

Reynalds Cross School newsletter

Kineton Green Road, Olton, Solihull, B92 7ER

Satellite Centre, Green Lane, Shirley, Solihull B90 1AE

October 2023 edition



Term



dates



TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2023/24

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Half term: Monday 30th October– Friday 3rd
November 2023

Term ends: Friday 22nd December 2023

SPRING TERM 2024

Term starts: Monday 8th January 2024

Half term: Monday 12th February- Friday
16th February 2024

Term ends: Friday 22nd March 2024

SUMMER TERM 2024

Term starts: Monday 8th April 2024

Half term: Monday 27th May– Friday 31st
May 2024

Term ends: Monday 22nd July 2024

TRAINING DAYS (pupils not in school)

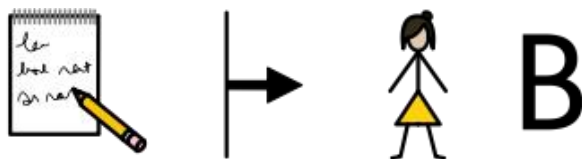
Friday 22nd December 2023

Friday 22nd March 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024



Message from Mrs Brettell



It has been a busy Autumn term at Reynolds Cross. It has been wonderful to welcome all our new pupils and see all our pupils settle into their new classes. The past 8 weeks have been busy, as you will see when you read through the Newsletter. The new lunches have gone down a storm and the feedback from both staff and pupils has been excellent.

Thank you to all the parents that attended parents evening. It was lovely to see more parents in person and hear about all the positive comments.

Attendance

We will continue to strive for excellent attendance and punctuality. So thank you to everyone that has helped us achieve this. Our current attendance is 91.4%

Goodbyes

It is always sad when we say goodbye to our dedicated staff. We are saying goodbye to two legends that have worked at Reynolds Cross for over 18 years. Claire Johnson worked in Upper School as a HLTA for many years and has secured a teaching role at Herewood College. So she will still be in contact in many of our pupils when they transition to the next phase of their lives.

Kim Doherty will be enjoying a much deserved retirement. Kim has been our Asdan lead and worked in many of our classes over the years. I am pleased to announce Kim will continue to take part in Sunday family swim sessions.

On behalf of all the staff and governors, I wish you a safe and happy half term. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday 6th November.

Next term activities

Fireworks disco at Satellite. Please ensure you have ordered your tickets for the firework disco. This is always a wonderful event. Important note we are very excited that this year we will be holding it at our Satellite site.

Santa drive through – Plans are already in place for the 2023 drive through so please watch out for details next term.

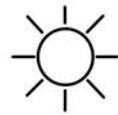




Shooting stars

Shooting Stars have already had lots of opportunities to explore the school topic of 'Changes'. We started with an Autumn theme, using various natural materials, as well as Autumn colours to create different effects. Favourites have included making hedgehogs using dough and lollysticks, and sensory trays. We have also been learning how to change sounds with different instruments.





Sunshines



class



Sunshines



have been



learning

about



colour



changes



in



art.



Pupils



have been



mixing



primary colours

to make secondary



colours



and



learning



about



how

white



can



change

the



shade

of a



colour.





Planets



Art

In art Planets have been using their senses to explore changes in colour and texture. We have enjoyed activities including; making our own sensory bottles and creating beautiful colourful butterflies by mixing vinegar, food colouring and bicarbonate of soda!

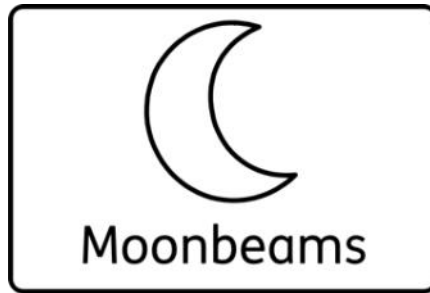




Rainbows

Rainbows class have had a busy first half term. We have made torn paper mountains in art, which go with our class story 'We're going on a leaf hunt'. In maths we have been working on the differences between 'one' and 'lots'. Well done, Rainbows!





This term in Moonbeams we have been experimenting with colours and textures through different art activities. So far this term our activities have included adding water to dry chalk and tissue paper and creating colourful foam by mixing vinegar with food colouring and bicarbonate of soda.





Rockets

We have been working on our fine motor skills, sharing books with an adult and practising our listening skills daily.





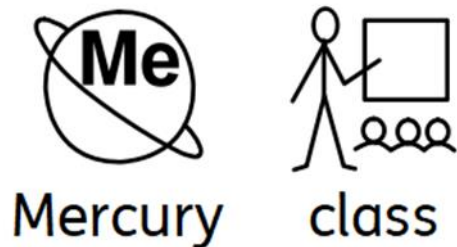
This half term, Comets class have worked hard in Myself and Others, taking turns to play games such as building towers and completing slotting and inset puzzle games. Comets have worked hard to wait for their turn.





Galaxies class have been enjoying the story about the hungry caterpillar in reading this term, counting all the food the caterpillar ate on different days throughout week. Linking this theme to art, Galaxies have created beautiful master pieces of work with various materials for our display boards.





In the first part of the autumn term we focused on establishing our classroom routines. We took part in a variety of lessons, such as our daily maths and reading; weekly art, music, science, PE and swimming. As well as sensory play, my community, myself and others and Intensive Interaction.





Venus

This term, Venus class students have been identifying the parts of plants. Students have also been caring for them, watching how they develop and learning about what they need thrive.





Mars

On a Monday morning in Mars class we focus on communication. Some pupils have a PECS session whilst others use colourful semantics to extend their sentences.





Jupiter

This term Jupiter have come back to school ready to learn. We have loved sensory music engaging with the instruments.

Earth base students have been working hard on their ASDAN targets while out in the community.

Have a lovely half term break ☺





In My World we have been exploring events related to art and craft. We have looked at Autumn artwork and created our own. We like to explore sensory items, art on the computer and mark making on big paper.





Neptune

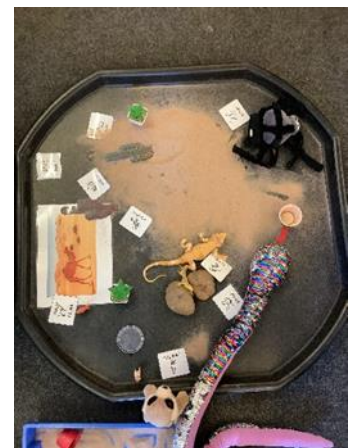
Neptune class have been learning about habitats in their science focus sessions

Pupils have explored arctic, ocean and desert habitats this half term, finding out

about the animals that live there and how they are adapted to each

habitat, for example by having thick fur because it is very cold or gills

to breathe under water.





Students in Adventurer and Voyager have been working hard to develop their Life Skills.

We are learning how to do online shopping in Menu Planning groups.

Students have to look at recipes to see what we need for a meal, before checking the cupboards and counting what we already have in the kitchen. They then need to use their maths skills to work out what we need to order, and search for items to complete a grocery shop.

As well as shopping, we have been learning about safety and hygiene.

Students have been learning what coloured chopping boards are for and matching different foods to the correct coloured board.





This half term 14-19 pupils have been settling in to their new classes at Satellite centre. They have made new friends and enjoyed new experiences including work experience, meal planning and cooking meals for their friends as well as making full use of the student common room and the sports hall. A great start to a new school year!



Qualifications Year 10 – 14



Students new to 14 – 19 stage and ASDAN Qualifications

Welcome to all our new pupils who are now in our 14-19 stage, where they will start to build up credits towards ASDAN qualifications awarded when leaving school. This year there are 30 students in years 10 to 14 working across locations at both main site or satellite centre in Green Lane.



Focus of 14-19 curriculum (Years 10-14) is preparing students for life after leaving school. Parents at home and staff at school support students to become as independent as possible, developing life skills and understandings to become more confident, able and valued members of society.

Several curriculum topics and skills we want students to learn match qualifications available within ASDAN programmes at Entry 1, 2 or 3. This enables students to leave school with qualifications to prove skills. Class teachers will let you know which qualification your child is working towards.

We love celebrating achievements and do so throughout school life.



Students undertake work experience tasks supporting Asdan units 'Developing skills for the workplace: following instructions' and 'Exploring job opportunities'. They are also helping to make crispy cakes to sell in school towards Asdan unit 'Participating in a mini enterprise project'. This activity gives students experience with planning, making and selling a variety of cakes weekly, developing skills to purchase ingredients, undertake catering activities and handle sales. Delicious!



CHAMPS NEWS

The CHAMPS team would like to welcome all of our new parents, carers and families. The staff at Reynalds Cross strive to ensure that we offer our students an engaging, safe environment where they are happy and have access to the best learning opportunities.

Who are we? What do we do?

CHAMPS is Children's Health and Mental Provision Support.

CHAMPS is myself, Katrina Thompson, based at main site. Matt Carbin, based at the Satellite Centre, plus our Deputy Head Jess Francis. Together we look at ways of how we can support and improve the mental health of our students. Look out for us in the December newsletter - we have lots of ideas for mental health activities next term.



Supernova classes

Congratulations to the classes below for achieving 100% attendance for the week.

Week ending 15/09/23

- ♦ Galaxies
- ♦ Comets



Well done

Week ending 22/09/23

- ♦ Rainbows
- ♦ Galaxies
- ♦ Saturn

Week ending 29/09/23

- ♦ Rainbows
- ♦ Neptune

Week ending 06/10/23

- ♦ Planets
- ♦ Saturn
- ♦ Neptune
- ♦ Comets
- ♦ Voyager

Week ending 13/10/23

- ♦ Moonbeams
- ♦ Galaxies
- ♦ Comets
- ♦ Adventurer
- ♦ Voyager

Week ending 20/10/23

- ♦ Rainbows
- ♦ Moonbeams
- ♦ Planets
- ♦ Mercury
- ♦ Adventurer

Week ending 27/10/23

- ♦ Rainbows
- ♦ Mercury



October half term, child meal deals

W?

Cheap eats for kids during October half-term



Ikea Kids eat **from 95p** in Ikea restaurants. Available every day from 11am.



Morrisons Kids eat **free when an adult spends £4.49** or more on a meal.



Tesco Kids eat free with any purchase of fresh fruit by an adult, which means you can get a meal **for as little as 60p**.



Asda Kids eat for **£1 all day** at Asda Cafés, with no adult spend required.



Sainsbury's Cafés Kids eat for **£1 with the purchase of an adult hot meal** From 11.30am every day.

See link in post for dates of eligibility