



ADDINGTON NEWSLETTER



March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As I reflect on the last term, firstly it has sped by and secondly it has been packed with rich curriculum activities. Today a group of KS2 pupils have just gone to Windsor Castle as a final activity to bring their theme of dragons and castles to a close – a wonderful opportunity to see a piece of history.

Last week, a large group of our pupils went off on the first of our residential trips this year where they enjoyed taking part in lots of challenging activities. These experiences are incredibly valuable and help pupils gain confidence and independence for the future. I am extremely grateful to all of the staff who gave up their time to support during the week.

As you are all aware, we were visited by Ofsted this week and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the large amount of you who completed your Ofsted feedback questionnaire. Ofsted told us that they could not read out some of your favourable comments as they were too many, so my heartfelt thanks to all of you for completing the feedback. The outcome of the inspection is confidential until the report is published which will not be for at least 4 weeks. As soon as it is released however, I will send it out to all parents. My thanks also go to all the staff and pupils over the 2 days who showcased our school at its very best.

We are all now looking forward to next term when hopefully the weather will improve and our pupils will be able to get out and about much more, enjoying the Summer Term curriculum activities.

I wish all of our families a very Happy Easter holiday and look forward to welcoming pupils back on **Monday 17 April**.

Yours faithfully

Sara Attra



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this finds you all well and healthy. The weeks seems to have flown since I last wrote to you. This term I hosted two very well attended events on Wills, Trusts and Deputyships delivered by David and Sally Roper from Hope Law. Your feedback has been extremely positive.

Save the Dates:

Addington Parent Association AGM on 19th April in the 6th Form Hall from 6-7pm to update parent carers on the work we did last year and the plans for next year.

“Introduction to PECS” Coffee Morning on Friday 28th April at 9.30 - 11am

“Sleep Matters” Workshop by the FIRST Team on Thursday 18th May at 9.30-11.30 am

The Family Intervention Resources and Strategies Team (FIRST) will be in school during parents evening on Thursday 11th May from 4pm alongside Promise Inclusion. They will be here to promote their services and upcoming events.

I just wanted to share with you that Smiles for Siblings have a day trip to Marwell Zoo on Wednesday 12th April. The cost of the outing will be £5.00 per child. Places can be booked by emailing: admin@promiseinclusion.org or phone 0300 7778539.

It is lovely to see many of you attending the Ladies' meditation sessions on Thursdays at 9pm run by Bindu Bodanapu.

Bindu Bodanapu is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Weekly Guided meditation session for Women

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5130338288?pwd=J6nbQ55M9RqB6LMgRkCe3lL2sno14o.1>

Meeting ID: 513 033 8288

Passcode: Light

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

Wishing you a relaxing Easter holiday.

Ellie

Ellie Robinson
Family Support Worker



Our Senior Leadership Team



Sara Attra
Head teacher



Lynda Wood
Deputy Head



David Maycock
Deputy Head



Eirfron
Watkinson
Assistant Head
teacher



Emer Moore
Assistant Head
teacher



Sue Tod
School
Business
Manager

Parent Contact Information

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

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

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

School Mobile App

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

[iTunes](#)

[Play Store](#)

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

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

Addington Youth Club

Managed and staffed by
Wokingham Promise Inclusion

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

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

Contact Annah on 07551 159073 for more information.

School Dinners

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

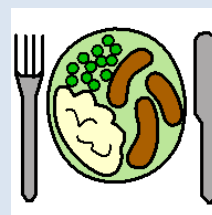
If your child has school dinners, and there is a balance outstanding on your account, we would be grateful if you would kindly clear this balance as soon as possible.

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

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

As a reminder:

Primary lunch is £2.30
Secondary lunch is £2.40



Please remember that money for school dinners should be paid **in advance**.

If you have any problems, please contact Admin on office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk.

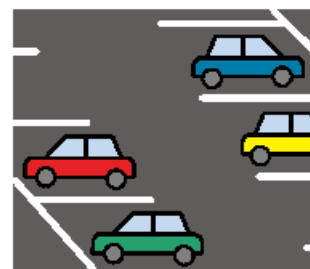
CAR PARKING REMINDER

Leisure Centre Car Park

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

School Car Park

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



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

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

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

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

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



SPORTS PAGE



The Abbey



Abbey Sports Leaders at Addington

On two Tuesdays this half-term, students working towards their Sports Leaders qualification from The Abbey Girls School in Reading, provided basketball sessions for our after school sports club pupils. They ran warm-up games, lead different skills stations and finished with some games. The sessions were instructive and enjoyed by all.



After school sports club

For the first part of this half-term we had sports leaders from Abbey Girls School running basketball sessions for our after school sports club students. For the second part we have been learning the skills and the rules of volleyball. Nadia, who is a volleyball specialist, has been leading the sessions.



Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award - 2022-2023



This half-term, the Bronze Award students have been practising putting up tents. It was windy on each occasion but the students coped well and are becoming more proficient. The students discussed and agreed a Code of Conduct for the expedition and found out about the Countryside Code. The Aim during our expedition is to notice and look for flora and fauna along our route and as part of this, we made bird feeders to place on our walks.



Dates for Bronze expeditions: Practice Expedition
Thursday 8th – Friday 9th June 2023
Qualifying Expedition
Wednesday 5th – Thursday 6th July 2023



Berkshire School Games Secondary Boccia and New Age Kurling



On Thursday 9th March, we took 2 teams from KS3 and KS4 to a Berkshire School Games tournament after school at Waingels College. We played Boccia and New Age Kurling against two mainstream schools. All the games were keenly contested and Addington won both competitions. Well done to everyone and a good time.



Berkshire School Games finals at the Winter Games

On Wednesday 22nd March we took 2 teams from Elm Class representing Wokingham schools to the Winter Games at Braywick Leisure Centre near Maidenhead. One team played table cricket and the other played boccia. There were many pupils from all schools across Berkshire. Both teams played well and both finished 5th, receiving medals and certificates.





Santa Dash contributions

Last Christmas's Santa Dash contributions totalled £217. Half went to Camp Mohawk and half to Diana Brimblecombe Animal Rescue Centre. Mel presented the cheque to the animal centre and Elm class presented one to Camp Mohawk.



Fitness with Clare

This half-term, Clare our brilliant fitness coach has been delivering classes to our most athletic pupils, mostly from KS3. This has enabled these pupils to gain a better understanding of what personal training is like and how they may go on to develop their fitness inside and outside school.



Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award - 2022-2023

Having finished their Sports Leaders course, it was back to revisiting camp cooking skills for our Silver DofE students. It has been cold, wet and windy but they persevered in cooking One-Pot-Pasta and making hot drinks.



Silver DofE Expeditions:
Practice: Tuesday 23rd to
Thursday 25th May 2023
Qualifying: Wednesday 28th to
Friday 30th June 2023

South-East England Inter-Schools Cross Country Competition



We are so proud of Luka White who has represented Berkshire in the South East England Cross Country competition in the U19 category on 5th February at Reigate Priory School. He qualified back in January at the all school Berkshire competition. This is a mainstream event, open to all schools in the South-East to qualify. This is the first time Addington has supplied any competitor in such a high-level sporting competition.



Wokingham half marathon

A sixth-form student ran his first half marathon held at Wokingham on Sunday 26th February. His time was 1:51:18. There were more than 3000 runners and weather conditions were perfect.



Early Years and Yoga

Bluebell Class

We have had a lovely term in Bluebell Class! Our topic for this term has been *Weather*. In Communication, Language and Literacy we have been looking at 3 different books; *Kipper's Book of Weather*, *We're going on a leaf hunt*, and to celebrate Easter we looked at *We're going on an egg hunt*. We really enjoyed listening and watching videos of the different types of weathers. We were very lucky to experience some snow this term! During cooking, we have made soda bread jam sandwiches (to celebrate St Patrick's Day), Easter nests, pancakes (to celebrate Pancake Day) and making a Rainbow out of fruit: the children continue to love cooking lessons! In Maths we have enjoyed exploring number through number songs - our favourite is still '5 little ducks'! We have also started learning about capacity, weight, money and shape. We are really enjoying our swimming lessons, with a few children becoming confident to swim on their own! We love Music and Dance here in Bluebell, so our weekly Music lessons with Sean are always a HUGE hit! We have started our Yoga lessons with Claire this term. The children love the relaxation and sensory sessions. We are all so proud of how the children have continued to settle into the routines of school. We are very excited for our next topic... Animals!



Daffodil Class

Our topic this half term has been *Weather and spring*. We have enjoyed experiencing different weathers through regular outdoor learning opportunities; we especially enjoyed the snow! We have worked on using weather related vocabulary during Attention Autism Bucket and Literacy activities to extend our use and understanding of vocabulary. We have enjoyed learning about different celebrations, including Holi and Mother's Day.

We have enjoyed two trips to Thames Valley Adventure Playground where we have been working on our play skills, through sharing and turn taking, developing our self-occupying skills by choosing our own activities and developing our physical skills in Soft Play and the wider outdoor environment.



Daisy Class

This term Daisy class have been exploring the weather using all of our senses with our sensory story, '*Kipper's Book of Weather*'. We started with rain, listening to the sound of water pouring over an enormous umbrella; pitter, patter, drip, splash! We squashed and squeezed sponges to create watery rainy paintings. Then we created beautiful round shining suns using dripping runny glue to stick shades of yellow and orange collage materials. Using percussion instruments, we created sound effects for the rain and sunshine. To help us with our weather story we've loved exploring the vibrations on the resonance board as we all hammered and tapped out rain and thunder storms. Everyone smiled at the sensation of whooshing, swooshing air as we played with the rainbow coloured parachute and we got messy shaking and flicking paintbrushes to create rainbow-inspired art. We were so happy when, right on cue it snowed! The snow was fluffy, sticky but brrr... so cold!



Primrose Class

This term in Primrose class our topic has been '*Weather, spring and Easter*'. We have enjoyed exploring different types of weather through the story *Kipper's Weather*, such as rain, snow and rainbows! We have enjoyed exploring different mark making techniques such as stamping with sponges, drawing with pens and chalks as well using paint dabbers. We have also experienced various sensory trays with ice, cotton balls, water and heat packs.

This term we have been lucky enough to visit Thames Valley Adventure Playground in Taplow. We all had a wonderful time and can't wait to go back again!

We have also been having sessions to Forest School on Mondays. We have had a wonderful time climbing trees, exploring the area, going on bug hunts and playing parachute games with leaves and sticks.

Primrose class really enjoyed the Story telling week and loved our sensory story of *Room on the Broom!* We enjoyed the various noises, puppets and experiences that the week gave us.



Sunflower Class

This term we have really enjoyed getting out and about on some trips offsite, travelling on the minibus and then the coach to Thames Valley Adventure Playground and then on the minibus to Sol Joel Park. For most of our pupils this was their first time travelling on a bus but they managed this really well and loved being able to explore a new place! Our topic this term has been *Weather, spring and Easter* and we've enjoyed exploring pancakes whilst learning about pancake day, experiencing different weather through our sensory stories and joining in with lots of fun Easter activities such as an Easter egg hunt! Swimming lessons have also been a highlight for us this term and all the pupils have become so much more confident in the water with lots of them now swimming without adult support and to the deep end! The pupils have continued to make brilliant progress with their communication skills this term as well - we're so proud of them all!



Tulip Class

This term we have been a busy exploring different types of weather and learning about spring. We have enjoyed sharing sensory stories *Kippers weather* and *Elmer's weather*. We also enjoyed a Holi dance learning about the festival of Holi and had fun exploring spatter art and matching colours. We have also been looking at night and day linking it to Ramadan. In art we have been exploring mark making with different tools and painting with colours. We have really enjoyed the spring themed attention bucket sessions this term. We have been exploring vocabulary linked to movement and using choosing boards to explore new movements in soft play.

In PE sessions we have been doing apparatus circuits and Rebound on the trampoline, which the children have really enjoyed. Pre-sensory circuits is going well, with the children showing more independence following adults modelling to engage in more of the equipment. The highlight of the term was the trips to Taplow, exploring new environments and extending our play opportunities. The children have also been enjoying engaging in functional play through role play, for example, picnics looking after babies and supermarkets.

We have also been working on using communication boards in play experiences to request specific toys and learning how to wait and take their turns using visual support. Some have been developing their symbolic play skills by pretending to make trains out of the furniture and resources in the classroom. In maths we have revisited capacity and weight, exploring the vocabulary 'full, empty, half full and heavier and lighter'. Through cooking we have continued to explore maths concepts and use communication boards to make choices of ingredients. We have been exploring and comparing the size of objects using vocabulary 'big and little as well exploring big and small Easter eggs with hidden chicks with our Easter themed activity.' We have continued to focus on our numbers to 20, recognising, ordering and one to one correspondence. We have enjoyed our number based Easter egg hunts too.



Lily Class

We've had another very busy term in Lily class. Our topic this term has been *all about the weather* and each week we have explored a different type of weather in our learning activities. In literacy, we have enjoyed reading the story *Elmer's Weather* and engaging in a sensory story with different props. In maths, we have been practising counting to 20 and engaging in Waldon sequencing activities. We have enjoyed attention bucket and art activities, linking to the different types of weather. We particularly enjoyed the rain and snow! As part of our PSHE, we have explored appropriate clothing for different types of weather, including when it's sunny and when it's cold and rainy. We have also had lots of fun celebrating events such as Pancake day, World Book Day, Red Nose Day and Easter! Happy Easter everybody!



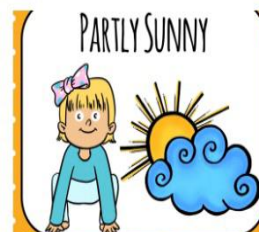
Marvellous March Yoga in Early Years with Rainbow Claire

This term has been full of **Marvellous Yoga and Mindfulness** as we enter spring with exploring lots of wonderful breathing techniques and new yoga poses across the Early Years classes. We have enjoyed the *weather* yoga cards linking to our themed topic and completed the flow below. Give it a go over the Easter holidays.

We have enjoyed the sound healing benefits of the somanic drum and wind chime to help with relaxation and regulation as well as the continued benefits of '**Relaxation**' at the end of every yoga session (step 6 of our Mini Me Yoga programme) with calming music, blankets, mindful toys and sensory lights. The intention here is for every child to be fully present in the moment and experience a sense of stillness; calm for their body and mind.

Namaste ☐

This week's weather 🌞☔🌈☁️🌨️☀️ yoga flow 🧘 at Addington school
with Rainbow 🌈 Claire 🏫



Yoga across the seven Early Year classes



Lots of fun had at yoga lunch club in Poppy class every Wednesday from 12:50-1:20 p.m.

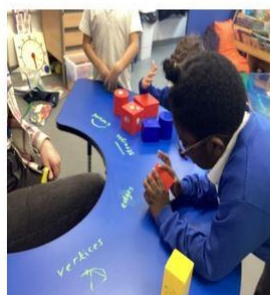


Key Stage 2 Newsletter

Oak Class

We have been continuing to learn lots of exciting things as part of our topic "*Dragons and Castles*" this half term! The children enjoyed the story of "*Zog*" and we had a visit from a drama company during Book Week where we explored the characters and their antics through games. We all had fun dressing up and sharing favourite stories during Book Week.

With the onset of spring, the children have enjoyed observing the changes in our sensory garden in Outdoor Learning sessions. The bulbs that we planted have started to grow and it is becoming very colourful outside. We have enjoyed getting our hands dirty and making faces out of all things natural.



In maths we have been learning to order 2D and 3D shapes from our "*shape shop*" by describing what it looks like instead of saying its name. We have learnt how to use the words; straight, curved, edges and sides. We have also explored positional language and making different amounts of money using whole pounds.

Our term isn't over yet and we have an exciting trip ahead of us.....Look out Windsor! We're on our way!

Pine Class

Pine class have thoroughly enjoyed continuing with our *Dragons and Castles* topic this term. In Literacy, we focused on new stories called '*The Paperbag Princess*' and '*We're Going on a Dragon Hunt*', the children enjoyed exploring these stories through call and response 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 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 Patrick's Day, Mother's Day and Easter! In literacy, we have also focused on the stories 'The Odd Egg' and 'The Five Little Bunnies' alongside lots of Easter Activities. The children have continued to work hard on understanding their emotions and the emotions of others.

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 Windsor Castle at the end of term to finish off our Dragons and Castles topic. Well done Pine Class for an excellent Spring Term! I look forward to seeing all your achievements during the Summer Term ☺



Willow Class

Willow Class have found this topic 'Castle and Dragons' extremely motivating and have had so much fun learning more about the lives of people who lived in a castle and particularly enjoyed roleplaying the actions of a knight. We have explored castle buildings and characters through stories, art, music and real life exploration. One of the stories we enjoyed was the story of 'The Paper Bag Princess' and we loved chanting the story as a Call and Response and adding actions. We also enjoyed reading 'George and the Dragon' and thought of some great adjectives to describe the dragon. The culmination of this topic was our trip Windsor Castle where we could experience everything we had been learning about in the classroom, unfortunately we didn't get to meet the King!

We have also been doing lots of 'real-life' learning in maths and developing our understanding of money and capacity as well as practising our addition and subtraction skills.



For the last two weeks we have begun to think about 'Easter' and enjoyed the story of 'The Odd Egg' and we have had lots of fun exploring eggs and playing games such as 'Egg and Spoon Race' and 'Splat the Egg'! We enjoyed an end of term Easter assembly, Easter egg hunts and games.



The pupils have each made wonderful progress in different areas and we are very proud of them all. A fantastic term Willow, well done!

Rowan Class

This half term we have been continuing with our *Dragons and Castles* topic, which has been hugely motivating! We designed and created products such as dragon sock puppets, shiny knight helmets and explored the features of old castles in greater detail. In literacy we shared topic-related stories such as *The Princess and the Dragon* and *Zog and the Flying Doctors*, where we focused on the rhyming patterns and the impact they have on the reader. We explored the topics of money, shape (both 2-D flats and 3-D solids) and position in numeracy, using and applying our growing skills in a range of practical and real life contexts. We created simple circuits in science, using batteries to power lights and buzzers. We continued talking about puberty and body changes in RSE, both external and internal, with activities including using dolls to explore the concept of public and private. We discussed the benefits of a healthy lifestyle in PSHE, including looking at the *Eatwell Plate* and completing some daily exercises during Healthy Lifestyles Week. We finished the half term by sharing the Easter Story and completing a series of Easter-themed games and crafts, including during a KS2 Easter carousel. It has been a busy but fun half term and the pupils have all more than earned a little break. Well done Rowan class!



Complex, Therapeutic and Sensory Needs Department

Birch Class

Birch class has continued exploring lots of different transports with our sensory story "*Mission Planet Earth*" we have enjoyed sensory experiences at the same time that we were practising phonics. We have worked very hard on regulation and as a result of it we have made great progress on maths, literacy and phonics.



Poppy Class

This half term we have really enjoyed continuing our *Getting Around* theme, our Sensology has been fun and we have been using all our senses to explore lots of transport themed items. We had a lovely visit from the Make Sense theatre company and experienced a story about *Bee's V Wasps!*

We have had lots of messy exploration and created some art work with these, there have been some favourite textures and some that we have not been sure about!

This half term we have been developing our grasp and release by playing lots of ball games. We enjoy bocchia and skittles, especially when the ball goes the wrong way and we knock into something else!

Have a happy Easter break!

Poppy class team



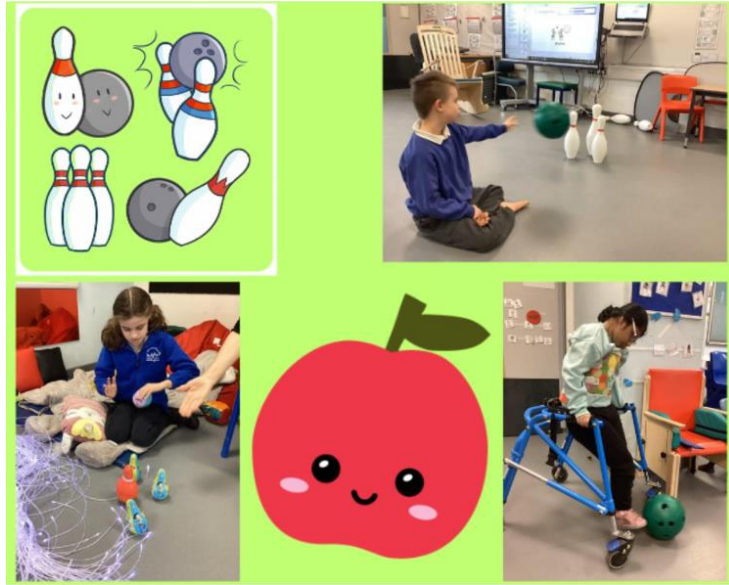
Apple Class

This term Apple Class have been working hard on improving attention and focus while having fun! We have been enjoying the '*bee happy*' theme in Immersive theatre, the sensory story and Tac Pac by exploring different materials and objects, pressing the switch to hear different sounds. We also enjoyed getting messy through Art, messy or food play and increased our focus during Waldon activities.

As outside was cold and rainy, we decided to have playtime in the classroom. We played different games using the ball by learning to "kick" and "throw" on request.

We are looking forward to warmer weather so we can spend lots of time outside in the playground when we come back after the Easter Holidays.

Have a lovely Easter time everyone!



Cherry Class

This half term we have really enjoyed continuing our *Getting Around* theme, our Sensory Story has been good fun and we have been enjoying the new songs and music.

We had a lovely visit from the Make Sense theatre company and experienced a story about *Bees V Wasps*! We had a great week this term for world book day where we shared lots of different stories together. A few highlights were *Stinkysaurus* and a touch talk version of *Cave Baby*

This half term we have been developing our grasp and release by playing ball games. We enjoy boccia and skittles, especially when the ball goes the wrong way and we knock into something else!

Have a happy Easter break!

Cherry class team



Key Stage 3

Aspen Class

Aspen class have had a lovely half term learning all about *shapes and position*. We have been going through tunnels at Camp Mohawk, down slides, up climbing frames and around the trees. We have enjoyed an all-encompassing immersive curriculum and loved taking our learning outside. In literacy we have been focusing on our space texts. We have made some great progress in our sentence structures and are doing very well with our comprehension of language. In PSHE we have been focusing on mental health and wellbeing and have spent a lot of time practising mindfulness and yoga. We have become very good at our lion roaring and tree poses! Towards the end of the term, we have been doing lots of RE. We have looked at Holi, Ramadan and Easter and enjoyed foods and crafts related to these festivals.



Cedar Class

In Cedar Class we continued our topic 'Moon Zoom' and we learnt more about *Space, Planets and our Solar System*. We also learn about *Day and Night*. We explored the stories '*Aliens love underpants*' and '*The Owl who was afraid of the dark*'. We also continued practising our phonics and maths skills using different fun games. This term we had the opportunity to visit the local Co-op where we got to experience shopping. We had a lot of fun finding things in our shopping list, helping pay using real money and pack away our shopping. We used the things we bought for our cooking lessons which was good fun.



Chestnut Class

Finn – I've enjoyed food play this term, especially squashing Weetabix into a plastic bottle.

Leo – We went on a train to Reading and learned how to buy a train ticket.

Maya – I put Weetabix in a bottle. It felt crunchy.

Reid – I designed my own alien called Bossman. He is an alien football player. He likes 2 sugars in his tea.

Anamol – I am doing a boat pose in Fitness Friday. It made me feel okay.

Taran – On the escalator at the train station.

Natalia – I've enjoyed threading Cheerios on a string in food play.

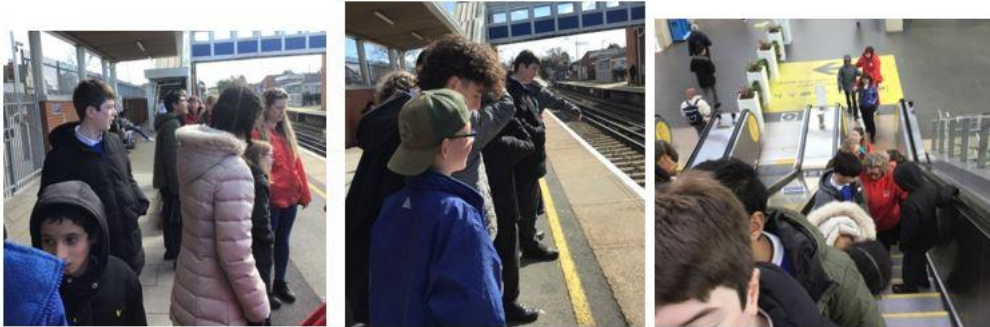
Teigan – My alien is called Hairy Mclary and I want to be like him.

Gracie – It was fun going on the train, and I learned that the escalators slow down when nobody is using them. I would like to do a longer journey on the train next time.

Billy – Fitness is fun but tiring. I enjoyed all of it and would like to do it again soon.

Melek – I liked going on the train but I didn't like waiting at the station. It was boring and too loud.

Aytan – Alien from outer space. Alien on a spaceship. Blast off!



Maple Class

Maple class have continued their 'Moon Zoom' topic this half term. We started by looking at the book 'Aliens Love Underpants'; we coloured in underpants, made aliens, described our aliens and found rhyming words. In maths we focused on *time, position and shape*.

In cooking we explored seasonal and celebration food; pancakes, Welsh cakes and Irish Soda bread were hits. We cut up and sniffed at seasonal vegetables such as leeks and cauliflowers. We had a go at making Easter treats too.

In music we continued our Jazz exploration which included a variety of instruments and several students auditioned for the Summer Concert. Drama saw us take part in camping while science was exploring electricity. At Camp Mohawk we took time to make natural art using small natural items such as leaves, stones and moss. Our final Camp Mohawk session of the term was an Easter Egg hunt!

Book Week involved watching and listening to our leaders' read stories over Teams, as well as dressing up and taking part in book related activities.

Finally we had several visitors too; Make Sense Theatre entertained us, students from Reading University learnt from us and Bailey the therapy dog ate our crumbs from the floor as we stroked him.



Sycamore Class

In Sycamore Class we have really enjoyed getting out and about this half term.

We had a great morning at Woodley library where we learnt about comic strips.

We learnt about train travel with Maddy when we did a trip from Wokingham to Reading train stations.

At Camp Mohawk we had great fun doing pancake races around the nature trail. We also had a go at pancake flipping – this was tricky!



Key Stage 4

Kite Class

Kite Class have filled another term with plenty of learning and activities, both on and offsite. We have been out in the community to new places such as Woodford Park and the Golfplex centre near Binfield, as well as further developing our shopping and travel training skills in more familiar parts of Woodley and Reading. This term, we have made a new lunch during our Kitchen Skills slot – baked potatoes with a variety of toppings and salad. We are increasing our independence in following the instructions for this and are constantly improving our clearing up/washing up skills, understanding that we need to work as a team and play a part in each stage of the cooking process. We have enjoyed another fantastic term with Make Sense Theatre, where we have focused on '*Planet Earth*' and *the environment*, in keeping with our KS4 project theme. In the classroom, we work on our phonics and reading skills, speaking and listening, and have focused on puberty and adolescence in weekly RSE. Finally, we have loved returning to the swimming pool at Bulmershe where all have made progress!

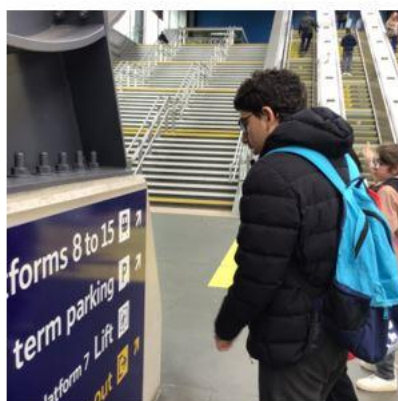


Swan Class

We kicked off the first day of term on Pancake Day, so pancakes were made and enjoyed by some of the class during project time. There was an opportunity to not only mix up the batter, fry and flip the pancakes but then to enjoy the results.



We have had a number of opportunities to go travel training this half term. Planning our journeys into Reading, visiting and completing tasks at Reading Railway Station such as finding toilets, asking for directions, using different signage at the railway station. Students have become more familiar and confident using a variety of different modes of transport, they particularly enjoyed train travel from Reading back to Earley Station, then using a map app find directions back to school.



Sixth Form News

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, but has not had a negative effect on the class team. Everyone has been enthusiastic and made the most of every opportunity despite the wet, windy and wintry weather.

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. 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 B.C.A, Reading College or Bracknell and Wokingham College. To access lifelong leisure and sporting activities, some of our young people continued to enjoy weekly swimming sessions at the Bulmershe Leisure Centre, while others have developed skills either in badminton and tennis at Woodford Park Leisure Centre or in Golf at a local Driving Range. 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 being '*What a Load of Rubbish*' our young people have been focussing on the principle of 'waste not, want not'. They have been caring for the environment by recycling and reusing items. They have enjoyed DIY activities, using a variety of tools. During these sessions they learn about the importance of identifying hazards, Health and Safety in the work place, and team work.

Travel and town training, and staying safe in the community has been practised. The highlight of this half term has been a residential trip which most of the class went on and thoroughly enjoyed.

After an eventful half term, a well-deserved break is looked forward to when, once again, everyone can recharge their batteries in readiness for another even busier term ahead. Eagle class wishes all a very happy Easter, and a safe and enjoyable break.





Kestrel Class

For book week students in 6th form took part in a reading treasure hunt around Reading town centre. They were required to find a variety of signs, logos and information boards.



Students in Kestrel visited Microsoft for a work ready day to find out what is required to become a games tester for Xbox. They were allowed to play and debug games that have yet to be released.



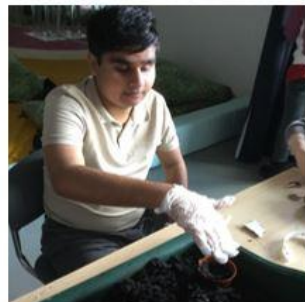
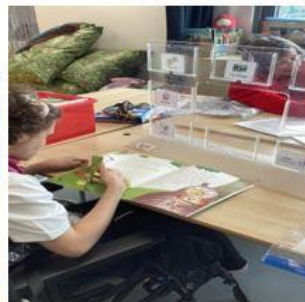
We have continued to embed our independent living skills. Some students are now becoming exceptional in this area.



This term, during our functional skills in computing lessons, students have been learning to code. They have been manipulating sprites (characters) and creating sounds to bring these characters to life.



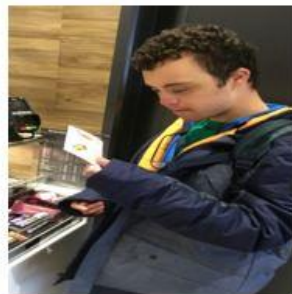
Owl Class



Owl class have had a wonderful half term! We have been focussing on our communication skills, working in class as well as in the community, visiting local shops, cafes and the library. We have practised our work skills at Ridgeline, following instructions and using equipment safely. In class we have been unleashing our creativity making choices about paint colours, and as always enjoying music with Sean – particularly exploring the trombone!

Robin Class

Robin class have been busy this half term! We have continued with our cooking lessons – aiming to make lunch as independently as possible, working on our knife skills using sharp knives to cut salads to go with our pasta, as well as clearing up afterwards! For a treat we enjoyed making Easter egg and Easter bunny chocolate rice Krispy cakes! In our project work '*What a load of Rubbish*' we have continued to study recycling symbols which is harder than you might think! Experiences of work have included bike maintenance where students have been using their fine motor skills to tighten bolts as well as emptying the recycling bins which also reinforces our project work. We have continued to visit cafes in town, concentrating on ordering clearly, and have had a brilliant time trampolining in PE to improve our core strength and leg muscles as well as our balance and coordination. We are continuing to enjoy working on our work skills at Ridgeline, especially on the rare days we have seen the sun!



Horticulture

This term the students have worked on Mother's day gifts, Easter projects and tidying up the greenhouse area ready for spring, we have also helped the site team with jobs around the school.

Sycamore class visited the allotment and planted some parsnip seeds which was great fun and we are now focusing on what seeds we can sow....SPRING TIME IS HERE!!

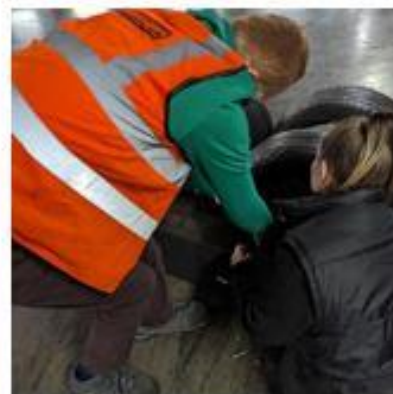


Hospitality

This term in Hospitality the students have been busy as ever keeping the café stocked up with lots of freshly baked cakes and opening up to staff and students 3 days of the week.



Work Experience



Creative Arts Page



It has been a great half term in the Creative Arts department with lots of fun and engaging learning taking place in lessons.

Music Lessons

Early Years have continued exploring space songs. They have been learning different playing techniques using the glockenspiels, exploring new metallic instruments to create a space soundscape and singing 'Mr Golden Sun' using Makaton signs to support.

This half term in Sensory and Complex Needs Music we have continued our Jazz Journey. With a focus on rhythm and improvisation, pupils enjoy sitting or lying on resonance boards when possible, feeling the beat through the boards. This half term, we have explored the music of Miles Davis, playing along to 'So What' with tambourines and switches. Gershwin's 'Summertime' has been enjoyed as a vocalisation and singing focus activity, while the pupils explored metallic instruments set to the more modern Lydian Collective's 'Overnight'. It's been a fantastic term of jazz, and we're all looking forward to where the next term will take us.



Key Stage 2, 3 and 4 have also been continuing to explore jazz. Students have been focussing on improvising, understanding the concept and using a blues and pentatonic scale to improvise on xylophones along to 'So What' by Miles Davis, 'Sweet Home Chicago' and 'Oh When the Saints'. Some students have learnt a 12 bar blues bass line and then played it in different keys to play more songs.

In the 6th form, the community

group visited South Hill Park Arts Centre. They had a tour around the centre and learnt what activities and facilities are available there. They have continued focus on developing ensemble skills and developing their independence to set up and rehearse their parts on their instrument of choice.



Art Lessons

Key Stage 3 classes have been developing the skills they learnt making their collage artwork last half. Using cutting, pasting and layering techniques, we have been working in 3D to create 'Art in a Box' (Dioramas). Working in pairs, students have been creating imaginary planet landscapes using a range of materials, such as cardboard, fabrics, pipe cleaners and plasticine. We have looked at the work of Diorama specialist Allison May Kiphuth to inspire our ideas!



In Key Stage 4, our Stop Motion animations are now complete and will go on the website by the end of term if you'd like to take a look!



6th Form Art community group have almost completed almost all of the canvases for the new classrooms at Addington School. Here are Elm and Cedar's boards – we are just waiting for them to be hung!

We are now thinking of making canvases for the specialist classrooms as we have been enjoying making them so much!



Drama Lessons

In KS3, the focus has been Physical Theatre. Students are exploring movement using appropriate physical contact to tell a story. We have used physical theatre to tell the story 'Man on the Moon. A day in the life of Bob' by Simon Bartram. Some interesting parts of the story have been shown using movement... a Rocket launching into space, aliens hiding in a crater and Bob coming home after a busy day on the moon and having a bath!



In KS4, Students have been busy completing work for their arts award accreditation. Students in group 2 have been researching their favourite artist and using their computer skills to find information on their chosen person.

Alyan researched Justin Bieber and found out he is from Canada. Amadu researched Dwayne Johnson (The Rock) The American actor and said he likes his fight scenes.

The Country of what Justin Bieber is from:

North America – Canada
Stratford, Ontario



His job is....

Actor



In KS5 we would firstly like to say a big congratulations to the following students; Ellie, Tobenna, Jake, Henry, Tom, Rowan, Danny, Summer and Christopher. These students are part of The Wonky Veg Theatre Company performed Hamlet on Tuesday 14th March as part of the Shakespeare School Festival. It was an intense day with many changes and all the company did us proud! We performed to a packed audience and even had a standing ovation at the end! Christopher did an excellent job in supporting his cast by operating the sound with the technicians at the theatre. Jake said 'it was the best day of my life!' We are hoping to perform Hamlet at Addington School in the summer term and would love as many people to watch an entertaining piece of theatre.



Immersive Theatre

This term, students have been going on a camping trip. They met some animals, gathered around a warm fire, and were visited by a wolf before having a bad night's sleep with rain and getting wet. Students have been exposed to many sensory experiences with shadow puppets, smelling cocoa powder, feeling warm gel bags and wet socks.



Addington Concert Series



We were delighted to bring back our Addington Concert Series for the first time since 2020. Students who have Brass, Drums and Guitar lessons have all performed to their peers, sharing what they have been learning so far this year. Well done everyone!

WASMA

Addington School participated in WASMA this year on Sunday 12th March at The Hexagon in Reading. The songs selected are from different decades over the last 90 years celebrate Queen Elizabeth II's life. We had 6 students involved and they were incredible. They attended both the afternoon rehearsal and evening concert. Well done Brayden, Peyton, Valerie, Harry, Teigan and Laiba!



Special Superstar Concert – Thursday 15th June – 7pm

We are delighted to also see the return of 'Special Superstar'. This a singing concert hosted at Addington School with choirs from other SEN schools from around Berkshire. The repertoire choices are made by the nominated 'superstars' who are given the chance to develop their performance skills singing a solo on the stage. Our superstars are supported by the choir of students who have rehearsed in their schools. They all meet on the concert day to rehearse and participate in social games to develop social and communication skills and make new friends. It is a fantastic project and we are looking forward to starting rehearsals next half term.



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 in 2023:

- Special Superstar Concert – Thursday 15th June
- Proms Week – Monday 3rd July – Friday 7th July

You can find regular updates on our music page on the school website
<https://www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk/pupil-pages/music>

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

Happy Easter everyone!

The Creative Arts Team



News from the Association

Email: AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a quiet few months for the Association, so not much to report on this time! I thought I'd just send a quick reminder of how you can support the Association from the comfort of your own home!

There are 2 ways which you can support the Association and I would ask that you please help us by either:

Joining the EasyFundraising website

With on-line shopping being the easy way to buy, every purchase made via the EasyFundraising website earns the Association a small donation.

EasyFundraising is the UK's biggest charity fundraising site. It's simple to use, and it's free.

EasyFundraising's 3,500+ retailers include big names such as John Lewis, M&S, Boden, Expedia, eBay, all the major supermarkets, holiday operators, insurance providers, plus a wide range of smaller and more niche online shops and stores.

What do I need to do to raise donations?

It's easy, just register on the site using the following link and then start shopping via the website!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/addingtonschoolassociation/>

Join Addington's very own School Lottery



Fancy having a little fun for as little as £1 per week? If so, then why not have a flutter on the lottery. Tickets cost £1 per week, with a cash prize available each week! You also have a chance to win the star prize of £25,000! Please follow the link below to reach our page.

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/addington-school-association>

Annual General Meeting

The Association will be holding it's AGM on Wednesday 19th April from 6pm-7pm. This will be held at the school. In order to ensure we have enough seating available, it would be appreciated if could contact me at Dawn.AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

Best wishes & hope you enjoy the Easter break.

Dawn Adams & all at the Addington School Association

Kind regards, Dawn Adams

Chair – Addington School Association

ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2022 - 2023



Addington School

AUTUMN TERM 2022

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

SPRING TERM 2023

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

SUMMER TERM 2023

Term Starts	Monday 17 April 2023
Bank Holiday for the Coronation of the King (school closed)	Monday 8 May 2023
Inset Day – (closed to pupils)	Friday 26 May
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June 2023 inclusive
Term Restarts	Monday 5 June 2023
Term Ends	Friday 21 July 2023

Inset Days – School closed to pupils

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

ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 - 2024



AUTUMN TERM 2023

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

SPRING TERM 2024

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

SUMMER TERM 2024

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

Inset Days – School closed to pupils

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