

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been another busy week in school with many of the students seeming to have been a bit befuddled by the dark evenings drawing in which has suddenly become much more noticeable. During the school day however, the pupils have really enjoyed noticing the changes in the autumn trees and have had great fun playing with the fallen leaves out on the school field. A number of classes have been off site to explore other autumn changes and luckily, in the main, seem to have dodged any heavy rain.

Last Friday we had another successful Children In Need Day and managed to raise around £170. A huge thank you to everyone who came dressed in yellow, spots or pyjamas and helped to raise money for this very worthy cause.

Over the last few weeks we have welcomed a number of new pupils to the school. We are delighted that our Kingfisher Family has grown and it is lovely to see how easily and quickly the children have all settled in.

Have a lovely weekend,

Best Wishes,

*Kate*

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

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December**      Christmas Performance 'am' time TBC

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December**      Christmas Performance 'am' time TBC

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December**      Christmas Performance 'pm' time TBC

#### **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

The children have been working hard on their physical development targets this week by doing some great physio exercises and working hard on their bodily and spatial awareness as well. In our P.E session on Monday afternoon, the children were great going through the obstacles with adult support and loved jumping on the trampoline during our Sensory circuit session on Tuesday.

We have had such a lovely time with our friends from Pink Class and Trinity Church of Abingdon on Tuesday morning. Our students did some great choosing between different colours and songs using different items, symbol boards and PODD books. Music is definitely one of our favourite ways to communicate with each other and our students have been amazing during their 1:1 sessions with Music Sheila. The children love to participate in intensive interactions with Sheila by vocalising, playing the piano or tapping the drums.

Green Class have had a fantastic time during Art activities on Wednesday morning. We all enjoyed making some great edible scented playdough using flour, cinnamon, salt, warm water, cream of tartar and cooking oil. We loved putting each ingredient in the big blue tray and using our hands to make different patterns and feeling the texture of each ingredient. Some of the children really enjoyed smelling and tasting the cinnamon powder as well. Our favourite part was when we added warm water to mix the ingredients and put them together. The children loved touching the warm playdough in the end, making fingerprints or handprints on it and particularly smelling the scent of cinnamon.





# News from Spring Cluster



We hope you all have a lovely weekend,

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





# News from Spring Cluster

## Yellow Class

Lots of fun in Yellow class! We have been exploring bright colours and lights in our hand function groups.

Lots of amazing work in the swimming pool – floating with just neck support, moving legs to move through the water and great physio.

We enjoyed our resonance board work, moving our bodies to make sounds on the board. We continued exploring our sensory story 'A Tiny Seed' using our senses and are beginning to anticipate what is going to happen.

There has been lots of super standing in our frames.



Have a great Weekend.

*Helen, Siobhan Yvonne, Sally, Kerryann, Emma and Hannah*



# News from Summer Cluster

## Pink Class

As the weeks progress our thoughts are starting to turn towards Christmas and thinking about our plans for our Christmas Performance. We have very exciting plans and in our art session this week have been busy starting to create a key feature of our upcoming performance. We look forward to showing you our artistic creation in a few weeks! Added to this our new sensory story is called a 'Bagful of Stars' and is about a journey to Christmas Island. There are lots of lovely sensory elements which we love, especially the glittering sea filled with shells and sea creatures, the billowing sail on our boat, the pirate treasure and the soft sandy beach. However the absolute favourite is the box of tinsel and presents and a bagful of stars. Particularly the tinsel!

There has been lots of lovely communication this week in our resonance board sessions and during TAC PAC and Atmospherics and some wonderful responding to the adults we have been working with, through smiles and laughter, reaching out and showing definite preferences in what we like. Well done to everyone and also for our brilliant switch work.

We've included some pictures this week of our special dog Max who comes to visit us as we didn't include them last time.

We hope you all have a lovely weekend.



*Juliette, Tor, María, Liza, Sue, Janet, Norah, Daniel and Jo*



# News from Summer Cluster

## Blue Class

We had a lovely walk at Wittenham clumps to end last week and were all glad we had our wellies.

This week we have continued our work on the theme of celebrations and have been thinking about birthdays. Some colourful decorative birthday art has been created and we are working on a bright happy birthday banner before moving on to making birthday cards. We will also be playing some typical birthday party games which should be a lot of fun.

We also all enjoyed our cooking again this week, where we were able to practise cutting and spreading as well as choosing, stirring and squirting!



Have a lovely weekend

*Sean, Esther, Pauline, Matt and Sarah*





# News from Summer Cluster

## Purple Class

Oh dear!! I think it has just dawned on us all in Purple how soon the end of term is and that we have the Christmas Performance just around the corner as well as all our Christmas activities to get through! We have therefore decided to take advantage of any spare time throughout the week to run through our rehearsals.

As Enterprise Project was not on this week at Fitzwaryn, the group took advantage of the situation and visited HobbyCraft for some Christmas resources. They also had a drive past and look at the Oxford College which we are planning to visit in the spring.

Matthew chose Friday lunch – sausages and chips with peas or beans. We determined which ingredients we would need for Friday's lunch with the students joining in to spell all the foods we needed to buy so we could prepare our shopping list. Ceri then joined Pink Class sensory story session which she thoroughly enjoyed!

This Wednesday the class boarded the class minibus for a ride to Abingdon College where we were met by William Martin ex-Kingfisher student and James Atkins who is Head of Pathways there. The students were taken to a classroom where James told them all about the college and the type of things they do there. The students were then taken on a guided tour and they all thought the canteen was fabulous! James also told us that the Foundation Studies are having more premises next year which will mean they will be able to offer more Pathways at the Abingdon Campus. It is therefore likely that the majority of our students will be likely to access Abingdon College if they choose to in the future.

Our week has ended with our OXSRAD visit and cycling. Finally, we finished the week with Friday Social Club and had a look back through our weekly photos.

Happy weekend everyone!

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





# News from Summer Cluster







# News from Autumn Cluster

## Orange Class

We have been continuing the celebration topic this week by reading a sensory story about a birthday party. The class have enjoyed the activities which we do to prepare for a party including making party invitations, wrapping presents, pretending to make a cake and actually decorating some chocolate cupcakes. Children have enjoyed using playdough to make pretend food for the birthday party while working on fine motor skills.

In maths we have continued to work on targets such as counting objects and we have done lots of work on sharing objects between a small group of people so that everyone has the same amount. We have also used a cardboard pizza with different toppings to share on each half or third of a pizza.



Thursday continues to be a class favourite with a visit from Music Steve who entertained us all again with his funny songs and children were able to participate with percussion instruments. Of course, the other highlight of the week was swimming where the children have a lot of fun and also make good progress in skills and confidence in the water.

Have a great weekend,

*From Maria, Tracey, Scarlet, Katie and Ellie*



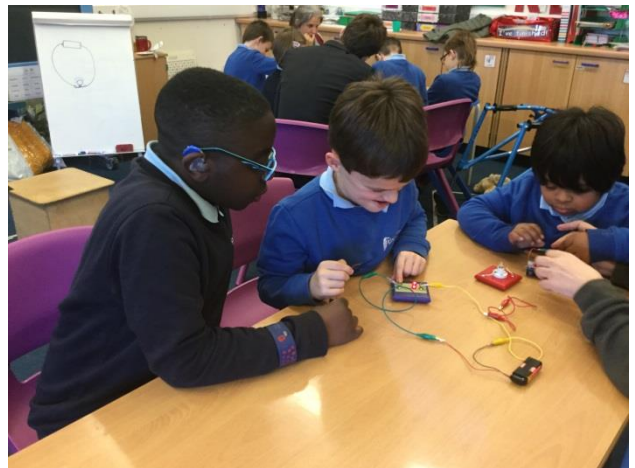
# News from Autumn Cluster

## Red Class

One of the most enjoyed lessons this week was science – we are looking at electricity this and next week and we had an exploratory session with circuit components, wiring in a light bulb or a buzzer. Everyone found this really exciting! We also had a great PE session with the whole class playing a team game together, and everyone worked really hard in swimming. A small group also walked to Abingdon and visited the museum before practicing ordering an item in a café.

In maths we have continued to work on addition and subtraction, with some of us practicing counting on and back and some of us using place value knowledge and resources to solve sums using two or three digits. In literacy we have been reading different myths and legends from India and Greece and breaking them down into their key features. In ICT we have continued to work on our keyboard typing skills, with Leythan and Richard completing the first level of Dance Mat Typing and getting their printed certificate – this is a free BBC touch-typing game and would be great for your children to continue working on at home.

*Katherine, Nicola, Laura, and Pauline*







# News from Autumn Cluster

## Gold Class

Happy Friday all. This week in Gold Class we have been busy right across the curriculum!

In literacy we have begun working on myths and legends. We listened to and re-enacted the legends of 'Theseus and the Minotaur' and 'Jason and the Argonauts'. Through this we identified the key features of a myth and worked to spot these in the text. Playing 'Chinese Whispers' helped us to understand how a myth can change when passed on by word of mouth!



In maths we have been working hard at our addition. We used hands on and pictorial (drawn) methods in our work to practice 'counting-on' (rather than counting from 0) with some pupils, and to add two digit numbers with carrying for others.

In science we very much enjoyed making circuits with bulbs, buzzers and motors! Unfortunately there's always that one light bulb that never works, and poor Hayden must have found just about every single one!

In Topic we found out about Diwali; we played handball in P.E., and in ICT we practiced typing and touch-typing.

Have a great weekend and we look forwards to seeing you again on Monday.

## Homework

If you are able to, please can you share/read videos or books of classic myths or legends with your child. This could be the story of Achilles, King Arthur or possibly even Robin Hood! Can your child spot any mythical creatures or magical powers in the stories? What about good and evil characters, kings and gods, or perhaps just a budding romance?! All of these are classic features of myths.

*From Richard, Nina, Julie, Marie, Yvonne, Sarah and Lorna!*

*~ The Gold Class Crew*





# News from Winter Cluster

## Silver Class

It has been a good week in Silver class. We have been busy thinking about birthdays and have done lots of activities to explore this.

We started looking at our story 'It's My Birthday' about collecting ingredients to make a birthday cake. We enjoyed all the sensory props to go with the story and really loved making our own cakes using flour and sugar.



In numeracy some of us worked hard on sharing and some on empty and full. We have been sharing toppings between pizza and candles between cakes.





## News from Winter Cluster

As always we have continued to develop our communication skills. We really enjoyed decorating cakes making choices about icing colours and toppings. We also made birthday party hats and made choices using our communication boards about which decorations we would like on the hats.



We had another really good trip to Forest School. We enjoyed playing on the rope swing, climbing the big hill and cooking in the mud kitchen. We also had a visit from Swings and Smiles this week where they brought lots of sensory play linked to our topic on birthdays. We all got very messy but had lots of fun.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

*Charlotte, Tina, Leann and Zoe*





# News from Winter Cluster

## White Class

Our 'Let's Celebrate' topic has been about birthdays this week, which was handy as someone in White Class had a birthday last weekend!

Our sensory box looks very intriguing from the outside, with lots to explore when you open it up. You can find a picture of each child inside, along with their age and lots of birthday party streamers, hats and tooters! We also have a new story, Kipper's Birthday, which everyone is enjoying. We made birthday cards in communication art, choosing a stencil and the colour that we wanted to paint it in. We can't wait for Friday when we will be decorating party fairy cakes ...



We'd like to share a few pictures from last Friday's Children in Need – thank you for your donations. It was great to see the children dressed up!



*Rachael, Jill, Niki and Charlotte*





# News from Winter Cluster

## Black Class

Another great week in Black Class this week. We have been exploring Birthdays as part of our 'Let's Celebrate' topic. The children all had a turn to choose a party game using a communication board. Pass the parcel and the hokey cokey were very popular and the children had lots of fun!

Our new sensory story this week is called 'Kipper's Birthday.' We explored different party items and counted out playdough candles on to cakes. We also decorated cakes by choosing toppings from a communication board. The chocolate buttons were a favourite for most!

In Art this week we made party hats choosing different materials and colours to add to our hats. We will send these home at the end of next week when our Birthday part of topic has been completed. Thank you to parents who have sent in Birthday related photos. If anybody else would like to send in photos that would be fantastic!



In D.T this week we have been practicing using different fastenings such as zips, buttons, buckles and laces. We will continue to practice this to increase independence. Have a lovely weekend,

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

## Family Dog Workshops

**Workshops for parents /carers of a child aged between 3 - 16 years old with a clinical diagnosis of autism.**



**Family Dog Workshops are ideal if you:**

- Are at the early stages of considering getting a dog to help your autistic child
- Know that you want to get a dog and are looking for help choosing and handling a dog
- Already have a pet dog but would like training ideas and support

The series of three one day workshops use a combination of practical demonstrations, discussions, hands on learning and course hand outs.

Following the workshops, ongoing support is available to families including telephone support, online resources, and a private Facebook group.

For dates and venues visit:  
[www.dogsforgood.org/family-dog](http://www.dogsforgood.org/family-dog)



LIFE CHANGING  
DEVOTION