

9th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been lucky to have some good weather in amongst the heavy downpours this week that has enabled our pupils to be out in our green space within school. Purple Class have also had the opportunity to go out in the countryside for their Duke of Edinburgh Award walk. This is part of course that needs to be completed in order to gain the accreditation for the course. We are very lucky to have Andy, a volunteer, to support us with this. It means that the pupils who are leaving Purple Class this year are able to achieve the DofE Bronze Award.

Following the survey about newsletters, we will be changing the way we communicate what the classes are doing each term and also the way we communicate important information. There will be an area of the website that will show what each class has planned for each term, alongside some ideas to support your child at home. This will be updated at the start of each term (short, 6 week term). We will send any important information that is usually communicated on this page via email within Arbor. At the end of each term, there will be a newsletter similar to this one to show the highlights of the term. You will also receive information that is specific to your child via EviSense. If you have problems signing into EviSense, please contact the office and we will resend your login details.

We hope that you are able to watch 'The Game' on Sunday and we hope that we can finally say 'it has come home'. If any pupils (or staff) wish to wear England Shirts or red and white on Monday to celebrate (or commiserate) that is absolutely fine. For our Italian contingent of staff and pupils, it is fine to wear colours or kit to celebrate Italy reaching the final too.



Dates for your diary

Last Day of Term	Tuesday 20 th July (2pm finish)
First Day of New School Year	Monday 6 th September

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 lots of fun on the resonance board this week, we bang the board with our hands and explore different activities. Our favourite is the rice where we all bang the board to make the rice jump as high as we can, this really makes us laugh. Our second favourite is definitely the cars, we all have lots of fun rolling the cars to our friends across the board.



We have had lots of fun singing with Clare this week, we love exploring the props that help us to understand each song. We love twinkle twinkle little star and all take it in turns to look at ourselves in the shiny blanket.



As always we have been working on our physio targets whilst in the ball pool, we love the balls and we can practice kicking our legs to make all the balls jump.

Alicia, Kim, Amanda, Jackie, Julia, Clare, Maria, Melissa and Emily



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

Yellow Class has had a fantastic week. We started the week with a wonderful sensory story session, and everybody had their favourite animal and object of reference. On the story we explore different temperatures, and everybody liked the cold pad to represent the polar bear and another favourite one was the bouncy ball to represent the kangaroo. The story ends with a beautiful puppy that they all love to cuddle.



Everyone has been working really hard on their physio programs and this week we would love to give Willow a special mention for incredible work on her exercises. Willow managed to lay on her stomach and hold herself up in a really good posture.



Resonance board has also been a highlight this week. Everybody did incredible choosing on the board and enjoyed playing with the balls and make them roll on it. Our marching song is the absolute favourite one and the all like drumming the board.



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. Everyone certainly enjoyed their swimming session this week. Louisa worked hard on her physio targets and she did some terrific vocalizing. Ryan did some pouring before getting into the pool where he floated on his back in the water. Ryan also did super counting during our number songs with “Five Little Ducks” being a particular favourite.



In our topic-based art session the students did good looking and choosing when creating their lions. Some of the students then went on to independently paint their lion and we were so pleased by how well the students stayed focused. They were all happy to explore a variety of materials before choosing which material to use for their lion's mane. Well done everyone.



In our sensory story “Dear Zoo” the most popular delivery from the zoo was the snake. Everyone loved having the long snake around their neck and they liked listening to the snakes hissing sound. Our “Gingerbread Man” story prompted some wonderful vocalizing, and everyone had lots of fun sieving the flour and ginger to make their own gingerbread man. They all selected from a choice of two which colours they wished to use for the eyes and buttons of their gingerbread man.



News from Summer Cluster



We hope that you all have a great weekend.

Siobhan, Tor, Julie, Maria, Liza, Felicity, Sue, Norah, Daniel and Sarah



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



Hello everyone, happy Friday. It's been a lovely week with pupils in Blue Class this week. Both children (and staff!) have presented as really relaxed and engaged as they have tucked into the range of activities that we have had on offer.

One of the highlights of the week was our sensory play. Pupils really enjoyed finding insects and bugs in compost, getting nice and messy. In-between this, staff encouraged pupils to go bug hunting under logs and rocks in the forest school's area and other pupils even had an

opportunity to go on the outside trampoline.

In literacy, in keeping with our other activities, we were reading 'The Very Ugly Bug'. Pupils loved dressing up as the characters, with green silks like the smooth green bug, goggles like the red bug and wings like the fast, blue bug. Our mark making and sentence construction was also a hit accordingly.

In maths we have been working on sequences. All pupils have evidenced that they can independently continue two colour sequences with some extending to three and four colours whilst others have been working on number patterns and repeated additions.

Swimming went well on Tuesday with pupils making excellent progress, one particular young man managed his first ever independent length! In topic we have continued to match emotions to real faces.

It's been fantastic, settled weather for the most part this week and it has been brilliant to spend time out and about with your young people. Have a super weekend and we will see you all again on Monday,

From Helen, Sarah, Ellie, Kia, Lynette and Richard,

~ The Blue Class Team





News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Summer Cluster – Purple Class

This week has been fully packed!

Our leavers this year (Brandon, Matthew and Josh) have visited their new College setting for two days and all seemed to really enjoy the experience. They met their new teachers and had a tour around the college grounds. They met all the new students who will be on their pathways. Wow, exciting times for our young adults who are moving on to a new adventure!

Our new staff member Nicola, who has fitted in 'like a glove' also passed her minibus test – well done Nic! You are a star!

Meanwhile back at school, Jakob, Iqra, Kayah, Ben, Harry, Sam and Alicia helped to prepare some picnic foods for our upcoming DoE walk at Wittenham Clumps. They made fairy cakes and cooked some sausage rolls and veggie treats. Other students enjoyed a PowerPoint story about 'Maggie the Magpie' who recycles and then looked at recycling bins we have in class and thought more about which materials go where, as it is such an important topic in today's world. Students continued to work on their individual targets within their groups for maths and English. Some students enjoyed a shopping game trying to find the ingredients they needed for their trolley. Harry loved this! Jakob is finally mastering Time.

For Topic work this week we focussed on habitats and where creatures are found and why (including adaptation). Students engaged in trying to match creatures to their specific habitats and some students looked more deeply into the eco system and studied woodland pictures to find all the different creatures and plants that are part of that cycle. It is amazing to discover how many actual creatures and plants can be found in one simple area. We have continued with recapping some French words and students are exhibiting their new language skills – amazing! Alicia can almost count to 10 in French by herself. Roberto occasionally slips in a 'Buongiorno'.

Students engaged with the planning process of deciding what they would like for their picnic lunch on our walk for Friday as part of the DoE Award and had a go at preparing their own picnic roll on the Friday. Most Students participated in their DoE (Duke of Edinburgh) Award on Thursday and Friday and as you will see from the pictures, they had an enjoyable time out walking in the fresh air in the beautiful local countryside.

Happy weekend everyone!

Purple Class – Leah, Mary, Nicola, Gill, Sian, & Julie



News from Summer Cluster





News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class



Continuing with our topic, we have explored the life cycle of the bee this week. The children have completed some themed activities. Here, they are developing hand function using either their hands or tweezers to transfer pompoms from the flower into the honeycomb. I love the concentration on their faces!



We have been inspired by our shared text this week, *The Boy Who Lost His Bumble*, which is the story of a boy who loved bees and felt sad when they didn't come out in the rain. We wanted to make our own bees and found a new use for a potato masher, using one to print the black stripes we needed. The children then added tissue paper wings and googly eyes to finish their creations. Now we have bees in Orange Class come rain or shine!

Enjoy the weekend!

Rachael, Tracy, Caitlin, Beccie and Ellie.



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

I hoped you enjoyed the children's newsletter as much as I did! I thought they had really improved their content and ideas. They have also enjoyed working on the laptops to type their work although one or two did complain about how hard it was to find all the letters. Hopefully, lots of practise will help them with that. Did you notice that Leythan had used a similie in his writing? I was very impressed Leythan – keep up the good work. The children have also written some amazing facts about animals this week. They chose their favourite animal, printed a picture from Google Images and then wrote down lots of facts that they knew already. The final challenge was to use books and the internet to find some new and interesting facts about their animal. I was so pleased with their writing and concentration, well done everybody.

We have been learning about capacity again in maths. The children really enjoy pouring and scooping various substances into different containers and deciding whether it is 'too big' or 'too small' or 'just right'. We have also been making lots of patterns in maths. We sometimes find this quite tricky so if you get the chance to make pictures or patterns using repeating shapes or colours at home that would be great.

During the European Football tournament, we have been experiencing snacks and treats from other countries. Last Friday the children made 'Fairy Bread'. This treat is from Holland. They spread butter or chocolate spread on some sliced bread with no crusts and then cover it in lots of sprinkles before they eat it. As you can imagine this was a very popular snack.



We hope you all have a good weekend.

Lorna, Laura, Pauline, Jo and Jennifer.



News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

We started the week by learning a new skill in P.E! Heinrich, one of our coaches, brought in soft archery because we were keen to try something new and learn a new skill for our Duke of Edinburgh Award. It was great fun and everyone (staff and pupils) were keen to try out archery. Freya and Holly did well in the first group and listened so well to the instructions, that they were able to explain how to use the bow and arrow to teach me. The boys were also great and although it was a little fiddley everyone got the hang of it by the end of the session. Both groups were able to fire with enough accuracy to get some arrows on the target boards. Well done to everyone and thank you to Heinrich for teaching us. We will be developing this new skill next week and doing more archery. I think it could get quite competitive next week and we will compare scores. Maybe we will find a Robin Hood!



We have been learning how to tell the time on analogue clocks this week. We are getting better, and some pupils can confidently tell the time to 5 minutes. A few need to practise this regularly at home – beginning with O'clock, half past and quarter to or past the hour. The more they practise, the more confident they will become. They need to remember the longer hand is the minute hand and the shorter hand is the hour hand. Funnily enough, they all seem to know when it is home time!

Have a lovely weekend,

From Maria, Tess, Julie, Esther and Brittany



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

Hello everyone,

We have all been very busy this week, we continue to work hard in our phonic, numeracy lessons. The children have also worked very hard in swimming, some of the children being brave and letting go of an adult hand while in the water.

In sensory play we have been using flour and coco powder with hidden (toy) bugs in to find using tweezers for fine motor control.



In dance the children have been turtles, dolphins and sharks under the sea and of course dancing to 'baby shark'.





News from Winter Cluster

The end of last week we had a little birthday party, the children really enjoyed the time we had, lots of dancing, loads and loads of bubbles and of course lots of cake 😊



We hope you all have a lovely weekend, and enjoy the football, is it coming home ???

Leann, Tina, Ellie, Zoe and Brittany



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

We hope you all had great weekend!

This week we have started a new book called 'The Very Ugly Bug', the students have loved listening to how the bug tried to look like all the other bugs, they have also loved trying on the props such as wings, masks and googly eyes! In maths, we have been working on shapes, it's great to see their progress from the beginning of the year. Within Phonics we have been learning the letter F, I was really impressed to see how well they could trace the letter! During our cooking lesson, been making ugly bug cupcakes, following instructions, putting icing, strawberry laces, and chocolate buttons on the cupcake to make an ugly bug. In Art we have been choosing different patterned fabrics to create a minibeasts with, the children chose the minibeast template and then the fabrics to glue on, their artwork looks amazing. The children have been confident in the water this week with Angela, we have seen some non-swimmers going out into the deep end and trying to swim independently with a woggle. We have also really enjoyed dance this week, Gina the dance teacher always puts a smile on the children's face!

Tasks for parents: Please keep on uploading evidence onto evisense. Please ensure the privacy setting is for parents and teachers, so I can view it.

We hope you have a great weekend!

Jemma, Katie, Ali, Niki and Christina





Black Class

News from Winter Cluster

Black Class have been hard at work this week! We started our new topic and have been exploring minibests. Our story for the week has been 'The Very Ugly Bug.' We all enjoyed exploring the sensory props for the story, especially trying on the wings and mask! We dug in soil to find different insects which some of us found a little bit scary! I would like to make a special mention for Malachi who explored a non fiction textbook and found the insect in the tray to match! We continued to work on our recognition of adjectives to describe a range of insects. We used words 'spotty, stripy and hairy' very well in the activity! In Art this week, we made ladybirds using a range of different materials. We counted out black spots to put on to our ladybirds too!



In

Numeracy this week we have been learning about shapes. Some of us have been finding a specific shape on request whilst some of us have been linking two key words to find more specific shapes. E.g. big circle/ red triangle etc. Some of us also practiced counting the sides of shapes and sorting them accordingly.

I would like to make a special mention this week for Eleonora who swam a length of the swimming pool independently!

Thank you to those of you who have been commenting on the pictures on evisense! It would be great if some of you could upload your own pictures too for us to talk about in class! Have a good weekend,

Katie, Amelia, Olivia, Teresa, Brittany, Megan

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