

ROWAN GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Christmas Newsletter 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas has arrived once more, following a busy and exciting term! It has been a joy to watch our pupils settle back into life at our school and enjoy many more activities and opportunities following the disruption of the Pandemic.

The staff team at Rowan Gate Primary School have again worked tirelessly and flexibly to ensure that our pupils are safe and happy in school, and make progress each day.

I have been delighted to see the children thoroughly enjoying Christmas activities in school again, and for you to be invited into classrooms again. The trips, outings and broad curriculum activities enrich the children's experiences and understanding of topics.

I must thank you all for your support, which is so very important and enables the children to make progress.

I am very proud of our wonderful school, and my sincere thanks go to all of our staff who work each day to ensure the best outcomes for our pupils.

I must thank all of the Governors for their time and commitment to our school, offering support and challenge in our work.

I hope that you enjoy this edition of our festive newsletter and wish you all a safe, peaceful and happy Christmas, and a very happy New Year!

I look forward to seeing the pupils again on January 4th 2023.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Laura Clarke'.

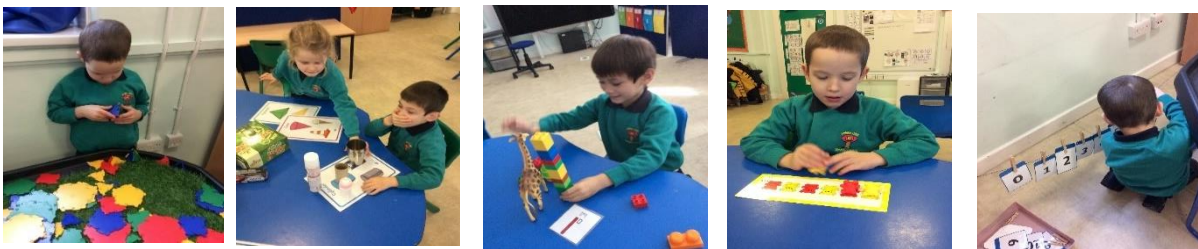
Laura Clarke

Bananas-E Class

We have had a wonderful first term in Bananas class. This term has been filled with lots of laughter, friendships, learning and wow moments. We have had lots of fun settling into new routines and for some of us, a new school!

We have been working hard in maths, covering number, data, measure, shape and place value.

The children have been introduced to new mathematical equipment and they have all made amazing progress. It has been wonderful to see their confidence in maths grow as they learn new skills and consolidating prior knowledge.



In English we have been covering stories from a range of cultures, myths and legends, captions and labels and lists. We have explored these stories through sensory exploration, cooking and a variety of structured activities. We have also participated in weekly phonics sessions, exploring a letter sound a week and focusing on environmental, instrumental and body percussion sounds.



Our two themes in Topic have been 'My Senses' and then 'What colours can you see in a rainbow'. We have enjoyed many creative and fun activities during Topic, including art and design activities, music sessions, cooking sessions and science experiments



Bananas-T Class



We've had a busy term in Bananas with all the children settling in to school life and getting used to the daily structure and routines. They've been amazing!

Our topics so far have included 'Ourselves' and 'Houses and Homes'.

The children have worked hard on their early literacy and maths skills and have had fun exploring all sorts of messy and sensory play.

The children have also been working hard to improve their fine motor and gross motor skills, using mark making tools, tweezers and kinetic sand, for example, and larger equipment in PE and on the playground.

We have been very proud of the children's confidence to explore their environment and the activities available, both inside and outside.



Bananas-W Class

Bananas class have had fun exploring our topics 'All about me' and 'Houses & Homes'. We have focused on different themes each week, including 'My Family', 'My Senses', 'Building Houses' and 'Animal Houses'.



We used mirrors to explore our faces, look at our eye colour and hair colour. We drew round our bodies and painted them. We explored photographs of our families and who lives in our house. We built junk model houses and towers with large and small building blocks. We explored 'in' and fitting inside spaces. We also took turns using cause and effect technology on the interactive whiteboard.

In maths, we have explored number, shape, and measure. We used measuring tapes and string to see how tall we are for our class display. In literacy, we have enjoyed many stories, engaging with sensory props and switches. We have also explored making marks using different tools in a range of materials, such as oats and sand.



During cooking, we have practiced taking turns and listening to instructions, as well as using our senses to explore ingredients. We have made banana muffins, pizza pinwheels, porridge and 'Gruffalo crumble'. We also explored lots of different materials during art and design, including paint and clay. We pushed sticks and pinecones into clay to make patterns and painted on different surfaces, such as foil and glass, to create mirror portraits and firework windows.



Apricots-E Class



Where did the first term go? The days are now darker for longer and the weather more unpredictable but it has been a really busy term for Apricots Class with many exciting activities!

This term we started with a topic based around 'Using Our Senses'. We enjoyed trips to the park and exploring around school to 'see', 'hear' and 'feel' different things. We also did activities to experience 'hot' and 'cold' and 'wet' and 'dry'.



During the second half term we changed topic and we looked at 'What Colours Can You See In A Rainbow?' We made rainbow/cloud streamers, colourful chameleons and shiny sculptures. We experimented with making shadows and our own rainbows using light sources.



Aside from topic-based activities, the children have made some amazing progress in core subjects English and Maths. They have tried so hard and we have seen almost daily changes as they become more confident in their own ability!



We have had a wonderful term and all the children have achieved so much, Well Done Apricots Class!

Apricots-T Class

There have been many changes within Apricots class and the children have coped brilliantly. In the short amount of time that I have known them I have observed how much progress they have made and how they have grown. Well done Apricots class!



On Wednesday afternoons the children take part in PE sessions with Josh our PE coach. The children have enjoyed exploring all the equipment in the hall.

On Tuesday afternoon we were lucky to have Emily visit Apricots to do a music session with us.

Our topic for this term has been 'Houses and Homes'. Some of the stories we have read as a class include, 'The Gruffalo', 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'The Three Little Pigs'. We have loved making Gruffalo playdough, cutting Goldilocks' Spaghetti hair. We have also celebrated Children in Need where we made Pudsey biscuits.



Even though the children work really hard, we always have time to relax!

Apricots-W Class

The Autumn term has been a successful one for Apricots class. All of the children have settled well. We have been working really hard to build relationships with the new adults in the classroom and been forming some new friendships with children on the playground.



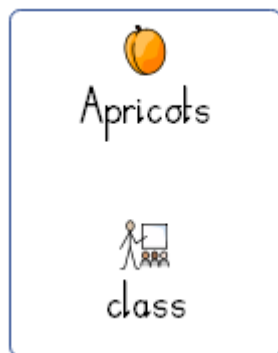
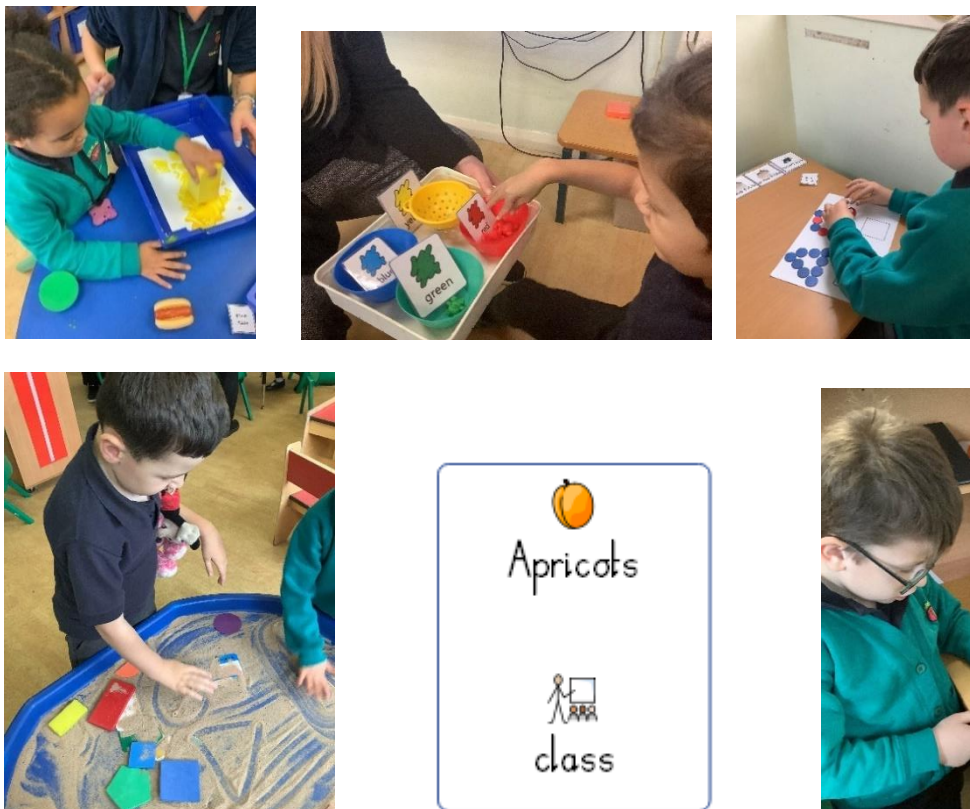
In English, we've explored and listened to a variety of Aesop's fables. Children have explored the fables through role play and tactile play. We have also looked at captions linking this to our Topic work of 'Is it yum? Or yuck?' We have used tools such as Clicker 8, colourful semantics and symbols to build on our skills in reading, writing and speaking. We continue to practise our phonics skills in weekly lessons and daily key skills activities.



This term our main creative focus has been about 'Is it yum? Or yuck?'. We have enjoyed our topic, exploring through play and a range of practical and exciting activities! Children have looked at foods from around the world, touching, tasting and smelling new things. We have also made pizzas which the children thoroughly enjoyed.



In Maths we have completed topics such as Shape, Number and Data. We have enjoyed being hands on in activities, using a variety of ways to explore 2D and 3D shapes. We have looked at different representations of number and sorting in a variety of ways, in data.



We have all had a great Autumn term in Apricots and are looking forward to see what the Spring term has to offer.

Well done Apricots class!

Apples-T Class

All of the children have settled well into school now and have been enjoying our topic of Houses and Homes this term. We have made some Gingerbread Houses using shiny materials, sequins and buttons.



We have explored materials and resources found in our houses. The children enjoyed the shaving foam and printing with objects found in the kitchen. We also used big bricks and boxes to build our own houses.



The children have experienced the story of The 3 Little Pigs and explored the different materials to make the houses for the little pigs.

We have also been very lucky to have had music sessions this term which the children have really enjoyed.



We are all looking forward to the Christmas break and hope you all have a happy time with your families and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

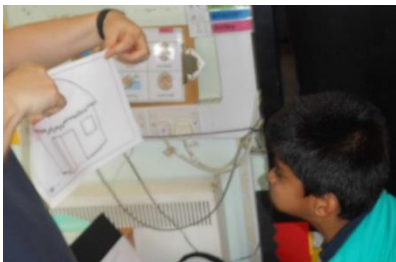


Apples - W Class



I cannot believe how quickly the first term has sped past and we already in the countdown to Christmas. All of the children have settled into Apples class routines and are adapting to the changes that being able to mix more with other classes have brought. The children have particularly enjoyed being able to join friends from other classes at playtimes and for assemblies.

Our Topic for the first term was 'Would you rather be a dog or a dolphin?' and our Topic song was 'Yes I can.' The children really enjoyed singing along and even made up some of their own verses. We have looked at a variety of different areas related to animals including habitats, how to look after pets as well as animals and their young. We have shared a number of stories with an animal theme such as 'There's a Shark in the Park', 'The Three Little Pigs' and 'Rumble in the Jungle.'



In the second half term we got straight on with our next Topic 'Is it Yum or Yuk?' Our song was 'Do you like spaghetti yogurt.' The children have all explored, cooked and in some cases tasted a variety of different foods, some definitely being enjoyed more than others! We

have shared stories including 'Handa's Surprise', 'The Tiger Child' and 'Oliver's Vegetables' where a little boy who normally only eats chips finds and eats different vegetables that his Grandad grows in his garden.



I am so proud of all the children in PE and swimming. They have all worked really hard on their listening and independence skills, following instructions stopping and starting various activities when asked and dressing and undressing as independently as they can.

The children have all made steady progress in the core subjects of English and Maths and celebrate their success in our 'Good Work' assembly each week. It has been a true delight to watch all of the children continue to grow in confidence giving them the courage to try new things.

I am looking forward to seeing or hearing about what everyone does over the break and want to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and wish you all the best for 2023.

Well done Apples Class for a fantastic first term!

Oranges-W Class

The Autumn term has been a successful and fun start to the school year for Oranges class. We have enjoyed building good relationships within the class, becoming a strong team and settling into routines. Children have especially enjoyed learning all about animals and food.



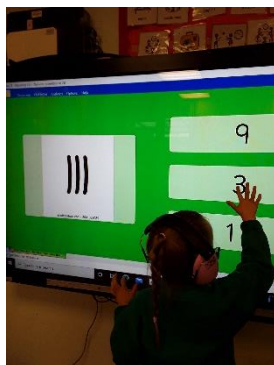
In English, we've explored and listened to a variety of stories with patterns and myths and legends. Children have also experienced different writing styles such as lists, labels and captions. As a class we've used tools such as clicker 8, colourful semantics and symbols to build on skills in reading, writing and speaking. We've also continued to practice our phonics skills in weekly lessons and daily key skills activities with great success!



This term our main creative focus has been about animals and food. We have explored both topics through play and a range of practical, exciting and explorative activities! Children explored animal habitats in tactile play and investigating a variety of foods from different countries around the world.



In Maths we have completed topics such as Number, Subtraction and Addition, shape, data, positions and Measure. We have enjoyed being hands on in a variety of number activities and exploring our understanding of numbers to 20. Children have enjoyed practical activities such as baking and tactile shape play.



We have all had a great Autumn term in Oranges and the children have already achieved so much this school year!

Well done Oranges class!

Limes-E Class

We have had a busy term, enjoying lots of different learning opportunities together. Our main topic, as you know, has been Zoo Life. We have found out about many varied animals and their different habitats. We especially liked playing with toy animals with various sensory materials, such as flour and water. We trust you will love seeing the varied artwork we have created, inspired by different animals.

In English we have shared the story "Handa's Surprise". In Science we have been learning about animals, the human body and how we should look after ourselves.

We would like to share a few photos with you. The children especially enjoy using ICT to support their Maths learning.



We have been thinking about how we can look after the earth in RE lessons.



We try to support each child's individual interests and make the most of every learning opportunity.



A highlight was welcoming many of you in to make Christmas decorations with us!

Limes-W Class

This Term has been a brilliant start to the school year for everyone in Limes class. All of the children have settled really well, and we are very impressed with all the excellent work the children have done.



Our themes this term have been 'Animal Kingdom' and 'Food in Stories'. The children have done some amazing work related to these. They have been finding out all about different types of animals; what they look like, how they sound and where they live. They have also tried lots of different foods, tasting, smelling and using them in creative activities.



We have made some lovely artwork related to our themes, using painting, collage, and printing.

Alongside our theme work, all of the children in Limes class have been working super hard on their Maths, English and other subject work.



We have been improving our listening skills, by sharing books as a class, reading some brilliant stories. In Maths, everyone has been working on their skills in counting up to and beyond 10, and have done some great work looking at 2D and 3D shapes.



We wish everyone in Limes class and all their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





Lemons-W Class

Our Topic for the Autumn Term was 'Dinosaurs'. We explored this topic through a range of activities in Geography, History, Science, Computing, Music, Art and Design, Maths and English.



Our learning in Science focused on adaptation. We explored what dinosaurs looked like, how their colour and markings helped them to camouflage, hunt and survive.

In English we read a range of texts based on the dinosaur theme such as 'Dinosaur Dreams' and 'Harry and the Dinosaurs make a Christmas Wish'. We developed our descriptive skills observing and describing a variety of characters and settings. We took part in role play activities which we thoroughly enjoyed. Children are growing more confident in Phonics, practising mark making and reading and spelling words containing a range of sounds.

In Maths we explored number, statistics, adding and taking away. Children particularly enjoyed singing and joining in with counting with songs such as 'Ten Green Bottles', 'Ten Fat Sausages' or 'Five Little Ducks'. We also explored money, recognising coins, counting them and using money to buy items in our class shop.

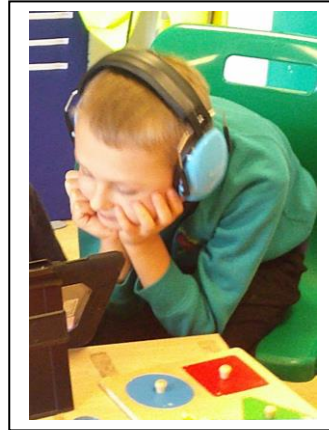


In RE we learned about churches and celebrations that take place in them such as weddings or baptisms. We explored these by practical activities and role play. We made stained glass windows and baked cakes for a wedding party.

During PE we practised football skills such as dribbling and shooting, as well as gymnastics.

Children enjoyed our weekly swimming sessions in the school's hydro pool.

A visit to the Soft Play Room and Sensory Room is always high on our favourites list as well.



In PSHE we learned about choices and how these affect our relationships with other people. We explored this theme through discussions about what makes a good friend. We practised these skills through a variety of games and activities which allowed us to reflect on how our actions affect others.



Thank you for all your support throughout this term.

Have a relaxing Christmas break.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Blackberries - W Class



The weather has been so lovely this last term the time has flown by in Blackberries class! The children have really enjoyed getting into our Dinosaurs topic and our class trips.

Our Topic we have been learning about everything to do with dinosaurs, we have been looking at different types of dinosaurs, where they lived and what they ate. We made volcanoes in art, drew dinosaurs on the computer in ICT and went for walks to look at our environment in Geography.



In science we continued our learning from Topic to create our own dinosaur Habitats. As well as looking at teeth, looking at similarities and differences between us and dinosaurs



In English we have been looking at money amongst other things and in English we recently looked at poetry, as well as re-writing books with our friends.



We have had an amazing term and I know the children will continue to go from strength to strength in the January term.

Happy Holidays Everyone.



Cherries-E Class

Our theme this term has been Earth and Space and we have really enjoyed learning about the planets, space, the history of space travel and what it is like to live on board the International Space Station. We have learnt about the lives of astronauts like Neil Armstrong, Chris Hadfield and the British astronaut, Tim Peake. We also looked at the influence of the scientist Sir Isaac Newton on space travel nearly 400 years ago.



In Computing, we have been learning about programming and enjoying using the Beebots. We have also been collecting data and making graphs and pictograms.

In English we have been learning about Film Narratives like *Morph*, *Wallace and Gromit* and *Whatever Next*, and we have all honed our drama skills and had a go at acting out our favourite characters.

Science has been learning about Space, Magnets and Forces which has involved making parachutes, helicopters, pencil rockets and seeing how far we can make a balloon travel along some string.



In Maths, we have been getting practical with number skills, data, fractions, time, money and position and direction.

In PSHE, we have been learning about relationships and working together. We have also been talking about Topical Issues and we have made a collage about the sea and how rubbish causes pollution in the sea. I hope it has encouraged the children to be careful to recycle their rubbish at home.

In PE, we have been swimming and doing gymnastics and games.

Cherries class wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year!



Cherries-W Class

This term we have enjoyed exploring our topic on Boots and Shoes!!

We were able to explore and expand our knowledge of all different types of boots and shoes. We enjoyed exploring different types of shoes each week including Wellies, Flip Flops, socks, shoes and slippers. We were able to engage in a weekly story to support our learning and enjoyed investigating the different sensory props.



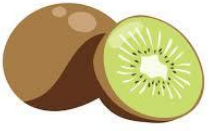
We have loved our weekly visits to Boost Trampoline Park, swimming and PE sessions. Parachute Games is most definitely a class favourite in PE.



We thoroughly enjoy regular walks to the park and visits to the school soft play and sensory rooms. Throughout the term we have explored the different play equipment at the park and have explored taking turns and playing cooperatively with our peers.



In RE we have been exploring the Christmas Story a character a week. We are looking forward to our trip to the farm to see all the animals in the Christmas Story and to watch the real Nativity!



Kiwis-W Class

Where did the first term go? The days are getting shorter and the weather chillier but it has been a busy term for Kiwis Class with many exciting activities.

This term saw the introduction of our new topic of boots and shoes. We have spent a great deal of time looking at different types of shoes, made our own shoes out of various materials including food and even opened our very own shoe shop!



One story we particularly enjoyed this term was 'Going on a bear hunt' where the children enjoyed a sensory version of the story using instruments and props.



We have had a really busy and wonderful term and all the children have achieved so much, Well Done Kiwis Class! We hope you have a very Merry Christmas!



Pears-W Class

This term we have engaged in our topic Dinosaurs through Geography, History, Computing and Art and Design. This has involved us taking part in a trip to the Jurassic landscape at Irchester Country Park where we saw first hand where Dinosaurs had walked.



In English we have shown our skills in phonics where we have practised naming the letter, saying the sound and beginning to blend. We are growing in confidence when using mark making and writing tools to create marks or recognisable shapes and letters. We all enjoyed sharing a story either individually or as a whole class and have used stories as a stimulus for our English work.



In Maths we have enjoyed using a variety of resources including Beads and Numicon to count fluently and recall number facts; Rekenrek and Ten Frames to show amounts, adding and subtracting objects.



We have explored how the landscape looked during the time Dinosaurs roamed the planet and during History and Geography lessons, we explored what materials would be used to make a nest to keep dinosaur eggs safe.

We have learnt how to keep ourselves healthy through diet and personal care and how we can make choices around the games, activities and healthy food options we choose during our PSHE lessons.



In RE we have explored sacred texts and explored different religious buildings.

During PE we have been practising our ball skills, catching, rolling and dribbling. We have been using our bodies to balance and move on apparatus, strengthening our core and upper body.

Thank you for supporting your children during their first term in Pears. The children have made a really good start to the school year and are working well both individually and as a whole class

Pears Team wish you Seasons Greetings and a Happy New Year.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for the wonderful time I have had teaching your children as I leave to take on a new opportunity in a school nearer to my home. Wishing you all well, Donna Lewis





Grapes-W Class

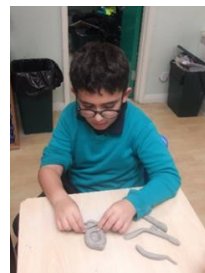
This term has been all about shoes and boots in Grapes. First, we looked at the shoe factories of Northamptonshire and compared them from the past to now. We looked at lots of interesting types of shoe and tried on some we wouldn't wear every day! We made and decorated a wide range of shoes making clay shoes and stitching moccasin shoes for our class shoe display. We also looked at new artists like Andy Warhol and copied his techniques. We zoomed in using 'Google Earth' and looked at maps of Northampton to see where the shoe factories were and are. We had an excellent trip to the Northampton Shoe Museum and enjoyed looking at the history of shoes and how they were made in this very interactive and modern museum. We have enjoyed listening to a range of shoe songs and singing along and using a range of instruments to play along. We then invented our own moves and dances for the songs.



In RE we learnt about the teaching of Jesus and his miracles. In term two our topic was called 'Spiritual Art'. We made a group collage and thought carefully about the things that are special and precious to us.

In PHSE we developed play skills and communication skills. We role played being a doctor and thought about what job we may do when we are older. In our second term our topic was called 'valuing money' we role played being a shop keeper in a shoe shop, we looked at how we might give money to charity and the things we like to buy.

The first science topic was 'Light and Shadows' in which we did a lot of experiments making shadow puppets and using prisms to bend and split light. We also tested materials to see which were opaque, translucent and transparent. Our second science topic was called 'Electricity' and it covered electrical safety and mains and battery power. We also learnt to make circuits and name the components and make and test basic circuits from a diagram. We had a great time using the buzzers, motors and bulbs.



In ICT we have looked at how we keep safe online and using the iPad and computers. We then used the computer to capture images and make collages of images using PicCollage. We looked at how to take photographs with an iPad and film something in a short video. We also used software called 2animate on Purple Mash to make a stickman animation. In term two we collected data and made a range of graphs using 2graph and 2count to organise information.

We have had weekly PE lessons with our coach Beth in both gymnastics and group, also ball games. Mr Ettridge was coach in the first term and we played a range of team games. In class we used 5 a day dance and exercise routines regularly to help stay fit. We have also managed to get in some morning walks most weeks, which we all enjoy.

We have had lots of great Numeracy learning. We have practised our counting and calculations. We measured in lots of ways and have done some great shape learning.

In English we have studied some books that are traditional tales like 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. We also looked at non-fiction texts on cold climate and hot climate animals and made some fact files and completed reading comprehension activities. We have worked hard at our sounds and blending using the 'Read Write Inc' materials in our phonics sessions in class.

The children and staff in Grapes have worked very hard. Thank you for the excellent support from parents.

We wish you a fun filled family Christmas and we look forward to seeing everyone in the new year!

Plums-E Class

We've had a busy start to our year in Plums with lots of enjoyable activities, walks, swimming and learning new skills.

We have learnt lots of letter sounds, words and enjoyed many books including Alice in Wonderland, Aliens love underpants and The very Hungry caterpillar.



Our counting and maths work has been keeping us very busy and we love counting to 100 everyday with our counting song!

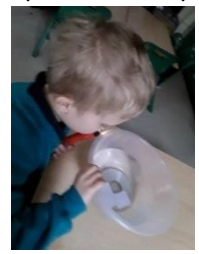


Our Autumn term 1 topic was about our senses and we enjoyed lots of activities about our bodies, how we move, hearing, tasting and sight.



Our Autumn term 2 topic was about colours and light, we really enjoyed work relating to rainbows, The Angel of the North, light and shadows.

We are now beginning to do many Christmas crafts and prepare for our nativity. We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.



Plums-W Class

Hello everyone, we have had an excellent start to the school year. The children have worked really hard this term!

In English, we have been looking at non-fiction reports, traditional tales, poems and captions. The children really enjoyed our work on traditional tales and particularly enjoyed making pictures of crows and then describing them. During our work on captions, the children have the chance to play a game of charades. The children loved trying to guess what dinosaur each of their peers were acting out.

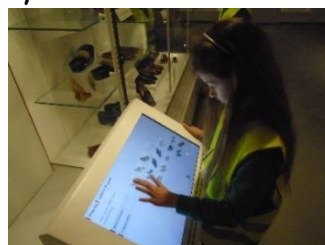
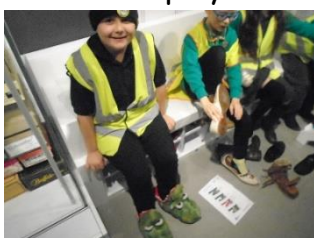


In maths, we have looked at place value, shape and money. The children had the opportunity to explore the different ways we can represent different numbers. The children have enjoyed our work on shape and looking at the different properties that shape have and how we can sort them in different ways.



In our topic work, we have been exploring boots and shoes. The children have looked at the different materials that we use to make different shoes. The children particularly enjoyed our trip to the museum and loved trying on silly shoes and looking at all the different shoes.

Thank you so much for your continued support. Myself and the adults in Plums Class have really enjoyed building our relationships with the children and watching them grow. We hope you have a lovely Christmas!



Peaches -E Class

The Autumn term is the longest of the school year and in Peaches class we have made the most of it by doing lots of great learning!



We have been working hard in maths, covering number, data, measure, shape and place value. The children have been introduced to new mathematical equipment and they have all made amazing progress. It has been wonderful to see their confidence in maths grow as they learn new skills and consolidating prior knowledge.

In English, we have been reading stories from other cultures, learning about instructional texts and newspapers and magazines.



In science, we have studied animals and plants and investigated things such as life cycles and food chains. In our topic lessons, we have also been exploring "Zoo Life" and have been learning about a variety of animals and their habitats.

In PSHE we have been thinking about healthy lifestyles and our wellbeing and in R.E. we have been exploring the idea of spiritual art.

We hope everyone has a fantastic winter holiday!

Peaches Class





Peaches-W class

Peaches class have worked really hard this term and have learnt lots of things. We have enjoyed a busy term.

In English we have been reading and writing our own Non-Fiction texts about Light. We have really enjoyed doing our work on poetry where we looked at the witches from Macbeth and wrote our own poems about Ten Things Found in a Witch's Cauldron. We have also been doing Drama and really enjoy pretending to be the different characters from The Polar Express.



In Science we learnt about electricity and light. We have really enjoyed investigating with circuits and seeing if we can make the light bulbs brighter. Our investigation into shadows was great fun and we have enjoyed making shadow puppets.

In Computing children learnt to use data about shoes and to put them into graphs. They also learnt about algorithms and how it's important to do things in a certain order. We have enjoyed making posters to advertise our shoes using the computers.

In Creative Curriculum the children have been learning about Shoes and Boots. We have really enjoyed looking at shoes through the ages and designing our own shoes out of clay and other materials. We have also been composing our own jingle for our shoe advert. We are really looking forward to our trip to the Shoe Museum.



In RE the children have been learning about celebrations from different religions. We have also been looking at art from different religions. We all really enjoyed making our stained-glass windows and Diwali lamps.

Pineapples-E Class

We have had a busy term together with lots of opportunities for learning. These photos show the children learning about how phones have changed during the lives of adults in the class, before designing their own.



A highlight for the children has been going swimming each week and gymnastics sessions led by our PE coach.



Learning through play continues to be an important part of our children's development of course.



A personal favourite activity of mine is reading stories to the children. I will certainly miss them.



Pineapples-W Class

We have been very busy in Pineapples since coming back in September with topics of Dinosaurs and Boots and shoes. Our new curriculum has given us lots of time to process the world around us and explore a wide range of sensory activities.

During our dinosaur topic we hid dinosaurs in different wet and dry textures and had dinosaur hunts around the setting. We made dinosaur footprints, walking dinosaurs through paint and had dinosaur story massages.



During our Boots and shoes topic we have looked at different things that we put on our feet! We have walked in our wellies, made sock puppets, decorated Cinderella's glass slipper and loved using the relaxing foot spa!

We have continued to work on our independent tasks and targets and we are encouraged to work on our independence skills too.



As well as our topic work we make a lot of time for exploration, building social skills, anticipation and motivating activities. These include cooking, exploring our environment

on local walks, swimming, sunshine circle, soft play and sensory room visits, Tac Pac, omnibeam, music therapy, modelled purposeful play and familiar circle time routines.



We are looking forward to our trip to the farm and to all of the Christmas activities after a very busy term.

Have a lovely Christmas and see you all in the new year.

Team Pineapples 😊

Strawberries-W Class

The children in Strawberries have been working very hard this term and we have welcomed 3 children as well as new staff into our class in September. Everyone has settled in very well.

During last term we enjoyed stories about Dinosaurs in our Topic sessions. We used different materials and textures for our story 'That's not my Dinosaur'. We painted Dinosaurs and sang about Dinosaurs and one of the children practiced his 'Roar' at home and then shared his very big voice with all the other children during the story. We also enjoyed the story of 'Cave Baby' by Julia Donaldson, it was all about a baby who found some paint and a brush and created lovely cave paintings. We made some cave paintings with different spices and used herb brushes to make our marks.

We have made some delicious cakes and biscuits during cooking sessions and the children have once again enjoyed the whole process, using the food mixer, rolling pins and cookie cutters. We have even enjoyed having a taste of the mixture cooked and uncooked!

During the second part of the term our Topic has been about Boots and Shoes and we have had a story about Socks and also a little girl with magic Wellies!

We have tried on lots of different socks, some stripy, some plain, some spotty and some, very, very long! We have sung a rhyme about what our feet can do while wearing socks and then Wellington boots! Some of the boots were very heavy and it was hard to lift our feet but we tried very hard with the help of the adults.





This term in RE we have been experiencing different parts of the Christmas story and have used instruments for the Donkey's feet clip clopping while Little Donkey has been sung, dressed in King, Shepherd and Mary and Joseph costumes and experienced the stillness and calm while a candle has been on and the lights turned off. We have made an advent wreath and each week a new candle has been lit. (Battery-operated)

The Staff in Strawberry Class would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

