

5th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Another busy week for Kingfisher pupils both in school and at home with Remote Learning. I have been very jealous seeing all of the cooking happening and not being able to taste anything. The cheesecake in Purple class sounded amazing. I'm not sure I would have had the will power that Leah had not to taste any. Or maybe it was just well hidden. Please remember to upload any Remote Learning activities on EviSense. Contact the office if you have still not managed to log on. There is a time limit from when the invitation is sent, so this may have expired if you can't seem to get into the program.

As you will already be aware, Jane-Ann will be leaving us next Friday to start a new role elsewhere within the NHS. She will no longer be a school nurse. It is a real shame we can't all get together to bid her farewell, however as soon as we can have a coffee morning, we will do and Jane-Ann has assured me she will take annual leave to attend!! We are extremely lucky to have Sarah Goss to continue to support us here at Kingfisher. Sarah has secured promotion to enable her to do this. I am sure you will join me in congratulating both of our wonderful nurses on their new job and promotion and wish them best wishes for their future roles.

We are nearing the end of a very busy and sometimes complicated term. With the rapid roll out of the vaccine I am hoping that we will soon be 'back to normal' if we can remember what that feels like.

Dates for your diary

Friday 12th February End of Term

Monday 22nd February New Term Starts

Wednesday 24th March Parent Consultation Day (Virtual at the moment)

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 started this week by having lots of fun in the light room with the magic carpet. We put the resonance board underneath and explored lots of different programs that move and change when we bang and make movements on the board. This one was a football game which we could move the ball around the pitch to our friends.

Our topic this term has been friends, as part of our good morning session we have been looking at photos of our friends in class and practicing recognising the photo of ourselves.



In our story this term, Superworm helps lots of his friends when they get into trouble including his friend the toad, so this week in art we made our own toads. We used green paint to make our own toads using a paper plate, adding eyes and some jumping legs. Our favourite part was getting hands on with the green paint to make sure our toads were as green as possible.

We finished off the week in the Ball Pool with fantastic moving and climbing, we love making all of the balls jump up and down when we move our hands and feet.



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



News from Spring Cluster

Home Learning Sensory Class

Virtual learning has been wonderful this week. On Tuesday, Pink Class delivered a great art lesson live from school where pupils painted using pasta. What a wonderful sensory experience! On Wednesday we had a Sensology and Sensory cooking lesson where we learned how to make healthy mug brownies. For it, we used our senses to smell the cocoa powder, hands to feel and crack the eggs, mouths to taste the yoghurt and eyes to look at the flour fall into the bowl. Once all the ingredients were ready, we used our hands to mix it all and popped them into the microwave for a couple of minutes to cook. We then used our ears to listen and count down the time in the microwave.



On Thursday, we had the lovely Clare and her guitar live from Green Class where we sang lots and lots of songs. We used objects of references and pupils did wonderful choosing, after our singing on Thursday we had a live cooking lesson with Siobhan where we created cornflake cakes. It was wonderful! Everybody got messy and pupils learned lots of phonic sounds.

What a great week! Thanks to everybody that joined us and hopefully we will see more of you for the following week.

Have a wonderful weekend,

The entire virtual team

News from Summer Cluster



Pink Class



Pink class were very, very happy to be back in the pool this week. All of our usual activities have been going on as well. There has been some lovely communication work on the eye gaze and wonderful choice making on the resonance board. It is also wonderful to see how accustomed everyone is becoming with the new normal specifically our friends from home joining in with our live sessions.



The whole class (staff included) are delighted to see and greet their friends at home. This week's live session was a continuation of our work on the Superworm story. Using our own 'wiggly worms' aka spaghetti we were mark making. It was a lot of fun and a bit messy so apologies to those at home. Although we did create some cool modern art pieces.

Over this term we have really focused on our play skills and hand function. This week it has been lovely to see everyone making the most of the sessions and of course some of our very popular new resources. We have been working hard on using playdough in different ways as part of play and hand function. The students have been working hard on not only exploring but also following a set task with the dough. However, the playdough fun does not live up to our new 'squishy' toys. They are currently a bit of a craze that we heard about and Pink Class certainly agree.



Take care all,

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



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

The penultimate week of term 3 has been as busy as usual in Purple Class. As well as target work, we introduced National Story Telling week and thought about our favourite stories and some well-known stories.

On Tuesday, Iqra, Jakob, Harry and Sam made our Friday dessert – cheesecake with sprinkles. Students worked through each process to create such a lovely looking dessert that we all got to enjoy on Friday – delicious! (*Leah was tempted to try a piece in the week but managed to wait till Friday!*). Josh, Roberto, Matthew and Joe had a think about making up their own story plan by deciding setting, characters and special object. Josh's story was set at sea and involved a knome, a very bad fairy and a spinning wheel!

As it is National Story Telling week, we have thought about all different kinds of stories and have shared a few. We have tried to think of some favourites. Harry said he really likes *'The Tiger that came for tea'*. Roberto was able to recite lines from *'The Ginger Bread Man'*. We watched a clip of *'The Boat'* by Helen Ward (a favourite of Leah's) and throughout the week we have caught up with some particular famous stories. We even had a quiz to guess the story and some students were quicker to guess than the staff! *Do you remember the story of the girl that lost her glass slipper? Or the little girl with the red coat that went into the woods?*

This week our focus for our topic *'People we know (not family)'* took a different turn as we thought about people we *don't* know for a change, more importantly 'strangers' and we considered some of the dangers of liaising with people that we don't really know. We thought about people we are more likely to trust even though we may not know them and attempted to sort pictures into categories of 'trusted adults' and 'strangers'. We identified some people that help us like the police and paramedics. Luckily, Michael (our site manager) got placed on the 'trusted' page (and so did our Headteacher Lorraine). Jakob chose to put a picture of a man wearing a dog collar on the trusted page as he reasoned, 'he is probably a priest'. We continue to discuss being safe throughout the year.

Our creative and practical skills session this week stemmed from the work of the famous artist Kadinsky, who uses colour and shape to produce some fabulous pieces. Students were given a format to follow but equally the freedom to choose their own colours and ideas to create their own piece for an upcoming special piece! A particular well done to Roberto who has really started to focus on his work and when asked about it said, 'art'. Watch this space!

Roberto chose the Friday lunch this week – sausages with chips, beans or peas and on Wednesday we thought about the ingredients we would need and constructed some shopping lists. Sam used a calculator to add up amounts. Students have continued to work hard on their own targets.

Roberto and Mya prepared and cooked the Friday lunch this week – (home-made chips) yummy. The other students engaged in individual reading and continued with their target work and a focus on national



News from Summer Cluster

birds. We joined the online Topic session (lead by *our* Maria) to focus on the Bird Watch and luckily, we had thought about this too in class and had all the resources to hand to make bird feeders.

We ended the week (after completing our usual chores) with a sing song using the microphone! Students are gaining confidence each week! It's just fabulous!

We would also like to say a special 'happy birthday to one of our class'.

Happy weekend everyone!

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





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

It has been a really busy week in Orange Class. Continuing our topic, **People I Know**, we have been finding out about the Queen.

We shared a story called 'The Queen's Knickers' which is quite funny (but not necessarily factually correct!) and gave us an excuse to design lots of fancy pants of our own. The story helped us to talk about the role of the Queen and what she is famous for. If you would like to hear the story, you can find it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DIKtVg0GXAc>.



In Science, we have been thinking about looking after plants. We have planted some cress seeds and we are watching to see how they change each day. We also planted some runner beans in plastic bags so that we can see how they change as they grow. We have learnt that plants need water, light and the right temperature to help them become healthy plants



Enjoy the weekend,
Rachael, Tracy, Caitlin and Beccie

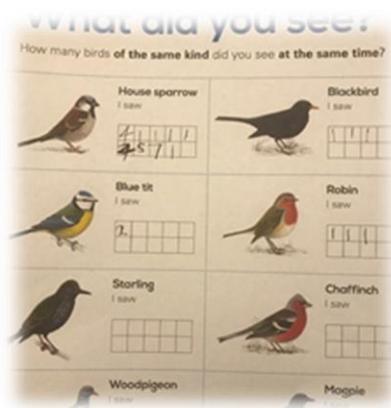


News from Autumn Cluster

Home Learning Core Pathway

There have been some extra home-learners in our online sessions this week due to some pupils isolating. Maths, phonics and topic lessons form part of our weekly timetable. However, I gather there have also been some really fun cooking sessions with Esther and Jo this week. Pupils enjoyed making rice crispy cakes in Red/Gold class on Teams. They also enjoyed a pet sharing session with quite a few cats and even a snake! There was a bit of 'un-planned pet sharing' in some of my sessions this week too, making my pupils giggle when my dogs bark each time the postman arrives!

The Read Write Inc. lessons are going well, and pupils are revising sounds that they have been taught and learning new sounds. Group 1 learnt 'igh' this week and did lots of brilliant writing using the most recent sounds. Group 2 did well at speed sounds and answered questions about the text. Group 3 revised 'ew' and 'er' and wrote sentences using some new vocabulary. Group 4 seemed to have conveniently mislaid their text this week! However, they did spellings and punctuation.



On Friday, we are making bird feeders to attract birds to our gardens or windowsills. I am looking forward to the interesting shapes that pupils can make from the pipe cleaners. Pupils also took part in the RSPB Garden Bird Count.

Have a lovely weekend.

From Maria, Julie, Esther and Jo



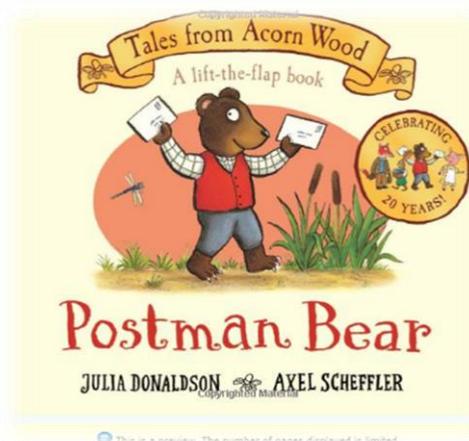
News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

It's been fantastic to see such lovely participation in our class Teams singing sessions. We have been choosing songs to sing together that have props. It's wonderful to see how good we have all become at communicating our choices. The enthusiasm and smiles from everyone during our sessions has been lovely to see. Old MacDonald, 5 little ducks and Incy Wincy spider have definitely been amongst our favourite songs to sing.



Added to this there was some lovely mark making and letter writing in our sensory story 'Postman Bear'. Perhaps some of you have helped to post a card or letter this week.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Julie, Leann, Tina, Zoe and Melissa



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Happy Friday everyone!

This week has been very busy and fun. However, we are looking forward to having all 8 children in on Monday.

Within Literacy this week, we have started to read 'Maisy goes shopping'. Whilst reading this story, the children have been learning about shopping trips, and what you go to the shops to buy. Within mark making, we've been tracing stop and go signs for Maisy's journey to the shops on her bike, we have also been colouring traffic lights, focusing on our grip. During symbol lessons, we have been completing sentences about Maisy's shopping trip, e.g. Maisy rides a bike, Maisy eats an apple etc. We have also been working on exchanging symbols for objects.

Within Maths, we have focused on direction, stop and go. We have made sensory circuits full of equipment that are easy to stop and start, holding signs up for the children to stop and go. It's been great seeing the children understand more about stop and go, especially linking it to their road safety targets. In phonics this week, we have been focusing on the letter P. The children have been exploring objects starting with these letters and tracing these letters, for example piano, parrot, pig etc. 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 cheese and tomato pizza. The children have been spreading the tomato paste, chopping the tomato, and sprinkling the mozzarella on the wrap, ready to put in the oven and eat. In art, we have been using clay to sculpt a fruit or vegetable we have picked from a communication board, very messy but very fun!

Homework: Thank you to those who have uploaded evidence on EviSense of your child working on their tripod grip. This week, please focus on showing an understanding of being safe in the community, focusing on the words 'stop, go and wait'. The children have been working on this at school, so hopefully you will see a lot of progress 😊

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



News from Winter Cluster





News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

Happy Friday everyone! Black Class have had another fun week full of lots of learning and lots of laughter! It seems that everyone has had the giggles this week which has been lovely for us all!

In Literacy we have been exploring 'Postman Bear' and exploring sensory props relating to a postman. The children have really enjoyed posting letters and writing their names on envelopes. In our comprehension session, the children made I see sentences to describe what was happening on the different pages within the story. Some of us were even able to make full sentences using symbols as support!

In Numeracy this week we have been practicing our number skills and our positional language. We practiced sorting photographs of animals under a table and next to a table. Some of us were even able to label pictures using symbols to describe their position! I would like to make a special mention for Raihan who labelled pictures with positional language independently! Well done Raihan 😊



Cooking was a big hit this week as you can see in the above photographs. The children followed visual instructions to make homemade pizzas using wraps. Everybody was very engaged and enjoyed eating their pizzas up once they were cooked.

In Topic this week we have continued to learn about people in the community. We labelled a community scene using symbols, labelling emergency vehicles, shops and occupations. Michael even made subject-verb- object sentences to describe photographs of people in the community. E.g. the fireman is climbing the ladder.

As always we have enjoyed arts and crafts, swimming, sensory circuits and exploring apparatus on the field. Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Katie, Amelia, Teresa and Marie

Community Links

Please use the link below for some PE ideas to do at home.

<https://panathlon.com/panathlon-launches-at-home-sporting-challenges/>



Only One Month to Go Until
Kidz to Adultz
Venue to Virtual!

FREE online event - Week Commencing 1st March

Dedicated to children and young adults with disabilities and additional needs, their parents, carers, and the professionals who support them right across the UK and much further afield. This free virtual event will take place during week commencing 1st March 2021. The online platform offers visitors virtual access to the many exhibitors, companies, voluntary and support organisations who will be showcasing their products, equipment and outlining details of their services at various times during the week-long event.

Link for the Kidz to Adultz Exhibitions - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/venue-to-virtual-march-2021-registration-131175325931>