



# Curriculum Newsletter

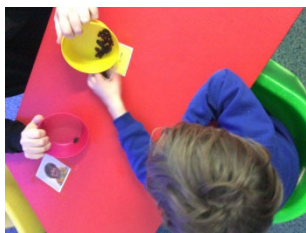
## Autumn 2023

### Blue Class

This term in blue class we have been learning about ourselves and our world. We have been getting to know each other and learning social skills during play and learn and during our weekly circle time sessions. The children also share their weekend news each Monday, showing their peers photos and information about what they have doing at home.

We have been studying various maths objectives from reacting to shape to building structures using 3D bricks. In number, we have been learning to determine 'one' and 'lots' and to recognise a change in amount when it is more than double. We have been on some exciting trips, including visiting Royston fire station for some spooky fun and also looking at each other's houses to link to our topic.

We have had fun in fizzy hands threading cereal onto spaghetti sticks, sticking nuts into Frankenstein and building playdough fireworks with sparkly pipe cleaners. All these lessons aim to be fun but support the strengthening of our finger and hand muscles to help us with our writing.



### Red Class

This term we have settled well into Red Class and we have been learning about Ourselves and Our world. We have read the stories of The Gingerbread Man and Where's Spot? In art we have been working on our mark making skills, drawing pictures of ourselves and our family. In cooking we have been working on our mix and scooping skills decorating biscuits and making cakes. We have been out on the minibus to look at some of our houses and have been to the park. In PE we developed our ball skills of throwing, catching and kicking a ball.



## Yellow Class

In Yellow Class this autumn term the children have been learning about 'Ourselves'. The children have enjoyed art activities drawing pictures of themselves and their family members. They have taken part in play and learn sessions which link to what they have been learning about in big book stories, such as the Gingerbread Man. They can then explore the stories further, for example, by using stick puppets to act out parts of the story to help them retell events. They have particularly engaged well with practical tasks in our cookery lessons and practised different skills, such as spreading on pancakes to make a face.



## Green Class

This term, Green Class have been learning about Superheroes and Celebrations. In maths we have counted superheroes, and in Literacy we have told stories about them. In Understanding of the World, we have enjoyed meeting lots of new people such as police and firefighters - because they are the real superheroes!

We are enjoying exploring different celebrations from around the world. In just the past couple of weeks, we have already had Divali fun, Halloween fun, fireworks fun and now we are looking forward to having a lot of Christmas fun!



## Purple Class

This half term in Purple Class, our topic has been 'Heroes'. We started by looking at heroes in society, where we had a visit from Baldock Fire station and our local PCSO. We spoke about the roles of people who help us and what we can do if we need help. We then looked at superheroes in the stories 'Super Daisy' and 'SuperWorm'. We completed IVC sentences about the stories and in Art we made pictures of Super Daisy. This half term in PE we focussed on invasion games, and learnt to play rugby, football and basketball.



## Triangle Class



During the first half of the autumn term, Triangle Class focused on turn-taking, playing and sharing with their new peers. The children have made lovely new friendships, and have been especially helpful introducing new children to the school. We practised travelling on the minibus safely, to enjoy exciting trips such as different supermarkets to buy classroom supplies and a Halloween Extravaganza at the fire station! The children thoroughly enjoyed swimming with Mr P and the swim team and are already looking forward to going again in 2024. Triangle Class really enjoy their PE lessons in the hall, during Autumn 1 they enjoyed learning new skills to take part in invasion games. Goal scoring in football was a class favourite! Our focus book this term was 'Dear Zoo'. The children created fantastic artwork to represent different animals and enjoyed dressing up in class and acting out different movements!



## Cone Class



What a first half term we have had in Cone Class! We have had our settling in three weeks and all the children (and adults) have been superstars! Our topic book for Autumn 1 has been Dear Zoo, all of the children have enjoyed identifying different animals, describing different animals as well as writing letters to the zoo about what other animals we could ask for. The children have particularly enjoyed all of the arts and fine motor skills tasks we have linked to our topic; creating animal masks, paper plate animals, crepe paper animals, as well as very scary lion masks.



## Sphere Class



This half term Sphere Class have been learning about Dinosaurs. We have read 'Mad About Dinosaurs' and learned the names of some of them. This is also a rhyming book so the children have practised identifying rhyming words and patterns in the text. We have also read 'There's a T-Rex in Town' which is an information book exploring what would happen if dinosaurs lived today. The children have found this very funny, especially the page about trying to play hide and seek with a T-Rex! We have also explored lots of art activities making dinosaur patterns and sensory activities to find out more about the texture of their skin. In maths we have been learning about shapes and have taken our learning outside to explore shapes in the environment area. The children sorted natural materials by shape and talked about the similarities and differences between them.



## Cube Class

During the first half of the Autumn term, Cube Class focused on playing, sharing and turn taking whilst visiting a number of different parks during our trips on Fridays. It has been very successful; the children have made new friendships within their class and have shown how well they can play, share and turn take using different equipment.

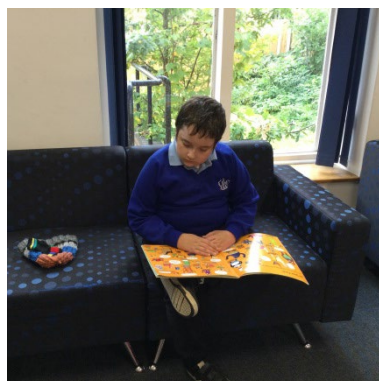
Cube Class thoroughly enjoy their music lessons. During Autumn 1 they had fun moving to a beat and copying a beat. This half term we will be focusing on our singing, dancing and presentation skills ready for our Christmas performance.

Our focus books in Autumn 1 were 'The Monkey Puzzle Tree' and 'One Day On Our Blue Planet'. The children enjoyed using iPads to create pictures of the animals from these books, as well as use them for a basis for their sentence writing.



## Star Class

In Star Class, our topic last half term was 'Outdoor Exploration'. We enjoyed reading the books 'Flotsam', 'The Boy Who Grew a Forest' and 'Oi Frog!', using these as ideas for writing. Our art work was created with natural resources. In Maths we worked on creating repeating patterns and in Geography we worked on drawing maps. During cooking, our focus was on using safe cutting techniques to create dishes like fruit salads and samosas. We enjoyed going on trips, including shopping for cooking ingredients, Standalone Farm and Letchworth Library. In PE we worked on using a range of passing techniques and in Computing we created algorithms.

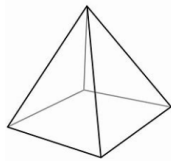


## Hexagon Class



This Term Hexagon Class have ventured to many different places on our trips including Pegsdon Hill Nature Reserve, Royston Fire Station and to the Wimpole Folly as show in the photo. Hexagon Class have been working hard creating different things like their own playdough for handwriting warm ups and sculptures in art. We have really enjoyed the beginning of the year and spent a lot of it outside. We had a go at using the fire pit to toast some marshmallows, created outdoor natural art patterns and collected a lot of conkers early on. We have also been getting to grips with different work in our class learning about plants, animals, far away locations and safely crossing the road. Piper the dog, who belongs to a staff member, even spent a lesson with us.

## Pyramid Class



In Autumn 1 the topic in Pyramid Class has been Outdoor Exploration. To help learn about Physical and Human Features in Understanding of The World (UTW) we went for a walk to spot different features and drew maps of our own for the beebots to explore. We have created art work using natural materials. In English we created posters to show how people could help the environment, have written about events and the characters in stories and thought about how we can use adjectives to help make our sentences more interesting. In Computing we were finding out about algorithms and making codes. In Maths we were considering how the shape, size and colours can be used to create more complex repeating patterns. We were able to practise using safe cutting skills in order to make fruit sea fish creatures, starfish salad sandwiches, vegetable samosas and Bombay potatoes in Cooking. In Music we have been practising moving, clapping and playing in time to the pulse and identifying the speed of the music. In our RE day we turned our classroom into a Gurdwara in order to explore what Sikhs do when they visit the Gurdwara and how they show respect to their holy book.

