



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](#) or our [YouTube channel](#) where you will find up to date information and some amazing videos.

Autumn Newsletter

December 2021

Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

So Christmas is finally here and I hope that everyone will be able to enjoy the winter break spending time with family and friends.

In school we have all tried to make the pupils have the most normal and fun time in school we can. We have kept many of our events virtual, such as assemblies and concerts, however, the pupils are really engaging with these and very used to them now.

Classes have enjoyed a full and varied curriculum this term which I don't feel has been detrimentally affected by Covid. The pupils have all had fun and engaging learning opportunities both in and outside of school. I hope my weekly newsletters have given you a flavour of these and I know the classes will have shared more information with you via the home school diaries.

We have had lots of WOW moments this term, some you will see in the class pages that follow. One of the big moments for me was the opening of our hydro pool. We are making sure everyone is confident and safe in the pool and so only a few classes have used it so far. However, from January all of our primary classes can use it (if they don't already go swimming), all of our pre-formal classes and some of our high school pupils have a timetabled slot. My second big moment was Angelica giving a speech at the full city council meeting. She spoke passionately about climate change and received a standing ovation.

We have had a lovely Christmas week in school with lots of festive activities. There has been lots of Christmas baking; gingerbread houses, chocolate spread Christmas cakes, festive cookies. The food theme continued with our Christmas dinner, which as always is cooked beautifully by our cook and school kitchen staff.

We have also had a very exciting visit by the big man himself Santa! This year he brought his sleigh and one of his elf friends! All the pupils enjoyed meeting him and having a sing song outside with his sleigh.

The Christmas parties as ever were lots of fun with Christmas games and discos in all of the classes.

I have been very proud of all the teachers and pupils for their effort in making the Christmas Concerts a wonderful experience yet again. I loved being able to join you all over zoom watching the performances. This year, as always, there were some very memorable performances.

I know that we may be wondering and perhaps worrying what next year will bring. I know one thing that won't change; how much fun and quality learning our pupils will have in school! I also cannot wait to see all the new ways our staff and pupils can work together to **Inspire, Grow and Achieve**.

Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Alison Randall

Office address: Elizabeth slinger Road, West Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2XA **Phone:** 0161 445 0123

Email: admin@lancasterian.manchester.sch.uk **Website:** www.lancasterian.manchester.sch.uk

Edited by J Billett

Lavender class

This term we have settled into our classes well and begun to make and develop friendships.



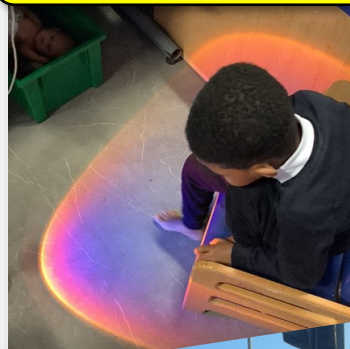
We have explored the school trikes, experimenting fast and slow.

We have explored autumn and the changes in seasons.



We have been strengthening our mark making skills, mark making in different textures.

We have enjoyed our creative expression sessions, learning about properties of materials e.g soft, hard, rough.



We have been going for walks into the community, learning about road safety.

Daffodils have settled in well to their new class and new school. We have done some exciting things this term.

Daffodil class

We have been building up our relationships.



We have been working on our communication using PECs books.



We have explored a range of sensory play materials.



We have been working on our mark making and fine motor skills.



We have enjoyed our time in the hydro pool and have made lots of yummy and healthy snacks in cooking!



Bluebell class

Bluebells have done a variety of exciting activities this term.

We have explored a range of sensory and messy play activities, exploring how different materials change.

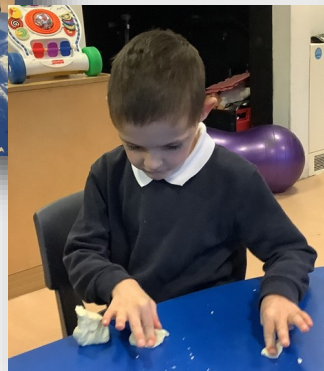


We have been working on our communication using PECS books.

We have been working on mark making using a variety of different materials.



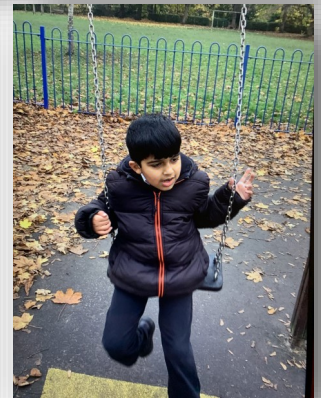
We have been developing our fine motor skills using playdough and threading activities.



We have enjoyed making and exploring different food in cooking.

Blossom class

Blossom Class have had a very busy term. Our topic this term has been **changes**, which we have been exploring through various stories such as 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. The children have been working hard on their independence skills through cooking, gardening and hygiene routines and have been developing their communication and social skills.



We have also explored **seasonal changes** through sensory activities and class walks to Cavendish Park. We have enjoyed Halloween, Diwali, Bonfire Night, Children in Need, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas through a wide range of activities.



We were lucky enough to be visited by a brass band recently, which the children loved!

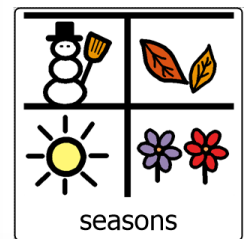
Rose class

This term, our theme in Rose Class has been changes.

We have explored different stories, such as the 'Pumpkin Soup story'. As part of this story we visited our school kitchen to experience the smells and noises.



We have been for walks around the community where we have explored the seasonal changes; we were lucky enough to experience snow!



We celebrated some festivals like Diwali and Halloween.

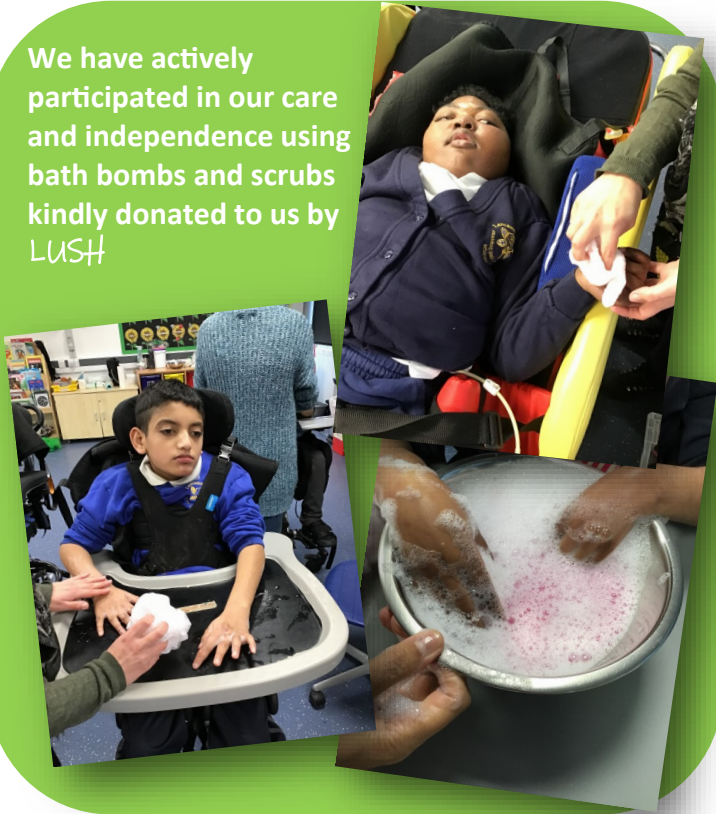


We also enjoyed a live music session.

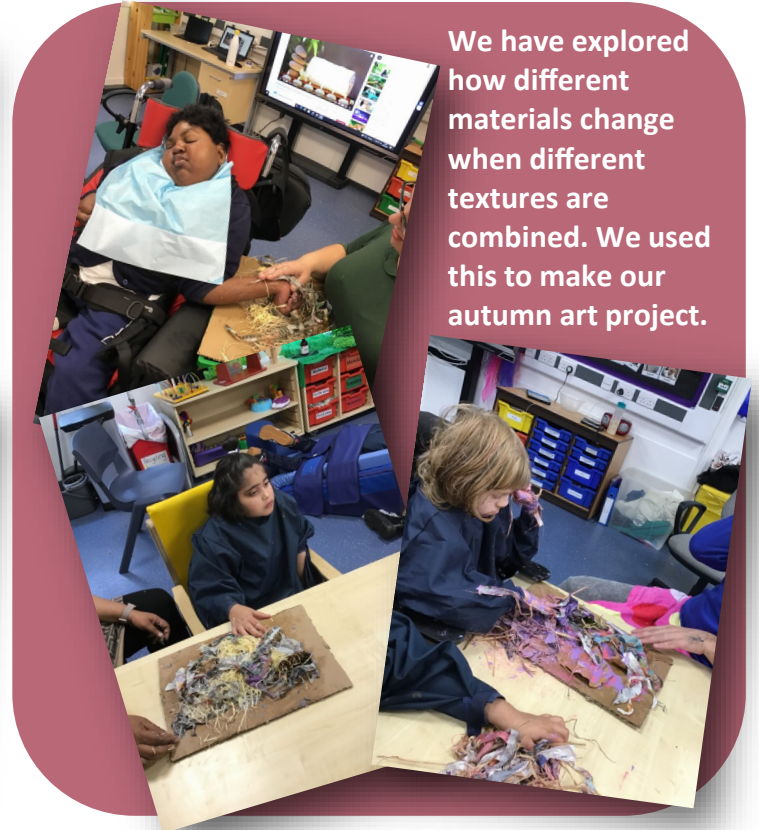
Our theme for this term has been *changes*.

Sunflower class

We have actively participated in our care and independence using bath bombs and scrubs kindly donated to us by LUSH



We have explored how different materials change when different textures are combined. We used this to make our autumn art project.



We had a terrifying Halloween sensology, exploring different textures, carving pumpkins, and using switches to interact with our haunted house.



We have travelled around the world experiencing the different types of winter festivals during our Winter festivals drama.

Jasmine class

This term has been very busy in Jasmine, we have been learning how to play with our new friends and all share as a group with our favourite game - Happy Street.



In computing we started this year exploring bee bots and seeing how we could program them to move and to draw, you will see our next project soon as we edit videos.

In enrichment we started this year seeing what happens to plants and the best places to grow them, and how to pot them.



We also really like music and playing with different instruments. We made an amazing tune to a robot theme and started playing together to create a musical melody.



Acorn class

ENGLISH

This term we have been focusing on Shakespeare. The pupils have really enjoyed listening to, reading and retelling the story: **A Midsummer Night's Dream.**



Shakespeare

Name: Tyrese Date: 23.11.21

Learning Objectives:
 To show an understanding of what the text is about by selecting pictures, symbols, objects, words that relate to the text.
 To show an understanding of the events in book by selecting pictures, symbols, objects, words that relate to specific events.
 To begin to retell a story using props, noises, symbols and/or words.
Reading 8
 To use signs and symbols to write about a story.
Learning Outcomes:
 I can show an understanding of events in A Midsummer Night's Dream.
 I can use symbols to write about the beginning of the story.
 Key: 1 - independent, 4/5 - Minimal Support, 2/3 - Full Support

This is Puck.

Hermia loves Lysander.

Name: ABBY Date: 24.11.21

Learning Objectives:
 To begin to retell a story using props, noises, symbols and/or words.
 To use signs and symbols to write about a story.
Reading 8
 To use signs and symbols to write about a story.
Learning Outcomes:
 I can show an understanding of events in A Midsummer Night's Dream.
 I can use symbols to write about the beginning of the story.
 Key: 1 - independent, 4/5 - Minimal Support, 2/3 - Full Support

Deep in the magic forest Titania and Oberon are arguing over a white snake of Titania's hair.

Oberon is causing Puck to take the magic flowers.

Hermia is asleep and Puck puts a magic flower on Titania's eyes.

Name: MATHIAS Date: 14/11/21

Learning Objectives:
 To begin to understand a story and other texts have a narrative.
 To begin to express this by sequencing pictures related to the story.
 To begin to retell a story using props, noises, symbols and/or words.
Reading 8
 To use signs and symbols to write about a story.
Learning Outcomes:
 I can show an understanding of events in A Midsummer Night's Dream.
 I can sequence the beginning of the story.
 Key: 1 - independent, 4/5 - Minimal Support, 2/3 - Full Support

Listen to the text and match the correct pictures to sequence the beginning of the story.

This is Puck. He is a Hobgoblin. He has magical powers but he is always getting things wrong!

This is Hermia. She is stressed and in a proper mess!

Hermia's dad wants her to marry Demetrius.

MATHS

During Maths we have focused on **Addition and Subtraction**. Some of us are working on addition and subtraction to 50, others are working with numbers to 10 and some are focused on numbers to 5. We are using a range of different strategies to count, add and subtract. For example, using objects, pictures, number lines and number tracks.

$1 + 2 = 3$
addition

Name: JESSICA Date: 12.21

Learning Objectives:
 To represent and use number bonds and related subtraction facts within 20.
Reading 8
 To use signs and symbols to write about a story.
Learning Outcomes:
 I can show an understanding of events in A Midsummer Night's Dream.
 I can use symbols to write about the beginning of the story.
 Key: 1 - independent, 4/5 - Minimal Support, 2/3 - Full Support

2 - 2 = 0

3 - 1 = 2

11 - 8 = 3

15 - 3 = 12

6 - 1 = 5

20 - 3 = 17

9 - 4 = 5

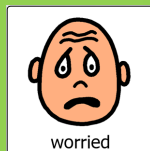
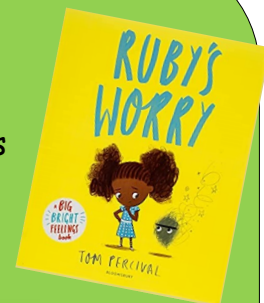
18 - 2 = 16

10 - 6 = 4

7 - 3 = 4

PHSE

The class have been focusing on identifying and naming different **feelings**. We have been thinking about our worries - what makes us or people around us worry? and how we can help others and help ourselves?



worried

Name: Lacey Date: 3.12.21

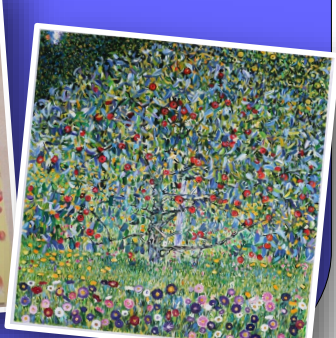
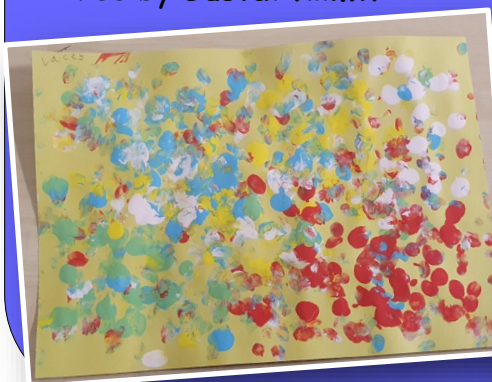
Learning Objectives:
 Identify what makes us feel upset, angry, worried, anxious, frightened.
 Demonstrate simple strategies to help us manage our own being feelings.
Reading 8
 To use signs and symbols to write about a story.
Learning Outcomes:
 I can talk about what makes me feel worried.
 I can talk about how feeling worried makes me feel.
 I can think about what a worried person might look like.
 I can try to think about how I can help myself or someone else if they are worried.

Things I worry about

feeling poorly, seeing new person, insects, a mean person, home work, change

ART

We have been learning about the changing **seasons** and using different famous artworks as inspiration. For example, for our summer trees we looked at a piece of art called Apple Tree by **Gustav Klimt**.



My 0 to 10 Number Line

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Pine class

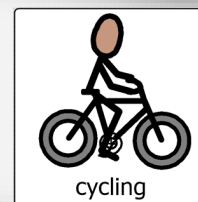
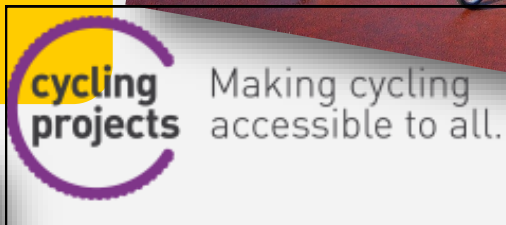
Pine Class have had a super Autumn term!

Our topic this term has been "Changes" and we have been exploring how many different things change. We have enjoyed sensory stories such as *The Hungry Caterpillar*, *The Gingerbread Man*, *The Three Little Pigs* and *Jack and the Beanstalk*.

We have also been enjoying taking part in Attention Autism sessions, working on our concentration, turn-taking and sharing resources, all through sensory interaction.



Earlier in the term we had a weekly trip to **Wythenshawe Wheelers** to use a range of specially adapted bikes. We had lots of fun trying different bikes and getting some great exercise too!



We have enjoyed our weekly trips to **Cavendish Park**, walking to and from the park through our local community. We have been learning how to cross roads safely and enjoy the sights and sounds of the high street.



We had a fantastic end of term trip to **Wythenshawe Park**! We wrapped up well against the weather and had a great time exploring and playing in the park. We visited the café there and sat down to have a snack and drink. Everyone had a great time exploring the park and adventure playground together!

Elm class

Elm class have explored the theme of changes. We have looked at changes in the seasons by reading books about the seasons, exploring seasonal colours, items and animals.



We experienced changes in the weather by continuing our park and community trips regardless of the weather. The pupils learnt about appropriate clothing for the different weathers and how this affected skills such as crossing the road.



We also worked on our motor skills by creating autumn pictures through our process art.



We explored how the taste, texture and temperature of food changes when introduced to heat or cold. We made pizza, spaghetti and sauce and ice cream among other things. The pupils also practiced life skills around clearing and rinsing their plates.



Our topic in Willow this half term has been "Changes".

Willow class

We have explored our stories "It was a cold dark night" and "The birth of a Star".



We have also been exploring textures that change.



We have had fantastic opportunities this term in Willow.

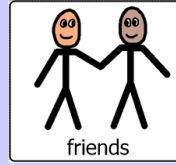


We have had rebound therapy on a Friday and a visit from the A4 Brass band.

We have made a fantastic start to the new half term and the pupils have been busy working in all areas of their learning.

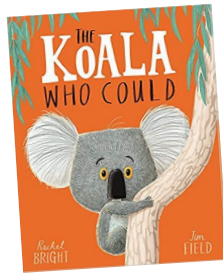
As part of anti-bullying week, we have taken part in some activities to think about how to develop positive friendships and what to do if we or someone we know is being bullied.

Birch class

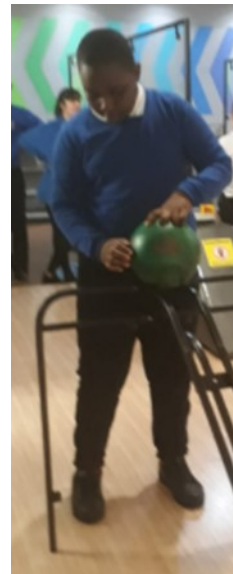


We have enjoyed baking and decorating fairy cakes for Children in Need.

We have been working on numbers and counting, division and sharing, and Autumn stories including the Leaf Man and The Koala who could.



We have had a great time rehearsing for the Christmas Concert, and really enjoyed our Christmas trip out to Parrs Wood Bowling.



We have enjoyed exploring materials and making bread as part of our science topic.

Maple class

What a great start to the new school year!

In English we learnt how to write in the first person through dairies and recounts. Then we moved on to explore the story of 'The Tempest', for our topic on 'Shakespeare's Plays'. We described the characters, we filmed news reports sharing the main events and enjoyed pretending to be the characters during hot-seating activities.



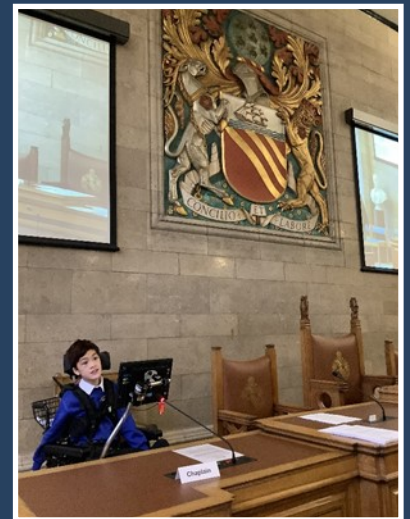
In maths, we have been learning how to use the column method for harder addition and subtraction sums. Then moving onto using directional language to describe movement.

Last half-term in science we learnt about 'how we breath', where we created lungs and learnt about how we inhale and exhale. During our most recent topic we revised 'changing states of materials', before learning what happens to our recycled household waste.

We have been exploring the UK to identify human and physical features and have also developed our signing skills during our BSL lessons.

We all enjoyed attending an improvisation workshop at Hope Mill Theatre and our visit to Manchester United, where we had a PE lesson and a tour of the museum and stadium.

One member of Maple class was chosen to deliver a speech to Manchester city council about climate change - we were all very proud!



Beech class

In Beech Class, we have had a brilliant term. We have written autobiographies, learned about Romeo and Juliet and studied changes in Science and PHSE.

Our most favourite thing has been spending time together! It has been lovely to be able to be with all our friends again. We loved Halloween! We had a great party.

We even went trick or treating!!



And played Bob Apple!

Best friends Ethan and Brian made a pumpkin together!



And we looked very scary!



We learned about trust by directing our friends around school.

For our Christmas trip we went to the cinema to watch 'Boss Baby 2' and we explored the Trafford Centre. We have been practicing these life skills so that when we are older we can organise trips and visits with our friends and family.



Best of all we have had a brilliant Christmas with our fantastic friends in Beech Class!



Oak class

This term the pupils in oak class have been starting their **Duke of Edinburgh award** and focusing mainly on the expedition and volunteering side of the award. They have been walking around Didsbury, collecting rubbish from the local parks. They have been out in all weathers showing great resilience and determination. In total Oak class have walked 155 miles which means we've walked to London and just shy of Dublin. We've collected 52 kilograms of rubbish which weighs the same as a giant octopus!



What is the D of E?

A life-changing experience. A fun time with friends. An opportunity to discover new interests and talents. A tool to develop essential skills for life and work. A recognised mark of achievement; respected by employers.



The pupils have also been undertaking their **sports leadership award** where they have been learning to take and deliver sports sessions for the other children. They have been learning what makes a good leader and about different types of sports games. They have all shown brilliant leadership skills and will hopefully be receiving their award in February.



Oak team have also been taking on coding challenges on the laptops and making their own games on Studio coding. Coding is the foundation of all video games and animation and the pupils have been playing their favourites like Minecraft, Star Wars and also making their own dances for Just Dance.