

12th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been great to see the majority of our pupils back in school this week. We had a practice evacuation in case of a fire and all the pupils and staff did really well getting outside to a safe place. This is a really important part of Health and Safety practices that we need to do, although some of the pupils were disappointed not to see a fire engine arrive.

Some of our classes have been creating in preparation for Mother's Day, Purple Class worked together to create a poem for all mums. There are lots of references to food...

A poem for mums

*My mum makes fabulous Chicken Chasseur
She gives me hugs and spends time with me
My mum makes me feel special
She makes me nice dinners for tea*

*My mum says, 'hello darling!'
My mum takes me for walks at Farmoor
My mum takes me shopping at Poundland
She is all I could simply ask for*

*My mum cooks my favourite fishfingers
She gets me Nintendo and my favourite DVD
My mum sorts Google and fixes my lamp
My mum makes amazing onion bhaji*

*My mum does all the cleaning
She buys me Chinese takeaway
My mum is simply the best
And I hope she has a really great day
by Purple Class*

While we are talking about mums

As you are aware Katherine Catchpole had her little girl Beatrice back in the summer holidays. She has shared some pictures on our Facebook page, for those of you not on the Facebook page, here is a recent photo of them both. Katherine has made the decision not to return to work after her Maternity Leave has finished. Whilst I am disappointed not to see Katherine return, I am sure you will want to join me in wishing Katherine, Ellie and Beatrice best wishes for their future. I am sure we will see them at one of our many events we will be staging soon.



Next Friday is Comic Relief Day, it will be an opportunity for a fund raising non-uniform day. We are asking pupils and staff to wear something red and, if you are able, to make a voluntary contribution that we will send to Comic Relief.

You should have received a letter about parent consultation in satchel post today, please return the slip to your child's teacher ASAP.

Dates for your diary

Friday 19th March Comic Relief-Red Nose Day Friday 19th March 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 Class

We have had a very busy week and everyone has been doing some fantastic work. As part of our sensory story 'Kitchen Disco' this week we have been exploring watermelon, we all smelt it and those of us that tasted it couldn't get enough because it tasted so fresh. We each had a tray and explored the Watermelon with our hands squashing it and moving it around the tray.

We have been continuing to work on our cause and effect targets this week, we have some toys in class that have a big switch that we can press and the toys dance and sing. We have been practicing waiting for the toy to stop before pressing the switch again.

As always, we made lots of noise in resonance board this week, we all take it in turn to choose and activity. This week the most popular activity was definitely the cars, we have really big cars and some small ones too. We discovered that the small cars can go really fast across the board and we had lots of fun pushing them to our friends.

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





News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

It has been wonderful to welcome back to our lovely yellow class students, especially as how they have come back remembering every routine. We started the week with a sensology class celebrating a Spanish theme week in the classroom. For it we cooked a really tasty paella and green class joined us for it. We used our eyes to look at the rice drop into the pan, our nose to smell the paella spices and peppers, our hands to explore the peas and corn, our ears to listen to the chicken sizzle and finally our mouth to taste the finished paella.



It was lovely to see the teamwork and taking of turns by every one of them. We then celebrated listening to familiar nursery rhymes in Spanish and the lovely Diesel had been especially brilliant at repeating some of the words. The weather also allowed us to spend some time outdoors and enjoy some sand play with mark making activities.



This week we have also been working really hard on our ILPs and we introduced some table work to our students. They have reacted amazingly to it and shown some incredible new skills. Each of the pupils had the choice of completing an activity focus on their ILP from a choose board and then a more interactive fun activity in couples on the table.



News from Spring Cluster



Swimming has been a really important part of this week, Yellow class have been brilliant and have taken back to swimming really excitedly. At the end of the week we also had some wonderful physio and PE lessons joined with green class where we learnt different ways of playing with balls. This week we are finishing our hard-working week with some VI and dance lessons



Have a wonderful weekend,

Gal, Sally, Emma, Katia and Kerry Ann



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

It has been another busy week in Pink Class. It has been great welcoming back more students to class this week and it was lovely to see the joy and excitement on the students' faces, at seeing more of their classmates.



Everyone worked extremely well in our Sensory cooking session and we were so impressed by the hard work and enthusiasm of all of our pupils. Ryan looked intently through the centre of the cucumber and Katie enjoyed tasting the cream cheese as they made some sushi.

Everyone had lots of fun in our Sensory story. The pupils are always so enthused by the Very Hungry Caterpillar. Chloe enjoyed the story enormously and happily participated throughout. Toby found it funny when the caterpillar turned into a butterfly.



The pupils have all been working incredibly hard with their targets this week. Yujan enjoyed making toast and he was keen to do the washing up after lunch.

In this week's hand function session, the pupils all enjoyed using the foaming soap to do some mark-making. Ryan did terrific mark-making, which was super to see. Sienna couldn't wait to explore the foaming soap and she put her right hand in independently to feel it. In our communication session, Louisa did fantastic vocalising and was quick to press the switch to say "hello" to all of her friends.



Have a great weekend.

*Siobhán, Tor, María, Liza, Sue, Katia, Norah,
Daniel and Sarah*





News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class

Hello everyone, I hope you're all ready for the weekend, It's certainly been a busy week with lots going on!

This week, Blue Class have been reading a new class book, 'Oliver's Fruit Salad'. Not naming any students but let's just say it's been a real hit with one particular individual in class! We kicked off literacy sessions with a fruit tasting session trying all the different fruits from the story and in cooking we mixed it all together to make our very own fruit salads.

In maths we have been working on money. Pupils have blown us away with how good they are at the topic with ALL students in class proving that they could find a requested coin with most pupils being independent with this. Some pupils extended to making 2 coin amounts to pay for different food items.



Swimming was a real hit this week, we were blown away by pupils' progress with some individuals going underwater or displaying independence not previously seen and other reaching out their arms properly for the first time.

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

From Richard, Sarah, Ellie, Helen and Jasmine

~ The Blue Class Team



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

It has been great this week to see all the students back in school and students in Purple have been really happy to see all their friends. Students have settled extremely well and have produced some great work!

The Communication Group have worked so hard in their sessions, particularly with their letter sounds and formation and Matthew has really shone this week with his focus and exhibiting his skills particularly when writing his card. Students enjoyed a session on measure and using comparative language and Harry thought Leah was a bit cheeky for asking 'which is heaviest?' when the balls weighed almost the same!

Students have made biscuits and have taken turns to decorate them for a very special gift. They have all worked hard on finishing their cards and preparing and decorating gift boxes. *Lucky mum's!* Our artwork has now been proudly displayed on a new class gallery. Students also contributed something 'special' about their mums for a collaborative poem and it was lovely to hear all the wonderful things that mum's do.

This week for our topic work on 'Healthy Lifestyles, we looked at the 5 food groups for maintaining a healthy balanced diet as recommended by the Eatwell Guide. Students are clearly starting to group foods correctly and we all worked together to have a go at a healthy eating quiz. All answers correct! Jakob has once again taken a lead in preparing our class display for 'Healthy Living' with help from Iqra and it's starting to look fabulous!

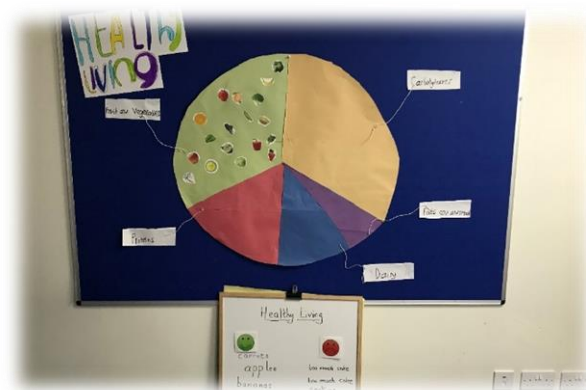
Students are enjoying practising their social dance routines and are beginning to pick up the moves! We might make our own video so watch this space!

Jakob chose to make curry for Friday lunch and the class agreed we should have a fruit-based dessert in order to keep our choices balanced. This week, Jakob, Ben, Mya and Josh prepared and cooked the Friday lunch which was another great success. We have all had another great week.

Wishing all the wonderful mum's a very special Sunday.

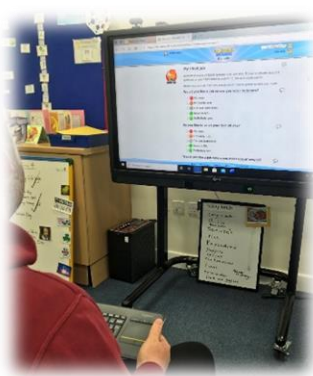
Happy weekend everyone!

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





News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

This week we have continued to think about fruits, vegetables and things that are healthy to eat. Now that hot school dinners are available again, I can see that the children in Orange Class are actually very good at eating up their veg, with broccoli and peas being particular favourites!

Whilst learning about healthy foods, we have also talked about how it is ok to have a small treat now and again. With this in mind, we decided to make a treat for our Mums to say, 'thank you' and to celebrate Mother's Day at the weekend.



The children helped with each stage of the recipe and were particularly mesmerised by watching the golden syrup fall from the spoon. They observed how some ingredients melted when we heated them and some children knew that our finished product would set when we put it in the fridge. Of course, the best bit of cooking is always when you can lick the spoon at the end!



Have a lovely weekend,

Rachael, Tracy, Caitlin, Beccie and Ellie.



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

How lovely to see old friends again, we have been focusing on getting back into routine, working hard and trying our best. The children as always have made us very proud and given their very best.

Our topic this term is 'Keeping Healthy' so we have been learning a song all about fruit and vegetables. We are then going to change and improve some of the describing words in the song and write our own version. My favourite was Holly's idea: Instead of using 'strawberries sweet,' she wanted to describe them as 'squidgy'. As part of this, we have also been preparing and tasting different fruits and vegetables. When we were cutting the Honeydew melon Charlie said that he didn't like it. However, he was very brave and tried a little piece and loved it. He had 2 more helpings – well done Charlie.

In maths, we are learning all about money and coins. We have found it quite tricky but David spotted the picture of the £50 note straight away and could tell us that this was the picture of the most money – well done David, a very important skill.

Camron has also really impressed us this week with his reading skills. He played a phonics game with his friends on Thursday and managed to concentrate for 30 minutes and read all the words on his card with great confidence.

We have also found a fantastic website with the children: www.starfall.com – where they can practise their reading skills. Read the sentence and then listen to it to see if they got it right. Alternatively, listen to the sentence and have a go at reading it out loud. Henry discovered that the pictures were interactive too. So when you press on the characters or objects they move or change colour. They all really enjoyed this activity.



Have a great weekend.

Lorna, Nicola, Laura, Pauline and Jo



News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Gold Class are so pleased to be back in school. Pupils have settled in again really well – it is almost as if they have never been away! They were all pleased to see each other again and have been very chatty and sociable. There are a few small changes, but most things are the same. The timetable is slightly different to fit everything in, the Girls swim on Mondays and Boys swim on Thursdays. We have PE with coaches online at the moment and it is worth having a PE kit in school all of the time.



In our maths lessons, we are learning how to measure capacity. Pupils know that liquids are usually measured in ml or litres and have practised reading scales to make measurements. We put our measuring skills to good practice in a nice activity on Wednesday by making fruit cocktail drinks. Pupils had to create their own recipe to make a fruit cocktail with up to 4 different juices and then measure accurately. Everyone enjoyed making them and most pupils were pleased with the taste of the drinks.

On Thursday, we made soft boiled eggs and toasted soldiers. Ryan, Scarlett and William enjoyed their egg and toast. Jack bravely tasted his but decided that he wasn't keen. Freya enjoyed the toasted soldiers and was good at washing up.



Have a lovely weekend,

From Maria, Tess, Julie, Esther and Liza





News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

This week Silver class have been looking at the story 'The very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle and enjoying all the sensory elements that go with it, especially exploring the different food items and signing the days of the week. The butterfly is also a definite favourite and we have been enjoying helping it to fly around. It even came to the hall with us for one of our sensory circuit sessions.



We have all been working very hard at our phonics and recognising sounds. Arya did some fantastic writing when looking at the different words in our sensory story. As part of our fine motor skills some of us had lots of fun mark making on the class board.



In Numeracy this week we have been focusing on singing number songs and using props.

Our dance lesson with Gina was lots of fun this week. We enjoyed all the different movements and dancing around shaking bells. We also loved waving the scarves around as were dancing. However the parachute was our favourite and made us all smile.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Julie, Leann, Tina, Zoe and Melissa



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Happy Friday everyone and a Happy Mother's Day to all the White Class Mothers! I hope the boys treat you with cuddles, games and laughter!

Within Literacy this week, we have started reading 'Oliver's fruit salad'. The children have been tasting, smelling, touching, listening and looking at different fruits and matching them to pictures in symbol lessons. In mark making lessons, the children have been using their tripod grip to create letters and patterns around fruit on the paper. During cooking and topic, we have been making a fruit salad, following instructions, and tasting each fruit, commenting on how it smells/looks/feels with our communication boards, the berries were a favourite by a mile! Within Phonics we have been going over SAPTIN to ensure the children are confident what they have previously learnt, we have also been identifying instruments and environmental sounds.

In art, we have been making Mother's Day cards and choosing stamps to use, and colours to dip it in, to print onto paper, creating our own artwork. Within PE, we have been doing a sensory circuit every morning, which the children love, swimming lessons we have been focusing on our confidence and arm movements, and in dance we have been dancing under the parachute, with Gina.

We hope you have a great weekend!

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Niki, Ellie and Christina



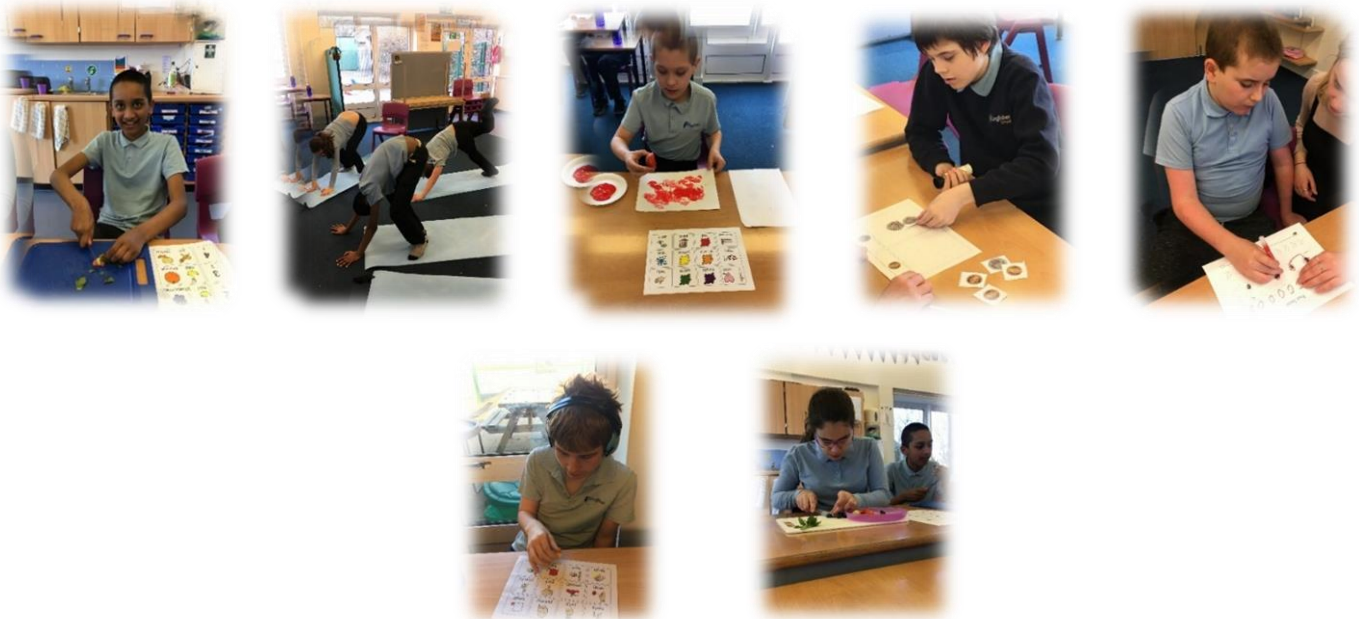


News from Winter Cluster

Black Class

Happy Friday everyone! We have had another very productive week in Black Class with lots of hard work, and of course, lots of fun! We started our new story this week 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' this week and have been exploring the sensory props related to the story. We made sentences relating to the story and practiced our mark making/ writing skills using fruit templates.

In Cooking we made fruit salad by following visual or written instructions and trying our best to be as independent as we could be. Everyone did an amazing job and the strawberries and melon went down very well. ☺ We continued with our fruit theme into Art and printed using different fruits. The children used communication boards to request different coloured paints. I would like to make a mention for Connor who used the communication board to say splat each time he printed, which he found very funny!



In Numeracy this week we have been practicing our money recognition. Some of us have been sorting coins into different piles, some of us have been matching real coins to symbols whilst the rest have been finding a specific coin on request. We have all used money in our role play shop to practice exchanging money for toy food items. Joe was a natural using the till and made a buzz noise every time he scanned through an item.

P.E this week has been brilliant! We have been practicing our ball skills in the hall by rolling, bouncing and passing the ball to each other. Another group of children have been taking part in a small group yoga class which they seemed to really enjoy.

Have a lovely weekend everyone,

Katie, Amelia, Olivia, Teresa



You haven't missed out... Join us!

At the beginning of March, the Kidz to Adultz Team organised their second Venue to Virtual event!

All sessions are available to view until **31st March 2021**.
Take a look at lunchtime, in the evening, at the weekend
– any time to suit you.