



ADDINGTON

NEWSLETTER



May 23

Dear Parents and Carers

For the first time this year as I write this newsletter, the sun is shining!! I hope it lasts into half term and everybody enjoys the beginning of summer. Certainly our pupils have been doing just that and currently 6 of our 6th Formers are out on their practice expedition for their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, walking many miles and camping for 2 nights. I am sure they will be grateful that they are not coping with torrential rain as in other years!

The pupils all enjoyed celebrations around the Coronation this term and learning about the history of our country – some of our student's knowledge in this area amazed staff and is a constant reminder of the talents our pupils have.

Their talents came to the fore during our recent Ofsted inspection with inspectors telling me of the many conversations they had with the pupils. They were very impressed by their confidence, maturity and knowledge and particularly with how they talked about what they had learnt in their lessons. I hope you have all had the opportunity to read our Ofsted report but if not, the link below will take you to it on our website:

[Ofsted Report](#)

As the Summer Term gets into full swing, please save the dates for the Sports Days that have been sent out this week. All our pupils take part in some form and the events are always buoyed by parents coming to watch. Similarly, our Proms Week, 3 July to 7 July which will be back to its full successful format this year. More details to follow!

On that note, I hope to say hello to parents and carers next term as you come into school for various events and I wish all our families a good half term.

I look forward to welcoming pupils back on Monday 5 June.

Yours faithfully

Sara Attra
Headteacher



Hello from your Family Support Worker

I hope this finds you all well and healthy. Where have the weeks gone? We are almost at the end of another academic year; which is so scary.

It was great to see many parents at the Addington Parent Association AGM.

We also had a well-attended "Introduction to PECS" session. The event was delivered by Sarah Naylor our Communication and Augmentative and Alternative Communication HLTA.



I would also like to thank the Family Intervention Resources and Strategies Team (FIRST) and Promise Inclusion (PINC) who kindly attended our parents evening. They were extremely busy speaking to many of you.

This year Carers Week will be taking place from 5-11 June. The theme this year is "Recognising and supporting carers in the community". Please see the link below to access a series of events.

<https://www.readingmencap.org.uk/services/for-carers/events-for-carers/>

Save the Date: "Sleep Matters" Face to face evening session for parents who live in the Wokingham Borough. Wednesday 21st June 6.30-8pm at Addington School 6th Form entrance. *Please note that this event is also open to anyone with a child or young person who does not have a disability so please spread the word if you have any friends and family whose child is experiencing problems sleep problems.

Please be aware that I will be working during the half term break should you require emotional and practical support such as form filling, blue badge applications and benefits etc.

Wishing you a not so hectic half term holiday and hoping for the sun to shine.

Ellie

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.

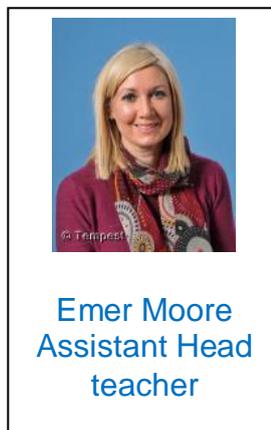
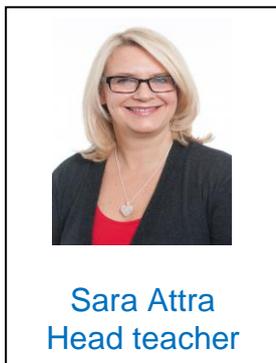
[iTunes](#)

[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.

Our Senior Leadership Team



Addington Youth Club

Managed and staffed by
Wokingham Promise Inclusion

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 Annah on 07551 159073 for more information.

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.

As a reminder:

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

Jake Bridgeford
Nicole Reynolds
Theo Sharp
Ved Nadgir

Key Stage 2

Abel Griffith
Basil Malik
Cecil Oduro-Koranteng
Logan Broadley
Maisie Weatherley
Marcus Kaczak
Noah Hussain
Oliver Tyrrell
Peyton Hipgrave

Key Stage 3

Andy Crawshaw
Finn Bedford
Leo Van Cao
Sophie Chatt
Teigan Ransby-Craigs

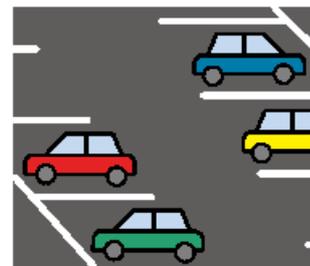
Key Stage 4

Levi Barnes

Sensory & Complex Needs

Haadiya Ahmad
Inaya Akram

CAR PARKING REMINDER



Thank you to all parents who drop off and/or pick up their child from school for continuing to work with us to make our car park run as smoothly as possible. I have been actively monitoring the car park regularly over the last month and in general it is running smoothly. Below are reminders of key points to help maintain this.

To ensure the continued smooth and safe operation of the busy Addington car park we need all parents who 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. We have an agreement in place with Bulmershe Leisure Centre to allow this.

We do recognise that for a small minority of pupils crossing the road will not be possible. Therefore, 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.

If you feel you need a car park pass please let your class teacher know, including the reason for needing one. A member of SLT will then allocate a pass or contact you for further discussion/information.

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 who would like one.

Parents with Passes using the Addington School Car park

- Parents with passes 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.
- Unfortunately at busy times we do not have enough parking spaces onsite for all parents with passes. **Please work with our staff** as they manage these situations as efficiently as possible, this is likely to involve being asked to complete one or more circuits of the car park to ensure the car park flow is not disrupted.
- Parents can move the cones on the parent parking and disabled bays in the area near the main entrance, however if there is a cone with a sign on it, only move this if it has been allocated to you. Cones with signs on are to reserve spaces for a particular pupil with a specific need.

General instructions

- 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.
- **Please leave parking spaces promptly** - To support the process at the start and end of day to run smoothly, **please can I ask that all parents and carers vacate parking spaces in either of the car parks as soon as possible** to allow other parents access to the space. If you need to have a discussion with the teacher, please arrange a time to meet in person or have a telephone conversation to free up a parking space as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support
David



SPORTS PAGE



Football Tournament at Reading Football Club

On Thursday 30th March our green team continued their run of winning medals at the Reading Football Club SEN Schools football tournament at their outdoor training pitch at the SCL Stadium. They won all their matches and finished first, winning a trophy and medals. Our Amber team gave a great account of themselves, drawing 2 games and only losing by the odd goal in the other games.



Healthy Lifestyles Week (27th-31st March 2023)

During the last week of March we held our annual **Healthy Lifestyles Week**. Lots of exciting activities were enjoyed by the pupils throughout the week; our whole school dance to 'Jerusalem' (video sent out before half term), Parkour lessons delivered by a professional athlete, Boxercise and fitness sessions from Clare our fitness trainer, yoga sessions run by Danielle, Dance with Alice, Inter-house travelling and polybat, and the famous smoothie bike.

Jerusalem

A big thank you to everyone who participated in our whole school dance, Jerusalem. Each class performed and was filmed to produce a whole school dance video.



Inter-house Walking/Travelling

Well done to the classes who participated in the **walking/travelling inter-house** competition. Special mention goes out to Sycamore class who collectively walked 51 miles during the week. The results of the walking/travelling competition was:

Green Crocodiles - 175

Yellow Tigers - 108

Red Eagles - 74

Blue Sharks - 70

Inter-house Polybat

The inter-house Polybat competition was popular and enjoyed by the students. Here are the results:

Red Eagles - 21

Yellow Tigers - 20

Green Crocodiles - 16

Blue Sharks - 14

Most Valuable Players:

Red Eagles – Bobby S, Tommy H, Sofia B, Billy S

Yellow Tigers – Taran G, Fabo M, Angelo F, Leo van C

Green Crocodiles – Ryan H, Anamol R, Alexander S-D, Jenna G

Blue Sharks - Dylan B, George M, Aaytan S-B, Sophia G-S

Parkour

We were very lucky to have the services of a professional parkour trainer who came and ran two sessions of the exciting sport of parkour or free-running, which is the skill of running or jumping from one place to another safely and precisely. These sessions were, necessarily, for our more physically able students and was a wonderful opportunity for them to experience a new sport.



Boxercise with Clare

Clare, our wonderful fitness instructor, led a session of boxercise to energise our students for the day.



Dance with Alice

Our dance teacher, Alice, ran the last morning session with dance for the younger children. A great time was had by all.



Yoga with Danielle

Danielle along with teaching PE is a yoga teacher and was able to provide the students and staff with a session of yoga which was enjoyed by all and left us all feeling calm and positive at the start of the day.



Smoothie bike

The ever-popular smoothie bike made an appearance during healthy lifestyles week. It is a great way for pupils to learn about healthy eating while taking exercise. As they pedalled the bike, it powered a blender which cut up all the fruit chosen by each pupil, blending it into a fruit smoothie for them to drink.



Kennet Games Disability Festival 2023



On Saturday 29th April, Addington took a small team to the Kennet Games disability festival held at Kennet School in Thatcham. It was an all-day event and we joined to make a team with 2 pupils from Lambs Lane School. We played boccia, table cricket, javelin, basketball, obstacle race and wheelchair races.

Our team won the table cricket competition, for which we received a cup and medals. Maria also won a silver medal for scoring baskets in basketball.



Wheelchair Rugby

We have been lucky to have a coach from Berkshire Banshees Wheelchair Rugby Club come to school to run five wheelchair rugby training sessions for Chestnut Class. It is such an inclusive sport, both wheelchair bound and able bodied people can play on a level playing field. The pupils have really enjoyed it and their skills improve week on week.



Early Years and Yoga

Bluebell Class

We have had a brilliant term in Bluebell Class! We went on our first ever school trip to Taplow and the children loved it! We had such a great time. Our topic for this term has been *Animals*, which has been a big hit in our class! In Communication, Language and Literacy we have been looking at 4 different books; *Farm 123*, *The Little Red Hen*, to celebrate Eid we looked at *Happy Eid Mr Men*, and to celebrate the Coronation we looked at *Peppa's Coronation*. We really enjoyed looking at the pictures of the animals in our story and making the animal noises to match.

We have also been looking after caterpillars this term and we have enjoyed watching them transform into butterflies! During cooking, we have made bread (to link with *The Little Red Hen*), painting sun and moon on bread (to celebrate Eid), and making Eton Mess (to celebrate the Coronation), the children continue to love cooking lessons! In Maths we have enjoyed exploring number through number songs - our favourite is now *12345 once I caught a fish alive!* We have also learnt about capacity, time, shape, and position. We are really enjoying our swimming lessons, with most of the children becoming confident to swim on their own! We love Music and Dance here in Bluebell, so our weekly Music lessons with Sean are always a lots of fun! The children have started signing/ singing along to the songs now! We have also started assemblies with Sunflower and Daisy. We are all so proud of how the children have continued to settle into the routines of the school day. We are very excited for our next topic... *transport!*



Daffodil Class

Our topic this half term has been *Amazing Animals* and we had a fantastic opportunity to visit Chobham Farm! During the trip, we had experiences to touch and brush the different animals and visit a new Soft Play whilst also trying new activities, including a donut slide and bouncing pillow! Since the farm, we have been using our experiences during our Literacy work by looking back at photos to develop our colourful semantic and shared writing skills.

We had an exciting week learning about the Coronation where we have looked at photos of the King and experienced activities relating to the Coronation, such as making crowns and having a ceremony during Attention Autism Bucket! We enjoyed celebrating the Coronation with a playground party with the other Early Years Classes, which was a great opportunity for all to develop their communication and sharing skills.



Daisy Class have been out, out!

If you go down to the woods, you will find... Daisy class! We have loved our weekly forest school outing to Highwood Nature Reserve and the sensory garden. On the way to the woods, we listened to different environment sounds such as the beep from the pedestrian crossing, the brum noises of cars and the chug of a tractor. Inside the woods, we heard birdsong as we set up camp, had a turn on the hammock, touched tree bark and leaves as well as climbed over fallen branches. Exploring the bumpy trails and paths in the woods made us shout out and laugh. After we washed our hands in warm water from the big thermos flask, everyone sat together for a snack in the woods. Not even the rain has stopped us. Dressed in waterproof trousers and jackets we all sheltered under the big, red storm bothy listening to the downpour whilst singing weather songs. Back in class, we celebrated Eid and the King's coronation then explored farm animals through our sensory story, 'The Little Red Hen'. We're all looking forward to our trip to the farm next term!



Lily Class

We have had a great start to the summer term in Lily class. Our topic this term has been 'Amazing Animals' and we have engaged in a range of different learning activities. We were very excited when five little caterpillars came to join our class and we have enjoyed learning all about the lifecycle of a butterfly. We are patiently waiting for our butterflies to come out of their cocoons. In literacy, we have been reading the story 'The Little Red Hen' and have enjoyed sharing this story with Daffodil class when they joined us for assembly. We have continued to practice our 1:1 correspondence in maths, as well as exploring capacity, time and positional language through a range of fun, practical activities. We had another great day out at Thames Valley Adventure Park and we also visited Chobham Adventure Farm, where we tried some new activities such as the donut slide!



Primrose Class

This term in Primrose class we have been learning about *amazing animals!* We have really enjoyed our sensory story based on our topic – *The Little Red Hen*. We have been tasting and enjoying lots of food play based around this story too, such as different types of bread including wraps, toast, bagels and baguettes.

We have enjoyed lots of other types of food play too, especially some scones with jam and cream!



In our sensory maths we have been pouring and counting jugs of water, as well as singing counting songs such as '1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I caught a fish alive', and '5 speckled frogs'.

We have also really enjoyed celebrating the King's Coronation by making our own crowns, bunting and having a street party with the rest of Early Years! We had a wonderful time and loved celebrating with music, food and time outside!



Sunflower Class

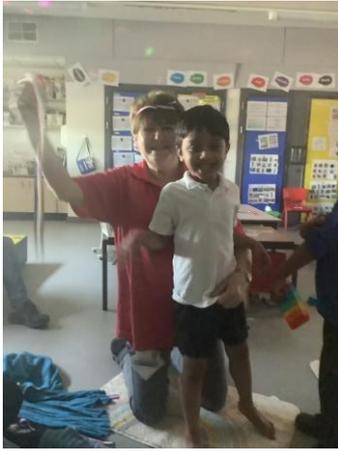
This term our topic has been *amazing animals* and right at the beginning of term we enjoyed a trip to Chobham Adventure Farm. Everyone loved exploring the play equipment, especially the jumping pillows, and visited a wide range of farm animals in the barn. Some of the pupils petted some of the animals too! We have also been learning about the life cycle of the butterfly this term, and have shown great interest in watching our real caterpillars as they have gotten bigger, formed a chrysalis and turned into butterflies. At the start of term we enjoyed learning about Eid and created some brilliant moon and star artwork and made some Eid biscuits! The pupils were really excited to join in with our Coronation street party in the Early Years playground, trying different foods and spending time with peers from other classes. We also loved the story *Peppa Pig and the Coronation*, learning more about Coronation traditions. We have continued to enjoy our regular activities such as swimming, with all the pupils becoming more confident in the pool, and are continuously working on communication skills. Well done everyone!



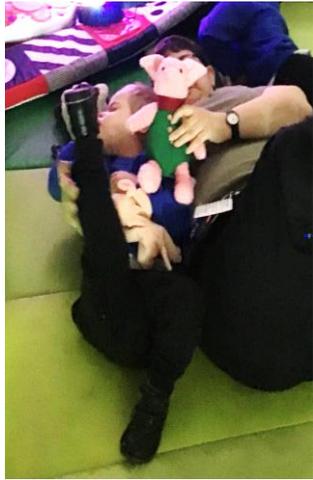
Tulip Class

This term we have enjoyed celebrating Eid, exploring through sensory stories, art and class assembly. All the class enjoyed our trip to Cobham Adventure Farm Park, the highlights being the soft play, sack slide, donut slide and the animals. Make sense theatre has continued. All students, thoroughly engaged in Coronation celebrations and activities. They all looked the part in their crowns, enjoying our street party. We have explored more Waldon based activities and focused on new mathematical language *more or less* when looking at a collection of objects. We have continued to develop our play curriculum by using communication boards to request different toys and they have loved making dens.





We have also been enjoying the farm animal poses and particularly enjoyed pig pose, lying on our back, legs raised and rocking our backs from side to side. Huge benefits for our lower backs and tummy aches. The make-up brushes across our hands, face and feet have also been very relaxing as well as the flicker pillows, hand massage to our peers, a rainbow scan and the balance boards have supported us all to truly experience a sense of calm and relaxation.





Key Stage 2

Oak Class

Despite it feeling like a really short half term, we have been having lots of fun with our new "Enchanted Woodland" topic. We have been exploring woodland habitats, what they are made of and who lives there and we are currently in the process of making our very own mini-gardens. We have studied the stories of *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Freddie* and *The Fairy* and one of our favourites: *The Gruffalo*. The children have enjoyed baking, making and using all our senses to find out and investigate everything about the woods. We are now going for regular trips to the Highwood Nature Reserve and this will continue into next half term. Charlotte has been teaching us about road safety on a Friday and we have been showing Helen how to keep safe on weekly shopping trips to the Co-op where we buy our cooking ingredients. We have learned to "stop, look and listen" when we are out and about and to look for the green man when crossing the road. We celebrated the King's Coronation in style with a round robin of activities to decorate our own crowns and then we had a party with all of our friends!

We are so excited to continue our learning in the sun next half term!



Pine Class

Pine class have enjoyed starting a new topic called *Woodland Tales* this term. In Literacy, our new stories are called 'Stick Man' and 'Little Red Riding Hood'; the children have enjoyed exploring these stories through their senses and through role-play. In Maths, we have focused on key topics such as Length, Time and Weight; the children enjoyed using non-standard measures such as a coat hanger to measure the weight of objects!

We have been practising our road safety skills in PSHE such as following our four rules 'stop, look, listen, think' at zebra crossings and traffic lights and we have also transferred our money skills from last term to the shops. We have been practising our queuing skills and transference of money to the shopkeeper; the children have thoroughly enjoyed this!

This term we have celebrated the King's Coronation with a KS2 carousel and tea party in the playground! We enjoyed showing off our crowns and eating yummy food. We also celebrated EID with a KS2 carousel. This term we have been very lucky to have weekly visits from our four-legged friend Bailey! The children have really enjoyed having Bailey in the classroom, learning how to feed him and making him do tricks! We have also enjoyed going to Taplow this term, the better weather has meant we were able to enjoy some time outside! In cooking this term, we are learning how to make shortbread biscuits; this means learning how to weigh ingredients using scales and transferring our oven skills! I am proud of everything Pine class have achieved and are continuing to achieve. Well done Pine class!



Willow Class

Willow Class have been thoroughly enjoying this term's topic '*Enchanted Woodland*' which has led to us sharing some wonderful stories such as '*Freddie the Fairy*', '*Stickman*' and '*Jack and the Beanstalk*'. We have loved making the most of the dry weather by spending time exploring in our own outdoor spaces looking for different plants and minibeasts, taking tree rubbings and planting seeds. We have begun to take our learning adventures off the school site and begun to walk to a local woodland to learn more about the features of woodlands whilst also developing our road safety awareness. We've also extended our walks to the local shop where we have been putting into practise our maths and money skills.

We are loving spending more time with peers from other KS2 classes and have had great fun on two different carousels of activities, celebrating Eid and also the King's Coronation. During our carousels the teachers stay in their own classrooms and provide a fun and engaging task linked to the theme and the pupils move around the classes visiting and participating in all the fun tasks. As we grow our independence skills over the summer term we look forward to continuing our walks in the local community learning to be safe whilst developing our learning.

All of our Willow pupils have made some amazing achievements from improving their handwriting, learning to count in twos to learning more about our own emotions and finding ways to try to manage our regulation. We are proud of all their progress



Rowan Class

This half term we have been enjoying our *Enchanted Woodland* topic, where we have been looking at real woodland animals, as well as fantasy creatures such as fairies and goblins. We have been sharing a selection of well-known Fairy Tales such as *Jack the Beanstalk*, *Hansel and Gretel* and *Little Red Riding Hood* in Literacy and discussing aspects such as settings, characters, events and any messages behind them. We used standard and non-standard units to measure length and weight in Numeracy, after making reasoned predictions and we continued developing useful methods to help us add quickly and accurately. In Science we have been looking at plants and animals, highlighted from Zoolab visit, where we had the opportunity to handle some exotic creatures such as giant millipedes, cockroaches, snails and corn snakes! We have been exploring the concept of road safety in PSHE and looking after our mental wellbeing in RSE.

We also loved taking part in a carousel of activities in preparation for the Coronation, where we made *Bling for the King* crowns, before having a little Key Stage 2 party. It has been a busy but hugely rewarding first half of the summer term for all!



Complex, Therapeutic and Sensory Needs Department

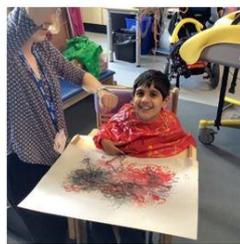
Poppy Class

This half term has been very busy with Coronation activities and starting our 'A Bug's Life' theme. It was lovely to be out with the department having lots of messy play with spaghetti and Eton Mess and we did make lots of mess!!

We have been looking at worms and spiders in our *Bug Life* topic and made some amazing pictures by painting with spaghetti.

We have been making the most of the sunshine and been outside to play Boccia and skittles. We have made great progress with our grasp and release skills and enjoyed playing against Cherry class!

Have a lovely half term



Cherry Class

We have had a good start to the summer term and had fun with Coronation activities to begin the term and starting our *Bug's Life* topic.

We enjoyed our Coronation celebration where we were able to spend time with Poppy and Apple class. We enjoyed exploring spaghetti that had been dyed red, white and blue as well as deconstructed trifle!

We have started our *Bug's Life* topic by going out for an insect hunt on the field. We found a range of creepy crawlies, including a rather large spider in the green house!

We have been making the most of the good weather and have been outside practising our boccia and kicking skills. It was really lovely to be outside and we have been working hard with our grasp and release skills, it was also fun to have a competition against Cherry!

Have a lovely half term



Apple Class

This term Apple Class have been working hard on improving their attention and focus while having fun! We have been enjoying the "Bugs Life" theme in the sensory story Tac Pac, Touch Talk, Art, Messy play and Food play activities by exploring different materials, toys, edible paint, fruits and vegetables.

As it is becoming warmer outside day by day, we decided to have some sessions in our classroom courtyard or in the sensory garden.

Everyone really enjoyed the multisensory story "A little bit of help" and we experienced the various noises, bug toys with a lot of fruit and spinach to taste and messy play to explore.

Also, everyone has continued to make progress with their communication skills and physical movement this term as well.

We are so proud of our student's achievements!



Beech class

This term has seemed quite disjointed with lots of bank holidays, not that the team have complained about this!

This half term our text has been the new David Walliams' book *Robodog* and *James and the Giant Peach*. Our theme is *minibeasts*, and we have been looking after caterpillars to watch the transformation to beautiful butterflies. When they leave the butterfly net we are hoping for a warm and sunny day to release them in our field.

In PE, in anticipation of the warmer weather, fingers crossed! we have started doing cricket, learning the bowling, batting and fielding techniques. Luckily, the rain has held off for our Thursday session!

We continue to cook once a week. This half term we have made homemade crisps and chocolate in a mug, this lesson continues to be led by the students who follow the set of instructions and equip themselves with the correct equipment and ingredients. Both of these recipes have proved very popular. We are still walking to the shops on a Monday to purchase the ingredients. The students are now taking the list, finding the items, (some of which are quite tricky to find!) queueing and completing the exchange.

In PSHE we have focused on keeping safe, in different environments and scenarios, i.e. out and about, online, in the home. The students have been fantastic at identifying potential dangers and identifying safe people.



Holly Class

It has felt like a short half term with all of the bank holidays within it. The pupils have coped well with this change to their routine. We have also changed our timetable to increase the level of demand for some of the pupils. This has been received well and the pupils have taken to the slight changes. This term our topic is '*Bug's Life.*' Our shared text to go with this theme is *James and the Giant peach* by Roald Dahl, which we have adapted to make the story shorter.

Resonance board stories continue to be a positive experience for the class and often brings us together as a class. This term our story is '*The Quiet Cricket*' by Eric Carle. Some pupils enjoy listening to the story and the feel of the vibrations from the board and others are beginning to copy the actions from the lead adult.

During Attention Autism and Explore sessions we have explored painting with 'worms' (cooked spaghetti!), making spiders out of Oreo biscuits and creating ladybirds using potato mashers. In Cooking we have been making 'Peach Eton Mess'. We have focused on the skill of cutting where pupils have cut up peaches. The squirty cream was a huge favourite during this session with some pupils being creative and using the cream to write with!

Some pupils in Holly have begun to develop their play skills by tolerating playing alongside each other during our floortime sessions. It has been lovely to see this develop over the half term.

We also enjoyed celebrating the King's Coronation by carrying out a range of activities. We ended the week with a department street sensory party. This was hugely successful and was great for all 4 classes within the department to come together. The adults weren't so keen on the clean up though as it got a little messy!

We hope you have a good half term holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back for our last half term before the summer.



Lime Class

In Lime class this term, we have focused on exploring nature and bugs! The pupils have had the chance to explore finding worms in soil during our Messy Play sessions. They have explored the woodland area in our weekly Camp Mohawk trips. They all really enjoyed building their own gardens during our fine motor skills activities. They have all done a fantastic job!



Birch Class

Birch class has been exploring a "Bug's Life" this half term; a perfect topic for messy play!! With our sensory story "a little bit of help" we are learning many things about bugs, and we are exploring lots of different foods every week.

Finally, we have been working very hard to be as independent as possible; we love helping our friends with their tasks and we can focus very well to do our academic work too.



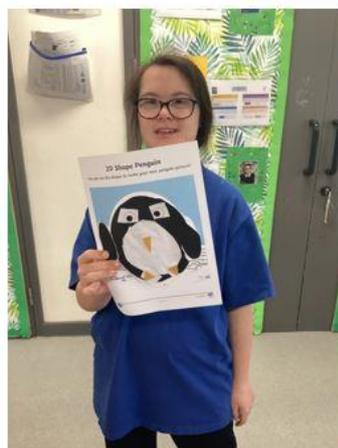
Key Stage 3

Aspen Class

Aspen class have been very busy since returning from Easter!

We have started the topic '*Where we live*'. We are learning facts about our local area and building our own 3D maps to help us learn where important locations are. In maths, we are learning about length and weight and are using our new skills to measure different objects around school and compare them to each other. In maths, we are also focussing on *number* to continue to revisit our prior learning. In literacy, we are looking at two different books: *Lost and Found*, *the boy who Sailed the World*, and a third surprise book all about tortoises! In RHSE we are learning about consent and personal space. In science we are also looking at plant life cycles. For PE we have started learning how to play cricket.

This half term has been so busy and we are really enjoying delving into our topic with some hands on learning. Check out the pictures of us enjoying ourselves.



Chestnut Class

This term in our *Where We Live* topic, we have been using globes and atlases to learn about the world and its continents and oceans. The students then chose which countries they wanted to learn more about, so we researched and wrote Fact Files about Poland and Japan. We then learnt about the countries within the United Kingdom, their capital cities and flags. Then we focussed on our country, its traditions, famous landmarks and other interesting facts, ready to write our own information texts.

Chestnut Class have been developing their independence skills this term, learning to read and follow instructions to make basic meals such as tuna pasta and beans on toast. They have also been practising life skills such as putting a pillow case and duvet cover on, loading/unloading the dishwasher, washing up, dusting and hoovering as well as tying shoe laces.

We have enjoyed our trips to Camp Mohawk every third week, exploring and learning in the great outdoors.

We have also been very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to be taught to play Wheelchair Rugby. We have thoroughly enjoyed the first 2 of 5 sessions – every student has impressed us with their determination, resilience and teamwork to get the most out of this experience. We are looking forward to continuing these sessions next term.

Other highlights this half term included an exciting visit from Zoo Lab, in which the students met and handled some interesting animals, and celebrating the King's Coronation.



Elm Class

What have you enjoyed doing this half term?

Daisy and Jenna: We have enjoyed doing Generation Group every week and we liked Zoo Lab too! Our favourite animal was the rat called Martin!

Aisla: I have enjoyed doing cooking and PE this half term. We have been doing cricket and I am good at it! I made pasta and it was delicious.

Cody: I really liked going on the PGL trip! I loved everything about it. I had a great time at the Art trip too!

Bobby: I liked Camp Mohawk this half term. I loved building lots of dens in the woods and riding the tractors!

Austin: I have enjoyed Topic this term. I like learning about the world! Zoo Lab was fun too!

Ryan: I have really enjoyed going to Camp Mohawk and playing with Tom on the drums. I have also enjoyed going to the Sixth Form café and doing drama too.

Tom: I have enjoyed using the Music room in Camp Mohawk with my friend Ryan. I love school band too!

★ Jake: I loved my computing lessons, doing my Horticulture sessions with Grace and eating lunch with my friends.

★ Tommy: I have been enjoying going to the Sixth Form café and also Business Enterprise.

★ Ruby: I enjoyed going to Camp Mohawk with my besties! I also enjoyed going to the Sixth Form café.

★ Aaliyah: I really liked spending time with Elm class. I liked doing RSE this term too, working with my friends.

★ Milena: I loved Art and Science this half term. I love the new Science room!



Sycamore Class

In Sycamore Class we have been learning all about where we live – continents, countries and counties – which can be very confusing! We have researched our closest neighbour – France and the furthest country – Australia.

In Science we learnt where lots of different animals live when ZooLab visited.

We have had great fun continuing our food challenges

Bike Maintenance has been great for some of us to learn some new skills.



Cedar Class

In Cedar Class this half term we have been learning all about where we live. We looked at different types of houses and we learn about rooms that we have in our house and items that we need in our daily life. We continued going to the local Co-op where we buy ingredients we need for our cooking lessons. This term we have started going swimming to the Bulmershe centre and we really enjoy practising our swimming skills! This half term we also had the opportunity to celebrate his Majesty the King's Coronation and we engaged in role play, pretending to be Kings and Queens. We also made some scones to celebrate the special occasion!



Maple Class

Maple class have started their '*Where we live*' topic this half term by exploring the area we live in using google maps. We looked at the streets in which we live, and some children were able to track their route to school. We have used a couple of books; our focus was on '*Lost and Found*' about a penguin and a boy and their journey.

In cooking we focused on an Italian food – pasta! We cooked dry pasta and added sauces and moved to making our own fresh pasta, using a manual pasta machine and then cooking it, adding sauce and eating it straight away!

In Music we explored music from around the world such as India and Jamaica and continued this into the classroom too, with lots of dancing. In science we had a visit from 'Zoo Lab' and touched a variety of insects from giant snails to hissing cockroaches. In maths, we grew sunflowers and measured them, explored temperature by using food such as ice cubes to hot chocolate as well as creating a milkshake bar to explore capacity.

Some children went on the year 9 PGL trip to Liddington and some children competed in the Woodley Schools Dance Festival. Camp Mohawk was visited twice, by all the children.



Key Stage 4

Kite Class

Kite Class has been learning all about the royal family and the Coronation and we are now learning about Windsor and Windsor Castle, in preparation for a trip there next half term. To mark the Coronation, we made jam tarts and other lunch foods and ate them at a celebration lunch with the whole of Key Stage 4, which was fun! We have also made time for weekly Lifelong Leisure trips to Golfplex or Dinton Pastures Country Park. We continued to expand our cooking knowledge through making sausages and mash every week for lunch on Fridays, as well as rhubarb muffins with a specialist cookery teacher from Cobb Farm. We have taken part in music, art and drama lessons, including with the Make Sense Theatre every Thursday. We honed our racket and ball skills in PE, learnt about healthy lifestyles in PSHE, visited Woodley library, went shopping, took part in travel training and got plenty of phonics and reading done! Well done Kite Class – you will deserve your half term.



Swan Class

This half term we have returned to Jealotts Hill for experience of work. Students have been starting to prepare vegetable patches ready for planting in the coming weeks and also gathering up the grass cuttings for use in the orchard and compost. It has been so nice to have much better weather this term!



Coronation Preparations

We celebrated the King's Coronation by holding a KS4 party. We not only had to go shopping for the ingredients, for our recipes in local supermarkets but we also learnt how to make our own sausage rolls using a Jamie Oliver recipe, Cheese quiches, and summer fruit meringue baskets, making our own meringues with egg whites and sugar – they were very popular.



Lifelong Leisure

During lifelong leisure students have been visiting Bracknell Golf Plex and have been taking part in a variety of golfing activities, including adventure golf, football golf and also having lessons from a golf pro on the golfing range. The students have really enjoyed taking part in all the activities at this amazing leisure facility in the community.



Sixth Form News

Eagle Class

We are entering the last leg of this academic year. Doesn't time fly? This half term though a rather short one with the Bank holidays, our students were given a number of opportunities to prepare for adulthood.

In addition to college links, work experience, horticulture, and accessing sports and leisure activities in the community, we have been busy doing town and travel training. The class has focussed on road safety and using public buses on familiar routes. Students have been encouraged to use Apps on their phones to locate shops and venues in the community with the aim of helping them to develop their social, independence and life skills.

Focus in Eagle class continues to be on reducing waste by reusing and recycling. We have continued to engage in upcycling salvaged items of furniture. While students continue to enjoy experiencing DIY using electric sanders and other tools when upcycling old furniture, they learn about the importance of Health and Safety in the work place, and team work.

After another hectic term culminating with an excellent Ofsted report, we end on a high to enjoy a much needed break. The final leg of this year as always, while enjoyable is a very busy and demanding half term.

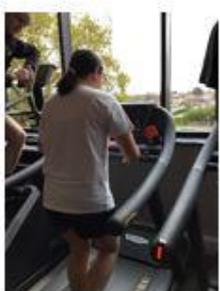
Eagle class wishes all a restful, safe and enjoyable half term break.





Kestrel Class

As part of our life long leisure curriculum this term, students have been visiting the gym at Bulmershe leisure centre. They have completed an induction which enables them to use the gym equipment safely and correctly. They have also been taking part in spin classes. It's safe to say that they have been exhausted on a Monday afternoon!



Students have now completed the upcycling project they have been working hard on. There has been lots of sanding and preparing, followed by several coats of chalk paint. The two old pieces of furniture now look spectacular.



A combination of students from Kestrel and Eagle class had the opportunity to visit Didcot Railway Centre. They spent the day looking at old steam trains and learning about how the British railway system evolved over the years. There was even a chance to play with a model railway.



For the Coronation celebrations, Kestrel students contributed by making scones for the afternoon tea. They shopped for the ingredients and then baked the scones on the morning of the celebration. Kestrel and the rest of sixth form had a wonderful afternoon with lots of food and cake followed by games and socialising.



Owl Class

This half-term Owl class have been taking advantage of the warmer, drier weather and getting off-site more as part of our community inclusion curriculum. Some of us have been helping at Ridgeline community garden and have been focusing on deadheading the end of spring flowers and getting the herb beds ready for summer. The whole class have also been replicating what we have learnt at Ridgeline by sowing seeds and planting hanging baskets back at school. We celebrated the King's Coronation this month and we enjoyed choosing different colours of icing to decorate biscuits that we shared with our peers in sixth form. We've been using our preferred communication methods to comment on and choose our favourite types of transport and experiment with different materials to decorate them.

This half-term Owl class went to the Museum of English Rural Life for a work ready day. Our favourite activity was using magnifying glasses to look at some of the museum's object handling collection in more detail and work out which animals they related to. We were also lucky enough to be shown how to clean old books with sponges and brushes by an Addington student on work experience at the museum.

Next half-term we will be continuing to learn about and experience different forms of transport and how they relate to the choices we make about our leisure activities. The Owl class team hope you all have a lovely half-term break and we look forward to seeing everyone again in June.



Robin Class

Robin class have had fun this half term preparing for and celebrating the King's Coronation! Students made fabric bunting in the workshop with Gail, improving their sewing skills and work skills. In the kitchen with Shirley, they made and decorated individual cupcakes and a large Victoria Sponge, which were enjoyed by the whole of 6th from during our 'Afternoon Tea for his Majesty!' During the celebration we played games, listened to music and watched footage from the Queens's Coronation and the street parties in 1953, looking at the differences between now and then. After the party came the inevitable clearing up and a good chance to practise our independent living skills!



Horticulture

This term students from horticulture have concentrated mainly on the Newbury challenge. This is a competition where the students choose 5 categories to make one thing from each, this is then judged by independent judges at a school in Newbury against 5 other SEN schools. This year the students achieved 1st place for their diorama, bird feeder and advent calendar.

Over all we came 2nd out of the 5 competing schools so this was amazing and the students are super proud of themselves.

Categories entered:

Scarecrow

Advent calendar

Bird feeder

Diorama

Horticulture themed cake





Creative Arts

Summer is here and we are so pleased to announce events like Proms and Special Superstar will take place next half term. Information about these events are down below.

Music

Early Years have been going to the zoo this half term. They have been copying actions to animals, turning turns to pick the next animal movement like 'stomping like an elephant' or 'waddling like a penguin'. They have been exploring playing different rhythms using bass chimes along to a song about an elephant marching around. Students have enjoyed our song about a hippopotamus, exploring the sound 'mmm' and singing the word 'mud' using a microphone. They have also explored playing a variety of percussion instruments including a djembe.

In KS2 and 3, students have been learning about music through the theme of The Commonwealth. They have sung a call and response based song from Ghana entitled '*Kye Kye Kule*', headed to India to sing '*Govinda*' and learn about composing tala rhythms, and stayed here in the UK to sing '*Hey Jude*' by The Beatles as well as explore some classic British songs through the use of rhythm sticks, such as '*Sailor's Hornpipe*' and '*London Bridge is Falling Down*'. We have also headed to Jamaica to learn about reggae music with Bob Marley's '*Three Little Birds*'. Some classes broke the music down into different parts, learning to play the bass, melody and harmony parts, and put together a class band performance.



In our Sensory and Complex Needs music lessons we have been exploring music from *The Lion King*. The pupils' prior knowledge of the songs has enabled them to be proactive with their music making faster than usual, and smiles appear across the room every week when we open with the super-famous 'nants ingonyama!' opening line from *'The Circle of Life'*. Pupils have enjoyed exploring wooden instruments during *'Hakuna Matata'*, vocalising and singing along with *'Can You Feel The Love Tonight'*, cueing music with switches during *'I Just Can't Wait to be King'*, and drumming during *'Stampede'*. We look forward to continuing with *'The Lion King'* after half term.



KS4 students have also been exploring *'Three Little Birds'* by Bob Marley. They learnt the bass line using guitars, some learning a guitar chord, and strumming in a reggae style. They have also learnt the melody line using the keyboards along to a keyboard backing track. Students have also been researching somebody in the arts who inspires them and presenting their findings to their peers. They have found out 5 facts about their chosen person, reflected upon why they chose them and spent time rehearsing their presentations before presenting.

In 6th Form, the community group have led a workshop to Rowan class which was successful. They are now planning to visit local schools in the area to lead workshops next half term.

Art

This half term Key Stage 3 have been creating maps. Linking into the topic *'Where we live'*, Sycamore, Elm and Chestnut Class began by mapping out our local area by illustrating land, water and road areas. We have used symbols to approximately locate key landmarks. Using this knowledge, we have now begun work on a large scale, collaborative map of Reading and surrounding areas. By referencing a real map, we are thinking about what places are North, South, East and West and working with mixed media, exploring lots of different materials, to produce drawings, prints and textures to represent different areas of landscape and specific landmarks. Maple and Aspen are also exploring mixed media to create both a collaborative map of our school, and also lots of individual artwork based on map imagery.





In Key Stage 4, we have started the third round of Stop Motion animations! Characters and sets are almost all complete, with some students even finished with their filming!

Check out the website soon to watch!



Key Stage 4 also helped 6th Form make some of the tiles for our King Charles III Coronation art display.



6th Form are continuing the classroom canvas brief. We have started the Art room and Workshop canvases by making lots of crayons and tools. We have also been studying cacti – making prints and clay sculptures.



Drama

Students in KS3 have been exploring the world of film. They have been discussing their favourite films and exploring a wide range of genres during drama activities. Here are some pictures of students creating a still image based on film genres. Can you guess what genres they are?

For example; Horror, Comedy, Sad, Action.



In KS4, students have been editing their witches spell film. They have created a title and end credit image to include in their films. They have also made creative choices on music, sound effects and pictures to develop their films. We hope to show these films in the summer term.





Ege from Swan class designed a spooky title page for his film

In 6th Form, the students in the community drama group have been working on collecting evidence for their arts award qualification based around their Shakespeare performance last term. The Wonky Veg Theatre Company will be performing *Hamlet*, *The Game* during Proms week next half term.

Robin class have been experiencing drama this term. They are developing collaboration and communication using drama role-plays. Robin class have enjoyed role-playing what happens when you sit on the sound effect chair and creating short scenes.



KS5 have experienced dance for the last part of the day. They have developed awareness of body during the warm up, experienced different dances that you might have at a party and learnt a dance routine to the song '*Don't Stop Me Now*'

They also had a visit from Make Sense Theatre Company. Students were involved in a drama workshop that they would experience at an after school club or holiday club in their local community.



See the Make Sense Theatre to website to see what they offer.

<https://makesensetheatre.com/>

Make Sense Theatre are running a drama club after school on a Wednesday from 3.30pm - 5pm at Addington School.

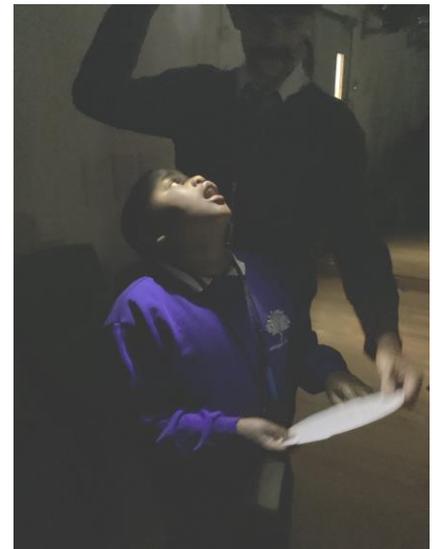
Ages 10 - 19

£7.50 a session (Paid half-termly in advance)

To secure your place please email rosie@makesensetheatre.com

Immersive Theatre

This term in Immersive Theatre, our students are going to the seaside. They all receive a train ticket to board The Addington Express. As the train journey unfolds they come across a cow on the line, hot air balloons, and a tunnel before they finally arrive at the seaside where they enjoy a little paddle and some chips. They explore light, reflections, wind, musical instruments and more.



Jazz Concert

All students were invited to a Jazz concert this half term by 'The Addingtons'. They listen to songs and Jazz pieces from last half term and enjoyed the many improvisations from the band which included Saxophone, piano and Electric Guitar.



Special Superstar Concert – Thursday 15th June – 7pm

We are delighted to also see the return of 'Special Superstar'. This is a singing concert hosted at Addington School with choirs from other SEN schools from around Berkshire. Rehearsals have started at school during lunchtime and the Superstars are working hard on their solos too. We are looking forward to hosting the concert next half term!



Training for local Key Stage 1 teachers

We are very proud of our leading role in local music activities and this term we held a training afternoon for teachers across Wokingham working with Key Stage 1 children. At the session, lots of songs were introduced for schools to work towards for our Key Stage 1 singing morning in July. It was great to share resources with other teachers and encourage them to do more music!

EY Choir

Linked to the event above, we have started our EY choir with 10 students. They are participating in vocal warm ups, games and learning the key words and signs to songs. They will continue to learn these throughout the term and attend the KS1 singing morning in July.

PROMS Week – Monday 3rd July – Friday 7th July

We are so excited to be hosting our PROMS week again. This is a highlight of the year for our department and school. PROMS week is a week dedicated to celebrating the arts. Our students have an opportunity to perform music as part of their class and also listening as part of an audience to other Addington performances and visiting schools. Students who have peripartners lessons have an opportunity to share what they have been learning as well as other special performances. At the end of the week, we host our very own Addington's Got Talent Final. More details to follow in the next term.

Information about performances will be available very soon!



Have a relaxing half term everyone,
The Creative Arts Team

ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2022 - 2023



Addington School

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
Bank Holiday for the Coronation of the King (school closed)	Monday 8 May 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

ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 - 2024



Addington School

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Inset Days – (closed to pupils)	Friday 1 September & Monday 4 September 2023
Term Starts	Tuesday 5 September 2023
Inset Day – (Closed to pupils)	Friday 20 October 2023
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2023 inclusive
Inset Day (closed to pupils)	Monday 30 October 2023
Term Restarts	Tuesday 31 October 2023
Term Ends	Friday 15 December 2023

SPRING TERM 2024

Term Starts	Tuesday 2 January 2024
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February 2024 inclusive
Term Restarts	Monday 19 February 2024
Term Ends	Thursday 28 March 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

Term Starts	Monday 15 April 2024
Inset Day – (closed to pupils)	Friday 24 May 2024
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2024 inclusive
Term Restarts	Monday 3 June 2024
Term Ends	Tuesday 23 July 2024

Inset Days – School closed to pupils

Friday 1 September 2023
 Monday 4 September 2023
 Friday 20 October 2023
 Monday 30 October 2023
 Friday 24 May 2024