

Lancasterian

Inspiring each other and growing together to achieve our best

Inspire – Grow – Achieve

Hello and welcome

... to our termly newsletter. Don't forget to visit our school [website](#) , [YouTube channel](#) , twitter and our new Facebook page where you will find up to date information, photos and some amazing videos.

Autumn Newsletter

December 2022

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

So the Winter Break is here and the first term has been completed. I hope everyone is going to have a wonderful break and enjoy Christmas with their families.

The pupils have all worked so hard this term and made amazing progress. I have loved seeing all the learning the pupils have been doing and the new skills they have developed. I hope my weekly newsletters have given you an idea of what your children do in school. However, this term we have also had our parent times in classes where lots of you of been able to join in the activities. It has been great to see you back in school this year and I am looking forward to more visits next term.

The school has changed again this year and we are now able to use every part of the building. Our new food tech room, art room and training room are all finished and we have really enjoyed using them. The final parts of the project to change the exit doors will be finished this week.

Those of you who were able to come to our Christmas fair will have seen some of these rooms and hopefully we will be having more events in the spring and summer terms. Thank you to everyone who supported the fair through donating gifts, buying raffle tickets, and visiting on the day. It was a lovely event and we have raised over £1000! This is amazing but the best part was seeing the pupils being able to visit Santa in the Grotto.

We have had a lovely Christmas week in school with lots of fun activities. There has been lots of Christmas crafts and trips out. The tables for Christmas dinner were fabulous and the dinner was, as always, cooked beautifully by our cook and school kitchen staff.

The Christmas parties as ever are lots of fun and the pupils have really enjoyed being able to have a 'proper' party with their friends from other classes. Though we are always supportive of pupils who prefer a quieter party. This year we have had 2 entertainers, one a fun party entertainer and one a more sensory bubble experience. These were amazing for our pupils.

I have been immensely proud of all the teachers and pupils for their effort in making the Christmas Concerts a wonderful experience yet again. It was quite a shock for some of us to be back in the hall with a real-life audience. Some of our new pupils both young and slightly older had never experienced this but I thought they all did amazingly well!

The new year will bring more fun and quality learning for all our pupils. It will also bring more parent events and parent groups, look out on Facebook and Twitter and my weekly newsletter for dates. I cannot wait to see all the new ways our staff, pupils and yourselves can work together to **Inspire, Grow and Achieve**.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Alison Randall

Headteacher



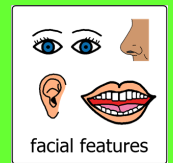
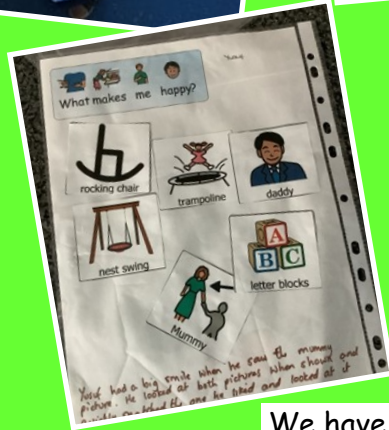
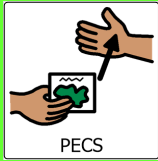
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Edited by J Greenwood

In Daffodils class we have been working hard on our communication. We have been using our pecs book to ask for a range of things. We are now using sentences strips to ask for our desired item.

Daffodil class



We have been learning all about ourselves! Learning about facial features and what makes us happy.

Lavender class

Lavender class enjoyed their Christmas trip to Redbank House Sensory Room, sharing spaces with their friends and making choices.



We have enjoyed our rebound sessions and swimming in our hydro pool this term, following instructions well.

Bluebells Class have had a very exciting term getting to know their new friends and for some pupils their new environment.

Bluebell class



We have enjoyed weekly sessions in the hydro pool where we have gained confidence in the water and enjoyed having fun with our friends.



We have been accessing our community through trips to the park where we have enjoyed using the equipment and learning how to act around unfamiliar people.



We have been using our bodies in different ways during PE and rebound sessions.



We have learnt about our bodies when exploring the topic 'Ourselves', enjoyed messy play in our creative sessions and experienced different foods during cooking.

Blossom class

This term Blossom have really enjoyed going out to the park. They have explored the play equipment and learnt how to take turns with each other as well as the other people in the park. We have all found pieces of equipment which we really love to play on.



We have also started to use the Hydro Pool. This has been enormous fun and some of us really don't like it to end! We have found that we can share this space with our friends, learn how our bodies move in the water and then increase our independence by getting changed at the end of the session. Splash sessions have been one of our favourite activities each week.



Rose class



Rose class has been learning about ourselves and what our likes and dislikes are. We have been using all of our senses to explore a wide range of materials, textures and movements to discover what we like or don't like. We use our different types of communication to express this to each other and the adults supporting us, either by using our voice, facial expressions or body movements.

Sunflowers class have been exploring making things happen by moving our bodies in different ways.

Sunflowers class

We used all our senses during multi-sensory learning to develop communication and anticipation.



We've used Engagement to find the best ways to learn and to develop curiosity.



Learning in our class has been lots of fun!

Jasmine Class have had a wonderful start to this year! The children have been working hard to form strong friendships with their peers in class, as well as developing their personal independence.

Jasmine class



Our story this term has been **'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'** - and the children have loved exploring the characters and plot in depth! We got to design and make our very own chocolate bars with some interesting ingredients - Oreos, fudge pieces, cheese and broccoli! Willy Wonka would be so impressed with our creations!



In Science, we have been learning all about animals - the food they eat, their body parts, and life cycles. We brought our learning to life during our Christmas trip to Smithills Open Farm in Bolton. We rode a tractor, fed and handled a wide variety of farm animals, saw some exotic pets, and watched cows being milked. We also got to experience a calf being born and taking its first steps! The farm agreed to name the calf Jasmine!

Acorns class

Acorns class have really enjoyed inviting parents in this term. We have enjoyed a Parents Afternoon Tea session as well as a Christmas Art Morning. We had a great turn out of parents to both events and the children were so excited to welcome their families into our classroom. There was a lot of discussion and collaboration and laughing! We are looking forward to our next parents drop in during the Spring Term - look out for details coming your way soon!

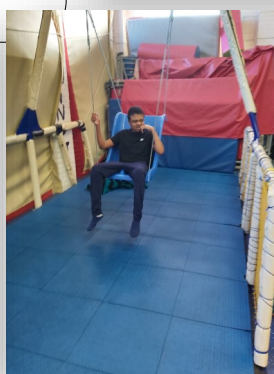


Elm class

This half term our topic has been **'Ourselves'**. In my world, the pupils explored various parts of their own body such as their **eyes, ears, mouth, feet and head**. You can see some of the activities in the photos. All pupils now have a better understanding of some of their body parts, some pupils can name and identify them.

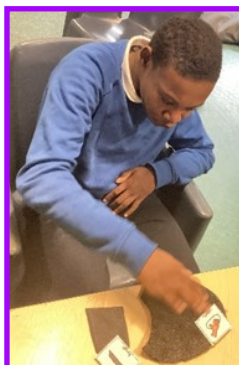


Elm made a class visit to **'Jump Space'** to use their trampolines. Over the course of the hour, all the pupils were able to access the trampoline with support from the 'Jump Space' staff or familiar members of staff. After the visit the class went to McDonald's - they chose their own food, used AAC to communicate their choices, waited in the queue for it to be ready and sat in the restaurant to enjoy it.



Pine Class have been busy this term with the topic **'Ourselves'** - we have been exploring with our senses to **see, touch, smell, taste and hear**. We have been thinking about our own preferences and made a range of food from pizza to noodles, from popcorn to Nutella on toast - dishes from the favourites list of each pupil.

Pine class



We have read two class books **'Perfectly Norman'** and **'What If?'** and explored resources around them. We have enjoyed experimenting with water and volume, number songs and naming and matching 2d shapes.

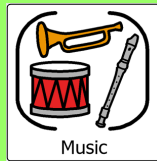
Our Art Work has been a collaborative collage in textures and colours. Our enrichment this term has been very tasty and healthy as we've made a range of smoothies and milkshakes!



Birch class



This term in Birch Class we have been to **Withington Café** to help the children learn how to exchange money for a choice of snack. We have also really enjoyed going swimming at **Hough-end leisure centre**. The children have been working on getting themselves changed independently for swimming, gaining confidence within the water and taking turns in the main pool.

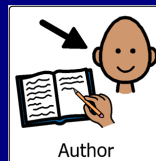
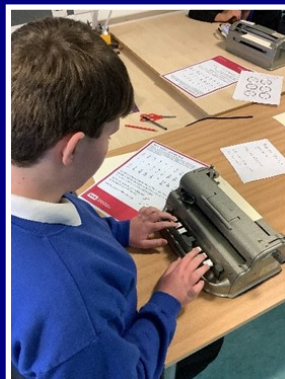
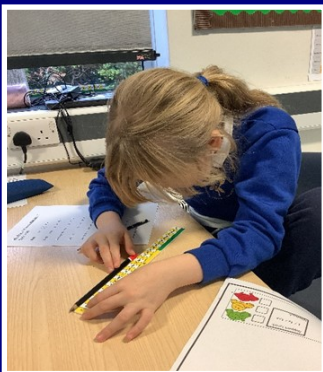


In English we have been learning our phonics and been doing some shared reading. In Maths we have been adding one more and finding the missing numbers. We have been giving our Bee-bots instructions in our computing lesson. In music this term we have been trying different musical instruments and following instructions of fast, slow, loud and quiet.

Maple class

This term Maple have had lots of fun inside and out of the classroom.

In our maths lessons we have been busy measuring length using **M** and **CM** and been doing lots of adding and subtracting. In English we have been learning about significant authors such as **Roald Dahl** and **Charles Dickens** and writing diaries as if we were on board the Titanic.



We have been on two fantastic trips, one to the **Science museum** in Manchester as part of our science topic and the other to **Inflata-Nation** for our Christmas trip. Much fun was had by all!



InflataNation
Inflatable Theme Parks

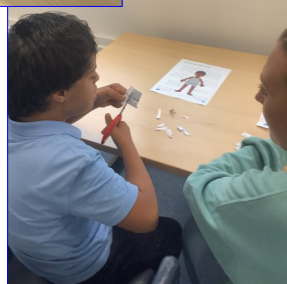
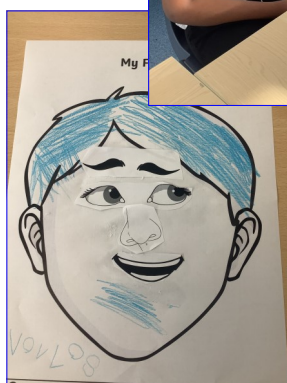


Sycamore class

This half term our topic has been 'Ourselves', where we have been learning everything about our bodies; how we feel and our likes and dislikes. Pupils explored various parts of their own body such as their eyes, ears, mouth, feet and head. They also explored different tastes and smells using foods and herbs. They were able to explore new things and decide whether they liked them or disliked them. We also enjoyed using music and movement to learn about ourselves.



This term we have been getting out and about in our community, exploring the local area and taking part in activities. We have been walking around West Didsbury, including regular visits to the park and high street. We have also been swimming at Hough End Leisure Centre, where children have been developing their water safety and awareness skills, and becoming more confident in the water.



In Rowan class we have been settling into our new classroom environment and welcoming new friends to the school. We have been working hard on our topic this term - 'Ourselves', using a mirror to recognise our facial features and taking pictures to identify what we look like. We have been exploring how our bodies can move in our PE sessions - balancing on different obstacles and climbing and jumping on and off the equipment.

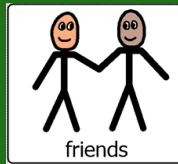
Rowan class



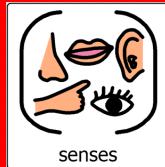
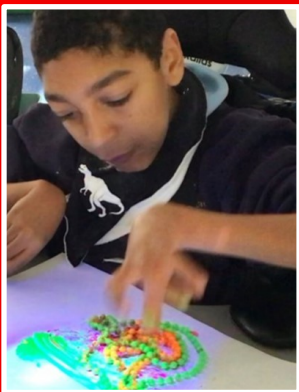
Our main focus has been learning about our new class mates, how we can help each other and celebrate our individual victories. We have been going out into the community for swimming lessons and local walks to the shop and sometimes the park and we have enjoyed practising some key life skills such as road safety, shopping and paying for items and staying calm in public. Overall, we have been progressing in confidence and enjoying having fun in and out of school.

This term Cedar have been really busy; not only have we had to work out how to work together as a class, but we have also been exploring other things. In science we have been looking at forces and resistance. In DT we have been challenged to build things and in food technology we had to invent cakes and sandwiches!

Cedar class



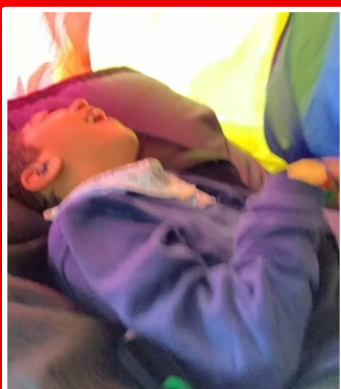
Willow class



This term Willow class has been exploring the topic "Ourselves". One of things we did was explore self-portraits. We explored each of our senses to make each piece - neon paints for eyes, spice painting for our noses, and noisy foil painting for our ears!



We have also been having lots of fun exploring water in our water play sessions and bouncing in rebound!



Beech class have had a fun filled Autumn Term getting to know their new friends and staff.

Beech class



We learned to cook Italian food with our staff Luca and Sinti who are from Naples and Milan. It was super tasty!

We started off with a charity coffee morning which we invited all our friends in other classes to. We got to know some of our families too!



As the days got colder, we ventured into town for the Christmas Markets.

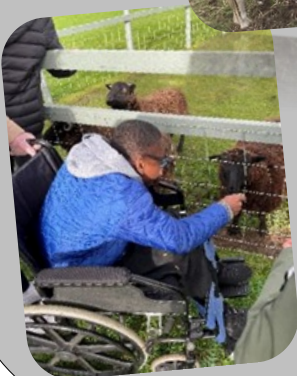
Next we celebrated Halloween in style!



We are learning to be independent and when we are with our friends we are so much more confident!

Oak class

Oak have had a fantastic first term at school and have been working very hard on our English and maths as well as our **Asdan** and **DofE**. One of our highlights was our visit to **Adventure Farm**, we enjoyed lots of fun and engaging activities including feeding the animals and cooking around the camp fire. We will be returning after Christmas to do some volunteering for our **DofE** award.



One of our other highlights was our visit to **Manchester United**, Old Trafford, we did this for our **World of Work** lessons finding out how large companies work and all of the different roles that exist at Old Trafford. The children had a very informative day including getting a guided tour around the stadium.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Christmas came into full swing with our Christmas Fair on the 1st December. We were pleased to see lots of visitors, including family members and people from the local community, enjoying all the wonderful stalls and activities. We even had a visit from Wingman and Rachel off Capital Radio's The Rob Ellis Show. We put them straight to work selling raffle tickets!



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS AND CELEBRATIONS

There have been lots of fun activities taking place in school including, Christmassy crafts, Christmas trips, Christmas dinner and parties. We even had a visit from the big man himself!

On the 13th and 14th December we held our Primary and High School Christmas Concerts. The pupils and staff had worked very hard to put on a performance that showcased all our pupils wonderful talents and interests - whether that be singing, dancing, shaking a bell, dressing a Christmas tree or jumping out of a box! It has been a long time since we put on a live performance and for some of our pupils this was the first time they have been on a stage. Well done to everybody!



RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS UPDATE

We are well on our way in our journey to become a Silver Rights Respecting School. Our steering group have been meeting regularly to discuss what we need to do in school to make sure everyone is aware of their rights. Classes have been busy making posters to promote the different articles.

A group of pupils attended Manchester's first RRS mini exhibition and network event which was held at Friends meeting House in Manchester. The pupils were able to chat with other schools and share ideas and good practice. We are hoping to have our own stand at the next event where we can showcase what we have been doing in our own school. Look out for updates in the new year!

