

26th April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had an amazing Easter break, the staff and pupils have enjoyed sharing stories about what they have done.

What an amazing day we had at Kingfisher School on Tuesday 23rd April for St George's Day. We were joined by many parents, friends and extended family to join in our celebrations. George and the Dragon made an appearance thanks to Katherine and the pupils and staff of Red Class. They retold the story of St George by producing a short play, supported by wonderful costumes. The Dragon, who managed to dodge the sword in rehearsals uttering the words 'missed me', was slain by George and the Princess was saved. There was tea, coffee, 'fake' Pimms and obviously cake on hand to add to the spirit of the day. We managed to raise £70.12 in donations, thank you to everyone who attended.



The next event is the PFSA meeting, which is on Monday evening at Kingfisher School. The Parents, Friends and Staff Association work tirelessly to support our school. They have recently purchased a bank of iPad for our pupils to use in school to support their learning. They are a small friendly group who are very welcoming, if you would like to join them please call the school office who will give you the contact details, or turn up to school on Monday evening, further detail below.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 29th April: PFSA Meeting – Kingfisher School 19:30

Saturday 8th June: The Great Kingfisher Summer Picnic time TBC

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

We hope you all had a lovely time during the Easter holidays. It has been so lovely seeing our students again after the two weeks break. They all seem ready for our exciting Summer term that is coming ahead.

The new topic for this term will be 'Farm Animals' and we are all looking forward to exploring the different sounds that each animal makes and learning more about where they live. Our new sensory story for this term will be 'The three little pigs' and Green Class have already started showing great enthusiasm for the story and all the different props.

We all had a great start to the new term as we started with a lovely celebration of St. George's Day on Tuesday. Green Class students really enjoyed decorating some delicious cakes using icing sugar, water and 'edible British flags'. We all enjoyed watching the story of St. George and the Dragon and listening to some great songs as well. The children were so excited to take part in the activities that were taking place on the field during the day. They especially loved participating in the parachute games, playing with the bubbles and jumping up and down on the trampoline. It was also lovely seeing some of the parents and siblings enjoying the event and celebrating with all of us. Joining the school parade at the end and holding each other's hand was definitely the best part of the day.

In our Art activities this week, the children made some beautiful 'horse sun catchers' by tearing tissue paper and sticking it on laminating pouches. They all did great choosing between the different colour tissue papers and they were brilliant tearing them by themselves. During our Attention Bucket and Builder activities this week, the children loved watching the 'chattering teeth' going around the classroom and watching the 'bubble snake maker' activity.





News from Spring Cluster



We hope you have a great weekend and we are 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 so lovely to welcome all the children back to Yellow class after the Easter holidays. Our first morning back got off to a very busy start. The children did super mark making using red and white foam with Diesel making perfect circular marks. Afterwards the children went on to do some cake decorating with Matthew independently holding his spoon, what stars. The children used red and white icing to decorate their cakes which we hope you all enjoyed tasting at home.



We had a red and white theme throughout our morning as it was St George's Day! It was wonderful that so many of you were able to join us on Tuesday afternoon to celebrate St George's Day with us. The children really enjoyed playing parachute games and exploring our sensory trough tray activities, which included a sensory St George's flag and a variety of red and white objects. All of the children loved the party atmosphere. We were so proud of all the children in Yellow class taking part in our St George's Day parade at the end of the afternoon particularly Oliver who did super standing.



Throughout the week the children have been working hard with their physio targets both in class and when swimming. We have also been continuing with our daily tooth brushing routine. Well done Yellow class!



Have a great weekend,

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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

We have decided that Pink Class all clearly had a fantastic Easter Holiday as they have all returned to school so happily, so ready to learn and so pleased to see their friends. We have explored St George's Day and all things English this week. We made scones for the school St George's Day celebrations and we were reliably informed by our Head Teacher that our scones were so nice that they surpassed even the shop bought ones. Well done Pink Class led by our head chef Rania.

The St George's Day celebrations were a massive hit with us. We all had our different favourite aspects of the day; the music, the flag waving, being with our peers across the school and just being out enjoying the sunshine and atmosphere.

Sensory Cooking has become a clear favourite with some of Pink Class (although not with the staff who have to clean up afterwards). As such we didn't limit ourselves to just English Scones this week but we also tried our hands at English Trifle. It was a trifle messy but the staff were forgiving when they saw how much everyone enjoyed.



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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



It's been a lovely first week back and students and staff all enjoyed the St George's Day celebrations which was a fantastic opportunity for Parents and carers to come into school and join in with the activities.

As the weather becomes better we will making more opportunities to get outside and we have some exciting plans for the end of the term visits after the success of the trip to bowling.

Our students are showing increased confidence with accessing trips in the community which provide meaningful, lifelong learning skills which include road crossings.

Later on in the term we hope to be arranging a tennis day to link in with Wimbledon and our tennis coaches have worked hard with the students to develop their skills. They also run courses and clubs during the holidays specifically targeted for our children and information can be found on the white horse leisure centres website around this.

Joe, Liza, Esther, Matt and Olivia



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Wow what a fabulous start to the week with a welcome back from the Easter break and a whole day learning about and celebrating St George's Day!

Purple Class split into groups, some students rewriting the story of St George & the Dragon in their own words and others baking and decorating English flag cup-cakes, whilst listening to some typically English tunes!

On Wednesday Adam chose Fridays lunch – chicken nuggets and we thought about what we would need to buy in order to make our own nuggets and chips from scratch. Our 'walk4wellbeing' took place from the Leisure Centre along to Abbey Meadows where we have been observing and discussing nature and determining the best place to plan a summer picnic and socialising event. We started thinking about our 'Imagine' project this week, looking at pictures of John Lennon and listening to his version of the track. Students were not sure who he was at first and had a guess. Matthew thought he looked a lot like Harry Potter! We have had a go at joining in with the lyrics along with Sean playing guitar and Harry is learning the words fast!

Thursday, students started back at OXSRAD sports & leisure centre, whilst a couple stayed behind to help plan our trampolining trip and meet and welcome our new student Chan. Chan enjoyed seeing around our school and meeting lots of new friends. Thursday afternoon, Harry, Sam and Josh shopped at Tesco for our ingredients to cook Friday's lunch.

Friday, we finished off our class based work and prepared and cooked our lunch. Then helped with all the clearing up jobs, developing our life skills. We rounded off the week with Friday social fun club!

Happy Weekend everyone!

Leah, Mary, Laura, Sean, Janet and Sian





News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

What a brilliant start to the term with our St George's day celebrations! Thank you to all of you that came along and joined us. It was great to have you there. The children loved being out of the field and especially enjoyed the bubble machine and cricket. They all did well in the parade and enjoyed wearing their dragon hat and waving their England flag.

This term our topic is 'Our Community'. We have started by thinking about different jobs we do in our community. We all did well naming and matching jobs as well as describing what each of these people do.

In art we started to make models of our community. We started with the people and made these using plasticine and sticks. In ICT we made PowerPoints with pictures of our friends in our school community.

In maths we have been thinking about adding and taking away. We enjoyed doing add and take away sums using toy food and loved cooking following instructions to add more or take some out.

In our play sessions we have thought about transport and enjoyed building and playing with our own train sets. We are getting much better at sharing and taking turns.





News from Autumn Cluster



Homework ideas:

Look at different pictures and videos of people doing different jobs, talk about what job they are doing and what this job involves.

Maths activities – use toy foods to practise adding and taking away different amounts.

Role play with toy trains and cars, modelling how to play with these.

Hope you all have a fantastic weekend!

Charlotte, Tina, Ali, Nina, Maria and Kim



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

We hope everyone had a good Easter break, and welcome back to school! Our topic this term is “Our Community” and we look forward to thinking about important roles in our community and visiting some of the local amenities such as the bank and post office.

Our St George’s Day fete made for a very exciting first day back, and the children did really well learning and performing the story of George and the dragon in a morning! We definitely have some improv stars in Red Class, especially Ryan as St George. We also had great fun at the fete itself, especially with the sports games, sensory trays, and of course the parade. Well done to Freya too for winning the baking competition! We have since been using the event as a writing stimulus in literacy, practicing writing answering key questions, before we start creating newspaper articles next week.

Finally, it’s lovely to welcome Julie back to the class! She has been much missed by everyone and it’s great to have her with us again.

Katherine, Julie, Nicola and Sarah





News from Autumn Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Hello and welcome back! We trust you have had a fantastic Easter break in the unexpected but welcome sunshine. It has been a pleasant if busy start to our summer term this week with a whole host of events going on even though we only clocked four days.

Perhaps the first thing I should mention is St. Georges Day which was well received on Tuesday afternoon. As you've no doubt read in other parts of this newsletter, pupils very much enjoyed engaging with a range of activities out on the school field including cricket, Aunt Sally and a parade while parents enjoyed a cream tea and a theatrical production by red class.



In maths this week we have been working on our calculation skills and have engaged our brains to decipher whether or not we need to be adding or subtracting in a given scenario. Some pupils worked on the vocabulary of the four functions (+, -, x, /) and learnt different phrases for these such as 'all together' and 'fewer than'.

In literacy we have been writing a recount of Tuesday's events. Pupils identified the WHEN, WHO, WHAT, WHERE and WHY of different pictures in order to construct full sentences.

SRE has been very successful this week. All pupils have learnt to label external male and female body parts and know to use an anonymous question box in class if they have any questions between now and next week.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE SWIMMING GROUPS HAVE BEEN RE-JIGGED. IA, BW, JN and JP will swim on Tuesday, the rest on Wednesday. We will aim to also mention this in communication books.

Have a superb weekend.

Richard, Teresa, Julie, Marie, Helen, Sian, Laura and Lorraine!

~ The Gold Class Crew



News from Autumn Cluster

Homework

Please remember to read with your child! Please help your children to engage with different terminology for the four functions where possible e.g. ask 'what is the total of...' and link this to addition, or for more able pupils ask 'what is the difference between...' and link this to being the same as subtraction (the difference between 6 and 4 is 2, $6-4=2$). For literacy, please continue to promote descriptions of events and images using the five W's mentioned above.





News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

Welcome back Silver Class, we hope you had a fantastic holiday and lots of chocolate. On our first day back we celebrated St George's day by wearing the St George flag stickers and getting a bit of face paint on. It was lovely to see some of you there, thank you for joining us and we hope you enjoyed yourselves. This week we got sticky and creative making some beautiful rainbow bread.



Enjoy the weekend and we'll see you next week for more fun,

Emily, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

We were so lucky to have lots of sun on St George's Day! The children joined in with a range of activities and enjoyed the buzz and excitement of the occasion.



Structured physical activity is an important element of each day at school and we had a great PE session this week, showing a greater willingness to explore spaces at different heights. In our garden, we had a fantastic tug of war with the children using all their strength to make the grown ups fall down. We'll try hard to get a photo of that next time...

As part of our Communication curriculum in White Class, the children have been using PECS to select favourite outdoor activities such as bubble mix, giant building blocks and assorted balls. Afterwards, we pack them all away back in the shed to ensure the children keep making requests. It's working very well and makes the toys and equipment seem more special.



News from Winter Cluster



The children have settled well this first week back. Our focus for the next couple of weeks is shapes in Maths and farm animals in Topic, including talking about where our food comes from. In Cooking/Food Exploration we will explore through our senses different kinds of dairy ingredients to make flavoured yogurt, a boiled egg sandwich, cheese twists and more. So far we have made pink icing and watched it being dribbled onto little cakes as part of our Sensory Story, George and the Dragon. Our brand new White Class carpet is definitely being put through its paces.

Bye for now,

Jane, Zoe, Pauline, Lynette and our student helpers in White Class