



ADDINGTON NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly I would like to extend a warm welcome to all families and carers that are new to Addington School and I hope that your child or young person has settled well into their new class. It was nice to see so many of you at our coffee morning and it has been equally good to see some more of our parents face to face during the course of this term – it's been a long time since we saw some of you in person!

We have been lucky to be able to fully reinstate the curriculum after the many restrictions of the last 18 months and you will see the varied amount of activities in the newsletter that pupils have enjoyed.

We have also been able to officially open our new Early Years Sensory playground that has many exciting play areas – it was wonderful to see the pupils rush to each one to try them all out and you can see their delight in the photographs in the newsletter! I am sure it will support some excellent learning opportunities in the Early Years curriculum.

However, despite our return to a full curriculum, Covid cases in school children has been at an all-time high and Wokingham has the 2nd highest rate in the country at my time of writing. We have been relatively lucky at Addington to have had a low number of cases and in order for it to remain this way, please remember the following:

- Keep testing children over 12years with Lateral Flow tests in the half term and particularly on the **Monday night** before they return to school.
- Don't send children back to school after half term if they have any symptoms or there is someone in the household that has symptoms or has tested positive.
- Get the flu vaccine if members of your household are eligible

Finally I would like to say goodbye and thank you to a very long standing member of staff, Tania Hemstock, who has been at Addington over 22 years. Many parents will know Tania, as she has been the OT assistant during her time here as well as a Manual Handling trainer, and has ensured that many of our pupils have the correct equipment and are safe and comfortable. We wish her well in her next ventures!

Have a good and safe half term and we look forward to welcoming all pupils back on **Tuesday 2nd November**.

Yours faithfully

Sara Attra



Working together to keep safe this half term

The chance of catching and spreading the virus remains high, especially when crowded together indoors. Please remain cautious when mixing with friends and family this half term:



Choose to wear a face covering when socialising in indoor venues



Try to meet outside where Covid-19 particles can blow away



If you are meeting inside, let fresh air in by opening windows and doors



If you have no symptoms, check you aren't infected by taking regular lateral flow tests



Book a PCR test if you're feeling unwell and have symptoms



Stay home if you are feeling unwell to help protect others



Self-isolate if you test positive for Covid-19, or if you're a close contact and aren't double jabbed

We are continuing to work closely with schools to ensure children and young people get the best education offer possible after the half term break. You can help by taking care during half term.

Be cautious, be careful, be kind.



WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have come to the end of our first half term of the year, and the winter nights are drawing in!

We have been extremely busy, settling all the new pupils who have joined us at Addington this academic year, and helping support their parents.

It was fantastic to see so many of our new parents at the New Parents' Coffee Morning, and great to hear how well so many of our young people are settling in! A huge thank you to Kate Stonehouse an ex-parent who also works for Promise Inclusion (previously known as Mencap) who shared her experiences from when her son started at Addington and to Dawn Adams a parent and the Chair of Addington Association.

I would like remind you that if you would like any help, support or advice or in completing any benefit forms, please contact me by email at ellie.robinson@addington.wokingham.sch.uk.

Also, please remember that the [Family Support page on the Addington website](#) can provide you with a good starting point for accessing clubs, services and charities.

Best Wishes,

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 Bracknell & Districts Mencap

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 Wokingham Mencap on 0300 777 8539 for more information.

Happy School Bag Collection

A big **thank you** to parents for their contributions to the Happy School Bag Collection...we raised
£129!

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.

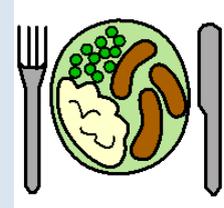
If your child has school dinners, and there is a balance outstanding on your account, we would be grateful if you would kindly clear this balance as soon as possible.

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 £2.15
Secondary lunch is £2.35



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.

Second-Hand Uniform available

We have a large quantity of second-hand school uniform available - if any parents would be interested in purchasing any items, please contact Emily Marchant via email: emilym@addington.wokingham.sch.uk and provide details of the size you require. She will then be able to put together a selection for you.



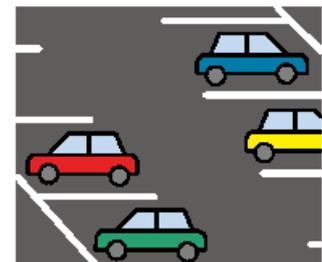
We ask for donations as follows:

Logo sweatshirt / cardigan / polo shirt - £2 per item
Logo waterproof jacket / fleece (if available) - £4 per item
Non-logo items (trousers/shorts etc) - 50p per item



CAR PARKING REMINDER

1. All drivers **must** use the one-way system marked out by the cones and road markings
2. **Only** park in marked spaces and not on the end of rows
3. All pedestrians **must** use the zebra crossing and the pavement when walking children to and from the site. **DO NOT WALK** on the road by the side of the gates where there is **no pavement** as a short cut. This is very dangerous and could result in an accident





Headteacher's Award Winners



Congratulations to the following students:

Early Years

Alayah Briggs
Ananya Uppal
Arjun Singh
Cecil Oduro-Koranteng
Elliott Jones
Firdevs Kilic
Jackson-Rey Parnell
Lochlan Davis
Maisie-Leigh Weatherley
Malachi Bilankulu
Mason Gurung
Matthew Wiggins
Naga Bajamahal
Oscar Howard
Ryan Waller
Thomas Bothwell
Tim Catnach-Rumkee
Unyime Akpan
Wali Khan

Key Stage 2

Alexia Velo
Ayaan Sharda
Basil Malik
Brayden Caston
Oliver Tyrrell
Teigan Ransby-Craigs

Key Stage 3

Connor Richardson
Emily Potter
Jeremy Eitokpah
Laiba Saqib
Sophie Chatt

Key Stage 4

Benji Winter
Jack Cannon
Josey Thomas
Tom Nicholls

Key Stage 5

Abhishek Das
Adem Barhoumi
Angelina White
Daisy Cripps
Nathan Hunter
Tylier Lynn
Usma Jamil

Complex / Sensory & Therapeutic Needs

Amelie Ledger
Ben Felton-Hodson
Finn Warboys
Lexi Reid
Mahdi Padia
Reinhardt Taute
Rosalie Sutton
Tom Cannon



SPORTS PAGE



After School Sports Club

We have been lucky to benefit from the services of a coach from London Irish Rugby Club at After school Sports Club this term. Karl has delivered Tag-Rugby sessions and been a great hit with the students.



London
Irish



OUTDOOR LEARNING

Bronze & Silver D of E presentations

Congratulations to both the **Bronze** Group & **Silver D of E** groups from 2020-2021 for successfully achieving your awards. This award has consisted of 4 sections:

- Volunteering
- Skills
- Physical
- Expedition x 2

All students presented their PowerPoint to the senior management, parents and peers in the 6th form hall. They spoke of what they enjoyed, found hard and learned from their epic experiences. All said they really enjoyed their D of E and would love to do it again. **Well done, what a massive achievement.**

A big thank you to Ian Brown, Amanda Giles, Wendy Boonaert (volunteer), Kim & Simon Mead and Catherine Hand for all your hard work in making this award happen and so successful.

Mel Pengraeve (Head of Outdoor Learning)



OUTDOOR LEARNING – CAMP MOHAWK

Key stage 3 students have been enjoying attending Camp Mohawk on a Tuesday morning in a 3 weekly cycle. They have enjoyed the outside space, running around and playing on all the equipment. They have been working on collecting natural materials to spell out their names.





Mel Pengraeve (Head of Outdoor Learning)

OUTDOOR LEARNING – Key Stage 2 MUD KITCHEN



Willow, Pine and Rowan class have been enjoying outdoor learning classes in the sensory garden on a Tuesday afternoon. They have been learning how to make mud cupcakes and drinks and get used to getting their hands dirty. The students have really enjoyed the freedom of being outside and being one with nature.

Mel Pengraeve (Head of Outdoor Learning)



Early Years



Daisy Class

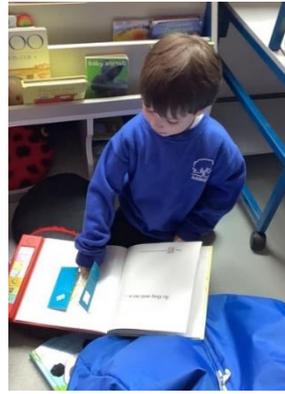
We have been having lots of fun in Daisy class this half term. We have several new pupils so have been busy getting to know each other. We all like playing with light toys, instruments and enjoying sensory stories. We made our own special class books about our bodies, which we loved sharing altogether. We have painted with our hands, explored foam and jelly, and squeezed different scented playdough. We have sung lots of songs about our different body parts, such as 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes'. Hydrotherapy has been a huge success, with all our children settling so quickly into using the pool. We have made our own little sensory area in our classroom, and we enjoy turning all the lights and bubbles on, exploring our senses and tracking. We have also loved our new sensory playground, it's so exciting!



Sunflower Class

It has been a busy first term in Sunflower Class! The children have been enjoying getting to know school and exploring all of the different rooms that we visit around school such as the Splash pool, Soft Play, Sensory rooms and of course the swimming pool! The children have been learning and getting used to their new routines at school and are doing very well! To fit with our theme of 'Marvellous Me and My World' we have been looking at family photos, and the children have been making choices by looking, pointing, and using their preferred methods of communication to identify photos of themselves and different family members.





Tulip Class

Tulip class have had fun exploring the new sensory playground. We have really enjoyed being back in the hydrotherapy pool and are working hard on our transitions around the school. We also enjoy cooking sessions on Monday afternoons and doing pre-sensory circuits on Thursdays. Our favourite books this half term have been "Handa's Surprise" and "Elmer". We have worked hard on using PECs especially at snack and lunch times.



Primrose Class

In Primrose class we have enjoyed exploring "Marvellous Me and My World"; we have had great fun exploring all of our senses! We have spent time investigating and engaging with different materials, new toys and equipment; such as frozen sensory play and finding buried numbers in sensory materials.

We are having fun actively engaging in our daily "Wake Up Shake Up" routine and parachute games. We have particularly enjoyed sensory relaxation times when the classroom is transformed into a tranquil darkness with calming music and light sensory toys to explore; often we try out our favourite yoga poses too.

The highlight of this term has been the new Early Years playground and being able to use the swing, spinners and explore the sand.

We have enjoyed the sensory stories "This is me" by Eric Carle and "Monkey Puzzle" by Julia Donaldson; we have actively explored them through song and movement with props and soft toys.

Stacey and Yvonne are really looking forward to teaching next term's theme "Colours and Christmas" and have lots of exciting ideas!



Lily Class

Our topic this term has been "Marvellous Me and My World" which has covered our faces, our bodies, and our families. We have labelled parts of our bodies, sung songs about our bodies, painted and collaged self-portraits, learnt about growing up, shared photos of our families and learnt about different family members.



We have been working hard on our literacy skills this term. We have been doing regular phonics sessions, learning new sounds, saying the sounds, recognising the sounds and having a go at writing them! We have also had a go at lots of other sensory and mark making activities.

We have also been working on counting, recognising numbers and ordering them. We have counted different sets of objects and have begun to add 1 more. We like singing counting songs and playing number games on the interactive whiteboard.



We have enjoyed our weekly Music sessions with Sean, PE sessions with Danny and Yoga sessions with Claire.



We have all thoroughly enjoyed exploring the new Early Years Playground and some of us attended the Official Grand Opening with visitors from Wokingham Borough Council – check out their social media accounts to see photos!



Daffodil Class

This term our theme has been “Marvellous Me and My World”. We have spent time building relationships with new staff and peers, including welcoming several new friends to Addington for the first time. We have listened to stories such as “What I Like About Me” by Allia Zobel Nolan; “I’m Me” by Sara Sheridan; “My Mum and Dad Make Me Laugh” by Nick Sharratt; “The Family Book” by Todd Parr and “Monkey Puzzle” by Julia Donaldson.



We spent lots of time noticing our different features, describing them and noticing similarities and differences. We enjoyed telling our friends about our families and recalling fun events from our weekends. We looked at different types of homes that people live in and tried to create our own. We’ve been creating our own display map in class of all our favourite places in the local community.

We’ve been working really hard and now know our routines. We waited patiently while we saw the new playground transform from our classroom window, and we are over the moon we get to go out and play in it every day!

Early Years Yoga and Music with Rainbow ☐ Claire

This term we have had lots of creative Autumnal fun across the six classes in Early Years. We enjoyed yoga flows to celebrate autumn ☐. Here are our favourite flows including poses to do in a chair and adapting them, when necessary; lots of fun for our bodies.



Our favourite breathing technique this term has been using the breathing expanding coloured ball or it's very long name ... **Hoberman Sphere** to help visually practice deep belly breathing where we breathe through the nose and out through our mouth at the same time as the ball going in and out.



In our mindful and relaxation sessions, we have enjoyed the vibrations from the singing bowls and exploring the different sounds they make as well as the feel of the metal.

We have enjoyed learning autumn songs, using the parachute and the rainbow scarf to watch the autumn leaves go up and down whilst enjoying the songs.



We really enjoyed Bryony, the cellist from The Royal Academy of Music coming to visit us and playing a collection of pieces of music. Our favourite song was definitely "Can you feel the love tonight" from The Lion King. To end the term. It has been wonderful to explore the pumpkins that have been grown here at school whilst singing the song '5 Little Pumpkins sitting on a gate'.



Early Years Sensory Playground

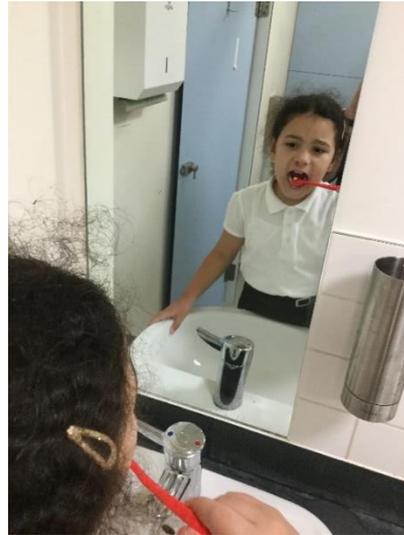
Our new Early Years Sensory Playground was officially opened on 4th October with visitors from Wokingham Borough Council.



Key Stage 2

Pine Class

Pine class have settled back into routine well after the summer holidays. They have enjoyed our new topic "All About Dinosaurs" and have really embraced the stories and all the arts and crafts! In Maths this term, we have focused on 2D shape and positional language. Pine class have thoroughly enjoyed going swimming and have shown outstanding confidence in the water! In PSHE all the children have shown real progression in brushing their own teeth and can do this mostly independently. This term we have started going to the Sensory Garden as part of our outdoor explorative play; the children have thoroughly enjoyed making mud cakes and getting very messy!



Willow Class

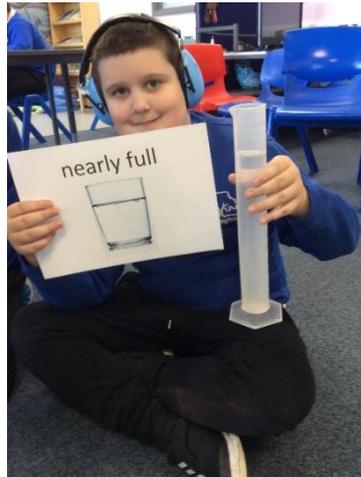
Willow Class have begun to settle brilliantly after a lot of change for all of our pupils. Many of them have transitioned from Early Years this term, as well as changes such as being upstairs, a new playground and new faces. We are really proud of how they are adjusting to new routines and forming new friendships.

This term's topic has been hugely popular as we have been learning about "Dinosaurs" and using this theme as a focus for lots of our other learning. We particularly loved the stories "Dinosaurs Love Underpants" and "The Dinosaur that Pooped a Princess" in Literacy! We have enjoyed making fossils, dinosaur poop, volcanoes, masks and much more. We have also had two offsite visits to Thames Valley Adventure Playground and also explored our outdoor learning garden with Mel where we had such fun making "Mud Cupcakes" and "Mud Costa Hot Chocolates"!



Rowan Class

It has been a fun and hugely productive first half term for Rowan class! Our main topic has been "Dinosaur Roar!" where we've been exploring aspects of prehistoric life, as well as undertaking a series of dinosaur themed crafts such as sock puppets, salt dough fossils and junk model sculptures. In Literacy we've shared some traditional tales, commenting on features such as characters, events and settings and have explored the differences between fiction and nonfiction. In Numeracy we've been developing our addition skills, using techniques such as counting on and have been using containers to investigate capacity. As well as this our class have enjoyed swimming at Bulmershe, weekly samba drumming workshops and having fun in the "Mud Kitchen"! It has been a great start to the year.



Complex, Therapeutic and Sensory Needs Department

Cherry class

We have had a lovely term settling into a new team together. We have been enjoying our Harry Potter theme, especially our dress up day spent in the forbidden forest! This was a fabulous opportunity for us to get into the Halloween Mood while we walked through the forest and encountered all manner of magical creatures! We have been enjoying gardening with other peers and having the opportunity to speak to other class teams!



Beech class

Beech class have been enjoying subject specific lessons this half term, which is new for us this year. We are having music, PE, Science and Immersive theatre lessons with subject specific teachers. Science is particularly fun, as we are doing lots of hands-on experiments including making our own volcanoes and rockets!

We have also started doing Talk 4 Writing, a literacy intervention which allows the students to become familiar with a text, with actions and words and then rewrite the story with their own ideas. Our text this half term has been "Pirates love Underpants", and we have really enjoyed making up actions for certain key words.

We have continued with walking to the shops once a week to buy our cooking ingredients for our cooking lesson and also still enjoy swimming on a Friday afternoon.





Lime class

Lime Class have been enjoying a range of activities focusing on our topic of "Hocus Pocus" this term. We have especially been enjoying Attention Autism and creating lots of magic-themed artwork!

We have been spending lots of time working on our play skills by exploring a range of toys and interacting with adults through Intensive Interaction. We have also been working on a range of cognition skills.

Everyone has settled back into school well, familiarising themselves with the routines and the areas around the school.



Poppy Class

We have had a busy half term enjoying getting to know each other and having some magical fun. Through our "Hocus Pocus" theme we have been experiencing the "Room on the Broom" story and exploring some spooky textures.

We have been practising our kicking skills and have loved being on the trampoline for rebound therapy. When the weather has been warmer, we have been out on the wheelchair accessible swing and also had time in the garden for horticulture.

In environmental control, we have been using the plasma screen, switches and the interactive floor mat to explore cause and effect.



Apple Class

This term Apple Class have been working on building up relationships with the new class team and have been doing brilliantly well with communicating using their various communication systems. We have been enjoying sensorimotor play, messy play, attention bucket and music sessions. We have also been exploring some different places in the school including the swimming pool, sensory room, soft play and the sensory garden.



Birch Class

Birch class has been exploring a wide variety of subjects in our school of magic, we have learnt Flying, Potions, Herbology, Invisibility and Astrology so far. We have also enjoyed lots of fun activities such Tacpac, messy play, Simile and Sensory Story; all of them linked to the theme of this term "Hocus Pocus".



Holly class

Holly class have settled back well from the summer holidays and are back into our routine. The class have enjoyed having music, immersive theatre and PE sessions back this school year. Mel is running Yoga lessons as part of their PE, which is proving to be a huge hit. Our topic this term is "Hocus Pocus" and we have been looking at Magic show story. Next term we will be looking at Harry Potter. The class have enjoyed trips to TVAP and Camp Mohawk too.



Key Stage 3

It has been lovely to welcome back pupils after the summer break. We have been enjoying our topic "Superheroes" and this term we have been looking at superhero stories featuring some popular superheroes. We've also been enjoying regular trips to Camp Mohawk and exploring the outdoor areas especially the woodland areas with many fallen autumn leaves. Indoor areas have reopened again and pupils have been enjoying the sensory rooms, soft play, art room and the brand new music room. We've been working hard in our drama sessions with Carla on our creative arts project about kindness. This week we have enjoyed exploring autumnal changes and carving pumpkins.

Well done Key Stage 3 on a great start to the year!

Lydia Colios (Head of Key Stage 3)

Aspen Class

This term our theme has been "Superheroes" and we have been focusing on the book "Supertato". We have enjoyed this story particularly exploring the different parts of the story through sensory items like naughty peas in jelly and potatoes rushing to the rescue! We've also enjoyed learning a call and response to embed key vocabulary and making our own Supertatos. We had fun acting out our favourite scene during Attention Bucket and dressing up as the Supertato to save the day and catch the runaway naughty pea! We have been cooking where we have been practising cutting different fruits and vegetables before making our own pizzas after ordering the recipe. We have loved our visits to Camp Mohawk where we like to play on the outdoor equipment, explore the woodland area and create Music in the music room!



Elm Class

Elm Class have thoroughly enjoyed our topic of Superheroes this half term! We have created our own superheroes, written adventures for them and then designed puppets to re-enact those adventures around school! We have also created story maps and alternative endings for some of the stories we have been reading.

We have also been exploring temperature in Maths. We've measured the temperature outside each day, recorded the daily weather on our class chart and decided what clothing would be most suitable to match. We have been on a treasure hunt around school measuring the temperature in different spaces. We have also been learning how to transfer all of our findings into graphs.

We have been making superhero shields in Art with Angie and we have also been attending weekly Samba classes with Luke! We have really enjoyed going to Camp Mohawk – both the outdoor learning challenges and the music room have been firm favourites!



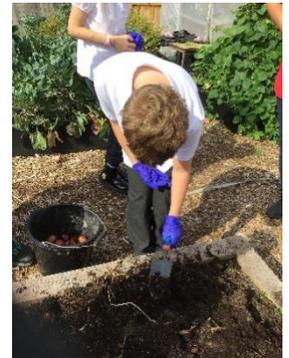
Sycamore Class

In Sycamore Class we have been thoroughly enjoying our Superhero topic. We have read lots of great books – “Superhero Hotel”, “Ten Little Superheroes”, “Even Superheroes Have Bad Days” and the “Superhero ABC” to name but a few. We have used them for ideas for descriptive writing, alternative stories and poems.

Each week we start with a fantastic gardening session – we get to learn lots of fun skills like planting, weeding and picking. The best lesson was peeling and chopping the vegetables we had grown to make (and eat!) vegetable soup.

Some of us are also really enjoying bike maintenance sessions with Gary where we have learnt the importance of safety – including wearing a helmet, how bike parts are fitted together and some repair techniques.

Each week in cooking we are making a tasty snack that we could make at home too.





Maple Class

This term, Maple Class have been busy learning the superhero trade. We have dressed up in masks, posed in superhero poses, gone on imaginary rescues and more! We have read the stories "How to be a Superhero", "Supertato" and "Stefano the Squid" and based some writing on these texts as well as retelling the stories with props, sensory elements and lots of acting and funny voices. In cooking, we have made rainbow fruit kebabs and learnt how to chop vegetables in a safe way. In maths we have continued focusing on our individual targets in Number and Calculation, and visiting the "class shop" on Fridays. In PSHE, we have been reminding ourselves of the importance of self-care and good hygiene, and doing some fun practical and hand and hair washing sessions. Well done to everyone for a great start to the year!





Chestnut Class

In Literacy with Martin the pupils made their own superhero models based on the model in the book 'Traction Man'. They retold the story in the form of a puppet show which was filmed. The pupils also edited the story to create their own versions and made comic strips.

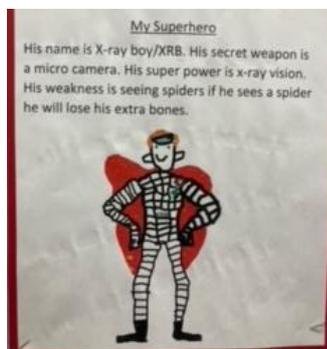
In Literacy with Ness the pupils read various books to investigate the different superpowers, secret weapons, skills and weaknesses that a Superhero might have. The pupils then used this knowledge to design their own superhero. In all Literacy lessons we have had a big focus on writing in sentences that make sense and that are punctuated correctly.

Martin has introduced a class shop where the pupils use real money to purchase their snack on Mondays and Tuesdays. Amongst many other maths activities the pupils have also measured webs, worked on their individual time packs and have done a lot of work on improving their addition skills.

We have had several class discussions on the importance of respecting staff members and how learning to show respect is an important skill, which the pupils will need in their future workplace and to function in society.

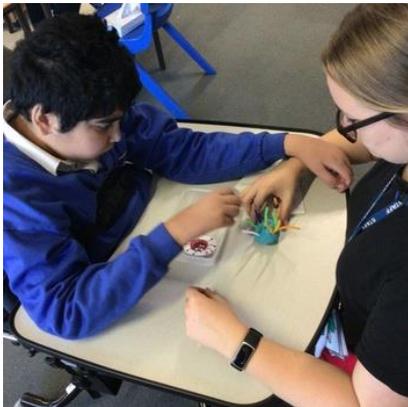
Chestnut Class have all settled well into the new school year. They are a lively, loud and fun class and we enjoy teaching them.

Ness and Martin



Cedar Class

We had a busy half term learning about superheroes and their superpowers and we really enjoyed our story about "Supertato". We explored different parts of the story using our senses and through role play. We used our character voices to retell the story and we even made our own "Supertato" and "Evil Pea" puppets! We worked together to make a supermarket scene and played shops, practising counting and exchanging money for snacks. In our cooking lessons we developed our independence skills by cutting up vegetables and making pizza and we learned how to make toast safely. In PSHE we were learning about how germs spread and the importance of keeping our teeth healthy and clean. We had two successful trips to Camp Mohawk where we enjoyed playing outdoors.



Key Stage 4

Swan Class

Horticulture – Jealotts' Hill - This term the class have been doing work experience at Jealotts' Hill a community land share near Bracknell. They visit every Tuesday morning and have been undertaking a variety of horticulture jobs including planting spring bulbs, sweeping up leaves, clearing weeds and preparing beds for the spring.



Bike Maintenance

Gary the visiting bike mechanic tutor has been teaching bike maintenance, whereby bikes are repaired and serviced ready to be sold. Students have been learning how to repair punctures and chains, adjust saddles and brakes.



Staff Roof Terrace

We are all very proud of the work of our students to redeveloping the staff roof terrace. This was a barren area, at the beginning of the year but Swan class students adopted it and have been growing a variety of plants and vegetables, from Sunflowers, Yew and Bay leaf trees to sweetcorn and tomato plants. This is such a greener space for staff to enjoy their breaks, as well as helping students develop gardening skills.





Right Here Right Now – The 3 Bs of Reading

Students have been researching their local community, and in particular the 3 Bs of Reading, including the famous biscuit factory. As part of their project they have designed and made their own biscuits and biscuit tins – they were all very different.





Kite Class

Students have really enjoyed cooking this term. The focus has been to independently get ready to cook, food hygiene and knife safety. Students demonstrated the safe claw and bridge knife holds preparing a variety of fruit and vegetable dishes including fruit salads, smoothies, pasta and cous cous salad. Students also designed and made their own biscuits after researching a variety of different biscuits.



Loddon School Work Experience

Some students in Kite class have begun a weekly experience for work, at Loddon School. The placement involves animal care and horticulture. The students dressed for the outdoor work placement and followed hygiene guidelines. They enjoyed meeting the animals and learning to carry out elements of care. The favourite was the grooming!



Project – Right here, Right now

Students have been learning about the local area, and have been sharing their favourite places to visit. One session combined their ICT skills by programming a Beebot around a map of familiar places, and working out what to do when it took a wrong turn!



Swimming

Kite class have thoroughly enjoyed a weekly swimming session at Bulmershe Leisure Centre this half term. We have been really impressed with everyone's enthusiasm and effort in developing their skills and confidence in the water.



Sixth Form News



Robin Class

Robin class have welcomed four new students from Key Stage 4 who have all now settled into their new class and routines. We have taken the opportunity to embrace all of the offsite activities we were enjoying pre-Covid, and have been learning about local colleges, travel and town training, as well as experiences of work



Cooking at the Reading College Link course



Using the canteen at Reading



Feeding turkeys at BCA!



Honing our horticulture skills at Ridgeline



Bike Maintenance



Using local shops and cafes



travel training by bus



pumpkin carving in school horticulture

Eagle Class

It was as though we had not been away. This term started with everyone settling back into routine happily and making new friends in their new class and because of our young people's resilience we have enjoyed a number of activities in school and offsite. Students have enjoyed horticulture in **school** and at Ridgeline. They have commenced the college links courses; some at BCA, others at Reading college and Bracknell and Wokingham College. We have enjoyed weekly creative arts sessions in music, art and drama in school, and badminton, basketball and swimming as offsite P.E. and leisure activities.

We have also enjoyed weekly cooking sessions when we have decided on a menu each week, shopped for ingredients and cooked our own lunch.

It has been a busy and enjoyable half term, during which our young adults have shown initiative, confidence, independence and commendable social skills.

Horticulture at Ridgeline:



Deadheading at Ridgeline



harvesting mini pumpkins

Animal care at BCA:



Cleaning tools after animal care

Preparing lunch:



Washing up



Checking the school car park



looking after our environment

Swimming:



Badminton:



Drama:



Kestrel Class

Kestrel students have been extremely busy during this first half term. There have been new students join us from KS4 and other schools. This has meant lots of new friendships are being forged.

The students have all come together, showed great determination and worked very hard.

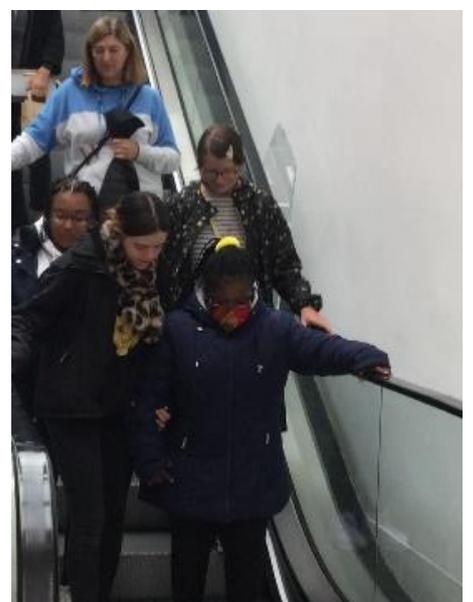
All students are accessing link courses at either Reading College or Bracknell & Wokingham College.



Horticulture lessons have started again and the students are thoroughly enjoying the sessions.



We have now begun our travel training lessons. Students are beginning to plan routes and are developing this skills to navigate effectively around Woodley and Reading.



Owl Class

We have had a busy term building relationships and getting to know new pupils and new staff in Owl class through our theme Right here right now. We have enjoyed a busy and varied timetable and have made the most of all of the opportunities on offer including horticulture, creative arts, offsite trips to Ridgeline, hydro, rebound, immersive drama, and cooking to name a few. Some of us have begun to attend college to prepare for our last year at Addington and have been working on cooking skills there.



We have been prepared for all weathers this term when going to Ridgeline. We have enjoyed a castle tour within Immersive drama. We have enjoyed TAC PAC's based on our favourite music and textures.



We have planted pansies and made pumpkin models in horticulture. We have been developing independence in the community and have enjoyed building friendships.



We have used adaptive technology in cooking and to access TV programmes. We have enjoyed rebound therapy and practised life skills that we hope to become more independent with.



Horticulture with Chris J



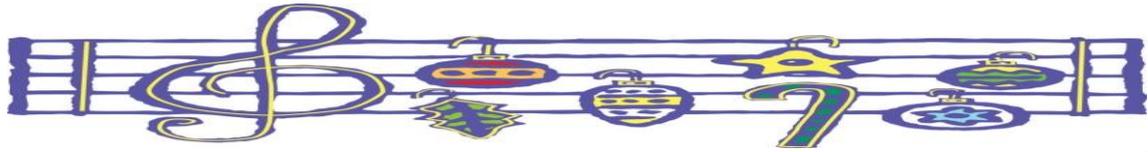
The weather so far this term has been fairly mild so most of the summer flowers and allotment crops have only just gone to seed or died. Now starts the big tidy up to leave everything tidy, so that it doesn't get overgrown during the winter! The students have been very busy potting on Pansies, Bellis and Polyanthus – all of which have grown really fast, owing to the continued sunshine and warm weather. The new City and Guilds students are showing great promise, look out for the tubs and wellies they have prepared and placed at the front of the school.

Hawk Class

This term Hawk Class have worked hard on various work experience and internship placements such as; Royal Berks Hospital, Nurture, Countryside Service, Sainsbury's, M&S, JAC Mechanics and Jealott's Hill. Students have gained confidence in themselves by working on their independence and accessing their placements with tapered support. They have all shown great enthusiasm in developing their employability skills around communicating with employers and colleagues as well as persevering with demanding physical labour.



Hawk Class have also focused on independent travel skills with some students now able to travel independently to their internship placements. Others have access weekly sessions to learn how to use buses and trains to get around the local community and visit places of interest. They have become confident enough to start using public transport outside of school independently and are able to plan journeys using transport apps and websites.



The Creative Arts Page



It has been a fantastic start to the year in the Creative Arts department. The team has expanded with Angie and Carla teaching more Art and Drama to Key Stage 3, 4 and 5. We also have Claire teaching music to some of our Early Years classes and also have an additional music therapist called Diane working our young people too. It has been wonderful being able to teach in spaces like the music room and sensory theatre again too.

Music

Early Years have been exploring songs based upon autumn. They have explored using movement and fabrics to move to the music. They have been developing rhythmic skills using the gathering drum and some have started to use the glockenspiels to play a repeating pattern. Students have also enjoyed using the microphone to wake up the animals on the farm.

Sensory and Complex Needs have exploring songs and activities based upon superheroes. They have been exploring changes in musical elements like changing from quiet to loud and fast to slow. A favourite activity has been helping Batman by playing quietly and not waking up the Joker. Students have enjoyed interrupting the song with a loud noise to cue the loud section of the song. Students have also been making a soundscape each week, exploring metallic sounds and instruments including a metallophone.



KS2 and 3 have also been exploring the theme of superheroes. Some have been exploring songs based upon everyday heroes like the emergency services, using drums and xylophones to play simple patterns. Others have been developing keyboard skills learning the bass line or chords to "Something Just Like This". Key Stage 3 classes have also been learning about the orchestra and how accompaniment and melody is used in Superhero themes. They have been using the 'Superman' theme to explore melody and accompaniment.

KS4 have been learning the bass and chords to the song "Pompeii" by Bastille. They have been working on playing together in unison and some have been exploring how to create chords from one given note.

The Sixth Form have been discussing their favourite music and been exploring their chosen instrument within the class band. They have been working on developing their independence by setting up their own instrument playing their part within the band in time with others. Some classes have explored structuring performances with how different parts start and stop during the arrangement.



Art

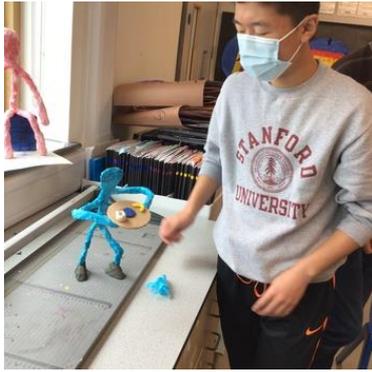
In Key Stage 3 we have followed the Key Stage superhero theme this term. Some classes have worked towards creating bright and bold Superhero shields by layering different shapes, patterns and mark making ideas to create a final design. Some classes have incorporated 3D logos onto their shield and others have experimented with mark making alongside a superhero theme soundtrack.



Key Stage 4 have been designing Skateboards! Inspired by Sky Brown, we have looked at the designs of some famous skateboard designers and thought about the designs we like and the designs we don't. Students then used images that represent their interests and hobbies to create their very own designs.



6th Form have studied the human form this half term by studying the sculptures created by sculptors Giacometti and Jean Francois Gablik. We began by practising figure drawing, striking a pose and drawing each other to familiarise ourselves with the human body proportions. Swan, Kestrel and Robin classes have made wire figurative sculptures that represent activities they like to do.



Drama

In KS3 Drama this term, students have been exploring the theme of superheroes. Students have been in superhero training; creating their own Superhero personality, problem solving and finding clues. All of this creative work leads to a KS3 Production titled “The Superhero Detectives”. Letters will be sent out shortly to invite parents/carers to this show.

In KS4 and KS5 Drama, students have been learning about drama techniques and how to apply them to create a short scene based around a car journey. Students have explored mime, slow motion, aside, still image. We have also been discussing theatre and drama as a leisure option and what is within their local community. Next half term we shall be exploring this further with some community visits.



Immersive Theatre

Immersive Theatre sessions have restarted in the sensory theatre. This term’s session is based upon a visit to Castle Castell. The students are given a tour around the old castle but things don’t go quite to plan. When the tour keeps going wrong, an unknown hero comes to help the tour guides. The scene will be used in the upcoming KS3 production “The Superhero Detectives”.

Peri Lessons

Our peripatetic lessons have all started this term and are going very well. We would like to welcome our new cello teacher Bryony and new guitar teacher Ron to Addington. Luke, our drum teacher, has also been teaching two classes samba as part of Berkshire Maestros In2Music programme which has been thoroughly enjoyed so far.

KS3 Production – The Superhero Detectives

Next half term there will be a Key Stage 3 production called “The Superhero Detectives”. It will involve all KS3 classes as well as an immersive theatre scene too. More information about this event will follow after half term. The performance will be Wednesday 1st December.

Clubs

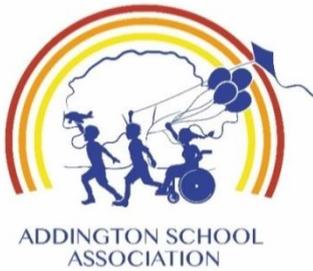
After half term, we will be starting lunchtime and after school clubs. Lunchtime clubs on offer will be Glee club, Art club and Ukulele club. Our Addington Band will be starting again after school on Wednesdays with Di as well as a brand new samba club which is for KS3, 4 and 5 students. We are looking forward to starting these new clubs with everyone.

Reading Junior Music Festival

This year we have entered a small choir to join the Reading Junior Music Festival which is taking place at The Hexagon in Reading on Tuesday 23rd November. Our choir are rehearsing twice a week at lunchtimes and are enjoying the songs which are based around the environment and the sea. There will be more information coming out soon about how to buy tickets for the concert. We have not taken part in a singing event at The Hexagon for a few years so we are very excited to be able to this year.

We hope you all enjoy half term!

The Creative Arts Team



News from the Association

Email: AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com

Dear Parents and Carers,

How is it possible that the first half-term of the school year is already nearly over? Time continues to fly by!

It's been a lovely half-term and I was delighted to be invited along to the official opening of the new Early Years sensory playground, of which the Addington Association provided approx. 50% of the funding. It was lovely to see the children enjoying the purpose-built environment. Lots of happy faces and fun being had! It was also brilliant to see the photos on the Wokingham Borough Council Facebook page. These have also been shared on the Addington School Association Facebook page so please take a look if you haven't seen them already. This is such a tangible example of how very important fundraising is to the school!

I have also had the opportunity to meet parents/carers of some of the children new to the school this term. It's always fantastic to hear how happy the children are in their new school even after such a short time. It was lovely to be able to share some of the work the Association do and hopefully as a result see some new faces at our next Association meeting.

So, we at the Association are all very excited at the prospect of holding some of our favourite events this term. Obviously, we need to be very flexible as the rules around Covid may change again, but in the meantime, we are working on the basis that we will run our Christmas Fayre, the Christmas Hamper Raffle and the Carol Concert again this year. There will need to be some adaptations to the way these were run pre-Covid, but we are working through these and will share updates as soon as we can.

Dates for the diary (timings will be confirmed closer to the date):

- Christmas Fayre – Saturday 4th December (afternoon)
- Christmas Carol Concert – Monday 13th December (evening)

Thank you to everyone that has donated items so far, it really is appreciated. We will continue our themed donation weeks after half-term:

- Week comm 1st November - **Bottles** (this doesn't have to be alcohol, anything drinkable is great!)
- Week comm 8th November - **Christmas** (anything such as wrapping paper, decorations, food & drink)
- Week comm 15th November- **Gorgeous Gifts** (unused toiletries or make-up, toys, candles etc, etc.)

So, all that now leaves me to say is on behalf of the Association I wish you all a happy and healthy half-term!

Kind regards

Dawn Adams
Chair of the Addington School Association

ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2021 - 2022



Addington School

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Inset Days – (closed to pupils)	Wednesday 1 September & Thursday 2 September 2021
Term Starts	Friday 3 September 2021
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October inclusive
Inset Day (closed to pupils)	Monday 1 November 2021
Term Restarts	Tuesday 2 November 2021
Term Ends	Friday 17 December 2021

SPRING TERM 2022

Term Starts	Tuesday 4 January 2022
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 21 February to Friday 25 February 2022 inclusive
Inset Day – (closed to pupils)	Monday 28 February 2022
Term Restarts	Tuesday 1 March 2022
Term Ends	Friday 8 April 2022

SUMMER TERM 2022

Term Starts	Monday 25 April 2022
Inset Day – (closed to pupils)	Friday 27 May
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2022 inclusive
Term Restarts	Monday 6 June 2022
Term Ends	Wednesday 20 July 2022

Inset Days – School closed to pupils

Wednesday 1 September 2021
Thursday 2 September 2021
Monday 1 November 2021
Monday 28 February 2022
Friday 27 May 2022