



ROWAN GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER EASTER 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and exciting term at Rowan Gate Primary School!

We have continued to work hard on our curriculum, self-evaluation and assessment, and many pupils have achieved awards for one or more of The Five Keys. The Five Keys are the basic principles on which our school is built and the ways in which we encourage the children to learn and develop as independent, resilient young people. Their achievements are celebrated and recognised when they are presented with The Five Keys wristbands. We have been delighted to invite parents in to school to celebrate children's achievements in these assemblies, and the regular good work assemblies.

We are working closely with North Northants Council in an effort to respond positively to the many challenges we are currently facing. You will be aware from the national media coverage, that special schools and provisions are struggling to provide enough places for children who need additional support. We are proud to have developed an outreach service from our school which is providing support to mainstream schools, enabling them to educate pupils with Learning difficulties.

We continue to work closely with Tennyson Road Infant School, where three satellite classes are based. This has been very successful, both in terms of pupil progress and staff professional development. I am now working with council colleagues to establish similar provision in Wellingborough to build capacity in both areas.

Governors and senior leaders enjoyed working together on 8th March to agree the priorities for the coming year, and to recognise the many steps forward the school has taken in both recovering from the effects of the pandemic, and ensuring continuous school improvement.

The progress of our school is testament to the tireless dedication and hard work of each and every one of our staff and Governors. I would like to thank them all for their work and positivity during the term.

I wish you all a very happy Easter and hope that we are able to enjoy some warm spring sunshine!

I will look forward to seeing all the children again on Monday 17th April, 2023.

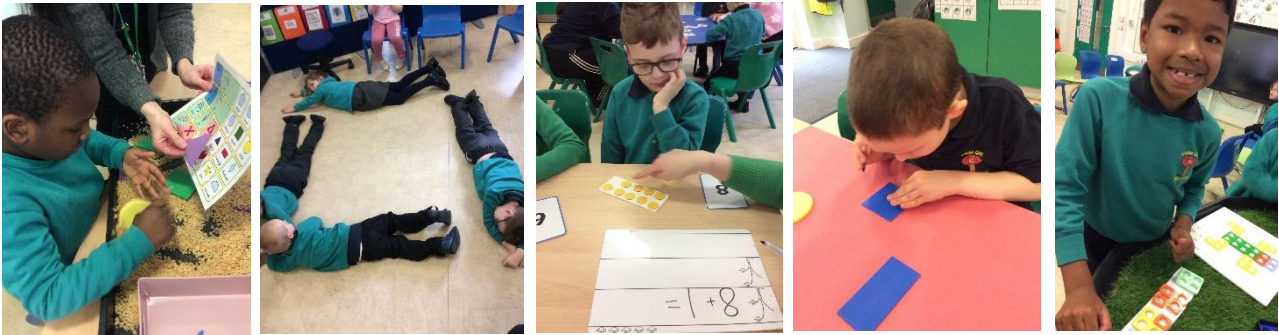
Yours sincerely

Headteacher

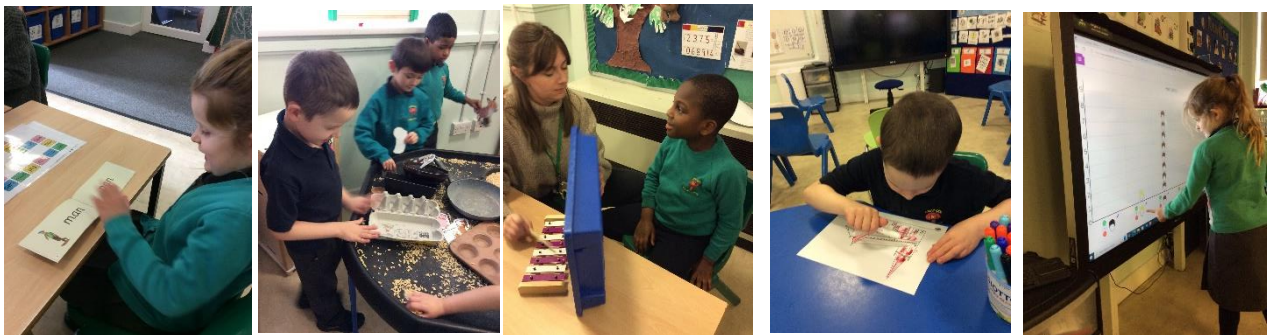
Bananas-E Class

What a fun Spring term we have had in Bananas class. We enjoyed our first swimming sessions at Splash pool in Spring 1 and cannot wait to return in the Summer term.

In Maths we have continued to develop our confidence using mathematical equipment. The children have immersed themselves in a range of different activities relating to Time, Money, Number and Place Value, Length, Mass, Space and Addition and Subtraction.



In English we have looked at stories with familiar settings, stories about fantasy worlds, instructions and dictionaries. We have read stories such as 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' 'Room on the Broom' 'Naughty Bus' and 'This is the Bear and the Picnic Lunch'



Our two themes in Topic have been 'Are we there yet?' and 'Special People, days and places'. We engaged in computing, art, science and PSHE lessons in Topic. A highlight was our trip to the fire station, learning how they support our community.



Bananas-T Class

This term, Bananas class have had a lot of fun exploring the topic 'What's your favourite nursery rhyme?' Each week we have focused on a different theme, such as: Twinkl Twinkle Little Star, Hickory Dickory Dock, Baa Baa Black Sheep, Miss Polly had a Dolly, 5 Currant Buns in a Baker's Shop, and finally, Humpty Dumpty.

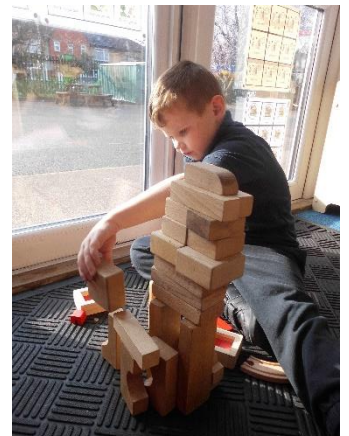


This term, it's been a real pleasure watching the children express their preferences and interests and continue to develop their friendships as they seek out each other to share their experiences. One of the highlights was probably having the opportunity to explore snow indoors and also play outside in the snow together, creating snowmen and throwing snowballs.



They have really enjoyed playing alongside and with each other particularly in the continuous provision area which has been set up to reflect our theme of the week, such as a doctor's surgery and bakers' shop. Our weekly Sensory, Sunshine Circle and Mindfulness sessions also promote developing friendships further whilst introducing the children to new and fun experiences!

In maths, we've participated in a variety of activities relating to number and numerical patterns. We've had the opportunity to sort objects into groups, join in with number rhymes and finger games, fill and empty containers, assemble simple constructions and exchange a coin for goods in the class shop.



In phonics, we are continuing to learn letter sounds from the Read Write Inc set 1 speed sounds and use these for sound-blending practice. The children have really enjoyed our daily small group interactive sessions, particularly rhythm and rhyme activities and environmental and instrumental sound activities



We have also been very busy developing both our fine and gross motor skills. In our weekly PE sessions, we are developing our balancing, throwing, and catching skills.

Our weekly Dough Disco sessions, using playdough, continue to support hand and finger strength, enabling us to engage in Kinetic Letters activities to develop our handwriting skills. We are all making great progress with our mark making/writing skills and demonstrate increasing control in holding and using mark-making tools and imitating drawing shapes such as circles and lines and some recognisable letters.



Our weekly cooking sessions are always lots of fun. To support our weekly themes, we've grown cress heads, made chocolate Easter nests, chocolate cereal sheep and also edible mice and clocks. These sessions provide us with the opportunity to engage and participate with weighing and measuring and then sampling our tasty treats!



Bananas class have also enjoyed a range of sensory activities based on tactile and malleable materials, such as making medicine for their dolly, and using teapots, not only with paint to explore mixing colour, but also with teabags to make their own tea!

The Bananas class team have been so proud of the children this term and we look forward to welcoming the children back for term 5, refreshed and ready to explore our new topic 'Why do ladybirds have spots'? Happy Easter to you all.

Bananas-W Class

Bananas class have been busy exploring the topics 'What's the weather like today?' and 'What's your favourite nursery rhyme'. We have focused on different themes each week, including 'Arctic Animals', 'Winter Warmers', 'Five Currant Buns' and 'Row, row, row your boat.



We have enjoyed exploring sensory tuff trays and tabletop display relating to our themes. These have included ice and snow, paint, shaving foam and dry materials such as cereal and rice. We have used different tools to mark make within the media and manipulated tools for different purposes. We have made currant buns, sheep cupcakes, and vegetable soup in cooking.



We have shared many stories, taking turns to engage with sensory props and communication aids such as switches. These stories included 'Crow in the Snow' and 'Ten in a Sled'. We have enjoyed lots of practical activities involving number, shape and space. We have also explored measure in cooking, as well as filling and emptying containers in water play and practicing our fine motor skills with threading.





We have experienced lots of different nursery rhymes, engaging with each other to join in with actions, move our bodies to the music or change the rhyme using symbols and props. We have had lots of fun being imaginative and creative, particularly in the role play area exploring the bakery and farm shop.



We enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year and Pancake Day using sensory activities. We also joined in with Pirates day and World book day activities this term!



Apricots-E Class



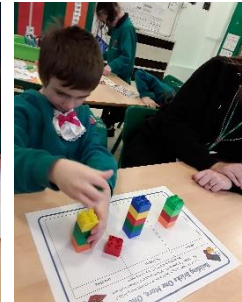
With the weather improving and the daylight hours increasing this spring term seems to have gone so fast for Apricots Class! This term we started with a topic based around 'On the Move'. We enjoyed exploring lots of different types of transport, making junk modelled rockets and boats and learning about road safety. We also enjoyed a trip to the local fire station to see the fire engines.



During the second half term we changed topic and we looked at 'Special People, Special Places, Special Days'. We made pancakes for Pancake Day, played at the park with our friends and had a birthday party. We experimented with making sounds and vibrations and in Art we tried a range of different techniques including chalking and blow painting.



In RE this term we have explored Religious buildings and the children made some lovely stained-glass window craft. The children have all continued to progress in both Maths and English. They have explored length and weight in Maths and enjoyed a range of new books in English.



This term has shown all the children have achieved so much. Well Done Apricots Class!

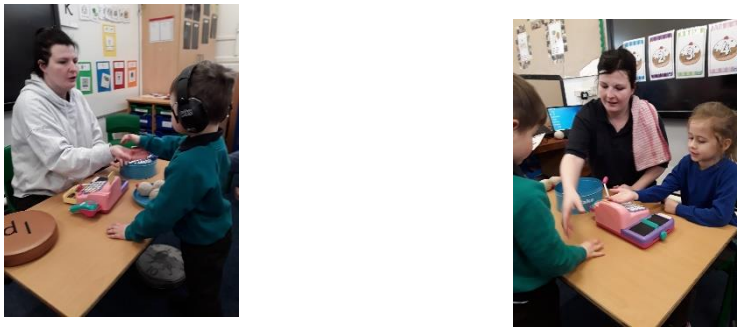
Apricots-T Class

The children in Apricots have been very busy this term. We have had lots of fun and the children have worked very hard. Our theme this term has been nursery rhymes, our favourites have included: Old Mac Donald, Hickory Dickory Dock, 5 Current Buns, I'm a Little Tea Pot, Miss Polly had a Dolly and Humpty Dumpty.

Here are some of our favourite activities.



The children in Apricots became Doctors for the day, we explored the body and some of it's organs. The children used different tools to cut open the organs to see what was inside. We also created medicine using different fruits and vegetables.



During some of our Maths lessons we have looked at money. A role play shop was set up in Apricots and was stocked with sweets and chocolate. The children enjoyed spending their money in the shop.

Here are some other pictures of us during the term!



Fantastic work Apricots, Well done!

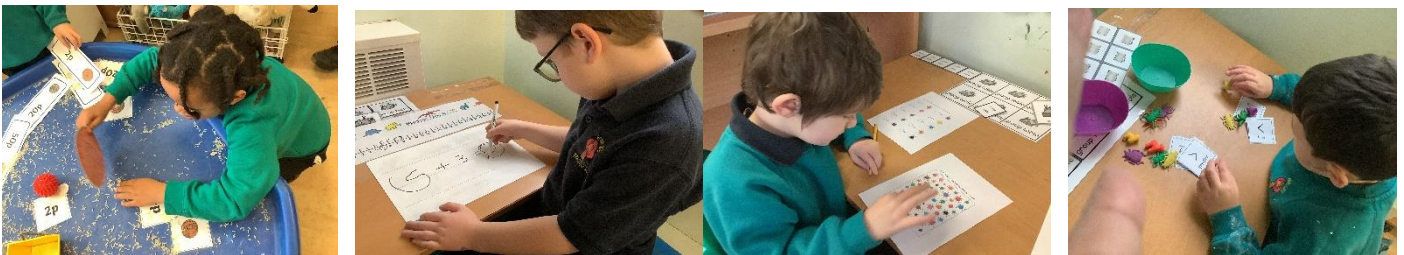
Apricots-W Class

The Spring term has been another successful one for Apricots class. All of the children are settled and have been working really hard to continue to build their relationships with the adults in the classroom. There have been some lovely new friendships forming too.

In English, we've explored and listened to a variety of stories with familiar settings and traditional nursery rhymes. Children have explored the stories and rhymes through small world toys and role play, as well as using tools like colourful semantics to retell make comments about what has happened in the stories. We have also used communication boards to help support us to talk about what we can see in the stories and rhymes. These tools are helping us to build on our reading, writing and speaking skills. We continue to practise our phonics skills in weekly lessons and daily key skills activities.



In Maths we have completed topics such as Number, Addition and subtraction and money. We have enjoyed hands on practical activities, using a variety of ways to these topics. We particularly enjoyed exploring coins and money, having our own fruit and veg shop and toy shop. We also used the IWB to explore coin sorting and buying adaptations for our racing cars.

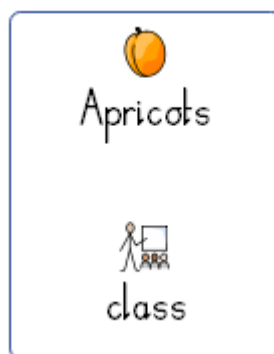


Our Topic work has been about 'Do you remember being small?' and 'Are eggs alive?' We have really enjoyed these topics, exploring what babies need, and making comparisons to what we need now we are older. We loved looking at and talking about our baby photos, trying guess who was who. We have looked at animals and their babies too!





We have also enjoyed Arts week with a Pirate theme. The children embraced this week and loved joining in with all of the activities. The children engaged well in Expressive Art and Design activities, alongside music and computing activities. We also took part in some PSED tasks looking at feelings and emotions and practising our turn taking skills in pirate themed games like 'Walk the Plank' and 'Pin the eye patch on the pirate'.



We have had a fantastic Spring term in Apricots and are looking forward to see what the Summer term has to offer. 😊

Well done Apricots class!

Apples-T Class

Apples T class all enjoyed our Winter topic last term. We explored all things cold and icy and even got to play outside in the snow which all of the children really enjoyed.



We made snow playdough so the children could make their own snowmen and some art and craft activities creating snowmen faces.



This term we have been enjoying learning different Nursery Rhymes.

We have made boats from cakes and buses from crackers when learning Row, Row, Row Your Boat and The Wheels on the Bus and we even created our own bus to drive in the classroom. We created fish and fish bowls whilst doing some number work, when learning 1,2,3,4,5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive.



We have had a very busy term and we are looking forward to the Summer term with warmer weather and lots more to learn and new activities to explore.



Apples-W Class



We are already more than half way through the year and I am so very proud of the progress that everyone in Apples Class has made. The children are all growing in independence as well as height! A new student joined our class after the half term break and I am so proud of how well all the children have coped with this change and how welcoming they have been.

Our Topic for the first half term was 'Do you remember being small?' and our Topic song was 'Growing Up.' The children really enjoyed singing along particularly with the catchy chorus. We have looked at a variety of different areas related to growing including foods we like, what do babies need and life cycles. We have shared a number of stories with a growing theme such as 'The Hungry Caterpillar', 'Alan's Big Scary Teeth' and 'Owl Babies.'



In the second half term we got straight on with our next Topic 'Is an Egg Alive?' Our song was a firm old favourite 'Humpty Dumpty.' The children have all taken part in cooking activities that involve breaking eggs and have explored the ingredients visually as well as by touch, taste and smell, some being liked more than others. We have shared stories including 'The Teeny-Weeny Tadpole', 'Harry's Bucket Full of Dinosaurs' and 'The Emperor's Egg'. In the last book we found out that male Emperor Penguins do not eat for two months while they look after their eggs and penguin chicks.

The children have been in smaller groups for swimming and this is helping to increase their confidence in the water further. They have also continued to make great strides with their independence needing less and less support when getting undressed and dressed before and after the lessons. In PE they have been following instructions listening to the various shapes they need to make in our 'bean' warm ups.



It is lovely that we can now all share the children's success in our 'Good Work' assemblies each week. It has been a pleasure to watch all of the children continue to grow in confidence, trying new things and having the courage to have a go even if they are unsure.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Easter. I am looking forward to hearing about what everyone does over the break and hope you will have recovered from all the chocolate eating that is likely to take place.

Well done Apples Class for a fantastic Spring term!

Oranges-W Class

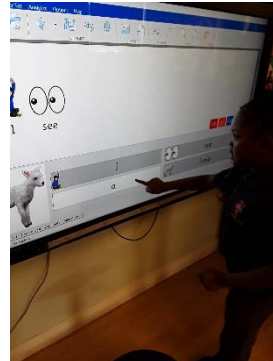
The Spring term has been a successful and great term for Oranges class. We have continued to enjoy building good relationships within the class, becoming a strong team and have settled into good routines. Children have especially enjoyed remembering when they were small and learning about spring animals.



In English, we've explored and listened to a variety of stories with familiar settings and nursery rhymes. Children have also experienced different writing styles such as recounts, reports and information. As a class we've continued to use tools such as clicker 8, colourful semantics and symbols to build on skills in reading, writing and speaking with great success. We've also continued to practice our phonics skills in weekly lessons and daily key skills activities.



This term our main creative focus has been about remembering our younger experiences and spring animals. We have explored both topics through play and a range of practical, exciting and explorative activities! Children explored babies in a range of roleplay tasks and investigating a variety of spring animals in explorative play.



In Maths we have completed topics such as Number, Subtraction and Addition, shape, money, time 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 clicker 8 number tasks, shopping roleplay, baking and tactile shape play.



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

Well done Oranges class!

Limes-E Class

Limes-RGE class have really enjoyed learning about Charlie and the Chocolate Factory this term. We have especially liked doing lots of different cooking activities with chocolate.



In English, we carried on the Roald Dahl theme and explored some of his other books, such as James and the Giant Peach, The BFG and George's Marvellous Medicine.



In science, we learned about solids, liquids and gases followed by rocks and soils. We spent time exploring the school, inside and outside, to apply what we were learning to real world objects.



It has been a fun term and we are all looking forward to our new topic, The Enchanted Woodland, in the summer.

We hope that you enjoy the Easter break,

Lauren, Donna, Kelly, Helen and Laura.

Limes-W Class

We have had a busy term in Limes Class since coming back in January and starting our new curriculum. This term we have been looking at our two topics: The Weather and The Rainforest. The children have been engaging in lots of sensory and learning activities relating to these topics.

In our topic 'The Weather' we listen to lots of different stories and took part in lots of activities looking at different types of weather. We made windmills and used drinking straws to create blue rain on our umbrella pictures.



In our topic 'The Rainforest' we have been learning about all the different animals and birds that live there. We made footprints on paper using a variety of animals and learnt all about parrots. This included looking at the different food parrots eat and exploring brightly coloured feathers in our sensory tray.



As well as working on our topic, the children have explored the local community and enjoyed either going on weekly bus trips or walks to different places of interest. The children had a walk around Irchester Country Park and went bird watching in our local park.



In RE, the children have travelled around the world. First looking at Spring celebrations and then at how Easter is celebrated in different countries. In the first half term, the children took part in American Mardi Gras celebrations by making masks and dancing to music. And in the second half term, children learnt about how Easter is celebrated in Australia and had a go at making an Easter bilby.



The highlight of the spring term was our visit to Hamerton Zoo Park. The children and the staff had a fantastic time.



We hope that you have a lovely Easter break
From Limes staff



Lemons-W Class

Our Topic for the Spring Term was 'Superheroes'. Our superheroes travelled around the world exploring a variety of places, learning about famous people, discovering animals and rescuing some of them. We explored this topic through a range of activities in Topic, Maths and English.



In Science we learned about forces such as pushing and pulling, air resistance and flying. We also explored magnets.

In English we read a range of books. We always enjoy taking part in role play activities. We worked hard describing book characters, settings and sequencing events. We took part in the World Book Day; children came dressed up as their favourite book characters. We are learning new letters and sounds in Phonics.

In Maths we made pictograms of class members' hair colours, continued developing our counting skills as well as adding up and taking away. We explored measures comparing different weights, lengths and made milkshakes measuring out ingredients. That was definitely our favourite lesson.



In RE we enjoyed creating spiritual art. We celebrated some spring festivals such as St Patrick's Day, Ostara, Holi and St David's Day. We had a lot of fun exploring these through music, art and food. We danced on St Patrick's Day, we created animal pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

We look forward to our weekly swimming session and out time in the Sensory Room and Soft Play Room.

We like going on walks to the local park. It is a great opportunity to learn about road safety as well as an enjoyable experience playing in the play area.



In PSHE we learned how exercise helps us to keep healthy. We explored a range of exercises such as walks to the park, running, dance and swimming.



Thank you for all your support throughout this term.

Have a relaxing Easter break.

from the Lemons Team:

Beata, Emma, Cheryl, Ellie and Amy

Blackberries-W Class



We have had a lovely start to the new year, I can't believe it is March already!

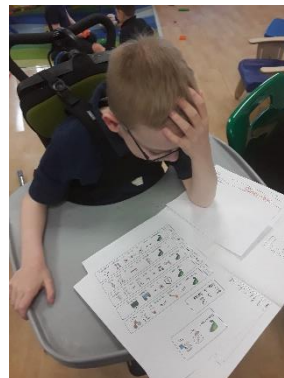
In 'Topic' we have been learning all about the rainforest as we have studied our superheroes, David Attenborough and Jane Goodall. We have been looking at different kinds of animals and writing fact files to link with our English work. We have been learning new words, including extinct and endangered, and what they mean. In Art, we have been working with different materials to create junk sculptures, collages and stain glass windows.



In science, we have been looking at Electricity and Forces. The children have been creating circuits, learning about batteries and switches. More recently, we have been looking at friction and magnets, experimenting with how we can move objects around the classroom.



In maths we have been looking at fractions amongst other things and in English we recently looked at non-fiction texts by writing fact files about our friends.



We have had a lot of fun this term and we are all looking forward to the summer term in Blackberries.

Cherries-E Class

Our theme this term has been Potions and Spells and we have enjoyed learning about George's Marvellous Medicine and making potions in Science. In topic we have been learning about different buildings, and basing it loosely on Hogwarts Castle, so this has meant that we have explored old and new schools, old and new toys and learnt about some different historical events such as The Great Fire of London. We looked at different geographical features on which to place our imaginary castle or house. The children have really engaged with Science this term, which has included mixing, separating, describing and exploding different materials and substances.

In Computing, we have been learning about programming and digital media – the children have been enjoying taking photographs and recording audio and videos.

In English we have been learning about stories written by familiar authors, such as Roald Dahl, poetry from other cultures, including one about a snail and we had a surprise visit from some Giant African Snails which helped us write poems about what animals might be thinking.

In Science we have been learning about Space and 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.

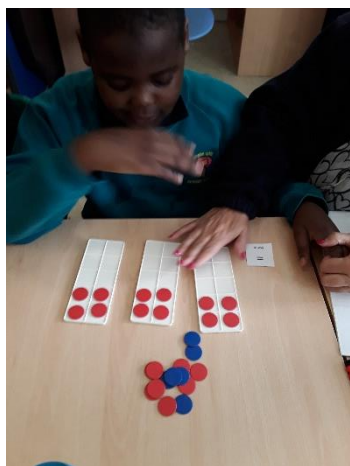
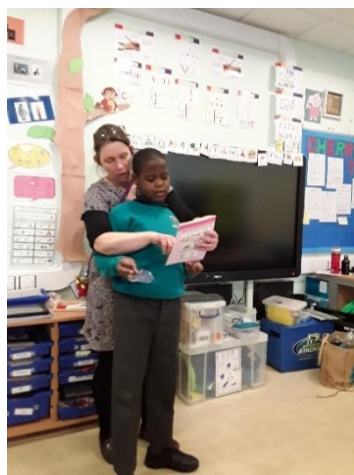
In PSHE, we have been learning about relationships and working together. In RE we have learnt about the Ten Commandments and thought about what kind of rules we would like in our class.

In PE, we have been swimming and doing dance and games. The highlight has been our trips to Boost which have been so much fun and very tiring (in a good way)!

We really enjoyed our EAD Pirate week and all the lovely activities that we did, including a treasure hunt, building a pirate ship from PE equipment and walking the plank.

On World Book Day, we explored and read lots of different books including some really old Ladybird Books with brilliant pictures in them.





Cherries-W Class

This term we have enjoyed exploring our topic on Weather and the Rainforest!!

We were able to explore and expand our knowledge of all different types of weather. We enjoyed exploring different types of clothing each week which suited each weather. We looked at different aspects of the rainforest including, animals, trees, coffee and chocolate. 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 trips out in the community to various parks. We enjoy frequent sessions in the soft play and sensory areas as well as thoroughly enjoying swimming and PE sessions.



In RE we have been looking at the various festivals celebrated in Spring as well as exploring how Easter is celebrated around the world. We are looking forward to an Easter Egg hunt and have enjoyed exploring various traditions such as painting eggs, Shrove Tuesday and making hot cross buns.





Kiwis-W Class



We can't believe another term has flown by! Kiwis have had a really busy term. Here's what we've been up to.

This term saw the introduction of our new topic of rainforests. The children have enjoyed exploring the textures and layers of the rainforests, the animals who live there and trying the different fruit that grows there.



We have been lucky enough to enjoy a number of themed days this term including world book day and pirate week. The children enjoyed dressing up, creating props and cooking.



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 lovely Easter break!



Pears–W Class

Pears class have worked really hard this term and have learnt lots of things. We have enjoyed a busy term and have been learning through a creative and engaging curriculum in class.

In our topic lessons we have been exploring the globe and learning about different locational areas of the world. We have virtually visited the Arctic, where we created our own version of the Northern Lights. Down by the coast we learnt about geographical features. Not forgetting about the rainforest, where we investigated what we could see and feel by creating our own tropical terrarium. In the desert we learnt about the hot, humid environment whilst making cacti sculptures.



In English we have read *The Girl Who Went to the Arctic*, we used our reading skills to explore the characters in the text and what they were doing throughout the story. We then shared the Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch and created our own jam sandwiches! We have also created our own reports based on an animal from the rainforest and participated in role play for our story of – *One Camel Called Doug!*



In Science we have been learning about electricity and how to stay safe in and around our environment. We have explored objects that use mains and/or batteries. Also, this term we have been investigating forces and magnets. We enjoyed pushing and pulling a range of toys and sensory objects to enhance our understanding.



In Computing we learnt about how to collect data and present this using a simple graph online. We have also explored the various methods of communication, from signing to creating our own paper cups to communicate with our friends. We have also been learning how to stay safe online, through social stories.



And of course, we must not forget our Pirate themed week. We had lots of fun taking part in pirate themed activities. We created our own pirate hat and flags. We searched for gold and shared pirate games with our friends. It has been a lovely term and we cannot wait for the next one!



Grapes-W Class



This term has been all about rainforests and animals in Grapes. First, we looked at the features of a rainforest and compared them to Eastfield Park.

We enjoyed making the houses and jewellery of the rainforest tribes. We used a range of instruments to create music related to the rainforest and even made our own rainmakers. We zoomed in using 'Google Earth' and looked at where the rainforests are. We learnt about issues facing the rainforest and how the people live in the rainforest. We finished the term by going to Hamerton Zoo and looking at the animals, some which would normally live in the rainforests. We had Arts Week and enjoyed a whole week of pirate activities.



In RE the first topic was 'What does it mean to be a person of faith today?' we learnt about some Christian Bible stories, 'The Good Samaritan' and 'The Lost Sheep' and the values they teach us. Then in term two our topic was 'People of faith, courage and commitment' and we found out about people like the Dali Lama and Sir David Attenborough who have made a difference in the world.



In PSHE the first topic was 'Getting on and falling out'. We looked at different emotions and how to cope with issues. In the second term our topic was 'taking responsibility towards other'. We looked at how to get help and those who help us. We also looked at caring jobs, such as being a vet.



The science topic has been 'Living Things: Inheritance, Evolution, Adaptation'. We have discussed the possible reasons dinosaurs died out as well as creatures that are now extinct or endangered. We looked at how animals have adapted specifically to live in different environments and what impact humans have on other animals.



In Computing we made an animation of a tree growing and animals moving, also added sounds. We have used the Ipads to take photographs and make video interviews with a friend. We used a programme called Mashcam to create a picture with our face combined with another image was great fun.



We have had weekly PE lessons with our coach in both dance and outdoor challenges, which have including dodge ball and problem-solving challenges. We have played some invasion games, relays and gymnastics sessions in class also. We also enjoyed swimming and trampolining sessions. We have enjoyed a walk to the park most Tuesday afternoons.



We have learnt so many new skills in Numeracy. We have practised our counting and calculations. We measured in lots of ways and improved our knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes.



In English we have studied books from other cultures. We enjoyed 'Amazing Grace' and 'Handa's surprise'. We also studied a range of non-fiction writing and wrote reports about our zoo visit.



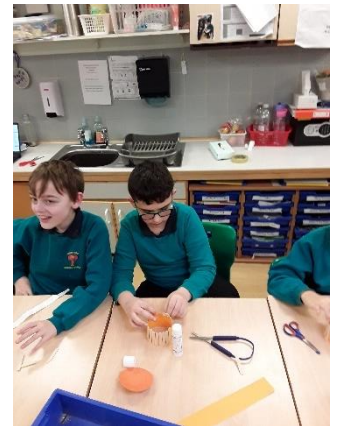
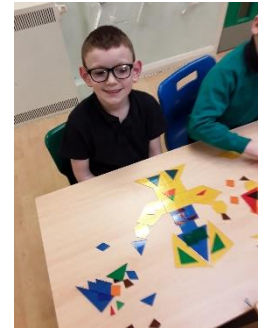
Thank you

for the excellent support from parents.

We wish you a very Happy Easter and we look forward to seeing everyone for the Summer Term.

Best wishes

John Ettridge and Grapes Team



Plums-E Class

What a lot of fun and learning has taken place in Plums class since our last Newsletter!

Our topics this term have been “Are we nearly there yet?” (Transport and places near/far) and “What have you done today to make me feel proud?” (Special people, days and places)

We used the story of the Gingerbread Man to think about travel and what made the best type of Gingerbread man – we decided the biscuit ones were best as we could eat them! We also used the stories ‘Whatever next?’ and ‘Lost and Found’ to find out about rockets and boats.



We went for local walks to observe and collect information about transport, and we even had a trip to the local fire station and got to use the water hoses!



In our 2nd topic of the term, we learnt about pancakes and Shrove Tuesday, we made microwave pancakes, and they were delicious! We also learnt about the celebrations of St David's day and made daffodils, Welsh cake and explored leeks!





We've also had great fun in our themed weeks/days. During Pirate week we dressed up, walked the plank, made treasure maps, lost at sea bottles, sang and danced to sea shanties and made ocean drums.



On world book day we enjoyed activities related to Julia Donaldson books and made broomsticks, Gruffalo cakes, pictures and superworms!



Our English and Maths skills have been developing and we've been learning to mark make, structure picture sentences, write instructions and read lots more.

We enjoy our counting to 100 action song in maths, using food related activities once a week to help us learn more about our maths topics, we even had breakfast at school to discuss the types of meals in the day!

We hope you have a lovely Easter break!

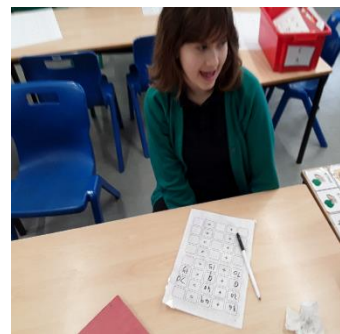
Plums-W Class

The children in Plums class have made an excellent return to school following the Christmas break and I am looking forward to sharing some of their work with you.

In English, we have been looking at stories from popular children's authors. The children have loved making models of wonderful and strange creatures from the different stories we have looked at. We have also done quite a bit of drama this term and the children have enjoyed planning their own performances before sharing them with the class!



In maths, we have looked at place value, multiplication, division and shape. The children have enjoyed exploring how to solve multiplication problems and division problems through sharing. When looking at shape, the children have enjoyed playing shape guessing games and discussing the different properties that 2D and 3D shapes have.



In our topic and science work, we have been looking at Rainforests and Adaptation. The children have loved learning about the different animals in the rainforest and exploring the different ways they have adapted to their environment. We were also lucky enough to visit Woburn Safari Park!



Thank you so much for your continued support. Myself and the ladies have really enjoyed working with the children this term and watching them continue to grow.

Matthew, Magda, Lynn and Julie

Peaches-E Class

In English, we have been learning about plays, reading information texts and posters as well as our weekly phonics learning. Information texts was particularly fun as we got to learn about dinosaurs! We have been working hard in maths, covering number, data, capacity, length and time.



In science, we have studied rocks, minerals and states of matter. We have investigated many interesting things by doing experiments for example trying to melt different food items!

In our topic lessons, we have been exploring “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” and have completed lots of art, history, geography and technology lessons around the central theme of chocolate – this has involved a lot of cooking with some particular favourites being our giant chocolate cake and the chocolate pizza!



In PSHE, we have been thinking about recycling and medicines. In R.E. we learnt about Buddhism before half term and more recently have been learning about how people around the world celebrate Easter.

We hope everyone has a fantastic Easter break!

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 stories from other cultures and have enjoyed reading Handa's Surprise, Handa's Hens, and the Great Kapok tree. Children have all enjoyed these stories and acting out the various parts. We have also looked at Not Now Bernard where we loved acting out different parts and rewriting the ending, where mum and dad also get eaten! We have been looking at Non-Fiction books related to our Science topic. We have been finding out facts about Dinosaurs and Adaptation and have made our own booklets.

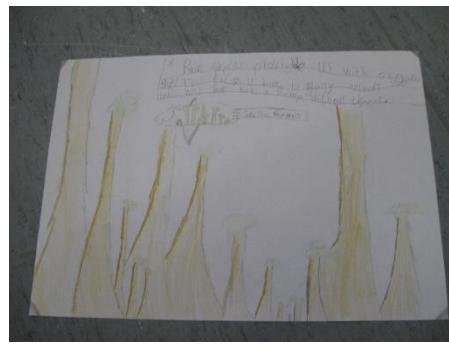
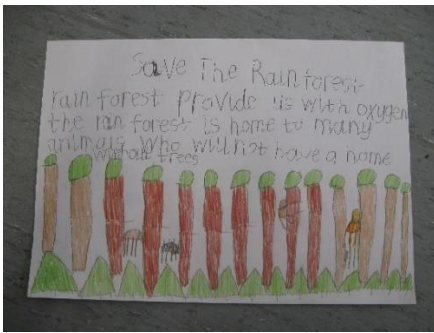


In Science we have been learning about Evolution, Inheritance and Adaptation. We have enjoyed trying to excavate the dinosaurs from the ice! A rather cold but enjoyable activity! We have also been looking at the animals and the features they have inherited from their parents. We have looked at how Great Emperor penguins have adapted to the cold and all enjoyed pretending to be penguins and trying out the penguin huddle on a cold day in the MUGA.



In Computing we have been learning how to make videos which was great fun. We have also been experimenting with making posters about endangered animals using PicCollage.

In Creative Curriculum we have started our new topic of the Rainforest which has been great fun. Over the past few weeks we have looked at the animals of the Rainforest, drawn detailed drawing of them and role-played at being a Vet in the Rainforest. We have watched a video about the Amazon river and a video about the Nene, creating pictures of both and discussing how they are similar and different.



During Pirate week we had a fabulous time doing different pirate activities. We learnt a pirate dance, make pirate biscuits and created our own treasure islands and pirate ships. We worked in our crews to solve Captain Walker Da Plank's riddles to find the lost pirate treasure. We had a fabulous dress up day and all enjoyed working in the Galley to prepare 'food' for the ship's crew, keeping lookout in the crow's nest and steering the ship using the ship's wheel!



We had a fabulous day exploring books for World Book Day. Here are some of our fabulous costumes.



Pineapples-E Class

Well, this term has flown by!

It has been unusual, because at the beginning of the year a new Pineapples Class was created with children joining together from some different classes. The children have settled well into the class routines; have connected back with some familiar faces and have made new friends.

This term, our class Topic this term has been Potions and Spells. The children are rightly proud of the work displayed in the classroom.



Along with our Maths, English and Science,



We have been exploring how our world has been affected by climate change; how it can get windy and hot under CO₂; and how we can help look after our world.



Along the way we have been invaded by Pirates and had a Tiger come to tea!



Not forgetting to have some fun in the park, playing in the snow and making magical castles.



Thanks to all the parents / carers for your support.

Well done Pineapples children. You are brilliant.
Have a great Easter break.

From
Aldam, Claire, Becki, Sharon, Amy, Julie.

Pineapples-W Class

We continue to be very busy in Pineapples! Our Spring topics have been Rainforests and Weather. In our weather topic we practised getting dressed for different weather, explored ice, pretend snow and wind from the fan. We were also lucky to experience the recent snow!



We also had a Pirate week and World book day. Some of us dressed up as pirates and we all took part in different sensory activities such as looking for treasure, making parrots and pretending to be Humpty Dumpty on his wall in the hydro pool!



We continue to visit different environments in and around school. We are still enjoying our daily mile walks, visiting the school library, soft play and sensory room. We are also still having our music therapy sessions, key skills, story massage, cooking, Tac Pac, PE, sunshine circle and bucket time. We have recently been exploring the resonance board, playing music through the speaker and feeling the vibrations.



Communication is still a big part of our daily activities and we have been practising choosing activities by looking at photos or the actual objects, PECs exchanges, switches and intensive interaction.



We are looking forward to the warmer weather and the Summer term.

Have a lovely Easter!

Team Pineapples 😊

Strawberries-W Class

Wow, where has this term gone! We have had a good Spring term and have been very busy. We have worked very hard on our yearly targets and had fun while learning all about the weather in the first part of this term and about the Animals in the Rainforest for this part of the term.

We really enjoyed the story of Elmer's Weather, especially the rain! We were protected by a large umbrella as the adults sprayed water on top of us. It surprised some of us but it was very exciting to hear the sound of the 'rain'; some of the other children were very curious about what was happening and explored with their hands to catch the dripping water as it trickled down the outside of the umbrella.

We made colourful Elmer elephants, umbrellas and bright yellow sunshine pictures, we even added a pair of very jazzy sunglasses to our sun paper plates and these can be seen on our weather display in the classroom.



During the last week of the Spring 1 term we enjoyed a 'Pirate week'. We had a Pirate Adventure story, we made Pirate Gold coins during cooking, made parrots and found hidden jewels and pirate gold in sand and playdough.

We even had a conversation with a talking Parrot, he was great fun and he copied the sounds we created, it made us giggle.



During the second part of the term we have been looking at different animals in the Rain Forest. We have made a rainforest collage, made snakes, Elephants and frogs. We have been looking at the different foods that come from the rainforest during our cooking sessions and have made dark chocolate biscuits, Cinnamon Apple cake and Pineapple cake.



We also took part in World Book Day. We made Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Crispie cakes and had a Story about going to the seaside.



Th children have had a lot of fun while learning this term and the staff wish everyone a very Happy Easter.

