

**18<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

Dear Parents and Carers

Once again it has been a busy week at Kingfisher. Today we have Vertex Volunteers in to support us with various jobs around the school. They have helped with clearing leaves, painting the swimming pool building and making a pathway in our sensory garden. This is the third year running that Vertex have supported our school and we are very thankful for all their hard work.

**Flu Immunisation:** Parents of pupils who received their flu immunisation on Wednesday should have received notification that this had taken place successfully. Pupils who were registered to have the immunisation but were unable to have it on the day will receive a letter from the School Health Nurse Team (this is being sent home today with your child). The Team have offered another chance for parents who did not sign up for the vaccination to do so (this will take place outside of school). You need to call 01865 904890 to complete a consent form to arrange this.

We have a few things coming up in school soon.

The PFSA have asked us to run a non-uniform day next Friday. As before, we do not set a particular cost to wearing non uniform but we do ask for donations. The donations will be used to buy raffle prizes for our Christmas production. If you prefer you could send a good quality item that could be included in the raffle.

Following the success of the Macmillan Coffee Morning, we will be holding another one on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November to raise money for the Poppy Appeal. Poppies will be on sale as well as coffee and of course cake.

#### **Dates for your Diary**

<b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Non-uniform day Last day of term
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Return to school
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Coffee Morning 10-12 (Remembrance Day-Poppy Appeal)

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

On Monday morning, Green Class used the resonance board to tap and say 'good morning' to each other.

It was definitely a great start to our busy week and the children were brilliant at waiting their turn nicely and making lots of different sounds on the board. The children enjoyed listening to our 'good morning' song and they were great tapping the board gently or loudly, by putting two hands on the boards or their fingers only.

During our P.E session this week, we started going through some great Sherborne movements. We used blankets to gently sway the children in and they all loved it so much. It was definitely a great exercise for all of us. In our Communication group work this week, our students were asked to choose between different switch toys and operate them by themselves. We were all very impressed from how nicely the children chose between the toys and how well they concentrated on the task. During the hand function activities, our students enjoyed exploring the wooden puzzles and putting them together with minimal adult support. Green Class students have also been amazing at brushing their teeth after lunch. The children love listening to the 'tooth brushing' song and they are all very good at holding the toothbrush independently or with adult support.

In Arts this week, the children were very happy to decorate some Birthday cards for Joshua, Woody and Sienna. We would all like to wish Happy Birthday to them and we hope they are all going to have a great time during the weekend.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend,

*Anna, Kim, Amanda, Clare, Jackie, Julia, Lorna and Hannah*



# News from Spring Cluster

## Yellow Class

Another busy week in Yellow Class,

We have worked hard on our physio and standing in the pool, in our standing frames and some of us during rebound on the trampoline.

We have been doing lots of work on cause and effect, using switch toys and the eyegaze which has been really good fun.

We have focused really well on our attention bucket activities.

As always we have had lots of different sensory experiences and enjoyed using all of our senses to explore new things.



*Helen, Siobh an Yvonne, Sally, Kerryann, Emma and Hannah*





# News from Summer Cluster

## Pink Class

Pink class have particularly enjoyed switch work this week. We have been exploring different switch toys to support our understanding of cause and effect and to make choices. Switches that support us in operating lights have been by far the favourite. Halloween is coming up and so the shops are full of lovely sensory items we have been making the most of.

We had a great hand function and sensory art session this week. We were making colleges of kingfishers. It was fantastic to see everyone making choices between pictures, colours and textures that they wanted to use. We were proud of the outcomes of everyone's efforts which we felt rivalled the Tate Modern and can't wait to get them up for us to enjoy in the classroom next week. It's great to see students looking at their own work with pride.

We had a visit from Leo the Cat last week (not in time for the newsletter) and as you can see he was welcomed back with open arms.



*Tor, Juliette, Maria, Sue, Liza, Norah, Janet and Daniel*



# News from Summer Cluster

## Blue Class

We finished off last week with a lovely Walking club visit to Wittenham Clumps. The weather was kind to us as it stayed dry and everybody had a nice time.

In our cooking lesson on Monday this week we made some delicious pita bread pizzas and everybody enjoyed getting “hands on” with all of the different toppings.

We have also continued our work on different parts of the body, letter formation, numbers and shapes throughout the week.

During our visit to Oxrad this week, some of us went on the exercise bikes and had a really good work out!



Have a fantastic weekend

*Sean, Esther, Pauline, Matt and Sarah*



# News from Summer Cluster

## Purple Class

Purple Class Students continue to work well in their different groups for Literacy and Numeracy tasks with groups alternating each week for a session in the Library. The Enterprise group have continued to help clear the garden area at Fitzwaryn. This week the students also had a look at some of the upcycling projects happening there and we may decide to start something similar here at Kingfisher after Christmas. Angela our swimming instructor is also pleased with the progress being made by Purple students and is particularly happy with Josh – well done Josh!

Josh brought a favourite book into school this week and our Tuesday story session focussed around this particular story. Coincidentally it involved Father Christmas! We also tried out practising along to 'Singing hands' and learning signs to a few Christmas favourites, just to get us in the mood and think more about our Production. As we have been thinking about 'our lives now and in the future', on Tuesday we thought about possible options for when we leave school. We had a look at a video where a young man called Dan had moved into his own flat under a supported living scheme. We also thought about and looked at some different jobs. Alicia was very good at identifying the jobs by the different uniforms.

Alicia chose Friday lunch – Spaghetti and Meatballs with garlic bread. The students joined in deciding what ingredients we would need, preparing shopping lists and engaging in shopping games and activities. Instead of 'Walk4Wellbeing' this week, a few students visited Waitrose and we discussed the dangers even in car parks. The students shopped for ingredients to make special Divali sweets.

In the afternoon we found out a little about the Divali Festival of Lights as this will be happening all around the world when we are on our half term. Next week we will be focussing on Halloween and hope to end the week with a little Halloween party! Student's each decorated a divali lamp template in order to create our own classroom 'row of lights'. Mary also demonstrated how to make Divali sweets whilst we followed the online recipe on the whiteboard (just in case she needed help!).

We visited OXSRAD as usual this week but first we stopped off and took our Variety Christmas Card entries into the post office. A few of our students will now be taking part in the 'Round the World Challenge Survey' starting after half term. More info about this to follow.....

Ben, Alicia, Mya and Chan shopped at Tesco for our Friday's lunch ingredients, whilst the other students were pleased to join in with 'Music with Steve'. Brandon, Harry and Sam helped with some jobs in the outside area too. This week Ben, Kayah, Mya and Chan cooked the lunch as Alicia specifically asked to go cycling as she has missed the last few sessions. We finished the week with Friday Social Club and tried one of our delicious Divali sweets!! Happy weekend everyone!

*Purple Class – Leah, Mary, Dawn, Sian, Sarah, Lynette & Julie*





# News from Summer Cluster

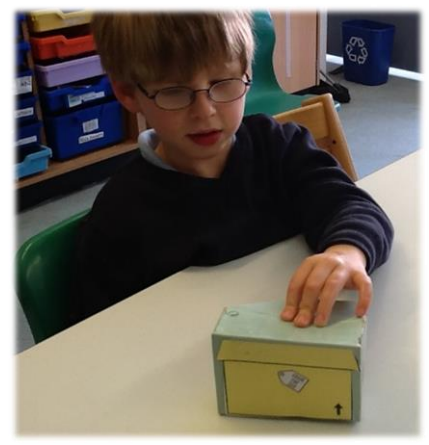




# News from Autumn Cluster

## Orange Class

Our story this week is 'Dear Zoo,' which has been a lot of fun. We have talked about our pets and looked at the animals in the book. There has been lots of play with the toy animals and we put them in the crates used in the story and pretended to be Zoo keepers feeding the animals from a choice of dried foods. We are developing our language and have introduced some adjectives to describe the animals in the book, done matching pairs games and some children have used phonics to spell and even written sentences.



In gymnastics this week children travelled along the floor in different ways, balanced along benches, stepped over obstacles and up steps and did brilliant jumping. Children are growing in confidence in balancing and are practising rolls along a mat. In tennis, we practised holding a racket and hitting a ball over the net, aiming balls into targets and finished by playing messy bedrooms.

*Have a great weekend,*

*Maria, Tracey, Scarlet, Ellie and Katie*





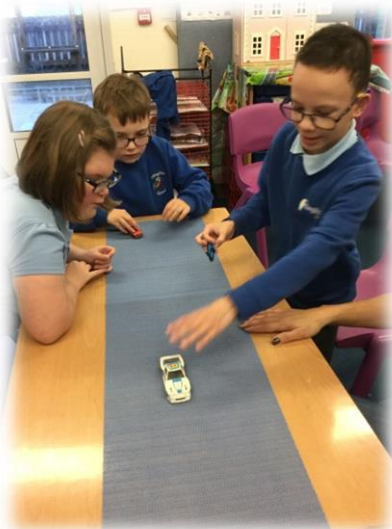
# News from Autumn Cluster

## Red Class

We have been really excited in literacy this week to start making our own non-fiction books containing information we have learned about the Romans. We have been writing multiple short chapters this week, and will add features such as a cover, contents page, and glossary next week before putting them together. In maths we have been looking at 3D shapes and learning the names for them, as well as recognising everyday objects which are those shapes – you may wish to help your child continue identifying some at home this weekend.

Everyone enjoyed chopping and peeling vegetables to make carrot and parsnip soup in cooking this week, and eating the result! We have also in science been thinking about friction, and rolling cars on different surfaces to identify which create more or less friction. This week all the children tried especially hard in swimming, and were all amazing at following instructions in the pool. Well done everyone!

*Katherine, Nicola, Laura, Pauline, and Ellie*





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Gold Class

Hello all and congratulations on making it through to another Friday, the forecast says we might even have a burst of sun on Sunday!

We have had a good week in Gold, experiencing dramatic retellings of the story of Boudicca in topic and practising our tumble turns in swimming! In gymnastics we continued working on our balance and movement and we have enjoyed our Friday clubs, whether sensory play, art club or football.

In literacy we have finally begun writing our Roman information texts, whether on the computer or in our books, and in maths we have continued investigating division, extending to finding out about remainders.



Hopefully you enjoyed our vegetable soup from cooking as much as we did; here's hoping you're a fan of parsnips! In assembly this week most of the class participated in a mature discussion about segregation as a part of black history month. Lastly, (but not to be forgotten) we have been learning how to make PowerPoint presentations in ICT. Pupils now have experience adding a design, new slides, pictures, animations and transitions to a blank presentation and we aim to use these skills to help us with writing up our information texts next week. Have a great weekend and we will see you soon.

## Homework

As we have been practicing division in class, please help your child with sharing activities. Any like/similar objects can be used to facilitate this but try to keep it practical first and foremost, matching number sentences to the activity as a second priority. You might for example practice division by sharing 20 toy cars between 4 real or imaginary characters. Please also remember to read with your child, if you have any information books at home, now's the time to get them out in order to sync up with our literacy!

*From Richard, Katie, Julie, Marie, Yvonne, Sarah and Lorna!*  
~ The Gold Class Crew





# News from Winter Cluster

## Silver Class

It has been another full week in Silver class. We are all getting a bit tired but have still been working hard and enjoying lots of different activities.

This week we have continued with our story 'Presents'. We have started to work on matching pictures from the book as well as making 'I see' sentences and making simple sentences i.e. the baby is eating. Having pretend birthday parties definitely remained a firm favourite though.

In numeracy we have continued to explore colour and pattern. We enjoyed the 'I can sing a rainbow' song and also have enjoyed using lego and bricks to make our own pattern. We have become much more confident at colouring and painting patterns.

We have continued to develop our communication skills. We had 2 favourite communication sessions this week. One was in the hall where we requested bubbles, going on the slide or being pulled around on the parachute. The other session we enjoyed was requesting different items to do the washing up. We used different brushes, sponges and soaps to clean the tables and dishes.







## News from Winter Cluster

This week we had a more successful trip to the park. The rain held off and we had lots of fun! We were so impressed with how well the children did with their walking. They were all very safe staying next to an adult and stopped to wait to cross the roads. We tried all the different equipment at the park and were very excited!



We also had a great swimming session where all the children have made so much progress. Some are now walking around the second depth by themselves, some children are floating independently in the deep end and a couple of children are even swimming between 2 adults! Well done Silver class.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend,

*Charlotte, Tina, Leann and Zoe*



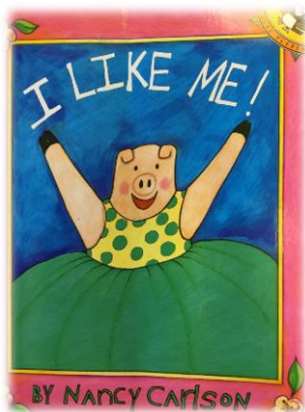
# News from Winter Cluster

## White Class

Every week we look forward to Thursday afternoons when we have our session with Music Steve! Silver Class come and join us, so it is also an opportunity to socialise with other children and share a fun activity. Usually, Music Steve brings his guitar and sings songs that we recognise and can join in with, using actions or clapping. He is good at making the songs personal to each child in the room – it is very engaging when you know he is singing to just you!



This week we have started a new sensory story called “I Like Me”. We have watched it on the big screen and some of us like to follow along in the book. We have got our hands on some props to make the actions in the book come alive - reading books, painting pictures, brushing teeth and eating good food.



*Rachael, Jill, Niki and Charlotte*





# News from Winter Cluster

## Black Class

Another great week in Black Class. We would like to wish Tyler a very Happy Birthday! We had lots of fun at his birthday party!

Everyone has been working very hard this week. Our swimming teacher is very proud of everyone's work in Swimming this week. Some children have been very confident and going out of their depth, whilst others have taken their first independent strokes. Well done everyone!

Communication group has been fantastic this week. Everyone has got used to using communication boards and have been making lots of different requests in a number of different contexts.



In Art this week, we made rainbows using tissue paper. The children had to request each individual colour for their rainbow using communication boards. All children were able to request using a sentence on the communication board. We were very impressed!

Finally, I would like to mention the building of relationships. We have seen lots of joint play this week in unstructured times such as choosing and playtime which has been wonderful to see!

Have a lovely weekend,

*Katie, Olivia, Ali, Teresa, Helen and Lynette*