



ROWAN GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This year seems to have flown past, and we are again at the end of the year. It has been one of huge challenge in recovering from the impact of the pandemic on every aspect of our school life. The end of the year is a chance to reflect on our many successes and achievements.

The school curriculum, which was newly devised in now embedded and I have observed many wonderful lessons with very high levels of engagement and enjoyment from the children. Children who are engaged and interested make progress and we have been able to share with you all, and with Governors our progress data.

The provision for our very youngest children, and the curriculum they follow enables them to make progress and explore the world through play. The curriculum meets the wide and varying needs of our pupils, and I am proud that we see such tremendous progress both academically, personally and socially in them.

Many of the classes have been on trips this term, including to the farm, the zoo and Sealife Centre as well as the trips into the community around our schools and the class walks, which provide exercise and sensory breaks for the children.

We are excited about the new provision opening at Stanton Cross Primary School in September, and it has been a delight to see the pupils preparing for this move. I hope that you have been able to visit and see where your child will be based in September. My thanks go to the staff involved in the organisation and setting up of the provision.

I must thank you all for your support, this year. As we have been faced with changes and challenges it has been good to talk with many of you about the future of our school.

I am very proud of the whole staff team, who always think of the children and put their needs first- as shown in their willingness and flexibility in making changes. The site and administrative teams, class teams and professionals around our school have supported us in moving our school forward and making progress since the pandemic. The leadership team are strong and always ensure that the children's needs are the priority in any decisions we make. My thanks go to each one, who has worked tirelessly for the good of our school.

The Governors of our school are very involved in school life, and remain a strong and stable team. As a school they guide, support and scrutinise our work. I must thank the Governors for their time and commitment to our school.

We work hard to ensure that when the pupils leave our school, they are as prepared as possible for the next stage of their education and that they are beginning to see themselves as part of our wider society. I wish all of our leavers well in their new schools.

I am very proud to be the head teacher of such a wonderful school, where each child is supported to meet their potential. I hope that you enjoy this edition of our newsletter and wish you all a safe, relaxing and happy summer holiday.

I look forward to seeing the pupils again on Wednesday 6th September 2023.

Best wishes,

Laura Clarke

Bananas-E class

Our final term in Bananas class!

In Maths we have developed our problem-solving skills and also our confidence using mathematical equipment to support our knowledge. We have covered themes such as Time, Statistics, Number and Place Value, Money, Addition and Subtraction and Shape.



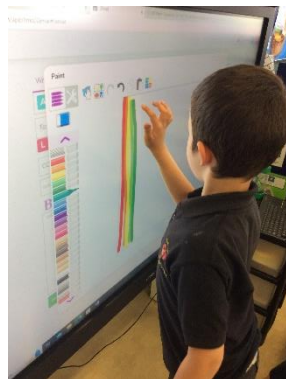
In English we have looked at Traditional and Fairy Tales, Poems and Pattern and Rhyme and also information texts. Some of us have been practicing our handwriting skills whilst others have been working hard to develop our mark making skills and building the strength in our hands to support this.



Our two themes in Topic have been 'In the Garden' and 'Why is water wet?' The children have really immersed themselves in the activities provided for these topics. We have completed many science experiments this term and planted lots of seeds! We learnt how to send e-mails in computing and also loved playing the water xylophone.



Some more Topic related photos because we have had so much fun!



We have had a wonderful year filled with lots of learning and plenty of laughter.
A huge well done to all the children in Bananas-E class.

Bananas-T class

Bananas class have been enjoying the lovely weather this term and have relished being outside exploring the topics 'Why do ladybirds have spots?' and 'Do you like to be beside the seaside?'



After exploring minibeasts, we then moved onto our topic all about water. We considered how we use water; and the children were able to explore this concept in the class laundrette, by planting seeds/bulbs and caring for them, and then we began to investigate life both in and on water. The children have experienced a range of stories with

us linked to our topic, such as Mr Gumpy's Outing, Hooray for Fish and Jasper's Beanstalk.



In maths we've been completing activities related to shape, space and measure and numbers. We created boats using 2D shapes, searched for coins in a pirate themed treasure chest, caught fish in nets, counting how many we had and used tweezers to count beads into seashells. We've also enjoyed lots of different number related songs, such as 5 ice creams in the seaside shop.



The children continue to make great progress with their mark making and actively participate in our daily Finger Gym and weekly Dough Disco sessions to develop their hand, wrist, and finger

strength. The children have experienced mark making in a range of tactile materials and



using a range of writing tools. They have particularly enjoying using the giant paint brushes and water colours! It has been an absolute delight to stand back and observe children mark making intently on a range of surfaces and writing their own names.



Bananas class have also completed various topic related art and design activities. We've created star fish, ocean sensory bottles and rocking boats. One of our favourite activities was bubble painting using straws.

Our weekly cooking sessions have also been lots of fun! We've made crispy apple boats, fruit kebabs, fruit fish and our very own Bananas class Gelato. The children loved scooping ice cream into cones and adding their own toppings.



The children have also absolutely loved participating in daily Bucket Time activities (they love the pop-up alien) and our weekly Sunshine Circle, and TacPac (relaxation) sessions. Ellie has led some amazing weekly interactive music and well-being sessions and the children get so excited when it's time for 'music with Ellie'. The Jack Hartman 'Tootie Ta' song is



very popular with staff and children alike! Our favourite activities from our weekly Sunshine Circle sessions are probably the interactive song 'Hairy Fred', making purple 'snow' and when Mortimer the bird puppet makes an appearance; the children's performances and reactions to this are simply brilliant. All of these sessions have

contributed in making relationships and developing self-confidence and self-awareness. Ending each week with Water Play on a Friday afternoon has developed these skills further.



This term we have enjoyed creating our own pirate ship and seaside in both the indoor and outdoor play areas. The children have loved pretending they are on a summer holiday. It's been a pleasure watching the children form some special friendships this year. They have all really enjoyed playing in the outside area together, especially in the water play area with water balloons!



We can't believe how quickly the year has gone by. It has been an absolute privilege teaching your children and getting to know you all. We are so proud of the progress the children have made this year and we would like to say a heartfelt thank you for your support. We look forward to hearing all about the children's progress as they go forward with their learning journey in their new classes.

I would also like to personally thank the Bananas-T class team for their fantastic support and dedication to both the children, and myself this year. The relationships you have developed with the children is an absolute joy to observe. The children are always so happy to see you, and you give so much of yourselves to them and me. I am so grateful for your enthusiasm, generosity, kindness, patience and good humour. I have loved working alongside you all this year and the way in which you have embraced entering into each child's world with me. Thank you!

We wish you all a lovely summer holiday; be safe and have lots of fun!

Bananas-W class

Bananas class have been busy exploring the topics 'Why do ladybirds have spots?' and 'Do you like to be beside the seaside'. We focused on different themes each week, including 'Wiggly Woo Worm', 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Under the Sea' and 'Sandcastles and Seashells'.



We have enjoyed exploring messy play tuff trays and sensory table top displays relating to our themes. These have included spaghetti play and wet cornflour, alongside exploration of natural materials. We have used different tools to mark make within the media and manipulated tools, such as scoops and utensils, for different purposes.



We have shared many stories, taking turns to engage with sensory props and communication aids such as switches. These stories included 'The Very Lazy Ladybird' and 'Sharing a Shell'. We even enjoyed making a fruit salad for the Hungry Caterpillar and ice-cream sundaes. We participated in gardening club and grew our own plants from seed.



We have enjoyed lots of practical activities involving number, shape and space. We've explored number whilst playing skittles and size using shells. We have also explored measure in cooking, as well as filling and emptying containers in sand play.



We have also had lots of fun being imaginative and creative, particularly in the role play area exploring a day at the beach and an ice cream shop. We celebrated the King's coronation and arts week!



Apricots-E class



This last term has flown by and the children have enjoyed going swimming each week in the first half of the term. We started with a topic based around 'In the Garden'. We enjoyed planting lots of different seeds, visiting the allotment and learning about what is needed to make plants grow.



During the second half term we changed topic and we looked at 'Why is Water Wet'. We did lots of sensory exploration with water, ice, bubbles and wet cereals. We explored washing dollies and also used wet chalk to draw pictures in the playground. We painted pictures using ice and paint. In Science we explored the sun's movement and how it makes shadows.



In RE this term we have explored Being part of a Muslim Family. We have learnt about the 5 Pillars of Islam and also made our own prayer mat. In Math's the children's progress over the year has been very evident with them showing a greater depth of understanding across all areas. In English children have continued to make excellent progress with their letter formation and understanding of letter sounds.



The children have all worked so hard and it's been evident to see what great progress they have all made this year and what lovely friendships they have formed with each other and their peers in other classes.

Well Done Apricots Class!

Apricots-T class

During the summer term Apricots have had lots of fun exploring the topics Mini beasts and the Seashore.

We have had lots of fun finding out the differing features and characteristics of mini beats and where they live. We have also explored what could be found at the seashore, the many ways we use water and what happens on holidays.

In maths we have looked at repeating patterns and counting how many legs and eyes a creepy crawly may have. We have been practicing sequencing numbers and matching numbers to their quantities.



Our outdoor sessions have supported our learning of understanding the world, where we explored our surroundings for different creepy crawlies. Apricots looked high and low to find what may be hiding in our environment. At times we had to climb and crawl but with a concentrated eye we found some caterpillars and watched as they turned to butterflies before releasing them into nature!



During expressive arts and design sessions we have created patterned caterpillars, slime painted snail trails, sensory beaches and textured sea creatures. We have practised our joining skills using glue and sellotape and our scissor skills through snipping and cutting. We used a variety of communication boards to make our own choices for our work.



Each week we have learnt a different phonics letter and have practised writing this in a range of tactile materials, on the interactive whiteboard and on paper. Along with refining our fine motor and pre-writing skills with a series of write dance sessions linked to our topics.



Now the weather has got warmer we have been enjoying playing in the outdoor area exploring water, capacity and sun safety for a hot day!



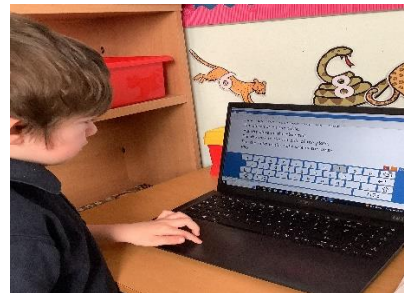
We hope you all have a great summer break

Apricots-T team

Apricots-W class

The Summer term has been another successful one for Apricots class. All the children have been working hard, continuing to build their relationships. The friendships have really blossomed this term, which is so wonderful to see. There have been some lovely interactions with different children within the classroom too.

In English, we have enjoyed exploring and reading a variety of stories from fantasy lands, as well as looking at instructions and alphabet books. The children have embraced visits to the library, role play and a range of practical activities. The children loved following instructions, laying the table, and making jam sandwiches. We continue to use tools like colourful semantics and Clicker 8 to retell and make comments about what has happened in the stories. 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.

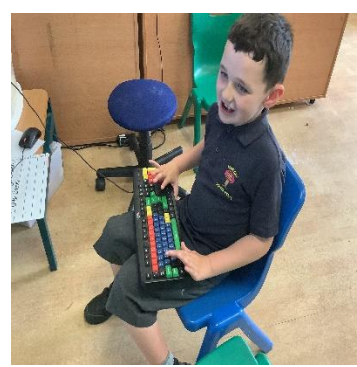


In Maths, we have completed topics such as Number, Statistics and Shape. We have enjoyed hands on practical activities, using a variety of ways to explore these topics. We particularly enjoyed exploring number representations, using a variety of concrete objects to show a number and, realising that it means the same. In Statistics, we looked at how we can sort items in different ways and looked at how we can represent this information, with tallies and block graphs. In shape, we focussed on shapes and their properties as well as enjoying making and continuing patterns. We used the IWB to explore games linked to our topics too.

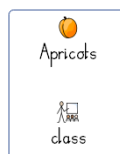




Our Topic work has been about 'Will you read me a story?' and 'Is it shiny?' We have enjoyed these topics, exploring fairy tale goodies and baddies. We really enjoyed making villain stencils and creating villains on the iPads. In our last topic, is it shiny? we have explored our environment, and made connections, identifying the materials we can see around us. In computing, we have been looking at communication devices. They have loved exploring cause and effect toys, making phone calls, sending emails and Teams calling their peers.



We have also enjoyed Arts week with a Magic Carpet theme. The children embraced this week and loved joining in with all 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.



We have had a fantastic Summer term in Apricots! I wish you all a fantastic summer holiday and look forward to seeing you in September. 😊

Apples-T class

During the summer term, Apples have had lots of fun exploring the topics Mini beasts and the Seashore.

We have had lots of fun finding out the differing features and characteristics of mini beats and where they live. We have also explored what could be found at the seashore and the many ways we use water.

In maths we have looked at repeating patterns and counting how many legs or eyes a creepy crawly may have. We have also been practising counting, recognising numbers and adding together 2 small numbers.



Our food technology sessions have supported our learning of Understanding the World, where we have created Oreo spiders, Hungry Caterpillar fruit skewers, banana and strawberry lighthouses, ladybird cookies and croissant crabs. This has enabled us to explore the feel, smell and taste of different food items. Some we liked, some not so much or some not at all!



During Expressive Arts and Design sessions we have created collaged caterpillars, cotton wool painted snail shells, potato printed lighthouses and bubble wrap printing jellyfish. We have also created 3D models of lighthouses, spiders and bees. We have practised our joining skills using glue and tape and our scissor skills through snipping and cutting.

We have developed our gross motor skills through climbing, travelling and jumping in PE and using the trikes and equipment on the playground. Our fine motor skills have been developed through activities such as creating playdough starfish and squeezing water from a pipette onto cotton wool clouds to create rain.



Each week, in phonics, we have learnt a different letter sound and have practised writing the letter in a range of tactile materials, on the interactive whiteboard and on paper.



Now the weather has got warmer, we have been enjoying playing in the outdoor area exploring water and we went on a walk to the local park.



We hope you all have a great summer break

Apples-T team



Apples-W class



We are fast approaching the end of this academic year, and I am absolutely thrilled to share the progress that each and every one of our students in Apples Class has made. Not only are the children growing taller, but they are also blossoming in their independence. I am so proud of their achievements!



During term 5, our topic was "Will you tell me a story?" The children enjoyed our theme song, "Kindness and Sharing" and they joyfully sang along, especially during the catchy chorus. We shared some favourite fairy tales, including Little Red Riding Hood and Jack and the Beanstalk but also new stories such as Ringo the Flamingo. We had great fun exploring the idea of goodies and baddies and what makes you feel good?

As we moved into the second half of the term, we dived straight into our next topic, "Is it shiny?" The classic song, "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," set the tone for our explorations. The children, as always, enthusiastically participated in cooking activities. Our literature choices included captivating tales such as "Rainbow Fish," and "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" In the latter book, we discovered that making porridge that is just right is very tricky!



We have continued to conduct our swimming sessions in smaller groups, allowing the children to continue to develop greater confidence in the water. We are so proud of the strides they are all making in their independence, requiring less assistance when getting dressed and undressed before and after the lessons. During PE, they have been diligently trying to listen and follow instructions, particularly in team games which can always prove tricky.

It has been lovely that we can once again have the opportunity to celebrate your children's accomplishments with you during our weekly "Good Work" assemblies. It has been a true pleasure witnessing their growing confidence as they display the courage to try new things.

As we approach the upcoming Summer break, I would like to take this moment to wish you all a happy and joyful holiday, and say what a delight it has been to teach your children. They are a credit to you and themselves.

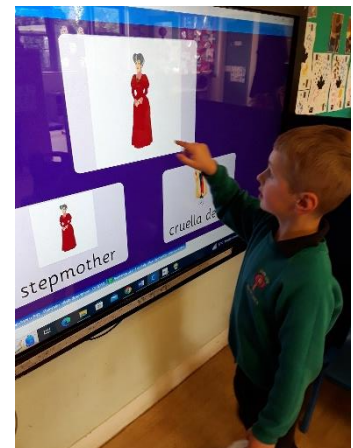
Well done, Apples Class, for a fantastic Summer term! Good luck in your new classes as you all enter Year 3.

Oranges-W class

The Summer term has been a successful and exciting time for Oranges class. We have enjoyed the good relationships built over the year within the class, have made great progress and feel comfortable within our routines. Children have especially enjoyed learning about fairytales and materials over the last term.



In English, we've explored and listened to a variety of stories with fantasy elements and traditional fairy tales. Children have also experienced different writing styles such as reports, dictionaries and instructional. 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 fairy tales and materials. We have explored both topics through play and a range of practical, exciting and explorative activities! Children enjoyed roleplaying lots during our fairy tale topic and exploring a range of tactile items during our materials focused learning.



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 fantastic Summer term in Oranges. The children have all made outstanding progress and achieved so much during this school year!

Well done Oranges class!

Limes-E class

This term has been full of celebrations! We enjoyed preparing our Coronation celebrations to share with our families.



In topic, we have continued to learn about The Enchanted Woodland, especially the animals that live in the forest.



In maths, we have been continuing to develop our number and calculation skills.



Have a lovely summer holiday!

Limes-W class

We have had a busy term in Limes Class since the Easter holidays. This term we have been looking at our two topics: Under and Over the Sea and My Senses. The children have been engaging in lots of sensory and learning activities relating to these topics.

In our topic Under and Over the Sea, we listened to lots of different stories and took part in lots of activities looking at different animals, birds and boats. We explored and played with boats in blue water and fished for sea creatures hidden in the sand.



In our topic My Senses, we have been learning about our different senses and how we use them to explore our world. During our investigations, we painted rainbows using bright colours, tasted all the different fruits from The Hungry Caterpillar and explored mint, chocolate, tomato and herb-scented playdough. We are looking forward to using our sense of hearing to listen to the animals during our visit to Woburn Safari Park.



As well as working on our topic, the children have continued to explore the local community and enjoyed either going on weekly bus trips or walks to different places of interest. The children had a walk to Swanspool Gardens to see the flowers, visited the local parks and have been shopping to buy ice cream from Aldi.



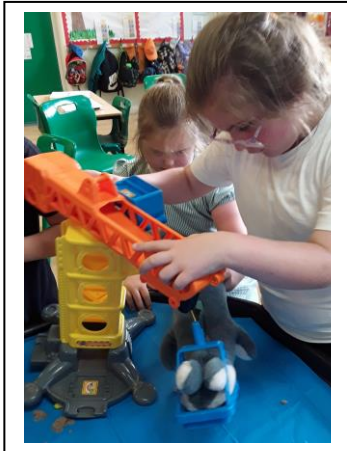
In RE, the children have looked at 'What Happens at a Wedding' and 'Spiritual Art'. The children have taken part in different wedding ceremonies from around the world and prepared and tasted lots of different types of celebration food.

The highlight of the summer term will our visit to Woburn Safari Park on Thursday 13th July.



Lemons-W class

Our Topic for the Summer Term was 'Over and Under the Sea'. Children engaged in a range of activities including music, DT, Art and explored small world play. We made our own guitars and used them to provide accompaniment to music, we created an octopus using paper chains and made a sea snail out of coiled paper.



In Science, we learned about sound. We explored a range of materials and investigated how the sounds are made and what we can do to change the sound. We also discovered how sound travels.

In English we read a range of books about the sea and sea creatures. Our favourite was 'The Snail and the Whale'. We described the characters in books, discussed their feelings, engaged in role play and followed instructions on how to make a sea snail using coiled paper strips.

In Maths we investigated 2D and 3D shapes. We created pictures using 2D shapes and built structures with 3D shapes. We learned about sharing amounts and made a fruit salad sharing it between ourselves equally. We engaged in a variety of practical activities to practise counting, recognising numerals, adding amounts and taking away. We went to a local shop to practise using money in practical situations.

In PSHE we talked about choices that we make to keep ourselves healthy. We explored how to make healthy food choices, how important exercise is and how to keep our bodies clean and healthy.



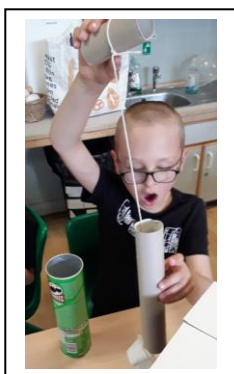
In RE we talked about peace and spiritual journeys that people go on in different religions. We went on a journey to a place of worship and visited our local church. We engaged in a moment of peace and reflection while there. We loved exploring the church, ringing the bell and playing



We welcomed parents for the coronation activities.

We loved the brass band concert in our school.

The children enjoyed their transfer day and spent some time in their new classes getting to know their new classmates and taking part in activities there.



Thank you for all your support throughout this term.

Enjoy the summer holiday.

from the Lemons Team

Blackberries-W class



My, how time flies when you are having fun in the sun!

This summer our topic has been “Under and Over The Sea”. We have been looking at different features of beaches and coral reefs as well as the animals that inhabit them. We began to learn about programming by making music and animation using the PurpleMash website. Our art lessons have focused on Pattern and Rhythm with us making musical instruments, animal hybrids and beach collages.



In science, we have been looking at sound and light, this has led to some very practical lessons with the torches creating shadow puppets and experimenting with how we make shadows and how we can change them. Our sound lessons have had a nice overlap with art where we used the instruments we made to explore volume and pitch amongst a range of instruments.



In maths, we have been looking at time, shape and number facts amongst other things and in English we recently looked at myths and legends as well as instructional writing to plant flowers.



We have had a lot of fun this term and I hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Cherries-E Class

Our theme this term has been Castles and we have been getting creative with making, building, and painting castles as well as learning about life in a Mediaeval Castle. What did they wear and eat and how do you go to the toilet? What jobs did they do and what job would you like to do in a Castle? Maybe a Marshall, a Knight, a Page or a Cook.

In Computing, we have been learning about writing emails and recording/taking photos. The children have been very good at remembering how to keep safe online

In English we have been learning about traditional stories and have focused on stories from Greek Mythology. We have also learnt about stories from other cultures and learnt some Aboriginal Dreamtime stories.

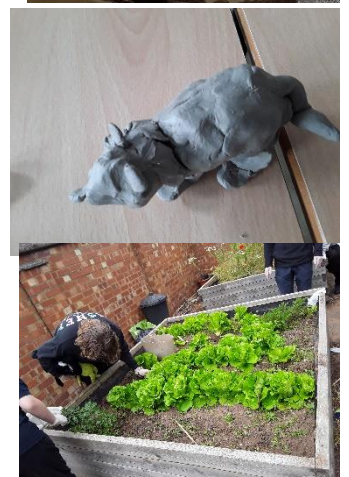
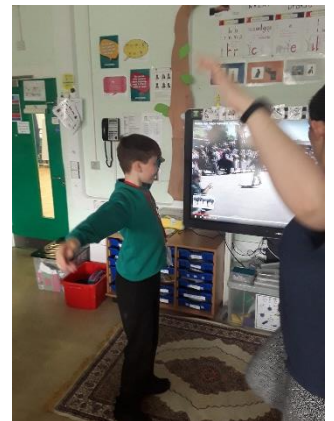
In science we have been learning about Animals and their Habitats. We have learnt about the different classifications of animals, and life cycles. The highlight was when we had chicks in class for two weeks. We learnt to look after them, feed them, change the water and even clean them out - they were a bit stinky!

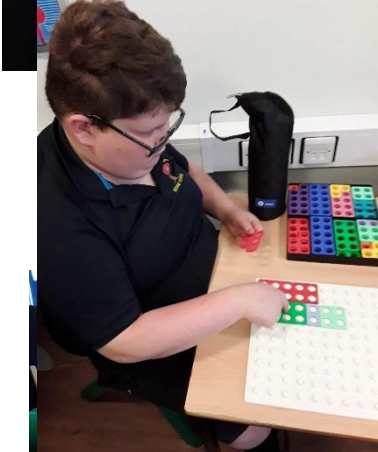
In Maths, we have been getting practical with number skills, measure, calculations and statistics.

In PSHE, we have been talking about safety in the community and keeping ourselves safe. In RE we enjoyed learning about Spiritual Art, where we found out about different aspects of religion through music, painting and drama, stories and guided mediation. We also learnt about Jesus and his disciples.

In PE, we have been swimming and doing athletics and ball games.

We have really enjoyed our EAD Magic Carpet Week where we visited places around the world – Africa, France, Egypt and Turkey. We gained a wealth of knowledge about the different cultures, and made lots of different food and crafts, including making clay animals.





Cherries-W class

This term we have thoroughly enjoyed our topic on Under and Over the Sea and Senses!

We have been exploring and expanding our knowledge through using all of our senses through lots of exploratory activities. We have been looking at different aspects of Under and Over the Sea, looking at where animals live and what we can find under the sea.



We have enjoyed listening to a weekly story to support our learning and have explored the different sensory props. We have continued to develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern and texture. We have demonstrated high levels of enjoyment while on 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 practiced taking turns playing nicely with our peers.



In RE we have enjoyed exploring how weddings can be celebrated. We have explored a range of foods, music and objects relating to how weddings are celebrated traditionally in different religions.



Kiwis-W class



This year has truly flown by and Kiwis have had a really busy summer term. Here's what we've been up to.



This term saw the introduction of our new topic of bridges. The children have enjoyed learning about the different types of bridges there are, exploring the materials used to make bridges and creating their own bridges for our class display.



We were lucky enough to enjoy a trip to Hamerton Zoo at the beginning of term. The children thoroughly enjoyed looking at the animals and being out in the community.

We have had a really wonderful term and year! All the children have achieved so much.

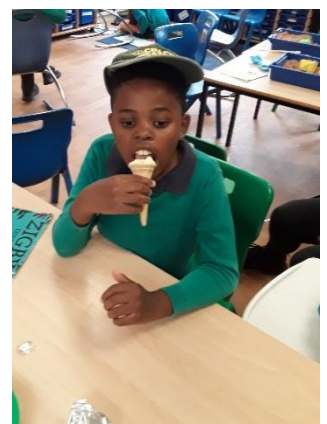
Well Done Kiwis Class! We hope you have a lovely summer holiday!



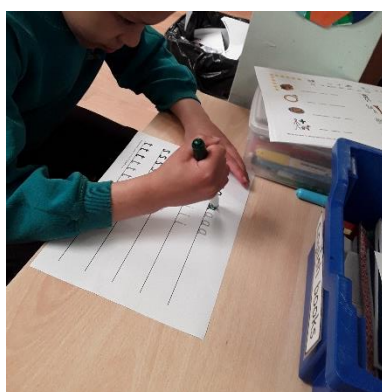
Pears-W Class

Pears-W class have been super busy again this term! We have been developing a love of learning through a creative and sensory curriculum. Through our topic we have been offered a range of learning opportunities that have sparked curiosity and wonder, within our classroom.

In our topic lessons we have been exploring under and over the sea! We dived down to the depths of the ocean, to investigate what creatures we could find and explored the beautiful coral reefs, we have created our own coral reef using a range of materials. Not forgetting that we made our own squishy sensory under water habitats! When we travelled back to the shore, we learnt about the different features of a seaside and even tried ice-creams, we really enjoyed making our own sandcastles!



In English we have read lots of different books all linked with being under or over the sea. We have read, Commotion in the Ocean – where we created our own sea creature shape poems. When we read Rainbow Fish, we created lots of I see sentences based on what we could see throughout the book. We really enjoyed creating our wanted posters for What the Ladybird Heard at the Seaside. We carefully looked at the pictures and then made our own descriptions.



In our maths lessons we have been super busy exploring numbers in a range of different ways. We have been building numbers with a range of maths equipment and we have even been solving basic maths problems. We really enjoyed turning our classroom into a shop where we had the opportunity to spend money on the objects and activities that we like. We especially liked when we took our maths learning outside, to explore different positional language.



In Science we have been learning about light and sound! We have been investigating which materials allow light to shine through them. We went on a light source hunt around the school identifying as many light sources as we could! Not forgetting when we created our own shadow puppets using the torches and our hands. For our sound unit of work, we investigated objects that make sounds and how we can change the volume of the sounds that we make.



We have had an amazing year in Pears Class – we have enjoyed playing with our friends, working with a range of different adults and most importantly having fun! Thank you for a lovely year Pears Class, keep up the brilliant work 😊





Grapes-W class

Another fantastic term in Grapes class!



In English we have been using Read Write Inc. materials and this has helped improve our reading and writing. We have also enjoyed looking at diaries and non-fiction writing. We have continued to hear quality stories and have particularly enjoyed books by the authors, Julia Donaldson and Simon Bartram.



In Maths we have spent time learning about place value, using this to add and subtract. We have played lots of maths games using the interactive whiteboard. We have learnt the days of the week and how to tell the time and use money in practical situations.



Our most recent topic has been called 'Bridges' and we have discovered lots of bridges near us. We had a good trip to Warkton Bridge and the road bridge at Fermyn Woods. We liked making lots of bridges and using a lot of different art techniques as well as construction materials. We have enjoyed our weekly singing and instrument sessions learning songs such as 'London Bridge'.



In science our topic has been looking at the human body and its systems. We have discovered what happens to our food and looked at the job of the heart and other major organs.

This term in RE we found out about Humanist beliefs and asked questions in our topic, 'What happens when you die?' There were some interesting and thoughtful ideas from the children.



In PSHE, we have learnt about keeping clean and respecting privacy. We have also discussed special days and how different people around the world have their own celebrations.





We have had regular P.E. sessions lead by the coach and we have enjoyed athletics, javelin as well as lots of different games.

It has been another fantastic year and term in Grapes class and the team would like to wish our pupils and parents a happy and enjoyable Summer holiday.



Plums-E class

What a busy summer term we've had!

We have enjoyed the topics "how does your garden grow" and "why is water wet?" We planted seeds and looked after them to grow sunflowers, we made recycled boot planters and enjoyed walks to the park to observe the trees and birds. It was fun making vegetable and fruit shaped people, we also enjoyed rhymes about gardens and vegetables too!

We made different paintings and crafts using water to help make the paint and papier mâché, designed umbrellas and thought about the water sounds in the Billy Goats Gruff story.

We were able to have a day out at Wicksteed Park and enjoyed the rides and Meerkats! It was very hot, but we had fun!



We have been learning lots within our English and Maths work, using measures and money was great fun!



We are excited to see what new things we will learn in the new school year.

Plums-W class

Hello everyone, we have had an exciting term and have been very busy. The children in Plums Class have worked very hard.

In English, have been learning about film narratives, persuasive writing, biographies and autobiographies. The children have enjoyed creating their own versions of stories based upon popular children's films. The children have had the chance to make some models of their favourite characters and take part in drama activities in which they all took on the role of different animals or emotions.



In maths, we have been looking at place value, division and multiplication. The children have enjoyed exploring the concepts behind more or less and attempting to prove one number is bigger than another.



In science, we have looked at the human body and its internal organs. The children have enjoyed making model organs from playdough and role-playing the circulation system. The children particularly enjoyed trying to put Bob back together again. We also did some gardening at the end of term!



In topic, we have been looking at bridges. The children have loved looking at how bridges have changed over time and the different patterns you can find on bridges. We had a go at making our own bridges using different materials.



Thank you so much for all your support this year. We have loved having the opportunity to teach and get to know your children and wish them all the best going forward.

Plums team

Peaches-E class

In English, we have been focussing on narratives with familiar settings, such as schools, woodlands areas and local environments. We also learnt about sensory poems and had a go at writing some of our own. In the last few weeks, we have been learning about writing Newspaper reports!



In science, we have studied plants and living things. We have been growing our own sunflowers and growing cress seeds under different conditions. This has helped us to learn about the features of plants and what they need to help them grow.

Our topic lessons have been on “The Enchanted Woodland” which has given us a great opportunity to explore the local natural environments around us, learn about wildlife in the UK and make comparisons to rainforests in other parts of the world.



In PSHE, we have been learning about how we change, and have discussed different stages of life and how to develop skills. In R.E. we have been focussing on prayer and what that means within the contexts of different religions.

We have had a great year of learning, made many memories and we hope you all have a great summer holidays and good luck in your new classes next year!

Peaches Class

Peaches-W class

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

In English we have been finding out about biographies and autobiographies and we have been writing our own ones about our trip to see different Bridges for our Topic. We have also been looking at Film Narrative and have really enjoyed reading extracts from Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone and are looking forward to our Harry Potter day at the end of the term. We really enjoyed making things when we were doing work on instructions and we made some lovely dragonflies and tasty sandwiches.

In Maths we have had fun experimenting with different measures. We enjoyed weighing out ingredients and baking. We have been working really hard on the four operations. Our Fractions work was great fun as we got to decorate fractions of cupcakes and pizza which we then got to eat! Yummy!



In Science we have been looking at living things including humans. We have looked at our skeletons and bodies and have looked at how some of our organs work. We enjoyed looking at the digestive system and loved the practical activity which was a bit disgusting but great fun. We also enjoyed looking at our heart and circulatory system and what the white and red blood cells do.



In Computing we have been looking in detail at how to keep ourselves safe and what information should and should not be shared online. We have enjoyed playing lots of Maths games on the iPads and doing activities on Purple Mash. We have also designed our own bridges using the paint programme on purple mash.

In our Creative Curriculum we have been looking at Bridges. We have really enjoyed finding out about the different bridge designs and looking at bridges from around the world. In art we have been painting pictures and drawing sketches of our favourite bridges and in DT we have investigated which materials are good for building bridges. We have had great fun doing that! We have looked at Isambard Kingdom Brunel and the different things that he has made. In History we have been looking at different types of transport and comparing modern transport with older models. We particularly enjoyed looking at the Steam train and electric train and comparing them.

We went on a bridges tour where we needed to go over and under many different bridges. We enjoyed playing Pooh Sticks and watching them float down the stream. We all loved visiting

Wellingborough train station and went onto the platform over the foot bridge. We also saw a train arrive which we all enjoyed seeing.



During Art Week we went on a Magic Carpet Ride and visited lots of different countries. We enjoyed Greek food and dancing and decorating Grecian vases with a story. We really enjoyed belly dancing in Egypt and listening to the music. We looked at the Eiffel Tower when we visited France and created some beautiful watercolours depicting French scenes and had fun trying to construct the Eiffel Tower out of straws. During our visit to Mexico we made Guacamole which we tried with nachos. We tried to recreate Mexican music and enjoyed decorating sugar skulls for the Day of the Dead.



Pineapples-E class

Is it really the end of the school year?

This term, our class Topic has been Castles. As you can see the children have been working hard to learn as much as they can about how castles were built and who lived in them.



In Science we have been exploring living things. This has included planting flowers and vegetables inside and outside and thinking – what are the best ways to grow them?



The children have been looking after class pets – Sea Monkeys which they have been watching grow and remembering to feed!



In R.E. we have been exploring how the disciples helped Jesus; how the first few disciples were known as the fishers of men and ways we could help each other.



We have climbed mountains (small hill!) to reach the site of a Motte & Bailey castle and enjoyed trying the life of a medieval knight.



Thanks to all the parents / carers for your support.

Well done Pineapples children. I will see some of you in September and I am sure that those who are going a new school will have a brilliant time – Good luck.

Have a great Summer.

Pineapples-W class

The year flew by and here we are at the end of summer term! Pineapples continue to be as busy as ever. This term has seen us experiencing the topics of Our senses and Under and Over the Sea.

During our under the sea topic we turned the sensory room into an immersive seaside experience, listening to and smelling the sea, using the fan to float blue material to represent waves and changed the projector to fish.



We also made waves with the parachute, participated in water play together, joined in counting songs about ducks and frogs, learnt new verses for Row, Row, Row the Boat with our peers and looked for hidden ducks in soft play.



We also loved the visit from the brass band.



During our senses we enjoyed listening to our daily five senses song and exploring a range of activities using our 5 senses. One of our favourite activities was exploring different texture with our sense of touch, using our hands and feet, such as warm and cold custard, dry and wet sand, smooth and rough surfaces. We have also loved our new moving floor tiles, exploring textures in the local environment, foot spa and musical instruments.



Have a lovely summer and thank you for all your support throughout the year.

Team Pineapples 😊

Strawberries-W class

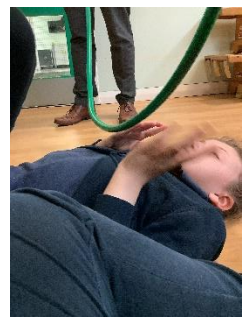
The children have been very busy over the Summer term learning about our Senses during the first half of the term and exploring Under and over the Sea for this part of the term. We have also worked really hard on our yearly targets and have had lots of fun.

We have enjoyed exploring different lift the flap and noisy books during our Senses topic. We had great fun exploring lighting effects in the classroom, some of these we were able to handle and turn over, shake or bang them to activate them. The classroom was very dark and there was an explosion of colour all around us.

We planted seeds and now, in the allotment, there are runner beans, peas and marigolds growing, our sunflowers are growing well too. The soil was lovely to touch while we planted our seeds and I'm sure some of us came home with some hidden away in our clothes! We also explored lots of different textures in the sand tray and made texture pictures.

We played different musical instruments; we love the large drum, and each took a turn to play with the adult. We had a brass group come to play and one of the children could feel the vibrations through the floor, she was able to get very close as the musicians played and loved the hosepipe trumpet, it really vibrated through your fingers!

We tasted lots of yummy ingredients and made different flavoured biscuits, cakes and pastries which we shared with our families. The smell of the spices when the cakes were cooked was delicious.



During this part of the Summer term, we have really enjoyed making different types of fish as part of our story, 'Hooray for fish!'

We have played with blue foamy soap with boats and 'cloud dough' which is flour and oil mixed together. The texture is lovely and soft to feel, and it moulds like wet sand and then it crumbles again. If you want to make some at home, you just need 5 cups of flour and 1 cup of cooking oil. Its edible too.



We've had an old friend come to help us and she sang some of her favourite songs.

Now the term is coming to an end and also two of Strawberries will be moving on to a new school in September and we wish them lots of luck. We hope they make lots of new friends and have lots of fun. We will miss them.

We wish everyone a very safe and happy Summer holidays and we will see you soon.

From everyone in Strawberries. xx 