

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2023





Hi Everyone, I can't believe that I am writing the last newsletter of the year. 2023 has simply flown by! It has been quite a tough year in many ways for us all at Kemball but we feel that we have finished on a high with the Ofsted inspection that took place a couple of weeks ago. Although the report won't officially be released until the New Year, we are really pleased with the result and can't wait to share the report with you when it is published.

Christmas is a busy time of the year in school and this year has been no different. Our youngest pupils starred in our nativity play 'Lights, Camel, Action,' which had a Strictly Come Dancing theme interwoven with the traditional story. We were all very proud of our little ones, who showed such confidence. Although by the end of the week everyone was a little bit overtired, staff included!

It was lovely to see so many of you at the Eco Fayre, which is always a huge success. The stalls were fantastic with reduce, re-use and recycle being the focus of the items that the classes made. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the donations we received for the tombola, which is always the star of the show, so thank you so much. At the moment of writing the ladies in the office were still furiously counting the proceeds, which we will use to buy something for the children.

I am incredibly proud of our school. Your children make me smile every day. They have achieved so many wonderful things this year. Their resilience and perseverance never ceases to amaze me.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the staff again for their hard work and dedication. Plus my right hand ladies and dream team Helen and Emily. I am so lucky to have a Senior Leadership Team who share my ambitions, for the children of Kemball and help to make it happen. It would be impossible to do it without them!

Thank you too for your unwavering support. It really does mean everything to us. I hope that you all have a happy and healthy Christmas break and wish you all the very best for 2024.

See you all on the 8th January

Lisa

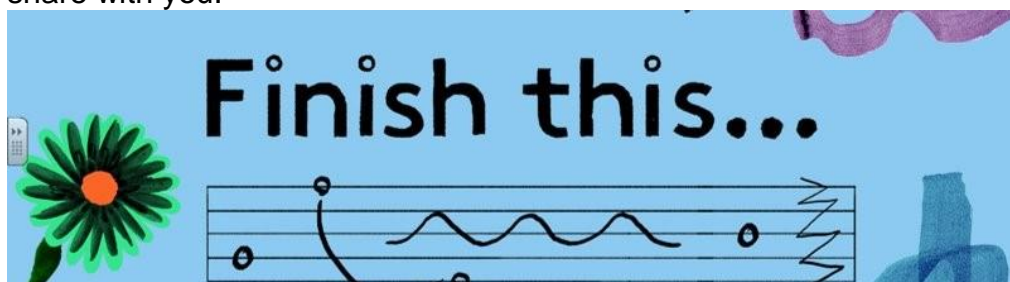




Autumn Term Music

Once again it has been a busy but fun time in music with all the classes in Multisensory, Engagement and Progression pathways working hard creating some fantastic music. Choir has also gone from strength to strength and it has been amazing having so many new members join us.

This term the pupils from Coalports 1,2,3 and Maple have been involved in a special project run by the English National Opera called 'Finish this' which I would like to share with you.



Coalports 1,2,3 and Maple – our English National Opera Project

Back in September, each class was sent a shiny red envelope from the ENO. One of the English National Opera composers, Omar, had written a piece called **Blue, Red, Yellow** ?. They were asking us to choose the next colour and compose the music to finish their piece!

The classes all worked hard exploring how the different coloured music Omar had written created different moods and effects. We enjoyed exploring our school percussion instruments to create our own music in the right style as we listened to Blue, Red and Yellow. Blue music was calm, Red music loud and angry and Yellow music was gentle and bouncy.

Following on from this the four classes explored different coloured pictures, objects and sounds to choose the colour they wanted for their individual compositions. Each class found 3 things which meant something to them to describe their chosen colour. From these objects we explored instrumental, vocal and body sounds to create a finished piece of music.



Coalport 1 chose the colour black. They enjoyed exploring loud thundery sounds, creepy haunted sounds and sounds for a witch's potion bubbling away!



Coalport 2 chose orange, enjoying exploring sounds for crunchy Autumn leaves, growling tigers and long shiny sounds for a beautiful sunset.



Coalport 3 have written a piece about purple. Purple made them think about royalty with marching drums and fanfares contrasting with mindfulness and peaceful sounds; windchimes, singing bowls and metal sounds, finishing with gentle sounds for butterflies and flowers.

Maple's colour piece is green. They chose crocodiles, with a suspenseful build up to a sudden snap! A slow steady drum beat for a tortoise, and a green ball, inspiration for creating vocal and bouncy sounds as the ball bounces around in our piece.



All 4 classes have been amazing and it has been wonderful to put their compositions together and be so creative in their explorations and music making.

The pieces are going to be recorded after the holidays and submitted to the English National Opera who will upload them onto their sound cloud for everyone to hear. As soon as

this is done, I will be sure to send the link so you will be able to listen to our amazing compositions – **Black**, **Orange**, **Purple** and **Green**. I hope you will enjoy them as much as we have loved composing them!

I wish you all a wonderful Christmas season

Lorraine

Minton 2

Wow! What a busy but fantastic term we have had this Autumn term in Minton 2!

In English we started this term reading *The Lion and the Unicorn* which linked with our topic of 'World War 2'. We enjoyed reading about Lenny the evacuee and his journey to the countryside and his trials once he arrived in a new place. This half term we have loved reading *Mary Poppins*. We created our own advert to advertise the book and wrote fantastic setting descriptions using adjectives and similes.

In Maths, we have worked really hard using the numicon scheme of work. We have used numicon, base 10, Cuisenaire rods, pegs and other resources to show our understanding. We have made great progress in our understanding of place value and developed confidence in problem solving.

In our RE days, we have learnt about caring for others, where we learnt about the Hindu celebration of Raksha Bandhan, the Christian story of the Good Samaritan and the Sikh custom of Langar. This half term we have worked hard learning about festivals of light including the Hindu and Sikh celebration of Diwali and Christian Christmas customs such as advent and Christingle.

In Science, we have been learning all about sound and light. We looked at sources of light, what materials reflect light and how light travels. We explored instruments and how we can hear them through vibrations and what materials are best for soundproofing. This half term we have looked at states of matter including the water cycle. We have investigated the processes of freezing, melting, condensation and evaporation and how these link to the water cycle.

In computing, we worked on our typing and word processing skills to create fact files and posters about ourselves. This half term we have been practising coding skills including creating our own games and solving challenges through writing code.

Our Friday topic mornings have been all about World War 2 and the United Kingdom. We really enjoyed our trip to Shugborough Hall where we experienced what being evacuated to the countryside would be like! This half term we have looked at the United Kingdom and its four countries. We have practised our Atlas skills and studied each country and the famous landmarks. We learnt about how the UK has changed and which landmarks are human or physical.

In PE we have been working hard in the pool. The first half term we practised our water polo skills and this half term we have been developing our front crawl, backstroke and breathing techniques.

We can't quite believe it is Christmas already, well done on a great first term Minton 2 – you make us proud as always!

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Hannah, Sam, Laura, Sophie and Nikita

Doulton 1

What a wonderful start we have had to the new academic year! We are so proud of our children for settling back into school so well after the summer holiday. Our new starters have amazed us with how quickly they have settled into their new school routine. Well done to all of Doulton 1!

We started the year with the topic 'The Story so Far', and we all enjoyed getting to spend time learning about each other and building friendships. In Autumn 2, we then explored the topic 'Toys and Bears'. We loved our sensory story 'The Everywhere Bear' and exploring all of the adventures that the Everywhere Bear went on, especially when we had to use the parachute to throw teddy high up in the air!

Our highlight for this term has to be our class trip to the New Vic Theatre for their 'Tale Trail'. We explored the story of the Nutcracker and we were fully immersed in the magic of the story telling! We discovered a place where toys come to life, and lands are made of sweets. We Danced with The Sugar Plum Fairy and we also had to help the enchanted Nutcracker Prince to get home! We all had such a brilliant day.

That then brings us on to Christmas, we have lots of exciting things planned for December, especially our Nativity performance where we all had the very important roles of the Angel's! We are also really looking forward to a visit from a special person who wears a red suit on the last day!

We hope you all have a lovely and relaxing Christmas break with your families.

Danica, Clare, Charlotte and Daisy



REGENCY 1 AUTUMN TERM 2023

During the Autumn term, the pupils in Regency 1 have started to get used to our changed timetable and areas of study as they are now years 9 and 10, they are working on ASDAN, ASDAN options and Duke of Edinburgh (DofE).

ASDAN- The pupils are busy collecting their own, individual evidence to build up their ASDAN profile. Some of this is written, some is photographs. They have already covered choosing their own activities to develop such as sewing, Lego construction, learning to play the keyboard on an iPad or a physical challenge. We then moved onto more health focused activities such as brain gym and tooth brushing. Recently, we have moved onto understanding about how to care for the environment.

ASDAN Options. All pupils in the class chose an option to work on over the year. These were- Expressive Art, Cookery, Gardening, Hair & Beauty, Animal Care and Hospitality.

DofE- Pupils are starting to collect and build their evidence towards a Bronze Award. Firstly, we looked at tackling or developing a new skill, we chose sewing. The pupils learned to use a couple of stitches, cut a pattern, join 2 pieces of material together, sew buttons on etc. The most challenging aspect for every lesson was to get the thread through the eye of the needle! We are now ready to start looking at the next aspect which is towards the expedition section- what do you need to have/do to prepare to walk, cook and sleep in the outdoors?

RE is now covered by two whole days every half term. The subject is covered by studying the area in question by looking at food, art and practices as well as the underlying values of the religion. We have looked at festivals of light and caring for others and the world.

PE We spent the first half term working out to keep fit videos to try and build co-ordination, balance and most of all stamina. There was a definite improvement in the amount of time they were able to participate for before needing a break. They have now tried to use that extra stamina to play games of basketball.

PSHE Skills for learning. We covered knowing what you're good at and celebrating that, how to target what you need to improve on and how to see situations where others may need some help in seeing what to do. Emergency situations. This involved thinking whether a situation could be called an emergency or dealt with by First Aid or other methods and knowing what the emergency services do. We also looked at some elements of First Aid itself.

ICT (Using Text) To begin with, we looked at Word and found out how to use some of the other applications in it such as aligning text, changing the font, adding bullet points and so on. We then used the skills to write an acceptable use policy for computer use in school. (Spreadsheet) We have used the Excel program to write spreadsheets and learn how to change and sort the data and information.

Mental Health and Wellbeing (MHWB) Connect- We worked with another class to do some PE and to create a paper chain to connect our 2 classes down the corridor. Give- We gave time to one of the Primary classes to read with the. We made bookmarks with the initials of pupils in another class to give to them. Finally, we played pass the parcel but if the music stopped on you, you had to give the parcel for someone else to open.

We also have daily phonics and reading sessions. We have been reading Danny the Champion of the World by Roald Dahl and The Iron Man by Ted Hughes as class books. We studied Dracula as an English text. Everyone has had the opportunity to see a pantomime over the festive season.

We always make time for discussion and enjoy our conversations going off in another direction and then using Google and YouTube to discover even further. Best of all, we have a lot of fun. Best wishes for Christmas and for 2024.

Ian, Louise, Kim, Robyn, Scott and all in Regency 1



Spode 2

What a fabulous first term we have all had in Spode 2 and, how fast it has flown by, we can't believe it is already Christmas.

Our topic this term has been 'Into the Woods', and it has been filled with lots of messy, and muddy sensory play. We have enjoyed exploring different animals and their habitats, the weather, natural arts and crafts and small world play based around our class stories! There has been lots of fun water play, food tasting, and we have worked on creating our own recipes and desserts by following simple instructions.

We have just started our PSHE Play Skills sessions, and it has been lovely to spend some time with all the children, developing their play, turn taking and sharing skills with both us and their peers. The children have loved using instruments to explore expressive play and have particularly enjoyed developing their skills with sand and water.

Everyone has also been eager to increase their independence too, working on their face washing, toileting, and tooth brushing.



This half term we have enjoyed two different sensory stories; 'The Gruffalo' and 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. We are so incredibly proud of the progress we have seen within these sessions in such a short period of time, and it is safe to say that the children have loved them both. During our maths sessions, we have covered many different areas, developing our counting skills, shape identification and measurement skills. All the children have also worked hard during their English lessons too, and we are so impressed with the phonics progress we have seen this term. The children have developed their book handling skills, mark-making and we are so proud with how well everyone is doing with their communication too!

We have enjoyed some walks within the local community and had a lovely time on the Gruffalo trail at Cannock Chase, searching for the different characters from our story. We also had lots of fun on our trip to Hoo Zoo, exploring different animals from

the woodlands and around the world! We have also enjoyed some special days and afternoons, including our Mental-Health and Well-Being sessions and Christmas Jumper Day! We had lots of fun creating our Christmas crafts for the ECO Fair and decorating our classroom for the festive period! We are very proud of how hard everyone practiced for the school Nativity, and I am sure you will agree that everyone in Spode

2 did a fabulous job during each of the performances!



Thank you so much for such a wonderful term, and we are all so proud of everything you have all achieved. We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas, and we can't wait to see you all again in the New Year!

Lucie, Katie, Jenny and Kayleigh x

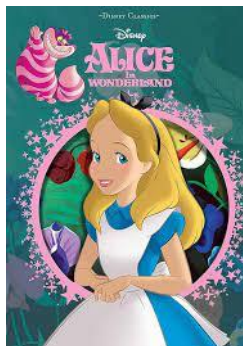
Bridgewater 2

Wow!! We can't believe that the Autumn term has already finished. We've had so much fun learning and can't wait for the Spring term.



Our topic this term has been 'Do you believe in magic?' which has included lots of interesting and exciting activities including making our own experiments. We've also made our own wands in arts and crafts using different textures and materials.

The children have explored our sensory story's which includes 'Room on the Broom' and 'Alice in Wonderland' which we mainly focused on numbers and the children have impressed us with their counting skills and number recognition. They loved exploring the activities related to the story and enjoyed exploring the sensory props. Our favorite characters have been the witch and the dragon from the Room on the broom. The children have loved the repetitive parts of the text such as 'and whoosh they was gone' showing us that they can understand the story by using symbols and switches to communicate this.



We have had a big focus on mark making, and developing our writing skills. The children have amazed us with their knowledge of letters in Read Write Inc. We have really enjoyed write dance and dough disco this has been a firm favourite for everyone and we have developed our fine motor skills and pencil control so much.

We have been very lucky to be able to go on a trip this term, Our final trip was to Amerton Farm, where we saw lots of animals, went on a tractor ride and finished with a magical experience to Santa's Grotto. We met 'Sparkles' the Elf who walked us through the magical winter wonderland, which led us to Santa, who very kindly let the children choose a present for their amazing behaviour. The experience was finished with us getting to say hello to Santa's reindeer. We had so much fun!

There has been many special days including, Christmas Jumper Day and 2 RE days, with 1 day focused on 'Diwali' and the other 'Story's from Christianity.' This week we have been looking at Christmas and we made our very own Christingle.



We have had 2 mental health and wellbeing afternoons with the focus being 'Connect' and 'To Give' in which the children got to spend time connecting with peers and making a thankyou card for people at school who help us.

We would like to wish all of our wonderful children and parents/carers a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year, and we look forward to another amazing year in 2024.

Liz, Gemma, Kelly, Danielle and Milli.

Coalport 2 have had an fantastic autumn term!

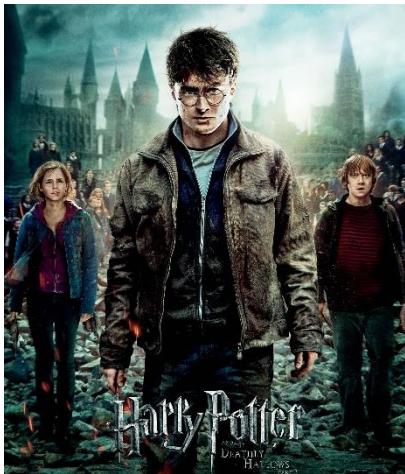
The curriculum overview for this term has been 'Do you believe in magic?'

Our topic this half term has been 'Do you believe in magic?' We have loved our sensory stories, Harry Potter and Alice in Wonderland and discovered many magical things. We made secret messages using wax and used our communication boards to explore magical objects in a cauldron. We had a tea party and played croquet using a flamingo hammer and a hedgehog ball.

In maths we have explored numicon shapes and made prints in playdough. We created a magical themed collage by printing 2D shapes and formed the numbers 1-5 on a tea party place mat.

We made lots of magical potions during our topic lessons, some that bubbled, some that danced and some even changed colour. We made wands and magical creatures using textiles. We had lots of fun making jelly and cucumber sandwiches for a tea party. We have learnt about life in Victorian times and inventions. We had fun playing with some Victorian toys and exploring the Florence Nightingale props.

Coalport 2 would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.



Coalport 1 Newsletter

Coalport 1 have had an amazing autumn term!

The curriculum overview for this term has been 'Do you believe in magic?'



Coalport 1's topic this term has been 'Do you believe in magic? We have enjoyed the sensory stories, Harry Potter and Alice in wonderland. The children have had so much fun exploring all things magic! We have practised our mark making skills using magic wands and using magical foam. The children have used communication boards to select magical images and even put them in our smoking cauldron. We have had mad hatter tea parties and used our communication to decide which food items we wanted to eat. We have enjoyed lots of class stories using our sensory sacks, our favourite one was Winnie the witch!

In mathematical thinking & problem solving the children have enjoyed using the water play to explore full and empty. We have used numicon to create pictures and 2d shapes to create patterns. The children have enjoyed using the scales to weigh out items and organise them into different colours.

During Topic we have enjoyed investigating the Harry potter tuff trays and we especially enjoyed using the magic light wands in the light room. We have done lots of baking during topic and we even made Jam tarts for our mad hatter's tea party. We have done lots of fun science experiments and we even created a volcano! For history we have explored Victorian toys and explored the Jobs that the Victorians had.

Coalport 1 would like to wish all of the children a happy Christmas and a fantastic new year! We have had lots of fun this term and we look forward to welcoming the children back in the spring term.

Regency 2 Autumn Newsletter



During the autumn term Regency 2 have been very busy doing lots of travel training. We have developed our understanding of road safety awareness and know how to look out for potential hazards on the road.

For our Mental Health and Wellbeing Day the theme was 'Give' we created 5 boxes which were full of sensory items. We made bracelets, stuffed teddy bears, sensory bottles and gathered some other sensory items for the children and staff to enjoy.

At the start of December we visited the Kings Hall to watch a wonderful performance of Cinderella. We laughed, we cheered and booed at the wicked stepmother. It was a wonderful experience.

During our ASDAN lessons we have focused on healthy living where we have designed a healthy menu and used our cooking sessions to cook a healthy starter, main and dessert. We evaluated each course and stated any improvements or additions we could make to it.

Within our Duke of Edinburgh sessions some pupils have created some fantastic pieces of artwork creating an image collage using the different 2D shapes. The other pupils have worked hard on preparing the different components to a Christmas dinner and then at the end of the term we had the privilege of cooking a complete Christmas dinner for the whole class. It was delicious!

For our options sessions every pupil had the opportunity to choose a short course they would like to participate in from gardening, hair and beauty, cooking, art, animal care and hospitality. Throughout the term every pupil has had some hands on experiences from washing and blow drying hair, creating a wormery to serving breakfast to their peers at Toby Carvery. The breakfast went down a treat!

Regency 2 ended their year with a delicious breakfast treat at Brewers Fayre!

We hope you have a fantastic Christmas and New Year.

From Regency 2



Dear Parents/Carers,



It has been a fantastic term in Paragon 1. The children have been making some amazing progress, and I know I speak for all of the class when I say how proud we all are of them. It has been another very energetic term with lots of exciting events and activities.

Our stories this term have been 'there's a tiger in my garden' and 'stone girl bone girl'. The children have really enjoyed all of the activities particularly all of the dinosaur related activities that we have done.

Our overall topic was 'me as an explorer' and we really enjoyed exploring our local area and further afield. We visited the science museum and went on the barge up the canal. We also really enjoyed our minibus trip around the city to look at Stoke on Trent landmarks.

Our mental health and well being day was very relaxing. We connected with our bodies and connected to nature. We also made gifts that we distributed to other classes.

This term we have been practicing our ball skills in PE and we have loved going swimming.

Overall, it has been a very busy but very fun term and it has been lovely to get out and about with the children. We hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas break,

Paragon 1 team



Doulton 2

Doulton 2 have had a fantastic start to the year! We have been finding out all about Into the Woods. During this topic we have learnt about animals that live in the woods, what we might see in the woods and also the colours we might find outdoors too.



In Maths we have been focusing on number rhymes and counting. We have been exploring the numbers 1-5 and finding out how these link to the objects in our number rhymes. We have also been exploring capacity with a focus on water play and identifying the full and empty containers. We have had lots of fun getting wet and pouring water out of the different sized containers.

In English we have been reading We're going on a Bear Hunt and The Gruffalo. We have been working on copying key phrases from the story either verbally or by using switches. All of our pupils have been able to engage with this element of the story and enjoyed finishing the sentences. We have also been using a range of mark making tools to practice independent marks. During the activities we have used a range of communication methods and have seen lots of lovely opportunities for interactions between peers and adults.



In our topic sessions we have focused on what we might see, hear and smell in the woods. We have planted fruit and vegetable and begun to use these to cook with and make delicious recipes such as strawberry bars. We found out about the range of colours we might see outdoors and explored these using a range of items, lights and smells to engage all of our senses. We also went outside and walked around the school to see what colours,

sounds and smells we could find around us.

We have all had an amazing start to the year and we are so pleased with all the hard work the children have put in. Have a great Christmas!

Best wishes from Katy, Karen, Becky and Cathy.

Gladstone 1

What a wonderful Autumn term we have had in Gladstone 1. We have all settled well with our new routines and new class. The children are forming some lovely relationships with one another which is lovely to see.

English- Throughout this term we have explored two key texts *Lost in London* and *Vlad The Great Fire of London*. The children have enjoyed exploring the book and finding out all about the different characters and their roles. The children have developed fantastic recall of both stories and have started to answer simple questions about what they have read. We were lucky enough to have the fire service visit us where we learnt all about what firefighters do and we had the chance to squirt water using a fire hose and even climb inside their fire engine!

Maths- In our maths lessons we have been exploring Numicon. We have completed lots of activities using the Numicon shapes such as building towers, completing simple calculations, matching activities and how to use the shapes to help to add and subtract numbers. We have been fantastic at learning how to use a number line to add and subtract numbers too!

Science- During our science lessons we have explored everyday materials and the human body. We have completed lots of science experiments to help aid our learning such as creating our own human lungs using straws and balloons.

P.E- This term we have practiced lots of ball skills including rolling, kicking and bouncing. We played lots of different games which we were all very competitive at. We have also been swimming during our PE sessions which we are all developing great confidence when in the pool. We have been practicing how to swim on both our fronts and backs and how to swim with our face under the water.

R.E- During our RE lessons we have focussed on the festivals of light whereby we explored the Diwali festival. We enjoyed creating our own candle holders and creating rangoli patterns. In addition, we have been learning all about Christmas and why it is such a special time.

The children have worked very hard throughout the Autumn term and are all looking forward to celebrating Christmas with their families.

Thank you for all your support throughout the term.

Gladstone 1 Team- Shannon, Amer, Anna and Stacey.

Aynsley 1 Autumn Newsletter

During the autumn term, Aynsley 1 have worked hard during functional English. We have studied takeaway menus, letters, text messages and job adverts. The students participated in an excellent role play activity to order various items off a takeaway menu and ordered them.

During ASDAN, we've learnt about understanding money. We have looked at a range of different coins and discussed real life examples of where money is used. We've learnt about different items or services that you would get in exchange for your money. We have also learnt why money is important and what the consequences of not having money may be if we could not pay for things.

In DofE, the students have continued to develop skills in sewing, music and upcycling. In music, we have practised strumming along to songs and using boom whackers. In sewing, we have practised safe skills in threading and creating a variety of items. In upcycling, we have learnt how to strip the fabric off an ottoman and to sand and repaint it.

During our MHWB afternoon which the theme was 'giving', Aynsley 1 went to give their time to help support a younger class within the school with their play session.

As part of Options sessions, each pupil has participated in weekly sessions in the area which they have chosen. This consists of Expressive Art, Animal Care, Hair and Beauty, Food, Hospitality and Gardening. They have participated in activities such as drawing portraits, seeing visiting animals, preparing and serving food, making bird food and making and applying face masks.

In December, we visited The Kings Hall to watch the pantomime of Cinderella. We all had a lovely time dancing to the music and cheering for the actors. We have also begun to make objects to be sold at the Christmas Eco fair.

We hope you have a fantastic Christmas and New Year.

From Aynsley 2



Paragon 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy term and the children have had a fantastic time! We are really pleased with the progress that they have made and it has been great to see how far they have come in a short time.



This term, we have looked at two sensory stories, 'Room on the broom' and 'Alice in Wonderland'. In our first story, we explored mark making, using AAC to request food items and using blocks to create our own brooms. In our second sensory story, we explored big and small and the children enjoyed requesting items using AAC and ordering numbers. It was great to share our story with you during our Mad Hatter's tea party and I know that the children really enjoyed this too.



In our Communication and problem solving sessions, we have looked at shape, number and measurement and the children really enjoyed making and continuing colour patterns and shape pictures, exploring capacity by emptying and filling containers. They have really enjoyed exploring counting sensory trays and counting different characters from our story. We have enjoyed exploring lots of sensory mark making and fine motor activities and in our assessments at the end of this half term, it was wonderful to see how many of them could independently mark make.

In our Topic of 'Do you believe in magic?', we have enjoyed exploring Victorian artefacts, sorting and mixing colours, witches, mythical creatures and doctors and nurses. This has been highly engaging for the pupils and they have enjoyed making a range of foods from different aspects of the stories, identifying and exploring Victorian artefacts, making a range of crafts and magic.

In PSHE, we have been practicing our hair brushing, hand washing and tooth brushing skills as well as sharing and identifying emotions. The children have made great progress in a short period and we continue to encourage them to practise these key skills through daily practise in class.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Nativity, ECO Fair, mad hatters tea party and our coffee morning this term. It has been lovely to meet and get to know you all and we look forward to planning more of these in the Spring term.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!

The Paragon 2 team (Meghan, Stacey, Savannah and Ebony)

Gladstone 2 Autumn 2

We have had a lovely Autumn term; during our topic work we have been exploring the Victorians. We had the exciting experience of a Victorian classroom where Becky was our Victorian class teacher and we all had to dress up as Victorian school children. We did our learning on slate and wrote in chalk and even did some counting on an abacus.

We have also had an exciting time in D&T this term; we have been exploring how the Victorians had afternoon tea. For our D&T topic work we taste-tested different flavoured sandwiches, teas and cakes this was a very yummy session. We then designed finger sandwiches for our own afternoon tea. We wrote a shopping list of the ingredients needed and went for a walk to our local shop; here we brought all of the ingredients needed.

The next session was a lovely session where we made our finger sandwiches. We then ate our lovely finger sandwiches and we enjoyed them whilst drinking tea, eating cakes and listening to Victorian music.

Throughout this term we have been doing gymnastics in PE. We have learnt about making our bodies into different shapes, travelling and balancing.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our English book Peter pan and have enjoyed exploring the characters and setting of the story. We even got to film some 'Freeze Frame' in Computing on the ipads, from the illustrations in Peter Pan.



We have ended a very busy term with our lovely nativity where we have all worked extremely hard learning our lines and songs!

From the whole of the Gladstone 2 team, we would like to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

From Becky, Amy and Mandy



Bridgewater 1



What an amazing Autumn term we have had in Bridgewater 1! We have been learning all about Great Britain and have focused on The Great Fire of London and cities and landmarks in the UK. In Art, we looked at the work of a local artist named Chloe Breeze and in Design and Technology, we made our own London landmark using recyclable materials. The children have really enjoyed these topics and can recall lots of facts about London itself and the Great Fire of London.

In science, our topics were everyday materials and the human body. When looking at everyday materials, we identified different materials, we experimented how we could change these and also looked at textures. Whilst looking at the human body, we labelled small and large body parts, looked at the human life cycle and looked at the different senses too.

Our texts this term have been Vlad and the Great Fire of London and The Dog Detectives – Lost in London. The children enjoyed these books and particularly liked being able to identify the landmarks in London whilst sharing the Dog Detectives story.

We have continued with our RE days and MWHB (mental health and wellbeing) days this term. In RE, the children looked at different festivals of light – Diwali and advent and the topic for our MHWB day was 'Give'.

The children thoroughly enjoy listening to stories in our class, alongside playing with small world figures and engaging in role-play.

The children continue to amaze us with how well they have settled into their new class and their persistence and hard work.

We loved having parents and carers join us for the coffee morning so thank you so much for coming and seeing just how hard we work in Bridgewater 1.

We would like to say congratulations to Shelby, who has been part of our team since November as supply, for getting a permanent, part-time position at Kemball.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you in the summer term.

Steph, Sally, Stacey, Maddie, Becky and Shelby.



Wedgwood 1

This term has flown by in Wedgwood 1 and all the children have settled into being in this class with different routines and have made new friends.

We have done lots of exciting activities and learnt about lots of different things.

In Science, we have been learning about 'light and sound'. The children explored how sound travels and how we can reduce sound waves. They also explored how light travels and what transparent, translucent and opaque mean.

We have then looked at the water cycle including states of matter. For this topic, the children have learnt about the different states of matter and explored what the particles are like in them. They then explored how solids, liquids and gases change between each other through different heating and cooling techniques.

Our topics this term have been 'World War 2' and 'Great Britain'.

Whilst learning about the 'World War 2, the children enjoyed role playing rationing in a shop and learnt about the role of women during this time. They also learnt about what air raid shelters were and then created and tested if theirs would have survived the Blitz (intense bombing at night time). Only 1 air raid shelter survived.

Within Art, the children developed their drawing skills, learning about cross hatching, stippling, scumbling and shading. They then applied these skills to create their own Henry Moore inspired drawings about air raid shelters during WW2.

When learning about 'How has the UK changed?' we learnt about where the UK is on a world map and the four countries that make the United Kingdom. We focused on a country each week, learning about different tourist attractions and identifying if they were natural features or human features (manmade). The children could identify if these features were old or new.

In Design Technology (DT), the children tested and then designed their own bridges. They then worked in small groups to create their designs. With adult support, the children have begun to use new tools such as a saw and glue gun whilst making their bridges.

In PE, the children enjoyed swimming and were developing their skills and confidence when in the water. Recently we have developed their basketball skills, through gaining confidence in dribbling the ball between both their hands and keeping control of it when moving around obstacles. Some of the children have also worked on keeping their possession of the ball when an opponent has come to challenge taking the ball from them.

Well done this term for all your hard work. Have a good Christmas and New Year.

Steph, Clare, Jas, Zoe and Louise



Coalport 3

We have been exploring the topic 'Knights and castles' this term. We have enjoyed making clay models, exploring water for the moat, acting out scripts based on castles and having a Coronation where we were all crowned the new kings and queens of Kemball.



Our first sensory story this term was 'The Hobbit' and we spent time exploring the different landscapes in the story and the different characters. We also enjoyed showing what we preferred when given choices. Our second sensory story was 'The castle the King built' where we explored the different trades used to build castles and the different jobs working in a castle. We enjoyed the page where we were minstrels putting on a show for the King as we all worked together with the parachute.

We have continued to run the café for other classes in the school to visit and have prepared toast, pancakes and other lovely snacks to sell. We have also taught some of the other classes some technology skills including using the Makey Makey equipment to operate different software.

We have had a fabulous term in Coalport 3 and hope that you all have a happy and safe Christmas holidays. See you in January!

Fiona, Yvonne and Bekki

Spode 1

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy term and the children have had a fantastic time! We are really pleased with the progress that they have made and it has been great to see how far they have come in such a short time.

This term, we have looked at two sensory stories, 'In Every House on Every Street' and 'The Everywhere Bear'. The children have made fantastic progress through the sensory story and it has been fantastic to see them moving from accessing the activities through the provision to most children sitting for the story for over fifteen minutes! The children have really enjoyed exploring photos of their families and engaging in simple communication for foods and bubbles. It has been great to see them developing their use of alternative communication over time. We have also enjoyed sending our very own everywhere bear home with the children and we have moved sharing their special moments as a class.

In our Communication and problem solving sessions, we have enjoyed developing our book handling skills, mark making, fine motor and communication skills. Books are a firm favourite in Spode 1 and all of the children have enjoyed exploring the books in our book corner and are developing favourite stories and great handling skills.

The children have all made progress in their mark making and we are enjoying seeing them engage for longer periods over time. In our maths activities, we have enjoyed exploring capacity, colour and shape as well as exploring number through Numicon. The children are starting to show good matching skills and have particularly enjoyed our exploration of number rhymes recently.



In our Topic sessions, we enjoyed exploring our families in Autumn 1 and old and new toys in Autumn 2. The children really enjoyed exploring their families and have enjoyed using AAC to show us who is who. They have engaged well with the old and new toys, and we have enjoyed seeing them engage in play in increasingly complex ways.

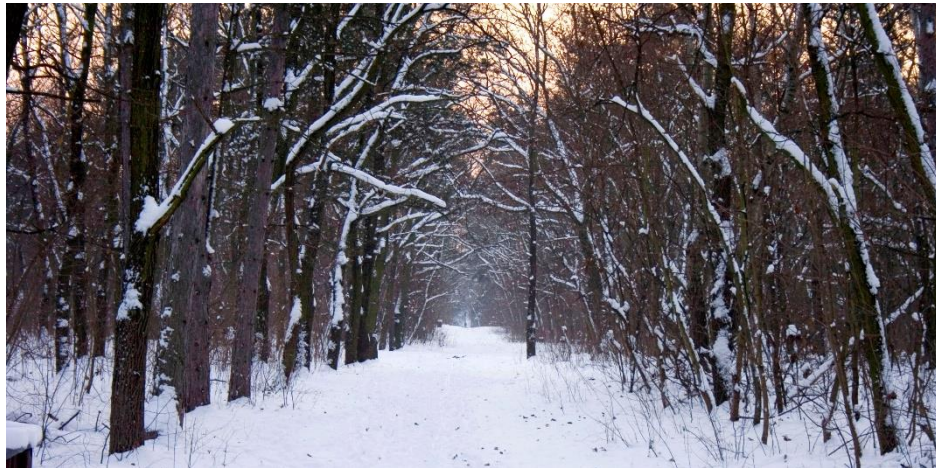


In our daily PSED sessions, we have been practicing our hair brushing, hand washing and tooth brushing skills as well as sharing and identifying emotions. The children have made great progress in a short period and we continue to encourage them to practise these skills whenever they can.

We have also been developing our play skills through our play skills sessions exploring role play, construction and water play (amongst other skills). The children are playing alongside each other much better and are beginning to share some resources with support. We have also been practising our play skills and gross motor skills in physical development and the children have loved using our adventure playground, soft play and swimming pool.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Nativity, ECO Fair, and our coffee mornings this term. It has been lovely to meet and get to know you all and we look forward to planning more of these class events in the Spring term.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas! The Spode 1 team (Cath, Caity, Melody, Sienna and Al)

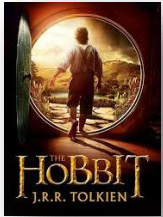




Wedgwood 2



Wow! We can't believe that we are already at the end of the Autumn term, and what a fabulous term it has been in Wedgwood 2! We are so proud of how well the children have settled into the new school year.



We have learnt about lots of exciting and interesting things in our Castles and Knights topic. We have explored two sensory stories: 'The Hobbit' and 'The Castle the King Built'. The children practiced their phonics, reading, writing and maths skills during these sessions and worked hard to explore the stories using different sensory items.



Our RE days this term have given us opportunities to learn all about Islam and Christianity and the children all loved exploring the different artefacts and all showed great respect. The children especially enjoyed making and tasting chapattis, they were delicious!



In our PE lessons this term, we followed an obstacle course in the hall; balancing on benches, jumping into hoops, throwing beanbags into a bucket, climbing up steps and working on our own individual physical targets. We have been very lucky to have rebound sessions with Donna and swimming with Dan and we have really enjoyed these sessions, especially splashing all of the adults!



We have taken part in a walk to the local shop and we are looking forward to going on some exciting trips in the new year, keep an eye out for more information on dojo!

Wedgwood 2 loved our Christmas jumper day; we created lots of decorations for the Eco Fair and decorated our classroom.

We would like to thank parents/carers for your ongoing help and support this term and to wish you and all of our wonderful children a very Merry Christmas, we look forward to another amazing year in 2024.



Sian, Sophie, Donna and Laura





Minton 1
Autumn 2023



This term we introduced the new curriculum within the Functional Pathway. In Minton 1 we have really enjoyed getting started on our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and our ASDAN modules.

Within our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award, we have started our physical and skills section. During Autumn 1, we completed weekly swimming sessions where we each had an individual target to work on. During Autumn 2, we have moved onto exploring our balancing skills and recognising how to use a variety of apparatus. We have done this by completing various different obstacle courses.

For our Duke of Edinburgh Skills section we have been looking at our Art skills. Throughout the term we focused on different artists, looking at their different styles and how they were created so that we could create our own.



Our first ASDAN module was focused around preparing drinks and snacks. This was something all pupils got stuck into and thoroughly enjoyed. At the start of the module, pupils were given a choice of the different snacks and drinks that they could prepare and these were then made throughout the first half term. We explored a variety of hot and cold drinks along with simple snacks such as making sandwiches, coleslaw, cupcakes and toasties.

This half term we have been focusing on our personal care skills. We have been looking at how we keep ourselves clean and have practiced these skills. We have also looked at what personal care skills are public and private. This has worked well alongside our PSHE sessions this half term.

To further develop our Life Skills we have had the opportunity to explore the school training flat in which we practiced washing dishes, using the washing machine, hanging clothes on the clothes maid, making a bed, ironing clothes and vacuuming the carpet.

To finish off the term we are going to West Midlands Safari Park to visit the Winter Wonderland and Santa. We will be carrying out a variety of different Christmas crafts and party game activities during the last week.



We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you in January.

Natasha, Emma, Shaun and Steph



Aynsley 2



Autumn Newsletter 2023

Aynsley 2 have had a great first term at school.

ASDAN

Year 11 pupils have completed their ASDAN Personal Development or Personal Progress qualification and these will now be internally and externally moderated. Students have made a great start with their ASDAN option short courses. They have each chosen one of the following courses: Animal Care, Hospitality, Hair and Beauty, Food Wise, Expressive Art and Design or Gardening.

Duke of Edinburgh

Students have made a good start on their Duke of Edinburgh award. They have been creating sock monkeys for their skills section and taking part in either team sports or dancing for their physical section.

Religious Education

In R.E, our topic this term has been Prejudice and Discrimination and the Festival of light. Students wrote a modern day version of the Good Samaritan story,

Careers/Life Skills

During the first half term Aynsley 2 were joined by Port Vale foundation staff. They learned skills such as applying for jobs, writing a CV and application form and interviewing skills. Students then took part in a job interview with Port Vale staff for their chosen work experience job. Students were then incredibly lucky to have a day's work placement at Port Vale. These jobs included administration, first aid, maintenance, green keeping and kitchen porter.

Students have spent 4 sessions at Abbey Hill College to prepare them for College life this September. They have taken part in a variety of activities including Art and Design, Gardening, Cookery and Sport and fitness.

Regent College invited Aynsley 2 to a Careers event at Port Vale where students met a variety of training providers and community groups.

Science

Students have been studying the human body during the first half term and dissected cows hearts to look at the function of the heart. Students have also been studying electricity and have enjoyed attempting to make circuits.

English

Aynsley 2 have been reading the novel The Water Tower by Gary Crew. They retold the story in their own words. During the Me and my world topic they have been practicing reading menus and learning personal information. Students have been practicing their functional skills English exams in preparation for starting them in the New Year.

Maths

Aynsley 2 have been practicing place value, column addition and subtraction and bar charts. Students have been practicing their functional skills Maths exams in preparation for starting them in the New Year.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely Christmas.

Aynsley 2 team

