



# Curriculum Newsletter

## Spring 2025

### Blue Class

In Blue Class this term, we have been learning about 'Around the world'. We studied the Handa's surprise story, enjoying lots of play with animals, fruits and small world figures. We focussed on drawing as our Art skill and learnt to draw using step by step scaffolding support. We drew African animals that the children could recognise from the story. We had some wonderful goats and monkey pictures! We incorporated our topic into all the lessons and play and learn so the children were exposed to the learning as much as possible. The children enjoyed listening to the story, mark making about the story, making sentences with symbols and also telling the story by copying actions and phrases. The children did some write dance mark making lessons whilst listening songs from Africa. Our role play area was set up with baskets, fruits and animals from the story for the children to explore and possibly act out, we had some lovely role play. In our cookery lessons, the children made fruit kebabs which linked with our topic and book focus, they learnt to thread fruits on the kebab stick. We have been learning to walk in a sensible line when transitioning around school, see picture below! We also celebrated the Holi festival with powder paint and other cultures in our Culture week celebrations. Excellent work this term Blue Class!



### Red Class

This term we have read the story of Handa's Surprise and Whatever Next. We have had Yoga Jane in to visit us for yoga and mindfulness. In maths we have been learning about position and direction, and size and weight. In cooking we have made fruit kebabs and learning to use cutters and made star shaped sandwiches. We have created artwork in the style of Andy Warhol. In PE we have been learning to use tennis rackets and hitting tennis balls.



## Yellow Class

In the first part of the term the children's topic was 'All around the world' and our big book was 'Handa's Surprise'. The children enjoyed learning about different types of fruit and using them in their cookery lessons. They particularly enjoyed learning about animals that live in hot countries, such as tigers and snakes, what they eat and the habitats they live in.

In RE this year we are also learning about places of worship and the children had the opportunity to visit a Mosque in Stevenage. They met the Iman and explored the inside of Mosque. He even showed us one of the ways Muslim people pray.



## Green Class

This term, the children have been learning about Transport and Holidays. We have had lots of fun visiting an airport, pretending to go on a plane with our friends and packing a bag for holiday. As a part of Cultural Diversity Week, we learnt all about Australia; we spent time reading a Bluey story about how wonderful our mums are, drew our own Bluey pictures and made Fairy Bread. In life skills, we have learnt about washing our hands, faces and bodies - our new singing hand soap in Green Class has been an undeniable hit!



## Purple Class

Last half term our topic was transport, and we loved learning all about the different modes of transport there are. All of our learning was based upon transport for the 6 weeks. In our Literacy lessons we read the stories 'This is the way we go to School', 'The Train Ride' and 'You Can't Take An Elephant On a Bus'. We wrote sentences about the books and about different transport we have travelled on. In our cooking lessons, our skill was cutting safely. We made fruit rockets, fruit hot air balloons and cars out of apple slices and grapes. For our trip we went on the minibus and made tally charts of the different vehicles we could see, we especially loved the visit to the train station where we saw 2 trains!



## Gold Class

Gold Class thoroughly enjoyed exploring different Maisy books, especially engaging in sensory stories such as Maisy's bath time! We have loved music, focusing on playing fast and slow, loud and quiet. The class have produced fantastic artwork practising their scissor skills and attaching different materials to create models. We have focused on keeping ourselves safe in PSED, practising crossing the road and recognising who we can trust and how to ask for help. The children have all made great progress during taking turn games and have loved the giant parachute!





## Cone Class



Cone Class have had a wonderful Spring term all together, we have all really loved exploring Lucy Cousins' Maisy story book sequences. We have focussed on a different short story for two weeks at a time. We have looked at Maisy – Dress up, exploring dressing up as different characters, Charley and the Wobbly Tooth – talking about our personal dental hygiene and then different people who help us in the community. Maisy Goes Shopping and Maisy Makes Gingerbread – talking about what we need to purchase for our cooking lessons in class. Maisy Goes on Holiday – We are all very excited for the forthcoming Easter Holidays and all the staff can't wait to hear about your holiday adventures. One of the highlights of Cone Class are our Attention Autism Bucket sessions, the children love focussing their attention watching Stage 1 activities, waiting their turn for Stage 2 activities and then having a messy wonderful experience for Stage 3.



## Sphere Class



This half term in Sphere Class we have enjoyed learning how to use the Beebots in our weekly computing sessions.

The children first learnt how to follow and create simple algorithms through playing games like 'Simon Says' before then using the beebots to understand the directional language of forwards, backwards, turn left, turn right. The children enjoyed following the instructions and then having their turn to give the instructions for a peer to use to direct the beebot!



## Cube Class



Cube Class has been learning about plants. We visited a garden centre to look at plants and identify leaves, flowers and stems and bought seeds to find out what plants really need to grow.

Cube Class enjoyed our 'big books', 'Boogie Bear' and 'The Tiny Seed'. We used these texts to sequence the order of the pictures and compose sentences about pictures in the books.

In Computing and Maths we focused on directional language and the order in which to give directional instructions (algorithms).

The children enjoyed making a range of foods during their life skills lessons, including pancakes, fruit skewers and bread rolls. These activities helped to embed their cutting, stirring and scooping skills.

Cube class thoroughly enjoyed learning about Islam during our RE day. They were very interested in the clothes and their beliefs



## Star Class



This half term in Star Class we are exploring the topic 'You are what you eat'. We have talked a bit about healthy eating in cooking lessons since Christmas so the children have a really good idea about what healthy food looks like and why it is important to eat a balanced diet. They particularly enjoyed looking around the supermarket and spotting the colour-coded labels on food packets that tell us if they have unhealthy amounts of salt, sugar or fat. This term we have developed this knowledge by writing instructions to make snacks, learning about where food comes from and growing some salad and vegetables. The children have also really developed their speaking and listening skills this term. They have loved playing shared tabletop games to that involve lots of turn taking and collaboration skills. Another big favourite has been asking questions about topics and the world around us and trying to guess what the answer might be. This might sound like a small thing but they have come up with some truly fascinating discussion points such as 'Why do we have fingerprints?' and 'Why are there no more dinosaurs?'



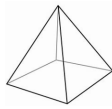
## Hexagon Class



Hexagon Class have had a lot going on including learning about Anti-Bullying, Anti-Social Behaviour and E-Safety in their work with the mini-police. This was concluded with a very exciting community day where we saw speed cameras, the drone team and police cars and vans. Everyone got a certificate!

We have enjoyed our trips to Pegsdon Nature reserve, looking at Koi Carp, budgies, love birds and other furry friends and also visits to supermarkets. Right now we are learning about 'You are what you eat' and have lots of plants growing and changing every day.

## Pyramid Class



Last half term Pyramid's topic was Under the Sea. We took part in a range of trips in our local area with our favourite being an aquatics centre in Henlow, where children could explore a range of tropic fish, tanks and even enormous Koi carp! The children loved exploring the gymnastic equipment in the hall and a small group begun their rehearsals ready for a performance at Royal Albert Hall.

We began work on how to stay safe online both in PSED and Computing. We were also lucky enough to have a PCSO taking us through some key behaviour to remain safe in the community as part of our mini police course. This culminated in a day where we had a range of police vehicles on site from a riot van to a drone unit – the children loved exploring and learning more about the police. We have just begun our new topic of you are what you eat and children have loved exploring a range of healthy foods and developing their own healthy menu!

