



Watergate Newsletter

Autumn 2024

Welcome to Autumn 2024 edition of our school newsletter.

A message from Linda...

What an action packed and enjoyable term it has been. You will see from all of the wonderful photos how much fun learning the children have been doing.

I would like to say a big thank you to all our families for their continued support and engagement – it is a pleasure working with you and seeing you at school events.

I would also like to say a big thank you Variety and Lidl for their continuous and generous support for our children and families.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable festive break and we very much look forward to see the children return on Tuesday 7th January 2025.



Sky Class

We have had an absolutely amazing first term in Sky Class and the new children have settled in beautifully, expressing their interests and strengths in our morning choosing sessions and trying out lots of new things throughout our weekly timetable. The older children have done fantastic modelling to help their new peers understand our class routines and some beautiful bonds have formed as children are making new friendships.

We have thoroughly explored our Topic this term which was Me and My World, doing lots of self portraits, exploring our cultures, learning about national holidays. In the last few weeks, we have had lots of fun exploring the fantasy and Jurassic worlds and have made some fantastic art for our display. We have gone on trips to the Bellingham school to go swimming and explore the outdoor areas and some children went to the Pumpkin Patch in October! We have enjoyed lots of sensory play activities, lots of attention building and creative activities but most of all, we love MUSIC! All our children love to play and listen to lots of different music and we have had the best time of all during our musical circle times.



Ruby Class

This term in Ruby Class, we have explored the story 'Cave Baby'. We have been exploring cave materials through sensory and forest school activities, we have made mud pies as part of cooking sessions and we have been exploring animals that live in a cave by exploring their features, the sounds they make and recreating them through our amazing art work. The children have really enjoyed this topic and you can see them taking part in lots of related activities in the pictures below.



Lavender Class

This term in Lavender class we have been focussing on 'Doing it Yourself' fostering independence across all areas of the curriculum. Our topics have been 'Fantasy Worlds' and 'Celebrations'.

Lavender class have learnt how spread butter on to bread to make sandwiches, use scissors and painting equipment with increasing accuracy and we have really focussed on making requests also.

There has been a lot of laughter and fun and we have collectively building relationships which has positively impacted upon our disposition to school life and learning





Chestnut Class

Chestnuts' journey to discovery

It has been a pleasure to see how little Chestnuts have been growing, experimenting and learning about the world around them. Children have discovered new friends, different cultures, new places in the community, beautiful resources and materials... the joy of exciting learning adventures! We have been very proud to see them building self-confidence and trying new experiences. Chestnut class team wish you all an amazing winter break.





Olive Class

Olive Class have been going on a Dinosaur discovery adventure!

This term in Olive class we have been going on a Dinosaur discovery adventure. On our journey we explored scrunching leaves and swishy swashy grass. We meet some bright and squawking birds and made our own edible mud. Olive class have really enjoyed exploring the different textures and sounds in the story. They particular enjoyed making their own edible mud and were able to mix the ingredients together independently!



Amber Class



Amber Class have been working hard on learning through sensory experiences. We have had so much fun this term with cooking, trips out, circle times, reading and recognising symbols, playing together and doing amazing art activities. Everyone has done so well with working together, sharing spaces and resources and making friends.



This autumn term has been full of exciting adventures in Primrose Class! We've had a blast cooking up delicious treats, creating amazing artwork, and staying active in PE. Our "All About Me" theme has inspired fun activities and helped us learn more about each other. We also enjoyed some fantastic trips that made this term extra special. What a fun-filled, creative, and energetic start to the school year!



Red Class

Red Class have had a truly brilliant term, filled with kindness, laughter, and connection as we've welcomed our new students and helped them settle in. Everyone has worked hard to create a warm and friendly atmosphere, taking the time to find out what each student enjoys most. From exploring sensory play and discovering favourite textures and sounds to using our equipment to navigate the classroom and school, the students have embraced every opportunity to connect and grow together.

Paloma's music sessions have been a big hit, with lots of drumming, singing, and dancing bringing the group together. Trips to soft play have been filled with giggles and excitement, while intensive interaction has helped us build lovely bonds. It's been wonderful to see friendships blossoming and everyone finding their place in Red Class – what an amazing start to the year!





Yellow Class has been very busy this term. We have been exploring the world around us in many different ways. We discovered our own world and our families' worlds, finding things we love and sharing them with our new classmates. We found that many of us love bubbles and playdough! We were excited by the visit from the Fire Brigade and loved trying on their fire suits and helmets. We also visited the Pumpkin Farm, where we picked our own pumpkins. We brought them back and shared them with our friends, and had a great time scooping out the insides and carving them. We have been very busy cooking and are learning how to follow recipes and measure out our own ingredients.
Well done, Yellow Class!





Green Class

Role play

In green class we have had a fun packed term. We have been doing some role play based on our topic Fantasy World. Look at the children looking after treasure in the tower. We were trying to keep safe from the fiery dragon and had a fun sensory journey through the "woods"

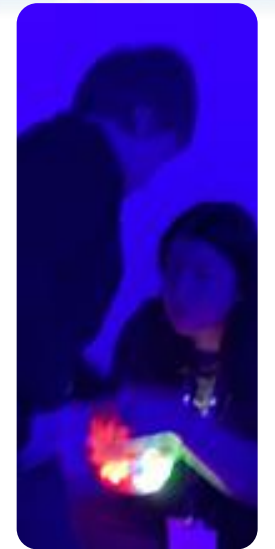
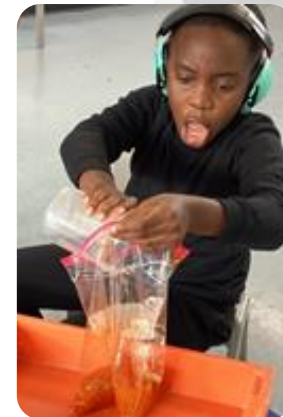
Spa

Green class have also been running a weekly spa of Fridays, offering great services to peers and adults. The children have been in charge of making appointments, collecting money and treatments like the wonderful icing sugar.



Blue Class

Blue Class had enjoyed a wonderful term and have been keeping very busy! We have worked really hard to learn about new routines and have tried out lots of new activities! We have loved taking part in PE and Yoga sessions, we are very active and also love to swim. We have been focusing on our "all about me" topic and have made some beautiful artwork in the process. We have had so much fun learning about different cultures around the world and cultures in history, we particularly enjoyed our Cave Baby story. We learnt about different people who help us and even explored a real-life fire engine and tried on firefighters' clothes. We have tried out some different science experiments and enjoyed learning lots of new things. We have made lots of noise in music sessions and kept our attention for lots of interesting bucket sessions. We have had a brilliant and very busy term!





Violet Class

This term, Violet class has been full of excitement and discovery as we explored our topic, "Our World."

We've had the chance to get to know each other better while participating in a variety of engaging activities.

Through music, art, sensory exploration, and physical activities, pupils have been building their communication skills, learning to work together, and growing in independence.

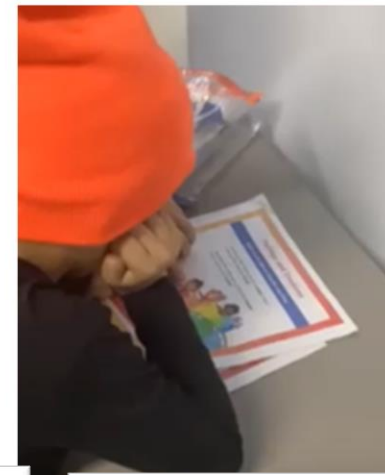
We especially enjoyed exploring our sensory rooms, and sensory stories which added an extra layer of fun to our learning experiences!





Pink Class

This term, in Pink class, we have been unlocking our potential by developing and practicing a variety of communication skills, and expressing ourselves through writing, playful interactions, and creative art.



Orange Class



Orange Class has had a busy term! We have enjoyed amazing sensory experiences to enhance our learning about ourselves and our environment. We are making fantastic progress with our communication, recognising and using visuals to access our learning and life skills, and to express our opinions, wants and needs. We also had a really fun trip out to the Maritime Museum in Greenwich.



Silver Class

Silver Class went on an exciting trip to the pumpkin patch, and what an incredible day it turned out to be! We lucked out with gorgeous weather—perfect for exploring the fields, enjoying the fresh air, and, of course, picking the perfect pumpkins. Everyone had a wonderful time choosing their pumpkins, with smiles and laughter all around.

When we returned to school, the fun didn't stop there! We shared our pumpkin haul with other classes and staff around the school, spreading the joy of the season. Back in class, we got creative and carved some truly impressive designs into our pumpkins. But the real highlight was watching them fizz and bubble during our science experiment with bicarbonate and vinegar—it was a magical sight that had everyone amazed.

To top it all off, we channelled our inner chefs and turned some of the pumpkins into delicious homemade pies. They were an absolute hit!

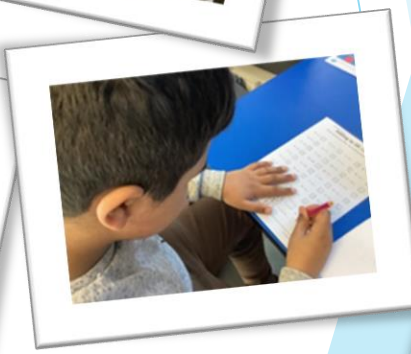
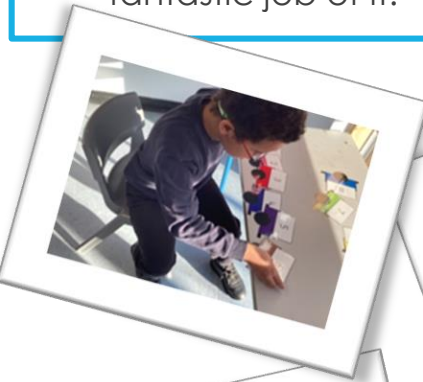
A big thank you to everyone who made this trip such a memorable experience. It was a day filled with learning, creativity, and autumnal fun that we'll all remember fondly!

Until our next adventure.



Peach Class

Peach Class have been focusing on working as a team, sharing play and learning with each other, and bringing joy to everyone at school. We even managed to visit some other classes, the office and Linda to do some singing. We did a fantastic job of it!



Lime Class

Lime Class have had an amazing start to the year! We have made lots of new friends, celebrated birthdays, been on a trip together and enjoyed lots of different activities with each other!

Our favourite sessions this term have been our sensory and messy play sessions! All of the children have been exploring different textures and items and have started giving their opinions on them as well!

The children in Lime Class have also loved doing a range of different art activities that link to different seasons and holidays around the world. They have used different mediums to make lovely pieces of artwork all together and we can not wait to do more next term!



Aqua Class

Aqua Class had an amazing time at the pumpkin patch this year, where we chose some big pumpkins to take back to school and other small ones to take home. The children loved exploring the patch, picking out their perfect pumpkins.

Back at school, we used our pumpkins for a variety of fun activities. We worked together on a big pumpkin clean-up as the pumpkins were very dirty from the pumpkin patch. The children worked together to clean the pumpkins, making them nice for our activities. Next, we had a creative session carving the pumpkins. We used the carved pieces to create pumpkin prints in our art lessons, where the children enjoyed stamping their unique pumpkin patterns onto paper.

In addition to the fun activities, We counted the pumpkins, explored shapes and used them in number songs. We used the pumpkins for science experiments where the children explored the insides, examining the seeds and pulp. Finally, we planted the pumpkin seeds in our sensory garden.





Gold Class

This last half term in Gold class we have been learning about different fantasy stories and exploring different music genres, such as disco and reggae. We started the year exploring dinosaurs and ancient cultures, including ancient Egypt and ancient Greece. We have made strides in our PE sessions, exploring yoga, dance, football and hurdles. Our class has enjoyed lots of outdoor learning.



THANK YOU

We would like to give a big THANK YOU to Variety Golf who raised £16000 for us to purchase two brand new mobile hoists for the school.

Tony Negal and Jamie Little came to visit us earlier this term to see the hoists in action and meet some of the children who are benefitting from them.

It was a pleasure to show them around and we hope to continue to develop this partnership.



THANK YOU!

Family Coffee Mornings

This term we have had a range of coffee mornings, including drops in with the therapists, Makaton, a meeting with a local councillor to ensure that there are accessible activities and facilities for our children.

The coffee mornings have been well attended and parents are forming a great support group for each other.



CinderBella Panto

This year's pantomime was a great success, all of the children enjoyed the interactive story 'CinderBella', it was lovely to see the children joining in and having lots of fun. I think the performers had a great time too!

A big thank you to Molly for writing the Panto, the cast and the children and supporting adults for making this happen.



Ho Ho Ho!



We were lucky to have Santa pop in to both our Ladywell and Bellingham sites, to meet the children and give them a present!

It was wonderful to have some families join us too to share the festive celebrations.

A huge thank you to all Santa's Watergate Elves who created magical grottos and Winter wonderlands.





Watergate Wonder Tour

This year, the Watergate Wonder Tour hit the road once again, spreading joy and music throughout the community!

Our talented performers visited Downderry School, Athenley School, Alexander Care Home, and our friends at our Ladywell site. It was great adventure filled with fun, smiles, and unforgettable moments.

Thank you to everyone who joined us on this singing journey - we can't wait for the next one!



Team Watergate: Sports Report

A Taste for Running!!!

Four of our pupils attended a frame running taster session at Sutcliffe Park in November, and were very excited to go for a run on a proper athletics track! They were very speedy and worked so hard to make it all the way around the 400 metre track. One of us even managed it four times! If you are interested in taking your child frame running, which happens at Sutcliffe Park on Saturdays, you can register your interest at:

<https://bit.ly/FrameRunning-Greenwich>



Fancy giving Frame Running a try?

See the poster below for details...

Frame Running Sessions

Frame running sessions for children and young people aged 5 - 17 with a disability that affects your mobility and ability to walk or run independently

- **Where:** Sutcliffe Park Sports Centre (outside athletics track), SE9 5LW
- **When:** Saturdays - 2.30 - 3.30 pm
- **Ages:** 5 - 17 years old
- **Cost:** £3 per session
- All equipment provided



Register your interest here:

 <https://bit.ly/FrameRunning-Greenwich>
Or scan the QR code



For more information, please contact:

 020 7993 9883

 Disability.Inclusion@AccessSport.org.uk

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