

Dear Parents and Carers

Once again it has been a busy week and for one pupil in particular a VERY busy week. We had a new member of staff working with us. Henry, from Orange Class, was enlisted to support Michael in his role of Site Manager. He carried out a range of duties including, gardening, filling white roll dispensers, fixing doors and filling in holes around our gazebo. His was kitted out in his Hi-Viz and screwdriver and went off with a huge smile on his face. Unfortunately, on Wednesday our Local Governing Body set our budget for the next year and we will not be in the position to offer Henry a full time role with us (as yet).



Dates for your Diary

Friday 28th June:	Sports Day-Please see previous letter for detail
Wednesday 10th July:	Parent Consultations-Please see previous letter for detail and return ASAP
Wednesday 24th July:	Last Day of this Academic Year-14:00 finish for pupils

South Abingdon Play & Activity Day

The 5th Annual South Abingdon Play & Activity Day will take place on Saturday 13th July 2019 from 11am until 3pm at Southern Town Park. Entrance and Activities are FREE to ensure **Inclusion for ALL**

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

Our students in Green Class had another great week full of sensory activities, fun and learning. During the hand function activities this week, the children had fun holding the noisy, bouncy ball for as long as they could and using different rollers to make marks in the playdough or the sand tray. Our students were brilliant at putting big or small items in different containers and boxes. On Tuesday morning, we all enjoyed singing 'rain, rain go away' with our lovely friends from Trinity Church of Abingdon and 'praying' for the sunshine to come back soon. In Art activities the children were very creative making some beautiful raindrop sun catchers by tearing tissue paper and sticking it on laminate pouches.

Max the Dog visited Green Class on Wednesday afternoon and put a big smile on our students' faces. The children were very excited to see him and they all gave him some really nice cuddles. I was also very lucky this week, as I joined our students during their Horse riding session. I felt very proud of them as they all behaved so well during the whole session and they are all fantastic horse riders. Well done everyone!

Green Class also had a great Resonance board session this week. The children enjoyed dropping lentils on to the board and tapping to make them move and jump up and down. We all had great fun singing and participating in 'turn taking' games during our session. Our students also loved feeling the texture of the sand, smelling the sun lotion, listening to the seagulls and putting some beautiful hats on during our summer sensory story this week.



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

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



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

A great week in Yellow class, it has been lovely to have everyone back in school, we have really missed Mia and Francesca. We have continued to explore going to the seaside in our 'I do like to be beside the seaside' sensory story. We have used our hands to make marks and explore bright purple fruit compot, drawing circles and moving our fingers on our trays. The children have been really relaxed and focused on the different sensations in our tacpac sessions and we have had lots of fun using the resonance board to turn take and explore movement and vibration.



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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

Pink Class have had fabulous Communication sessions in Atmospherics and Tacpac this week, all of us engaging and responding with the adults we were with. There were lots of smiles in 'Atmospherics' as the parachute moved around us and up and down to the Indian music.

Our sensory story has continued to be 'The Clumsy Crab' and we all now clearly show our preferences during different parts of the story, whether it is the feel of the cold sea water and sand, the sound of the crab's claws tapping together, the jelly 'jelly fish', the octopus with his tentacles that curl around our hands and arms, the crab playing with the bubbles or playing hide and seek under the blanket. It's definitely a fun story which we all are enjoying!

Our Tennis sessions are continuing to be a success and we are all focusing on different skills. Some of us are exploring the equipment, like the balls and textured tennis rackets, whilst others are working on using our rackets. Well done especially to Toby this week for aiming at and trying to hit the balloons with his tennis racket. Our tennis tournament next Wednesday should be lots of fun.



There has been lots of focus with our swimming as well. Well done to Yujan who is working hard at his target trying to improve his arm movements when swimming and floating on his back.



Eye-gaze is an important part of the week for Pink class and a firm favourite with the students. It's lovely to see the focus they put into the sessions and how the activities engage them. It is great for choice making as well as games and activities.



We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class

It's been nice this week to have some nicer weather and for things to return to normality with OXSRAD and horse riding for students.

During breaktime we have been trying some writing and students have done some lovely artwork on the blackboards by the shed.

Students continue to work hard in their lessons and we are starting to get ourselves ready for sports day next Friday which should be a great event and is followed by the picnic afterwards.

On the 19th we are hoping to go to the Oasis leisure centre in Swindon and follow this up with a picnic in the park with Purple which will be a nice end to the term, letters for this will hopefully be going out next week for this.



From Joe, Liza, Esther, Matt and Olivia



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Week 3 began with the barge trip for 4 Purple students. We needed to set off early in order to get to our destination in Great Bedwyn on time. Our barge was called *Diana*. Sam did a fabulous job at helping to open the locks and Josh joined the Captain to steer the boat all the way on our return journey. Chan overcame her anxiety and went up on top deck to sit with the Captain and Lewis very happily sat up front enjoying the fresh air and the tranquillity. We saw lots of sights including a mother duck with her goslings and a pair of swans. We also had lots of waves from passers by both on and off the water! The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and although very relaxing, there was lots of snoring on the drive back to school! The students at school had a lovely relaxed day too. Will and Matt took turns to support in the younger classes continuing to develop their skills with supporting others. The class-based students cooked some biscuits under the direction of Head Chef *Mary* and enjoyed some time in the Light Room and Ball Pool followed by a swim in the afternoon. William attended his first college visit this Tuesday at Abingdon College. He met some new friends and was particularly impressed with the cafeteria which also has a vending machine. Matt attended work experience at Barnardos by himself this week and once again did a great job. The rest of the class went to Fitzwaryn for their enterprise project and continued to look after our growing plants and maintain the sensory garden. This week we planted sunflower seeds as we are going to hold a competition to see who grows the tallest before we break up.



Harry chose lunch this week – jacket potatoes. We visited the garden centre, newly named Oxford Garden Centre (originally Wyvale) on Wednesday to purchase tomato food, sunflower seeds and compost. We all thought the outside café looked great and decided we will visit again! In the afternoon we continued our focus on sunflowers by trying our own version of Vincent Van Gogh's famous piece and continued to practise our Imagine song. Thursday we visited OXSRAD as usual where some of us practised for the upcoming sports day. This week we concentrated on javelin. Brandon, Matthew CS and Josh shopped at Tesco for our jacket potato lunch whilst the others concentrated on their individual learning tasks. Will and Matt were finalizing their accreditation work ready for the upcoming moderation. Matt had his last college visit at Oxford this Friday whilst the rest of us went cycling with 'Wheels4All'. We all mucked in to prepare and get ready for lunch when we returned and quickly finished our life skills in order to enjoy Friday social club and football.

Happy Weekend everyone!

From Purple Class – Leah, Mary, Sean, Laura and Sian



News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

We have had lots more adventures this week exploring different environments. Some of us went to Abbey Meadows and looked at the different plants and animals that lived there. Our favourite part was definitely visiting the weir and seeing all the water splashing down. We also loved helping the lock keeper with opening and closing the lock for the boats to go through. The rest of us went for a walk around our local nature reserve. We loved exploring all the different paths, going through the mud and listening for birds and other animals.

In topic we have started to think about the desert. We looked at which animals live in the desert, especially looking at lizards and camels. We also explored different plants that lived there and sorted things that are there and things that are not. We enjoyed playing with sand, making sandcastles and doing lots of digging. We also explored sand in art by mixing this with paint and creating our own desert pictures.

In maths we have been learning about sharing. We practised chopping playdoh shapes in half to share between 2 people and the practised sharing playdoh between many cake cases. We also enjoyed sharing sweets between different numbers of bowls and made sure that everyone has the same amount. Some of us were even solving simple division problems. Our favourite activity was definitely sharing cake mixture between different tins.

In literacy we have been working on our mark making and sentence writing about the rainforest. Some of us have been working on writing initial sounds. Others have been using our sound mats to sound out different words. Some of us have even been writing simple sentences to say what the animals look and sound like.

Henry did a special job this week.....he helped Michael with his caretaker jobs. He was very tired after so needed a tea break afterwards.





News from Autumn Cluster



Homework ideas:

- Practise sharing in different activities i.e. sharing out food or toys for different reasons.
- Walks in the local area, spotting different features i.e. rivers, trees, plants and different animals.
- Painting activities mixing different materials in with the paint – encourage chn to fill the whole page or paint between the lines.

We are all looking forward to sports day next week and are looking forward to seeing lots of you there.

Hope you all have a fantastic weekend!

Charlotte, Tina, Ali, Nina, Maria and Kim



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

Our “Exploring Environments” topic has moved us from the rainforest to the desert this week. We had great fun interacting with some sensory exploratory activities, such as playing with a pretend desert (apologies for the amount of desert which got stuck to some children’s clothes!) and making our own mini cactuses. In literacy we thought about shape poems based on the sun, and did really well gathering and sorting vocabulary and then putting our presentation skills to the test to create or write inside a sun-shaped template.

We have been practicing division in maths this week. I have been so impressed with everyone’s focus on this, with some amazing independent work from particular children once they had had the task modelled!

Out and about, we walked to Waitrose this week to buy a snack and eat it in the café. Again, I was very impressed with the independence skills shown by some of the children, especially how they have learnt to look for higher-value coins to pay with and interact with the checkout process completely by themselves.

Katherine, Julie, Nicola, and Sarah





News from Autumn Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Happy Friday all. Our young people have made good progress in lessons this week, and whilst it's been fairly standard fare, it's also been pretty busy!

In literacy this week we have continued working on Poetry. Now that our Rainforest poems are complete we have investigated shape poems and have written our own about the sun in collaboration with work about Deserts in Topic (not Desserts as we discussed). The results have been fantastic and some of the final pieces are neat enough to look prize winning!

Maths this week has seen us working on division. Whilst we started the week just thinking about sharing between two, we've rapidly progressed onto working with bigger numbers and sharing between more groups/people. It's a good thing too that we improved, as we were using smarties to solve our calculations on Thursday! Aside from this, some of our higher ability pupils have stretched to look at repeated subtraction as a means of dividing. Certainly I know that if somebody asked me to share smarties out one by one to solve $700 \div 100$ I would fall asleep or eat them all long before finishing.



In topic we have continued working on animal adaptation and deserts, thinking about how animals survive in their different habitats. We have of course also continued our swimming lessons as well as Art, ICT, P.E. (tennis), phonics and SRE to name most if not all of the rest of our weekly sessions.

Have a fantastic weekend and we will see you all again soon.

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

~ The Gold Class Crew

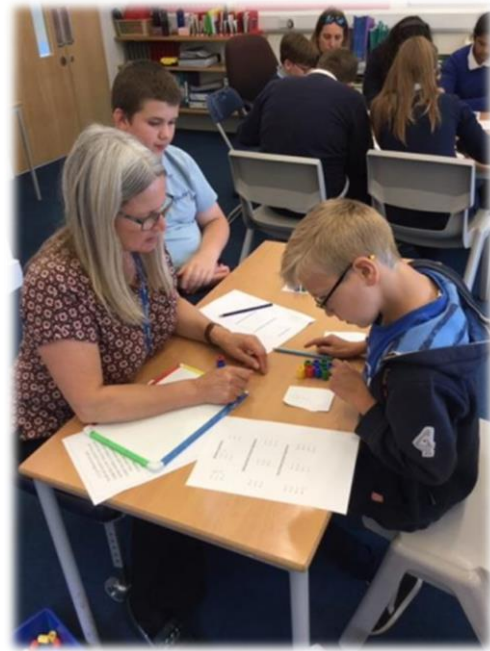


News from Autumn Cluster

Homework

Please support your child to become increasingly familiar with the concept of division. We have frequently used the term “shared between” alongside or in place of “divided by” when reading out a division sum as this helps our young people to understand what division means. When talking about repeated subtraction however, “shared between” may not always be a helpful phrase.

In our topic lesson on deserts we looked at a world map and located where we lived and where deserts might be found. Several children struggled to locate the UK and would benefit from a home reminder on this front.





News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

We have been working extremely hard in our communication sessions. For morning snack we choose what we would like using our symbols, whether we want fruit, mini-cheddars or something from our lunchbox. We are fantastic at requesting our favourite toy by exchanging a picture of it and we are becoming very good at using a communication board to choose an activity. Our class favourite is bubbles! We've enjoyed time in ball pool, trying to count all the hundreds of balls and had an amazing music session all the different objects we can knock on.



Have a lovely weekend and let us know if you did anything fun or just had a good rest,

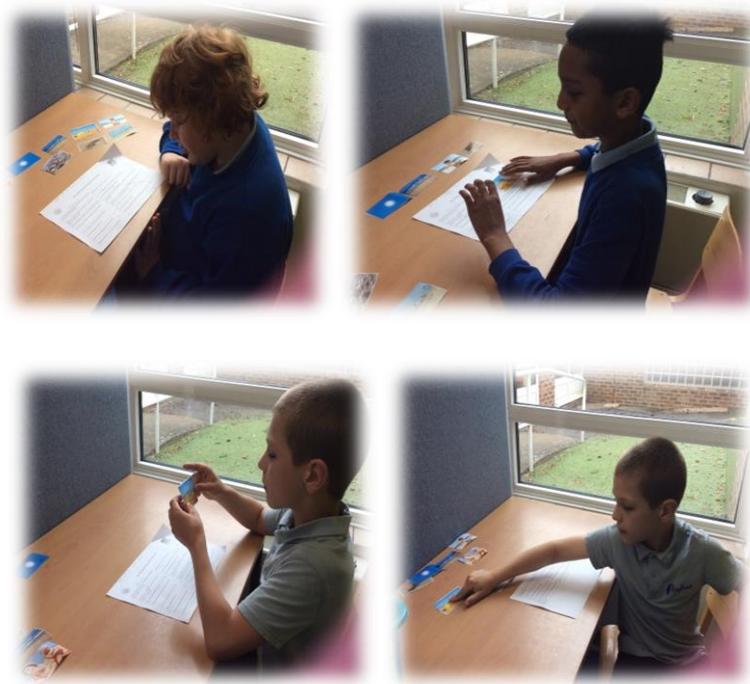
Emily, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

This week we have continued with our Sensory Story Oh! I do like to be beside the seaside. The children explored the sensory objects and sounds and very much enjoyed rubbing in and smelling their own sun lotion. The sea shells made a great rattling sound and were cool, hard and smooth. There was some great focused reading, listening and vocabulary building work. There was plenty of role playing the story and it was great to have a turn spraying everyone with water and then using the beach towel to get dry.



The Cooking lesson is one of the children's favourite times of the week. The skills of spreading and cutting the ingredients is getting better and better. This week, the children made requests and were very competent using PECS. There were some wonderful summer cucumber sandwiches to sample during the activity and afterwards.





News from Winter Cluster

Across the curriculum, the children are utilising PECS and symbols more and more as time goes by. It's fabulous to see children using PECS strips and symbols without being prompted. Although we can't always give children something in particular at that moment, we are finding out what children want and can then offer them an opportunity to do that activity later. For example, one of our boys loves doing Art, so we have timetabled more painting and multi media opportunities.



As you look at these outdoor pictures, it seems very bare of play resources! However, this is not the case! One of our boys here is demonstrating how to choose using our outdoor resource PECS board. The children are encouraged to choose exactly what they want and we are seeing lots of improvements in playing in a more engaged and purposeful way. But we always have a little bit of time to say 'Cheese' for the camera.

From Jane, Zoe, Pauline and Lynette

CELEBRATING ITS 5TH BIRTHDAY!!!



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For further details please contact - Oxfordshire Play Association
Tel: 01865 779474 / www.oxonplay.org.uk / martin.gillett@oxonplay.org.uk

This is an Open Access event. Please note that NO Childcare is provided. There is NO Parking on site.

Food and Refreshments will need to be purchased, you are most welcome to bring a picnic.



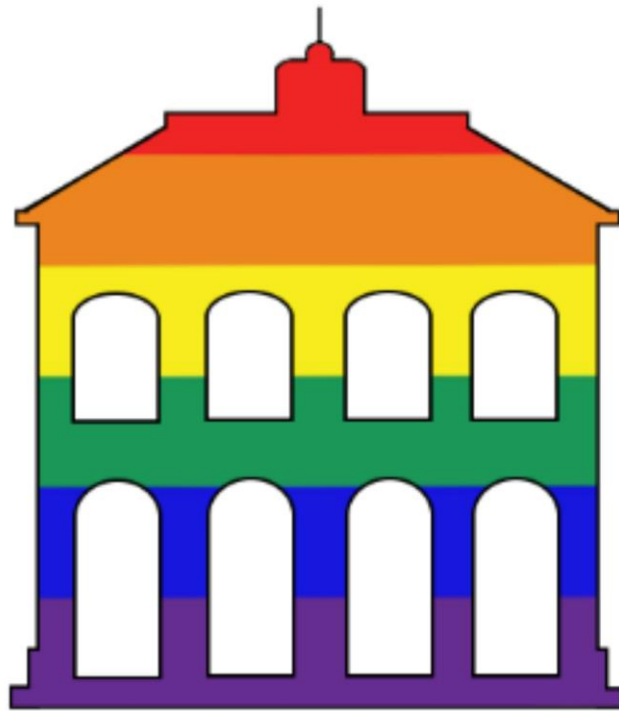
**OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL**



Elizabeth Jane Foundation



FLYING THE FLAG



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**SATURDAY JUNE 22nd
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ABINGDON MARKET PLACE

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