

15th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas. It is great to get back to school and we welcomed quite a few pupils back last week.

We have been busy both in and out of school. We are trying to make school as 'normal' as possible, using our usual timetable, curriculum and resources, whilst ensuring shared spaces are as limited as possible. At present there is a dedicated team to support those children whose parents have decided to keep them at home. If there are any concerns with the home learning package, please contact the office who will pass your concerns to the relevant member of staff.

Our therapists are continuing to work with our pupils and are supporting staff with updated plans when needed. All of our Annual Reviews are continuing to take place via Teams, please look out for the invite if your child's review is due soon.

We have been watching the weather of late as there have been reports of snow around the country and there was a slight flurry in the north of the county recently. Please keep an eye on our website if there is snow or severe ice around. All announcements are made via our own website and on the OCC website too.

Dates for your diary**Friday 13th February** End of Term

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 and Yellow Class

We have had a chilled but busy week in Green class and some of our friends from Yellow class have joined us too.

We started the week with a sensory story with Clare, The Gingerbread Man. We explored all the characters in the story and afterwards made some gingerbread playdough to make our own gingerbread men. We all did really well holding the spoon to mix all the ingredients together.

We have all been swimming this week moving our legs and arms to splash the water some of us even swimming independently. Some of us have also worked hard in rebound therapy on the trampoline with Clare, working on our balance and having lots of fun bouncing up and down



In Resonance Board this week we all had a turn at choosing an activity and we all chose loud and noisy activities. Our favourites were defiantly the singing spinning top and the bouncing jiggly ball, some of us loved putting our ear on the board to make the sound even louder.



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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

Well done to everyone for this week. Things are far from normal but everyone has adapted and settled into the term well- thank you.

Our topic this term is 'Friends' which is very apt as everyone has enjoyed being together this week. We will be using the topic as inspiration for lots of our activities. The story we will be using is obviously a home favourite with many of the class based on the students' reactions in this week. We have been reading Superworm which gives lots of lovely opportunities for sensory play.



This week we have listen to the story with sensory input, got messy with some Superworm painting and made our own Superworms with playdough. If you are familiar with the story you will know that bees are mentioned. We have sourced a lovely flying bee which lights up. The students think it is very funny when the staff crash it- we will endeavour to improve our flying across the term.

All our usual favourites have of course been continuing this week. It is lovely to see how excited the students get when they see the resonance board come out. We hope that the students at home have enjoyed their remote resonance sessions. Umbrella and balls were the top choices this week around the board. We were very proud this week of how hard everyone worked communicating their choices.



Hello to all our friends at home. It was lovely to see people during remote sessions. Take care,

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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



Welcome to 2021 everyone! Whilst it's not been the smoothest start to term (for obvious reasons), we trust that you are doing well nonetheless.

It has been a busy return in school these past few days and we have engaged with a host of varied activities in Blue Class, all of which have kept us busy.

Literacy this week has been centred around the book 'Emergency' by Margaret Mayo and thank you ever so much to those of you who joined us online for our first telling of the story. It has been brilliant to see pupils so engaged with the story and our linked activities have been a definite hit. In Art/D&T for example, we used junk modelling to create different emergency vehicles from the book and in messy play we drove toy vehicles through paint as they rushed to the scene of the accident.



Maths this week has seen us working on counting and calculation. Most pupils have focused on repeat addition as a means by which we might start thinking about simple multiplication. Some pupils however, focused on numeral recognition to 10 or number bonds to 20.

Phase 2 phonics for those pupils in school introduced and practiced /f/ and /ff/ and we thought about different ways to 'travel' in our gymnastics session in the hall.

Wishing you a very happy weekend.

*From Richard, Sarah and Ellie
~ The Blue Class Team*





News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Despite a rather strange and different start to the new term with changes to our timetable due to the restrictions in place, students have settled extremely well and have enjoyed being back in class.

We started our 2nd week with our usual swim, shared our news and looked at what would be happening this term. We have welcomed Iqra and Jacob from Gold who have now joined the class for the term. They have both settled in really well and Purple students are pleased to have them in class.

This week the Enterprise Group made cup-cakes for our Friday dessert whilst the Communication Group shared a story called 'What colour is love?' and focussed on signing alphabet and letter formation using the interactive screen. On Tuesday it was Sam's 17th birthday so we had a little celebration and shared some cake – Happy Birthday Sam!

We thought some more about our new topic for the term, 'People we know (not family)' and noted a list of examples of people that we know including escorts, dentists and doctors. We listed school staff including Headteacher Lorraine, who Harry tells us 'is Cornish'. We also found out a little this week about the Queen and the Prime Minister. We thought about World Religion Day which takes place this week. We looked in depth at the different symbols for 6 of the main world religions and found out a little about the similarities and differences. The students created some fabulous large-scale symbols to display on the culture board in the main school corridor. Iqra and Jacob have also taken responsibility to also update the Student Centre display board about 'After School Options' and 'Jobs and Careers'. Sam has helped prepare the class display for 'People we know'.

This week Jacob chose the Friday lunch – macaroni cheese. Jacob, Iqra and Sam prepared and cooked the lunch which was really delicious. Jacob has expressed an interest in hairdressing and so in the afternoon he attempted to create the style of Adam Lambert as Leah thinks he looks like him! We have taken lots of photos so Jacob can create a portfolio which he could take a long with him on a college visit. Students cleaned and tidied the kitchen, put the washing on and took out the recycling for the week before finally enjoying some late Friday afternoon social time and karaoke!

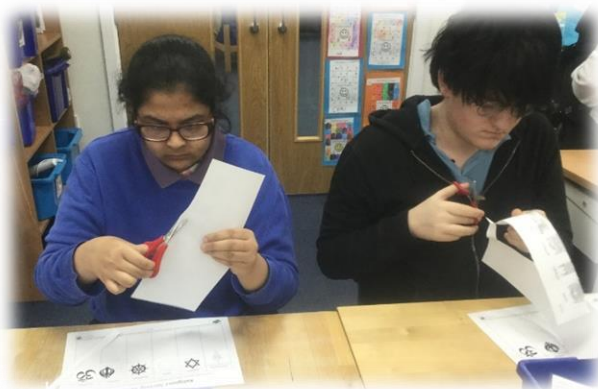
Happy weekend everyone!

*Purple Class - Leah, Mary, Dawn, Gill,
Sian, & Julie & Marie (Gold)*





News from Summer Cluster





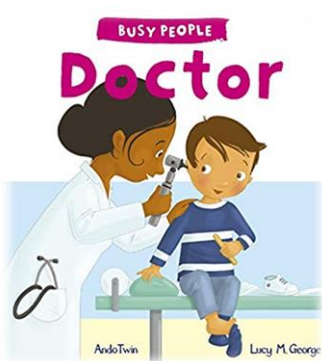
News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

It was lovely to welcome the children back after the Christmas break and begin working on our new topic for the term: **People I Know**. We started by thinking about the people who help us, looking at emergency workers and finding out about what doctors do.



We looked at pictures of different people who help us, thinking about what we already know, before putting them up on our display. We matched the emergency worker with the correct vehicle.



After sharing our book and finding out about what Doctors do, we explored the ideas further through our Doctor's surgery role-play corner. The children liked being receptionists, nurses and ambulance drivers, among other things!

*Have a good weekend,
Rachael, Tracy, Caitlin, Beccie and Pauline.*



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

Hello and welcome to the new term. Things are a little different in Red Class; as you know, some of us are at school, some of you are very busy doing your on-line and home learning and some of the children from Gold class have joined us. To include everybody the children have chosen a new class name for this term and have decided that we will be called Rose Gold class.

We have been very busy learning lots of new skills. In maths we are learning how to do addition and subtraction. In English we are learning the story of 'Where the Wild Things Are'. When we have learnt the story off by heart we are going to have a go at writing it ourselves. We are nearly ready to write it. We have been practising it lots with drama and story maps to help us.

In art we have learnt about a new artist called Frank Stella. You can find out more about him on the 'Tate Kids' website if you would like to. He uses lots of straight lines and colours and we have really enjoyed trying to copy his pictures with pens, pencils, paint and the computer.

The children who were in Red Class with Katherine were remembering when they used to go out of school and visit Costa Coffee. They were very sad that they were unable to go on outings like this at the moment. So we came up with the idea that we could make a Costa Coffee Café in class on a Friday afternoon. We decided that we could do some cooking on a Thursday and sell these treats in the café in class on Fridays. What fun we have had. Charlie and Holly were the waiters. They had to take the children's orders, make their drinks and serve their food and collect the money afterwards. This week Alex and William are going to be the waiters and we have made chocolate flapjacks to eat.



Have a great weekend.

Lorna, Nicola, Laura and Tess.



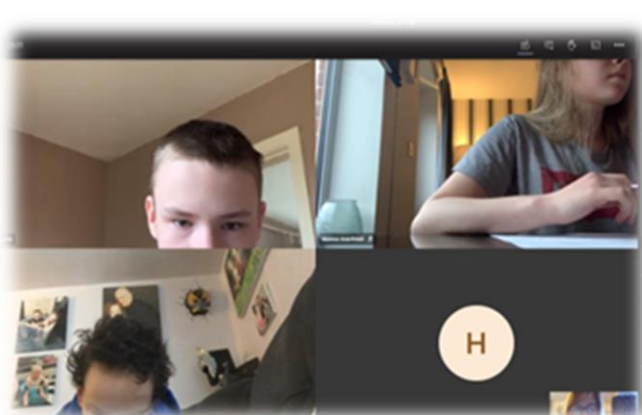
News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

All of the 'Home Learners' would like to wish you a Happy New Year. It has certainly been an unusual start to the term.

Students from Red Class, Gold Class and Purple that are working from home have been working remotely completing worksheets, watching phonics lessons on videos and using the many websites and apps that are available for pupils who are stuck at home. Most of these students have joined lessons on Teams with me for Maths, literacy /phonics and a topic lesson. This has been challenging for us all, including me, but we are finding our feet and getting used to it. The nice part, is we get the chance to see each other face to face and talk to each other during the lesson. There have been a few technical issues and that is partly down to me, but also there is a very high demand on the Teams Platform during the day because schools across the country are all on it doing the same thing.

We have done fractions in maths lessons on Monday, literacy/phonics on Wednesday and a Topic lesson with a quiz on Friday. I would like to praise the students, who have been very patient and all engaged well with the lessons. You are all amazing! I would also like to thank Parents for your support and help setting up the video calls at home and helping your children where needed in the lesson. I don't have lots of photos of learning this week apart from a couple of shots of my computer screen to show us all working hard.



Take care of yourselves and stay safe,

From Maria



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

A big warm hello to all the pupils and parents in Silver class. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas. This term it has been great to welcome Melissa to our team and the children are really enjoying working with her. Julie and Leann are leading the class whilst Charlotte is on maternity leave. We are looking forward to hopefully seeing some baby pictures very soon.

Our topic this term is 'People we know'. This week we have been focusing on 'Emergency vehicles'. In science we had lots of fun pushing different vehicles along and looking at how different vehicles move.



We used communication boards and symbols to help us create vehicles in DT. We really enjoyed this activity and created some wonderfully imaginative designs.

Our sensory story this week is called 'Emergency' and the children are enjoying pushing the police car and the motor bike to make them move and spinning the helicopter propellers. The ocean drum makes a lovely sea sound for the lifeboat in the story.

Added to this we have had a fantastic messy and fun sensory session relating to our attention builder this week, 'shaving foam fire splat', with lots of smiles and laughs.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Julie, Leann, Tina, Zoe and Melissa



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Happy Friday everyone!

The first full week back has been a great one for White Class! I'm very happy to say that all of White Class were excited to get back into their routine and continue learning with their classmates.

Within Literacy this week, we have been reading 'Emergency' by Margaret Mayo. White class have loved listening to the story about different types of emergency vehicles. The children have loved exploring the sensory props, some have even learnt how to sign for 'more' when exploring the props. Within mark making, we've been colouring in emergency vehicles, practising vertical and horizontal lines, also holding the pen/pencils with a pincer grip. Within symbols, the three groups have been identifying key objects with symbols, matching symbols with real photos of emergency vehicles and describing vehicles e.g. the plane is flying.

Within Maths, we have been focusing on numbers, which has linked perfectly with the children's numeracy targets. The children have been focusing on understanding quantities to 5 and 10 and others have been engaging in making patterns. Within PE this week, we have seen all the children becoming more confident in the water during swimming lessons, therefore we have decided to make all students swim on both Monday and Wednesday. Please bring in their swimming kits for both days. We have been focusing on the sensory circuits during PE, teaching the children the names of some objects e.g. the rocking horse, the slide, the swing etc.

In phonic's this week, we have been focusing on the letter P. The children have been exploring objects starting with the letter P, tracing the letter P and identifying words that begin with P. The children have also been working on identifying symbols with objects and identifying sounds e.g. the bang of a drum.

Homework: Please can you upload evidence on evisense of your child showing an understanding of being safe in the community, focusing on the words 'stop, go and wait'.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Niki and Sarah





News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

Black Class have had a fantastic week getting back into the swing of things and settling back into school routines. Our new topic for the term is 'People I know' with a focus on people who help us in the community.

Our story for this week was 'Emergency' and we explored sensory props relating to emergency vehicles. The children did brilliant work to create I see sentences relating to the pages from the story. Some children paired rhyming words together relating to the story. In our mark making session we used a road map and toy emergency vehicles to trace the road markings. In Bucket time, we pretended to be firemen putting out a fire using water and shaving foam. Everyone enjoyed this activity!

In Numeracy this week we have been focusing on number. Some children have been counting, others have been doing simple calculations and some have been using their number skills to play a game of snakes and ladders.



In Cooking this term we are focusing on following visual timetables and recipes to be more independent within our cooking. This week we made toast and chose different toppings to add to our toast. Everyone worked very independently to place their bread in the toaster safely, choose their toppings using communication boards and spread before eating it up!

In Science this week we have been learning about forces. This week we learnt about 'pushes' and explored different objects and toys that can be pushed. Some of their favourite push objects were the spinning top and caterpillar toy.

We hope that you manage to have a nice weekend in the miserable weather!

Katie, Amelia, Olívia, Jasmine, Teresa, Helen