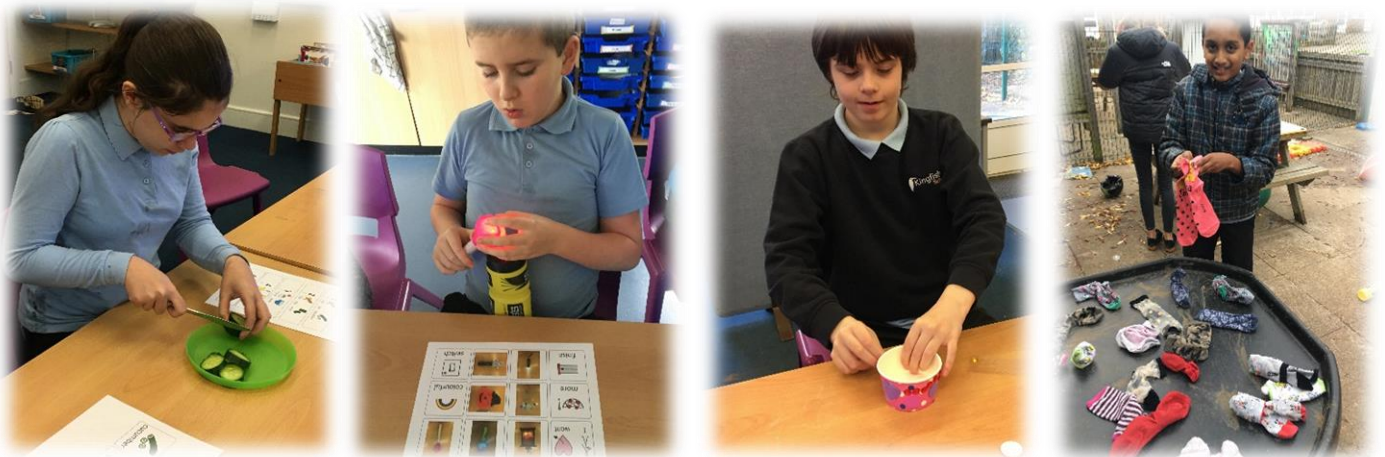


News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

It has been another great week in Black Class with lots of learning and lots of fun! We started our new sensory story this week, 'Dipals Diwali.' The children seemed to really enjoy exploring the sensory props and watching the virtual firework display. Some of us have been working on verbs in Literacy this week and have been matching verb symbols to the page. E.g. dancing/ sweeping/ kneeling. Some of us have been practicing our reading skills by reading sentences from the story and finding the matching picture. Well done everyone!

We linked the story to our creative subjects this week and decorated our own diya in Art. The children chose different materials and stickers to attach to their diya. In Cooking we made a yoghurt and mint dip and ate it with poppadom's. The main focus of our cooking was to follow visual instructions which worked very well in encouraging independence.



In Numeracy this week we are exploring number and calculation. Some of us are working on pairing, matching and grouping objects together, whilst others are exploring division in simple terms by sharing objects out equally.

Finally, in Science this week we have been exploring different light sources. The children used communication boards to request different lights to explore and comment and we heard lots of new vocabulary which was great.

We have continued with our PE, ball pool and swimming sessions which as always have been a huge hit. I would like to make a special mention for Hannah this week who is progressing in each and every swimming session by using her arms and legs more to make strokes. Well done Hannah!

Have a lovely weekend everyone,

Katie, Amelia, Olivia and Jasmine

Community Links

A few of our Poppy Appeal Winners

