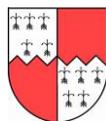


PROPELLER ACADEMY TRUST
Fitzwaryn

'Through learning to learn, pupils will access society'

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Dear Parents/carers,

It has been an overwhelming joy to see the children and staff back in school since September! The whole community at Fitzwaryn has shown amazing resilience and the children continue to impress me every day!

The staff team have been wonderful as usual, keeping so positive throughout the ups and downs of the year. I am incredibly proud of each and every member of staff who keep the wheels of Fitzwaryn turning!

The pupils who transitioned to new classes after half term have settled in extremely well and of course the excellent quality, focused learning has taken place every day.

Once again, there have been many highlights this term and I could not possibly pick my favourite one! Happy reading!

Maple Class

Since half term in Maple Class we have been extremely busy! We have welcomed 5 new children into school who have all settled really well, made friends and got stuck into their learning. Our topic has been Polar Regions and the children have explored sensory stations to get a feeling for what it might be like living in the Arctic or Antarctic. Children have also been learning the names and signs for some common Polar animals. In Art and D&T we have explored materials and how we can combine them to create different structures. The children have all made igloos from papier mâché and cotton wool!

The children have also been focusing well on their mark making, handwriting, letter and number formation as well as their phonics in English. In Maths we explored money, shape and lots of counting! In PE we have also been working on jumping and the children have made amazing progress!



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Beech Class

In Beech Class, we have had a wonderful term! New and existing members have formed some great friendships and are looking forward to spending the rest of the year in 'Team Beech'.

Our topic for this term has been 'Polar Regions', which the children have thoroughly enjoyed. We have explored weather in the Sensory Theatre, which involved getting sprayed with water and blown away by the 'wind' – this was very exciting for all the children! One of the highlights of this term has been creating our igloos! In preparation, we explored lots of materials and adhesives, settling on using balls of cotton wool and glue to build our igloos. They turned out amazingly well and the children were very proud of them. We have also had lots of fun in horticulture, where the children used a range of tools, including watering cans and wheelbarrows. We were also in the polytunnel working and trying a variety of fruits. In Maths, we have been learning lots about money and have also enjoyed sorting games and role play!



Cedar Class

In Cedar Class this term we have been enjoying getting to know each other and sharing our favourite games and activities with each other including making a giant Pac Man game. Our topic has been about 'Fairy Tales' and we have been learning about three different fairy tales – Aladdin, Cinderella and Snow White. We have been trying to use lots of different descriptive words in our writing and practising retelling the stories. We enjoyed learning about the history of Disney and looking at how Mickey Mouse has changed since he was first created in 1928 – which we know is a very long time ago! In the past week, we have been enjoying decorating the classroom ready for Christmas and making Christmas crafts - the classroom is looking lovely and festive.



Hazel Class

It has been wonderful having Hazel Class back together and welcoming a couple of new faces to the class. Hazel Class have made great progress across the different subjects and have engaged in many different activities. Pupils have really enjoyed this term's 'Disney' topic and worked hard on their descriptive writing skills! Pupils have also enjoyed: developing their money and addition skills in Maths; designing costumes and making crafts in DT; learning about animals; playing lots of team games and building castles from huge cardboard boxes to play in which was definitely a highlight for them all. We have of course all enjoyed some festive activities too and had a surprise visit from Santa which brought lots of smiles! Well done Hazel Class, great work!



Ash Class

Ash Class have been enjoying fairy tales from Walt Disney. We have focused on the stories of Snow White, Aladdin and Cinderella. We have been finding out who are the 'goodies' or 'baddies'. We have made different clothing for different characters and have enjoyed singing in music 'You've got a friend in me'. Some even sang solos! We have compared the old Mickey Mouse and modern Mickey Mouse. Most of us liked the one in colour! We have also loved shopping in Maths, using coins to buy toys or food. We all took turns to be the customer and the shop keeper. Our highlight of the term was the visit from Father Christmas. It was wonderful to see such happy smiling faces. Happy Christmas!



Willow Class

This term the pupils have really enjoyed our 'Time Travel' topic. They have explored adventure stories and looked at familiar settings and character descriptions. In Maths, the pupils have learnt to complete addition and subtraction calculations using a number line. They worked really hard to read and tell the time on an analogue clock to the hour and half past the hour. Art has been our favourite subject this term. The pupils have used a range of techniques to record their observations when comparing landscape pictures from different artists.



Pine Class

Pine Class have had a great term and have enjoyed travelling through time! We have been travelling to Ancient Egypt, Roman, Viking, Tudor and the Victorian times and learning lots of facts about these periods of time. We have also been learning about how the landscape of the world has changed over time and thinking about how the future will look as well. In RE, we have been learning about different celebrations and in Science we have investigated different ways of mixing and separating mixtures. We have also practised our drawing skills and have done lots of writing!



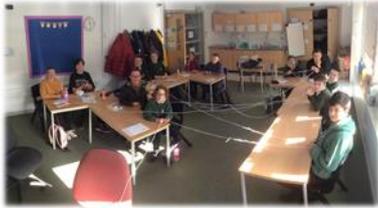
Rowan Class

We have had a lovely term in Rowan Class. Everyone has settled in well to Rowan Class and it has been lovely to see new friendships being made and existing friendships go from strength to strength. We have been working hard on our Time Travel topic. Everyone is working hard in our English lessons; we have written stories based on Time Travel. It has been great to see the pupils using what they have been learning about in our phonics lessons in their writing. We have really enjoyed learning about different eras including the Egyptians, the Vikings and the Romans in the Sensory Theatre. In Art we have been creating our own landscape paintings, using the different techniques that famous artists have used. We have also enjoyed our horticulture lessons this term and being outside in the fresh air!



Chestnut Class

Hello from Chestnut Class! We can't believe our first term in our new class is over already, it shows just how much fun we have been having! This term, we have got really stuck into our ASDAN work and are well on the way to achieving a Bronze award by the end of the year. We looked at how traffic impacts the environment, we have taken part in P.E. every single day and we have learnt all about the Jewish religion. We are certainly feeling much happier and fitter since we began putting a great focus on physical activity and it sets us up nicely for the rest of the day. We will be continuing this throughout the year. The Chestnut Class staff would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year, and we very much look forward to seeing everyone back in January.



Holly Class

In Holly Class this term we have really enjoyed working together as a class following our return to school. During the term we have excelled during the daily PE sessions and when Martin (PE Coach) comes in for our Friday PE lessons we have worked really hard! In English lessons this term we have focused on settings; the weekly Guided Reading groups have also been a huge success. We have set ourselves high standards in our ASDAN work and are working to achieve as high an award as possible. This term we have completed modules on the Environment and Expressive Art – in which we have created short animations. A standout of the term was completing an in-depth study into Children in Need before organising a whole school fundraising day. We designed and created different activities for the whole school to take part in during the day, including an ‘identify the baby photo’ competition! All in all a fantastic but hard-working term!



Student Centre – written by Evan and Lily

This year the Student Centre have been very busy doing lots of different enterprises and activities. In upcycling we upcycled a variety of furniture. We transformed a chair by sanding it and painting it a beautiful blue.

In Horticulture we have been busy clearing the weeds and planting cyclamen to sell. We enjoy Horticulture and being outside.

Our coffee morning sale was an absolute success and we made over 100 cakes and raised £345 pounds. It was so successful we were asked to make a cake for a member of staff who was celebrating their daughter’s birthday.

For our most recent enterprise we made school tea towels to celebrate 50 years of Fitzwaryn school. We asked everyone to draw their faces or make hand prints. We had to check to make sure every pupil and member of staff was on the tea towels. It was a lot of hard work, but it was worth it.

As it is Christmas we are doing a Student Strictly show, we have been very busy and practising our dances. We have costumes and glitter, and we are ready to rock and roll. We will perform it virtually to the School. They are in for a real treat and we are so excited!

Merry Christmas from the Student Centre!



Update on the 'Run up to Christmas'

I mentioned that the school was going to complete 1,000 laps of the field in the run up to Christmas! Well, I am delighted to say that the Student Centre report that pupils and staff smashed that target and so far, have completed 1,562 laps! I am sure that will increase even more this week! Well done to everyone!

Ms Edwards

This week we say goodbye to Ms Edwards as she starts her retirement. Jane started as Deputy here on the same day that I started as Headteacher! She has been such a wonderful member of the team and while we will miss her, we wish her and her family all the very best for the future and hope that her plans to travel will be successful once the restrictions have lifted across the world! We hope that she sends us a postcard or two!

A message from Julie Mabberley, Chair of Governors

2020 has been a very different year in school and as we come up to the Christmas holidays, the Governors would like to express their thanks to the excellent staff in the school who have worked extremely hard to ensure that the children continue to receive an outstanding education in a safe environment.

We must also give our thanks to Governor Mary Hallam who decided to leave the Governing body at the end of her four-year term. We also lose Ms Edwards from the Board where she occupied a place as Deputy Headteacher. We will miss them both. We welcomed Matt Heyworth as a new Parent Governor and Andrew Smith as a new Community Governor and look forward to seeing them both around school when it is safe to do so.

In the meantime, we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and send best wishes for a healthy 2021.

And finally....

Thank you once again for your patience and support; without such a positive parent community, we would be in a very different place.

I hope that you all have a lovely break over the holidays and get to see family and friends, either safely in person or virtually!

As the year comes to an end I, like many of you, hope that next year we can look forward to happier times and be able to get back to 'normal' life once again.

With very best wishes

Stephanie Coneboy
Headteacher