



# ADDINGTON NEWSLETTER



October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the first half term draws to a close, I have been amazed at the sheer resilience of all of our staff, pupils and parents. At the beginning of September, we welcomed over 30 new pupils to the school who had not been given the opportunity for any transition due to Covid and they have all now settled into their class and Key Stage. All our other pupils have also come back to school and we have been very fortunate only to have to close one class for a positive case all term. This shows that everyone, staff, pupils and parents alike, are adhering to our safety measures, keeping in their bubbles and following entry and exit routes. I would like to extend my thanks to our whole community for making this happen and I have attached a letter about Covid, from Wokingham Borough Council, for your information.

Throughout all of this, learning has continued! As you will see throughout the newsletter, there have been many varied activities to motivate and engage our pupils, from pirate ships in our new Sensory Playground to bike maintenance in our new repair shed.

Our new 6<sup>th</sup> form building is up and running and being enjoyed by our 6<sup>th</sup> formers. They have named their brand new café “The Nest” and they are preparing for an official opening with a small number of dignitaries from Wokingham Borough Council. The building has opened up many new opportunities for teaching and learning, which has offset the disappointment of not being able to go out to businesses for work experiences and internships.

I hope that you have all had an opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher during this last week, to discuss your child’s Personalised Learning Plans and progress, either in person or virtually. I know it is very difficult to make a connection with the staff team, with all the visitor restrictions, but we will be doing Annual Reviews through Microsoft teams, so at least you will be able to put names to faces.

Finally, I would like to wish our Parent Support Adviser, Lucy Sayer, all the very best for her new job. Sadly, Lucy is leaving us, after a few years during which she has supported countless families and I know that she will be missed by all.

Thank you once again for your patience and support during this very difficult time. I hope that everyone keeps well and safe over half term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

**Sara Attra**  
**Headteacher**



Dear Parents and Carers,

The number of Covid-19 cases in our borough is increasing, as it is just about everywhere in the country.

We are working closely with schools to keep them open and as safe as possible. Your support and compliance have been much appreciated and it is important that we continue to keep to social distancing guidance both inside and outside of the school environment.

After all, we all play a part in slowing the spread of the infection and reducing the risk and impact of Covid-19 within our communities. There are actions we can all take, including:

- Following all the social distancing rules
- Getting a test if you have Covid-19 symptoms
- Self-isolating when told to do so (please note that there is financial support available to eligible people who cannot work as a result)
- Wearing a mask or face-covering wherever required
- Washing our hands regularly and properly
- Minimising household mixing

That last point is very important, and we must consider the additional risks when mixing with multiple households. **The fewer people we meet, the less chance there is of the virus spreading.** Please bear this in mind, especially over half term and in the run up to Christmas.

Covid-19 has hit every part of our community, but it will not defeat us -- we are in it together. Rest assured that we, together with your child's school, are acting in the best interests of your child and family. The safety and wellbeing of our Wokingham learners will always be a priority and we owe it to our friends, family and neighbours to follow all the rules, all the time.

We are grateful for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

**John Halsall**  
Wokingham Borough Council Leader

## Dear Parents/Carers

Well done to everyone for making it through our first half term back! It has been a very different experience for us all, but the children have coped amazingly, and we cannot thank our parents and carers enough for all their support and hard work in making things run smoothly.

Starting our normal timetable of events has been challenging, due to Covid and social distancing regulations. However, the PSA department has been working hard with Speech and Language and the Behaviour, ASD and Communications teams in school to put together a number of programmes that we can run virtually. Look out for information on these coming out.

We also hope to have met many of our new families during parent consultations, and there will be an EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) event run early next half term.

It may also be worth checking the Local Offer website in your area, for groups and clubs that may be beginning to re-open in a Covid safe manner. Also, look out for courses that are being run on line for families. These may be a bit easier to access than traditional courses.

On a personal note, as you may have read in Sara's article, Lucy is leaving Addington School at half term. It is a very sad time, and she will miss the children and families of Addington very, very much. However, the PSA service is in very safe hands with Ellie, so stay in touch!

If you need to contact us, and are unable to reach us by phone, please use the PSA mailbox to contact us by email. This is:

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

Best Wishes,

**Lucy & Ellie - Parent Support Advisers**

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# Our Senior Leadership Team



Sara Attra  
Head teacher



Lynda Wood  
Deputy Head



David Maycock  
Deputy Head



Eirfron  
Watkinson  
Assistant Head  
teacher



Emer Moore  
Assistant Head  
teacher

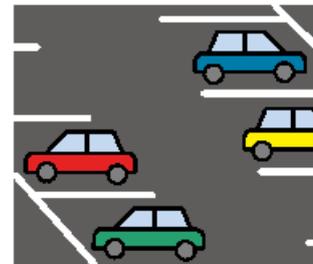


Sue Tod  
School  
Business  
Manager

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## CAR PARKING REMINDER

1. All drivers **must** use the one-way system marked out by the cones and road markings
2. **Only** park in marked spaces and not on the end of rows
3. All pedestrians **must** use the zebra crossing and the pavement when walking children to and from the site. DO NOT WALK on the road by the side of the gates where there is **no pavement** as a short cut. This is very dangerous and could result in an accident



## **Bulmershe Access Road and Car Parking Improvements**

During the summer holidays WBC completed Bulmershe access road improvements. During the planning and design process we asked WBC for other improvements, such as a pathway to be created through the hedging near the pedestrian crossing, as well as other safety issues such as speed restrictions and other signage. At the time they were not forthcoming, however, since the start of term we have again raised safety concerns with them particularly around the pedestrian crossing and the distance between the two speed humps which some drivers seem to ignore and still drive at speed.

WBC have taken these requests on board and are now planning some further improvement works which we hope will be installed very soon. In the meantime, we do ask that you are observant of the crossing and people waiting to cross. Unfortunately, they are not installing a pathway so please do not cut through the hedging.

WBC are also planning to enforce the no parking on yellow lines on the road and are currently undergoing a four-week consultation period. If this is all approved they will start ticketing vehicles queueing or parked on the yellow lines particularly in the afternoons as it causes congestion on Woodlands Avenue.

Future improvements have been approved and funded by WBC to create a new vehicle entrance from Woodlands Avenue, which it is hoped will further reduce congestion on the access road. The plan is also to carry out additional improvements within the car park for minibuses and taxis, which will hopefully improve the general flow of traffic at peak times. These works are programmed to be completed by the beginning of the summer term 2021

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# **A d d i n g t o n   Y o u t h C l u b**

**Managed and staffed by  
Wokingham Bracknell & Districts Mencap**

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

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

**Contact Wokingham Mencap on 0300 777 8539 for more information.**

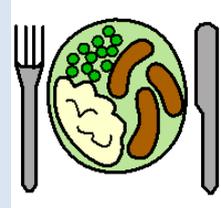
## School Dinners

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.

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 £2.05  
Secondary lunch is £2.25



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).

## Parent Contact Information

We want to cut down on the amount of paper we send to parents and to get in touch more electronically via emails, texts and our school website [www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk](http://www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk).

Apart from the money saved on printing costs, electronic communication is instant. In order to do this, we need to be kept up to date with your latest email address and mobile numbers.

If you need to update us please email: [office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk)

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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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## New Sixth Form Building and New Sensory Playground





## Headteacher's Award Winners



Congratulations to the following students who achieved awards for the first half of the Term:

### Early Years

Aiden Shinoy  
Alfie Baker-Scott  
Bradley Oxley  
Brian Matondo  
Charlotte Wills-Parsons  
Cloey Spenceley  
Dominic Podolean  
Harman Bedi  
Jack Dimmick  
Jack Hawkins  
Jake Bridgeford  
Jay Singh  
Jessica Skegg  
Karen Suryadevara  
Louie Parsons  
Maisie Weatherley  
Mikail Asif  
Oliver Tyrrell  
Samuel Gibson  
Samuel Yanquoi  
Unyime Akpan  
Vibha Bajamahal

### Key Stage 2

Alex Scott-Deaville  
Austin Samways  
Daisy Cornell  
Dylan Bourne  
Fabio Mazzarella

### Key Stage 3

James Benjamin-Philip  
Katharine Turrell  
Levi Barnes  
Rowan Nyamaradzo  
Sofia Baig

### Key Stage 4

Chloe Weavers  
Christopher Smith  
Grace Gessey  
Jake Gray  
Kashif Ahmed

### Key Stage 5

Mary Ellen Lally  
Rhea Gill  
Tom Scott  
Usma Jamil

### Sensory & Complex Needs

Finley Bennett  
Gabby D'Isanto  
Kelsey Kemp  
Leon Henry-Wright  
Umair Mahmood



# SPORTS PAGE



**COMMUNITY TRUST**  
Care • Develop • Educate



## OUTDOOR LEARNING – CAMP MOHAWK

Key stage 3 students were very excited to be able to attend Camp Mohawk again last week. Currently the indoor facilities are not available, which means that the students benefit from 2 hours' outdoors. Last week they had fun exploring, climbing, swinging, sliding and riding tractors. Some enjoyed collecting items, building shelters and making mud men.



## OUTDOOR LEARNING – STAFF FIRELIGHTING TRAINING

A group of key stage 3-5 staff enjoyed a fire lighting training twilight last week. This included safety and use of equipment. It also served to inspire staff to try and deliver other subjects outdoors, as they could feel the benefit of being outdoors to learn. The training was run by an outdoor charity called ITL (Learning Through Landscapes) and was a grant funded by the People's Lottery Fund. The grant also included free equipment.



Please go to: [www.ltl.org.uk/free-resources](http://www.ltl.org.uk/free-resources) to access many wonderful outdoor learning resources. They also have a FACEBOOK group you can join for more ideas and video demonstrations. [www.facebook.com/groups/2947052738685771/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2947052738685771/)



## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Qualifying Expedition 2019-2020



It has been a difficult year for our 2019-2020 Duke of Edinburgh students as they lost 6 months of practice and learning, had their volunteering, skills and physical elements interrupted and both the practice and the qualifying expeditions cancelled. All due to Covid-19!

However, when we came back to school in September, we put them through a crash course of tent building and revisited cooking and first aid. They were then ready for their qualifying expedition, which was hard as they hadn't had a practice one.

The expedition took place over the two days of 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September, slightly changed due to Covid-19 restrictions. The seven boys walked from Cookham to Hurley village (8.8 miles). We picked them up and brought them back to school where they put up tents on the school field and then cooked themselves a hot meal. They then went home as the restrictions say they cannot share a tent. It was just as well as it was a wet and windy night!

The next day they returned to school, made breakfast and took down their tents. Then they walked from Hurley Village to Shiplake railway station (8.6 miles), where the expedition finished and their Assessor passed them all!

All seven students have now officially passed their D of E bronze award. Well done everyone.



## Early Years

### Daisy Class



In Daisy Class most of our students have been getting used to being in school for the first time, as well as some settling back into the school routine and getting to know their new peers. We have been learning how to wash our hands with the baby shark song, to help us look after ourselves throughout the day. We have been looking at what our bodies can do, by taking part in wake up shake up, physio and movement songs. We have enjoyed the sensory stories 'Brown bear, brown bear what do you hear?', 'Polar bear, Polar bear what do you see?' and 'The Hungry Caterpillar'. Our highlight this term has been Rebound therapy sessions on the trampoline and hydrotherapy.



### Sunflower Class



This term we have been settling back into school life. For some children this is the first time in a long while, and for others this is their first time at Addington School. We have loved going to all the different rooms around school, especially Splash! Our highlight of this term was role- playing 'we're going on a bear hunt', enjoying lots of sensory experiences as we walked through grass, mud, water and leaves and then walked down the corridor to the cave! The children loved being chased by the bear and it was lovely that everybody got so involved



## Tulip Class



In Tulip Class, we have been learning to look after ourselves by washing our hands effectively, exploring healthy fruits and vegetables and learning to move and talk about our bodies. Our learning has been inspired by some fun books including 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Wash Wash Wash' and 'From Head to Toe'. In Maths, we have been learning to recognise numbers 1 to 5 and enjoying Waldon activities to help us engage with, explore and sort different objects. We have been exploring letters and sounds using a sensory approach to phonics teaching and some of us have begun reading symbol books. Very importantly, we have also spent lots of time trying new play activities and practising asking for the ones we already love!



## Primrose Class



In Primrose class we have been using our hands, bodies and senses to explore new activities this half term. We have enjoyed getting stuck in with stirring, touching and tasting ingredients during our cooking sessions. We learned about different sounds and engaged in messy play as part of our sensory phonics lessons. We have copied actions with our bodies and had fun playing parachute games. We really enjoyed our music and yoga sessions and found the new toys during Bucket Time very interesting to look at!



## Lily Class



Lily class have been working hard on their literacy skills so far this term. They have been doing regular phonics sessions, learning new sounds and carrying out lots of sensory and mark making activities. They have also been enjoying lots of books - particular favourites were 'Catch That Cough' by Bonnie Bridgman and 'The Smartest Giant in Town' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. These stories have linked well to the topic of 'Looking after myself' which has covered hand washing, germs and getting dressed.



## Daffodil Class



This term in Daffodil Class our theme has been 'Looking after myself'. We spent lots of time learning to wash our hands independently, sometimes using a sequence strip to help us do it all in the right order. We enjoyed reading 'Catch that cough' to help us learn about 'catch it, bin it, kill it' and Snotty Paul and Snotty Sue helped us understand how to use a tissue. We have practised dressing and undressing for PE and Splash and we are learning how to sort our belongings to keep them safe and organised. We even had a shoes and sock race, some of us were very speedy! Our highlight of the week is Music and Movement with Claire and we love doing all the different themed Yoga poses. Everyone has been great at getting back into regular reading, phonics and maths sessions.



Wishing everyone a good half term break.

The Early Years Team

## Key Stage 2



Willow class have been learning about feelings and friendship. We have also been investigating healthy living including hand hygiene and a healthy diet and are learning about body changes during puberty. We have been listening to, retelling and acting out healthy food based stories such as the Little Red Hen, Stone Soup and Handa's Surprise and have created culinary delights such as vegetable soup and fruit salad as well as baking our own bread and making pizza.



Rowan class have been completing lots of work on healthy living, including sharing both fiction and nonfiction books on food. They made some Happy Healthy Food using fruits and vegetables. We've also been taking parts in lots of hand washing experiments, such as using pepper and hand soap, to see the effectiveness of the soap in action.



Birch Class have also been busy learning all about keeping themselves healthy this half term. In Literacy, they have particularly enjoyed sharing two stories called Handa's Surprise and Oliver's Vegetables. In cooking, they have been making Salad Kebabs and learning how to follow a set of instructions. We have also learnt how to keep ourselves clean, practised washing our hands, brushing our teeth, and give a baby a bath!



This term Pine Class have been busy getting to know each other, building relationships and settling into our new environment. This term we have really enjoyed our cooking lessons where we have focused on making jam or chocolate spread sandwiches, recently we have incorporated cheese using a grater. Our focus has been to develop our independence, from gathering our own equipment to spreading the filling independently! This has been a great achievement for all! Another focus for Pine Class this term has been the importance of hand washing and keeping safe. The children have flourished in their ability to wash their hands independently and understand the importance of repeating this skill throughout the day!

## Key Stage 3

### Aspen Class Autumn News

During this half term Aspen class have been exploring the Seven Wonders of the Natural World as part of our topic "Magic and Mystery". From the heights of Mount Everest to the depths of the Grand Canyon we've been learning some phenomenal new facts about these wondrous places. We've also been cooking up some wonderful creations in the kitchen. Everyone particularly enjoyed the shortbread and the rolo tarts. In Maths we've learnt about capacity and practised telling the time. We've also been refreshing our knowledge of coins and money. During our visit to Camp Mohawk we had an enjoyable time exploring the outdoor environment with our friends.



### Chestnut Class Autumn News

It has been a great first half term in Chestnut Class. We have welcomed 5 pupils brand new to Addington School and they are all settling in very well. The existing Addington pupils have been kind and welcoming. We are proud of all pupils. Our topic is Magic and Mystery. We have done some crazy experiments with coke and menthos, and with vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. The reactions caused much excitement. The pupils are really enjoying Literacy work based on Harry Potter. They have learned about the relationships between different characters and have designed their own quidditch type games. Each pupil is working on Maths tasks at their own level. The pupils have responded well to our Science lessons, we have learned about the Eatwell Plate and made our own plates of healthy foods from craft materials. We have investigated different types of rocks and fossils under a magnifying glass and carried out experiments on them. The pupils have made their own fossils from plaster of Paris.





In PHSE we have been learning that everyone is different and everyone is equal. We are learning tolerance, understanding and acceptance for each other's special needs. In social skills lessons we have been playing team games requiring co-operation with each other and the pupils are learning to describe themselves. We have a big focus on friendships and often play fun social games together such as Uno and Pop up Minion. We hope the pupils have a well-earned rest at half term.

Ness, Angie and the Chestnut Team

## Maple Class Autumn News

This half term, Maple Class have been enjoying a variety of activities connected to our topic of 'Magic and Mystery'. We have cooked up a witch's brew, made magic wands, looked at magical wonders of the natural world such as Mount Everest and the Northern Lights, and read lots of magical fairy tales and folk tales such as the 'Magic Porridge Pot' and 'Room on the Broom'. In science, we've focused on what it means to eat a healthy diet and the difference between healthy and less healthy food. We know we need our fruit and vegetables! We've also done lots of cooking, including pancakes, sandwiches and cupcakes (but not eating **too** many...!)

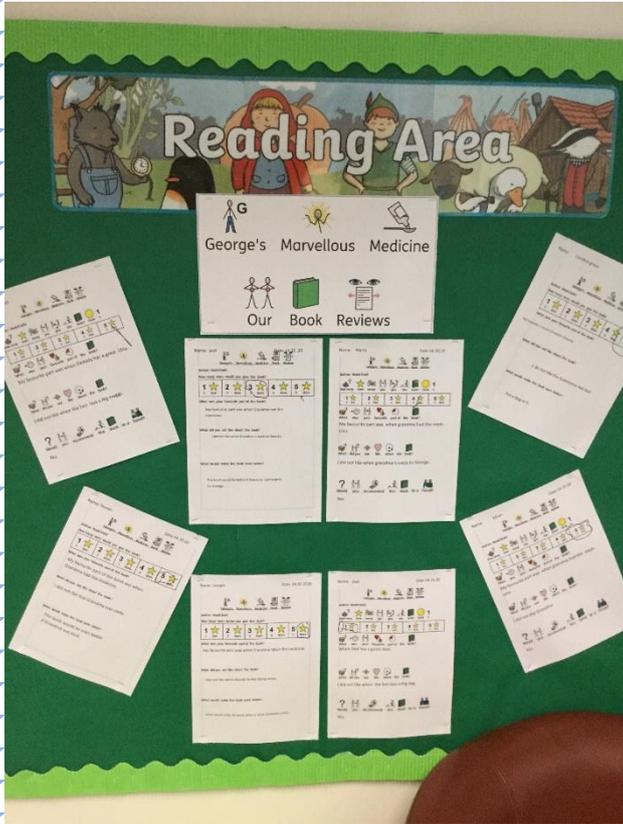


## Sycamore Class Autumn News



This half term, Sycamore class have been doing lots of gardening. We also went on a trip to the local allotment. We were very lucky that the sun was shining on the day that we went.

The gardening teacher, Chris, showed us the bee hives, a huge pumpkin and lots of fruits and vegetables that were growing. We picked a big leek and some garlic which we used to make leek and potato soup later in the week. It was delicious! Sycamore class are liking the 'Magic and Mystery' topic and they have made story maps about 'Room on the Broom' by Julia Donaldson this half term. We have also just finished reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' by Roald Dahl which the class really enjoyed. The class wrote book reviews during an ICT lesson and many of them gave it 5 stars!



## Key Stage 4

### Key Stage 4 Cooking

We have had a busy term cooking, in Key Stage 4. Our focus for the term has been hygiene and safety in the kitchen, knife skills (claw and bridge holds), and working independently in the kitchen. Students have been making fruit salads, fruit kebabs, smoothies, cheese scones, bread rolls, calzone pizzas, fruit crumble and finally to finish off the half term, yogurt cakes. We hope some of these dishes made it home for you all to enjoy.

Additionally, as part of our topic of Right Here, Right Now, as the Great British Bake Off is currently being aired we decided to have our own bake off – firstly a piping bag challenge '6 cakes, 1 piping bag, 1 stop watch and go!' how quickly could they decorate 6 cupcakes. Then there was a 'Technical Challenge' of designing and decorating 6 cupcakes where following a judging panel we announced the winner of our technical challenge.



Icing bag Challenge.



Cakes ready for judging



Making fruit and vegetable kebabs



Successful Calzone Pizza's made independently.

## Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze Award

Three of our students (Nathan, Tony and Ollie) from Key Stage 4, completed their two-day expedition walking 16 miles over 2 days with heavy rucksacks. As well as their expedition all students also successfully completed three-months volunteering for a charity, three months of skills development and six months of sport. Well done to our Bronze award holders. The new intake from Key stage 4 have started their award (Chloe, Summer, Luka, and Saahil – good luck to them.)



## Our Community

On Fridays Swan class either go shopping in Woodley for cookery ingredients or they work on the roof terrace gardening project. We have planted 5 ash tree seedlings in pots on the terrace. In the coming weeks we will be planting violas and taking cuttings of lavender and rosemary to pot up. We will be planting some houseplant cuttings as we are very keen to have some house plants in our classroom. We went to the café in Woodley and enjoyed choosing a snack and a drink. All of our students wear a face mask in shops and we are very impressed with how well they have coped with this.



## Science

We have been enjoying various challenges in science this term. Each weekly challenge has provided the students with an opportunity to develop communication, problem solving and teamwork skills. Using various materials, we have created, tested and compared our own model kites, rafts, bowling pins, rockets and discus.

With each experiment the students have been working on the accuracy of their record making, predictions and problem solving. The students have been engaged with their learning and having fun too!



## Complex and Sensory Needs



This half term we have been working on the theme 'Paws, Claws and Whiskers'.

We have all taken part in sensory stories, art activities and sensory massage around animals. In Cherry class our topic is the "Jungle Book" and we have been making edible soil and exploring different fruits. We have been enjoying hydrotherapy and going on a pirate adventure in music.

In Beech class the topic is "Wind in the Willows" and we have been cooking pitta pizzas, swimming every week and enjoying music and art therapy. We have also enjoyed class shopping to buy cooking ingredients, and trips to the Co-op and Terry's.

In Apple and Lime classes our story has been "Dear Zoo". We have had lots of messy play and enjoyed swimming and rebound.

The students from Poppy class have travelled to Savannah to enjoy the Sensory Story "Oh, Honey". They all were immersed within the story pretending to be the animal that they chose. In Holly class we have been enjoying TacPac and attention bucket sessions. We have been exploring our new outside space and had a lot of fun playing games and getting messy!



## Sixth Form



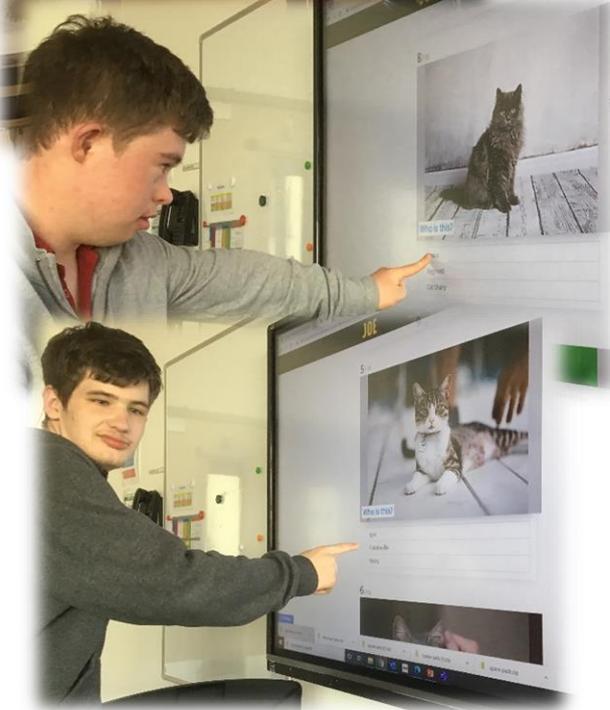
### Creative Arts Block

We loved drumming with Rhona and Sean; and a ukulele sing-a-long!



### Virtual Work Ready Day

Cats Protection League  
We learnt all about the jobs involved in looking after cats!





## Robin Class – Cooking

We have enjoyed cooking lunch each week, as well as cakes for the new 6<sup>th</sup> form café!  
Everyone has worked hard to clear up after!

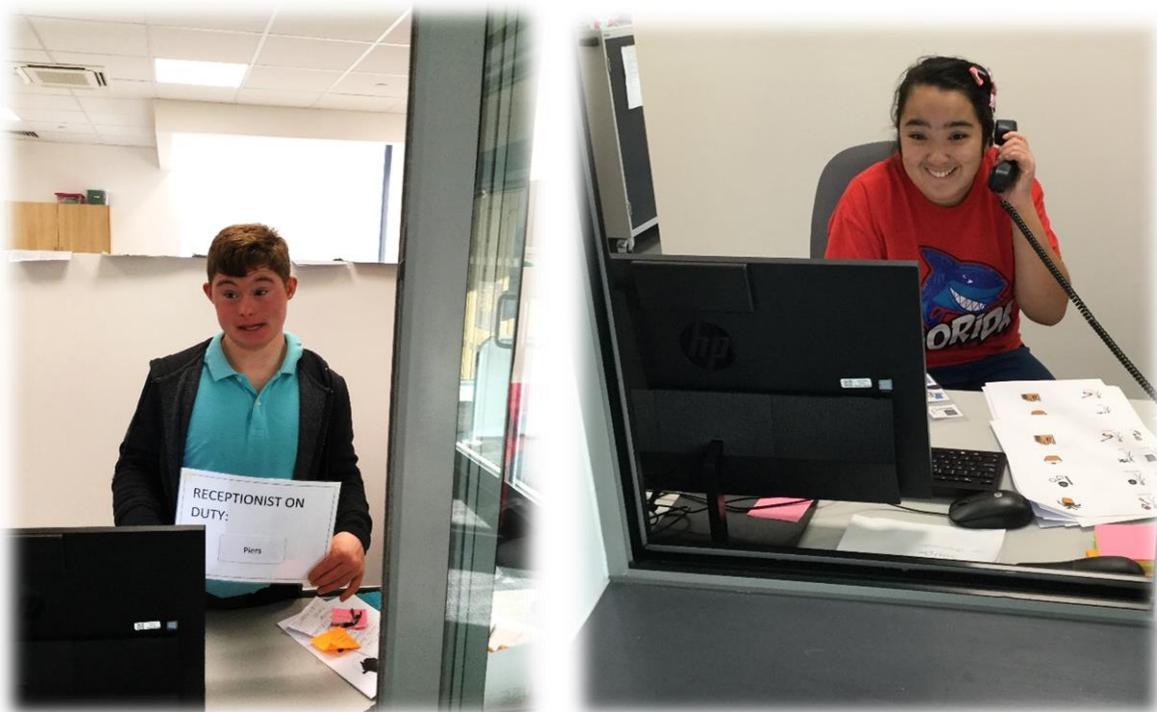


**6<sup>th</sup> Form Café**  
We all really like serving customers in our new café!



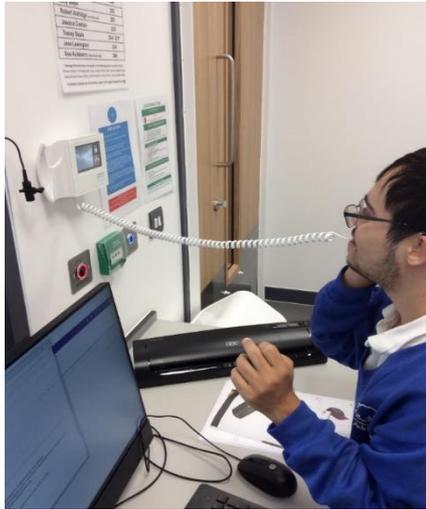


**Business Enterprise**  
Making braided bracelets

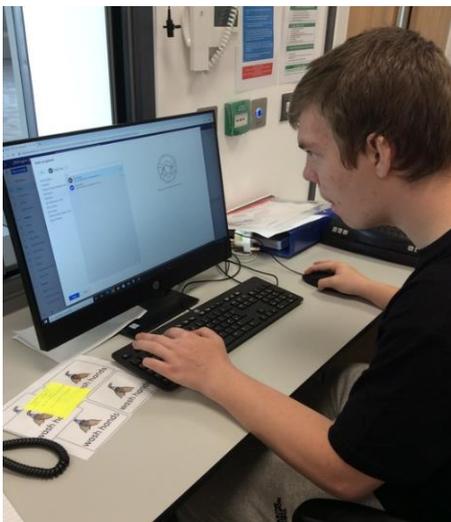
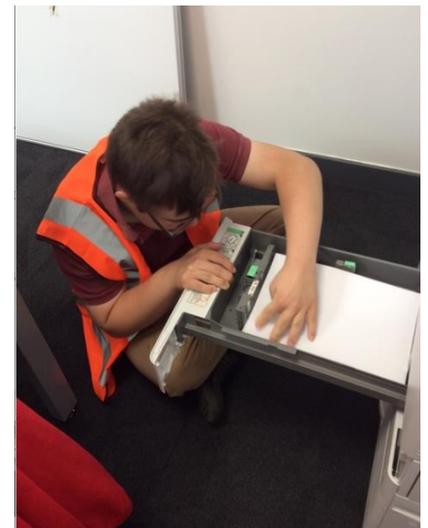
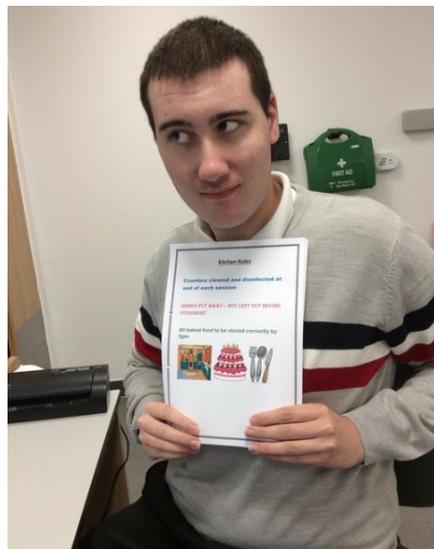


## Work Experience on the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Reception!

We have a new and exciting 6<sup>th</sup> Form building, so what better way than to be greeted at 6<sup>th</sup> Form reception by the students themselves.

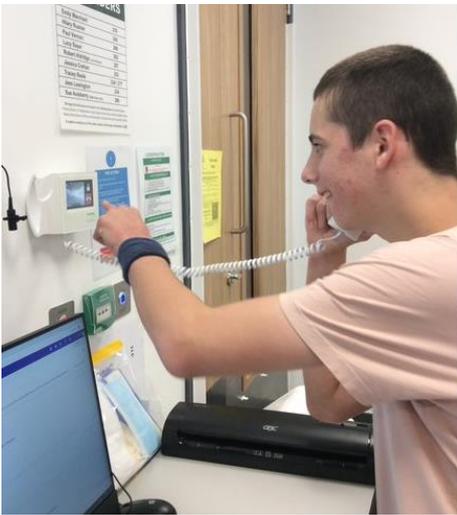
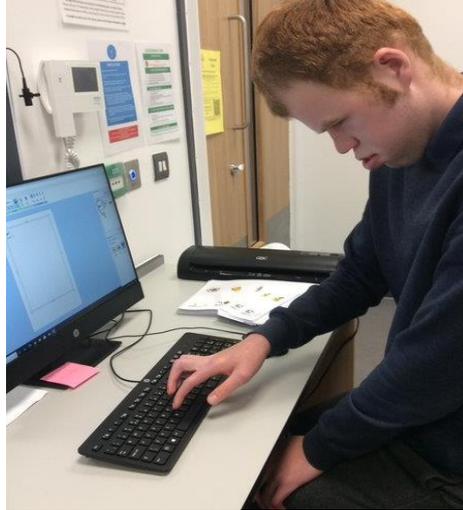


We have been working on a daily basis with the 6<sup>th</sup> Form students across each class to help them build on their office based work experience and communication skills.



From carrying out patrols of the building, to filling up photocopiers and sending emails, these are just a small number of tasks that the students have been responsible for.

Having the opportunity to have the 6<sup>th</sup> Form reception as a working 'job role' has been a really enjoyable asset in assisting the students in their confidence, learning about routine and the soft skills required when working within a customer service facing role.



## 6<sup>th</sup> Form Café

6th Form students from Kestrel, Eagle, Robin and Owl classes have been working hard running the café at snack times in our new café area.

Each class has been diligently baking wonderful treats such as brownies, cookies and cakes during cooking sessions ready to be served each day.



Every day the 6<sup>th</sup> form classes take turns at preparing the café area by working as a team to ensure all the hygiene protocols are completed and the snacks and drinks are ready to be served. All the other classes then arrive at 10:30am and practise communication skills ordering from the selection available. Everyone enjoys a relaxing café atmosphere, socialising with peers around the tables and listening to music.

Students learn a wide variety of independent, social and work skills in preparation for life after Addington.



## Supported Internship Update

**nationalgrid**

It is hard to believe that it has already been seven months since the start of Covid19 and the sudden halt of the EmployAbility Programme at National Grid. Even though we managed to complete the BTEC Work skills qualification remotely we felt that

the Interns' needs had not been fully met and that they needed a better 'ending' to their internship.

So together with Reading College we have been able to offer last year's Interns the opportunity to complete their Internship with two days' study at Reading College and two days remote learning doing a bespoke course for all students who have had their Internships affected. Our goal is to try and help them find paid employment just as we would have done towards the end of their time at National Grid. We are also preparing them for the new way of 'working from home' and using Microsoft Teams in our virtual lessons. Getting used to Internet glitches, connection problems and equipment that sometimes fails is all part and parcel of the new way of learning/working. We were hoping to be able to get back to the National Grid site from January, but with the rising number of cases and the advice to staff to carry on working from home, this is looking less likely. The emphasis is therefore to help the interns find employment or an apprenticeship which can use the great skills and knowledge they learnt during their time at National Grid.

It is a fairly similar situation at both Shute End and Sodexo where both offices are only open to business-critical staff and those who are unable to work from home. These businesses have now confirmed that this will be the case until at least March 2021.

**sodexo**

The exception to this is Dinton Pastures Country Park. One of our students, whose internship came to a sudden stop in March has been back at Dinton, initially as a volunteer through the summer but now 2 days a week alongside his course at Reading College to continue where he left off. He is very much part of the team again and is learning new skills, helping keep the parks neat and tidy, clearing leaves, putting up fences and anything else that is required. We are hopeful this will continue as it is outdoors and he is working in the same team each week.



The current situation has meant we have had to think creatively. For the first time we have set up an internal Supported Internship for a student who will be working with the Maintenance Team at Addington starting from week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> October. He will spend 2.5 days a week helping with all of the maintenance jobs that need to be done in a school. We are confident he will be a much-needed pair of hands for this team.

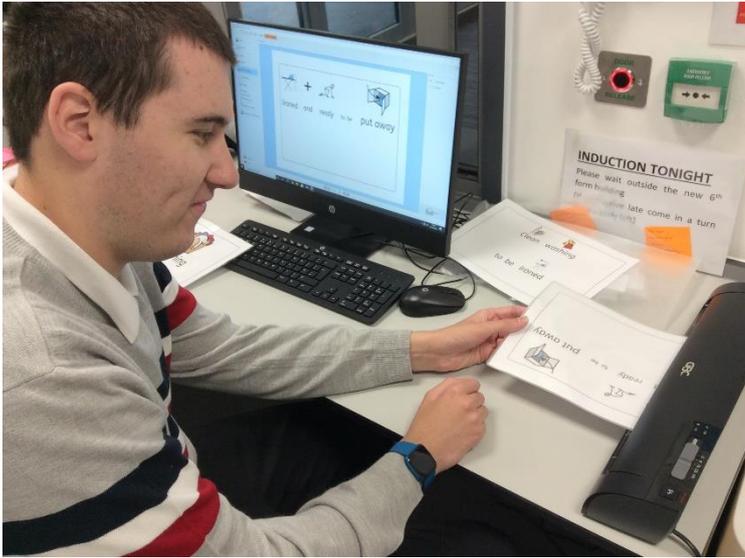
## **Eagle Class News – October 2020**

Despite the constraints posed by the virus our young people have shown commendable resilience in adapting happily and enthusiastically as always, not only to unfamiliar situations and routines, but also to a brand new 6<sup>th</sup> Form building. The senior members of the class group were pleased to see their peers after the extended period of absence, while the new members were welcomed and fitted in happily, making new friends.



While most of our curriculum has been onsite, the class has enjoyed a number of activities to help develop social and self-help skills, as well as developing skills for the work place. We have continued to go shopping for ingredients to cook our lunch on Fridays. The class runs the 6<sup>th</sup> Form café once a week, which helps students to learn skills in hospitality. In Business Enterprise with Gail they have been making items to sell for Christmas. Some students have been doing Bike maintenance. This involves learning to look after and repair bicycles. Others are enjoying doing horticulture as an accreditation course. Our independent living space is used to help the young people to become more confident in life skills, by using a washing machine and tumble drier.





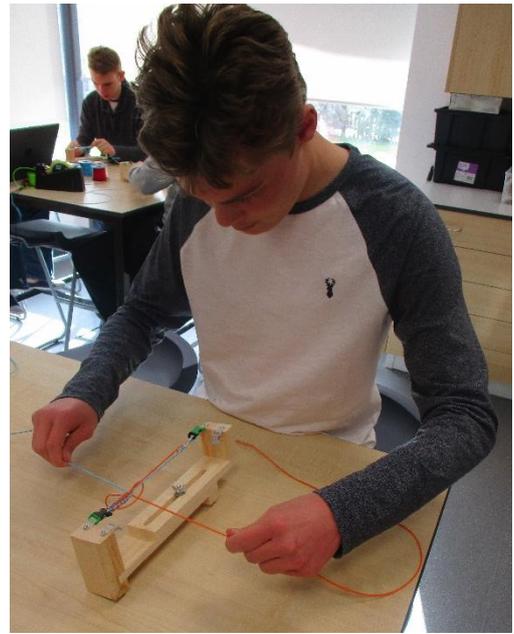
As part of internal work experience our young people are being given the opportunity to do supported work in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Reception. This involves answering the phone, dealing with mail and manning the entrance to the 6<sup>th</sup> Form building.

The class has also enjoyed music sessions where they have been focussing on drumming during workshops.

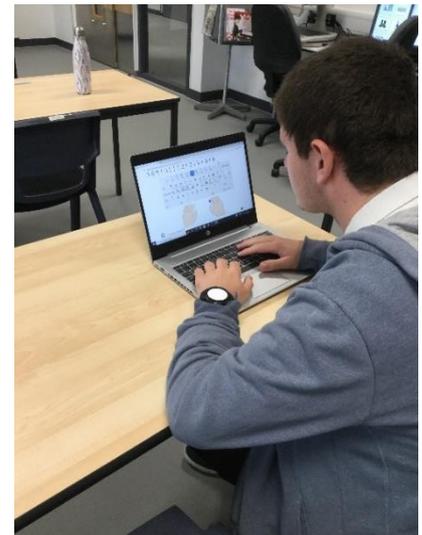
The Links course at BCA, for students to have a taste of college life, has started. At the moment our class is doing land-based activities which involves looking after the

environment. In the Spring term, from February, they will be doing Animal care. In spite of everything, it has been a good, activity filled first half term.





## Kestrel class September – October 2020



We love the 6<sup>th</sup> form café! We bake for the café on a Tuesday and Thursday, then help serve what we've baked. It's a great place to sit and chat with friends, and to enjoy a hot drink and a snack.

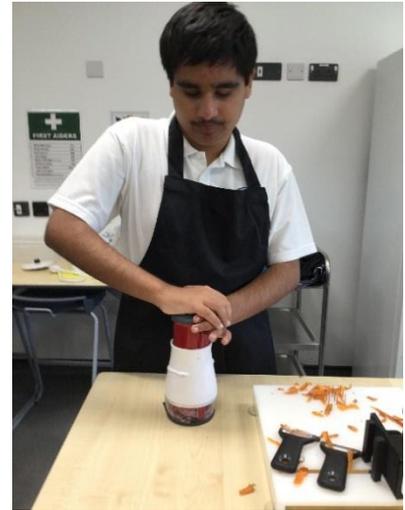
We have also been busy learning to touch type, drumming, working at the allotment, maintaining bikes and manning the 6<sup>th</sup> form student reception and of course cooking delicious lunches!





## Owl Class News

We have been taking part in a variety of activities. We cook our own lunch every Monday, we have made lots of lovely meals and are working hard on our independence skills in the kitchen. We have a new device called a kitchen aid which holds vegetables in place with a clamp or on small spikes so that we can chop or peel them independently. We also have another clever gadget that helps us chop vegetables like onion by just pressing down firmly on its top, this also helps our hand strength too.



On Tuesday, we have been using our daily walk to do some litter picking in the local area. This is really good for our hand eye co-ordination, team work skills and helps the environment too. In PSHE, we have been continuing to learn about personal hygiene so it would be great if we can have some extra practice at home putting on deodorant and helping to wash our own hair and face.



We are enjoying our sensory stories, in the new sensory area in our new classroom, going on an animal themed adventure over the weeks, through the continents, incorporating repetitive refrains to do actions to, focusing on sight, touch, hearing, movement, smell and taste, including things made in sensory craft sessions too into the story. This encourages the use of all senses and awareness, movement of the body, cause and effect, encouraging engagement and communication in the sensory experiences.

We have been doing a Work Skills project, doing recycling for our FE department. We have also been collecting the laundry, learning to use the washing machine, the tumble drier and hanging washing out on the airer. We have returned to The Ridgeline on alternate Fridays for horticultural therapy and work experience, which we are so happy about. We have been busy planting, weeding and making labels for what we have planted.



# The Creative Arts Page



## Music



The start of this school has been different to others but we have been as busy as ever making and playing music. The team will be working with different bubbles over the year and this half term Rhona and Sean have been working with students from our sensory curriculum classes and the Sixth Form.

In the earlier part of the half term, we did some outdoor learning with our immersive theatre pirate story. They have explored activities and songs about going on a pirate adventure, sailing the seven seas and searching for buried treasure. We were very blessed with the weather and have created a film for each class which will be available on the home learning page after half term.

Our Sixth Form students have been developing their drumming skills. They have been learning different rhythms and working with a partner to perform different moves like switching drums to play a rhythm. They have learned routines to 'I'm Still Standing' by Elton John and 'Conga' by Gloria Estefan. Some students have been taking part in a rock band and learning how to make playlists using Spotify.

Martin will be working with KS2 students this year and this half term they are been exploring African drumming and singing. They have been learning different rhythms and have explored composing rhythms and creating graphic scores. They have been experiencing songs like 'Che Che Kule' and 'Tue Tue' too.



Our instrumental lessons have all started well, with many students continuing their lessons. We would like to welcome Jack, our new guitar teacher who has taken over from Martin this year. There is always a waiting list for lessons but if students are interested please let us know as places can often become available over the course of the year.



## Art

This year, Angie and Jules are teaching art to KS3 and 4. This half term they have been exploring shadows and silhouettes. Students have been creating chalk drawings outside of a person's shadows and created life sized displays of shadows too. They have also been making shadow puppets too.

## The Addington Show

We are excited to announce that The Addington Show will be continuing this school year. There will be a new show every month which will be available for students to watch at school as well as via the school website at home. Each show we will look at what the students have been learning in school, have a new song of the month and a feature article (and more!). If you like to send in pictures and videos from home, we would love to see them. You can send them either by email [m-ca@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:m-ca@addington.wokingham.sch.uk) or by WhatsApp via our creative arts number 07823 623558.



Keep a lookout for when the shows are available online via the school's website. October's edition will be available soon.

We hope you all enjoy half term!

Rhona, Sean, Jules, Martin and Angie

## ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2020 - 2021



Addington School

### AUTUMN TERM 2020

<b>Staff Training Days – All Staff</b> (closed to pupils)	Tuesday 1 September & Wednesday 2 September 2020
<b>Term Starts</b>	Thursday 3 September 2020
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 26 October to Monday 2 November 2020 inclusive
<b>Term Restarts</b>	Tuesday 3 November 2020
<b>Term Ends</b>	Friday 18 December 2020

### SPRING TERM 2021

<b>Term Starts</b>	Monday 4 January 2021
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2021 inclusive
<b>Term Restarts</b>	Monday 22 February 2021
<b>Term Ends</b>	Thursday 1 April 2021

### SUMMER TERM 2021

<b>Staff Training Days – Teachers Only</b> (closed to pupils)	Monday 19 April 2021
<b>Term Starts</b>	Tuesday 20 April 2021
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Friday 28 May to Friday 4 June 2021 inclusive
<b>Term Restarts</b>	Monday 7 June 2021
<b>Term Ends</b>	Wednesday 21 July 2021

## ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021 - 2022



Addington School

### AUTUMN TERM 2021

<b>Inset Days – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Wednesday 1 September &amp; Thursday 2 September 2021</b>
<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Friday 3 September 2021</b>
<b>Half Term – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October inclusive</b>
<b>Inset Day (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Monday 1 November 2021</b>
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Tuesday 2 November 2021</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Friday 17 December 2021</b>

### SPRING TERM 2022

<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Tuesday 4 January 2022</b>
<b>Half Term – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February 2022 inclusive</b>
<b>Inset Day – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Monday 28 February 2022</b>
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Tuesday 1 March 2022</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Friday 8 April 2022</b>

### SUMMER TERM 2022

<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Monday 25 April 2022</b>
<b>Inset Day – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Friday 27 May</b>
<b>Half Term – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2022 inclusive</b>
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Monday 6 June 2022</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Thursday 21 July 2022</b>

#### **Inset Days – School closed to pupils**

Wednesday 1 September 2021  
Thursday 2 September 2021  
Monday 1 November 2021  
Monday 28 February 2022  
Friday 27 May 2022