

Reynalds Cross School newsletter

Kineton Green Road, Olton, Solihull, B92 7ER

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

December 2023 edition



Term



dates



TERM AND HOLIDAY DATES 2023/24

AUTUMN TERM 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)

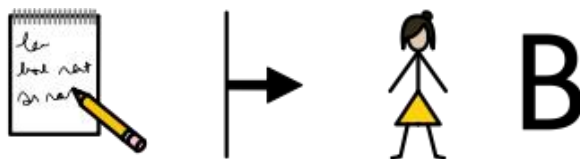
Friday 22nd December 2023

Friday 22nd March 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024



Message from Mrs Brettell



I write this as the busy festive period approaches and I return from Touchwood following a brilliant performance from some of our post 16 choir who delighted the crowds of shoppers with their excellent singing, dancing and Makaton signing. There



are many other festive performances arranged for the forthcoming weeks and everyone has worked very hard within their classes. It is always lovely to see the delight on parents and carers faces when watching pupils participating in performances.

Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day was enjoyed by both staff and pupils and the Santa drive through was an another huge success. Thank you to the families that attended. There are already plans in place for next year's ultimate Santa experience.

During this term, pupils have enjoyed lots of activities. Our new curriculum encourages everyone to develop community links and visits over time. It has been wonderful to watch the new KS2 Eco club visit the school garden on a weekly basis. Ensuring the bird feeders are full, the garden is fully raked and the spring bulbs are planted ready for warmer times. Pupils at Satellite have had a wonderful time visiting Mason house, meeting their residents and singing Christmas carols in their most recent visit. Whilst many pupils in Key Stage 3 have been shopping and practising their life skills.

The firework disco and children in need fundraising events have been a huge success again this year. We held the fireworks disco at Satellite site this year and it was lovely to see pupils ranging from EYFS through to 14 -19. Thank you to all those that attended and we look forward to more events in the new year at both Satellite and main site. Please watch out for the date of the Valentines disco.

We sadly say goodbye to some staff. Firstly, Erika Doorn who has worked in many classes over the last 6 years. However, she has been fundamental to PMLD and has spent recent years in Jupiter class. Erika has been an absolute pleasure to have as a teacher in school and will be sorely missed by all. Her dedication to the pupils is faultless and her lessons are inspirational. There is never a dull moment in Jupiter class. Erika will be going on to lead the PMLD department at Herewood College. We wish you all the best and thank you for your dedication and commitment over the years.

Andrew Fee joined us in 2010 and has been a committed and dedicated LSA. Andrew has worked in many classes over the years. He has support many pupils and families over the years. His commitment to school and bringing music into school has been exceptional. Andrew will be missed by pupils, parents and staff. Andrew is having a change of career and will have a coordinating role within a Christian Charity.

Tom joined us in 2021 as a site assistant and has developed his practical skills. Tom will only be going a short distance next door to Langley Secondary School, so we will no doubt still be seeing Tom around.

Miss Danielle joined us in September 2021 and has supported classes at the Satellite Centre and now Jupiter class at main site. Miss Danielle is moving to a school closer to home and we wish her all the best.

We also say goodbye to Aneta, who is the teacher in Venus class and wish her good luck in the future.

We would like to welcome Paul our new Site Manager in January. Paul has previously worked at a large specialist college in Wolverhampton.

Thank you to all the staff and pupils that have worked incredibly hard this term. We wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas break and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!





Shooting stars



PE

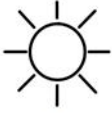

This half term, our Reception group have taken part in a Dance themed PE session. Activities have included a song about stopping and starting, as well as waving coloured scarves to a rainbow song. There have also been opportunities to practice balance and movement skills over different obstacles.




















Communication








Meanwhile, our Nursery pupils have made a great start to their communication sessions in class, communicating requests for favourite items such as the slinky, squeaky pig,






 Sunshines class









 Sunshines have had a fantastic Autumn term. We have explored










 lots of different activities from our 'changes' topic. One of our








 favourite moments of this term was visiting Winter Wonderland


 at the Satellite Centre





Planets



Music

This half term Planets have enjoyed having the CBSO musicians join us for our music lessons. During these sessions pupils have explored a variety of musical instruments and have listened to the musicians play some classical music pieces. During our last music session we also invited our parents to join us!



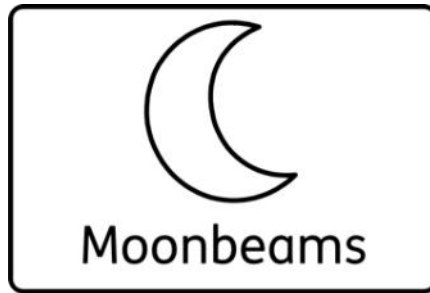


Rainbows



Rainbows class have had a great second half term leading up to Christmas. We have learnt about gaming hobbies and different places of worship in my community, making some stained glass windows. Great work, Rainbows!





Teamwork

This term moonbeams have been working in teams to complete different games in my community. Pupils have played games including Sonic and Pokémon and have enjoyed exploring the resources.





Rockets



Christmas Workshop

Here are some lovely pictures of Rockets class completing some Christmas activities and making resources for our KS2 Christmas Workshop.





Comets



Science

This half term, Comets Class have worked hard in Science, learning about babies. Pupils have learnt how to look after babies and practiced taking care of baby dolls, such as washing, feeding and taking them on a walk. Well done Comets Class!






Galaxies

 This  term,  Galaxies  class  have been  applying  reading  skills  to develop

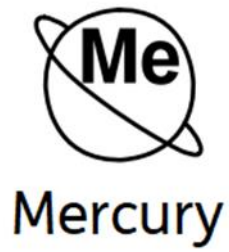
 our  independent  life skills  to  make  a  toast.  We  have  used  our

 reading  skills  to  follow  instructions  and  make  requests.  We  have

 also  practised  spreading  and  cutting  skills  to  make  our  toast.  The

 toast  has  been  yummy  to  eat  for  our  morning  snack





Music

This term we enjoyed our weekly CBSO visits. We had the opportunity to listen to classical music and see how to play musical instruments. We were also able to try playing independently.





Venus



Science

This term in our science lessons – We have been doing some experimentation and investigation

The students have been shown the experiment and then have followed instructions to complete the experiment independently

We have then had lots of fun investigating the changes that have been shown in the experiments.





Mars

Mars have been looking at what is healthy and unhealthy this term. The pupils have explored this through cooking/making healthy and unhealthy foods. The pupils were given instructions to follow and have made brownies, salad wrap, fruit salad and cup cakes.





Jupiter

This term in My Community Jupiter class have had a variety opportunities to learn while out in the community. We have visited Morrisons, Brueton Park, Langley Hall Park, Solihull Library, Touchwood, Co-op and the local park. We have been learning how to walk sensibly while out in the community. Also we have been finding items on a shopping list.



Over the years I have had so much fun in Jupiter class however sadly I am off to pastures new. Continue working hard in 2024 – I will miss you all!

Love Ms Erika Doorn

Have a great Christmas ☺





Saturn



Communication

In Saturn we have been using communication boards in all areas of the curriculum. The pupils are forming sentences and using the boards to request items. We can use communication boards to also speak to our friends!



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Neptune



Neptune Class have used ICT within communication this term. Pupils made video calls to each other, practiced typing their name and address and have spent time in the immersive classroom.





Satellite



Centre



Design




Technology

This term subject studies Design Technology group have been upcycling an old cot into a friendship bench, to link with their English work on the story of the Friendship Bench.

Pupils started off by designing what they wanted the bench to look like, thinking about what colours they wanted the bench to be and what materials they wanted to use.

The pupils then used a variety of different equipment to take the cot apart, sand all the wood down, paint the frame and create a cushion cover, before putting it back together to create their bench. They were very pleased with the overall result.




 14-19 Satellite

A + V
 Adventurer and Voyager



Winter Wonderland

Satellite Centre have been busy preparing the Hall for Winter Wonderland.

We have been decorating and even had Elf school, to see who can help greet guests from across school.

Tasks included paper chain craft, present wrapping contests, snowflake making and snowball fights.

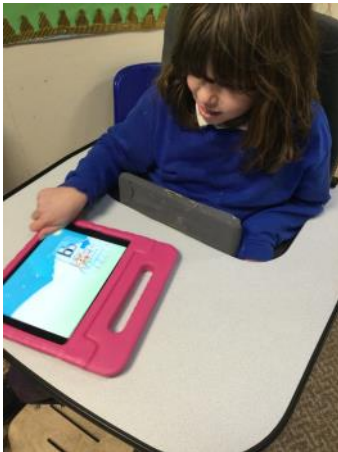




Lunch time



club



This term Key Stage Two have enjoyed running lunch time clubs. Pupils from Rockets, Comets and Galaxies have had the opportunity to join friends across the classes. They have been exploring the immersive classroom, making different shapes and objects in play dough club and accessing ipads and computers in our technology club. Pupils from moonbeams have had relaxing Thursday lunchtimes with sensory massage.

Pupils have loved getting to meet new friends from across different classes. Children have benefitted from accessing different playgrounds to have opportunities to spend time playing and having fun with their friends they have met in lunchtime clubs. It has given pupils chance to engage in activities they enjoy during their leisure time.

A pupil from Sunshines, who has joined Key Stage 2 clubs, has told staff he has enjoyed all the sessions he attends as he has met new friends. He is now suggesting to staff new clubs he would like to attend in the future with the friends he has made.



Year 14-19 students



Working towards ASDAN qualifications

Students in 14 – 19 stage continue work hard towards their ASDAN qualifications. Many activities within the school day support accreditation along with specifically planned lessons. We also regularly visit our local community to practice and gain a range of skills.



Students from Earth Base visited a local supermarket where they went to the café and picked what they would like to eat and drink as part of “All about me” unit.



Students from the Satellite Centre took their ASDAN English unit further by making their own friendship bench during Subject Studies.



A group of students from Satellite Centre have visited Touchwood once a week for work experience. They have worked really hard on making voucher cards as part of their “Developing skills for the workplace: following instructions” ASDAN module.



Merry Christmas





Children's Mental Health Provision and Support

November and December are always extremely busy months in school. Pupils are very busy with Halloween, Bonfire night and of course lots of Christmas activities, including lower school nativity and upper school video performances.

Our theme this term was "kindness," as in November we had World Kindness day and anti-bullying week. The pupils have been doing lots of activities, including assemblies about being kind, belonging, sharing and being a good friend. During anti bullying week the pupils took part in various activities.

What's new?

Next year we will be looking at "buddying up" our classes. This will give the pupils the opportunity to share their successes with another class, as well as birthdays and other fun things. Hopefully they will also be able to visit their buddy class and maybe even share in a story. We will also have a focus on our wet play activities and look at ways we can improve experiences when it is too wet and rainy to go outside.

All that remains now is to wish all of our pupils and their families a very Merry and restful Christmas and a Happy New Year. We will see you all in 2024.

Katrina and Matt

Supernova classes

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



Well done

Week ending 10/11/23

- ◆ Moonbeams
- ◆ Galaxies
- ◆ Planets
- ◆ Mercury
- ◆ Saturn
- ◆ Voyager

Week ending 17/11/23

- ◆ Galaxies
- ◆ Saturn

Week ending 24/11/23

- ◆ Planets
- ◆ Venus
- ◆ Neptune
- ◆ Voyager
- ◆ Comets

Week ending 01/12/23

- ◆ Moonbeams
- ◆ Saturn

Week ending 08/12/23

- ◆ Sunshines
- ◆ Moonbeams

Week ending 15/12/23

- ◆ Sunshines
- ◆ Planets

