

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a good half term; I'm sure Andy and Tom Kelly took some time to rest and recuperate after his mammoth cycle ride in aid of Kingfisher School. So far, they have raised a massive **£4,805.00** which will be predominantly spent on refurbishing our swimming pool and purchasing equipment to support our pupils.

If you still wish to donate, please use the link below

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



Hopefully the weather will be better tomorrow, in order to go ahead with our 'outdoor' picnic and music event. In the event of inclement weather, the event will take place inside our premises. There will be a Bar-B-Q, which we will still take place. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible tomorrow.

We are in the process of writing end of year reports in order to facilitate the Parental Consultation Day, please look out for the letter which will come home next week.

#### Dates for your Diary

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

**Friday 28th June:** Sports Day time TBC

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July** Parent Consultation Day **13.00-18.00**

Best wishes

*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

It was lovely to welcome our students back to school after the Half term break. Green Class have definitely made a great start to the last term of this academic year and had a wonderful week. Our new topic for this term will be “Water, Water Everywhere” and we are all looking forward to the exciting ‘summer activities’ and water play that are coming ahead.

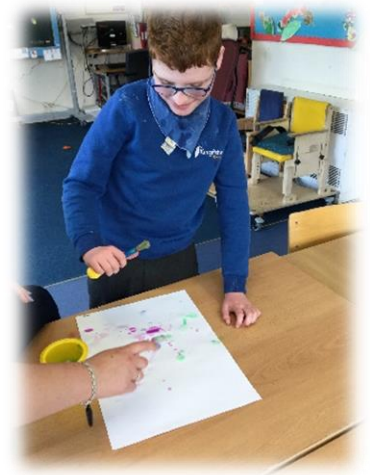
We started this week with a great swimming session on Tuesday morning, where our children loved going in the deep end with our swimming teacher Angela and other members of staff. Green Class students have definitely made fantastic progress in swimming and they haven’t stopped impressing us with their swimming skills. During the session with our friends from Trinity church of Abingdon, we have all had great fun singing and practising our Numeracy skills. The children loved listening to the song ‘five little men in a flying saucer’ and using their fingers to count at the same time.

In Arts, this week the children were busy making ‘rain marks’ on white card by using water colours and flicking the paintbrushes on the card. They were all amazing holding the paintbrushes with minimal adult support, or independently, and they all loved watching the water colours leaving ‘colourful marks’ on the white card. Our Sensology sessions have definitely been a firm favourite for Green Class students and this week we all enjoyed using our senses to smell the hot chocolate, explore the ice cubes and the warm water and finally tasting some delicious ice-lollies. During our session with Music Steve, we had great fun exploring and tapping the drum as he was singing ‘who is knocking on the door’. Apparently, all the Green Class students had a go ‘knocking on the drum’ and guessing ‘who’ it was.





# News from Spring Cluster



Have a great weekend and we are looking forward to seeing you on Monday.

*Anna, Annie, Clare, Jackie, Jo, Maria C, Pauline and Sue*



# News from Spring Cluster

## Yellow Class

It is so lovely to see all the children again after the half term break. Our topic for this term is “Water, Water, Everywhere” which was certainly apt for our first day back when we had heavy rainfall!

The children enjoyed our new sensory story which is called “ Oh We Do Like to be Beside the Seaside”. They had lots of sensory experiences such as wearing sunglasses and sunhats, feeling seaweed (made from kale and gloop) as well as doing super mark making in the warm sand.





## News from Spring Cluster

Yellow class have been doing great exploration of our class Treasure Basket which contained sea shells, buckets and spades, water bottles and sun cream. The children were really interested in the different textures, colours and smells that they encountered.

In our art activities the children have furthered their exploration of water by using water mixed with paint to create beautiful rain pictures. They are still a work in progress and they already look amazing.

Our swimming sessions are continuing to be a great success as all of the children are happy to be in the pool and will work hard with their physio programmes before having some “chill time” at the end of the session.



In Sensology the children did fantastic stilling and listening as we played “Let it go” and they loved the smell of the drinking chocolate. Ada was the only one who liked the taste of the ice lolly!



Have a great weekend,

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



# News from Summer Cluster

## Pink Class

It's been lovely to see all our class back at school this week and there have been lots of laughs and smiles. Our topic this Term is 'water, water, everywhere' and we have lots of exciting activities planned, including a barge trip which we will send details about nearer the time. We have started this Term with our new sensory story about a 'clumsy crab'. The story has lots of exciting elements such as bubbles, a tactile octopus, jelly and sand.

This week we have also been working on new skills and we all did magnificently during our first this Term's Tennis lesson. We were practicing our throwing and catching skills using both balloons and balls. The tennis rackets are great to hold as they have lots of different textures on them.

We have also been working hard on our swimming skills this week, such as floating on our backs and kicking our legs to make us go faster. Our swimming sessions always bring lots of smiles both beforehand when we see our swimming costume object of reference and during. We are all making amazing progress with our swimming.

As part of our daily routine we are continuing to clean our teeth after lunch. Well done Yujan for working so hard at this.

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 it has been great to see all of the students back from their adventures in the holidays. It is so lovely to hear about all of the wonderful things that our students are doing during this time.

It was such a lovely way to finish off the term going to the trampoline park and then onto a picnic at Tilsley Park.

This term we will be busy carrying on with our offsite trips and next week at OXSRAD we are starting our preparations for sports day with some activities outside on the field.

Our students have been working well within phonics and seem to be enjoying the interactive elements as well as working on typing using the laptops.





# News from Summer Cluster

## Purple Class

Our first week of the final term has got off to a flying start! Students started back on the Tuesday with a visit to Fitzwaryn for Enterprise. Purple Class helped to make sure all the growing plants were well watered and in the correct size pots. We enjoyed our group snack break sitting in a circle and sharing our news about half term. Mrs Edwards went on a sailing holiday in Guernsey and a few of us went to the sea side too. William and Matthew started back at Barnardo's and worked hard during the morning sorting the items and operating the cash machine. In the afternoon we discussed and made a plan of our busy term and thought about all the special events happening including class trips, Sports Day, Tennis Tournament, swim at public pool, college transition visits, our planned picnic on the site with most votes and our end of term meal. We also thought about our new topic 'Our environment' and started to look at signs and symbols commonly seen around us. *It would really help us if parents and carers supported our work with pointing out and explaining signs and symbols when out in the community.*

On Wednesday we planned our Friday lunch and made a list of what we needed to buy. It was Brandon's turn to choose and Brandon chose hot dogs and chips. We visited Shotover again for 'Walk4Wellbeing' and this time we drove up close past the Wheatley windmill. Harry says Shotover is his favourite place for us to have a picnic so we will have to see which area gets the most votes! Wednesday afternoon we started to think about and plan for a very special day coming up shortly relating to the men we know in our lives that our special to us.

Some groups have started preparing for the upcoming Sports Day at OXSRAD whilst others had a last spinning session before Sports practise next week which will be held outside. A few shopped at Tesco in the afternoon for Friday's lunch whilst others stayed at school focussing on individual target work and jobs. We have also continued to practise 'IMAGINE' when we get a spare opportunity and some students are really started to know the song now. Brandon has worked extra hard on learning the words and has been happy to sing the whole song to his peers as a solo!

Have a great weekend everyone

*Purple Class - Leah, Mary, Sean, Laura & Sian*



# News from Summer Cluster





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Orange Class

Orange Class have had a lovely start to the term. We've had lots of smiling children, who have come back ready to continue working hard on all their targets.

We have started our new topic on 'extreme environments'. This week we have been looking at the rainforest. We have been exploring playing with different toy animals and wet leaves. Some of us enjoyed using the plastic animals whereas others had fun using the puppets. In topic we worked hard matching different vocabulary to pictures of different features of the rainforest and some of us sorted things that would belong there and some that would not.

In maths we have been thinking about using money. We have been trying to apply this to real life contexts. Some of us have simply been working on the process of shopping, whereas others have been focussing on waiting for change. We have also been thinking about what we could afford with different amounts i.e. if we had a £1 coin could we buy the item for 80p or £1.20.

In literacy we have started on our rainforest poetry topic. We have been looking at things we can hear, see and taste in the jungle. We will carry on using the words next week to create simple jungle poems.

We also did a very important job on Thursday afternoon in the community. We went to deliver letters to the neighbours to invite them to 'The Kingfisher Picnic'. We all enjoyed doing this and were very sensible when doing this job.

We have some pictures to share from our park trip last term.



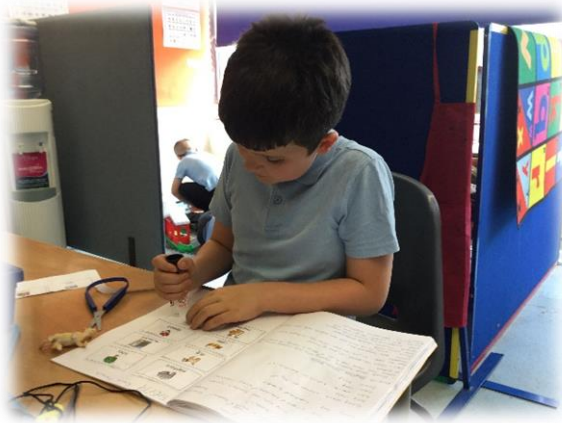


# News from Autumn Cluster





# News from Autumn Cluster



## Homework ideas:

- Practising using money in role play or when visiting the shop.
- Talking about what you can see, hear and taste in different situations.
- Going out and about for walks in different environments i.e. woods, park, around lakes and rivers.

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



# News from Autumn Cluster

## Red Class

It's lovely to see everyone again after half term – we hope you all had a good break! We got straight into our new topic of Exploring Extreme Environments, and have begun learning about the rainforest in topic with some fun exploratory and sensory activities, and thinking about describing using all five senses in literacy. We will be building on this during the term and writing poetry about some of the different environments we will be learning about.

In maths our first subject for the term is money. Some of us have been role-playing all the stages of buying something from a shop, including bagging their item and waiting for change, and some of us have been focusing on the very important skill of “can I afford this?” and which coin or note we need to hand over to cover the cost. We will of course be practicing this on our out-and-about walks – although this week since it was the first day of term and good weather we went to the park!

It was the final trip to the allotment this week for Holly, Richard and Eleonora and they returned with some of the vegetables they helped to grow. They've had a really great time planting, weeding, building, and taking care of the chickens.

*Katherine, Julie, Nicola, and Sarah*





# News from Autumn Cluster





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Gold Class

Happy Friday and welcome back to Part 2 of our Summer Term. We trust you have had a fantastic half term and are on ready for the sprint finish as we lead up to our summer holidays!

We have settled well this week, whilst a little tired on Tuesday, all Gold pupils have picked up the pace as the week has progressed.

In literacy we have begun working on poetry. Our class topic at present is 'Extreme Environments' and so we have been building a bank of descriptions that could be used to write about different locations.

In maths we have been working on money and have been specifically working to find change from different amounts. Whole pound change on Thursday and change in pence on Friday.

In Art we have begun to work on different painting techniques and in ICT we have been learning to access different apps and games with the intention of beginning to design our own in the coming weeks.



Congratulations of course to the Gold, Blue and Purple Class winners of the Swimming Panathlon on the Tuesday before half term, a well-earned victory and with free swimming sessions before the break, we got to celebrate with a bit of fun.

Tennis has resumed in P.E. this week and our forthcoming Tennis Tournament at the White Horse Leisure Centre has been rebooked for the 26<sup>th</sup> June with Sports Day following on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

We look forwards to continuing to work with Gold Class students as we tackle these last few weeks! Have a great weekend.

*Richard, Teresa, Julie, Marie, Helen, Sian and Lorraine G!*

*~ The Gold Class Crew*





# News from Autumn Cluster

## Homework

Maths homework this week could comprise of challenging your child to give you (whole pound – or 50p divisions with more able) change through role play when you purchase a small items from them with a note. For those pupils that still need further support with money, try constructing different whole pound amounts using a mix of currency e.g.  $£5+£1+£1=£7$ . It would also be very helpful if you could spend some time together researching different environments online. This week we have looked at the rainforest; you could research another environment to compare.





# News from Winter Cluster

## Silver Class

Welcome back Silver Class, what a fantastic week we've had. We have started off our Water, Water, Everywhere topic by reading *The Snail and the Whale*. We are all very good at turning the pages and spotting the snail and the whale. We especially enjoy waving the blue blanket to make wavy waves. Everyone must have been very active over the half term because everyone has been trying so hard in our PE and swimming lessons, some children were even balancing on an upside down beam. We've been working on our sharing and turn taking this week. We have been doing a fantastic job at throwing a ball to one another.



We are excited to go on our trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park next week. Thank you to the parents volunteering their time to come with us, we look forward to seeing you there,

*Emily, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie*



# News from Winter Cluster

## White Class

The children have settled in well after a week's break from school. We have started to explore our topic, Water, Water Everywhere. The children are making big textured pictures of the sea and beach and will be adding to them over the weeks. We will be learning about which animals live in the sea and at the seaside; exploring different textures and talking about wet/dry, hot/cold, rough/sooth; exploring initial sounds and words relating to our topic, and so on. We have some interesting Sensory Stories lined up and the smelly slimy seaweed is waiting for, hopefully, eager fingers to explore.

Here are a couple of photos of the children working on our Farm Animals topic at the end of last term. The children have excellent focus and are always willing to have a go.



The children continue to spend lots of lovely time in our garden in structured learning and play activities. The Tug o' War rope is a favourite and the children are good at following commands to 'stop', 'wait' and 'go' (usually!).

For Maths this term and in the coming school year, we are planning to integrate Maths more in to other areas of the curriculum. For the next few weeks, we are having a big focus on position and space. The children are learning about over/under/on/forward/backwards etc in PE and Sensory Circuit in the Small



# News from Winter Cluster

Hall. In Cooking and Food Exploration, we are focusing on talking about more/less, enough/not enough, as well as counting out quantities and making calculations for sharing out ingredients. We will be doing lots of water based cooking and the children are practicing pouring in to containers and checking that they have enough.

The children are learning how to keep themselves and others safe. Here is a great example of safety from this week's Thursday PE lesson. They have become very good at waiting their turn and clearing the mats in a timely and sensible way.



more...



# News from Winter Cluster



We'll see everyone back next week. Have a good weekend.

*From Jane, Zoe, Pauline and Lynette*

## Community Links

Yellow Submarine will be accepting referrals for our summer holiday activity programmes until Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. After this date, we will of course still accept referrals but we would not be able to guarantee any spaces in the summer and would instead look to September onwards.

Our young people's programme is open to anyone aged 11-17 with mild-moderate learning disabilities and/or autism, who could be safely supported on a 1:3 basis. In some instances we are able to support young people on a 1:1 basis, but this is something that would need to be discussed in more detail. We will also be running a summer programme for young adults aged 18 and over with mild-moderate learning disabilities and/or autism. Support for young adults is provided on a 1:5 ratio; unfortunately we are not able to provide a higher ratio than this.

Anyone is welcome to refer a young person, be it a parent, carer or professional:

<http://www.yellowsubmarine.org.uk/refer/> If you feel any of your students would benefit from attending Yellow Submarine, please do pass on our details to families and carers, or complete the referral form yourselves.

Many thanks and best wishes,

Emily

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Emily Jeffery

**Activity Manager – Young People's Services**



**We believe people with learning disabilities deserve to live life to the full.**

**Oxford hub & café:** 12 Park End Street, OX1 1HH ([map](#)) - 01865 236119

**Witney hub & café:** 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Windrush Leisure Centre, OX28 4YA ([map](#)) – 01993 357020

# SAVE THE DATE

# WANTAGE

# LEGO® EXPO

## 2019

27 July - 31 August



Check out our information page  
[valeanddownlandmuseum.org.uk/wantagelegoexpo](http://valeanddownlandmuseum.org.uk/wantagelegoexpo)



Scan me

For enquires please email  
[wantagelegoexpo@gmail.com](mailto:wantagelegoexpo@gmail.com)

Vale & Downland Museum  
Church Street, Wantage, OX12 8BL  
Telephone - 01235 771447     
Open Mon - Sat 9.30am - 4pm



With professional  
displays by



*'The Wantage LEGO® Expo returns for the summer of 2019!*

*Running from 27 July to 31 August, there will be LEGO® models throughout the museum galleries and loads of LEGO® themed activities. Once again the Toy Planet will be providing a number of amazing displays, and there will also be an enormous LEGO® Castle.*

*This year the expo has a theme of "Past, Present and Future", so we are looking for submissions all the way from Romans to rockets! More details on how to submit your model for display will be coming soon so keep your eye on our social media for updates!*

*As well as the usual Minifigure hunts around town and the museum, there will also be the chance to take part in workshops, challenges, raffles and building a giant mosaic of King Alfred! Keep your eyes peeled on [valeanddownlandmuseum.org.uk/wantagelegoexpo](http://valeanddownlandmuseum.org.uk/wantagelegoexpo) for more details coming soon.*

*Other Information:*

*Suggested donation for admission £2 per adult, £1 per child.*

*Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times and please note the Museum is closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays'*

# Autism Pride

**22 June 2019**

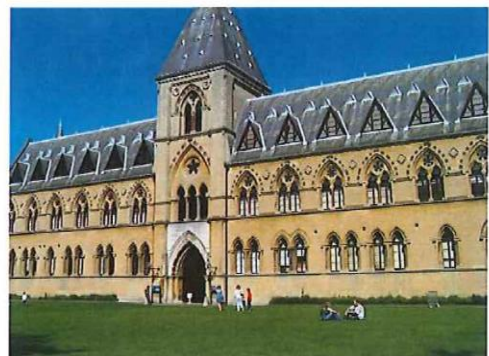
Oxford's first ever Autism Pride event is here!

- ⇒ For autistic people of all ages, diagnosed or not.
- ⇒ For anyone who loves an autistic person.
- ⇒ For people who don't really know what autism is.
- ⇒ For everyone!

**Want to find out more about the Autism Experience Group?**

**Email: [autismexperience@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:autismexperience@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk)**

Join in with our picnic, meet members of the Autism Experience Group, come and celebrate our autistic lives with us!



***We are out,  
proud and visible!***

**Saturday 22 June  
12:00-16:00  
Natural History Museum  
Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW**