

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a busy week, with our classes working across clusters as well as going out and about within the community.

At the back of the newsletter is information about MESSY which is aimed at young people aged between 4-8 years old. Please take a look at the information and make direct contact if you feel that this would suit your child. Although the age range is 4-8, it would appeal to some of our older pupils.

Some of our young people access Barnados After School and Holiday Provision which is based on our site. This is a Oxfordshire County Council commissioned provision. I have included a link to the Family Information Service Directory who co-ordinate this service across the county. The website is

<https://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/directory/service.page?id=KVN82fFbeaM>

If you click on the link and then on the download on the right-hand side of the record you will be open a document which states all of the holiday provision that has been set up. I hope this will be helpful to families in planning holidays.

I hope you 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

Green Class have certainly had a very busy and wonderful week. The children have really enjoyed playing on the field this week and interacting so nicely with their friends from other classes.

We have also had great fun during our Numeracy activities this week, we sang the “Five current bans in a baker’s shop” song and we loved ‘splatting’ the foam cakes and making a little bit of a mess. Our students had a great Communication Session in the library and they have been amazing choosing their favourite books to read with an adult. It has been lovely to welcome the team from the Trinity church of Abingdon to our class and the children loved listening to the songs and clapping their hands. On Tuesday morning, we had our first Sensology session and Green Class were brilliant using their senses to explore all the different materials. Listening to Disco Music and tasting lemonade was definitely the highlight of the session. During our P.E session, the children worked hard on their Physical Development ILP targets and they had lots of fun playing with the balloons. Green Class students have also been very good at making delicious cakes and they all enjoyed making ‘pink pig Fairy cake noses’ on Wednesday morning. The pink icing sugar definitely had a great taste and it was one of the children’s favourite ingredients. We completed our busy week with a lovely Tac Pac session on Friday afternoon and the children enjoyed relaxing and listening to the peaceful music.



We hope you have a great weekend and we are all looking forward to seeing you on Monday.

Anna, Annie, Clare, Jackie, Maria C, Maria J, Pauline and Sue



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

We have had another very busy week in Yellow class and we are so proud of all the achievements made by the children. During our swimming session, Matthew did independent starfloats as well as taking independent steps in the water. Oliver worked hard on his walking skills whilst Mia was very confident to box sit with no support. Ada had lots of smiles as she explored porridge oats as she stood in her standing frame. Sienna has made fantastic eye contact this week and her vocalisations are increasing by the day. Habibou has been doing fantastic finger pointing and holding objects independently. They are all amazing children.



As part of our "Once Upon a Time" topic we have looked at the story of "The Three Little Pigs" The children have loved listening to "Debbie and Friends" on youtube singing the story of The Three Little Pigs. It would be lovely to watch this together with the children over the weekend.

On Friday afternoon the children explored ingredients for fairy cakes and then decorated some pre cooked ones with pink icing and two raisins to make pink pig noses, they look great and hope they taste even better, photos of the finished product to follow next week.

Have a lovely weekend,

Siobhan, Maria, Yvonne, Sally, Kerryann, Amanda and Hannah



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

We have had a lovely week in Pink class with all our fabulous daily sensory activities.

We enjoyed a wonderful pizza making massage story with lots of Italian music, including opera. We listened and responded to music during our TACPAC and Atmospherics sessions. It was fun tasting, feeling and smelling different fruits, including strawberries, apples, oranges, water melon, plums and pears during our 'Hungry caterpillar' Sensory story which ties in with our topic about food this term.

In Art we produced some exciting fruit prints.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.



Julie, Tor, Maria, Dawn, Tracy, Norah, Michele, Lorna, Janet, Daniel, Clare



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



This week in Blue we have continued to work towards learning more about healthy foods and on Tuesday we travelled to Millets farm to buy the ingredients for chicken linguine. Students read through shopping lists, searched for food and exchanged money with the cashier.

On Thursday we experienced a great spinning session with Ciaran at OXSRAD. OXSRAD is an integrated centre that provides a welcoming, friendly environment for all abilities to come together and enjoy sport and recreation and is open over the weekends as well as holidays for those wishing to visit.

On Friday we ventured out to Wittenham clumps with some visitors. Bailey, Poppy and Jake joined us and the students used communication skills to guide them around the site covering around 2 miles in the process.

Next week we hope to travel to a different location and enjoy using a café afterwards.



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Purple class will not be visiting Fitzwaryn allotment this term due to the changing weather. Instead Fitzwaryn sixth formers are coming to join us here at Kingfisher on Tuesdays to support with our enterprise project.

Wild birds will be in extra need of food now winter is here and so we have an enterprise project on the go to help out our feathery friends! Kingfisher and Fitzwaryn students will be making bird cakes to hang in the gardens and would very much appreciate everyone's support behind this thoughtful and worthy cause. Please keep an eye out for our bird cake information slips so that you may purchase an extremely fair priced bird cake for your garden. If you have any desert or yogurt pots spare at home, please send them in for Purple class and we will make good use of them!

Three students from Purple class also visited the nearby charity shop Barnardos to speak to the boss Lisa and arrange some work experience. They are due to start their work sessions shortly. Wheels for all resumed this week also, with a fun and energetic morning on the bikes for all, followed by a delicious cooked lunch! (sausages!).

Happy weekend everyone!





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

After a busy second week back we have all settled well into the school routine. All the children have been working hard on their communication and becoming independent.

In literacy this week we have continued to think about giving instructions for getting different types of transport. This week we have focussed on catching an aeroplane. Some children have been using symbols to make sentences, others have been ordering instructions and talking about these and some have been using 'First, Next, Then and Last' to order instructions.

In maths we have been focussing on adding up. This has ranged from finding one more, to adding 2 amounts using equipment to adding using numbertracks and 100 squares.

We also did very well in our topic lesson. We sorted vehicles into different groups and started to think about how transport had changed and were able to sort the vehicles into old and new vehicles.

We continued to enjoy our play sessions with different types of transport including cars, trains and construction vehicles. Our favourite was defiantly the boats!





News from Autumn Cluster



Ideas for homework

1. Role play with different transport i.e. setting up a train set, playing with toy cars, playing with diggers and tractors. You could even take a trip on a new type of transport i.e. bus or train.
2. Adding activities – pushing 2 amounts together and counting how many using their toys at home.
3. Following instructions and instruction games. This could be as simple as asking them to collect their coat or playing simon says. It could be reading and following instructions to make a recipe or play a game.

We hope you all have a great weekend.

Charlotte, Tina, Ali, Nina, Maria and Kim



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

This week in Red Class we have been thinking a lot about time, reading and solving problems using digital clocks in maths and in topic thinking about timelines and the concepts of past, present and future. We each created a timeline showing important events in our lives, as chosen by each child. This really engaged everyone, and you might like to continue this at home by looking at old photographs and putting them in order to create your own timelines.

We have also been keeping active with much-enjoyed dance sessions in PE and yesterday a group of us got out in the sunshine for the first of our local area walks for this calendar year.

Our mixed-class groups are still going very well. Last Friday in science club we finished the robots we started before Christmas, and in choir we have started learning new songs ahead of a pop concert we plan to attend in March.

Katherine, Julie, Nicola, and Sarah





News from Autumn Cluster

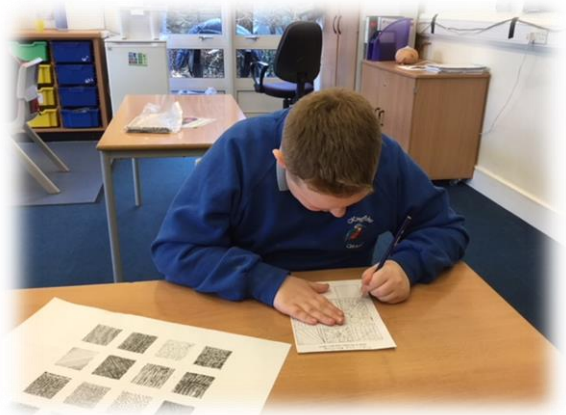
Gold Class

Happy Friday! Gold Class have had a jam packed week this week, from crazy Wednesdays cooped up with lashing rain to frigid but sunny Thursdays out on the playground!

In literacy this week we have continued learning how to create accurate instructions. In support of this we have been finding out about Roald Dahl's book 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and have been constructing our own gruesome concoctions. If you find your child mixing paint and marmite in the bathtub in the middle of the night then I promise I had nothing to do with it!

In literacy we have continued to look at time but this week have focused on analogue and digital clocks. We started this week by reminding ourselves of O'Clocks and Half Hours and all pupils have worked hard, some even pushing themselves onto Quarter Hour and 5 Minute intervals.

In D&T we have been investigating boat designs to determine which can best manage different weights and which is most stable. In the coming weeks we will create our own boats! Lastly in Topic, we have looked at Chronology (historical order e.g. which came first, dinosaurs or ducks) and have arranged images of different transport through history according to age!



It has been a pleasure to work with Gold Class this week and I look forwards to seeing them again on Monday. (PTO for homework)



News from Autumn Cluster

Homework

Following on from our work on clocks, please challenge your child to tell you the time as appropriate to their ability (O'Clock and Half Past being the simplest). If you have a moment to practice this with them then it would be highly beneficial. Any work that you can do with your child to investigate the phrases past, present and future would also be of help. If your child is clear on these terms then challenge them to find out which event came first from a given selection.

Have a great weekend,

Richard, Teresa, Julie, Marie, Helen, Sian, Hannah (and Sophie and Lorraine!)

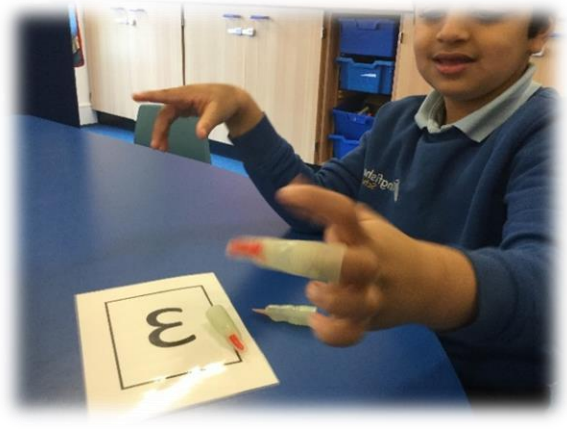
~ The Gold Class Crew



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

As we finish our story of The Three Little Pigs, we have been busy making our own papier mache pigs which we can't wait to put on display (photo to follow next week). We've been focusing on the number 3 this week, counting out groups of 3 and making 3 spoonfuls. The 3 witch fingers were a big hit. We have enjoyed exploring different materials and testing what objects can be blown down just like the pigs' straw and wooden houses or which objects are strong and sturdy like the brick house. See you next week for more fun



Emily, Jane, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

In White Class we have been creating lots of work around our sensory story of 'The Three Little Pigs'.

We have been building houses and knocking them down as well as mark making using various materials that we could build houses from such as sand and flour.



We have also been working really hard in the swimming pool and have enjoyed the sessions. We have been floating, kicking and splashing.

Jane, Pauline, Lynette and Zoe

Community Links

We have been notified by Hannah at Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot about of a performance taking place over the February break that might be of interest to you:

This fantastic show is coming to Cornerstone on Fri 22 Feb called MESSY: Meet Daisy. She's got a messy brain and a messy bedroom. No matter what she does, the Mess just seems to follow her about! The only trouble is, it makes it very difficult to look for stuff. Important stuff. Important stuff like Mr Twiggy (the class hamster)!

Performed by a Deaf and hearing cast with Sign Supported English, Messy has been created in partnership with ADHD Foundation and all performances are relaxed performances. Audiences are welcome to stand up, sit down, wriggle around, leave or come back in when they need, there aren't any loud noises and house lights will stay on in the theatre.



MESSY is aimed at children aged 4 – 8 years.

Performances: Fri 22 Feb at 11:30 and 2:30.

Tickets: £7, conc/children £5 and family of 4 ticket £20

We offer group discounts and registered carers go free.

Link to the event on our website: www.cornerstone-arts.org/whats/messy More information about relaxed theatre can be found on our website: www.cornerstone-arts.org/accessible-theatre

I was hoping you may be able to share this information within your organisation and also with any families you believe would enjoy this accessible theatre show? I have leaflets for the show which I could send to you.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me:

Hannah Mullan

Marketing and Audience Development Assistant

Direct Dial: 01235 515147

Cornerstone, 25 Station Road, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7NE

Working hours: Monday to Friday 9-5pm