



Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn 2022



Blue Class

Everyone in Blue Class has been working hard at settling in to a new school and class this term! We have had lots of fun with our new friends. Blue Class have been learning about 'Ourselves and Our World' which has included singing number songs about Blue Class and exploring our local area on the minibus. In maths, we have explored number, positional language and shape. In literacy, we have been enjoying books about our bodies, our families and thinking about different celebrations such as Halloween and Fireworks. Next stop – Christmas!

Red Class

In Red Class our topic last half term was 'Ourselves and our world'. We have enjoyed reading the stories 'Every Kind of Family' and 'My Body'. We have worked on turn taking and playing alongside others through our Play and Learn sessions and in Circle time. In Computing we used paint programmes to draw pictures of ourselves, family members and friends. In Cooking our topic focussed on mixing and scooping where we made porridge, cereal, and really enjoyed scooping ice cream! We also went on our first trip as a class to Wymondly Woods, where we listened to the environmental sounds and looked at changes due to seasons.



Yellow Class

This term in Yellow Class the children's topic was 'Ourselves'. They have been learning about families and how they can be different. We have drawn images of faces and people using pencils, computers and even in flour in our attention autism bucket sessions. The children have also been naming body parts as well as exploring activities linked to our topic in our Play and Learn sessions. In life skills the children have been learning how to clean their hands properly and clean their teeth. We also have weekly outdoor learning sessions where the children use natural materials, such as twigs and leaves to make something.

Green Class

This half term Green Class have been learning about the topic 'People who help us'. We enjoyed studying different focus books including Mog at the vet, Doctors, Fire-fighters and Ness the nurse. The children enjoyed dressing up in fancy dress related to services and role playing various scenarios such as bandaging people and arresting people! We had a wonderful visit for our Understanding the World lesson from Beau the school therapy dog. He helped us learn how to take care of a pet and we then practised on a cuddly toy dog. In our weekly cookery lessons we continued the people who help us topic for a cross curricular focus and to further embed our learning. The children enjoyed bandaging hotdogs with pastry, making fire-fighter cupcakes and also decorating spotty biscuits. We also made spotty playdough pictures. The children showed real motivation and engagement with this topic, we had lots of fun!



Purple Class

This term in Purple Class we have been learning about People Who Help Us. We have been on a trip to Standalone Farm and have learnt how to look after our pets. In art we have been making collage pictures working on our cutting and sticking skills. In cooking we have making some delicious treats learning how to measure ingredients and mix them. We have been doing Yoga with Jane and Suzie and have been learning about the different elements of yoga.





Star Class

The theme in Star Class last half term was Amazing Animals where we focused on Africa and the animals that live there. The children found out about the environment in Africa and about some of the culture of the people living there. We wrote postcards from Africa and enjoyed using describing words to help create silly sentences about the animals. Star Class performed the song *Jambo* to Blue Class in one of our assemblies. *Jambo* is the Swahili word for *hello*. In Art we looked at African patterns and tried to use the same bright colours and shapes in our own art work. We finished our topic creating papier-mâché Djembe drum models. In Science we were learning about how sound is made and investigating what can change a sound.



Hexagon Class

Hexagon class this term have learnt about Amazing Africa and Transport. In Autumn 1 we did some excellent art work looking at the landscape and animals living in Africa blending paint to create a sunset. We also learnt about Kenya and Mombasa, comparing the geography of these countries focusing on the human and physical features. Some highlights of the beginning of the term included roasting marshmallows and making and playing conkers. This half term we have also learnt about amazing travellers and the significance of transport. We have seen this in our DT work creating models of cars and also boats which we used to float on the pond. This linked nicely to our science work where we looked at different forces (attract and repel) which we investigated using magnets and materials. We have also taken a trip using public transport where we took the bus into Letchworth, visited the library and ordered a snack in the Morrison's café. We then took the bus back to school successfully after carefully studying the timetable.



Pyramid Class

As part of our Amazing Africa topic, in Understanding the World we located Mombasa, Kenya, the equator and the Indian Ocean on a map. We also used primary sources to find out more about the climate and physical features of Mombasa. In English we wrote postcards and an Africa fact sheet, and we created a poster about endangered animals. In Maths we worked on the vocabulary of position and direction: left, right, clockwise and anti-clockwise. In Science we explored how sounds are caused by vibrations and we asked and answered our own questions about string telephones. We used the environment area for leisure and team-building, carrying out activities such as making self-portraits from natural objects, playing conkers and building stick towers. In PE we practised our ball throwing and catching skills through invasion games like football, rugby and basketball. We also cooked some African recipes like Nigerian Jolloff Rice and Zimbabwean Nyama.



Cone Class

In Cone Class we have been looking at Whatever Next by Jill Murphy. We made our own incredible class rocket that the children loved playing in and role playing flying to far away planets. Each week we have cooking and as part of the focus for the day, we venture to different supermarkets around the surrounding area to purchase ingredients. The children love going out on the minibus and have been exceptionally well behaved. After one trip we even managed a trip to the local Costa for a babyccino.



Triangle Class

This half term our focus book has been 'Whatever Next'. The children have completed lots of activities linked to the story. They really enjoyed using 3D shapes in Play and Learn to print and make a rocket.

In bucket sessions this half term we have been working on Stage 3 – joining in and taking part in an activity. The children liked pretending to be baby bear and using a toy plane to fly past their friends and give them a high five and sitting under an umbrella whilst it 'rained' on them!





Sphere Class

In Autumn Term 1 Sphere class based their work around the topic 'All About Me'. We used this time to get to know each other, learning the names of other children in the class, as well as sharing our own special interests and talents. We looked at the story 'What Makes Me Me?' by Ben Faulkes. We spent time writing about skills that we have using our phonics knowledge. In Maths we were using language related to position and direction and spent time following and giving directions to others to navigate around the classroom as well as the wider school. The children spent time in the environment area looking at changes to things they could see as the weather got colder; we also gathered items such as leaves, twigs and conkers and used these to create self portraits. It was a fantastic first half term getting to know more about our school, our friends and what makes us all us!



Cube Class

During the Autumn 1 term, our topic was 'All About Me and Where I Belong'. Our focus books were: 'What Makes Me A Me?' by Ben Faulks and 'Super Duper you!' by Sophie Henn. The children enjoyed listening to the stories and using them as a basis for their writing. The children produced some lovely learning about who was in their family, what they liked/disliked, what makes a good friend, and what they would like to be when they are older.

During Maths the children focused on position and direction. They were able to give directions to find objects as well as follow them.

The children thoroughly enjoyed our Music lessons. They used instruments and their voices to follow a beat/pulse and created their own beat/pulse. Together we composed a song called "We All Go To Woolgrove School."

