



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have enjoyed many activities and trips during this festive period, and throughout the term, despite the many challenges that Covid has brought to us all. Christmas is here again!

In September, we welcomed a number of new pupils to our school, and it has been a pleasure to see how well they have settled and the progress they have made. All of the children have enjoyed their day-to-day routines and activities, and coped very well with the moves to new classes.

I am delighted to see that so many children have achieved their 'Five Keys' wristbands, celebrating their achievements this term. Congratulations to all who were awarded with wristbands.

The Governors of the school have given their time and worked very hard to support our work. Mrs Sam Baker continues to chair the school Governing body, and I am grateful for her strength and support. I must also thank all members of the Governing body who give so readily of their own time and resources to support our school.

All of the staff here at Rowan Gate work tirelessly for the benefit of our pupils and always hold the children's progress and wellbeing at the centre of their work. This is what makes our school such a wonderful place to be for our pupils and I thank them all for their dedication and hard work.

It is with great pride that I send out this newsletter to you, and wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

I look forward to seeing our pupils again on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

Laura Clarke
Headteacher



Bananas Class End of Term News Letter



This term has been a brilliant term in Bananas Class, everyone has worked so hard and made great progress. We have been really busy and have taken part in lots of activities.

Topic – Our topic this term started as traditional and familiar tales 'Read Me A Story'. We read lots of different stories including The Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, Hansel and Gretel and many more! See the pictures below of some of the wonderful activities we did relating to the stories.



Our topic then changed to 'Is It Shiny?', we made everything glittery!!



English - In English we have been reading traditional stories. We have done lots of roleplaying and talked about our favourite part of books. We have also been doing lots of mark making to help us with our handwriting.



Maths - In Maths we have continued to learn about number, addition and subtraction, shape and measure and sorting. We did lots of practical activities which you can see in the photos.



All the children have achieved so much!



We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you all in 2022!



Apples Class

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

This term we started with a topic based around traditional and familiar tales 'Read Me A Story'. We enjoyed listening to different stories and completing activities connected to each story such as making gingerbread houses (Hansel and Gretel), using natural materials to make stick men (Stick Man) and making a new castle for a giant (Jack and the Beanstalk).



During the second half term we changed topic and everything became 'shiny'! We made Rockets, Rainbow fish collages and sensory bags, shiny Highway Rat masks and much more.





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



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

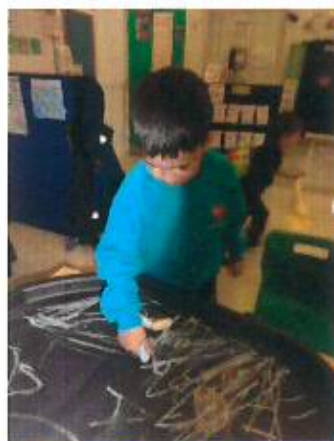
Apricots East End of Term Newsletter

December 2021

This term Apricots East class have engaged in lots of different learning activities. In maths we have developed our understanding of number, addition and subtraction, We have also been looking at repeated patterns using blocks and pegs as well as the names and properties of 2D shapes. Children have engaged in a wide range of practical activities with enthusiasm.



In English the children have engaged with a variety of stories from fantasy worlds. They have all enjoyed retelling the stories using small world and role play resources. The children have also engaged with daily phonics lessons and regular handwriting lessons which include activities that strengthen their fine motor skills.



This term our Topic learning has been about different stories and different materials. The children have engaged in a wide range of creative and explorative activities to develop their knowledge of the world. The children have particularly enjoyed engaging with a wide range of materials. They have also enjoyed activities that have involved being creative with different foods, painting and using computing equipment.



In RE lessons the children have been learning about how people give thanks in different ways and how Christmas is celebrated all over the world, including 'La Bafana' the Italian Santa Claus. In personal, social and emotional development lessons the children have been learning about caring for others, expressing our feelings and working together as a team. In PE the children have been learning how to play games including the 'tidy your room game' which involves throwing lots of beanbags into the other team's area.



All of the staff in Apricots Class would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope you have an enjoyable Christmas holiday. Warmest Wishes

Lisa and Alison ☺

Plums East

Autumn Term Newsletter

What a busy term we have had!

When we returned after the summer holidays we had a topic called "will you read me a story?" and enjoyed lots of stories, activities and crafts relating to these. Acting out the wolf from Little Red Riding Hood and tasting porridge were some of our favourites!

We have also enjoyed learning to play new games and share interactions with new friends in class.



This term we have been learning about materials and carried out lots of investigations with different materials and foods; melting ice and chocolate was good fun and a bit messy!



During Maths and English we have continued to develop our counting, understanding of shapes, letter recognition, phonics and writing/communication skills.



We have also been learning about Christmas around the world. Which is celebrated in many different ways with a range of traditions.

We hope you have a lovely Christmas and wish you all a Happy New Year.



Cherries East Newsletter



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

This term saw the introduction of our new topic of dinosaurs. We have spent a great deal of time looking at different types of dinosaurs, their habitats, and what they eat. We have made dinosaur crafts for our class display and even made our very own dinosaur swamp!



In Science, we have explored living things, inheritance, adaptation and evolution where the children have enjoyed making volcanoes erupt, digging and making their own fossils.



One story we have particularly enjoyed was the dinosaur who pooped a princess where we enjoyed dressing up as dinosaurs and even explored getting messy in some dinosaur "poop".



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



Limes East

At times, it has been a tricky term but the children have shown great resilience and have proved that they are keen learners, who are willing to have a go at all of our activities. We have continued to take part in The Daily Mile and the children have become experts at catching and looking after Ladybirds! Our class Topic this term has been Dinosaurs and where possible we have used the topic in all areas of our learning. For example, exploring how to be a Palaeontologist (History).



Making a suitable Dinosaur habitat for carnivores and herbivores and exploring their different features (Geography).



How they may have adapted over the years in order to survive (Science).



Sometimes our Dinosaur stories (English) became a bit messy; we became at making Dinosaur sounds and making Dinosaur models.



Thanks to all the parents / carers. Well done Limes children. You are awesome.

Look forward to seeing everyone again in January.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

From
Limes East.

Pineapples East News

We have enjoyed a busy term together. Our topic has been Shoes. These photos show children learning to jump along a number line in Maths, enjoying a story in English and exploring shadows in Science.



We have enjoyed a wide range of activities - here children are making music, making playdough and visiting a local children's shoe shop.

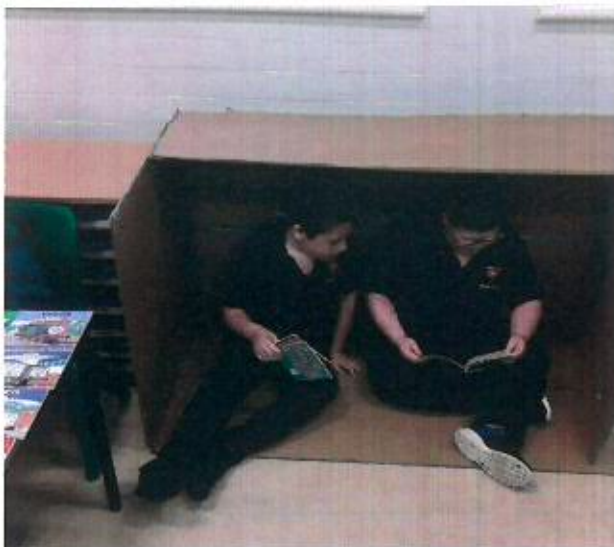


We are taking part in a project with schools from other countries. We enjoyed chatting to children from around Europe via TEAMS and doing art work alongside them. We made felt conkers. We also had some special times together learning how to model with clay. Thank you for the shoe resources supplied by some of you - they were great!



We make time to play together and have fun!

We hope you enjoy looking at these photos.



Peaches-E Class

Our theme this term has been Boots and Shoes. We have had some lovely trips to Rushden Town Centre to explore what shops are on the High Street, and we found lots of shops that sell shoes and some that mend them. We also enjoyed a trip to the Northampton Museum and explored their excellent interactive displays, and practiced using money in the gift shop.

We have printed with shoes, made clay shoes, made North American moccasins and we have enjoyed sewing so much, that the boys have begun to design their own Christmas decorations to be made out of felt.

In Computing, we have enjoyed making our own art on the computer, making a montage and exploring making pictograms and bar charts.

We have enjoyed practicing our reading, writing, speaking and listening through Traditional stories such as the Elves and the Shoemaker, Alice in Wonderland and the Hare and the Tortoise. We have also explored some of Julia Donaldson's stories such as 'The Scarecrow's Wedding'.

In Science we have learnt about Light, shadows and explored Scientific words such as transparent, translucent and opaque as well as reflection and refraction. We have also learnt about the dangers and uses of electricity as well as how to replace batteries and making an electrical circuit.

In Maths we have been practicing problem solving skills, using a number line to add and subtract and exploring and describing shapes.

This has been an excellent term, and all the class have made good progress and we have had lots of fun doing so.





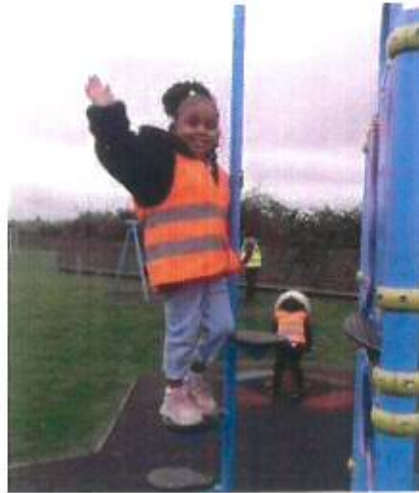
Bananas-T Newsletter

This term, Bananas class have had a lot of fun exploring the topic 'Do you have a favourite teddy'? We have enjoyed learning all about teddy bears and real bears, focusing on a different theme each week, including my teddy bear, bears and their habitats, bears in stories, going on a teddy bear hunt and teddy bears picnic. We have also celebrated the season of winter and traditions/festivals, such as Bonfire night, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas.

Our cake stall for Children in Need was a great success...



and the children have really enjoyed taking part in the 'Daily Mile' and visiting parks in our local community.



It's been a real pleasure watching the children settle and build relationships with the adults that help them daily; clearly thriving in a structured environment. The children have really enjoyed playing alongside and with each other in the continuous provision area which has been set up as a 'home' to promote role play and interaction, and also in the outside area, particularly with



the large Polydron, wooden planks, mud kitchen, and trikes.

Our weekly Sunshine Circle sessions on a Monday afternoon and Mindfulness sessions on a Thursday afternoon, led by Zoe also promote developing friendships further. We have also celebrated 3 birthdays this term.



In maths, we have participated in a variety of activities relating to numbers and shape, space, and measure. We have had the opportunity to explore 2D shapes, sort objects by colour and size (using a range of natural materials) and positional language (using small world toys and play equipment/natural materials). We have also designed and built 3D structures engaging with a variety of media, using our large wooden construction sets in both the indoor and outside play areas. The children have also participated in a wide range of



number songs using props.



In phonics, we are learning a new letter sound each week and some children are beginning to blend and segment these sounds to read and spell words. The children have enjoyed our daily sessions, particularly our 'Kids TV123 phonics song', shaker bottles and sharing with the class their sound of the week objects brought in from home. Some children are beginning to



match some of the objects on their phonics communication boards to initial letter sounds as they participate in activities such as I spy with my little eye. In connection with our weekly themes, we have also enjoyed listening to



the following books: *Peace at Last*, *Goldilocks*, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, and *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see?*

We have been busy developing both our fine and gross motor skills in our weekly PE, finger gym and dough disco sessions.



Developing our hand and finger strength enables us to engage in Kinetic Letters activities to develop our handwriting skills. We have been doing this in different tactile materials and have particularly enjoyed exploring the writing stones! We also use our magic

wands to participate in big air writing and have also experienced using a wipe board. We are making good progress with our mark making/writing skills.



Bananas class have also enjoyed a range of art and design activities. We have encountered and engaged with Transient art and have even designed new slippers for Mrs Bear and a mobile for Baby Bear.



Our weekly cooking sessions have been lots of fun too! So far, we have made Pudsey bear biscuits, bear paw cookies and shortbread. These sessions provide us with the opportunity to engage and participate with weighing and measuring and the opportunity to use child-safe cutlery to cut up a range of ingredients. The best part is then sampling our tasty treats!



The Bananas class team have been so proud of the children this term, it has been a long and busy term for them and they have all managed brilliantly, particularly with 2 separate periods of remote learning. We look forward to welcoming the children back in the New Year and we wish you all a wonderful two week break. We look forward to hearing all about it. For those families that celebrate Christmas, we wish you a very Merry Christmas.

Finally, Lets hope 2022 brings good health and happier times for us all.

Apples T

Apples class have had fun this term exploring their new environment at school and learning through play. We have enjoyed lots of different fun activities outside too.



We have been practicing our writing and mark making, exploring letters of the alphabet. We have been exploring number through lots of different practical activities, including sequencing numbers using puzzles.



All of the children have been working very hard and have settled into life at school. We are all looking forward to the Christmas break and hope you all have a safe and happy time with your families.

Bananas Class

Bananas class have been busy exploring the topics 'Would you rather swim in flippers or stomp in wellies?' and 'Do you have a favourite teddy bear?'. We focused on different themes each week including my school shoes, animal footprints, sock puppets, teddy bear picnic and bear hunt.



We have enjoyed exploring sensory tuff trays and tabletop display relating to our themes. These have included welly boot puddle play, and pumpkin potions, alongside exploration of dry and wet materials including foam and cereal. We have used different tools to mark make within a range of media.



We have shared many stories, engaging with sensory props and communication aids such as switches. These stories included 'Simon Sock', 'Ellie's magic wellies', 'We're going on a bear hunt' and 'Peace at Last'. We even



sock puppets and our own footprint characters. We also explored going on a bear hunt in the park, and listening to outside sounds.

We have enjoyed lots of practical activities involving number, shape and space.

We've explored measuring our feet, emptying, filling and stacking shoe boxes and experienced very big/very small with Goldilocks. We experienced measure in cooking and enjoyed using our senses to explore ingredients.

We also had lots of fun being imaginative and creative, particularly in the role play area exploring the shoe shop.



We have also enjoyed activities celebrating bonfire night, Diwali and Halloween!

Apricots Class

We have had a fantastic first term in Apricots class. This term has been filled with laughter, learning and achievements.

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



they learn new skills

and consolidating prior knowledge.

In



English we have been covering stories from a range of cultures, myths and legends, captions and labels and lists.

We have enjoyed these stories inside and outside the classroom, linking the stories to the world around us. We have also participated in weekly phonics sessions, exploring a letter sound a week and focusing on environmental, instrumental and body percussion sounds.



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



We have also thoroughly enjoyed our walks to Eastfield park this term, exploring the world around us whilst exercising.



It has been a wonderful term and all the children have achieved so much. You should all be very proud of yourselves Apricots class! Well done.

Apples Class

I can not believe how quickly this first full term has sped past. It will not be long and we will be into 2022 which just seems crazy. Although the term has flown by we have been busy with lots of fun activities for all of the children in Apples Class.

In the first half term our topic was 'Senses'. We have particularly enjoyed the sense of taste as this meant that we got to eat lots of lovely foods. We also tasted some that were not so good! Exploring our sense of touch was also a great success and the children enjoyed making pictures out of a variety of different textures. We had fun



reading the story 'Pirate Pete and his Smelly Feet' and have made the corridor stinky with

our cheesy feet pictures.



The second half term sadly started with computer screens as everyone was at home for remote learning. However, we were back in the second week and got straight on with our next Topic you see in a



'What colours can rainbow?'



The children have all shown



remarkable resilience over the last

term and have made steady progress in the core subjects of English and Maths. They have settled in well to Apples class and I am very proud of all of them. As their confidence grows I am sure we will be able to share some amazing 'Wow' moments together.



It has been a fabulous first term and I am looking forward to continued success in 2022. Well done Apples Class!

Oranges Class – Autumn 2021 Newsletter

The Autumn term has been a fantastic time for Oranges class.

We have enjoyed building new relationships and a strong team. Children have especially enjoyed learning in areas of Senses and Rainbow.



In English, we've explored and listened to a variety of stories and fables. Children have also experienced different writing styles such as lists, labels and captions. As a class we've used tools such as clicker 8, colourful semantics and symbols to build on skills in reading, writing and speaking. We've also all been practicing our phonics skills in weekly lessons and daily key skills activities.



This term our main creative focus has been about Our senses and rainbows. We have explored both topics through play and a range of practical, exciting and explorative activities!



In Maths we have completed topics such as Number, Subtraction and Addition, data, positions, Shape and Measure. We have enjoyed being hands on in activities such as weighing or measuring different items, exploring number in and out of the classroom, exploring of tactile activities



We have all had a great term and start to our year in Oranges
and the children have already achieved so much!

Well done Oranges class!



Lemons Class

Although the days are darker for longer and the weather more unpredictable it has been a really busy term for Lemons Class with many exciting activities!

This term we started with a topic based around 'My Senses'. We enjoyed looking at and then using our different senses as we explored taste, touch, smell, sight and hearing.

We had fun looking at lots of different stories linked to the senses as well including 'Fussy Freda', 'Pirate Pete and His Smelly Feet' and 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?'



During the second half term we changed topic and everything became about colours of the rainbow!



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



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



Limes Autumn Newsletter 2021



This term we have really enjoyed our Autumn topic about Zoo Life.

In English we continue to focus on our phonics and reading skills where we practice initial sounds and blending to read. We are becoming confident mark makers and practising forming recognisable letters.



In Maths we have enjoyed working with data, shape and measure and have been using numbers in counting, addition and subtraction.

We have used our geographical skills to find out where animals who used to be kept in Zoo's come from and how people are trying to help save them and keep them safe. We used our creative skills to make animals using different materials and art and design techniques.



In Science we enjoyed learning about human growth and particularly learning about how our digestive system works. We explored foods that are good for our bodies and learnt about internal and external body parts.



In RE we considered what people believe about creation by exploring creating stories around the world. We are also looking around us at the beautiful world God created throughout the world and our local area.



In PSHE we have considered our health and wellbeing and how amazing we are by sharing skills we are brilliant at and being proud of ourselves and achievements we make.

During PE, playtimes and active times we have focussed on games and gymnastic skills. This has seen us playing tag, dodge ball, moving safely with confidence on apparatus, learning to climb, jump and land with skill and precision.



Thank you for supporting your children throughout some very challenging times. We have been overwhelmed by the way the children have adapted to the changes at the start of the term and have really focussed on their learning with positivity.



Have a wonderful Christmas holiday
Limes Team



Pears Class

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

Our theme this term has been 'Zoo Life' and the children have done some amazing work related to this. They have been finding out all about different types of animals you can see in the Zoo, what they look like, how they sound and where they live in the wild.



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



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

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



In science we have been looking at 'Animals and Humans', and the children were really interested in finding and naming different body parts, both for humans and animals.



We wish everyone in Pears class and all their families a very safe and happy Christmas and a very Happy New Year!



Cherries Newsletter

This term we are enjoyed exploring our topic on Space Adventure!!

We were able to explore and expand our Locational Knowledge and explore the lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national & international achievements. This included Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong, Chris Hadfield and many more!



In science we enjoyed learning about Earth and Space and then Forces and Magnets!!

We explored Space, Planets and Space Travel. We loved our trip to The National Space Centre and were able to explore the topic of Space Adventure seeing everything practically together!



We have found out how our local community supports Religion in RE and how religions make a difference in our world today. We enjoyed exploring how Chirstian Aid, Islamic Aid and other religious charities support others and what we can do to help.

In PSHE we learnt about our community and living in the wider world.



Pineapples Newsletter

Here we are again at the end of another unpredictable term! Pineapples have been extremely busy since coming back in September and we have all settled in really well. We have been busy looking at the topics of Our Senses and then a topic on Colour.

We continue with our weekly sessions of Tac Pac, Story Massage, Sunshine Circle and cooking.



We have also been enjoying our regular walk to the park and have taken some of our Maths and English lessons into the local environment as well. We love to explore the small world and role play areas of the classroom linked to our themes.



In our key skills and curriculum sessions we have been practising our fine motor skills, sorting by colour, exploring capacity, counting and using one to one correspondence, looking at different sizes and participating in different sensory stories.



We also continue to work on our independent skills and our communication.



We hope you have a lovely, safe and healthy Christmas and see you all next year.

Team Pineapples

Strawberry Class Autumn Newsletter

A busy Autumn term for the children in Strawberry Class. We welcomed two new children to our class in September to join the fun we have, with also a lot of hard work too. The children continue to work very hard on their yearly targets every day as well as our Topic work.



During the first part of the Autumn term our topic was all about Zoo animals. Our first story was all about some animals being sent from the Zoo to a little boy's house. Well, some of the animals were far too big, scary, tall and naughty so they were sent back. One of the children was in charge of taking them back to the post office! The children had fun while we sang songs about the different animals and made masks and placed the different markings on the animals with paint and materials.



Our second story was about 'Zak the Zoo keeper' and about the animals he looked after. Did you know there used to be a Zoo in Wellingborough? This story was produced by the children and they recorded sounds that the different animals made, found the same animals in pictures and explored the different textures.



We have created our own Safari Park using sand, pine cones, logs, stones and foliage and moved our toy animals through the different textures.



During the second half of the Autumn term our Topic has been about 'A Space Adventure' and we have read the book 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy. We travelled into space in our boxes and had a picnic on the moon. The chocolate biscuits were delicious! We have decorated our own pair of space boots and made star, moon and chocolate biscuits.



We have enjoyed lighting effects within the classroom and watched as they have danced on the ceiling and floor. During this term we will be taking a journey into space ourselves and experiencing the sensory drama session of Galaxies. We will also be using music to experience the different planets in our music sessions.

During the last week of term, we will be getting ready for Christmas with lots of sparkly and cooking activities.

The Strawberry Team would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Kiwis Class - Autumn Newsletter

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

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



... and we had a great time when we went to visit Croyland Gardens, the site of the former Wellingborough zoo!

In maths, we have been working hard on measurement, money and number and place value!



In English, we have continued to practice our phonics, have learnt about different cultures through new stories and have created instructional texts for everyday activities like making jam sandwiches - yummy!



In PSHE we have been thinking about healthy lifestyles and our wellbeing and in R.E. we have been looking at different religious festivals such as Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas.

We hope everyone has a fantastic winter holiday!



Kiwis Class

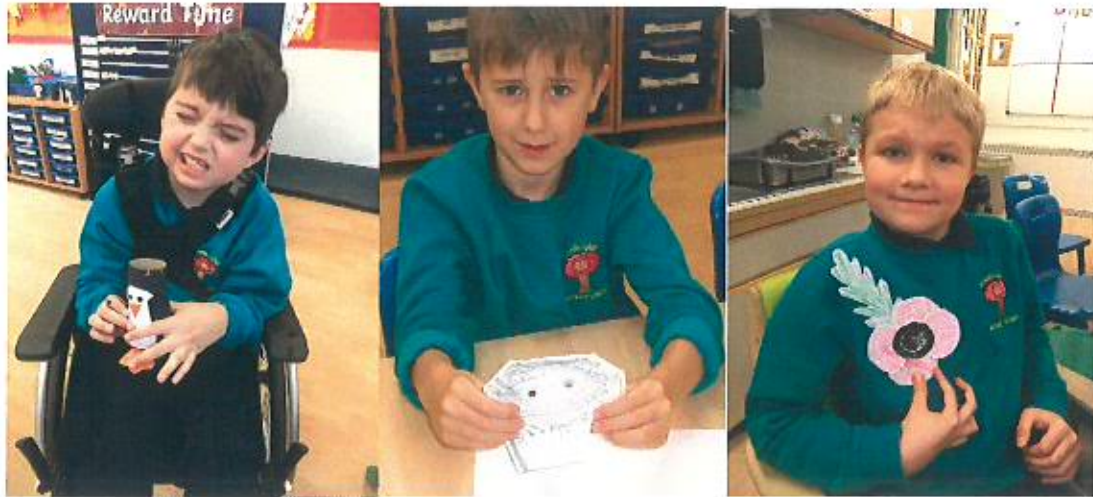


Grapes Newsletter : Half Term Two



This term has been all about zoos and animals in Grapes. First, we looked at the old Wellingborough zoo and compared it to London Zoo. We made our own zoo enclosure with a range of construction materials and also designed a zoo map. We made and decorated a wide range of animals for our class zoo display. We also looked at new artists and copied their techniques. We zoomed in using 'Google Earth' and looked at maps of London zoo and went on an interactive tour. We have enjoyed listened to zoo songs and singing along and using a range of instruments to play along. We then inventing our own moves and dance for the songs.





In RE the first topic was 'The Creation Story'. We enjoyed our weekly Creation song and learnt about the story of creation. Then in term two we looked at how different religious festivals are celebrated creating many varied art pieces. We covered a range of festivals and experienced some of the special experiences associated with these celebrations.





In PHSCE the topics have been 'Healthy Eating' and we tried lots of new foods and helped make fruit salad. In second term we looked at our own

abilities through a variety of different activities to teach us new skills.

The science topics has been 'Animals and Humans Growing and Moving'



We have found out about nutrition and what a human body needs. We also looked at the human body parts and the major organs inside a human body. We then looked at the digestive system and how it is involved in taking our food and drink and using it to provide energy, growth and other important functions within the body and then disposing of unwanted waste. We had a great time tracing around each other and labelling our body parts.

In ICT we have looked at how we keep safe online and using the ipads and computers. We then used the

computer to find save and label pictures and information from the internet. This term we have been taking, printing and adding captions to photographs. We have used clicker 8 and PicCollage to help organise our images.

We have had weekly PE lessons with our coach Juliette in both gymnastics and group games including bench ball.

We have had some invasion games, relays and gymnastics sessions in class also. We have managed to get in three morning walks a week, which we all enjoy.



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

great shape learning.

In English we have studied some books that have become films like 'The Cat in the hat' by Dr Suess, 'Room on the broom' by Julia Donaldson and 'Lost and found' by Oliver Jeffers. We also looked at the diary genre and wrote our own autobiography.



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

We wish you an excellent Christmas and we look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

Best wishes

John Ettridge and Grapes Team



Blackberries Class

We have had great fun and learnt lots in Blackberries Class this term! We have been working hard on developing our Maths and English skills, including developing our understanding place value through the use of a range of concrete apparatus and story writing. We particularly enjoyed the story 'The Dreamgiver' and used our imaginations to predict how the story would finish. In drama, we enjoyed exploring the story of 'Beegu'. We worked in pairs to describe the sights and sounds in a scene and as groups to freeze frame and thought track different scenes in the story. Here is a picture of some of our learning in Maths and English.



This term we have had many opportunities to learn and develop our knowledge of the World and computing skills. As part of our theme 'Space', we enjoyed creating a paper mache model solar system and created some art work using chalks and paints. We have also enjoyed learning how to programme the beebots and working as teams to test and correct algorithms to reach different locations on a map.



We have also enjoyed getting into the festive spirit and have made lots of different crafts as well as decorating the classroom.



Plums Class Autumn Term Newsletter

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

In English, we have been looking at writing autobiographies, biographies and reports. The children loved creating their own autobiography using photos from their time in Plums Class. The children have also done lots of research in order to write different reports. Once they did this, they had a go at roleplaying as reporters. We have also enjoyed doing some drama.



In maths, we have looked at place value, shape and money. The children had the opportunity to run their own shop and enjoyed selling goods from around the classroom. In shape, we have had lots of fun exploring the different properties of both 3D and 2D shapes. The children have loved building shape models and investigating whether a model could be built or not.



In topic and science, the children have been exploring space. The children have enjoyed creating their own paper mache planets and creating playdough replicas of the solar system. One of my favourite lessons was when the children made bottle rockets and we blasted them off into the sky



Thank you so much for your continued support. Myself and the adults in classroom have enjoyed getting to know the new children in Plums Class and welcoming back the children from the previous year. We hope you have a lovely Christmas.

Matthew, Debbie, Magda, Helen, Clare and John.

Peaches class

This term we have done lots of learning both at school and at home.

In Science and Topic, we have been learning all about Space and the solar system. The children have enjoyed making planets out of playdough, learning about night and day and the seasons and exploring facts about the planets. They have watched the first moon landing and acted out being an astronaut. The children enjoyed finding out about the International Space Station and even touched (and some tasted) some real space food! In Science we have also been learning about gravity and forces and the children loved making their own parachutes and experimenting to see how fast they fell to the ground. We have participated in lots of art activities including designing their own rockets, UFO's, still life drawing and autumnal art. In computing we have looked at programming, where the children have given Bee Bots directions and also moved objects on screen to get to particular places. The children have learnt how to create a simple quiz on Purple Mash and also to make graphs.

In Maths we have completed lots of practical number activities to help us understand place value, addition/subtraction and multiplication/division. We have also learnt about measures, money and shape. In English we have read lots of stories linked to our topic/science work of space. The children have been developing their phonic and comprehension skills and doing lots of practise with their handwriting.

Our RE topic has looked at how religions support communities. We've learned about the main religions around the world and what they do to assist people in need, in doing so we have also experienced rituals and customs from different cultures.

In PSHE we have been thinking about money and how to manage this big responsibility. We have learnt about the monetary value and what we actually need versus what we want in life.

In PE we have continued with our Gymnastics topic with Juliette, working really hard on travelling in different directions, practicing balancing and using the climbing apparatus testing our bravery and developing confidence.

This term the children had a fantastic time developing their skills and confidence swimming at the Waendel. We are very proud of what they all achieved.

Have a wonderful Christmas.

From Peaches Staff

