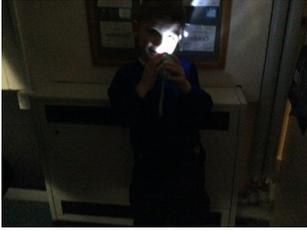


# W Curriculum Newsletter

## 1st half of Spring 2020



### Blue Class

Blue Class have enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated. They cleaned the classroom, gave red envelopes containing money to their friends and went to the Chinese takeaway to buy some food to eat at school. They also have enjoyed taking the different torches into the sensory room and learning how they work in the dark.

The children particularly like the heads shoulders knees and toes song and seeing how fast we can all do it during their movement session. On Friday the children are learning to exchange coins for their snacks at the snack shop.



### Red Class

This half term Red Class' topic has been 'Light and Dark'. We have really enjoyed exploring torches, the sensory room and using the tent to look at the difference between light and dark. Our big books have been 'Dark, Dark Tale', 'Peace at Last' and 'This is the bear and the scary night', which we have really enjoyed. In Maths we have practised counting characters from the stories, and in Literacy we have been making Integrated Visual Coding sentences and mark making related to the stories. The whole class particularly enjoyed looking at light and dark in the sensory room!

### Green Class

In Green Class this term we have been learning about dinosaurs. We have really enjoyed taking part in outdoor learning activities such as finding fossils and bones as part of our dinosaur expedition and toasting marshmallows. Following this we looked at pictures to help us recall the trip and create sentences about what we had been doing. Other activities we have taken part in include; creating volcanoes during bucket sessions, moulding clay to create our own dinosaurs and then using junk model materials to create a home for them. All the children thought of names for their dinosaurs including "Chompy", "Bruno" and "Leaf Guy."



### Yellow Class

In Yellow Class, we have been learning about dinosaurs. We started by going on a Dinosaur Hunt and discovered some bones in our outside area. We have read a variety of books about dinosaurs and written information and poems about dinosaurs. We looked at Morrisons, smaller shops, the library and Broadway Cinema as part of our trip exploring local places in our area. We celebrated Chinese New Year by singing songs, making dragons and performing a dragon dance.





### Diamond Class

In Diamond class we have been learning about animals. The children role played being different animals from the story 'Monkey Puzzle' and copied the animals actions and made the animal noises. In literacy the children sequenced part of the story and re-told it with the support of visual pictures and symbols to help them. On our morning environment walks the children thought about where the animals might live and we built a den on the ground using sticks and logs.



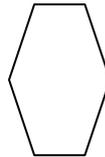
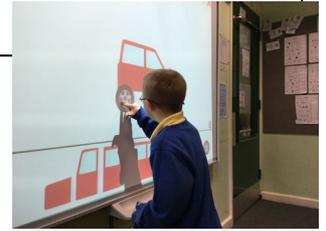
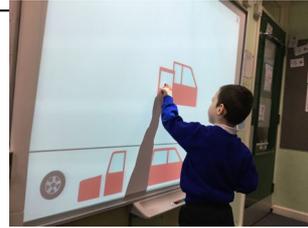
### Triangle Class

This half-term, Triangle class have been enjoying our new book 'Gruffalo Grow!'. In child-initiated learning, we have counted spikes on a Gruffalo, built a log pile house for the snake and have all enjoyed the small-world Gruffalo scenes in a suitcase. Our adult led activities have included making STEM sentences about 'Gruffalo Grow!' and in maths some children have been ordering Gruffalo pictures from the smallest to the biggest. In the environment area we had a lovely time building habitats for our own cuddly animals. The children have been busy swimming with Mark this half-term and have started gymnastics in P.E.



### Star Class

In Star class this half term we have been learning all about transport. We have focused on various big books to help us with our topic. We really enjoyed working on 'We all go travelling by' and enjoyed singing during the big book story. We had a go at writing part of a sentence about our favourite way to travel. The class enjoyed drawing pictures of different ways to travel, using black paper and coloured pastels. The children had lots of fun using the interactive white board to design a vehicle using a software programme. You had to make the vehicle and then the children had to press play and the vehicle moved along the screen.



### Hexagon Class

Hexagon Class have been looking at 'Homes' this half term. In art we have contrasted two pictures painted by the artists Lowry and Constable. We have thought about how the two artists represented buildings in their paintings. We have talked about the contrast between towns and countryside and what type of homes you find there. We have been out and about in the local area and looked at buildings that surround parks. We have talked about 'flats', 'terraced', 'semi detached' and 'detached' houses. We love to use our fabulous extensive outside area and it is a very important part of our curriculum. We went outside and looked back at our school and its surroundings. We have sketched our school building and the surrounding green spaces and trees. We emphasised that all of the sketches are valuable and there was not a wrong or right interpretation. Those that were not confident in their sketching skills were especially encouraged to have a go. The results were fantastic and we have thoroughly enjoyed sketching.





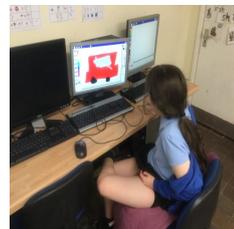
### Cube Class

This half term we have been learning about transport in relation to space. The children have explored lots of activities relating to space and read some interesting books about travelling to the moon. The children enjoyed reading 'Man on the Moon: a Day in the Life of Bob' by Simon Bartrum, a story about a man whose job is to take care of the moon. The children had a wonderful time spotting aliens in the story! The children have also learned about space travel and have designed and made their own rockets using recycled materials which they are very proud of. We have also been learning about planets and explored other forms of space transport such as satellites and the International Space Station.



### Cone Class

Following on from the roaring success of Jill Murphy's 'Whatever Next', this half term we are looking at another Jill Murphy classic, Peace at Last! The boys and girls adore these stories and sit engaged listening every time we read them and act out the different pages. If you don't have a copy of it yourself, you could always check out our website, the first episode of Mr P's Story time is reading Peace at Last. We continue our weekly trips to Tesco and cooking the ingredients the next day. We have created some delicious cheese sandwiches, biscuits, cakes and cheese scones. We continue to support the children's interests and develop their literacy, mark making, maths and life skills through a range of different stations available each day in the classroom such as, sand: water, shaving foam, playdough, flour, lentils, puzzles, role play area, finger painting etc. We had an amazing afternoon where we were very lucky to have a doggy come in and join us for our daily environment area walk. All of the boys and girls were very excited, attempted to stroke him and some of them held the lead as we walked around the amazing outdoor area.



### Sphere Class

In Sphere Class this term we have been learning about 'Getting around'. So far the children have enjoyed learning about train journeys and fictional alien spaceships. They have made lists of what they might see out of the window of a train and of emergency vehicles. They have also created images through painting and drawing on the computer. The children have even made alien underpants out of toast after listening to the story, 'Aliens in Underpants Save the World'.



### Pyramid Class

This term Pyramid Class have been learning all about homes and houses. We have been finding out about the different types of houses that we often come across. The children have also been working hard in the community, looking at different buildings while practising being safe when crossing roads and navigating our local area. We plan to use our Bazaar money in a truly cross curricular lesson: writing a list, walking safely to the shops, choosing and buying our products and walking back to school to use them!