

Dear Parents and Carers

It was lovely to welcome staff and pupils back to school. The good weather we have had made it even more special.

We are in the process of having a new website developed and have had photographers in this week taking photos of our school day. Once we get the photos back we will let you have a copy of any that we use on the website of your child.

**Dates for your diary:**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March:** Parent Consultations - please respond to your child's class teacher if you have not already done so.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March:** World Book Day - children can come to school dressed as their favourite book character if they wish – no donations required.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March:** Red Nose Day – Non-school uniform day (red clothes if you have them) – voluntary donations to Comic Relief.

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April:** St George's Day – keep a look out for information from your class about activities for this day.

Have a good weekend.

*Lorraine*

**Our Kingfisher View**

Kingfisher-a place where everyone is valued to develop independence through an enriching curriculum which is worthwhile

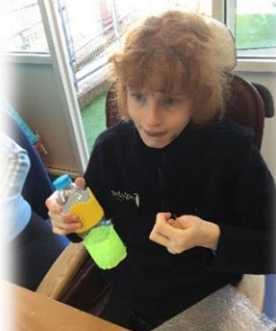


# News from Spring Cluster

## Green Class

We hope you all had a lovely and sunny half term. Green Class students have had a great start to the new term and have really enjoyed playing outside and enjoying the sunshine. We have had so much fun on the field this week and the children definitely loved jumping on the outdoor trampoline.

Our topic for this term will be 'Let's explore (new beginnings, growing)' and we are all excited to use all of our senses and explore new exciting things, materials and activities. Our maths activities for this term will focus on exploring different shapes and especially the circle, the triangle and the square. The children have already started choosing their favourite shapes and exploring them this week. On Tuesday afternoon, we had great fun placing different shapes on a black card and then spreading lots of flour on the top. We loved watching the flour falling down through the sieve and seeing what shapes we have made on the card. During our phonics session this week, the children made colourful shakers using plastic water bottles, fabric, different colour paper cards, ribbons and rice. The children were so happy to shake them and make lots of loud and quiet sounds afterwards. In our Sensology session, we used our hands to touch and squeeze the blackberries and then we had a go at tasting some blackcurrant juice. Our students didn't seem very keen on the juice and their facial expressions during tasting were just amazing. Music Steve played his guitar on Thursday morning and sang some exciting anticipation songs to our students. The children definitely had a great time and especially loved the 'rain song'.



We hope you have a lovely 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

It has been so good to see all the children again after the half term. Our topic for this term is “Let’s Explore” (New beginnings, growing) and our sensory story for this term is “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt.” All of the children have responded really well to the drumming and chimes used throughout our sensory story.

On Thursday mornings the children have been enjoying amazing dance sessions with our dance teacher Gina. These dance sessions have provided a wonderful opportunity for the children to stretch and feel a variety of materials whilst listening to different tempos of music. The children have found these sessions to be really fun-filled and enriching.



On Tuesday morning it was lovely to welcome our friends from Trinity Church into our classroom to sing with us.



This week we were so excited to see Matthew independently feeding himself. Well done Matthew.

Have a great weekend,

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





# News from Summer Cluster

## Pink Class

It's been lovely to welcome back everyone after the half Term holiday. We have all come back full of smiles and with lots of enthusiasm and focus.

Our Topic this Term is all about being 'Out and about' and so far we have enjoyed being out in the sunshine around our school.

Our Sensory Story for the first half of this Term is based on the book 'Mr Gumpy's Outing' by John Burningham. So far we have had fun splashing in the water and encountering all the different animals. The smell of the tea produced a mixed response but we all enjoyed the smell or taste of the cake at the end of the story! Our massage story is about leisure pursuits and this week we enjoyed the going for a dog walk and kite flying part of our story.

As this Friday is Saint David's Day we have celebrated by making some lovely Daffodil pictures in Art. They look beautiful on our classroom window.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.





# News from Summer Cluster

## Blue Class

This week in Blue class we have been having lots of fun trying new things. It was fantastic to spend some time in the pool with our swimming teacher Angela who has been working on some elements of strokes and kicks and the students all showed great listening and work to complete the activities she asked us to do.

We also ventured off to the allotment to take part in a new project to help them erect solar power to their site and provide them with hot water. There is a possibility that the local newspaper will want to come and see our handywork.

While some of our students were out at the allotment another group of students had a great time back at school with their keyworkers taking part in some sensory play.

On Friday we are going to have a picnic out on our walk which will be a nice end to a hard week







# News from Summer Cluster

## Purple Class

We have had a great start to the term and we welcomed our two new students Harry and Sam. Monday was a relaxed day focussing on some literacy and math work and individual targets and a nice swim in the afternoon. On Tuesday Purple Class visited Blewbury garden centre where we bought some flower pots for another enterprise project and stopped for a cake in the café. As the weather was so cheerful, we sat outside under the gazebo!

On Wednesday, we all chose a book that we will be looking at and sharing with friends ready for World Book Day next week and planned our lunch for Friday – jacket potatoes. We were lucky enough to get a visit from Leo the cat – Purple class students thought he was a BIG cat! Our 'walking for wellbeing' took place at Tilsley Park – again a beautiful walk in the sunshine! As the photographer was in taking photos for the school's new website, two of our students had their photos taken at Barnardo's charity shop where they are doing work experience.

Thursday, we visited OXSRAD as usual where some students had a go at spinning and others joined in with the giant ball games. In the afternoon, a few students shopped at Tesco for our Friday lunch. A great end to the week with cycling and jacket spuds – delicious!

Happy weekend everyone!

Purple Class





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Orange Class

We have all had a great week starting our new topic about exercise, sports and our bodies.

The children have responded really well to the new classroom set up where they are able to engage in more play-based learning. This week a favourite has been cutting letters out of the playdoh as well as role play with the toy kitchen. This has been an excellent opportunity for them to develop their social skills and it has been lovely to see them all playing together.

We have all enjoyed exploring playing basketball this week including dribbling the ball, shooting at nets and bouncing the ball to our friends. We also enjoyed our weekly dance lesson where we danced to the theme of a traditional tale.

In maths this week we have been making numbers out of different equipment. Some of us have made these numbers using animals, counters and cubes whereas others have been doing this using 10's and units equipment. We have then been looking at the equipment to see which number is bigger.

In literacy we have been looking at different items from basketball games i.e. medals, t-shirts and trainers and writing and making captions about these.

A highlight of the week was definitely swimming. The children are all improving so much in both their swimming and their changing skills.

We are all looking forward our trip to the basketball pitch and the skate park next week.







# News from Autumn Cluster



## Ideas for homework

1. Visiting places where you can try sports even if it's running in the park or swimming at a new pool.
2. Role play with toy food and kitchen equipment.
3. Communication activities using toys i.e. modelling language when playing – build a tower, higher, higher, knock it down.

Hope you all have a good weekend,

*Charlotte, Tina, Ali, Nina, Maria and Kim*





## News from Autumn Cluster

### Red Class

Welcome back to school – we hope you all had a great half term holiday. The children have settled back very well and are enjoying our Sports topic. We will be learning about and trying out a range of sports (letter to follow with details of a few trips) and finding out about some inspirational sports people. We are also using this topic to think about how our body works and how to keep healthy and will be getting out and about as much as possible. To that end, the Thursday walking group is now changing to Tuesday mornings – a longer time slot which will enable us to get a bit further afield. We will be going out in all weathers, so we would appreciate it if you can make sure your child has a waterproof coat and appropriate footwear on these days. We have all been really enjoying the walks so far – yesterday we went to Cothill nature reserve where we explored the footpaths and discovered some fossils. Excitingly, we also found a very large frog!

As well as the frog, we have been encountering lots of animals this week. On Wednesday Alex and David went to the Stonehill Community Allotment where they did some gardening and fed the chickens. Alex even got an egg to take home for tea! (He had it scrambled for tea.) Meanwhile at school we were visited by Leo the therapy cat, who was very popular with all the children and we hope to see him again.

*Katherine, Julie, Nicola, Lynette and Sarah*





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Gold Class

Happy Friday everyone, Gold Class have had a positive first week back and are happy to welcome two new children to class!

This week in our Literacy we have been creating captions to support different images, and we closed the week's lessons out by creating short advertising phrases for different sports products. The students in Gold Class have been very successful with this, some even adding rhetorical questions to spice up their advertising captions!

In swimming we have merged into new groups to match our ever improving abilities, and in art we have begun working with clay. In ICT we have been editing and modifying images using digital filters and tools.

Our topic this term is Keeping Active and we have had a look at Healthy Eating in Design and Technology, creating a fruit salad which you may have had the opportunity to sample!

In maths we have been working on negative numbers and have investigated the concept through money and temperature. The children have worked on ordering positive and negative numbers and have been adding and subtracting crossing 0.



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

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

*~ The Gold Class Crew*

## Homework

Please help your child with the concept of negative numbers. If you are able to work with a thermometer or number line then all the better! Where possible, please also help your child with their descriptive skills and vocabulary, describing objects and images in as many inventive ways as possible. This will help us with our caption writing.





# News from Winter Cluster

## Silver Class

Coming back to school after a break is exciting but also exhausting so we have been having as much fun as possible this week to ease ourselves back into the school routine. We have also welcomed a new member to Silver Class so have loved getting to know them through play, singing, dance and music. Our topic this term is Let's Explore which is the perfect start to Spring. We will be doing and exploring lots of new things and watching how things change.

Thank you to all the families that sent in pictures of the important people in your children's lives, we appreciate the thought and effort that went into putting them together and look forward to using them in conversation with our young people.



Sunbathing in the sun together.



Exploring and listening to sounds.

Get some well-deserved rest this weekend after an amazing first week back,

*Emily, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie*







# News from Winter Cluster

## White Class

New Beginnings is our topic for this term. We will be learning all about how plants grow and we will have a go planting our own seeds. To kick things off, our sensory story for the next couple of weeks is Jack and the Beanstalk. In Art, we explored using different 'plant' colours to paint Jack's beanstalk from the story. We loved mixing and swirling the paint and experimenting with the paint's thickness.



We've been going beanstalk crazy and in Numeracy we made our own papercraft beanstalks using card and tape. Later on, we used an informal method to measure how big they were.



All the beanstalks were big. Some were bigger. One was the biggest of them all at thirteen cubes in size!

We continue with our lesson favourites, such as Blue Baskets in the morning and turn-taking with toys in small groups. We have been improving our fine motor skills by using a knife to cut up fruit. Also, we have practiced spreading margarine and sprinkling cheese onto 'big' and 'small' crackers to make a healthy snack for Jack from our story.



# News from Winter Cluster



As part of our topic, it would be great to have photos of the children when they were very young sent in to school.

*Let's hope for more great weather for the weekend!*

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