



# ADDINGTON NEWSLETTER



March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

This term has really flown by in school, it only seems like yesterday that we were coming back after half term. This newsletter shows the huge range of activities that have been taking place across the school. We are both very excited now we are confirmed in post for September and look forward to continuing to work with all our families.

Preparation for the Wizard of Oz school play after Easter is going full steam ahead. Pupils are really excited, and we cannot wait to see the results later in May. Thank you to the creative arts team for all of their hard work and the wider team too for supporting and enabling this to happen.

Healthy living week was amazingly popular as usual thanks to the leadership of the PE team. We will share their dance video created as part of this week with you straight after the Easter holidays.

We all really enjoyed celebrating neurodiversity week this year. We had a particular focus on Down Syndrome Awareness this year and we hope you all enjoyed the fantastic video created by Elizabeth, Tom and Catherine. The pupils performed fantastically on the video. Next year we will have a different focus.

We are using a national scheme called Opal to develop our use of playtimes further in school. Ellie (Assistant Head) is working closely with Opal to roll out a plan including significant additional staff training.

At our new Early Years Centre, phase two work is going well, and we are hoping it will be completed by early June this year. This will allow us to set up that area ready for our two new classes in September 2024. This will also mean that the pupils currently in phase one will be able to access Soft play and Splash, and staff will get a staffroom as well!

Don't forget you can now follow us on Facebook and Instagram to get regular updates of what is happening in school. We will also use our social media presence to promote the school and recruit staff so please follow, if you can, and share far and wide. Search for 'Addington SEN School' on Facebook and 'Addington School' on Instagram.

Sara will be sending a more detailed update on the progress towards the MAT by email, however it was great to hear earlier this month that the governing bodies of all three schools unanimously agreed to academise and join the Ascendancy Partnership Trust (APT) and APT has now been awarded Wokingham's two new free schools.

Yours faithfully

**Lynda Wood and David Maycock**  
Acting Co-Headteachers

**Sara Attra**  
Executive Headteacher



## News from your Family Support Workers

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

It was great to see a few parents at the Addington Parent Association AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> March.



This half term we have been able to deliver 2 sessions of Touch Talk training, Sleep Matters presented by the FIRST team and series 1 of “Understanding and Helping your Anxious Child” workshop with Dr Fiona Knott.

We have been focused on continuing to support and reassure families when needed with many different aspects of family life, cost of living worries and attending meetings / appointments applying for blue badges and helping families with social care involvement and benefit eligibilities. We have hosted a third event for parents at the Early Years Centre this term. A stay and play to celebrate Easter and Holi. Parents came in to explore themed activities with their children and it was a great opportunity for the parents to see their children settled into Addington School life.

### Save the Dates:

23/04/24 - Rescheduled “Disability Living Allowance training with Toni and Joey at 10-11.30am and 7.30- 9pm.

24/04/24 - Introduction to Makaton with Sarah Naylor Haggar at 10-11.30am.

If you have not already done so please complete this [survey](#) if you wish to attend any of these sessions.

Wishing you a not so hectic Easter break and hoping for the sun to shine.

*Ellie, Joey and Toni*

### Family Support team

[Ellier@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:Ellier@addington.wokingham.sch.uk)

[Tonic@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:Tonic@addington.wokingham.sch.uk)

[Joeyp@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:Joeyp@addington.wokingham.sch.uk)

## Our Senior Leadership Team



Sara Attra  
Executive  
Headteacher



Lynda Wood  
Acting Co-  
Headteacher



David Maycock  
Acting Co-  
Headteacher



Emer Moore  
Acting Deputy  
Headteacher



Eirfron  
Watkinson  
Assistant Head  
teacher



Ellie Webb  
Assistant Head  
Leader of Addington  
Early Years Centre



Kimberley Legg  
Associate  
Assistant Head



Rhona Millar  
Associate  
Assistant Head



Lydia Colios  
Associate  
Assistant Head



Sue Tod  
School  
Business  
Manager

### 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.

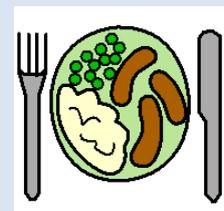
***If your child has school dinners, and there is a balance outstanding on your account, we would be grateful if you would kindly clear this balance as soon as possible.***

***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 £2.53  
Secondary lunch is £2.63



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](mailto:office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk).

## Free school meals and extra funding for your child's education

Please see message below from Wokingham Borough Council about eligibility to claim for free school meals. Even if your child already gets free school meals due to their age (Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 now qualify automatically for free school meals), if you qualify for one of the benefits listed below it is important to make an application for free school meals as your child will then qualify for extra funding for their education. More information can be found on the [free school meals page on the school website](#).

Across the UK more than 10 per cent of pupils who are eligible for free school meals do not register to get them.

We want to make sure 100 per cent of our pupils claim when they can in Wokingham Borough. Importantly, it also means schools can get additional funding to support pupils.

To qualify, your child must be in school and you must be receiving one of the following benefits:

- [Income support](#)
- Income based [Job Seekers Allowance](#)
- Income related [Employment and Support Allowance](#)
- [NASS support](#)
- Guarantee element of [State Pension](#)
- [Child Tax Credit](#), provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- [Working Tax Credit](#) for the four weeks after employment ends
- [Universal Credit](#), provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400

If this applies to you but your child isn't registered for free school meals, complete a form and return it to your child school.

[Download the form and apply for Free School Meals](#) on Wokingham Borough Council's website.

## Kids eat free

This Easter holidays 2024

Or for £1

### **MORRISONS**

Kids eat for free in Morrisons Cafes every day from 3pm when you spend over £4.50 on a adult's meal.

### **TESCO**

Kids eat for free, with a 60p minimum spend Monday to Friday in Tesco Cafes. Clubcard needed.

### **ASDA**

Kids eat for £1 with no minimum spend. Plus, they get a free piece of fruit such as an apple, pear or banana.

### **TGI Fridays**

Kids eat a free all day, every day, when an adult buys a main meal and presents their Strides

### **PAUSA CAFÉ at DUNELM**

Spend £4 and get one free choice from the Kids Menu in Pausa Cafés on Monday to Friday after 3pm.

### **DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRE**

Every day from noon, kids can eat from the Dobbies lunch or pick 'n' mix menu for free when an adult gets a main meal.

@thehighstreetmums\_



**FestForAll**  
**Saturday 13th July**  
**2024**



**1:30pm—7:30pm**



We are so excited that FestForAll is returning this summer!

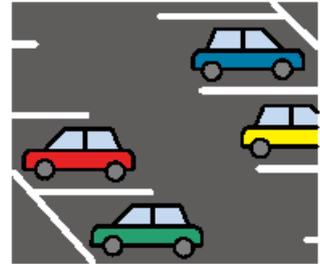
We are looking for bands, acts and solo artists to perform! If you or someone you know is interested in performing please contact

[m-ca@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:m-ca@addington.wokingham.sch.uk) for more information

**TICKETS AVAILABLE SOON!**

# 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 our parents to park in their car park for 30 minutes during pick up and drop off times. The car park will be monitored by a leisure centre employed car parking attendant. We will work with the leisure centre to try and foster an empathetic and supportive approach to managing the car park to try and avoid any unnecessary distress for our parents.

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

## 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](http://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](mailto:office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk)

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To view our privacy notices, please see the [policies page](#) of the school website.

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### 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.

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# 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.

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World Down Syndrome Day – 21<sup>st</sup> March  
2024

If you missed it, do check out the [video on our website](#) which we made to celebrate Down Syndrome Day.



# Headteacher's Award Winners



*Congratulations to the following students:*

## **Early Years**

Ekus Singh  
Tommy Martin

## **Key Stage 2**

Shay Bowyer

## **Key Stage 3**

Ayaan Sharda  
Gabiella Joyce  
Shriya Agarwal

## **Key Stage 4**

Fin Bedford  
Katharine Turrell

## **Key Stage 5**

Janet Cheng

## **Access**

Andrey Sementsov  
Harman Bedi  
Reinhardt Taute

## **Complex / Sensory & Access Needs**

Inaya Akram

## **Therapy Update**

We have a fantastic therapy team, comprising of Addington specialist staff and NHS professionals. This team works alongside class staff to plan and deliver our integrated therapeutic curriculum. Here are updates to changes within the team.

We have some new therapists that have joined the Addington and CYPIT teams.

### **Occupational Therapy**



We would like to welcome Victoria who has recently joined the team at Addington as an Independent Occupational Therapist. She will be working alongside our Therapy Support Assistants two days a week. Victoria will be focusing on delivering a universal level of provision including class training on universal strategies/ environmental adaptations, supporting integration of these strategies into class routines and signposting to relevant agencies. The Children and Young Person's Integrated Therapy Team (CYPIT) will continue to be responsible for delivering specialist level care for pupils whose needs cannot be met through the universal provision including individualised assessments and therapy programmes. CYPIT also have a wealth of universal resources on their website for parents/ care givers to access under the health & development tab covering a wide range of topics including sensory processing, independence and motor skills. <https://cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/>

Lottie and Jason have joined us as our CYPIT allocated OTs. Along with providing on-going support to class teams they are also assessing and reviewing students with a CYPIT referral.

### **Speech and Language**

After Easter we unfortunately do not have CYPIT allocated Speech and Language therapists, due to staff moves. However, we continue to have our SALT assistant Louise and our communication HLTA Sarah to ensure that students are being supported effectively. CYPIT will be providing regular cover to ensure that any referrals are assessed and are still able to advise and support staff.



# SPORTS PAGE



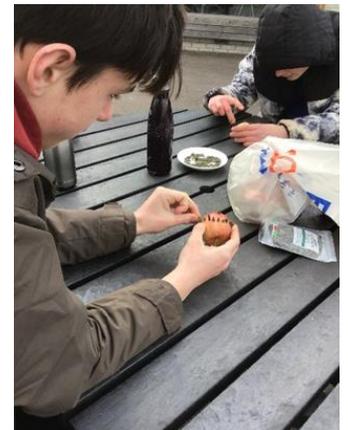
## After School Sports Club

This half-term the after school sports club pupils have been working on their fitness levels. They have tested their fitness levels running the Bleep and Cooper run tests. They have also participated in fitness circuits.



## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award 2023-2024

This half-term, the boys in the Bronze DofE group have been going offsite to practise their walking and navigational skills. They have walked in the area near South Lake and enjoyed a bird themed walk in Bracknell. They have also visited 'Hurley campsite', where they will be camping for their practice and qualifying expeditions in June and July.



|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Dates for Bronze expeditions:</b> | <b>Practice Expedition</b>                                  |
|                                      | Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 |
|                                      | <b>Qualifying Expedition</b>                                |
|                                      | Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> July & 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2024 |

## Football Tournament at Goals

Congratulations to our Addington Football team who came a very close second in a football tournament staged at GOALS. They were up against some new schools they have not played before. It was a very wet afternoon of football, but the team enjoyed playing against Fernways, Garth Hill College (The Rise), Kennel Lane and Heathermount.



## Santa Dash Cheque presentations

Diane Brimblecombe Animal Shelter and **Camp Mohawk** were very pleased to receive an equal share of the amazing **£480**



The P.E department would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated to our annual **SANTA DASH**.

## Sportsperson of the Year – more achievements

Well done to a student in 6<sup>th</sup> form who has achieved even more accolades and medals. This student won Addington Sportsperson of the Year for his many achievements in 2023 and the achievements continue.



He participated in his second Wokingham Half Marathon, held on 25th February 2024. The weather conditions were perfect and Luka managed to shave 5 minutes off his PB and run the half marathon in 1:46:45. This was his 5<sup>th</sup> half marathon.

In martial arts Taijitsu he managed to move from purple to purple with brown stripe. He undertook a gruelling 1h 30 exam and passed. CONGRATULATIONS on both achievements.



## Berkshire School Games Table Cricket



On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March Aspen Class represented Wokingham secondary schools at the Berkshire School Games Table Cricket competition which took place at Loddon Leisure Centre. The competition was run by cricket coaches from the Lord's Taverners. There were 7 schools taking part, representing the areas of Berkshire. We played 4 matches over the whole day, however we didn't win any of our games but all the pupils took part with enthusiasm and a wonderful sense of fun. A good day was had by all.



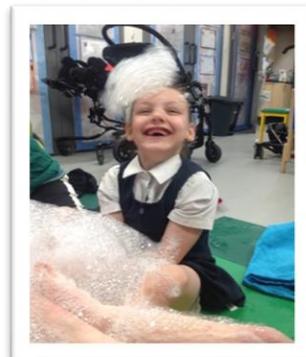
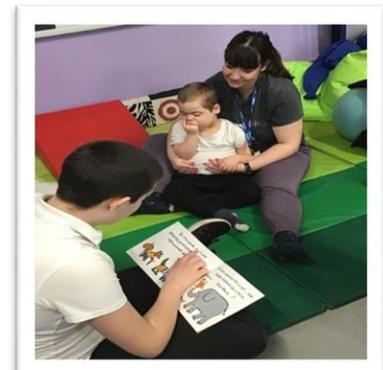
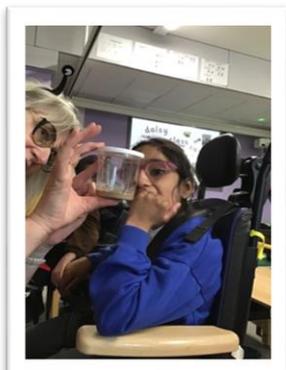
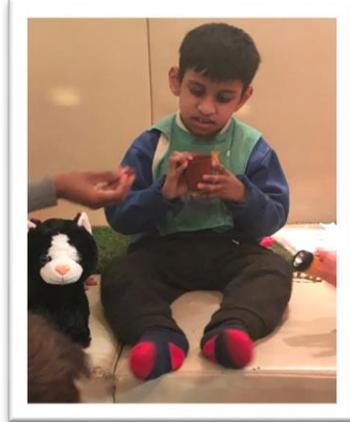
**LORD'S TAVERNERS**  
Giving young people a sporting chance

## Early Years

### Daisy Class

**Changing & Growing Part 2** - Another super term for us all continuing to **Change and Grow** in Daisy class under our continued topic title. Lots of planting fun with cress, beans and nasturtium. We have loved our new sensory story, *Jasper's Beanstalk* and lots of different types of learning has taken place with repeating the actions, planting, learning the Makaton signs of the days of the week and enjoying the story massage strokes from the story too. It has been magical watching our caterpillars grow and we can't wait for the final stage in the lifecycle where they will soon turn into butterflies. Some excellent teeth brushing has taken place as part of our PSED learning.

We can feel 'Spring' is in the air and we have enjoyed our weekly sensory garden sessions outside, exploring the equipment and singing songs together. We have missed going to Hydro pool every Tuesday, however the water play has been taken to another level with the foot spa and bubble bath! We learnt lots during World Book Week and enjoyed sharing books with our 'Elm class reading buddies'. Well done Daisy class, we are all growing and learning so much!



## Primrose Class

Primrose class has been really busy this half term with continuing our learning about *Changes and Easter* as well as key days throughout the term such as World Book Day, Red Nose Day. We also had a trip to Thames Valley Adventure Playground and celebrated Holi and Pancake Day!

We celebrated Pancake Day when we first came back after February Half term and really enjoyed creating a wide variety of pancakes with lots of different types of toppings!



We have been reading 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and 'We're Going on an Easter Egg Hunt'. To develop our learning about *Changes*, we have been watching caterpillars develop into butterflies and learning about this lifecycle. We have loved practising our pouring with various dry sensory play items such as lentils and also soil!

We all really enjoyed our trip to Thames Valley Adventure Playground and particularly had fun spending time in Soft Play, using building equipment and on the swings.

As a class we love dressing up and had a good time celebrating World Book Day and Red Nose Day.



## Tulip Class

This half term Tulip class has continued to do some great learning through our topic '*Changes*'. In *Understanding the World* we planted a bean and learnt that we need to water the soil to ensure it grows.

We have also been very excited about the caterpillars in our class and have enjoyed watching them grow. We also made butterfly paintings.

We had a great time at Stay and Play. We decorated Easter biscuits and went on an Easter egg hunt!



It has been another great spring half term in Tulip class. The children have really enjoyed their learning! Have a great time celebrating Easter and Eid over the break!

## Early Years Yoga with Rainbow Claire

This term we have had lots of creative fun with our bodies and minds in our spring and Easter celebrations.

Our favourite breathing technique this term has been 'Ohmmmmm' placing our hand over our heart centre, saying the sound to feel the vibration on our



lips as well as giving our heart a nice massage as demonstrated by Monroe in Daisy class, great job.

We enjoyed the following Easter flow for our bodies, adapting the poses where necessary. Giving ourselves a 'bear/ self-hug' from @ soft toy yoga dog or on our own by crossing our arms

## EASTER YOGA



**I am a chick.**  
SQUAT POSE



**I am the Easter Bunny.**  
HERO POSE WITH BUNNY BREATH



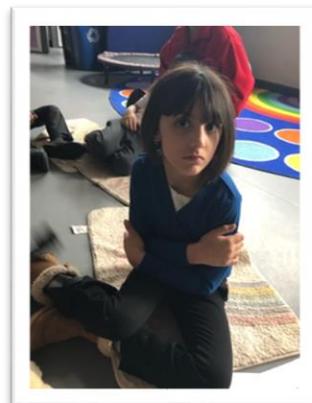
**I am an Easter lily.**  
FLOWER POSE



**I am an Easter egg.**  
KNEES TO CHEST

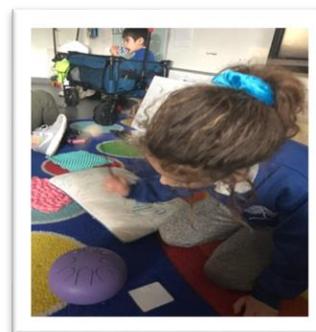


**I am the Spring breeze.**  
RESTING POSE WITH EXTENDED BREATH



across the body has been a great regulation technique for all our pupils to experience whether on their own or with support from an adult as the photos show.

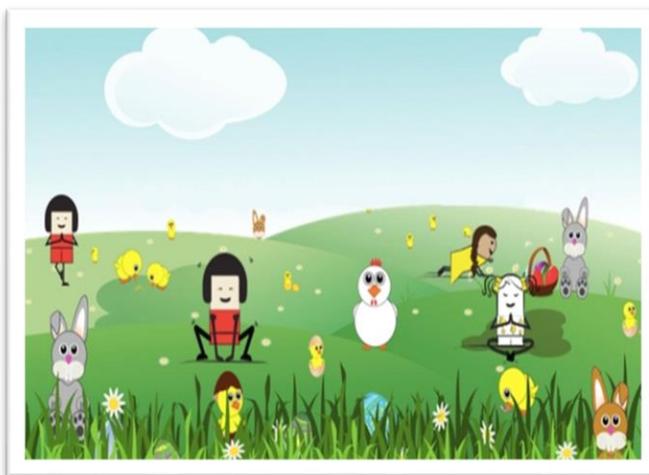
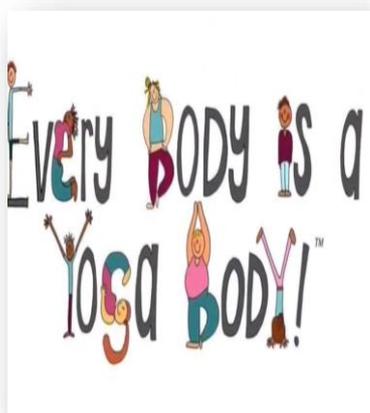
We have enjoyed the healing vibrations from the purple steel drums.



Lots of fun continues on the yoga balance boards especially with a friend.



Have a great break over the 2 week Easter break, enjoy eating chocolate mindfully and give the poses above a go as a family.



## Lily Class

We have had another great term in Lily Class! Our topic this term has been 'Changes and Easter' and we have engaged in a range of fun activities to support our learning within this topic. In literacy, we have been reading the stories 'The Enormous Turnip' and 'Six Little Chicks'. We enjoyed helping to 'pull' out the turnip using a big stretchy band! We have also been working hard with our phonics and mark making.

In maths we have been learning about repeating patterns, practising Waldon activities and exploring number sensory trays. We have also engaged in a range of activities to support our understanding of length, capacity and money. We have particularly enjoyed using money to buy different snacks in our snack café!

As part of our topic 'Changes', we have enjoyed planting seeds and learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar. We have even been looking after our very own caterpillars and are patiently waiting for them to turn into butterflies! This term we have also enjoyed a trip to Taplow and celebrated World Book Day, Easter and Holi!

Happy Easter everybody!





## Update from Addington Early Years Centre at Farley Hill

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March we welcomed all of our parents in for our Easter and Holi themed stay and play session. This was an opportunity for parents of our Early Years Centre pupils to come into school and engage in play and exploration with their child. Staff set up activities based around the celebrations of Easter and Holi that allowed for the children to really get stuck in! It was fantastic to see so many parents in attendance and to engage in an afternoon of play and sensory exploration together in the run up to the Easter holidays.

Ellie Webb (Assistant Head)



## Bluebell Class

We have had another great term in Bluebell Class. Our topic this term has been Changes. In Communication, Language and Literacy we have been looking at the stories 'Mr Wolf's pancakes', 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and 'we're going on an egg hunt'. The children also enjoyed learning about the Wizard of Oz on World Book Day. In cooking, we have been making pasta bake, chocolate Easter nests and fudge to celebrate Holi! In Maths we have enjoyed exploring number and shape, space and measure through Bucket- the children are working towards Stage 4! The children have really enjoyed learning about weight through water and food play.

The children have been working really hard on their 'use of tools' skills in Waldon. In PE lessons, the children have been doing rebound, all the children love jumping around on the trampoline! The children have also really enjoyed learning the 'p' sound in Phonics.



## Daffodil Class

This half term Daffodil Class have been working on their understanding of the world through developing their knowledge of the days of the week / what the differences are on these days relating to our class timetable. We have also really enjoyed taking care of our caterpillars and watching them grow and change over the half term, we are hoping to release them as butterflies at the end of term!

We have been exploring different toys to expand our play experiences and develop our turn taking and attention skills. Our favourites have been the sensory items and K-Nex which has been great for developing our creativity skills and sharing ideas with peers.

A big focus for us this half term has been developing our pre-writing shapes and handwriting. Using playdoh has been great to warm up our fine motor muscles and get our hands ready for handwriting and develop our hand eye co-ordination.



## Hedgehog Class

Hedgehog class have had a great half term! We have been continuing to learn about changes and have been looking at how things grow. At the start of the half term we planted our own sunflower seeds and have been looking after them and watching them grow.

We also had a visit from the chicks. The children enjoyed seeing the chicks – they were very curious of the chicks and some children were even brave enough to stroke them. After we saw the chicks, we all joined in with a chicken themed sensory where we listened to some chickens, stroke some feathers, smelt and tasted some boiled eggs, and ate some mini eggs.



## Sunflower Class

This term we have continued to explore the topic of Changes, and have welcomed some special visitors into the classroom- our caterpillars! The children have loved watching the caterpillars change over time, and learnt about the life cycle of the caterpillar, through stories and sensory play. We've also continued to explore the life cycle of a sunflower, and planted our own sunflowers and watched them grow. At the start of term, we enjoyed some late celebrations for Pancake Day and the children loved exploring making and decorating our own pancakes, choosing their own toppings using PECS and communication boards. Another highlight of this term has been our Easter Stay and Play, with our parents joining us for fun Easter activities, including an Easter egg hunt outside! It was a wonderful event and the children really enjoyed having their parents join them for the session. Everyone has continued to work on their communication, independence and play skills across the term and we're so proud of how well everyone is doing. We hope everyone has a lovely Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone back after the holiday!



## Squirrel Class

This term the children in Squirrel class have had lots of fun playing and engaging in a variety of explore based play opportunities. Many of the students showed a real enjoyment of our stories this term, particularly 'We're Going on an Egg Hunt!'. The children listened to and responded positively to our touch talk story based on this book, showing eye contact, making vocalisations and using body language to request more or more of particular movements.

This half term, we have continued to explore the changes in our environment as we move into spring. Many of the students were highly motivated and curious when the chicks came to visit us at the Early Years Centre. Some of the pupils showed confidence and willingness to have a go at something unfamiliar, like gently stroking the chicks too!

In the lead up to the Easter holidays, we have been engaging in play focused around celebrations and festivals celebrated by our pupils and families. The children thoroughly enjoyed many of their families coming for a 'Stay and Play' session celebrating Easter and Holi festival.

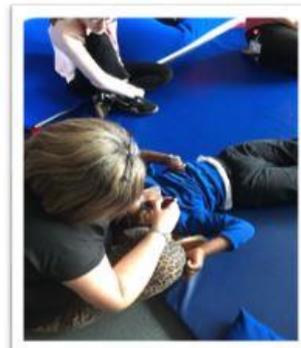
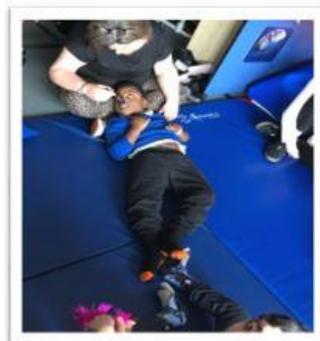
Have a lovely Easter Holiday!

Squirrel Class Team



## THE MAGIC OF MUSIC □ AND YOGA □

Our magic of music and yoga sessions run by Claire (yoga teacher) and Karen (music therapist) have continued this half term for Poppy and Cherry classes. We have carried on with the same routine so the students are getting used to the format and know what to expect, but within this we introduce different themes. Our most recent theme was Wonka, so we played along to some of the wonderful music from that film and used calming Wonka songs when using our brushes and feathers at the end of the session. We have introduced a new instrument – a Baby Einstein “Notes and Keys” keyboard, which the students have enjoyed greatly. It can sound like a piano, xylophone or drums, and only needs a light touch to create a sound so our students from Poppy and Cherry classes have been able to create lovely music without any intervention from adults. As always the students’ big smiles and giggles show us how much they are enjoying the Magic of Music and Yoga sessions.



## Key Stage 2

### Rowan Class

Welcome to our end of spring term newsletter. We have had a jam packed term, continuing to explore animals. The children made some great models of animals using playdough and labelled them. This was soon followed by the arrival of an incubator and eggs into the class. The children learned all about pipping, then hatching as the chicks slowly made their way out of their shells. The children loved watching them grow and all had an opportunity to hold them. They had great fun dressing up on world book day, and enjoyed working out who the masked readers could be? We have been fully immersed in the upcoming production of the wizard of OZ, making props, painting scenes, and practicing songs, the children's singing is fantastic! We have had a great time at Taplow and were so lucky to have a beautiful warm day, then going to Odd's farm as well to see a cow being milked, feeding the pigs and see all the spring lambs, calves and piglets was a wonderful treat. The children were very enthusiastic about cooking their Pitta Pizzas and tasting different foods. Then there was the Easter egg hunt, Easter bonnet decorations and discovering the story of Easter. It has been a fun and full term, and the children are ready for a well-earned break before we head towards the summer.

Wishing you all a lovely Easter Holiday



### Oak Class

Oak Class have found this half terms continued topic 'Hop, Wiggle and Crawl' *eggstremely motivating* 😊. We have explored new life and signs of spring through stories, art, music and real life exploration. Activities included a signs of spring walk as well as the huge excitement of watching chicks hatch on the web cam before meeting them in person. One of the stories we enjoyed was the story of the 'Pip and Egg and the characters wonderful friendship and the life cycle changes they went through.

We have had lots of fun exploring eggs and seeing what unfertilised eggs are like inside. Thank you to Rowan class for hosting the incubator, eggs and chicks, we loved our daily visits and have missed them since they have gone back to the farm. The culmination of this topic was in the final week with our trip to Odds Farm where we were lucky enough to see lots of new life – lambs, piglets, a calf and some kid goats, we had lots of fun on the adventure playground too. We have also enjoyed lots of Easter activities including our KS2 carousel where we made crafts for our Easter bonnets, an Easter assembly plus Easter egg hunts and games. The pupils have each made wonderful progress in different areas and we are very proud of the term all. A fantastic term Oak, well done!



## Pine Class

Pine class have thoroughly enjoyed continuing with our Hop, Wiggle and Crawl topic this term. In Literacy, we focused on new stories called The Odd Egg, Pip and Egg, Oi Frog and the Easter Story; the children enjoyed exploring these stories through call and response, rhythm and rhyme and through their senses. In Maths, we have focused on key topics such as Money, Shape and Positional Language. The children are becoming confident in exchanging money for items through our Pine class shop and snack cafe. Next term, we are hoping for trips to the shops to put this learning into practice. This term we have also celebrated World Book Day, I am so proud of all the children and their excellent costumes- good effort Pine class! We have also celebrated Pancake Day, Red Nose Day, St Patricks Day, Mother's Day and Easter! We were very lucky this term to have baby chicks in our department, the children enjoyed learning about the life cycle of chickens and having the opportunity to see them hatch from their eggs! We had 9 baby chicks in total 😊 In PSHE, we have been working on Healthy Lifestyles, we have been making our own healthy snack; fruit rockets 😊 In Cooking, we have enjoyed making different chocolate nests, using a variety of cereals and egg toppers 😊 Pine class also enjoyed another trip to Taplow where we continued to build relationships with our peers. We are all looking forward to our trip to Odds Farm at the end of term to finish off our topic. Well done Pine Class for an excellent Spring Term! I look forward to seeing your continued achievements during the Summer Term 😊



## Willow Class

We have had lots of fun this half term continuing with our “Hop, wriggle and crawl” topic. We have focussed on animals that hop and crawl and we have taken a special interest in things that go “cheep cheep” with the arrival of our eggs! The children have observed the changes the eggs made over two weeks and were fascinated as the chicks hatched out! We have enjoyed finding out how to care for our chicks and what they need to stay alive. The children have worked hard creating chick diaries to monitor the changes they have seen so look out for them coming home! Everyone embraced World Book Day and it was lovely to see the children engage so well with our fun “Wizard of Oz” themed activities. Although we are not performing in the end of year show, Willow Class have enjoyed learning the songs in our music lessons and have contributed to the displays. We have introduced Snack shop to our day where children choose what they would like, find out how much it costs and exchange coins for the snack. They are all getting very good at recognising £1 and £2 coins and some are using them to make different amounts. We held a Key Stage 2 Easter carousel where children made Easter crafts to fit onto a bonnet. We even finished with an Easter egg hunt, much to the children’s delight!

We are excited about all that the Summer Term will bring us and are hoping to use our outside learning environments much more.



Happy Easter!

# Complex and Sensory Needs Department

## Cherry Class

This half term Cherry class have continued to enjoy the story of The Jolly Postman and we have visited all the fairy tale characters through sensory exploration. We have also enjoyed creating a range of crafts for Mother's Day and Easter and getting a little bit messy!!

During Assemblies we experienced the Wizard of Oz through lots of props and we loved the tornado! We have also learnt about the Spanish festival for spring in assembly and tried some Fartons (Spanish pastries)

Have a lovely Easter!



## Apple Class

We have had an amazing term in Apple Class. All students continued to enjoy listening a lot of stories to cover our Fairy-tales' topic and opportunities to develop early maths skills.

The students had a lot of fun by counting up to three during "Goldilocks and the Three Bears story", they learnt new language and descriptive words like, "small/big" using the bowls, spoons, chair and beds in the story.

During parachute play, we used singing songs is a good way for children to become familiar with counting, "round" and "up/down" movements using the parachute.

Cookery session became the highlight of this term, a great activity to do together. With a lot of support, the students poured, filled and mixed all the ingredients and it all ended with their favourite reward, tasting the vegan chocolate pudding.

It has been a busy term full of amazing achievements by all of the students and we look forward to seeing what the next term will bring.



## Poppy Class

This half term we have been enjoying our traditional tales theme with some traditional cooking sessions. In the kitchen we have explored the ingredients and helped create dishes from India, Pakistan, Korea, China and England. The pupils have all be able to show what smells, tastes and textures they liked and disliked. Some pupils have been able to match the ingredient to a symbol and use tools with support. We ate our finished dishes for snack!

We have really enjoyed being on the trampoline for rebound and have been really brave at trying new exercises whilst increasing their stamina and core strength. With the weather being a little warmer we have been outside more and enjoyed playtimes and some gardening! We have enjoyed making some Easter crafts and went on an egg hunt around school with the department.

Have a lovely Easter break!

Poppy Class

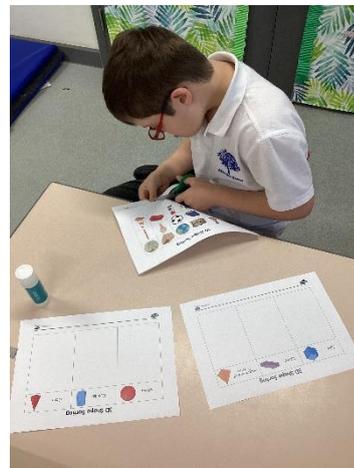


## Key Stage 3

### Aspen Class

We have continued the topic 'Scrumdiddlyumptious'. We are learning all about Willy Wonka, Charlie Bucket, Verucca Salt, Violet Beauregarde, Mike Teavee and Augustus Gloop. In maths, we have been learning about number, shape and measure. We have been using our shape skills to identify the shapes in and around the classroom! In maths, we are also focussing on measure and capacity to revisit our prior learning from last term. In RHSE we are learning about puberty, and in science we are also looking at properties of different materials. For PE we have been practising our trampolining and table cricket skills. We have been walking to the Co Op to practice our communication, maths and safety skills. Also, we have been going to Camp Mohawk to make nature art!

Check out the pictures below!



## Chestnut Class

Chestnut Class have had a busy term – we spent time discussing what we have done, looking at photos and deciding what were our favourite activities!

Ayaan – “I liked weighing pasta, rice, cornflakes. I was good at it.”

Basil – “I liked stroking and holding the chicks because they are cute.”

Eden – “I like pushing the pedals, holding the brakes and watching the wheels turn in bike maintenance.”



Ethan – “I liked doing food play – playing with the food and then eating it!”

Gabriella – “My favourite thing has been Camp Mohawk because I like soft play and the art room.”

George – “I liked going to Wokingham train station, but the train broke down!”

Jenna – “I enjoyed the Wizard of Oz rehearsals because it’s fun singing.”



Matthew – “I liked canoeing and climbing at PGL.”

Maya – “I liked reading with the little children for Book Week”

Natalia – “I liked learning about keeping fit – me and Maya were on the spin things at the gym.”

Teigan – “I liked dressing up as Dorothy for World Book Day”



## Elm class

Aisla: I have enjoyed Cello lessons and I really liked reading with Daisy Class in Early Years.

Ruby: I enjoyed looking after the chicks, especially when we got to hold them.

Ryan: I have enjoyed having the chicks in class, and doing PE too.

Dylan: I enjoyed playing football with Jay at Leisure Time.

Tom: I liked dressing up for World Book Day and it was my birthday too!

Fabio: I enjoyed Aroma Touch with Jane, and I like playing outside with my friends.

Angelo: I loved playing Air Hockey at Camp Mohawk.

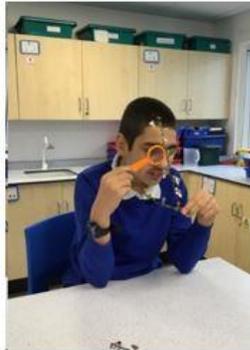
Milena: I loved dressing up for World Book Day and doing Drum lessons.

Daisy: I have loved looking after our chicks, and doing reading with Daisy class in Early Years, and World Book Day too!

Austin: I loved going to PGL this term! It was so fun – I loved canoeing!

Reid: I have enjoyed looking after the chicks this term!

Jay: I liked doing Cooking with Emma in the kitchen.



## Cedar Class

In Cedar class we started the half term with a sensory story about Pancake Day. We enjoyed making and tasting pancakes and we used this experience to learn about time and ordering events.

In Maths we have also been learning about positional language by placing toys in different pots and boxes. We also completed an obstacle course in our classroom by following directions. We have been very excited about adding a pop up snack shop to our afternoon routine. This has been a great opportunity to develop our student's communication skills and practise using money in a practical way.

Our PSHE theme is healthy lifestyles; we have been sorting healthy and unhealthy foods and tasted lots of new fruits and vegetables.

Towards the end of the half term we have been exploring stories about spring and Easter and we went on an Easter egg hunt.



## Maple Class

Maple class have continued their learning in the '**scrumdiddlyumptious**' topic this term by focusing on countries and their foods. We explored Wales and made Welsh Cakes, Ireland and made Soda Bread as well as France and had a cheese Fondue.

In maths, we focused on position and time and incorporated maths into other subjects such as cooking, food play and English.

In PSHE we have looking at staying healthy – what we eat and how we exercise while in RSE we focused on 'consent'. We have had 3 great trips to Camp Mohawk as well as a trip MERL (Museum of English Rural Life). The highlight of the half term was PE and trampolining for some children and for others it was the year 9 trip to PGL Liddington.



## Year 9 Residential trip at PGL in Liddington - Wednesday 13th March 2024 to Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Residential trips play an important role in offering our young people the opportunity to have new experiences that help them develop communication, independence and problem solving skills, as well as team work. The activities challenge our students, helping them to overcome fears and build confidence. Activities being predominantly outdoors and exhilarating, they give the young people an opportunity to get away from the lure of technology and enjoy the clean, healthy natural environment, the positives of which are evident after the residential trip.

It is fascinating to observe the transformation in both students and their parents. Prior to the trip the trepidation among many is palpable. When the trip is over there is incessant chatter about the good time had by all and enquiries about when the next Residential will be held.

Before photographic evidence of the good time had and the challenges proudly overcome are shared, one must acknowledge those staff, who putting personal commitments on the back burner, volunteered their time to undertake the 24 hour responsibility to support and encourage our young people. A very sincere thank you to Kate Perkins, Sarah Parry, Elizabeth Linsky, Emma Slade, Gemma Toms, Angela Haytock, Bryn Watkinson and Ian Brown for making the trip the safe and successful one it was.







## Access Department (Formally known as the Therapeutic Department)

### Beech class

This has seemed like a super quick term, although the endless rain has meant a lot of wet play! As always Beech class have been super busy, filling our days with lessons and exciting activities. Our text has been “the 3 little wolves and the big bad pig “, this has proved very popular with the students given the twist on the traditional tale. It has prompted lots of class discussions on differing perspectives to a story, and they love the idea of the wolves being the good guys. In maths we continue to focus and learn about financial awareness, including budgeting, the different ways we can spend and save money and more importantly the value of items. We have started using calculators, having a shopping list, and then role playing to ensure we have enough money. We are hoping to get some pretend card machines and cards to practice contactless as a way of paying.

Cooking is always a popular lesson and this half term we have been making cookies. The students follow the recipe, sort the equipment and make them without too much help. They have also loved suggesting alternatives to chocolate chips, we have had raisins, mini smarties and chocolate chunks.

In Immersive Theatre and Art we have been focused on our upcoming school production of The Wizard of Oz. They have made some crow masks, and pretend doughnuts and lollipops for the scenery. We are all super excited to take part in the show.

We continued to swim at Bulmershe on a Friday afternoon, and all the students have made excellent progress. That is our swimming slot finished for the year.

All of Beech class wish you a very happy Easter break and we look forward to welcoming you back for the summer term.

Clare and the Beech class Team.



## Birch Class

The second half of the spring term has absolutely flown by and it is hard to believe we're already approaching the summer! Birch class have enjoyed continuing our *Traditional Tales* topic, where we have created art works such as magic mirrors, shiny *Cinderella* shoes and sweet covered houses from *Hansel and Gretel*. We have been exploring lots of different objects during our *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* Sensory Story, including porridge oats, a snoring sound machine and a real door knocker and we have been relaxing and focusing during *The Three Little Pigs* TAC PAC sessions. The class have also been working hard on our individual Literacy and Numeracy targets, as well as activities such as phonics, Colourful Semantics and Attention 'Bucket' Autism. We've loved our *Wizard of Oz* themed Music sessions and the chance to explore a variety of gym and climbing apparatus in PE. We look forward to starting some brand new topics during the summer term and have certainly all earned our holiday rest! Happy Easter to all!



## Holly Class

Holly class have had another busy term, which has gone very fast. We have continued our 'Traditional Tale' theme this term as well as working on the pupils' individual personal targets. Our resonance board call and response sessions continue to be a popular session with the pupils. Some of them are beginning to recite some parts of the poem during our sessions. The pupils have shown an increased interest in our Attention Autism sessions. We now do these sessions every day. The beginning of the week we focus on the first 2 stages and then build up to stages 3 and 4 at the end of the week. We have seen increased engagement with the pupils. Some of the pupils making comments about the toys in the bucket.

In cooking we have been making 'Ice buns' linking in with the story 'The Little Red Hen.' Some of the pupils have been exploring the ingredients and others have been following multi-step visual instructions. Their favourite part of the session is decorating the buns with icing!

The pupils have also enjoyed our weekly immersive theatre sessions with Sean and Jack. The pupils have enjoyed following the yellow brick meeting characters on their way. We can't wait to see what do next term for the class!

We have also enjoyed World Book Day and Make sense theatre visiting us again. The pupils have been pleased to see some sun and have chosen to spend more time outside. We hope this weather will continue.

### Kerrie & Holly Class Team



### Lime class

It was a fantastic month for Lime class. We worked hard on developing our communication and children did fantastic job.

Some of our students started working on the maths skills while using Numicon and they found it exciting.

Lastly, our students tried working independently and had so much fun doing puzzles and working on their fine motor skills.

This month the focus during food exploration was crunchy food. Children really enjoyed exploring the different textures and tasting them.



## Key Stage 4

### Falcon Class

A half term of fast fashion. We started the topic off with a fantastic session at MERL – the Museum of English Rural Life in Reading. We got to look around at the exhibits whilst doing a hunt for certain objects. We also did some designing and creating in the work room.



We have been designing our own t-shirts ready for a competition and Upper School Fashion show.



We have really enjoyed our Friday fitness sessions with Clare.



We have also been practising our ironing skills !



## Kite Class

The term has flown by and we have continued to enjoy our 'Fast Fashion' project theme. Over the last few weeks we have been browsing the charity shops for an outfit for our chosen member of staff for the Upper School Fashion Show – Mayra is bravely volunteering as model! We have also been out and about more than ever this term, including work-ready days to Pizza Express, the Museum of English Rural Life and Try a Train day. On Try a Train Day, we also took part in an in-school workshop where students learnt about the different jobs available in the railways. Another experience was returning to Henry Street Garden Centre during Lifelong Leisure, to paint pottery. Hopefully this will result in a nice outcome for students to bring home! During Book Week last week, students took part in activities like 'The Masked Reader', went on story hunts involving riddles and clues, used masks and props to dress as characters from the Wizard of Oz and got to know the story better. On World Book Day itself we had some great costumes coming in. In addition to all of this, we have also continued our regular activities – cooking a weekly lunch, reading and Phonics, improving fluency in topics of time, dates, money and number, shopping in Woodley, visiting the Co-op, practising safe road crossing, and taking part in Art, Music and Drama. Many Kite students are also taking part in the whole school Wizard of Oz production so have been busy attending rehearsals for that. Kite Class will deserve their Easter holiday!



## Swan Class

### Project – Fast fashion

In students continued project work centred on the theme of 'Fast Fashion', students have embarked on a comprehensive exploration of various aspects within the fashion industry:

**Exploration of Fashion History:** Students delved into the rich history of fashion, examining its evolution through different eras.

**Understanding Clothing Production:** A key focus has been understanding the process of clothing manufacture, including insights into sizing standards and production methods.

**Online Retail:** An exploration of online retail platforms has equipped students with knowledge about purchasing clothes on the internet.

**Luxury Items and Pricing:** Discussions around luxury fashion items have provided insights into the market, including pricing structures and materials used.

In preparation for the end-of-term fashion show, students directed their creativity towards designing personalised white t-shirts. This exercise allowed them to explore diverse styles and express their unique artistic visions.

As part of a community engagement initiative, students undertook a challenge to assemble outfits from local charity shops. Swan class worked as a team and collated an outfit with a budget of £20, encouraging resourcefulness and creativity.



## Work Ready Days

Students attended the MERL Museum in Reading. Students travel trained to the museum where they were given a tour of the museum, completed a quiz, looked at different fabrics that are used to make clothes and watched a video which was created by the students at the University of Reading.



## Life Skills – Home management

This term, students have been focusing on Home management to support independence. Students have been learning how to pair socks, fold trousers and shirts, put clothes on hangers, wet clothes on a clothes airer, use a washing machine, put up an ironing board and iron clothes correctly and safety.

## Sixth Form News

### Preparation for Adulthood

This has been a very busy half-term for our preparation for adulthood team as well as our students from Key Stage 4 up. Over this term our students have had over 150 workplace encounters! This is more than ever before. This has been a mixture of whole class work ready days at the likes of Pizza Express, Try a Train, Museum of English Rural Life to name a few as well as individual work experience across hospitality, horticulture, libraries, retail etc.



Our work ready days are generally whole class trips where our students get the opportunity to go to an employer site to learn about the jobs that people do, get an insight into what it is like to be in a real work place, sometimes they will even do some hands on tasks like pizza making.

We give many of our 6<sup>th</sup> form students the opportunity to go and do work experience where they generally go to the same employer once a week for a minimum of 6 weeks. This is always supported initially and then depending on the student the support is tapered. We have so many success stories from this half-term where we've seen students grow in confidence, learn new skills, engage with new people and some are now even travelling independently to work.



We have also had a huge student success this half-term. 6<sup>th</sup> former Ollie turned 18 in February and it was also his dream to leave school and go into paid employment. With the support of the PFA team Ollie successfully started a full-time job on the Monday after his 18<sup>th</sup> at Cayton Park, Crazies Hill where he is one of a team of 10 gardeners. He has also passed his CBT so is also travelling to work independently. We are very much looking forward to seeing what the future holds for Ollie.



## Kestrel Class

This half term has been typically busy for students in Kestrel. They have been furthering their independent travel knowledge by using trains to reach destinations inaccessible by bus.



Work experience has continued for some. These placements are invaluable to the students, allowing them to understand a variety of working environments.



We continue to embed our skills in the community by shopping for food ingredients and bringing them back to school to create healthy meals.



You will be pleased to learn that most students in Kestrel are now becoming proficient with their independent living skills. We would love to hear how these skills are being transferred to home!



## Eagle class

The old adage, 'March comes in like a Lion and goes out like a Lamb' seems to have been the case with the weather this second half of the spring term. The uncertain weather however has not had a dampening effect on the class team. Everyone's mood has been buoyant.

Focus being on preparing our young people for adulthood, they have enjoyed a number of activities in the wider community to develop their social, leisure, independence and life skills. Our young people have had the opportunity to develop home management and cooking skills. They have chosen a recipe, shopped for ingredients and prepared their lunch on Fridays.

Some of the highlights again have been doing work experience in school and in the community. Students have enjoyed attending and getting a flavour of college life by attending weekly links courses at Reading College or Bracknell and Wokingham College. To access lifelong leisure and sporting activities, some of our young people have enjoyed weekly sessions at the Bulmershe Leisure Centre gym, while others have developed skills in badminton and table-tennis at Woodford Park Leisure Centre. Weekly visits to Camp Mohawk were run as sensory and therapeutic sessions.

Weekly City and Guilds in Horticulture has continued, as well as visits to The Ridgeline Trust by some students, to learn about and have a sensory experience in gardening. With our project title this term being 'Fast Fashion' our young people have looked at fashions down the decades. They have had the opportunity to design and decorate T-shirts using the tie-dye technique and ironing on motifs. The highlight of the project was a fashion show where every student took to the catwalk to display their creative skills. Travel and town training, and staying safe in the community is always given importance and practised when we are in the wider community.

After an eventful spring term, a well-deserved break is looked forward to when, once again, everyone can recharge their batteries in readiness for another even busier summer term ahead.

Eagle class wishes all a very happy Easter, and a safe, well deserved and enjoyable break.



# Horticulture

This half term the students have been concentrating on the growing process, we are that time of year where they can propegate seeds in the greenhouse ready for planting out when the risk of frost has completely passed. We visited a supermarket and brought some tomaotes and the students then dried the seeds and we now have over 20 tomato plants growing which is amazing.

I am now embarking on a new adventure and have very much enjoyed my time at Addington, I have worked with many amazing students and staff and have seen lots of students completing their city and guilds qualification and I could not be more proud of all their achievements.

So this is good bye, good luck and thank you for all your support over the last 6 years.



## Hospitality

This half term in Hospitality the students have been busy running the café every week, serving lots of delicious bakes that they have worked hard to produce. The City & Guilds students are working their way through their Cakes & Pastries Units, and moving onto Hot Drinks next term.

We had a surprise visit from our Environmental Health Officer at KORE Café and due to the students hard work keeping the café clean and tidy, following all the correct procedures and having fantastic knowledge on their food hygiene we were awarded an amazing 5 star rating! The students are incredibly proud of their achievement.

We also had a very busy week this last week of term baking and decorating lots and lots of odd sock biscuits to sell in the café to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day, the students loved getting creative with them!



## Owl class

The highlight for Owl class this half term has been our trip to Pizza Express in Bracknell. We met an Italian chef who taught us how to make the perfect Italian pizza! We were even given chef hats and got to eat the pizzas afterwards. Owl class has continued learning about our topic, Fast Fashion. We loved making tie dye t-shirts, choosing colours through the use of EyeGaze, PECs and colour symbols. On a sunny day, we tie dyed our t-shirts outside in the 6<sup>th</sup> form courtyard and then modelled them on the catwalk during the school fashion show.

Happy Easter, everyone!

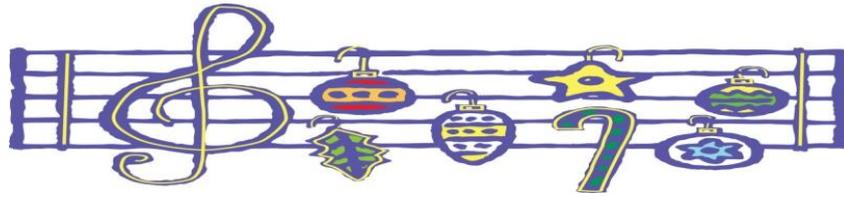


## Robin Class

Robin class have had a busy and fun half term! As well as all of our regular activities such as swimming, college, cooking and Ridgeline, we have been working towards our project 'Grand Finale' of a fashion show catwalk! In Robin class, we experimented with 'Batik' using hand cream and toothpaste mixed together, and PVA glue – which both worked surprisingly effectively! We also, very carefully learnt to use a Tjanting tool and hot wax to attempt traditional batik, with some lovely results! Students worked hard with Gail in the workshop to sew their batik panels onto their t-shirts, which they then modelled on the Catwalk! I was amazed at how confident the class were as they showed off their best moves to 'Moves like Jagger'! The photos give a glimpse of how much they enjoyed the afternoon! Another highlight was running an 'Odd Socks Café' for Down syndrome awareness day. Robin class would like to wish everyone an enjoyable Easter break.







## The Creative Arts Page

It has been a great half term in the Creative Arts department with everything focussing towards our school production of 'The Wizard of Oz'.

Regular rehearsals have been taking place most days with the choirs or cast. We have started to bring both together too. The students are enjoying being part of such an exciting project!

Ticket information has been sent home to parents of students involved. Tickets will be available to request soon for everyone else part of the Addington community. More information to follow very soon.

### Art Lessons

This term in Art students have been immersed in prop making for The Wizard of Oz. We started the term with classes focusing their attention to making props for their own specific scenes in the play. In recent weeks, it has been a little more hands on deck with classes helping with everything I a drive to get everything finished!

Here's a little glimpse of what we have been up to –  
Beech class making giant sweetcorn and crow masks.



Aspen class have been making large poppies and poppy backgrounds for their scene.



Kite class have made 3D papier-mâché apples for when Dotty meets the tin man!



## Drama Lessons

Regular rehearsal are taking place with all class groups. Students are busy remembering lines, movements and getting used to their costumes.

Students from across the school are enjoying working together and bonding. We have a regular warm up activity delivered by one of our sixth formers who is a super fan of Steps, Jedwood & Abba. She has been teaching us all an energetic dance routine to get us ready for rehearsals.





## Music Lessons

All students have continued with our journey to the Land of Oz, to coincide with our preparations for the production in April. In S&C sessions the pupils have enjoyed singing and vocalising with Scarecrow in the corn fields. They have explored a large variety of gentle instruments in the poppy fields. They have developed anticipation and interaction skills while marching to the drum beat at the wicked witch's castle.



KS2 have been working on our singing skills, exploring different vocalisation sounds and coming up with our own ideas along to 'The Merry Old Land of Oz'. We have explored a snare drum and had a go at making our own marching snare beat along to the flying

monkey's march. We have finished off the half term by learning to sing and play the bass part to 'Ding Dong'.



KS3 and KS4 have been focussing on developing their ensemble skills, arranging and performing our own cover versions of 'Over the Rainbow'. We have explored playing duets on the keyboards, some pupils playing the melody and others playing the bassline to 'Ding Dong', with a focus on staying in time with each other. Finally, we have learnt to play 'The Merry Old Land of Oz' on keyboards, with the pupils taking it in turns to sing or play the accompaniment.

## Upcoming Events

We are very pleased to announce we are planning to have a jam-packed full schedule of events this coming summer term. Here are the key dates for your diaries.

Here are key dates for your diary for summer 2024:

- The Wizard of Oz – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April & Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May – 7pm
- Proms Week – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July
- FestForAll – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July – 1:30-7:30pm

Happy Easter everyone!

The Creative Arts Team

# News from the Association

Email: [AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com)

## Happy Easter from the Addington School Association!

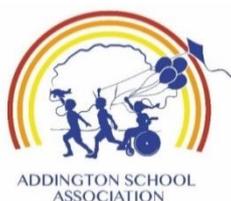
We held our AGM this term, with Nicola, Graham and Chris being successfully voted in as Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. If you want to know more, the minutes can be seen [here](#), and we have a Facebook page [here](#).

From a fundraising perspective, we are discussing with the school how we can raise funds for a new minibus - the association has purchased all 5 of the current minibuses over the years, and they are a great asset to support our children.

Event-wise, we are planning ahead for the summer term and our summer fayre will run alongside FestforAll on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July - more information to follow, including how you can help. We're also starting to look as far ahead as Christmas!

We're also going to revamp our storage - we have use of a shed on-site at the school to keep donations that we use for raffles, tombolas and other fundraising events. We will be spending some time in the near future cleaning it up - please keep your eyes open for an email about how you can help!

As ever, it's your association, and we always keen for ideas, suggestions and volunteers - so if you want to be more involved, drop an email to [addingtonassociation@gmail.com](mailto:addingtonassociation@gmail.com).



Nicola Perkins and Chris Bothwell  
Addington Association

## ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 - 2024



Addington School

### AUTUMN TERM 2023

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

### SPRING TERM 2024

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

### SUMMER TERM 2024

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

#### **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

## ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024 - 2025



| AUTUMN TERM 2024                |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Inset Days – (closed to pupils) | Tuesday 3 September & Wednesday 4 September 2024      |
| Term Starts                     | Thursday 5 September 2024                             |
| Inset Day (closed to pupils)    | Friday 25 October 2024                                |
| Half Term – (closed to pupils)  | Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024 inclusive |
| Inset Days (closed to pupils)   | Monday 4 November 2024                                |
| Term Restarts                   | Tuesday 5 November 2024                               |
| Term Ends                       | Friday 20 December 2024                               |

| SPRING TERM 2025               |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Term Starts                    | Monday 6 January 2025                                   |
| Half Term – (closed to pupils) | Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025 inclusive |
| Term Restarts                  | Monday 24 February 2025                                 |
| Term Ends                      | Friday 4 April 2025                                     |

| SUMMER TERM 2025               |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Term Starts                    | Tuesday 22 April 2025                         |
| Bank Holiday – School Closed   | Monday 5 May 2025                             |
| Inset Day – (closed to pupils) | Friday 23 May 2025                            |
| Half Term – (closed to pupils) | Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025 inclusive |
| Term Restarts                  | Monday 2 June 2025                            |
| Term Ends                      | Wednesday 23 July 2025                        |

### Inset Days – School closed to pupils

Tuesday 3 & Wednesday 4  
September 2024  
Friday 25 October 2024  
Monday 4 November 2024  
Friday 23 May 2025