

Dear Parents and Carers

We've had a lovely week here at Kingfisher after our extended Bank Holiday weekend. Yes Richard, Gold Class, you can have another Bank Holiday again at the end of the month, however this is during our half term break.

Some of our pupils have been out of school to buy stamps to send letters. One pupil explained to me that he had bought a blue stamp which is a second class stamp. My grandchildren love receiving letters in the post, so this has prompted me to send them a letter with sunflower seeds for them to plant. Thank you Orange Class for this idea.

We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 24th May (last day of term) in order to raise funds for the PFSA, please see the attached newsletter from the PFSA. On that note, I wrote last week about Andy Kelly and his brother Tom cycling in order to raise money for Kingfisher School and in particular to help with the refurbishment of our pool. After writing last week's newsletter I wanted to clarify the distance directly with Andy as I thought I had got it wrong. The distance of 500 kilometres just seemed a little bit crazy (that's just over 310 miles in old money and my staff think I'm crazy?). Please find the link below if you would like to donate. It is also on our website.

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/lekel24>

Dates for your Diary

Monday 20th May: PFSA meeting 19:30 at Kingfisher School

Friday 24th May: Last day of term and non-uniform day

Tuesday 4th June: Pupils return to school (Monday 3rd June is a training day)

Saturday 8th June: The Great Kingfisher Summer Picnic time 15:00-19:00

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

Although the weather has not been very nice this week, Green Class have kept smiling and having fun in and outside the classroom. Our students had a great time this week exploring lots of different sensory activities and toys.

On Tuesday morning, Green Class students enjoyed taking part in our Sensology session. The highlight of the session was definitely looking at the 'disco fingers' and the children were amazing at tracking the light and reaching out to explore it. We had a lovely Resonance Board session in the afternoon with Tor from Pink Class supporting the session and sharing some great songs with us. The children loved watching Tor dropping lentils on the Resonance Board and we were all brilliant at tapping the board, singing and making the 'lentils bounce'. Green Class children love Horse Riding and they are all so good at it. We are very happy and proud to share some lovely photos of our children during their Horse Riding session.

In Arts this week, we have been very busy and creative making 'cow handprints'. The children used black and white paint to make marks on to paper card and enjoyed feeling the 'tickly paintbrush' in their palms.

We are also sharing some photos of our 'Farm Tractors display' with some lovely 'tractors drivers', as we have promised to you. Music Steve made us smile and reminded us to 'use gentle fingers and gentle hands' for our friends by singing a lovely, relaxing song and playing his guitar. Our students loved having a go and using their 'gentle fingers' to explore Music Steve's guitar as well.





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

This week the children were busy putting the finishing touches to our beautiful wall display called “Down at the Duck Pond” in preparation for our trip to Abbey Meadows next week to feed the ducks. The children did super choosing work when they were making their ducks and reeds for the board.



It has been great to see the fantastic progress that the children have been making during our swimming lessons. Matthew was happy to go under the water-well done. All the children did fantastic intensive interaction during swimming especially when they were joined by the ducks!



As you can see from the pictures the children had great fun exploring some chocolate and strawberry milkshakes during their hand function session. Also during our sensory cooking Sienna was happy to hold a chilled strawberry.



News from Spring Cluster



Tac Pac also proved to be a firm favourite with the children. They particularly liked the bubbles being blown and having different textured balls rolled across different parts of their bodies.

It would be good if you could sing "Five little ducks went swimming one day" with the children at home as it is definitely one of our favourite songs to sing in class.

Have a great weekend,

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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

We've had a lovely week with lots of fun and exciting activities. As part of our 'music' topic we have been looking at different types of music. One of which is Indian music and we extended this into our sensory cooking session and made some delicious Kulfi. Our sensory story 'The Carnival of the animals' by Camille Saint-Saens has been looking at orchestral music and we all show different responses to each of the pieces of music. The stomping Elephant music particularly makes us smile, as well as the joyous finale at the end. The Orchestral music has also extended into our 'massage story' sessions and again we all show different responses to the different instruments. The drums cause the biggest response with smiles and moving to the music.

Our physio sessions continue to be a big part of the week, whether in the classroom or during our ball pool sessions or participating in physical activities around the school such as climbing up and down steps. We are all becoming very receptive during these activities and working hard on developing our abilities.

We hope you have a lovely weekend.



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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class



This week in Blue Class we have had a great time despite the weather. On Tuesday we were back swimming after missing out due to the bank holidays so it was great to be back in the pool.

We have also been working hard around typing skills and students have been following instructions really well while doing this.

Next week we will start our tennis coaching during lesson time and we are organising a whole school tennis tournament which will be a fantastic celebration.

Our students love the time they spend with different therapists and music Steve has been working on creating some with him with the students adding words to his songs.

Joe, Liza, Esther, Matt and Olivia



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

So, although a shorter week, Purple Class have been as busy as ever! We started of our week on Tuesday morning by dropping off Will and Matt (by themselves) to their work experience at Barnardo's charity shop just like a proper job! The rest of the class went to Fitzwaryn School for Enterprise where we continued to help in the gardens and tended to our herb plants. This week we spent time in a large circle getting to know each other a little better and sharing things about ourselves with the group. We had a think about what we thought the royal baby would be named! In the afternoon we had the first session of our Duvet Challenge, learning how to change the bed and put on a fresh new duvet cover. Mary (the master) demonstrated a clever trick for changing duvet covers and we found out that it is not as easy as it looks! But the students had a go and did a great job! Harry came out fastest this week at 3 minutes 30 and was most chuffed with himself.

On Wednesday morning meatballs and spaghetti with garlic bread was chosen for our Friday lunch and we prepared our shopping lists and researched how much the ingredients would cost to feed the whole class. After break we all visited Abingdon Library to return our books and Kim showed us about the self-serve machine. We went on the minibus this week as it was pouring with rain! In the afternoon we continued with our IMAGINE project making a great display for our classroom – what do you think?

It was Oxsrad Thursday morning and whilst some students went to their spin session the other group had a game of Rounders. Harry, Sam and Josh went shopping at Tesco in the afternoon for ingredients whilst a few students planned for a trip to a Trampoline park and others enjoyed musical switch activities followed by '*Music with Steve*'. Friday, we prepared and cooked lunch whilst finishing off some work based tasks ready for Friday Social Club (after our Life Skills clear up session) – 'phewwww'.



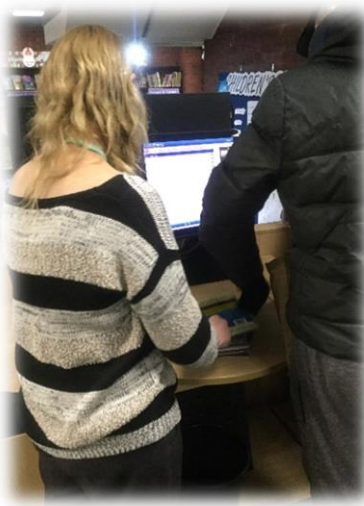


News from Summer Cluster





News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

Another bank holiday has meant the week has flown by again.

This week we have been particularly impressed with the children's increasing independence. Lots of children are now completing their blue basket activities and reading books on their own. We have also seen an improvement in their independence with dressing and undressing, recognising emotions and preparing for different parts of the day.

In maths this week we have been thinking about big and small as well as measuring the amount of cupfuls that different items hold. In literacy we have been looking at our local park and thinking about naming and describing what equipment they have there.

We have also continued to think about important places in our community and enjoyed a trip to the post office to post our postcards. You should be receiving these through the post very soon.

Some of the children have also become much more sociable during our trip to St Edmunds school. They are communicating more with the children as well as playing lots of role play games. The hairdresser role play was definitely a favourite.





News from Autumn Cluster



Homework ideas:

Play activities linked to being a postman i.e. writing cards, putting items in a bag sack, wrapping up, sticking stamps on etc.

Maths activities – filling up containers with sand and water – comparing how many cupfuls or saying which is bigger.

Pointing out different items in the local park using simple describing words i.e. shiney slide, red climbing frame.

Hope you all have a fantastic weekend!

Charlotte, Tina, Ali, Nina, Maria and Kim



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

We have been very busy writing our newspaper reports this week, thinking about some issues in school to write about and considering what actions we could take to solve them – topics generated by the children included wanting more things for the playground, needing some wider toilet cubicles, and encouraging everyone to drink more water! We had fun doing quick photoshoots at playtime to illustrate our articles, and of course doing the writing. We now have a wonderful Red Class Newspaper.

We have continued to enjoy getting out and about to places in our community. This week we walked to Abingdon library and checked out some books, before catching the local bus to ride back to school – this part was especially popular with everyone! Thank you so much for sending in your donations to cover these activities and to allow the children to practice paying for things themselves.

In maths this week we have been looking at capacity, using measuring jugs and coloured water to carefully pour out different amounts and read the ml scale. We will continue this next week, and it would be great if you could practice this at home with your children, as well as drawing attention to any sort of measuring you do as part of your daily life.

Katherine, Julie, Nicola and Sarah





News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

This week has been very positive for students in Gold Class. We all returned to school refreshed on Tuesday after our long weekend and were able to hit the ground running, can we have another one please Lorraine?!

In literacy we have continued our work on newspapers and have started to write our own. Whether reporting on the forthcoming Sonic the Hedgehog movie, a recent trip to London or even just a visit to the Ball Pit, these have been shaping up well.



In Maths we have been working on capacity with some students using non-formal measurements (cupfuls) and others measuring to the nearest 100, 50 or 25ml. When it came to making potions (with food colouring) some of our savvier teenagers in class weren't all that impressed... until our green turned into a horrific orange at which stage they treated it all with a little more respect!



In R.E. we have read traditional Hindu stories and have found out how Ganesh received his elephants head. Further to this, we have also continued our swimming lessons with Angela and have successfully tackled 'Consent' in SRE.

In P.E. we have very much enjoyed continuing with our Hockey lessons although these will switch over to Tennis from next week. We look forwards to our science, football, first aid and multi-sports clubs tomorrow and have been keeping busy in art and ICT with modelling and video editing.

An action packed week! Have a good weekend.

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

~ The Gold Class Crew



News from Autumn Cluster

Homework

Please remember to read with your child! In maths, please support the work that we have been doing on capacity by challenging your child to measure different capacities in the kitchen using a measuring jug or other container. Most children in class are capable of measuring to the nearest 100 or 50ml. In literacy we have been working on alliteration for our headlines (e.g. Brilliant Ben). Please remind your child of the word alliteration and help them to create an alliterative phrase or sentence or two.





News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

Another short but busy week in Silver Class. We have been enjoying practicing and improving our balance in the sensory circuit and PE. In PE we made a circuit of balancing beams with an obstacle between each beam. We are in the process of making our giant farm yard animals ready for our art display. It's been a group effort between everyone, we've all stuck pink paper onto the pig, yellow string on the chick and made black spots for the cow. As always we loved our visit from Music Steve and played along to songs with bells.



Enjoy your weekend and see you for more fun next week,

Emily, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie





News from Winter Cluster

White Class

All the children took part in Food Exploration this week, exploring two foods that come from farm animals, eggs and cheese. We saw some great egg splats, flour clouds and shape making with the rolling pins. The result – some lovely cheese twists.



Some of the children are having great fun with their Friday Club with Orange Class, playing PE games and learning how to take turns. In Sensory Club we have explored a range of messy trays of flour, breakfast cereal, spaghetti and lots more. Most of the children are becoming more and more adventurous, prepared to have a go stirring, dropping, dripping and touching with fingertips.



Homework: Please talk to the children about common 2D shapes and help them to see circles, squares, rectangles and triangles in the environment. If the children have farm animal toys, talk about where milk, cheese, eggs etc come from.

From Jane, Zoe, Pauline and Lynette