

Dear Parents and Carers

How quickly this year has gone, it seemed like only yesterday that we were welcoming new pupils and staff into our school. This is the last newsletter of the year.

This week some of our pupils have been having transition visits, meeting and getting to know their new teachers and class members for September. Our new teachers for September, Maria, Rachael, Katie and Sean have all made visits and met the pupils and gathered information to support transitions. We have also had visits from new pupils joining us. Jake wore his special t-shirt bought for the day. It says 'The absolute best day ever'. When I spoke to his mum, she said that it really was the absolute best day ever for Jake and his family, now that he has a place in our truly special school.



We have had our cluster end of year assemblies. I hope you have been able to attend. Our final whole school assembly is being held next week, when we say goodbye to some of our older pupils who are off to college in both Oxford and Abingdon. This year we say goodbye to Lewis, Matthew and William.

Some of the pupils from Gold Class, with the support of Matthew and William from Purple Class, used their expert organisational and cooking skills in order to plan, prepare, cook and serve a 2 course meal to our Chair of Governors Fernando, Kate and myself. We were served chicken curry and rice, with all the accompaniments, with chocolate brownie and ice cream for dessert. I have to say, it is the best chocolate brownie I have ever tasted. Fernando enjoyed his meal too.



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 24th July:

Last Day of this Academic Year-14:00 finish for pupils

Wednesday 4th September:

School opens for Autumn Term

Monday 30th September:

School closed for pupils (Inset day)

I hope you have a lovely summer holiday with your children and we look forward to welcoming all the pupils back in September.

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

Green Class have had such a wonderful year. The time has gone very quickly and we are so close to the end of this very busy and exciting term. Before we start writing what we have been doing this week, we would like to say how proud we all are of the amazing progress that our students have made during this academic year. The children have been working hard on their ILP targets, their walking skills, their social skills and on so many other areas of the curriculum. We definitely need to say a very big well done to our students for all the great things they have achieved during this year!

On Monday afternoon, the children loved participating in the Music for Autism session that took place in the big hall. Some of our students did some great dancing while Cat and Jo were singing and some others really enjoyed exploring the different sounds that the violin and the ocean drum made. The children loved taking part in the session and they had a great time playing with different materials and musical instruments. In our Sensology session this week, Green Class had fun touching and playing with the sand and tasting some cold lemon juice as well. During Art activities, the children made some great 'ocean bottles' using plastic bottles, sand, plastic sea animals, oil and food colouring. The children enjoyed feeling the texture of the shells and the sand and they loved pouring the water into the bottles, mixing it with food colouring and shaking their 'ocean bottles' afterwards.

Green Class also went on a trip this week to Swings and Smiles. The weather was great and our students had so much fun exploring the place and taking part in different exciting activities. The children particularly loved jumping on the trampoline and playing with their friends in the soft play area. Having our lunches in the sunshine was also one of our favourite parts of the trip. Thank you to everyone that helped us with our trip and made this day so lovely for the children and the staff.

The highlight of this week has definitely been our Cluster Assembly on Friday afternoon. It was so nice to celebrate this amazing year with our students' parents, carers and lovely friends as well. We felt very proud giving the certificates to our students and giving them a big clap for their great work and achievements. We would definitely like to say a big thank you to all of the parents, carers, volunteers and staff who made this year so lovely for our Class and helped our students to develop their skills and learn so many things.



News from Spring Cluster



Enjoy the Summer holidays and have a lovely time!

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



News from Spring Cluster

Yellow Class

On Monday we had some amazing musicians come to work with us, we loved exploring the vibrations and rhythms as you can see from the photos.

We have all enjoyed exploring cold ice cream during hand function group, making circles and marks as it melted on our trays.

We continue to work hard in our swimming sessions, moving around the pool and working on our physio.

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend our end of year assembly it was lovely to have the opportunity to celebrate all that we have achieved this year and to award certificates.

We are all looking forward to our trip to Swings and Smiles on Monday.



Wishing you all lovely Summer.

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



News from Summer Cluster

Pink Class

It's been such a wonderful year for Pink class. All of the students have worked hard to achieve their targets and participated enthusiastically in the weekly variety of sensory experiences. They have enjoyed the company of their friends and the adults in the class.

Here are some photos from this year.



We hope you all have a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you all in September, along with our two new class members Ryan and Katie. We look forward very much to them joining us.

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



News from Summer Cluster

Blue Class

As we enter the last week of term we are starting to perform some transitions and handover information to new teachers and staff of the students in Blue Class.

Can I firstly congratulate the students on all of their achievements this year. Our idea has been to provide lifelong learning skills for everyone and the development that all have shown within this and the relationships that have been built with staff and peers have been lovely to see.

The staff team in Blue Class have also been fantastic in helping to support students learning and have made all of these things possible.

It has been a pleasure being the teacher of the students at this school and I would like to thank you for the support you have given to us.

On Friday we are off to the Oasis in Swindon followed by a picnic and this will be a great way to finish off the year and celebrate in a lovely setting.

Over the summer there are a number of opportunities to view some of the activities we have taken part in and have a go yourselves. Many of these continue in the summer and run holiday clubs such as:

OXS RAD Holiday club - <https://www.oxsrad.org/>

Stonehill Community Garden (Open on a Wednesday) - <http://www.stonehillgardens.co.uk/>

Earth Trust (Wittenham Clumps) - <https://earthtrust.org.uk/>

Millets farm - <https://milletsfarmcentre.com/>

Peachcroft farm - <https://www.peachcroft.co.uk/>

Cothill Nature reserve - <https://www.ocv.org.uk/sites.php?id=42>

Joe, Matt, Olívia, Esther, Liza and Sarah



News from Summer Cluster

Purple Class

Well we have reached the penultimate week of term 6 and Purple Class have continued with their planning for the end of the school year. This week we measured our sunflowers grown at Fitzwaryn School during our enterprise visits, decorated the pots and took them home.

We had a visit on Wednesday from a new student Mya who will be joining us in September. Mya spent the day with us and really seemed to enjoy her time! Students needed to choose their meal for our end of term celebration meal at the Boundary House Pub next Tuesday, so it can be pre-ordered as there will be 21 of us! This is also a special meal to celebrate the achievements of the leavers and wish them well for the future. Our Head Lorraine will be joining us too and William has already challenged her to a game of pool!

We had a lovely walk down at Abbey Meadows with Mya and spent a little time in the playground before we came back to school. Students have continued to practise their singing and do some recordings. This week Mya even joined in to sing our song.

William and Matt also joined a few students from Gold this week to cook a special lunch for Lorraine, Kate and Fernando, our Chair of Governors. The menu was chicken curry and chocolate brownie with ice cream. The group had planned the menu, shopped for the ingredients, set the table and cooked the food. Feedback was that the lunch was delicious!

This week was our last week for spinning session at OXSRAD and some of us went for a walk around the OXSRAD grounds to gain an idea of what is there. We found a great place for outside sports for next year.

Finally, Friday has arrived and what a better way to end the week than our long-awaited swimming trip to OASIS in Swindon. A great time in the pool with the wave machine and slides followed by our picnic lunch – what a fabulous day spent with our friends.

Happy weekend everyone!

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



News from Summer Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Orange Class

We can't believe we have reached the last week in the school year. We had such a fantastic year and the children have achieved so much. We are really proud of them all.

Thank you so much to everyone that came to the cluster assembly this week. We all had great fun acting out 'We are going on a polar bear hunt'. We were impressed with how well all the children joined in and were especially pleased with how well they all joined in with our song 'Animal freeze'.

In other news.....we finished our maths lessons this year with some work on direction. We enjoyed hiding teddies outside and following instructions to find these. Some of us also enjoyed following instructions to move around a grid and driving a car following directions.

We have been busy in Art making leaving cards and enjoyed exploring painting and different materials. We also made some paper plate faces of the children for our friends at St Edmunds to say thank you for letting us visit. We also made a special book for Klaudia as it is her last week at our school before she moves to Scotland.

We also loved our last few music lessons. We had a great time with music Steve all the children joined in brilliantly with the words and tried to join in with some rhythms. They have made great progress in music with Corrine and have all be joining in with the actions and words...our favourite is definitely 'We are going to the zoo tomorrow'

We also celebrated Liam and Oliver's birthday.....which made a very exciting week!





News from Autumn Cluster



Hope you all have a fantastic summer holidays!

Charlotte, Tina, Ali, Nina, Maria and Kim



News from Autumn Cluster

Red Class

The end of term is approaching fast now! We were really excited to have our transition morning yesterday where we all practiced getting together into our new classes for September. We also welcomed the three new students from other schools who will be joining Red. It all went very successfully and all of the children were very sensible and friendly to each other. We're sure all the children will be very happy next year in their new class groups.

We have continued to be very busy this week. On Monday we had a visit from Jo and Cat from Music For Autism, who led us in a music session, the highlight of which was a drumming workshop which all of the children really enjoyed – we would love to do this again. On Tuesday the out and about group walked to the Abbey Gardens and enjoyed looking at the flowers and the folly ruins. We also made a detour to Waitrose on the way to buy some ice lollies!

It was great to see so many adults at our cluster assembly on Wednesday. The children loved performing their play which they developed themselves in literacy lessons over the last couple of weeks. The choir were also very excited to perform "Shotgun", which they had been asking to do all year! Thank you very much for coming.

More generally, we would all like to say a big thank you for all your support over the year and we hope you have a wonderful (and hopefully relaxing) summer holiday. Next week we will have no swimming due to whole-school end of term events, and next term Red will swim on Tuesdays (in two groups).

See you in September!

Katherine, Julie, Nicola, and Sarah





News from Autumn Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster

Gold Class

Happy Friday all! There's good news and bad news today: we are now only three days away from our summer holiday however, that also means that this is our last weekly newsletter of the year!

This week we have kept the pace going but have begun to wind down in some of our subjects. Pupils loved our trip to Wittenham Clumps on Monday and participated whole heartedly, racing (or even rolling) down the steep hill, playing 'Sardines' in the woods and 'Pooh Sticks' at the river.

In literacy we have kept things simple this week with some writing challenges and speaking and listening activities. Pupils independently wrote a short story, rolling a dice to choose plot information, and later in the week showed off their ability to blag when we played 'Just a Minute' and asked them to talk about a silly topic set to a countdown timer.

In Maths we have looked at coordinates, starting simply with gridded coordinates such as (A,1), (B,2), before moving onto simple coordinates involving an x and y axis e.g. (7, 5), where the first number is the x axis and the second the y . We enjoyed looking at treasure islands and coordinate pictures and all pupils were able to access the game 'Battleships' calling out coordinates to sink opponents' ships.

In topic we have prepared for our trip to the living rainforest by comparing the UK to what the environment might be like in a rainforest area. Pupils watched a BBC documentary clip in class before solving related questions and tasks.

We have now had our final art and ICT lessons and have also concluded our swimming although one group had to miss it due to our cluster assembly on Wednesday; thanks to all those that were able to attend. Well done also to the meal-project pupils who planned and prepared such an outstanding spread for our three executives!

I think the only thing left to do is to thank you all for such a marvellous year. You have been superb and it has been a pleasure working with you all. We look forwards to seeing you all in September, refreshed, tanned? and raring to go no matter where you may be.

Richard, Teresa, Julie, Marie, Helen, Hannah, Sian and Lorraine G!
~ The Gold Class Crew

*Please enjoy a selection of some of our best photos from
the year!*



News from Autumn Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster





News from Autumn Cluster





News from Winter Cluster

Silver Class

We've made the most of our last full week in Silver Class, playing games and spending time together before we break up for summer. Our end of year picnic was superb, thank you to those that joined and feasted with us. We have been doing all of the things that we enjoy the most at school such as swimming, painting, ball pool, trampoline, singing and playing musical instruments. Big congratulations to all of Silver Class for working so hard on their communication this year. Many of us have had our first introduction to PECS but have come on so far.



If we don't see you before the end of term, enjoy your summer holiday and enjoy plenty of ice cream,

Emily, Niki, Jill, Jimena and Annie



News from Winter Cluster

White Class

We've had visitors in the classroom this week. Katie, the new teacher for Black Class came in to get to know the children and to see how well they are doing in their Swimming. She was very impressed with the independence the children were showing with their changing. She was also impressed with the children's enthusiasm for the water and growing ability to accept instruction to develop their skills and stamina in the water. Sean, the new teacher for Blue Class also popped in to see his children. He saw some great sitting and joining in for the Good Morning routine, followed by a vigorous exercise shakeout. The children will soon be visiting their new classrooms and getting to know the children and staff they will be with in September.



We would like to invite all parents and carers to an end of year tea, coffee and juice afternoon in the White Class garden. We will start at 1.30pm and hope for continued good weather so we can enjoy time in the outdoor space.

Have a lovely weekend.

From Jane, Zoe, Pauline and Lynette

Space and you!



Saturday 28th September 2019

A relaxed day of hands-on physics at the Department of Physics, University of Oxford for children and young adults with Additional Support Needs.

Department of Physics



Space and you!

Join us for an event that shows that science is for everyone

The event

You will explore different aspects of space science through hands-on and engaging activities; from building the early universe with Duplo to being taken on a guided tour of the stars.

Who is the event for?

This event is only open to families with Children or Young Adults with ASN. Siblings are very welcome.

What to expect

- A relaxed environment with no constraints
- Lots of hands-on and engaging science
- Plenty of friendly helpers
- Activities for all ages and abilities
- Wheelchair access
- A chill out room in case it's needed.

Booking

This is a pre-book event and you will be allocated a two hour session. To register please go to the following web page <http://www2.physics.ox.ac.uk/my-forms/space-and-you> or email Leanne or Sian on asn@physics.ox.ac.uk.
