

Dear Parents and Carers

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.....

Michael and some pupils from Purple Class went off today to collect the Christmas Trees and this afternoon the pupils will be taking turns decorating them. We are very grateful that each year the trees are donated to us by Bagley Woods Sawmill.

The various classes will also be starting to decorate the trees this afternoon and continue to at the beginning of next week. I can't wait to see them later.

The Classes have had a varied week of learning opportunities this week. The enterprise Group in Purple Class have been making posters to sell their Pumpkin Chutney, I can't wait to have this with some cheese and biscuits. Pink Class have had a piano donated to them, it is proving really popular amongst the pupils and is used in various sessions throughout the week.

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

Monday 4th January-INSET DAY Teacher Only Day

Tuesday 5th January-First Day of Spring Term for pupils

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

EviSense

I wrote to you earlier in the year to explain about EviSense, the online platform we use to gather evidence of progress for your children. I have set it up so not only will you be able to see what your child has been doing in school recently, you will also be able to comment and post the great things you are all doing at home. Many of you are sharing pictures with staff on social media platforms such as FaceBook and Instagram. You will be able to use Evisense in a similar way to this. Rest assured this is not public and only you and the school will be able to see your child's profile.

Many of you have already set up your accounts and have accessed them regularly, both reading our posts as well as sending in your own. I originally set up all pupil's accounts in March, however if they were not accessed within a certain time frame the login authorisation was cancelled. Therefore, I have sent a new log in for every parent who has yet to access this platform. This may have gone into your spam or junk folder within your email.

To start with, you can download EviSense from wherever you normally download apps from. Alternatively, you can also use your usual Internet browser such as Google, Bing or Safari.

- You will receive an email with the title
 - Kingfisher School is **now using B Squared software – Please create your account**
 - in the body of the email click on the button
- 
- And follow the instructions on the screen
 - When the setup process is complete go to - <https://uk.evisense.com> and log in

Please log on at least once in the next few days so that the link doesn't expire.



News from Spring Cluster

Green Class

We have had a busy week in Green Class and it has been lovely to have everyone back.

We have been doing really well at developing our tidying up skills this week. Whilst singing our song to prompt us we have been putting our toys and balls back into the box at the end of our lessons and play time.

In Sensology we develop our 5 senses, this term we have been exploring autumn and winter objects including pinecones and some amazing firework lights. We all smelt the onion that had been cut in half, some of us were really interested in the smell and had a big sniff but none of us cried.

In class and with Clare, we have been listening to and singing lots of number songs this week. We have been feeling the shape of the numbers with our hands and some of us have even been practicing putting them in the correct order.



Have a good weekend

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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

We have had another busy week in Pink Class. The students had a great music session with Chloe, Sienna and Katie playing the piano. Ryan and Yujan preferred to strum the strings of the guitar. We certainly have lots of budding musicians in Pink Class.



Although it has been slightly colder this week, some of the students enjoyed being able to walk round the Sensory garden. Wrapped up warmly, Katie and Sienna liked exploring all of the different sights and smells in the garden. Sienna liked to smell the lavender.



All of the students participated in using a switch to operate a variety of toys, as well as functional appliances, e.g. a hairdryer. Again, the students used a switch to operate the electric mixer in our Sensory Cooking session. Our Sensory Cooking session was definitely a weekly highlight. Louisa listened intently to the sound of the apple being grated. Toby enjoyed holding the mixer as it vibrated. Everybody had a brilliant time and showed great engagement throughout the session



News from Summer Cluster



On Thursday, some of the students enjoyed the opportunity to swim. In the classroom, Ryan used his communication board to say what he would like to do during "Water play." He was so engaged throughout



Gina also led a very exciting Dance session that all of the students loved participating in. Yujan enjoyed dancing with different members of staff. He showed great enthusiasm throughout.

We hope that you all have a great weekend.

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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



Happy Friday everyone. We hope you've been enjoying these misty, frosty mornings and bright afternoons as much as we have here at Kingfisher.

This week we have finished 'Dipal's Diwali' in literacy ready for our new book 'Charlie's Christmas' next week. Among other activities, we sequenced the story this week, matching images to statements with time connectives. Pupils painted their handmade clay diyas in art and in cooking we made mango chutney and mint and cucumber dip which we

tried with poppadom's.

In numeracy we have focused on subtraction. For many of the pupils this involved taking away a single digit with concrete resources (e.g. 7-3) or even just finding 'one less', singing 10 green bottles or '10 in the bed'. Some pupils extended to think about using place value to solve subtraction problems involving -10.

Thanks ever so much for helping us getting our class reading rolling again and filling in the diaries with helpful comments, we hope to keep this ticking over the coming weeks and months.

Have a fantastic weekend and we will see you all soon.

From Richard, Sarah, Teresa, Lynette, Ellie





News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

That 'C' word is definitely '*hovering*' in Purple Class and Leah is really mean as she won't let us decorate until December 1st! Only a few days to go. However, preparations are on way and we have made paper chain decorations and started planning designs for a Christmas tree decoration. Our rehearsals are going well (thanks to our lovely Clare) and we have almost prepared all our props ready.

Communication group had a little Christmas story involving a rather 'tell telling bell' which solved a problem with a naughty cat and also lots of practice for Christmas song signs.

This week the Enterprise Group completed their project by decorating the chutney jars all *Christmassy* and labelling with dates of when made. They then completed their posters to advertise their product around school. We may send out an offer to Parents/Carers, but supply is in demand!

We continued our topic work on *Light & Sound* with this week focussing on SOUND. We thought about 'what is sound?' and how sound is made. We followed instructions to observe how sound is made including putting rice grains on a drum, vibrating mobile phones with sound off, singing bowls and making plastic cup telephones to communicate across class (*oh dear*). We learnt about sound waves and vibrations. Liz (our lovely Family Liaison lady) came in just in time to stay and experience our session on sound and we all had a good laugh when trying to determine what was said the other end of the plastic phone! Some things were heard accurately.

Mya chose Friday lunch this week – Spaghetti Bolognese with garlic bread - yum. Mya, Chan, Ceri and Josh helped with preparing and cooking lunch. Delicious!

Students have enjoyed a Library session with Julie this Friday, whilst Kayah and Brandon monitored the return and lend of new books supported by Sian. Kayah, Ben and Brandon also helped Michael collect the Christmas trees for school from nearby Radley Woods – how exciting! The class have also been creating an Autumn clay hanging pieces lead by Julie – watch this space!

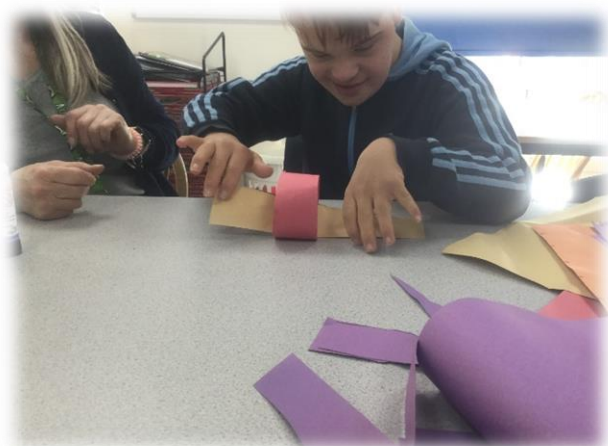
Finally, Friday has arrived '*thank goodness*' as we are all exhausted already. Lots of rest planned for this weekend as Christmas will have officially arrived in Purple Class on Tuesday! Watch this space!

Happy weekend everyone!

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



News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class



This week we were unable to swim on Tuesday and so Orange Class enjoyed some time outside on the field instead. The children always enjoy using the bikes and trikes, especially when there is plenty of space to ride in. It can be a bit tricky going uphill – especially if you have a passenger!



We have continued reading *Owl Babies* and have learnt a little bit about owls and other nocturnal animals. We found out more information using the whiteboard and particularly liked clicking on the pictures and hearing the noises that different animals make. We made owls out of feathers and wooden spoons and developed our cutting skills to make pictures. At story time, we are sharing a beautiful picture-book version of *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*, reading a little more each day.

*Have a lovely weekend,
Rachael, Tracy, Caitlin, Beccie and Sarah.*



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

It is so lovely to be back in Red Class this week, I know that the children thoroughly enjoyed working with different members of staff but it is great to see them and catch up on what they have been doing.

We have begun working on our Christmas performance this week and all the children have been helping with ideas for the acting. David and Holly have been so good at coming up with inspiring ideas I'm sure you will be impressed when you see us all on the video. They have also been learning their words.

In maths we have been learning about pairs; matching socks, wellies, shoes etc. This has helped us to learn or remember our 2 times tables and the children are getting really quick and counting in 2s and filling in the missing numbers when I leave them out. If you get an opportunity there is a great website called 'Topmarks' which is free. On this in the 5-7 maths section is a game called 'Hit the Button' where your children can practise their 2 times tables. In class we write our tables out on a list to help us answer the questions as quickly as possible. We are beginning to get quicker but it's great fun and I'm sure that they would like to show you at home.



Have a good weekend.

Lorna, Nicola, Laura, Pauline, Jo and Esther



News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

We have started to prepare props and rehearse our Christmas Play, which we are looking forward to performing and filming. It is a shame that things have to be done slightly differently this year, but some of the pupils are more comfortable performing without the prospect of a large audience. I can't believe that it is almost December and so we are making a class advent calendar this week and pupils will take it in turns to open it throughout the next 3 weeks.

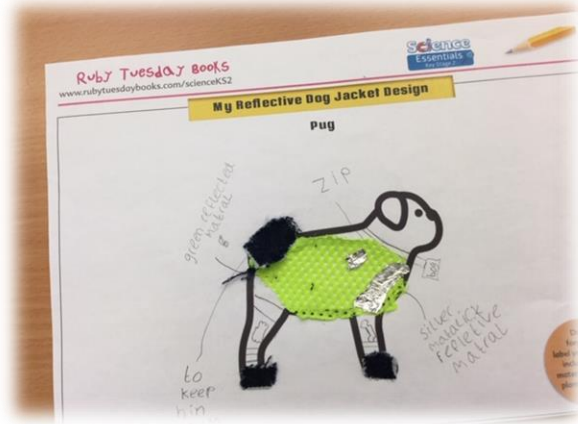
We managed to gather together some old telephones and mobile phones for pupils to look at as part of our topic on Light and Sound. They were completely engaged and really interested to handle some old phones, which included a rotary dial phone, a push button land line and mobiles going back at least 25 years. They have grown up with smartphones and so they were amazed at the size and weight of some of these mobiles and couldn't believe that there were no cameras on the older ones. How did we manage without doing selfies!



We have also been learning about reflective materials and pupils enjoyed designing a reflective coat for my dogs to wear when I take them on a walk on these dark evenings. They thought carefully about the colours and types of material that would show up in the dark and their designs had stripes or patterns in a super reflective material that would show up well when headlights of a car shine on them. It also gave us an opportunity to discuss road safety.



News from Autumn Cluster



Unfortunately, we were unable to use the pool this week but it has been fixed ready for us to swim next week. Although we have still had great PE lessons on Monday and Wednesday doing tennis, bowling and circuits.

Homework: Please read and discuss the books pupils are reading as always. Practise times tables and mental addition and subtraction including doubles, halves and using money.

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 Diwali. We have continued with our story 'Dipal's Diwali'. This week we have had fun exploring the lights from the story, matching symbols to different parts and doing some mark making and writing linked to it.



Following on from the story, our art lesson focussed on making Diya lamps. We chose different jewels and stickers to decorate our lamps using our symbols and communication boards. In cooking we made poppadom's again but this time we made a mango chutney to go with the poppadom's. We also had an extra art lesson this week where we decorated hands for the school kindness tree. We all enjoyed choosing different decorations to go out our handprint.





News from Winter Cluster

We have also continued with all our weekly activities, working on our ILP targets. Some of us have been working really hard on our fine motor skills and letter formation. Others of us have been working on our physio targets such as walking and balancing. All of us have been working on communication both using symbols to communicate and building sentences.



As always Friday ended with our favourite activity.... messy play. Here are some photos from last week where we explored dried lentils and beans. Some of us practised sprinkling, stirring and using both hands whereas others used cutters and stencils to make different patterns.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Charlotte, Tina, Leann and Zoe



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Happy Friday everyone!

Within literacy we are focusing on Diwali. We have continued reading Dipal's Diwali, to learn about different traditions and celebrations. The children have shown us what their favourite props are, most of them enjoy the bright fireworks display, the colourful statue and the snuggly scarf. The children have been sorting and matching the traditional objects used within Diwali, for example, candles, clothing, cleaning, food and presents. Within mark making, we have been using chalk to create our own Rangoli patterns on the floor. Within Messy play, we have been mark making with different coloured lentils.

In art we have been creating Christmas tree decorations for our Christmas tree. Gluing and sticking on paper, beads, sequins, glitter and gems on different objects to stick on the white class Christmas tree. Within cooking this week, we have been following instructions to create mango chutney 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.

Within PE this week, the swimming pool has been closed, therefore we concentrated on sensory circuits, including trampolines, slides, swings, yoga balls and hula hoops.

Homework: We are not taking the children out on walks at the moment therefore, it would be great if you could take your children out for a walk, concentrating on understanding road safety, including the words 'stop' and 'wait'.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Niki, Sarah and Lynette





News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

Black Class have been working very hard this week! We have continued with our story 'Dipal's Diwali' and have eaten far too many poppadom's! In Literacy this week we have continued to label verbs within the story using symbols. Some of us continued to practice our comprehension skills by reading sentences from the story and matching the corresponding picture. The children really enjoyed exploring the sensory props especially smelling spices and herbs and watching the firework show!

In Cooking this week, we made mango chutney to go with our poppadom's. Everyone practiced their reading and responding skills by following visual or written recipes. Everyone is becoming much more independent within their routines which has been brilliant to see!

In Art this week we continued to explore and use different materials within our artwork. We decorated Rangoli designs with lentil and dried rice. We all used different techniques when creating our work. Some children delicately picked each piece and placed it on their design, whilst others put their glue on, poured the lentils/ rice all over and tipped the excess off to reveal the final piece. Everyone seemed to really enjoy this activity!



In Science, we continued to learn about lights. In our outdoor learning, we explored different light sources including torches, fairy lights, light toys and battery tea lights. Everyone used the communication board well to choose which light source they wanted to explore. Within the classroom, some of us found specific light sources on a photograph and matched them, whilst others sorted pictures into categories 'lights and not lights.'

This week we have also started to rehearse for our video christmas performance. It has been such fun to make and the children have absolutely loved being involved! 😊

Some children have an ILP target about safety in the community. Unfortunately, we havent been able to practice any of these skills so far due to not being able to go on trips. It would be great if when you are out and about you could practice road safety, crossing the road and walking appropriately in the wider community as part of home learning. If you manage to get any photographs or videos, please send them on to me. Have a lovely weekend everyone,

Katie, Amelia, Olivia and Jasmine