

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been another busy week here at Kingfisher, it has also been a busy week at home for many of our pupils too. Remote Learning has certainly taken off and both Lorraine Green and I have 'dropped in' to some sessions. It is lovely to see some of our pupil's siblings joining in with the calls too.

It has been good for the pupils working at home to also join in some class based sessions too. Yujan certainly had a lovely morning seeing pupils who he has not seen for a while. This excitement has been echoed around the school. Don't forget to use Evisense and our Facebook page to share the exciting things you are doing.

Some parents are having issues logging into Teams, using the students own school email address. Teams must be activated in Office 365 before they can use it in Teams.

Please use this link above to sign into Office 365 <https://www.office.com/>

You will be asked to create a new password. The password must be 8 or more characters long and include a capital letter and a lowercase letter as well as a number or a symbol. You cannot use any of the words in the email address. Therefore, you cannot use your child's name, surname or Kingfisher. If you do then you will get a warning message stating that the password has been used too many times before.

Leah from Purple Class captured this amazing photo earlier this week, it appears later in the newsletter, however I wanted to share it here 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 Class

We have had a quiet week in Green Class but have worked hard with lots of different activities.

We started off the week with Hand Function to stretch and warm up our hands and fingers. We squeezed and moulded the playdough into lots of different shapes.

We have spent lots of time outside this week when the weather has been dry. We had lots of fun on the swing and exploring the sensory garden.

As part of our story this term Superworm, we made some worm pictures using spaghetti and paint. We were all fantastic at choosing our own colours to add and then mixing it all into the spaghetti to create some fantastic patterns on the paper.

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





News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

We started the week with some great singing and story reading sessions full of lovely voices and puppets. On Tuesday we had a lovely massage story lesson live from pink class, it was full of relaxing music where we used different technics to massages our bodys to represent the story



On Wednesday each week, we had a fun Sensology and Sensory Cooking lesson where we explored the ingredients for a cake using our senses and baked some lovely cakes. We learned some Makaton signs related to cooking and our bravest children used some wonderful symbols and switches. All together we have decided that next week we will be doing some baking with less calories, so get ready for some healthier recipes!



On Thursday we were joined by the lovely pink class again, we did some wonderful hand function activities and mark making. We saw some wonderful marks and incredible smiles. Also, on Thursday we had the lovely Clare live from Green Class with her guitar, lots of fun full of singing, music and using some objects of reference.

Finally, we finished our week with some good hand function sessions live from Green Class to help develop our fine motor skills.

Thank you all again for joining us online and we are hoping to see more of you next week on the screen.

Have a wonderful and deserved weekend,

Gal, Sally, Emma, Jackie, Liza, Kerry Ann and all the Sensory Pathway live from school





News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class



A huge thank you to the children and families that joined in with the remote learning sessions this week. As you can see from Yujan's expression we were all delighted to see and hear you. The moment his friends (and staff) came on the screen Yujan jumped up clapping, singing and ran to greet them. It was lovely to see that even remotely we were able to interact and be together. We must all be getting used to this new way of being. Well done to all.

We were also delighted to welcome back our Music Therapist Lizz who is always a favourite in Pink Class. Music therapy sessions help us to work on so many things such as communication, understanding and hand function but despite being such hard work are also amazingly fun. This week we were working on call and response activities and building confidence around some new instruments. The harp on the iPad being a new favourite with Chloe.



We have had a real focus on exploring particularly motivating items to help us in our learning. Some of us love books, balls, music whilst some of us like to be a bit more pampered. Hand massages are still great but who doesn't love a foot spa? Particularly when you get to operate it yourself with a switch.



Take care all,

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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class

Good afternoon all and well done for surviving such a soggy week, at least we got a double rainbow out of it yesterday!

It has been a quiet week in Blue with many of our young people learning from home, we're certainly missing you all and your good cheer here and hope you have been keeping well.

In Blue Class this week we have continued our work on 'Emergency' by Margaret Mayo and have used it to spur 'subject, verb, object' sentence creation as well as mark making activities. In maths we have secured our work on repeated addition and pupils have impressed with how capable they were at 'balance' in P.E.



On Wednesday we practiced following instructions when making toast in cooking, and needless to say, jam won out over marmalade! Pupils very much enjoyed the attention bucket and we were surprised just how simple and effective dropping spaghetti was when it made a patter sound like hail and scattered in all directions.

At the end of our swimming session we took the opportunity to work on our independent living skills and encouraged pupils to shampoo and wash their own hair.

Please don't forget of course to continue reading with your young people at home and don't hesitate to leave a comment if you feel ready for a new book.

Wishing you a very happy weekend.

From Richard, Sarah, Ellie (and Lorraine and Jasmine!)
~ The Blue Class Team



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

We have had a relaxed, varied and at times quite uplifting 3rd week in Purple Class with lots of individual learning opportunities. Sam has been an absolute diamond helping to change the class date board daily and reminding Leah of her email in a nice clear voice so as to access registration. After sharing news, students started the week slightly differently with having a go at some rather difficult Yoga poses. As the 18th was Martin Luther King Day, we have looked more closely at this famous man in History. Students found out a little about who he was and what he fought to achieve. We listened to his famous speech '*I have a dream*,' which remains a significant speech for today's world.

Students have focussed on some individual targets such as looking at proper and common nouns and determining when a capital letter is needed. Jacob and Iqra were able to put their work into practise later in the week with producing their display work for a timeline of Prime Ministers and Presidents. Sam has worked hard on identifying and verbalising keywords. Maths has included further work on multiplication and number work with Numicon. Wednesday afternoon, students had a *duvet changing challenge* and recorded their times. Not a bad effort from all!

We continued with our topic for '*People we know (not family)*' this week finding out some more about important people in the world such as Prime Ministers, Kings and Queens and Presidents throughout History. Students have each focussed on their given subject and worked hard to create a timeline display for the main school corridor.

This week Iqra chose the Friday lunch – Jacket potatoes with various fillings. Some of the students had not ever tried some of the favourite fillings expressed by others and so we decided to prepare the potatoes in halves so we could try a variety.

Following the inauguration of the new President, Thursday was obviously a 'special day' this week as we were welcomed in the morning by a beautiful rainbow arching its way over Kingfisher and the sun was shining all day long. Perhaps '*and most hopefully*' a sign of better things to come! Students watched the inauguration speech of the new President of the United States Joe Biden and some of the highlights including the national anthem 'Star-Spangled Banner' fantastically performed by Lady Gaga. Students even managed to squeeze in a fun game of Boccia in the main hall before continuing with topic work for their display.

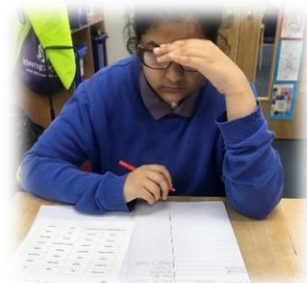
Jacob, Iqra and Sam prepared and cooked the lunch which once again was truly delicious. Jacob later experimented with yet another hair style and later in the afternoon after all the weekly jobs completed, students joined an online Topic session so they could catch up with friends and share the information they have learnt over the weeks – focus on The Royal Family.

Happy weekend everyone!

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



News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

This term we are thinking about the seasons, noticing the changes around us at different points of the year. We have started making calendars which show a tree in spring, summer, autumn and winter and they will come home to you as soon as they are finished. If you go out for a walk, you could chat about the weather, trees with no leaves and how it gets dark early in winter.



We have had some impromptu 'cooking' sessions this week, developing communication and fine motor skills. Our retro cheese and pineapple three-eyed hedgehog was a big hit! The jelly and fruit salad went down well too.

For those children not in school, I know that you have been joining in with stories, singing and other sessions delivered to you online. I hope that by the end of tomorrow we will have managed to catch up with some of you on a Teams get-together. We look forward to seeing you all very soon!



*Enjoy the weekend,
Rachael, Tracy, Caitlin, Beccie and Pauline*



News from Autumn Cluster

Rose Gold Class

Another week has whizzed by. The children have been so busy and full of enthusiasm for all our activities.

In Science, we are learning all about birds that we might find in our school gardens. We are taking part in the 'Big School Birdwatch' organised by the RSPB for the end of January. If you would like to take part with us, you can sign up on-line right away and help count the birds. We have hung up lots of bird feeders and left some old bread for the birds to eat. We also made our own bird feeders with pipe cleaners and Cheerios. The children started off making very simple shapes but by the end, they were being very creative and making heart shaped feeders with lovely patterns of plain and chocolate Cheerios.

We also cooked chocolate coated, flapjacks to sell in our Costa café on Friday, they were delicious, the children enjoyed making them. They also made a cake for Nicola's birthday and managed to keep it a secret until we gave it to her on Friday afternoon. This week we have made 'Rocky Road' and put it in the fridge to set for Friday.

The children have been writing amazing 'Where the Wild Things are' stories this week. They remembered so much detail from our drama and story mapping. They even added some of their own exciting vocabulary.

In maths, they have been getting more and more confident with their addition and subtraction. The children have been enjoying it so much that they keep asking for more work sheets and when are we doing maths next!

To all our friends that are not at school at the moment – we miss you very much, we hope you are enjoying your learning as much as we are and stay safe.

Have a great weekend.

Lorna, Nicola, Laura and Tess





News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Well, it feels as if we have been doing home learning for ages, but it is just the second week!

There have been a few technical issues, but hopefully these can be resolved quickly so that we can get you all back online enjoying learning.

On Monday and Tuesday, it was quite busy with maths lessons for each group within the Core Pathway and Purple Class. Two groups were practising 'one more' and 'one less' using a number line and towers of Lego bricks. With Orange Class we also sang number songs – Ten Fat Sausages and Five Little Ducks. Ava remembered singing these last years with me and I had 5 little ducks that lit up when they were placed in water. Most of the other groups were practising counting in 5s, 10s or 3s and linking this to times tables and division. Then we were finding fractions of amounts this week and pupils are going to have a go at sharing things at home into halves, quarters or thirds.

On Wednesday, many of my regular students didn't join us for the literacy and Read Write Inc lessons. Those that did join me, had a great lesson. Group 1 have learnt a new sound 'ay' and are confident with all of the Set 1 sounds. They are learning another new sound next week. They did fantastic spelling using the 'ay' sound this week. Unfortunately, only 2 students joined Group 4, but they did brilliantly at a Reading Comprehension, answering lots of questions and reading really confidently.

On Friday (tomorrow) we have a Topic lesson scheduled and so I hope to see many pupils in these sessions. We are finding out about Queen Elizabeth II.

Have a lovely weekend.

From Maria, Julie, Esther and Jo



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

This week as part of our topic work we have enjoyed painting our Emergency vehicles that we made last week in DT, making sentences to request the different colours we would like. We look forward to displaying them.

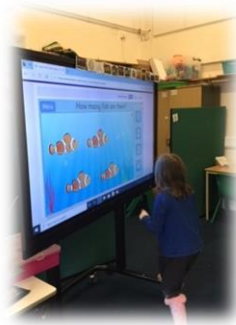
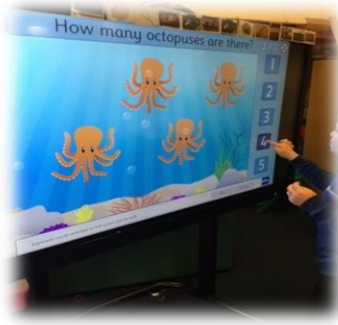
In numeracy we have continued to focus on number and calculation and have had lots of fun playing number games on the board. As part of our number activities we have been singing our favourite number songs, such as '5 little ducks' and '5 current buns' and counting numbers to 5 using our fingers.

In literacy we have been working hard at making sentences using describing words connected to our sensory story 'Emergency' and practicing writing different letters. Added to this it's been great to see the wonderful focus in our book sharing sessions.

Added to this there has been lots of fun again during sensory activities with our sensory soap foam, a definite favourite in Silver class.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend and look forward very much to seeing you on Monday.

Julie, Leann, Tina, Zoe and Melissa





News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Happy Friday everyone!

This week has been a quiet one for White Class, with half of the class off. Nevertheless, the children have been working hard and playing harder! All of white class are looking forward to seeing the rest of their classmates next week.

Within Literacy this week, we have been reading 'Postman Bear', by Julia Donaldson. White class have loved listening to the story about a Bear that hands out birthday invitations to all his friends. The children have loved exploring the sensory props, counting the letters, and opening the flaps in the story book. Within mark making, we've been tracing envelopes with a tripod grip. Within symbols, the three groups have been counting coloured letters and matching the symbols next to them, e.g. three red letters.

Within Maths, we have been focusing on position, mainly on up and down. The children have been choosing symbols, whether to go up the stairs, pulling zips up or down, or down the slide etc. Within PE this week, we have seen all the children becoming more confident in the water during swimming lessons. In phonics' this week, we have been revisiting on the letters S, A and T. The children have been exploring objects starting with these letters and tracing these letters. The children have also been working on identifying symbols with objects and identifying sounds e.g. the bang of a drum. In cooking, we have been following instructions on how to make a ham and cucumber sandwich. The children have been buttering the bread, cutting the cucumber, and placing all ingredients in the sandwich, ready to eat.

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'. Please can you also work on tracing, using a tripod grip.

Swimming days- Monday and Wednesday for ALL students (please bring in kits on Monday).

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

*Jemma,
Katie,
Ali, Niki
and
Sarah*



Community Links



Entertain and educate your children without any cost using make-believe, music and movement.

These FREE exciting, entertaining and educational sessions will run, and be available, throughout lockdown. Accessible via our homepage on www.littlemagictrain.com

Benefits for the children:

- Helping them to build confidence
- Improving their speech, language and communication skills
- Improving their physical skills (gross motor and literacy)
- Helping them to build relationships and interact with each other and you
- Improving creativity, listening skills and musicality

These fun sessions will be made available at 1pm on the allocated days and will continue to be available for you on demand, during lockdown, to access whenever works best for you and the children.

Do join us on the 18th of January and to help you further we are providing you with FREE RESOURCES to use at home, your early years setting or school and available to download now. These FREE RESOURCES include our:

Shop category	Item
Special edition	Visiting the bears
Speech and language activities	Visiting the bears
Games	Visiting the bears - snap
Creative downloads	Visiting the bears
Certificates	Visiting the bears

Just go to www.littlemagictrain.com and pop all the activities listed above in your shopping cart and use the coupon code **LMTpart1** and everything will be completely free for you to use at home, your early years setting or school.

Our first make-believe, music and movement adventure will be one of our favourites 'Visiting the Bears'. This fun adventure will be built up over 4 weeks to allow for learning, repetition and the fun of 'what next?' We will also post additional learning ideas for you linked to the session on our social media. Do follow us to ensure you don't miss out.



The schedule of activities:

Week 1 (www.littlemagictrain.com)

Day	Time	Session
18/01/21	13:00hrs	'Visiting the bears' part 1
20/01/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 1
22/01/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 1

Week 2 (www.littlemagictrain.com)

Day	Time	Session
25/01/21	13:00hrs	'Visiting the bears' part 2
27/01/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 2
29/01/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 2

Week 3 (www.littlemagictrain.com)

Day	Time	Session
01/02/21	13:00hrs	'Visiting the bears' part 3
03/02/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 3
05/02/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 3

Week 4 (www.littlemagictrain.com)

Day	Time	Session
08/02/21	13:00hrs	'Visiting the bears' part 4
10/02/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 4
11/02/21	13:00hrs	Speech & language activities linked to part 4



Littlemagictrain was launched in 2004 and from 2012 has worked on creating multi-sensory resources for early years settings. Our aim is to engage, excite and educate children through make-believe, music and movement. To help you achieve this we have done all the hard work preparing the sessions for you.

The carefully planned sessions are an ideal springboard for further learning ranging from dialogic reading to physical literacy using creativity and role-play as the sessions are a bridge between the imaginary and real world. These sessions are fully inclusive and easily adapted for every child's need.

For more information on Littlemagictrain

Contact: Gina Bale

Tel: 01865 321 212

Email: hello@littlemagictrain.com

The Speech Bubble is an independent, paediatric speech & language therapy practice based in the North West. They have been working directly in schools and with local authorities since 2003 to help young people with SLCN (Speech, Language and Communication Needs).

Team members of The Speech Bubble first reached out to Littlemagictrain after using Littlemagictrain as a speech and language intervention in schools, recognising the benefits and its potential for developing speech, language and communication.

The Speech Bubble use Littlemagictrain to develop vocabulary, understanding, grammar and narrative skills. Our favourite sessions include 'Visiting the Bears', 'Picnic on the Moon' and 'Under the Sea'.

The Speech Bubble also offer various training opportunities across all areas of Speech and Language. From LEGO therapy to ELKLAN to bespoke courses, team members have a combined experience of nearly 100 years and can offer training on a wide variety of topics.

For more information on The Speech Bubble

Contact: Katie Khan

Tel: 01254 670767

Email: info@thespeechbubble.co.uk