

26th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It was good to hear some good news from Boris Johnson on Monday and we look forward to the vast majority of our pupils and staff returning to school on Monday 8th March.

It has been a great week at Kingfisher, having had some good weather it has been good to be out and about on the field and in the playground. I have seen both staff and pupils having fun on the bikes and trikes

There have been some great food sessions, both in terms of cooking and developing senses around smelling, touching and tasting. The soup tasting looked good, who knew pea and ham soup would be a favourite? The homemade bread looked particularly appetising. I have to say I'm disappointed not to taste any food our pupils have cooked this week.

Pupils are continuing to develop their independence. Pupils are independently floating on their back in the swimming pool, using newly learnt skills with numeracy and literacy and others are making progress by feeding themselves.

Next Thursday 4th March is World Book Day. We would like to encourage pupils to dress up as a character from a book. Some classes are running a theme for the day, for example 'wear PJs for a bedtime story'. If this is the case, the class teacher will communicate this with you. Pupils in school should have received a book voucher, if you haven't let the class know and we can send one home. Vouchers have also been included in the home learning packs – if you haven't received a voucher and would like one, please let us know (information about the vouchers is in the community section at the back of this newsletter).

Remote Learning has continued to be a success, we have also had remote sessions with our sports coaches and dance teacher.

Dates for your diary

Thursday 4th March World Book Day (non-uniform day)

Wednesday 24th March Parent Consultation Day

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 great first week back and have been working hard as always. Our Topic this term is healthy eating and as part of our story this week 'Kitchen Disco' we have been exploring Pineapple. We all felt the rough skin and the green spikes on the top, some of us even tasted it. We then made some pineapple slime using pineapples chunks, jelly and cornflour, we used our hands and fingers to move it around the tray and squeezed it really tight.



In swimming this week we have been practicing floating on our backs, some of us can almost do it all by ourselves. Whilst on our backs we have been kicking our legs and splashing using our arms to stay afloat. We have all been working hard on our physio targets this week practicing sitting in different ways to develop our core strength, some of us have been doing some fantastic running around the school both inside and outside and strengthening our legs and with huge smiles on our faces.



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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

It has been great welcoming Pink Class pupils back to school after the half term break. We hope that you all had an enjoyable half term. Everybody certainly returned to school, feeling recharged. It was exciting to begin our new topic for this term: Healthy Eating.



Swimming continues to be a weekly highlight for Pink Class. Our pupils all thoroughly enjoy these sessions. Chloe swam one metre on her back independently. We are all so proud of her fantastic achievement. We would like to say a huge well done to all of our pupils for always working so hard in their swimming sessions. The children had a terrific time squeezing, dropping and rolling different sized balls down several chutes. This activity provided lots of fun and laughter. Everyone had a super time in this week's Hand Function session. All of our pupils showed good concentration and engagement with this session. Yujan did brilliant mark making. Sienna did splendid stretching of her fingers. Katie showed great focus throughout.



At lunchtimes, Toby has been continually using his fork to independently eat his pasta- well done Toby!

Wishing you all a good weekend.

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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



Welcome back all, I hope you've had a brilliant half term whether keeping busy or busy relaxing! Whilst we have definitely 'kept busy' getting stuck back in this week, it has nonetheless proven a positive few days and a good kick-start to the term.

Our topic in school this term is 'healthy eating' and our first-class book in line with this theme has been a fantastic little tale called 'Oliver's Vegetables'. Just like Oliver in the story we have had a chance to try a variety of different vegetables and have been getting our hands mucky in compost. Liam even chose to re-plant his vegetables rather than eat them so he will be well set for next week's activities!



When not practicing our handwriting grip or constructing sentences about the story, we have been finding out about 'long and short' (length) in maths. Pupils very much enjoyed investigating and commenting on the concept using tape measures and by connecting lengths of pipe together. Where possible, pupils have been ordering by length and practicing using rulers to create and measure different length lines.



In science we have made eggshell cress faces as we think about growing our own healthy food and P.E. has even seen us dancing the Hokey Cokey! Please remember to send your child's swimming kit in on a Thursday if they don't have it at school.

Have a fantastic weekend and we will see you soon.

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



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

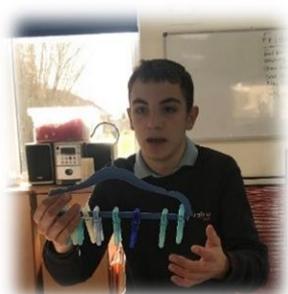
Students in Purple Class have made a great start to Term 4 and it has been lovely to start the new term with some sunshine and signs of spring around us to help us stay positive.

We have thought about all the different key events happening from now until Easter and mapped out our class board for the term with pictures to remind us. There are lots of special days and events happening so watch this space!

This Tuesday the Enterprise Group tried out their skills at making bread. They used an easy recipe this week and the results were amazing. All students and staff agreed the bread was tasty!



The Communication Group shared a story brought in by Josh, then focussed on signs and labels in the environment. The students made good guesses based on the pictures and were able to identify many of the signs we see regularly in the world around us. Mya correctly identified that all the signs with the diagonal red strike meant 'NOT ALLOWED'. Students also practised their fine motor and math skills using pegs on hangers and then letter, number and basic shape formation.



This week students tried out a game of Curling and many thought it was harder than Boccia. We will soon be introducing some dance routines for warm-up – kindly modelled for us this week by Sian, Sarah, Mary and Gill.

Hannah chose this week's Friday lunch – Burger, chips and salad with veggie burger option. As we are thinking of keeping healthy and aiming for a balanced diet, we opted for a fruit and yoghurt dessert.

News from Summer Cluster



Hannah, Iqra, Mya and Brandon prepared and cooked the Friday lunch this week. Other students spent Friday morning focussing on their reading and continuing with their individual target work. Jakob has taken on a prefect role and has been supporting his peers with their reading. Harry is making good progress with his reading and is sounding out more words for himself – great job! Roberto and Matthew will be taking their books home to share with family.

After a busy first week to Term 4, we completed our kitchen and class-based jobs and joined together for an enjoyable Friday Social Club.

Happy weekend everyone!

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



News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

Welcome back to school – we all hope you had an enjoyable half term. Our new topic is Healthy Eating and we have started this week by having a look at some different fruits and vegetables that we can eat. We cut some of them open and had a look inside for the seeds. This was building on our knowledge from the end of last term, when we planted cress seeds and runner beans. In fact, we returned to the classroom to find that some of our runner beans were doing surprisingly well, having been ignored for a week. We have also used the fruit and veg theme to practise our mark-making, phonics and sorting activities.



In our maths work, we have been counting up and back to ten and twenty using a number line, recognising numerals and filling in missing numbers. The children have been playing board games in small groups to apply our number skills, but this has also given us an opportunity to learn how to take turns and cope with winning or losing a game.

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



News from Autumn Cluster

Rose Gold Class

The first week of the term seems to have gone very quickly. The children came back refreshed and full of enthusiasm for learning.

We have been working really hard on our measuring skills this week and are all beginning to use a ruler with confidence and improving accuracy.

Our new story is called Oliver's vegetables, all about a boy who only ate chips until he played a game in his Grandpa's garden and discovered that he loved vegetables too. We talked about this a great deal and the children did not believe that pea soup was real. So, on Thursday we had a soup tasting morning and found that there were lots of flavours that the children liked. I was so impressed with their willingness to try each new flavour – every child tried every flavour. Not many of them liked the broccoli and stilton, but pea and ham soup was very popular. Carrot, chicken and tomato were also firm favourites. We had some tasty tiger bread with our soup and the children thought they might not eat much lunch. When we actually got to lunchtime, they ate all of their lunch too! It must have been all that tricky counting and measuring in maths that made them hungry!

Our new topic this term is 'Keeping Healthy' and we will be learning about lots of ways to stay healthy including how important sleep is, keeping clean and feeling happy.

As a celebration of last term's great reading and writing topic focused on the book 'Where the Wild Things Are' we would like to watch the DVD. For your information, this is rated a PG film so please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Finally, we have been concentrating on our online PE lessons, it is a new and exciting way for us to learn and the children are really beginning to get the hang of this way of learning with our PE coaches.



Have a great weekend.



News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Home learners have had a lot of fun this week with a great variety of sessions and activities. Pupils have enjoyed baking chocolate twists with Esther and Jo, which looked great fun! Ben put his own twist on them by adding peanut butter to his. They also did interesting facts about chocolate in a quiz.

In maths lessons, pupils were either adding money or using a range of strategies for multiplication and division problems. Read Write Inc have continued to work really hard. Freya had to work extra hard in her group and did amazing reading and writing of her green words this week. Well done Freya!

On Friday, there is going to be a talent show – I can't wait to see the photos of that. There is also a social online session for Gold Class, who have been a bit split up this term and are looking forward to getting back together and catching up with friends. In topic lessons we are looking at healthy food options and will design a healthy plate of food.



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



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

Silver class have had great enjoyment this week printing with different vegetables, as part of our new topic this term 'Healthy Eating' and looking at the different shapes they make. We used a variety of vegetables, including celery, carrots and peppers and did really well communicating our choices of colours to use and what utensils to paint our vegetables with, for example a paintbrush or sponge. We really did have lots of fun and produced some wonderful artwork.



We had a super sensory group session, where Woody was problem solving by looking for and then finding carrots hidden amongst some vegetable leaves, Matthew picked up carrot with lots of lovely focus looking at what he was doing and Arya helped to chop up the leaves using scissors. Great work Silver class!



We have also been practicing our fine motor skills by making vegetable shapes out of clay.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Julie, Leann, Tina, Zoe and Melissa



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

The children were very excited to come back to school, they have been hard at work and playing harder with their classmates!

Within Literacy this week, we have started to read 'Oliver's vegetables. Whilst reading this story, the children have been learning about different types of vegetables, exploring the different textures, colours, smells and tastes (and slugs that we might find in the soil, see pictures below). Within mark making, we've continued to focus on our tripod grip, tracing our names, and colouring in vegetables. Some students have been working on vertical and horizontal writing strokes. During symbol lessons, we have been completing sentences about different types of vegetable, e.g. purple beetroot. We have also been working on exchanging symbols for objects. Within Phonics we have been focusing on the letter I. The students have enjoyed tracing this letter because of the dot at the top!

Within Maths, we have been learning about lengths, long and small. We have set up physical circuit for small and long throws/rolls with balls. We have been comparing different sized giraffes, houses and slugs. In cooking, we have been following instructions on how to make a layered salad. The children have been adding salad leaves, cutting tomatoes and peppers and grating carrot, sprinkling cheese, ready to eat. In art, we have been looking at the artist Arcimboldi, copying his work of making faces out of vegetables, choosing and sticking images onto a portrait!

We have had a great first week back, we even had a birthday party for Niki, the children loved having a dance and having birthday cake.

We hope you have a great weekend!

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Niki and Sarah





News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

Happy Friday everyone! The sunshine on our first week back has definitely been a bonus this week and has made us all happy and ready to learn! Our new topic for this half term is all about healthy eating.

In Literacy this week we started our new story 'Oliver's Vegetables' and made sentences using symbols. In Topic we had a tasting session and tried ingredients such as spinach and sugar snap peas. We all worked well using the communication board. Everyone commented 'yuck' when it came to the beetroot! We continued using our fresh ingredients to make a salad in cooking. I would like to make a special mention for Malachi who chopped his ingredients like a professional chef and even ate some of his salad afterwards!

In Art, we made faces using fruit inspired by Arcimboldo. I would like to make a special mention for Joe who was very independent in creating his face!



In Numeracy this week we began to explore weight. We practiced using weighing scales to compare different objects. E.g. a bottle of water and a feather. We then used symbols to indicate which was 'heavy' and 'light.'

Science this week was lots of fun! We planted cress seeds using an egg to create cress hair. We will be working very hard to water our cress and watch it grow. Pictures will follow once our cress is all grown and ready to taste!

Have a fantastic weekend everyone 😊

Katie, Amelia, Olivia, Teresa

Community Links

Message from World Book Day Organisers:

Thanks to National Book Tokens and lots of lovely book publishers and booksellers, World Book Day, in partnership with schools all over the country, distribute over 15 million £1 World Book Day book tokens to children and young people (that's almost one for every child/young person under 18 in the UK and Ireland) every year on World Book Day.

The £1 book tokens can then be swapped for one of our exclusive, new and completely FREE World Book Day books available from participating booksellers or used to get £1 off (£1.50 off in Ireland) any full price book or audiobook instead (as long as the book or audiobook costs at least £2.99 (or €3.99 in Ireland). The World Book Day £1 books are a gift from booksellers, who fully fund the cost of the £1 book token redemptions. The £1 books are also available in braille, large print & audio via Guide Dogs and RNIB.

We also have exclusive titles for Wales and Ireland.

World Book Day book tokens will be valid from Thursday 18 February – Sunday 28 March 2021. In 2021 participating booksellers will honour the tokens beyond the 28 March while stocks last. Please contact your local bookseller to check if they are able to offer £1 off other titles.

Please see the website for more details - <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>