



Lancasterian

Inspiring each other and growing together to achieve our best

Inspire – Grow – Achieve

Spring Newsletter

March 2023

Hello and welcome ...

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

**Message from the
Headteacher**

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of a term is a great time to look back on all the successes we have had and to look forward to what we have still to come.

Spring is upon us, with the lighter evenings and the splashes of colours in the flower beds. We can look forward to the warmer weather and being able to get out and about more, which I know lots of our pupils really enjoy. Though at the moment we will definitely need wellies and waterproofs!

This time last year we were just starting the Enthuse Project; a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths collaboration with Siemens. Well now we are getting on with this and at the moment we have groups of pupils starting to design and build their own model rollercoaster. This is part of a competition with the other schools involved and I am sure ours will be the best! However, regardless of the outcome the pupils will be developing their 'Skills for life' including teamwork, communication and project management.

We have had lots of fun whole school events this term such as 'World Book Day', Comic Relief and lots of sports events. I am sure this newsletter will give you more information about all of these.

Our parents evening this term was again really well attended. We will continue to offer both in person appointments and telephone appointments however it was lovely to see more parents coming in to school. We had our communication lead teacher and our pastoral lead teacher available during this event to share information and to answer any parents questions. I know that many of the parents found this useful.

We have also had lots of learning celebration events for parents, giving everyone opportunities to visit their child's class and join in activities. Everyone really enjoys these; seeing how their child is learning in school, meeting their teachers and meeting the other parents. If you haven't managed to attend one don't worry, there will be more coming up.

We are keen to provide more events such as coffee mornings for parents to get together and information or training events for parents. If you have any ideas of things you would like to know more about, please do let your class teacher know and we will do our best to accommodate these.

The end of the spring term always brings our Egg competitions and Easter events. All the classes have been decorating eggs as well as taking part in lots of Easter or Egg activities. We have also had our first Easter assembly for a number of years in which we were joined by the Vicar of Christchurch in Didsbury.

Finally, I also want to announce that we have been awarded the **Rights Respecting Schools Silver Award**. This recognises our commitment to ensuring that our pupils learn about their rights and that all children have their rights met. I want to say a big thank you to Jackie Greenwood for leading on this and to all the staff and pupils for their hard work. We will be carrying on with this and developing the work to possibly include the community.

Kind regards

Alison Randall

Headteacher

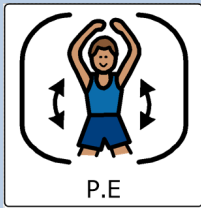
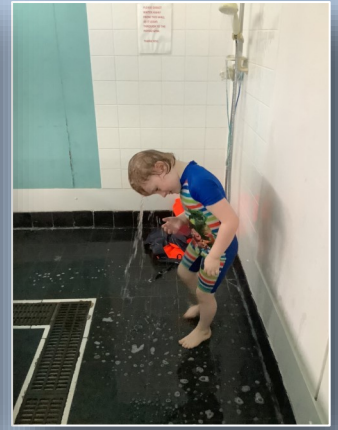
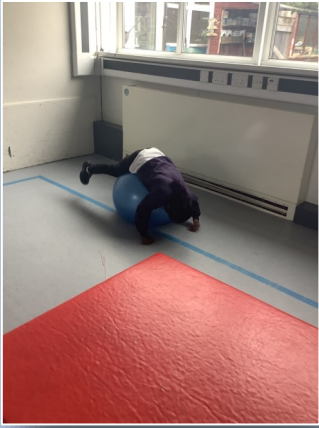
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Edited by J Greenwood

This term we have enjoyed going to the hall for our P.E sessions with Manchester City.

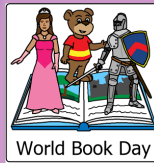
Daffodil class



We have loved our splash sessions and have been working on our independence skills by washing our hair and body after each session.

Lavender class

Lavender class enjoyed World Book Day. We had some fantastic costumes and we enjoyed a range of activities linked to different books. Our favourite was making Gruffalo crumble!



We have been working on our cutting and chopping skills in our cooking lessons and looking out for dangers in the kitchen.



We celebrated International Women's Day making things for the important women in our lives.



Bluebells Class have had an exciting term learning about the world around us. We had a successful trip to Adventure Farm where we were able to feed the animals, take part in the forest school by roasting marshmallows and accessing the amazing outdoor play area.

Bluebell class

We have been accessing our community through trips to the shops where we have enjoyed buying food to eat during our snack time. We also had a fantastic time each week cycling at Wythenshawe Wheelers.



We have been cooking during our Enrichment classes this half term and we have made cheese toasties and biscuits, which were both delicious!



Blossom class

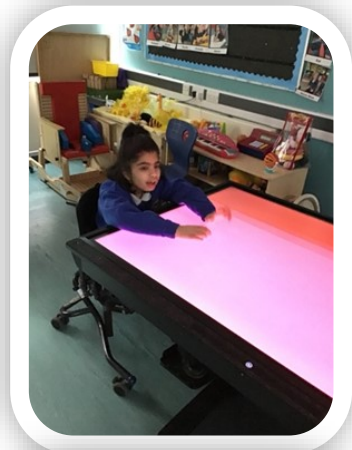
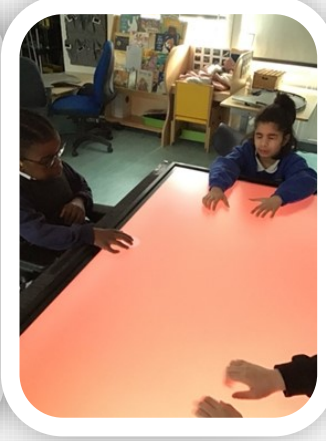
Blossom class have taken part in lots of activities this term. We have been thinking about how our bodies work and how we interact with the world around us. We completed lots of science work including experimenting with magnets, seeing which objects float and which sink and even looking at our bodies.



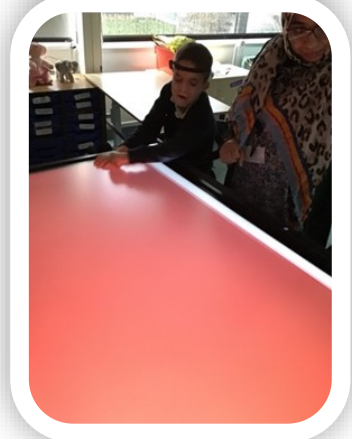
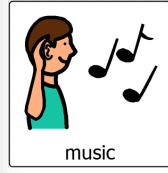
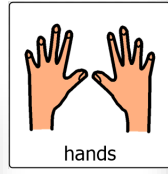
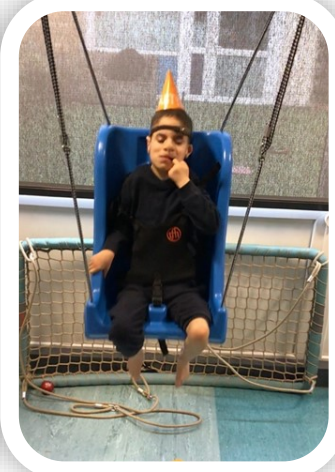
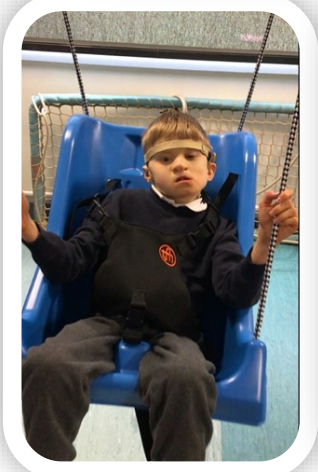
We have been using our bodies to climb, ride bikes, play music and even read books. We continue to have lots of fun in Blossom class and get to experience a wide range of activities.

Rose class

Rose class have been using their interactive white board to explore cause and effect. We have explored our hand movements and what happens when we move them in different ways. We have been using the program *patatap*, which makes different sounds depending on how we tap the board. We have loved using it either independently for quiet sounds but also as a group and seeing how much music we can make with our hand movements.



We have also been exploring our movements while using a swing. We have loved going slow and fast. We have been using our hand under hand signing and our voices to request for "more" or when we want it to continue.



To explore the theme of 'The World around Me' we have been reading the story of the Three Little Pigs, using photos and symbols to sequence and match.



We read all about a little girl called Camille who met a man Van Gogh who did paintings, and created process-based art using lots of natural materials.

We shared the story 'Walking Through the Jungle' and explored lots of living things.



We used our bodies and experienced movement in different ways.



We explored festivals that happen in the Spring, including the festival of Holi. We wore white T shirts that built in colour every week we repeated the activity.



Learning in our class has been lots of fun!

Sunflower class

Jasmine class

Jasmine Class rode on the Metrolink into Manchester City Centre, and visited The Museum of Science and Industry. We explored all the exhibits and activities on offer in the museum, using our scientific skills to experiment with sound, movement and visual effects, in order to learn more about the world around us.



We have also been learning about Christianity in RE. We have a lovely link with Christ Church, who have come into class to teach us about the Baptism of Jesus. We have also visited the church ahead of Easter. We got to experience and participate in the different important events of the Easter Story, as we learned about Jesus's death and resurrection.



We invited parents to come along on our trip to the Museum of Science and Industry and later went on a walk around the Roman gardens.

Acorn class

We enjoyed linking our learning in science and DT to the experiments on offer at the museum where we explored light and sound.



Elm class

In Elm Class we have been cooking food dishes from around the world.

We enjoyed making and eating Spanish tortillas and egg fried rice.



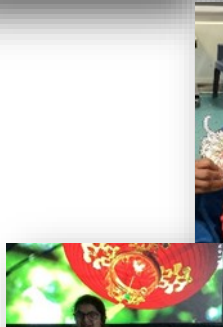
Pine Class have been enjoying their topic 'The World Around Us' this term. We have been cooking food from many different countries including noodles, vegetable pakora and wali wa kukaanga.

Pine class



In P.E. we have been working with the coach from Manchester City to build some persistence in our fun activities and had some time with the Rebound Trampoline Programme.

Our Art Work for the first half term has been looking at animal patterns using found objects to make a similar print e.g. bubble wrap for snake skin and in the second half term we completed a Class piece inspired by Andy Warhol screen print 'Flowers'. In music we have been listening, shaking and even bhangra dancing!



In science we have been looking at animals from around the world. We have planted bulbs and are taking care of them and finding out about plants in our local environment.



But the highlight of the term has to be seeing animals from around the world at Knowsley Safari Park!

We really enjoyed our inspirational visit to Manchester Art Gallery where we were able to look at and interact with the art displays.

Birch class

On World Book Day we dressed up as our favourite Mr Men and Little Miss characters.



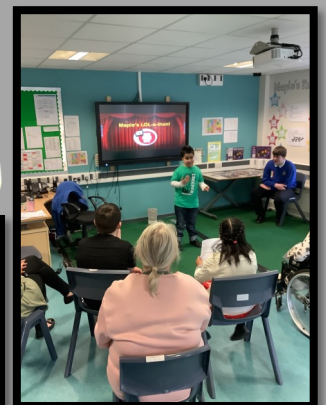
In Enrichment this term we have had lots of fun trying new things. We followed gluten and dairy free recipes and tried new foods during food tech. We did a litter pick around school to start our Eco / local environment topic and have visited Cavendish park and Marie Louise gardens to think about things we can smell, hear and feel. We borrowed litter pickers from Manchester City council to do litter picks whilst we were there too! #keepmanchestertidy

Maple class

This term we have been learning about different places of worship in our RE lessons. We visited a Synagogue in Hale, Manchester Cathedral and the Buddhist Vihara in Wythenshawe where we experienced a meditation session on love and happiness.



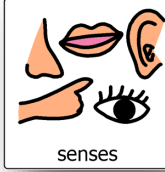
For World Book Day we dressed up as characters from Alice in Wonderland and had a story telling session from the Mad Hatter!



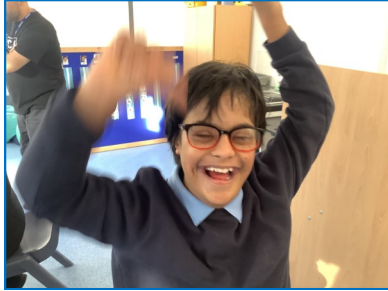
We held a class LOL-a-thon for comic relief where we told our favourite jokes in front of a special audience.

Sycamore class

We have been sharing sensory stories including *Handa's Surprise* by Eileen Browne, *Anansi and the Pot of Beans* by Bobby Norfolk, *Rainbow Bird* by Eric Maddern, *Granny Ting Ting* by Patrice Lawrence, *Aesop's Fables* by Martha Lightfoot, *The Tiger Child* by Joanna Troughton and *Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen. We have been using our senses of sight, smell, hearing, taste



This term our overarching theme has been "The World Around Us". We have been exploring different cultures from around the world, reading stories related to them and discovering their culture, including music and art.



We have enjoyed continuing our swimming programme this term. We have also been taking part in Rebound Therapy on a Friday, where the children have the chance to work with a specialist therapy team using the trampoline.



Our focus in Communication has been learning to make choices to help us tell others what we want, what we need and how we feel. We have been focusing on understanding questions and building our vocabulary to help us be more independent.

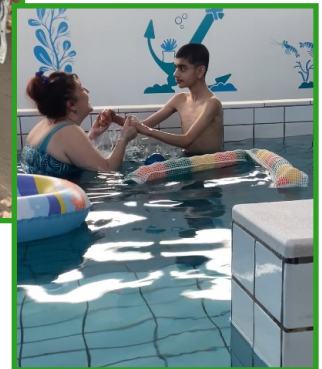


Rowan class have been taking part in lots of activities this term relating to 'The World Around Us'. Our weekly visits around our local community have given us a better understanding of important life skills such as road safety, shopping and being aware of the immediate world around our class. We have also been looking at the wider areas of the world each morning, watching videos and looking at pictures of some countries that some of our class call home e.g. Poland, Ireland, Somalia, Pakistan amongst others. We have been deciding which places would be our choice if we could go and visit!

Rowan class



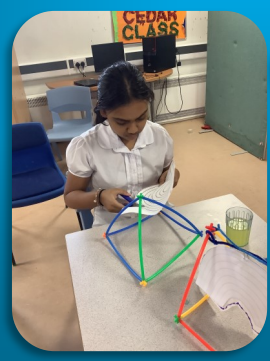
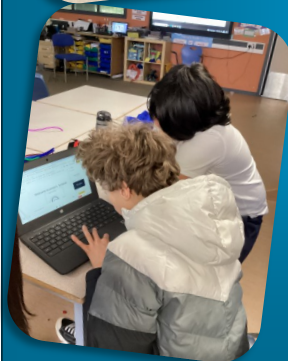
We were very excited about our weekly rebound therapy sessions. It was amazing to see so much progress made in 7 weeks! We are very proud of everyone who took part.



We have enjoyed our PE sessions with Manchester City where we have been practising our balancing, throwing and catching and independence skills. Everyone has participated to the best of their ability.

To celebrate **British Science Week** Cedar Class spent the week investigating the **connections** between things and how we can improve the world. We started by designing and making a plastic free theme park. We then investigated how we could turn milk into an alternative to plastic, and finally we looked at capillary reaction on both paper and in our bodies by making colours move up the page and investigating what happens to our tongues when they are faced with really sour food (toxic waste sweets). We finished the week investigating which would make a better explosion- mixing Mentos or toxic waste with coke and vinegar.

Cedar class



Willow class

This term some of our pupils in Willow class have had lots of fun in the hydro pool during our play and splash sessions .



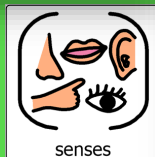
When the weather has been fine, we have been exploring our local environment by going on walks close to school.



We have also been lucky enough to have a turn on our new indoor swing!



The children in Willows have been using their senses to explore different textures.



Beech Class have been exploring this term.

We explored our local community and we found a Café in the hospital! We all ordered a drink and paid independently.



Beech class

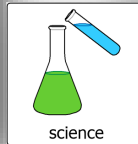
We explored the Trafford Centre when we went to watch Mathilda the Musical.



The most fun we had was in Science lessons exploring chemical reactions. We made cornflour slime, we mixed vinegar and baking soda to make potions. The most successful experiment was mixing vegetable oil, vinegar and baking soda to make a 'lava lamp'.



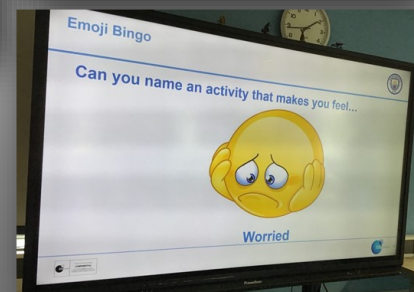
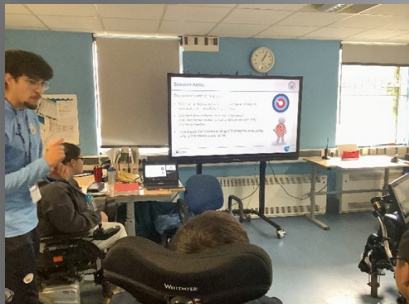
In enrichment sessions we have explored new art media. We made mini mosaics!



It has been great fun to explore with Beech Class and we are looking forward to new adventures in the summer.

Oak class highlights

Oak class have had a busy term with our curriculum, working hard on our maths and English and preparing our year 11 students for their exams, which will take place during the summer term. We have many highlights but one of the highlights was our wheelchair rugby sessions on a Wednesday with Megan from Sale Sharks. The children have improved their ability to use a chair and have improved in their ball handling skills.



Another highlight is the Manchester City 'Thrive' Programme which provides our class with an opportunity to look at their mental health and wellbeing. These sessions have been fantastic and the children have got really involved and have so far got a lot out of these sessions. They provide the children with practical solutions to help them when they feel the need to take some time out and reflect and how to control emotions in certain challenging situations.

CITY IN THE COMMUNITY





RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS UPDATE

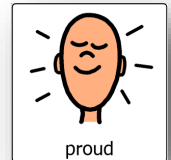


We have been on a journey to become a rights respecting school and following our recent accreditation visit we are pleased to announce that we have been awarded SILVER for our commitment to the teaching of children's rights within school. This award recognises that we are now a 'Rights Aware' school and that we are showing good progress embedding children's rights into our school's practise and ethos.

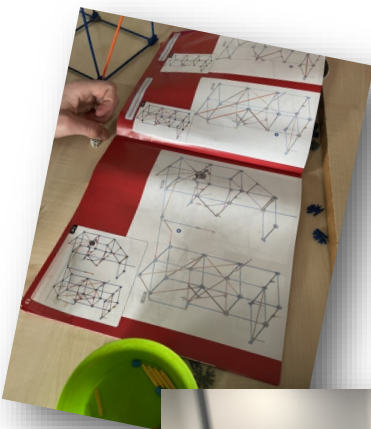
We will be continuing on our journey, working towards the Gold award. Look out for further updates on social media and newsletters to keep you informed of what is going on in school.



A group of pupils from across primary and High school spoke to our regional adviser, Kathy, via a video link. We are incredibly proud of them.



We have been taking part in a STEM Science project with 6 other schools and Siemens, our business partner. During the last week of term we took part in a Rollercoaster Challenge, where pupils got the opportunity to build rollercoasters using a variety of resources, and test them to see how they work and how we could make them even better. Siemens provided us with a mentor for the day and the resources we needed to complete the challenge. Everyone involved had a great day experimenting together.



ENTHUSE Partnerships for schools and colleges

ENTHUSE Partnerships improve young people's attainment and engagement in STEM subjects and develop awareness and understanding of STEM careers.

For more information, check out the website

www.stem.org.uk