



ADDINGTON NEWSLETTER



October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

The first half term back at school has been incredibly busy as you will see from all the fantastic experiences, activities and learning opportunities that are detailed in this newsletter. Our new pupils have settled in well from September and I am very busy getting to know the names of them all!

Please have a look at the Creative Arts, PE and Sports and Work Experience pages as you will see not only the wealth of activities offered through the curriculum but all the extra curricula activities that our pupils have participated in. Some of our older pupils went on a trip to London to see *The Lion King* which made a huge impression on them; some still talk about it each time they see me! My thanks go to all our dedicated staff who give their time so freely to make these extra-curricular activities happen.

Two important dates for your diary: Saturday 26 November is the Christmas Fayre run by our Parents Association and offers opportunities for families to attend a safe Christmas event together and Monday 19 December at 7pm for our Family Carol Concert with Woodley Concert Band. For our new families, this is a lovely relaxed, fun (short!) event that celebrates Christmas at Addington. I hope to see many of you there.

In the meantime, I hope everyone has a good half term and I look forward to welcoming all our pupils back on Tuesday 1st November.

Yours faithfully

Sara Attra



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have come to the end of our first half term of the year, and the winter nights are drawing in and the weather is getting much colder!

It was fantastic to see so many of our new parents at the Early Years information event, run by Family Support with Yvonne and Katie, our Early Years leads. It was a really lovely and informative event and many thanks to Yvonne and Katie for all their hard work. It was great to hear how well so many of our young people are settling in!

It was also great to see so many parents and carers at the Transitions event which was supported by CLASP and Promise Inclusion.



Thank you to Emer and the Preparation for Adulthood Team for making this possible.

We are supporting more families than ever in many different ways. Right now, we are working on gathering information to help support families in the current financial situation we find ourselves in – look out for the leaflets when they are published.

If you need to contact us, and are unable to reach us by phone, please use the FSW mailbox to contact us by email. This is: fsw@addington.wokingham.sch.uk.

Please remember that the [Family Support](#) and [Community Links](#) pages on the Addington website can provide you with a good starting point for accessing clubs, services and charities.

Ellie will be delivering Aromatouch sessions again to parents on Thursdays and Fridays. To book a session, please contact her by email: ellie.robinson@addington.wokingham.sch.uk

Wishing you all a good Half Term,

Ellie & Toni

Ellie Robinson and Toni Cannon
Family Support Workers

Our Senior Leadership Team



Sara Attra
Head teacher



Lynda Wood
Deputy Head



David Maycock
Deputy Head



Eirfron
Watkinson
Assistant Head
teacher



Emer Moore
Assistant Head
teacher



Sue Tod
School
Business
Manager

Parent Contact Information

Our communications with parents are mainly via emails, our school mobile app, texts and our school website www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk.

In order to do this, we need to be kept up to date with your latest email address and mobile numbers. If you have not been receiving emails from us, please let us know.

If you need to update us please email: office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk

School Mobile App

Our School Mobile App can be downloaded from the links below.

[iTunes](#)

[Play Store](#)

Once you have downloaded the School Jotter app **you will need to select “Addington School” from within the app.**

The school mobile App is **FREE to download** and enables you to receive news updates and alerts on your phone or other mobile device. You can also view our newsletters and see photos of the students.

Addington Youth Club

Managed and staffed by
Wokingham Bracknell & Districts Mencap

Wednesday evening 7pm to 9pm
Fun for all youngsters from Year 9 up

Look out for the activities planned for the current term -
come along and try a session.

Contact Wokingham Mencap on 0300 777 8539 for more information.

Our PE Department always welcome donations of shorts. If you have any outgrown shorts at home, please send them into school. Many thanks.



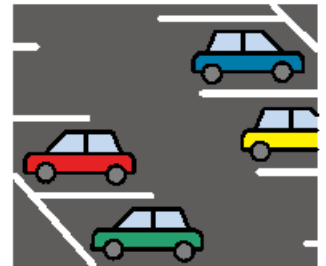
CAR PARKING REMINDER

Leisure Centre Car Park

This can be used by parents for dropping off and collecting children.

School Car Park

To ensure the smooth and safe operation of the busy Addington car park we need all parents that drive their child to school, to park in the Bulmershe Leisure Centre car park and walk across the zebra crossing, during drop off/pick up times. However, we recognise that for a small minority of pupils this will not be possible. A limited number of parent passes, allowing access to our car park are distributed based on an individual's agreed needs; physical, emotional or behavioural.



We only have a small number of spaces for parents in our car park, so we will not always be able to give out passes to all parents that would like one.

Parents must only park in the allocated bays near the main entrance and not in the main body of the car park where staff park, unless specific arrangements have been made with a member of the leadership team. This is especially important in the morning as some staff start at 9 and sometimes cannot find a parking space.

Car park passes must be displayed clearly in the windscreen. The two disabled bays near the school are for priority wheelchair users and larger vehicles with tail lifts. Permitted drivers must use the one-way system marked out and only park in marked parent or disabled spaces.

All pedestrians must use the zebra crossings and the pavement when walking around the school car park or to and from the site. DO NOT WALK on the road as a short cut. This is very dangerous and could result in an accident.

Parents or carers must not park in the old entrance to Addington (near Bulmershe Leisure Centre) or on the double yellow lines near our old entrance, to drop off or pick up.

School Dinners

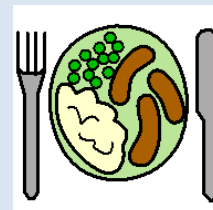
This is to inform you that all school lunches must now be paid for online. The school will no longer be able to collect cash on a daily basis.

If your child has school dinners, and there is a balance outstanding on your account, we would be grateful if you would kindly clear this balance as soon as possible.

If you have any query or difficulty with payment of this amount, please let us know and we will endeavour to help.

You will need to register online if you have not done so before. **A letter with your personal log on details has been sent home with your child.** If you have previously logged on to the Tucasi system but have forgotten your password, please follow the instructions on the login screen.

Primary lunch is £2.30
Secondary lunch is £2.40



Please remember that money for school dinners should be paid **in advance**.
If you have any problems, please contact Admin on office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk.



Headteacher's Award Winners



Congratulations to the following students:

Early Years

Alayah Briggs
Arjun Singh
Jake Bridgeford
Mason Gurung
Ved Nadgir

Key Stage 2

Ayaan Sharda
Brayden Caston
Freddie Page
Gabriella Joyce
Noah Hussain
Oliver Tyrrell

Key Stage 3

Aaron Sondhi
Finn Bedford
Ria Lakhanpal
Tom Whitmarsh

Key Stage 4

Jake Hitchman
Katharine Turrell
Levi Barnes
Matthew Nicholls

Key Stage 5

Kosi Ilonah
Malick Goodchild
Tom Nicholls

Sensory & Complex Needs

Ben Felton-Hodson
Eshal Zara
Favor Onoriode
Inaya Hanif
Reinhardt Taute

Therapeutic Needs

Amna Rehman



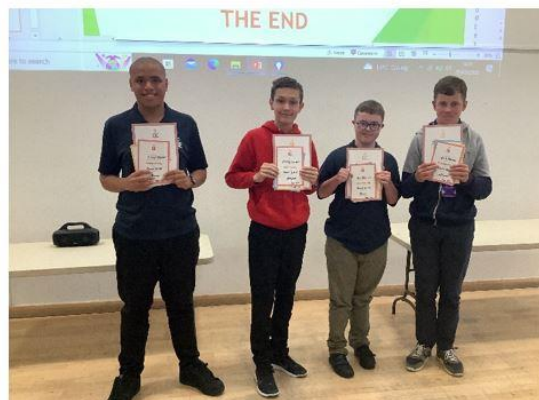
SPORTS PAGE



Duke of Edinburgh 2021-2022 Presentation Afternoon



On Thursday 29th September the 2021-2022 Bronze and Silver students delivered their presentations to an audience of their classmates, teachers, parents and school governors. It is the culmination of their year's work and a chance to share their amazing achievements and receive their awards. Well done Duke of Edinburgh students!



After school sports club

This half-term we have been lucky enough to have the students' favourite coach from Reading Football Club come in to school to deliver multi-skills sessions again. The weather has held and fun has been had by all. Thanks to all those staff whose commitment make these sessions work.



Lunchtime Dance Club with Alice

With the beautiful late summer weather, our students have enjoyed Lunchtime Dance Club outside with our visiting dance teacher, Alice. She has been teaching a routine to some favourite songs from the Lion King with great success.



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 2022-2023

Our new recruits to Duke of Edinburgh this year have been getting to know each other in team building games, map reading exercises and some orienteering around the school grounds.

Dates for Bronze expeditions:

Practice Expedition - Thursday 8th – Friday 9th June 2023

Qualifying Expedition - Wednesday 5th – Thursday 6th July 2023



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award 2022-2023



Our Silver DofE students have been learning fire-lighting skills with a flint and steel and cooking over an open fire. These skills will be used on the Silver expedition where the students will light their own fire and cook their evening meals and some treats.



Expedition dates:

Practice Expedition: Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th May 2023

Qualifying Expedition: Wednesday 28th, Thursday 29th and Friday 30th June 2023



Primary Inclusion Sports Festival

On Monday Rowan class were invited to a Primary Inclusion Sports Festival at Loddon Valley Leisure Centre along with pupils from 11 other mainstream Primary School from the area. They took part in 5 different sports throughout the day: badminton, table tennis, boccia, kurling and dance. There was also an opportunity to spend time on the soft play climbing area. All the Addington pupils enjoyed the day and it was so good to see them playing and interacting with children from other schools.



Early Years

Daisy Class

'All About Me' - Using our fabulous topic book, 'Happy To Be Me' we have had a great time celebrating what makes us 'happy to be me'! We have enjoyed sharing the text in the school library, creating a campfire session in yoga with relaxing music and mindful eating with marshmallows. We have also enjoyed soft play where we explored looking at photos of our summer holidays with our friends and adults in the Daisy team. We had lots of curiosity when exploring the autumn objects in the tuff tray and it's been lots of fun in the hydro pool. We listened to the environmental sounds around us and explored different instruments, songs and sound in our exciting music sessions with marvellous Martin. To round off the term, we used our gentle hands and quiet voices to say a huge 'hello' to Bailey the PAT dog as well as Biscuit and Frappe, the guinea pigs. We stroked their soft fur, looked at their wet noses and pink ears and listened to woofs and squeaks.



Sharing our holiday photos in Soft Play



Sunflower Class

We have had such a busy first term in Sunflower Class. It has been lovely to see the children settle into school and the class and becoming comfortable with their class peers. We have really enjoyed exploring and getting used to transitioning to the different rooms and areas around school: our favourite is the swimming pool! Our topic this term has been 'All About Me' and 'people who help us' and we have loved the book 'From Head to Toe' by Eric Carle, using puppets along with the stories, and copying some of the actions with adult support. Cooking has been one of our favourite activities this term, with the children becoming more confident in touching and exploring different ingredients and using tools. We loved making some salt dough diva lamps for Diwali!

The pupils have become very familiar with the daily routine and are getting really good at sitting down for whole group activities, especially Attention Bucket which they all really enjoy! They've also been working really hard on their communication skills, whether they're using PECS, communication boards, or their voices! Well done Sunflower class!



Tulip Class

It has been a busy first term in Tulip Class! The children have been enjoying getting to know each other and adults in the room and exploring the curriculum through all of the different rooms that we visit around school such as the splash pool, soft play, sensory rooms and of course the swimming pool! The children have been learning the class routines at school and are doing very well!

To fit with our theme of 'All about me and the people who help us' we been learning the names of parts of our face and exploring. We have been making pizza faces in cooking and faces from different materials from stickers to sensory materials and paint. We have experienced different sensory materials and explored our number and letters through songs and exploratory play.

We have been working hard with our communication using PECs and communication boards to request snack and show our choices when taking part in activities. We have also liked playing stop and go games with the parachute, our yoga sessions with Claire and exploring the outside builder's role play in our courtyard. They have all shown great focus during our attention bucket sessions.



Primrose Class

In Primrose class we have been very busy this half term! Our topic is learning 'All About Me' and about 'People Who Help Us'. We have spent time getting to know the different staff and children, as well as our own likes and dislikes for activities to play with.

We all really enjoy exploring the dark and light sensory spaces. We have all been working hard with our communication skills, particularly at snack time and during Wake up Shake up.

We have been practising our transitions around the school to the hall, various sensory rooms as well as the sensory theatre.

We have really enjoyed singing lots of different songs, exploring sensory art and foam and also engaging well with different scented play dough!



Lily Class

This half-term in Lily class we have been settling in to new routines and meeting new friends. We have enjoyed exploring our topic of 'All about me and the people who help us' particularly through emergency vehicle phonic sounds and relating these to matching toys in the classroom. We have all enjoyed attention autism sessions, touch talk massage and recognising our own faces in mirrors and pictures and representing these through expressive arts and design time.

We have been working on our transitions in school by using the sensory rooms and soft play for maths focused activities. In the hydrotherapy pool we have worked on improving our independence in undressing and dressing following sequence strips and our focus in the pool has been on kicking and pushing off from the sides of the pool.

We have also been enjoying learning about Diwali especially rangoli mark-making, salt dough candle holders and sensory lights. We are looking forward to our half-term break and the build-up to Christmas and New Year next half term.





Daffodil Class

This half term we have been learning about ourselves and people who help us. We have enjoyed three class stories which are 'From Head to Toe', 'Happy to be Me' and 'Emergency!' Through these stories we have been learning about our bodies, facial features and different movements we can make. We have also been exploring people who help us by looking at 'safe strangers', i.e. doctors, dentists and police, through our story 'Emergency' and exploring different role play toys and activities.

In maths, we have been developing our number skills and exploring shapes, along with participating in Waldon activities to develop our matching and sorting skills. This half term during cooking, we have been icing biscuits and making flapjacks. We have been practicing our skills of using different tools, mixing ingredients and developing our hand eye co-ordination.

We are all great fans of Attention Autism Bucket which we do daily after lunch to support our language skills: our favourite types of Bucket are messy! Another favourite activity is art where we have been exploring different colours, textures and materials to create our own designs. More recently we have become more accurate with painting within the lines to create daffodil flowers and mixing colours together when creating butterflies!



Key Stage 2 Newsletter

Oak Class

We have been learning about lots of exciting things as part of our topic "Paws, Claws and Whiskers" this half term with a particular focus on animals! Big Cats, small cats, pet cats.....you name it, we learned about it! We are beginning to sort animals into their groups and spot similarities and differences between them.

We had our own tea party when we were reading "The Tiger Who Came To Tea", we played in our Veterinary Centre when we were thinking about "Mog and the Vet" and enjoyed making cat shaped biscuits in cooking.

We have been learning hockey skills in PE and completed a treasure hunt in outdoor learning. The children have all really enjoyed their swimming sessions and are gaining confidence quickly. We have been writing a lot in Oak class, with a focus on sounding words out phonetically and letter formation..... we are so proud of our writing! Most of all we have enjoyed getting to know our new class and friends and are looking forward to our exciting opportunities next half term.



Pine Class

Pine class have a fantastic start to the year! All the children have settled into their new class and environment very well and have already built lovely relationships with the adults and their friends. We have thoroughly enjoyed our brand new playground, especially the sunken trampolines and climbing frame! This term we have focused on the topic 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers', exploring all things 'animals' through the stories 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and 'Six Dinner Sid'. The children enjoyed having a tea party like the tiger and exploring 'Six Dinner Sid' through a sensory story with a purring cat!

In Literacy, we have focused on making simple sentences using colourful semantics, sequencing key parts of both stories and regular phonics sessions to improve our sounds! In Maths, we have focused on a range of topics such as Number, Time, Money and Measure and the children enjoyed measuring their feet and comparing how tall they are!

This term we have focused a lot on independence and our emotions; putting our own belongings away and using communication boards to request snack. We have also made tiger bread sandwiches in cooking, using different cutlery independently!

We have been very fortunate this term to have regular swimming slots and outdoor learning as well as a trip to Taplow! Well done Pine class for a brilliant half term!



Rowan Class

This half term we enjoyed our *Paws, Claws and Whiskers* topic, where we learned all about both domestic and big cats. Activities included designing and creating clay cats and colourful cat masks, before presenting the finished products to the class. We explored the areas of number, counting and amounts in numeracy, as well as time, shape and measuring length. We shared cat-themed stories such as *Six Dinner Sid* and *Puss-in-Boots* in literacy, writing our own versions and discussing the differences between fiction and non-fiction texts. We explored the concept of relationships during RSE sessions and emphasised the importance of good hygiene in PSHE. As well as this the class also had fun during our visit to Thames Valley Adventure Playground and put tremendous effort into swimming sessions and a PE multi-skills event. It's been a fun and hugely rewarding first half term for all!



Willow Class

Willow Class have begun to settle brilliantly after some changes for all of our pupils. Many of them have transitioned from Early Years this term as well and everyone is now becoming used to the new faces. We are really proud of how they are adjusting to new routines and forming new friendships. We have particularly been enjoying the updated playground with the sunken trampolines being a huge hit.

This term's topic has been hugely popular, as we have been learning about 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers' and using this theme as a focus for lots of our other learning. We particularly loved the stories 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' and 'Six Dinner Sid' in literacy. Following on from these stories we have been to the Primary kitchen each week and been developing our independent skills by making our own sandwich and making choices about the fillings we want. We have enjoyed making tiger/cat masks and other artwork. We are also been able to have an offsite visit to Thames Valley Adventure Playground and also explored our outdoor learning garden with Mel where we had such fun exploring the space and the sand pit and going on the Halloween trail!



Complex, Therapeutic and Sensory Needs Department

Apple Class

This term Apple Class have been getting to know the new staff members and establishing routines. We have been enjoying a Viking themed Sensory Story and Tac Pac session, a Time Machine themed music and drama session and weekly swimming lessons. We have very excitedly been playing in and exploring all the aspects of our new playground, there's so much to do!

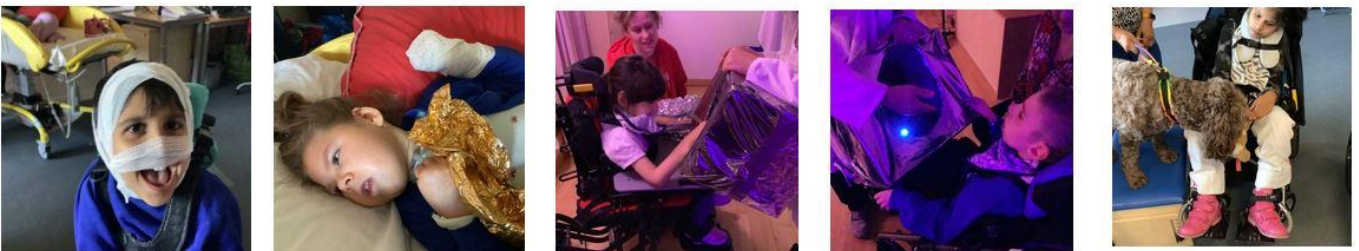


Poppy Class

This half term Poppy class have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians through sensory story, exploration and using our senses. We have really enjoyed being wrapped up like mummies and listening to drumming music. Our story takes us on a journey to the River Nile and we meet lots of animals and landmarks on our journey; we are not that keen on the camel smell though!

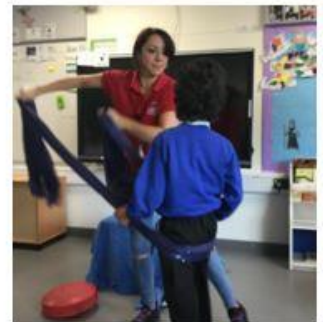
We explored lots of textures when making Egyptian masks and necklaces and created our own Egyptian portraits.

Have a lovely half term!



Birch Class

Birch class has been travelling in a time machine to Ancient Greece! We have had so much fun in our music lessons, open circle, curiosity and our sensory story 'Where is my thunderbolt?' and our favourite part of the day is 'Good morning Circle'!



Cherry Class

Cherry class have been enjoying travelling back in time to spend our term with prehistoric animals! We have enjoyed our sessions linked to this topic including our sensory story and it's fabulous props, Tacpac, and dance massage. Hydro continues to be a firm favourite with Cherry class pupils and it has been lovely to access the pool. We have all been enjoying our end of the day storytelling: so far 'The Dinosaur that Pooped a Planet' is the favourite!



Beech Class

Welcome back to Beech class!

We have had a great start to the new school year, with new students joining us. The class have settled really well and we have hit the ground running with our topics and activities.

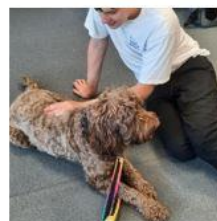
This term we have been cooking flapjacks, working on our maths skills, measuring and estimating the ingredients needed. In PE we are lucky enough to be having a weekly lesson with a professional cricket coach, we have been learning how to bowl, bat and field, and the whole class team have been enjoying this, especially with the beautiful sunshine we have been enjoying.

Our topic this term is Kings and Queens, and our literacy book is 'the lion, the witch and the wardrobe'. We have been writing about Aslan, Mr Tumnus and the white witch. The students have created some beautiful pieces of work, which we have displayed in the classroom.

We have continued with our weekly visits from Bailey, our Pet therapy dog. As Bailey is trained in search and rescue, the students have loved hiding objects around the classroom and using the commands to get Bailey to find it!

We have a library slot this year and we are using this time to learn about 'reading for pleasure': it's a lovely peaceful slot to end the day on a Tuesday.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break and we look forward to welcoming the students back after the break.



Holly Class

Wow I can't believe that it is half term already. The pupils have settled back into our routine and accepted some changes to our timetable. They have also welcomed a new pupil and staff member to the Holly class team with open arms.

Our topic this term is 'Time Machine' and we have been looking at Prehistoric life, from going on an adventure to find different dinosaurs in our sensory story to experiencing farming in Sensology. Next half term we are going to go in our time machine and focus on world wars.

We have reintroduced Attention Autism to the class which has been well received and we had an amazing session where we remembered the Queen. The pupils came together and scattered petals on a picture of her.

Bailey the Pet therapy dog has continued to visit Holly on a Wednesday and the pupils are growing in confidence each week. Some pupils have allowed Bailey to sit next to them and others have taken him for a walk.

We have continued with our life skills lessons where pupils have learn to put cutlery into washing up bowls and others have learnt to sort cutlery. We hope that these skills will be transferred at home too!

The pupils have continued to engage in and enjoy Music with Sean, PE with Mel, Music Therapy with Karen, Immersive Theatre with Sean and Jack as well as Swimming. The pupils have progressed and are sitting as a class group for longer periods of time during these sessions. We hope you have a lovely half term and we look forward to seeing the pupils back for more learning after the break.



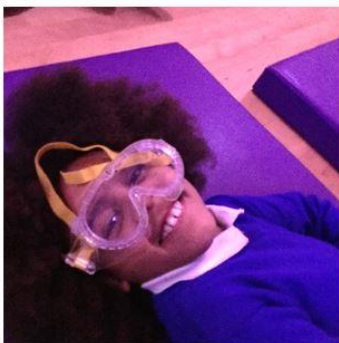
Lime Class

We have been working on establishing our class routine and getting to know each other. The pupils have settled in well.

This term in Lime class our topic has been 'Time Machine'. We have explored our topic through our senses looking at dinosaurs and making their footprints.

The class have enjoyed our Attention Bucket, food exploration and messy play sessions where they are learning to use tools to explore, share and take turns.

We hope you have a great half term. We look forward to seeing the pupils back after half term.



Key Stage 3

Aspen Class

Aspen class have had an exciting half term looking at Kings and Queens. We have made crowns, explored Paddington at the Palace and rewritten the ending to 'The Queen's Knickers'. Maths has brought a host of topics including money, capacity, time and number. Our favourite topic has certainly been capacity where we practised our pouring skills and determining which cup was full and which one was empty.

In art we have been focussing on mark making and creating different patterns. The artwork we have created is so beautiful! We are going to use these skills on Wednesday to create our own Rangoli for Diwali.

In cooking we have been practising our sandwich making skills and we are now able to make sandwiches with only verbal prompting! It was particularly nice to eat our sandwiches after making them!

We hope you have a good half term break and we look forward to seeing you in November.



Cedar Class

We have had a great start of the year. We have been busy learning all about Kings and Queens. In literacy we have enjoyed exploring the stories of 'Paddington visiting the Palace' and the 'Queen's knickers' and have used sensory play and role play to understand the plot of the stories. We have also used colourful semantics to write or comment on what has happened in the story.

In maths we have been practising counting and recognising numbers while we explore the topic of time and money. We have had fun sorting out coins and even found out that some of the coins are magnetic! Alongside these, we have also been learning all about families and how to be good friends with our classmates and sharing games together. We have also been practising making sandwiches and trying to taste different flavours. One of our favourite activities this half term was going to Camp Mohawk and enjoying being in nature while playing with our friends.



Elm Class

This half term, we have really enjoyed exploring our topic of Kings and Queens.

We have been learning about the life of Queen Elizabeth II and found answers to important questions like why did the Queen always wear a hat? And what were her corgis called? We are beginning our exploration into past Kings and Queens now, starting with Queen Victoria.

In science, we have shown excellent knowledge of mammals, birds and insects, describing their features and investigating the differences between them.

Alongside our weekly sessions with Bailey, the PAT dog, and exploring the woodland on our visits to Camp Mohawk, we have also been cooking up a storm in the kitchen each week. This half term, we have been learning how to master pasta dishes!





Sycamore Class

In Sycamore Class we have been thoroughly enjoying our Kings and Queens topic.

We have used the internet to research and find the answers to our questions. We are now putting these together in a PowerPoint presentation to share with others.

Each week we start with a fantastic gardening session – we get to learn lots of fun skills like planting, weeding and picking. At the moment we are doing a project painting and making . . .

Our favourite time of the week is Thursday morning - each week in cooking we are following a recipe involving lots of weighing and measuring ingredients. We even do the washing up!





Maple Class

Maple class have enjoyed a variety of activities this first half term. We have focused on some core life skills such as good hand washing, coin counting and time telling. In literacy we have spent time on exploring Kings and Queens through several books; the children produced some ideas about what they would do if they were a King or Queen for the day (this involved a lot of free cake given away). In maths we have also worked on measuring skills.

Our afternoon topics have included a weekly cooking experience; we are now expert marmalade sandwich and biscuit makers. In ICT we have worked on Doodlemaths and science has been insect based with some children using the microscope and magnifying glasses. Music has been percussion based while PE has included yoga and ball games.

However, our most favourite part of the half term has been our trip to Camp Mohawk where we climbed, played and made music.



Chestnut Class

This term, Chestnut Class have been busy. We hit the ground running and we haven't stopped – we pack learning into every corner of the week. We started our topic of 'Kings and Queens' and have enjoyed learning both about real historical kings and queens and reading our core text 'The Queen's Nose' all about a girl who becomes the owner of a 50p that will grant her seven wishes. Alongside this, we have worked on our maths targets in number, calculation, time and money, as well as taking part in Drama, Art, Science, PE, Music, RSE and PSHE and visits to Camp Mohawk for some outdoor learning, and to the Sixth Form Café for some experience of buying things ourselves. See some of this in the pictures below!



Key Stage 4

Swan Class

As part of our 'experience of work' curriculum students have been working at the community land share of Jealotts Hill. It has been a beautiful garden to visit and as it has been harvesting time we have been working in the large orchard, clearing and harvesting the apples and enjoying the autumn sunshine.



Our project has been community superheroes so some of the students did a treasure hunt around Woodley. They had to solve riddles, map read and look for social sight words to find a range of superheroes from pharmacists, lifeguards, vets, librarians, and supermarket cashiers. It was great fun and finally our students became superheroes by donating a range of old toys and books from school to a local charity shop.



Kite Class

Kite class have begun accessing the local community this term. We have been working on road safety skills, using a crossing where possible. We have been shopping and visiting a local café to work on English and Maths life skills and develop steps in independence.



Students have been enjoying creative arts lessons, working towards their Bronze Arts Award.



In PSHE we have been learning about Mental Wellbeing. We are learning to identify different emotions and have tried out some activities to create a 'tool kit' for times we may feel worried or frustrated.



Sixth Form News

Eagle class

It has been an eventful half term. New students have joined and settled well into Eagle class and the 6th Form. Over this half term, our young people have enjoyed a number of activities in the wider community to develop social, leisure, independence and life skills.

Some of the highlights have been doing work experience in school and in the community. Students have enjoyed attending and getting a flavour of college life, doing the links courses at either B.C.A, Reading College or Bracknell and Wokingham College. To access lifelong leisure and sporting activities, some of our young people have enjoyed weekly swimming sessions at the Bulmershe Leisure Centre, while others have developed skills in badminton during their weekly visits to the Woodford Park Leisure Centre.

While some students are pursuing a City and Guilds in Horticulture each week, others have visited the Ridgeline Trust to learn about and have a sensory experience in gardening.

Pictures are worth a thousand words and the ones below are evidence of very positive and enriching activities had by all. Eagle class wishes all a safe and enjoyable half term break.





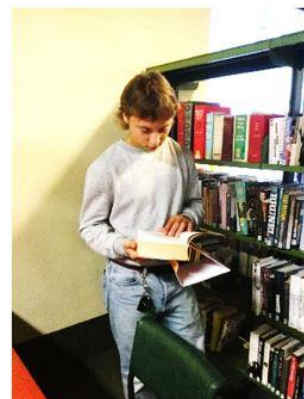
Kestrel Class

Kestrel students are back into the routine of school and have had a successful start to the term. We have welcomed two new students to the class. They have settled in very quickly and are adapting to their new timetables in 6th form.

Students are working hard on their independent living skills. They have been making beds, washing and ironing.



This year we are encouraging our students to read for pleasure. We are visiting the library in Woodley each week to have some time reading and choosing books to read back in school. We have also visited Reading library and next term we will visit the library in Wokingham.



Travel training has started in earnest and students have been planning routes to Reading and Wokingham. They are using their phone navigation skills to negotiate unfamiliar urban areas.



Owl Class

Welcome to the autumn term in Owl class. We have been settling back into the routines of school. We have been able to get off site to Woodley Precinct, making choices of food we want to pick at Greggs and helping find things we need in class at the shops. Our theme this term is "SOS" and we have been looking at the different people around us who help us in the community.

We have recently started some mindfulness sessions in the afternoons and want to extend this to nature walks, weather permitting, after half term. Sean has been joining us on Tuesdays for music and we are joining him on a Hobbit adventure through middle earth. Many have been enjoying the strong beat as well as the call and response in this session. Immersive theatre on a Thursday has also started up and all of the pupils have been working on their regulation, developing their communication and problem solving skills across the different environments.



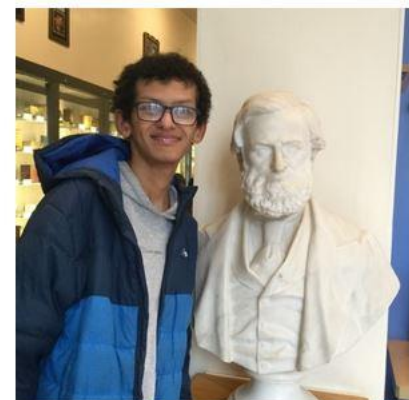
Robin Class

Wow! What a busy half term! Robin class have been really busy! We have been enjoying our project 'SOS Community superheroes', and enjoyed hearing from Wendy in the office who has a Ukrainian refugee living with her. We have also been getting out and about in the community – we have enjoyed the lovely autumn weather at Ridgeline and BCA where we are able to spend time outdoors and hone our gardening skills. We have joined the library to foster a love of reading and books – with a visit to Greggs afterwards to practise our money skills. During all of our offsite activities we work on crossing the road safely.

We have begun our lifelong Leisure afternoons on Mondays and have visited Goals to play football and Downshire Golf club to use the driving range, in mixed groups with Kite class. All three college links have now begun, with Robin students all accessing one of BCA, Bracknell and Wokingham and Reading colleges. On Thursdays when some of the class are at Ridgeline, the other half shop for and cook their own lunch. The emphasis is on independence and learning to make simple everyday meals they could recreate themselves at home. Robin class have also thoroughly enjoyed a trip to London to see the Lion King, visited local art galleries and some groups have accessed swimming at Bulmershe Leisure Centre and PE with Danny. Others have enjoyed working with Jess in the 6th form café, Grace in the greenhouse, or with Gail in the Workshop – where they are continuing with our Community Superhero project by making baby quilts for a charity who supply them to hospital baby units.







Horticulture

This term we have been working towards Halloween, the students have all enjoyed making a lollypop Halloween decoration. They have worked really hard on these deciding on what colours, painting them, gluing them and then finally wrapping them to take home and put out for decoration.

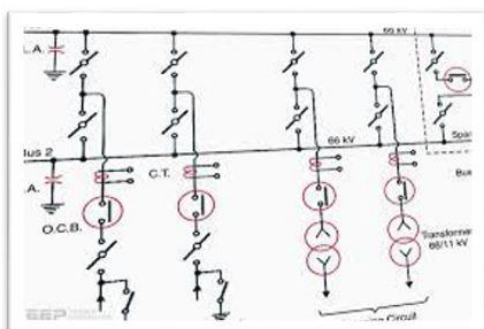


National Grid

The students at National Grid have all become a valued member of the teams they have been working in.



Two of the students who work in NAP (Network Access Planning) have recently learnt how to use Microsoft Visio to design new off- shore substations copying it off a PDF. They have to use two screens and have had to learn a host of new Electrical words and symbols. They have to be accurate in the design as the NAP team will use them when they plan for outages in the future. e.g.



One of the students works for 14forty, the facilities team at National Grid. He has learnt how to use the franking machine for bulk post as well as general office duties including filling the paper in the photocopier drawers around the building, replacing empty water bottles in water coolers, receiving and delivering parcels and reorganising meeting rooms for conferencing. Often there will be ad-hoc tasks that occur during the day and he has had to be very flexible and ready to help wherever he is needed.

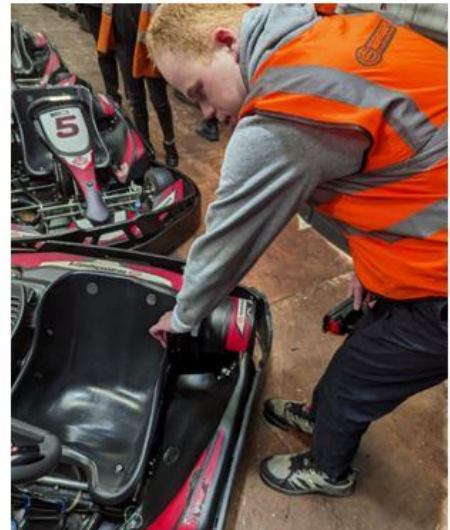
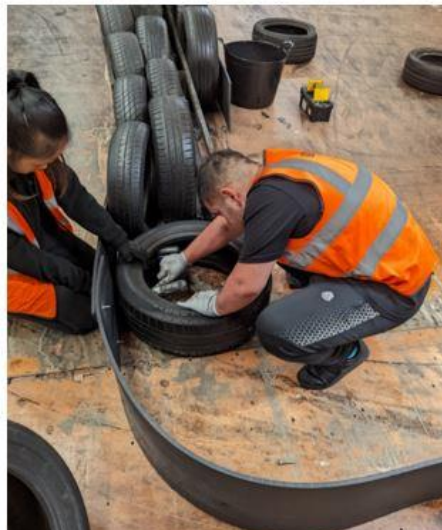
TeamSport Mechanics

This term four of our sixth form students have enjoyed starting a mechanics course at TeamSport Go-Karting track in Reading.

They have been learning all about health and safety in lessons at the centre, including safety procedures in a motoring workshop, PPE and COSHH.

In practical sessions they have learned to use power tools to repair damaged barriers on the Go-Kart track. Also how to complete a check on the Go-Karts to make sure they are safe for customers to use.

Students have also had the opportunity to practise using the accelerator and brake, driving a short distance to check the karts are working properly.



Work Experience – External Placements

We have hit the ground running with the students returning from a restful summer, full of ideas for work experience. We have had 30 students attend external work experience placements covering a wide range of employers from Rainbow Café to Decathlon and Asda. It has been wonderful to see the students explore the range of skills needed for work experience. Students have achieved over 200 hours of work experience just in the first half of this term!

Student Comments:

'It's great to try a new placement and learn new things '

'I have learnt new recipes and have been working with some great people '

'It is hard work but my colleagues are nice and supportive'



Work Ready Days

Starting off this term, we had a wonderful work ready day based in school. We had John come and show the students his day job of window cleaning. We had all the professional equipment and cleaned the windows of the 6th form building! The students really enjoyed participating and using the equipment as well as asking John lots of questions!



Interview at Wokingham Borough Council

Three students had been invited to participate in a student panel to interview for the new SEND Manager for Wokingham Borough Council. Students created a list of 10 questions they wanted to ask the interviewees. The questions were based on how the new SEND manager would help support them in local communities and in life.

"It was a great experience, really interesting to see all the different people being interviewed"

"We had a good day and felt proud to be involved"

The students ended up picking exactly who the council felt was the right fit for the role! Well done!



Sixth Form Hospitality

This half term in Hospitality the students have been busy in the kitchen baking lots of cakes and bakes to sell in the KORE café in the sixth form building. The students have really enjoyed running the café independently and have shown great customer service skills. They have also set up a staff lunch service, offering baguettes that the students prepare fresh in the morning and deliver to staff across the school. This has been a huge success and received amazing feedback.

Staff feedback –

"Want to congratulate you on the lovely lunch service today. Commendable job by our students - right from taking orders to neatly packed and delivered, all with a smile! Thoroughly enjoyed my well-made baguette. Well done to all!"



Workshop News

We have started preparing items for sale this term. We have finished making Tote bags which will be available for sale in the 6th form Common room at parents evening at a bargain price of £3.50 a bag as well as hair scrunchies. Students have also begun preparing wood ready for painting to make signs, medal holders and key racks. We are just beginning a project linked to our theme for the term 'Community Superheroes'. We are making quilted blankets for incubators in the Neonatal Unit at the Royal Berkshire Hospital before we start on Christmas products. Watch this space for the total we make and deliver to the unit!!





The Creative Arts Page



It has been a fantastic start to the year in the Creative Arts department. We are delighted to have Martin back teaching more music again this year as well as offering more Music Therapy and Immersive Theatre sessions to students and classes.

Music

Early Years have been exploring songs based upon musical changes. They have been using bells to explore playing and stopping, develop the link between movement and music using body percussion along 'In the Hall of the Mountain King'. Students have enjoyed sharing the gathering drum to explore changing dynamics from tiptoeing around the forest to running away from the bear.

Sensory and Complex Needs Music lessons have focused on a journey through Middle-Earth, retelling the story of 'The Hobbit' with both original music and music from the films. The pupils have particularly enjoyed a song called 'Rivendell', in which pupils explore the rivers of Rivendell through sensory trays containing items from a riverbed, and then through blue fabric moving in response to the musical changes in the piece. They have also enjoyed an up-beat song entitled 'The Road Goes Ever On', in which pupils explore stopping and starting and cueing in the music by playing the Gathering Drum, vocalising or through movement.

KS2 classes have been exploring music with the theme of 'Journeys'. We have been focusing on building our singing and signing skills with 'Once there was a Choo Choo' and 'Slow Train Coming', we've been working on our instrumental and ensemble skills in 'Michael, Row the Boat Ashore', and been focusing on musical change in 'Sound Song'. The pupils have particularly enjoyed the last of these activities, exploring changing between high and low, loud and quiet, and fast and slow. Pupils have also had a go at being conductors and leading these changes!

KS3 have also been exploring the 'Journeys' theme and have been learning the 'William Tell' melody and accompaniment using tuned percussion. They then transferred what they have learnt to keyboards and worked to a final performance.



Upper School have been developing their independence and their ensemble skills through learning 'As It Was' by Harry Styles. All students have chosen their instrument and are working towards setting up their instrument independently. They have learnt the bass line, chords, rhythm or melody, performing in small groups and then as a class.

Art

Key Stage 3 have been learning how to use a range of marks to create pictures, thinking about backgrounds and foreground. Sycamore, Chestnut and Elm class have also explored colour mixing, thinking about how the combination of colour and marks can create different moods and feelings in our work.



In Key Stage 4, Swan class have been studying a range of artists, such as Greg Oldenshaw and Andy Warhol, exploring how they have approached portraiture in their work.

In Key Stage 4, Swan class have been studying a range of artists, such as Greg Oldenshaw and Andy Warhol, exploring how they have approached portraiture in their work.



6th Form Art community group are working to a brief this term. The brief is to create canvases for all the new classrooms in Addington School to match the old ones. We have thought about all the things we need to do to complete the brief and have created a 'to do' list. Last week we went out to buy some canvases and we are starting work on the creations this week.

Drama

In KS3 drama, we have been developing key drama skills- facial expressions, movement and voice and learning how to collaborate with each other.



In KS4 drama, students are learning about the various different camera angles and creating short films using specific angles. Here is a student in Swan class being filmed using a close up shot.



In KS5, we have been exploring Shakespeare in our in-house theatre group. The Wonky Veg Theatre Company will be taking part in the Shakespeare School Festival next year.





Immersive Theatre

This term in Immersive Theatre, our students are engineers travelling in a time machine to different points in time. They travel to Ancient Egypt, 1960s London and the future. They explore different sounds, sights and textures as they make their way through time.



Peri Lessons

Our peripatetic lessons have all started this term and are going very well. We would like to welcome our new woodwind teacher Camille and new guitar teacher Krzysztof to Addington.

Clubs

The Addington Band has started again with some new faces. We are pleased to be back in the music room and the ensemble have started their preparations towards the festive concert at the end of term.

After half term, we will be starting lunchtime clubs. Those on offer will be Choir, Art, Drama and Xylophone and Percussion Club. Early Years will also have a music courtyard open during lunchtimes as well.

Reading Junior Music Festival

This year we have entered a small choir to join the Reading Junior Music Festival which is taking place at The Hexagon in Reading on Wednesday 9th November. Our choir are rehearsing twice a week and are enjoying the songs which are from musicals. You can buy tickets from The Hexagon website. We were unable to do this event last year so are very excited to be able to this year.

The Lion King

On behalf of the 'Happy Days' charity, our Upper School students went to see 'The Lion King' musical in London. Our students fully enjoyed the show commenting on the costumes, props, music and characters after the show. They have used this trip as evidence for their Bronze and Silver Arts Award portfolios.



Upcoming Events

Here are a couple of dates for your diary next half term:

- Reading Junior Music Festival (The Hexagon) – Wednesday 9th November – 7pm
- Addington Association Carol Concert – Monday 19th December – 7pm

You can find regular updates on our music page on the school website

<https://www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk/pupil-pages/music>

Here you will also find resources and videos for the pupils to engage with at home.

We hope you all enjoy your half term!

The Creative Arts Team



News from the Association

Email: AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com

Dear Parents and Carers,

How is it possible that the first half-term of the school year is already nearly over? Time continues to fly by!

So, we at the Association are all very excited at the prospect of holding some of our favourite events this term. We are working on the basis that we will run our Christmas Fayre, the Christmas Hamper Raffle and the Carol Concert again this year. The Association is also supporting the school financially to bring some special guests to the school for a visit in the run up to Christmas!

Dates for the diary (timings will be confirmed closer to the date):

- Christmas Fayre – Saturday 26th November (afternoon)
- Christmas Carol Concert – Monday 19th December (evening)

Of course, none of these events are possible without your support, either by providing donations, or helping out or attending one of the events.

Thank you to everyone that has donated items so far, it really is appreciated. We will continue our themed donation weeks after half-term:

- Week comm 31st October - **Bottles** (this doesn't have to be alcohol, anything drinkable is great!)
- Week comm 7th November - **Soft toys / Puzzles / Children's Books** (clean and good-as-new condition)
- Week comm 14th November- **Gorgeous Gifts** (unused toiletries or make-up, toys, candles etc, etc.)

So, all that now leaves me to say is on behalf of the Association I wish you all a happy and healthy half-term!

Kind regards

Dawn Adams
Chair of the Addington School Association

ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2022 - 2023



AUTUMN TERM 2022

Inset Days – (closed to pupils)	Friday 2 September & Monday 5 September 2022
Term Starts	Tuesday 6 September 2022
Inset Day – (Closed to pupils)	Friday 21 October
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October inclusive
Inset Day (closed to pupils)	Monday 31 October 2022
Term Restarts	Tuesday 1 November 2022
Term Ends	Tuesday 20 December 2022

SPRING TERM 2023

Term Starts	Wednesday 4 January 2023
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February 2023 inclusive
Term Restarts	Monday 20 February 2023
Term Ends	Friday 31 March 2023

SUMMER TERM 2023

Term Starts	Monday 17 April 2023
Inset Day – (closed to pupils)	Friday 26 May
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2023 inclusive
Term Restarts	Monday 5 June 2023
Term Ends	Friday 21 July 2023

Inset Days – School closed to pupils

Friday 2 September 2022
 Monday 5 September 2022
 Friday 21 October 2022
 Monday 31 October 2022
 Friday 26 May 2023