

Dear Parents and Carers

What a fantastic half term we have had at Kingfisher School. Our pupils have been out and about, taking part in the Penathlon, working at our local allotment, shopping for food to cook meals as well as investigating all sorts of activities. We also had the highlight of welcoming OFSTED to verify that we are still a 'Good' school. Thank you to all our staff for ensuring that we provide the best possible education for your children in a safe and pleasant environment.

Next term we will be looking forward to some warmer weather so please make sure your children bring coats to school (labelled with their name) as we will try to get outside learning in as much as possible.

Letters should be in bags with information about Parent consultation day. Please respond to enable teachers to set appointments. If you would like to speak with one of our therapists, please indicate on the reply slip and we will put them in touch with you.

Dates for your diary

- Parent Consultation Day **Wednesday 6th March** – Letter to follow
- PFSA Easter Disco-**Saturday 30th March 14:00-16:00**

Have a great half term with your children and we look forward to welcoming them back on Monday 25th February.

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

This term has definitely gone so quickly for Green Class and the children have made such brilliant progress in so many activities. Our students have been working very hard on their ILP targets, on their walking skills and especially on their Communication targets. Well done Green Class, you are all amazing!

We have had another lovely week full of fun and learning. During our Sensory cooking the children really enjoyed mixing the apple sauce with yoghurt, apricot and cinnamon. We all loved exploring the soft texture of yoghurt and especially tasting the apple sauce. Green Class children always enjoy the Rebound Therapy sessions and they have had great intensive interaction games on the trampoline with Kate and Anna this week. Our friends from the Trinity Church of Abingdon sang numeracy songs to our students on Tuesday morning. The children really liked listening to the song 'five green bottles sitting on the wall' and we all enjoyed counting during the song. Our Art activities this week focussed on Valentine's Day and the children were great at choosing their favourite colour glitter and making sparkling Valentine's cards for their loved ones. Max the dog visited our Class and enjoyed some lovely cuddles and strokes from the children. Music Steve played his guitar and sang relaxing songs to Green Class on Thursday. What a lovely way to relax after such a busy term. Dancing Club on Friday morning has also been one of our favourite activities this week. We all enjoyed listening to the music and pretending that we were swimming in the deep end of the sea. We have had lots of lovely smiles and vocalisations during the session. The children especially loved being swung on the parachute and going down 'to the bottom of the sea'.



We would all like to wish to our students and parents a restful and wonderful half term.

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



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

This week we would like to celebrate the children's achievements with their individual physio programmes. For some children this has involved either side sitting or four point kneeling. Whilst some have been working on high kneeling, we have had some children standing tall in their gaitors. All of these targets have entailed lots of hard work and we are all extremely proud of the children for always being so determined.



The children focused really well during our Attention Bucket sessions and when exploring our Treasure Basket. As you can see, Habibou adored the robin that appeared in our attention bucket activity and he was very vocal when he saw it. Matthew had lots of fun exploring the straw in our Treasure Basket this week.



News from Spring Cluster



Diesel has been doing fantastic independent toothbrushing every day in class. Well done Diesel.



The children have also been busy making their lovely valentines cards to take home. We had very positive responses when using silver paint on our feet to make foot print bunnies and feeling the soft cotton wool texture of the bunny tails. As always, the pupils have produced some more beautiful art work .

We hope you all have a happy and enjoyable half term,

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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

Pink Class have had a great term so we thought we would share a quick recap. Everyone has enjoyed the topic of 'Good Food' thoroughly. Some of our foody fun will definitely continue long after the topic has finished. I don't think some members of our class will forgive us if we stop using Rice Crispies during our resonance board sessions- although the cleaners would like it if we did. Edible art was also a highlight of the term. On the other hand we will stay away from dyed spaghetti in the future. Bernard and company definitely gave us the "we are pretty sure you have lost it" look when we produced the different coloured spaghetti to explore during a session.

Perhaps the biggest highlight of the term has been the strong bonds that are forming now between the class. The students have clear friendships and some emerging partners in crime which is absolutely fantastic to see.

We hope you enjoy our picture highlights below and have a wonderful half term. Next term our topic is 'Leisure Time' so we are looking forward to getting out and about.



Tor, Juliette, Maria, Dawn, Tracy, Norah, Michele, Lorna, Janet, Daniel, Clare.



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class

As the term draws to a close we have begun to plan for the next term and key workers will have written to parents/carers in home communication books to introduce themselves.

We are working on some new approaches within the classroom and have changed the environment in the classroom to suit the needs of our students further.

On Wednesday some of our students represented the school proudly at the regional Panathlon and took part with schools from Bardwell and Springfields.

We have started to work on trying some new jobs and on Thursday some of our students washed cars at school and earned some money towards our trips fund which we hope to use to support our learning experience in the future.

After half term we will start to send home reading books for the children and we hope that this is a positive activity to support the learning in the classroom.

We also had another lovely visit from Bailey to join us with Music Steve and the students loved talking to the dog and giving him instructions.



Joe, Esther, Liza, Matt and Olivia



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Purple class have been focussing on producing mother's day gifts as part of their enterprise with our Fitzwaryn friends. We are hoping to have some gifts for sale ready for the upcoming parent consultation evening.

*Please remember to let your child's teacher know via the home/school communication book if you would like to purchase a bird cake for your garden, which we can prepare wrapped at the end of the day.

Our 'walk for wellbeing' took place at Wittenham clumps this week. It was a little blowy although the sun was shining and the air nice and fresh! Our art session this week focussed on preparing special cards for the people we love! Happy Valentines day!

Two of our students attended an interview at Barnardo's charity shop on Thursday to help prepare them for the world of work. They will be starting a short work placement after half term.

We have finished off the week with another enterprise day providing bacon rolls for the staff!

Our topic this term has been on healthy living so please reinforce and support your young person's learning and understanding with continuing to talk about healthy foods and activities!

Happy half term everyone!

Leah, Sean, Mary and Laura





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

We have had a busy but fun end to term in Orange Class.

In literacy we have continued with our transport theme and have been writing and making captions about different vehicles. All the children have improved so much with their mark making and writing skills.

In maths this week we have thought about patterns. We have enjoyed using peg boards, threading, paint and large bricks to make different patterns.

In topic we have continued to think about boats and whether they float or sink. This week some of us experimented with adding different weights to boats in water to see how much weight they could hold before they sunk. Others of us went to the light room and used boats in pretend water making them float and sink to the bottom.

In DT we have continued to think about construction. We have had lots of fun making bridges and houses out of different materials and have got much better at working as a team to build different things.

We enjoyed a trip on the bus this week. We all got our tickets and went all the way to the park. All the children loved the bus journey and had a fantastic time at the park. The children were all so sensible and well behaved that we hope to do lots more trips next term.

A definite area of success this week was in the swimming pool. All the children have made such good progress this term. Alexa, Klaudia and Liam are all so much more confident in the water now attempting to swim in the deeper parts of the pool. Oliver, Patryk, Leo and Camron are swimming further and further on their own and are doing so well at using their arms to move through the water. Ava and Oli are so much more confident. Oli is kicking much more by himself and Ava put her face in for the first time. Joseph and Henry are now swimming with their face in and are beginning to swim front crawl properly. We are really so proud of them all.

We hope you all have a lovely holiday and get some rest as well as spending time together doing some fun activities.

Next term our topic is 'Sports and movement'. If you have any chance to try different sports or be active over the holidays, please send in some photos for our display board next term.



News from Autumn Cluster

Ideas for homework

1. Trying new sports or practising old sports.
2. Continuing to use construction to build houses, bridges and vehicles.
3. Watching movies, looking at books about different sports stars or events. This could be something as simple as 'Peppa pig sports day' or something more complex like a book about a famous Athlete.



Have a great half term,

Charlotte, Tina, Ali, Nina, Maria and Kim



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

We've had another busy week wrapping up our Transport and Inventions topic. In literacy we have been writing short rhyming poems about different types of transport, and after finding out about some famous inventors last week in topic we designed some futuristic inventions of our own – lots of flying vehicles and robots!

In DT for the last couple of weeks we have been focusing on engineering and construction. We built bridges from art straws and tested them with weights, and used newspaper and masking tape to build a freestanding tower, concentrating on putting supports in around the base to prevent it falling over. Congratulations to David, our winner, who built a tower nearly as tall as him!

We've also continued to enjoy being active – Angela in the pool has been pushing everyone to develop their skills and we've already seen children overcome things which they found challenging. Angela suggests that if your child doesn't already bring in a pair of goggles, this would be really helpful for them to have next term. The walking group this week chose to go to Waitrose to look at the Valentines display and the flowers. And we have also really been enjoying the Friday dance club with Gina.

We hope you all have a great half term holiday. We look forward to seeing you next term – our new topic is Movement and we will be learning about some inspirational sports people in a whole range of sports, from skiing to skateboarding!

Katherine, Julie, Nicola, Lynette and Sarah





News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Happy half term everyone, it has been a busy and productive Spring Term so far, let's hope we can keep it up after our half term break!

This week Gold Class have investigated German in some of our lessons. We have learnt to say hello (Guten Tag), What is your name? (Wie heißt du?) and How are you? (Wie Gehts?) as well as respond to all of these. Of course, I think we could all use a little more practice!

In D&T we discussed what an architect does before creating newspaper towers, designing them to the best of our ability. Whilst we might have discussed structural stability and foundations, let's just say the results varied!



We have been ploughing ahead with swimming and have been honing in on specific skills with our new instructor Angela. In Art we copied/repainted a cut out section of a famous painting. After one child painted what they thought lily pads should look like we stopped and discussed how we need to paint what we see, not what we think should be there!

In Maths we worked on perimeter (the outside border of different shapes), using both measuring and counting, and in PSHE we worked together to select survival items and design a base for a desert island.

Let's also not forget the fantastic opportunities we've had this week participating in the secondary 'Sports Pentathlon' as well as trips to the allotment and even some cooking in the food technology room.

Wish us luck as we attempt the splits in our final dance lesson of the term tomorrow (Friday) – I trust we'll all still be able to walk just enough to properly enjoy our football in the afternoon!

Have a wunderbar holiday and we will see you soon,

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

~ The Gold Class Crew



News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

We hope you enjoyed your Valentines cards and shortbread, we loved making them and eating our creations for snack. Cookery lessons are incredibly exciting and a perfect opportunity for lots of learning and skill building. Following instructions improves our reading, comprehension and problem solving and reasoning skills. By taking turns around the table we learn to share and be patient. Spreading the icing with knives and carefully decorating the icing supports our fine motor skills. Cooking is also a vital life skill and an important part of being an independent individual.



Enjoy your half-term break and we look forward to seeing you soon,

Emily, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

Our sensory story this week has been Handa's Surprise. It is about a girl in Africa who goes to visit her friend and she takes a lovely basket of exotic fruits. So far we have explored the texture, smell and taste of banana, tangerine and guava. We used PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System) to say which fruit we like. Some of us like banana and tangerine, but none of us like guava! We have yet to try avocado and mango. We're still weighing that one up...



There's been lots of mucking out down at the allotment this week. So much fussy clucking and pecking from the hens but we stood our ground and had a go feeding them. We showed them who was boss.



Back in the classroom, we had great fun understanding 'one more', 'two more' by filling different sized containers with all sorts of things – from sand to ice. Everyone joined in and the ice was a firm favourite. Brrrrr.





News from Winter Cluster

We have fabulous toys to explore in our guided choosing session. Although we are developing our turn-taking and playing together skills, we also enjoy our pop ups and roller ball/car toys very much. Our reasoning skills are improving as we have a try with different kinds of puzzles, particularly ones that support learning in phonics and number.



We have had a few changes in White Class this term. We are happy to continue with familiar routines, but have been introduced to some new ones. Taking our muddy boots off at the door and stacking them neatly is something we are becoming very good at.

See you again after the half term holiday,

From Jane, Zoe, Pauline, Lynette and Nikki in White Class