

Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a fantastic week here at Kingfisher. We have had visits from Leo the Cat as well as Max the Dog. Our pupils really look forward to meeting them and get a different experience in the school day. We also experienced making and tasting pancakes, although none made their way to my office which was a bit of a disappointment.

Yesterday was World Book Day and some of our staff and pupils took part in dressing up as characters from books. Below you will see Sooty, The Gangster Granny and Harry Potter, as well as others you may recognise.



#### Reminder of dates for your diary:

**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 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 been very busy again this week. Our students have definitely enjoyed engaging with so many exciting activities during the week. It has also been great seeing all the parents during the Parents' Consultation meeting this week and discussing the achievements of our lovely students.

On Monday afternoon, the children had a great time during our P.E session in the Big Hall. We focussed on rolling balls onto different surfaces and watching them go up and down. Our students were amazing at waiting their turn and rolling the balls back to their friends or to adults. Singing with our friends from Trinity Church of Abingdon and Pink Class is always a favourite thing to do on a Tuesday morning. Our favourite song for this week was 'I had a little turtle' and the children just loved watching the tiny bubbles going around them. The Art activities have definitely been the highlight of this week. The children loved listening to the story of the 'Hungry Caterpillar' and then making colourful butterflies by printing their feet onto white paper card. It was amazing to see some of our students using the paintbrush and painting their feet completely independently. Washing our feet afterwards was definitely our favourite part, as it included a 'bubble foot spa' in our class. We had lots of giggles and vocalisations during the 'spa' and the children had a lot of fun playing with the bubbles and popping them. It has also been World Book Day this week and it was so lovely to see our students dressing up as their favourite book characters.



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 was great to see you all on Wednesday as it gave us the opportunity to discuss how the children are progressing with their individual targets.

This week we made special pancakes using shaving foam and glitter! The children did super looking as the shaving foam was sprayed onto the plate and they all chose which colour of glitter they would like on their "pancake." The children loved watching as we counted and then splatted the "pancakes"



During our sensory cooking, the children did, super listening as we grated some apples and they enjoyed smelling, looking and feeling the wobbly jelly. We also discovered that all of the children in Yellow Class like the smell of brown sauce.







## News from Spring Cluster

In numeracy we have been looking at circles and squares by making shape silhouettes with icing sugar on black paper. All of the children are continuing to work hard with their individual targets. Mia has been focusing on pouring work this week. She enjoyed using a watering can to pour water when she was in the swimming pool as well as pouring some poms poms for our art work. The children used poms poms as well as a variety of different materials and colours (which they chose) to decorate their own individual shaker.



Last term we met Leo the cat and this term Max the dog is visiting us.



Have a great weekend,

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



# News from Summer Cluster

## Pink Class

We started the week exploring Pancake day. We've smelt, tasted and even painted on pancakes. Syrup mixed with food colouring makes for good but messy edible paint. We have certainly had some wow moments and couldn't be prouder of our students. We have seen their competitive side this week as Bernard and Ethan went head to head to outdo each other for praise using the eye gaze. We welcomed a member of Red Class for Tuesday morning to join us for our hand function session. Pink class really enjoyed having an additional member of the class to engage with. We were so proud of Yujan passing equipment to his new friend and exploring new things with her.

We also had our first visit from Leo the cat this week. Undoubtedly the highlight for some of our students. Louisa and Leo hit it off and are now the best of friends. Louisa stroked and blew kisses to Leo and was so sad when he had to be moved away that we have promised more visits in the next few weeks.

Many thanks to the parents that have already attended parent's evening and or other visits this week and in the coming weeks. Your support is very much appreciated as we work with you and your child.



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





# News from Summer Cluster

## Blue Class

It was so lovely to meet with parents this week during the parent consultation meetings and talk about the great things that the students in Blue class have been doing this term.

We have been working more on our numeracy and communication in the community and had a trip on Tuesday with key workers to peach croft café which we hope to visit when the weather is nicer by foot.

Our students are really enjoying swimming at the minute and there's been some great work individually on strokes and this week we worked on back stroke during our allotted times.

Some of us have also continued to go horse riding and the confidence and relationship our students have with the horses is lovely to see.

Music Steve visited us on Thursday after our trip to OXSRAD and the students were very relaxed and Steve did a great job matching the theme of the music to reflect the mood of the students while including some opportunities for our students to add lyrics to his songs.





# News from Summer Cluster

## Purple Class

We started the week with a Happy Birthday to Harry! Purple Class have welcomed the Spring and have started to discuss all the subtle changes happening including the displays of daffodils, snow drops and crocus popping up around the countryside and roadside. We are looking forward to getting outside and growing some plants so have started to think about and plan are growing area. We have been kindly given a large planter and more pots too, so will be busy planting soon....

Our enterprise for this week with our Fitzwaryn friends has been to decorate terracotta flower pots ready for planting. The pots have been lightly glazed and are looking great – all ready for the plants. We are hoping to sell a few of our pot plants for Mother's day gifts and Easter.

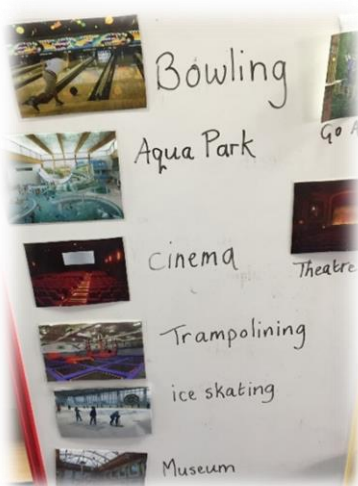
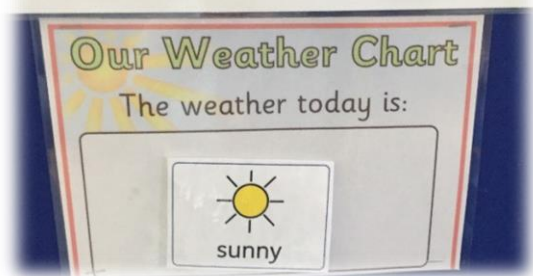
Our new topic this term is all about different leisure activities, so we have been thinking about all the different activities we might like to try. We have considered those that we need to pay for and those that are free! So far, we have quite a list! When we have chosen our top three, we will vote to see which activity we will try first. Will is keen for us to visit a trampoline park so will be finding out information for us.

A few students visited the Abingdon library on Tuesday to choose a selection of books for us to share for World Book Day. Students will take turns to travel train using public transport to return the books at a later date and choose a new selection. We will be sharing books more frequently at the Student Centre and will be trying to foster a '*reading for pleasure*' approach as well as concentrating on developing our skills. Now students all have reading records they will bring their chosen books home occasionally to share at home.

At OXSRAD we have continued with our spinning exercise and alternating activities. Congratulations to Brandon who went spinning for the first time and lasted 15 minutes!



Some students have been busy practising for the upcoming Consumer Challenge Quiz on 18<sup>th</sup> March. Four students will represent Kingfisher and a group of students will go along on the day to support with their mascots and banners! Another group visited Tesco to buy shopping for cooking Friday lunch – Shepherd's Pie and Veg!







# News from Summer Cluster



Happy Weekend to you all!

Purple Class – *Leah, Mary, Sean & Laura*





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Orange Class

We have had another busy week in Orange Class.

We have been continuing to think about ordering numbers and counting in maths and have continued with our captions in literacy. We are all improving with our writing and mark making skills and some of us are even using 'and' and 'so' to make longer sentences.

In topic we have continued to think about parts of our bodies. We enjoyed looking at x-rays and different body parts. This week we focussed on listening to our hearts and thinking about where they pump the blood around. We have also enjoyed thinking about bodies by playing with babies. We loved feeding them and giving them a bath.

Our sports this week were focussed on balancing. We have been balancing along stepping stones and benches as well as trying our roller skates, skate boards and scooters. We even enjoyed a trip to the skate park!





# News from Autumn Cluster



## Ideas for homework

1. Role play with teddies and dolls pointing out different body parts. Exploring feeling their heart own beat.
2. Ordering numbers and jumping along these.
3. Looking at pictures on the computer, printing or on your phone. Beginning to say a simple caption about what the picture is.

Hope you all have a good weekend,

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





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Red Class

We have had an exciting week with Pancake Day and World Book Day! All the children really enjoy “events” and loved doing activities to celebrate. On Tuesday we went for a walk to Peachcroft park where we played on the equipment and held some pancake races, followed by eating (different!) pancakes. Huge congratulations to Isabel, who successfully completed her first school walking trip!

Yesterday was of course World Book Day, another exciting event! We dressed up and had a fun-filled day of book-related activity, the favourite of which was a library treasure hunt. It’s lovely to see how excited about reading the whole class is, and how much they love sharing their favourite books.

In other news, we have been continuing to write captions for literacy, with this week’s sport focus on basketball – we watched some videos of the Harlem Globetrotters and were inspired to practice some of their moves on the playground. In maths we have continued to think about estimation and number sense, this week estimating length and capacity and working hard to come up with “sensible guesses”.

It was lovely to speak to everybody at parents’ evening and share your children’s progress. Thank you so much for coming in.

*Katherine, Julie, Nicola, and Sara*





# News from Autumn Cluster







# News from Autumn Cluster

## Gold Class

Good afternoon and welcome to another fab Friday! Is it raining? Is it sunny? We're just not quite sure... but given how excited we all are outside, we definitely know it's windy! This week has been busy but positive. World Book Day on Thursday saw the spontaneous arrival of 5 Harry Potter Characters in class without any prior arrangement or planning! If anyone can explain this phenomenon then please do let us know!

In literacy this week, we continued to create captions for images, however this week we have focused on facts and information in the style of a newspaper rather than advertising captions. By Thursday, all children wrote a caption for a picture of themselves with relative independence.



In maths we have been discussing methods for estimating amounts (counting, grouping and multiplying if the objects to be counted are in a grid). Towards the end of the week, we also introduced '100 number squares' for higher addition and subtraction for most pupils. They have explored how we can count up and down in ones or

in tens using the square.

In Science we have investigated bones, discovering that they are used for support, protection and movement. We then named some bones by playing 'the Expert Challenge'.

All pupils in Gold have continued to make excellent progress with their swimming and may have even made it home with a mini pizza quiche after D&T!



We look forwards to another crazy week next week with climbing and the Primary Pop Concert! Have a great weekend, more photos below!

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

*~ The Gold Class Crew*



# News from Autumn Cluster

## Homework

Where possible, please help your child to appropriately explore the concept of counting in 10s for maths. This could simply be chanting 10, 20, 30 etc. for some pupils but others may need stretched to think about  $65+10$  or  $78-10$  ( $20/30/40$ ) etc. Remember that only the number in the tens column needs to change in a question like this!







# News from Winter Cluster

## Silver Class

We have been working hard on our sharing skills, playing with tea sets and counting out the right amount of plates for everyone. On pancake day we made sure we had the right amount of pancakes for everyone. We have been planting seeds this week and excitedly waiting to see what grows from them. What amazing costumes we had for world book day. Scooby Doobydoo, where are you? And where's Wally! Can you spot them?





# News from Winter Cluster

## White Class

We always built lots of physical activity in to each day. This could be in the form of PE, movement breaks, swimming, cycling, ballpool, sensory circuit or morning shakeouts. The focus in PE this term continues to be dance with our external coach. The children have enjoyed responding to the music and whizzing round the Big Hall.



Every morning we follow a set routine where we say, sign or tap on a drum to say good morning. We then talk about what day of the week it is so that the children understand about the passing of time. Looking out of the window to check the weather follows that and we practice signing 'rainy', 'sunny', 'icy', 'foggy' and 'cloudy'. We are getting good at signing 'sunny' in particular. The good morning routine is rounded off with a physical shakeout and the children are getting much better at standing up and copying the movements from the video clip on the whiteboard and from the adults.





# News from Winter Cluster



On a bit of a different note...

On Friday afternoons, we have our clubs which the children like very much. Some of the children in White Class go and play football with children from other classes; some of our children go off and play games in Orange Class; some of the children stay in the White classroom for Sensory Club, where they have lots of opportunities to explore wet and dry resources of differing textures, as well as playing with interactive and very noisy toys.



As the weather gets warmer, we hope to move our exploration outside for much more messy play experiences!

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

# Community Links

## *The Big Easter Event - Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April from 12.30pm*

The Big Easter Event is a community event for Abingdon with something for everybody. It will take place in the Abbey Grounds in Abingdon on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April from 12.30pm .

It will start with an Easter fete, featuring live music from local choirs and musicians, food (including chocolate – lots of chocolate!), spring crafts, games and stalls. Then, at 2pm, a performance of the Abingdon Passion Play: a cast of professional actors supported by local amateur performers and singers will perform a contemporary version of the Easter story suitable for all ages.

*Would you like table space at the Big Easter Event to sell craft / raise funds / promote your organisation?*

We still have some table spaces available – a space in the fete with a trestle table provided – then get creative! You can use your stall to tell people about your organisation and what you do, attract new members, raise money for yourselves or for charity – whatever you like! The table space is completely free - any queries or to reserve a space contact [katharine@devilliersfamily.net](mailto:katharine@devilliersfamily.net)