

# Curriculum Newsletter

## Spring 1 - 2021



### Blue Class

Red and Blue Class home learners have been very busy at home learning all about our topic, Colours! The children have been brilliant at joining in with the Teams lessons, or watching video lessons at home, and have been sending in super work, or sharing it at our lovely Show and Tell Teams sessions on a Friday afternoon. We have made wonderful models in art, been singing, dancing and playing instruments in our music lessons, working hard on our new letter sounds in phonics, continuing to build on our number skills through games and activities, and listening to some very colourful stories, as well as lots more!



### Yellow Class

This half term our learning has been all about Colours. We have shared some lovely books to help us explore colours – Elmer the Elephant, Where are you Blue Kangaroo?, and The Rainbow Fish. This has inspired lots of colourful artwork using rainbow colours and helped us to think about eating a rainbow of different coloured foods to keep us healthy. We have made Rainbow Bread, fruit smoothies, stained glass cookies and sandwiches. The Rainbow Fish has helped us think about what is important in a good friend and to think of descriptive words. At school, Green and Yellow children have been working on finding half of a number of objects based around our books we've read. This has involved sharing fruit between Elmer the elephant and her animal friends, sharing nuts between two monkeys and splitting a number of fish into two ponds. We made sure that both sets were equal so that it was fair and we also had a go at writing number sentences to show our maths! We also used celery to create Rainbow fish by printing scales using paint in lots of different colours and we used a sponge to print the sea.



### Diamond Class

This half term in Diamond class we have been learning about 'The Rainforest'. The children have been learning about the four different layers of the rainforest and what animals and vegetation live in each layer. In our understanding of the world sessions we have been learning about where all of the different rainforests are located around the world and the different features of weathers that happen daily in the rainforest. During our music lessons we have been exploring long and short sounds and the children created a rainforest composition using long and short notes. In art the children made their own rainforest diorama. They thought about the different features to include and what colours they would need to use to create them. The children used a range of materials to create and explored the outside environment to find twigs, leaves and moss, they then used a box to create the different layers of the rainforest and added animals that you would find in a rainforest to their diorama.



### Star Class

This half term our topic has been Rainforests. The children in Star and Diamond classes have been learning about the different animals that live there and where in the world the different rainforests are found. They have been learning how to read a compass and also how to tell the time. Our RE topic this half term has been Islam. We learnt what the Islamic symbol looks like. We found out about how Muslims pray and about the special journey that Muslims take to Mecca. In Music we have been learning about how we can create music using a mixture of long and short notes. Some of the children have started to write their long and short musical ideas down to make a graphic score. The children who have been working at home created their own instruments and looked for useful objects around the house so that they could play their long and short sounds.



### Red Class

This half term our topic has been colour. We have enjoyed reading our big books 'My First Colours', 'Brown Bear Brown Bear' and 'Elmer's Colours'. We have explored our favourite colours by making IVC sentences and taking photos of them in ICT. In Art we have made colour wheels, model bears and collaged Elmer's on milk cartons. In cooking we have been focussing on threading safely, we have used different coloured fruit and vegetables to make different kebabs. We have really enjoyed being able to show our friends in other classes the different work on colours we have done, in our virtual hello sessions. We have also been very lucky to get the opportunity to do campfire twice this half term, where we got to toast marshmallows and make s'mores!!



### Green Class

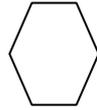
Our topic this half term is Colours and the big books we've read have had some very colourful characters: *Elmer, The Rainbow Fish and Where Are You, Blue Kangaroo?* We wrote descriptive sentences about these characters and even made our own Elmers using recycled objects! Poor Blue Kangaroo was left on the bus, in the park and at the zoo. We thought about our favourite toys and how it feels to lose something special to us. We also learned to sign some colour words and explored what happens when we mix paint of different colours.





### Triangle Class

This half term we have been reading 'Who's on the Farm?' by Julia Donaldson. The children have loved our sensory story sessions each week, putting the characters in their correct setting. In Attention Autism, we have pretended to milk a cow, watched the pink pig go pop and made some tractor pictures. In child-initiated learning, the children have washed the muddy farm animals and made legs for some animal pictures using pegs to practise their fine motor skills.



### Hexagon Class

We have been looking at 'Under the Sea' for our topic this half term. We have enjoyed looking in detail at books such as 'Sharing a Shell', 'Tiddler' and 'Flotsam'. We have looked at underwater animals and experiments with water in science. We have looked at key dates and events around the ship the Titanic in History and the different places that Titanic travelled in Geography. We have looked at food from different countries in cooking based on the backgrounds of the children in class. We all enjoyed Vietnamese noodles! We also made traditional Japanese fish shaped biscuits. In art we have made watery paintings in Art using tissue paper and water, we have also looked at primary colours and colour mixing. We made a boat from recycled materials in Design and Technology and tested it to see if it would float. In life skills we have talked about the role of the Emergency Services including the role of lifeboats and the lifeguard. In computing the children have been looking at online safety. We have loved to see some of the Home Learning on this topic too!



### Cube Class

Cube and Sphere children have been learning about people who help us. We made fire engines out of recycled materials to help us to recall what fire fighters do to help us. We played with our fire engines and pretended to put out a fire.



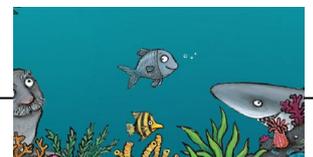
### Cone Class

For all the children working with Simon both in school and at home, we have had a mini topic on the fantastic Very Hungry Caterpillar. We have used the book as our focus for all our learning: we have talked about different fruits and foods we enjoy, described caterpillars and butterflies, made our own symmetrical butterflies, got messy with finger paints making incredible story scene pictures, went on mini beast hunts and the children have particularly enjoyed practising their knife skills making fruit salads, kebabs and smoothies.



### Sphere Class

This term in sphere class the children in school and at home have been practising their breakfast making skills. As you can see here they have been making porridge with oats and then cutting up fruit to add to their breakfast, with a little bit of brown sugar, yum! They also made scrambled eggs with toast, which they buttered themselves.



### Pyramid Class

This term we have been learning all about the sea, from creatures that live under it to the vessels that travelled upon it. We have been exploring the history and story of the Titanic and we have been making our very own icebergs in school and at home. We created our own salty sea water and watched how the icebergs floated, concealing most of itself under the water and showing just a fraction. We have also been reading about Tiddler, the fish with many tall tales. The children have been writing lists, creating dialogue and have even discussed how to look after their own fish in our English and online lessons. The children have enjoyed our cooking that has celebrated our wide range of cultural background from Nigerian Jollof rice to Vietnamese Pho.