



Park Lane School

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are coming to the end of a very difficult and testing year for everyone. While the year has gone quickly, when looking back, it has also been very demanding and stressful. When thinking back to March and having very few children in school to now when most children are back, I have to give credit to a large number of people:

- The pupils of Park Lane School who have been so resilient and positive through all of this. They coped with the rotas of the summer term and then have come back to school full time with the same enjoyment and enthusiasm that they always show. I know you as parents and carers must be very proud of them, as I am as their Head Teacher.
- The new pupils who have joined our school during this term. We have welcomed 14 new pupils into our school community. They have all settled in so well, it already feels like they have been here longer than a term!
- Parents and Carers who have supported me, the Governors and the staff in the decisions we have had to make over the last 9 months. I have been really grateful for the understanding you have shown in difficult circumstances, from cooperating with new exit and entrance measures to coming and collecting your child quickly when you have been asked too.
- Staff at Park Lane who have got on with supporting the pupils as their main priority. They have all worked so hard to keep routines in place and in ensuring all pupils

have had access to the education and care they need every day.

- Governors who have supported me in making decisions that have, on occasion, been difficult. In particular I would like to thank the Chair of Governors Tandy Palmes for her support and for being at the end of the phone when needed.

It has been a different Christmas in school this year but we have got into the Christmas spirit as best we can! The Christmas jumper day was a great success-who knew there were so many different designs?! We have had a school Christmas dinner-a bit more low key than usual but nevertheless a Christmas dinner. Thank you to Jacqui for cooking it. Of course we have missed performing our concert at Christmas this year but we will have a recorded version to share with you.

I wish you all the best for 2021-lets hope for a better year for all. I hope you all have a good Christmas; however you spend it. Take care and stay safe.

As you will see in the rest of the newsletter school life has continued and the pupils have had fun. So please read on....





Silk Class



THIS TERM OUR TOPIC HAS BEEN: SUPERSTARS AND COLOUR

AUTUMN 2020

This term we have welcomed some new classmates to Silk class and it has been lovely to watch the pupils get to know each other and develop some lovely friendships.

Our topic has been 'Superstars'. We have shared and enjoyed some wonderful books including 'Rainbow Fish', 'The Enormous Watermelon' and 'Pig in the Pond'. We particularly enjoyed using our different senses to explore watermelon and worked well as a team role-playing the story.

We have continued our work around numbers, counting skills and learning about more. This term we have explored colour in many different ways. We have made some good progress with our numeracy skills.

Every Wednesday we have enjoyed our weekly trip to South Park with lots of fun on the play equipment! The pupil's behaviour whilst out in the community has been excellent.

On the weeks we have not been able to go to the park, we have had great fun exploring different mathematical concepts through our parachute session.

We have been extremely physical this term with weekly PE, swim and ball pool

sessions. The pupils have all displayed excellent participation during these activities.

During our PSHE sessions we have been learning about sharing play experiences together and taking turns. We have worked very well as a class group developing these key skills.

We also managed to fit in lovely celebrations of Autumn, Diwali, Bonfire Night and Children in Need,

As you can see we have had a wonderful term with lots of fun had by all!

Have a lovely Christmas break!





THIS TERM OUR TOPIC HAS BEEN: SUPERHEROES

This term we have welcomed some new classmates to Granelli class and watched some move on to Hovis class. It has been a busy and different term but we have all coped well and are getting back to our school routines.

Our topic has been 'Superheroes'. We have enjoyed some great books including 'Avocado Baby', 'My mum and dad make me laugh' and traditional nursery rhymes. We used roleplay to act out the story of 'The Good Samaritan'.

In Maths, we have focused on number and have enjoyed number rhymes and number lines to count along with. We have counted objects and used sensory trays to explore groups of objects.

Every Tuesday, we have had Music Therapy sessions and enjoyed PE and swimming sessions too.

We have been extremely physical this term with weekly PE, swim and ball pool sessions. The pupils have all displayed excellent participation during these activities.

During our PSHE sessions we have been focusing on selfcare and independence. We have developed our handwashing skills, it's really important at the moment.

We have celebrated some birthdays, made decorations to celebrate Diwali and beautiful poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day. We helped raise money for Children in Need and contributed to a Christmas performance. We have been very busy!

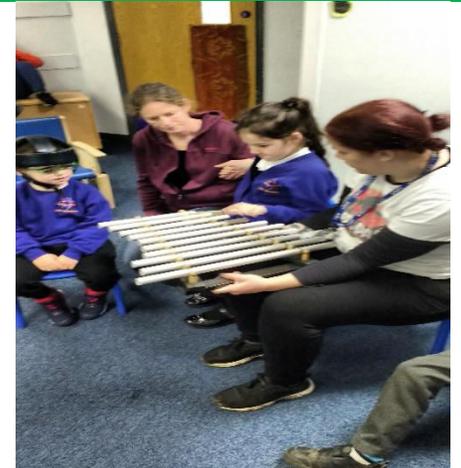
We wish you a restful break and stay safe!



Granelli Class



AUTUMN 2020





Hovis Class

THIS TERM OUR TOPIC HAS BEEN: SUPERSTARS- HEROES AROUND US

AUTUMN 2020



This term we have welcomed some new students to Hovis Class and it has been lovely to see how well everyone has settled in and formed new friendships.

In Challenge we looked at the Army and learnt more about how they help us, their different jobs roles, the fitness test and the ration pack. We finished our project by learning about different food groups and planning and cooking a healthy meal for a member of the Army.

In Creativity we have created various pieces of 'Superhero Art', our favourite being when did some Paul Klee style block painting and added on our own handprint heroes.

In Individuality we worked on our fitness and agility by completing a Superhero circuit, learning how to move quickly

through all the obstacles. We also came up with our own Superhero moves and practiced moving to music in different ways, copying and sequencing moves. We also thought about our own heroes and made posters about what characteristics make the best hero.

In Community we have thought about the heroes around us. We interviewed our own Nurse, Cassie and learnt more about what her job role involves. We looked at the Police and Fire Service, learning more about each service and how they help us. We role played lots of different job roles who help us and worked on recognising the different symbols for each emergency service.

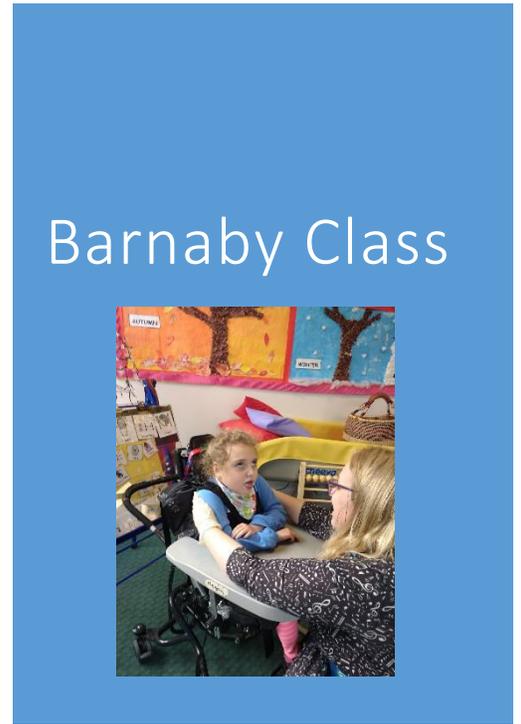
We then finished by writing letters to our local emergency service workers and key workers to say thank you for all the hard

work they do for us. We have already received some lovely replies.

In English we have read lots of lovely stories linked to our topic 'Super Duck', 'Charlie and the Firefighter', 'Ten Little Superheroes', 'Mog and the Vee Eee Tee' are just a few. We have worked on our comprehension, character recognition, sequencing events from the story, discussing feelings of characters and communicating if we liked or did not like a story and giving reasons why.

In Maths our topic has been Number and there has been lots of hard work on number recognition, counting, one more/one less and number bonds to 10.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2021! We look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year.



THIS TERM OUR TOPIC HAS BEEN: SUPERSTARS AND OUR AMAZING BODY

AUTUMN 2020

This term we have had a great time in Barnaby Class. We have our new teacher, Nichola as well as familiar faces to welcome us back to school. We've enjoyed lots of multi-sensory experiences. In our creative sessions we have explored warm and cool items with both our hands and feet and have then gone on to make pictures with them. We have also explored different instruments and played stop and go games, including musical statues and using the hill in our playground when the weather was warmer!

certain points, anticipating what is coming, especially if they are our favourites. Sometimes we don't like what is coming, but that's ok. We can tell staff we don't like it! Sometimes we change our minds and start to like something after initially deciding we didn't like it! It's good to try things more than once!

We've all enjoyed being back at school and had a great time, but worked hard too. We hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to our adventures in learning in 2021!

In Challenge we have been working on our switch skills. We have made cakes, set the fans or disco lights going or been in control of the music. We also enjoy games on the computer, especially if they make silly noises.

Our new favourite session is Sensology where we get to explore all our senses. We always start and finish the activity with the same pieces of music to help us understand what is going on. Then we work with an adult to explore vision, touch, smell, taste, hearing and proprioception (understanding about our body). We get to try the same things each week to help us to communicate more clearly our likes and dislikes. Each time we do this session we get excited at





THIS TERM OUR TOPIC HAS BEEN: SUPERSTARS- PEOPLE WHO INFLUENCE US

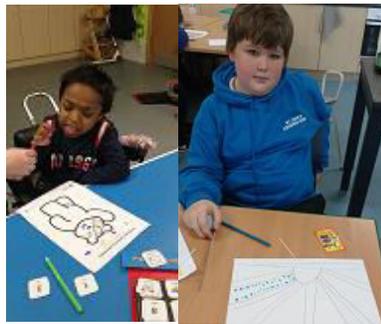
This term we have created a new class Bollin. Nearly all the students were new to Park Lane School and it has been amazing to see how well everyone has settled in to school routines and formed new friendships. We have worked closely with Arighi class and both classes have visited the builders and written reports about our new classrooms.

In Challenge we looked at the planets, in particular phases of the moon. We tried space food, made craters and even had a visit from a spaceman.

In Creativity we have created various pieces of 'Superhero Art' and have enjoyed looking at the work of Roy Lichtenstein.

In PSHE we have been talking about ourselves and our families. In PE we have worked on our fitness and teambuilding skills. We have played football and tennis and run relays. We have also completed circuits, learning how to move quickly through all the obstacles.

In Community we have thought about local heroes. We learned about the Arighi family and Alan Turing. We enjoyed cracking codes and looking at furniture from the



past and present.

We talked about foodbanks and collected food, which we donated to the Silklife Foodbank.



In English we have read "The Evil Pea", "The Tempest", "The Lion and the Mouse" and "Stickman" in different literacy groups.

In Maths our topic has been Number and there has been lots of hard work on numbers 1-20. We have looked at more

Bollin Class

AUTUMN 2020

and less than, addition and subtraction. Some of us have done times tables and estimating.



We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2021! We look forward to seeing everyone again in the new year.





THIS TERM OUR TOPIC HAS BEEN: ME AND MY BODY

This year so far...

By Katy

Seasons greeting from all in Treacle class. We have bonded very well as a class and have worked really hard on all our personal targets. Our overall topic has been Me and My Body so we have done a lot of work on understanding how our bodies work and how to keep them healthy.

English

In English we focused on speaking and listening and have practiced for being filmed talking about things we like about school and things that we don't like. We do weekly work on letters and sounds and we have also worked on the book *Christmasaurus* by Tom Fletcher.



We have concentrated on number this term. We have counted in a variety of situations that will help us out in the real world. We have also worked hard on using money in a café situation.

PSHCE

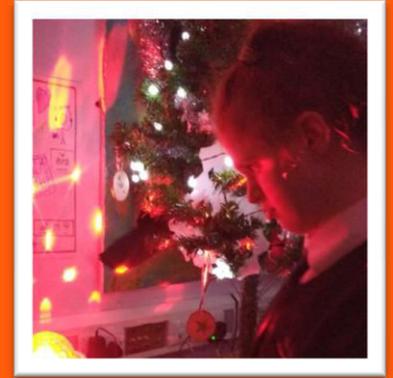
We have done a lot of work on relaxation and meditation, which has been so important in this year when things have been so strained. We have also done some charity work raising money through School Council and ourselves.

DT

We have been concentrating on our cookery skills trying to be as independent as possible in making ourselves snacks. We can make savoury



Treacle class



WINTER 2020

wraps and pizza bread pizzas really well now. We also designed and made lots of Halloween decorations for a party.

PE and swimming

We've been really constrained for PE due to COVID but we're very pleased to announce that we have a sports hall slot back from January. We have managed a few swims, long may it last!

MFL

We have been concentrating on Signalong with the rest of school, the class love the Sign, Sing and Symbol sessions run by the speech therapists.

As we've been unable to go on any trips we have had some theme days in class instead. We all got slimy on our I'm a Celeb day and got dressed up for a posh Christmas party.





6th Form One

WE ARE HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO GET OUT AND ABOUT AGAIN

AUTUMN TERM 2020

Our Autumn Term

By Andrée

We were all happy to be back in school in September and have got used to being in school full time. We have all worked hard this term and have enjoyed the different topics we have worked on **PSHCE**



We have been thinking about how we can stay healthy in PSHCE and worked on deciding what



foods are good for us. We have also been thinking about keeping our minds happy as well and have enjoyed some mindfulness sessions.

Vocational Studies

We have two different vocational studies groups on a Tuesday afternoon. Some of us enjoy working on gardening skills, keeping the school garden neat and tidy. The rest of us work on café skills, taking and preparing orders from our classmates and of course, washing up afterwards

Daily Living Skills

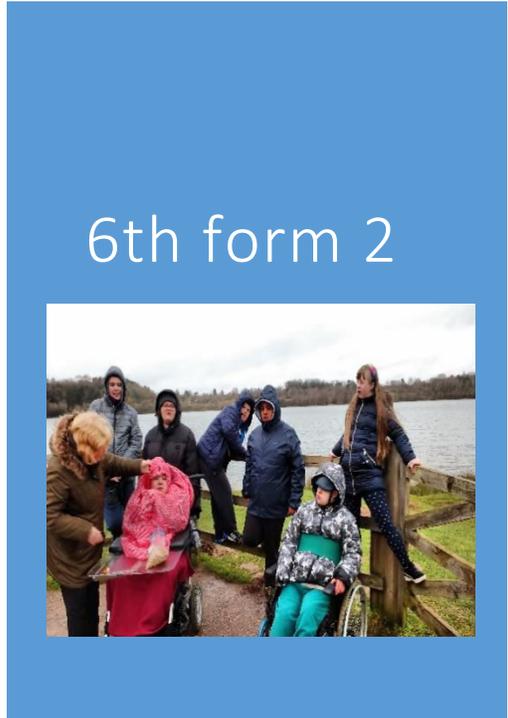
We have combined our daily living skills with our math's work this term and have been using our number skills practically. We have counted equipment and ingredients carefully when we have made cakes and biscuits. We must be very good at



counting, because our baking always tastes delicious.

We you all have a great Christmas and wish everyone a happy New Year!





THIS TERM OUR FOCUS HAS BEEN.....

AUTUMN 2020

This term we have welcomed a new member to the group and it has been great getting to know each other and working together. We have worked extremely hard in all areas of our timetable. In Shop Cook and Eat the focus has been to learn about why it is important to eat healthy foods. We have tried lots of new foods and made our own healthy snacks.

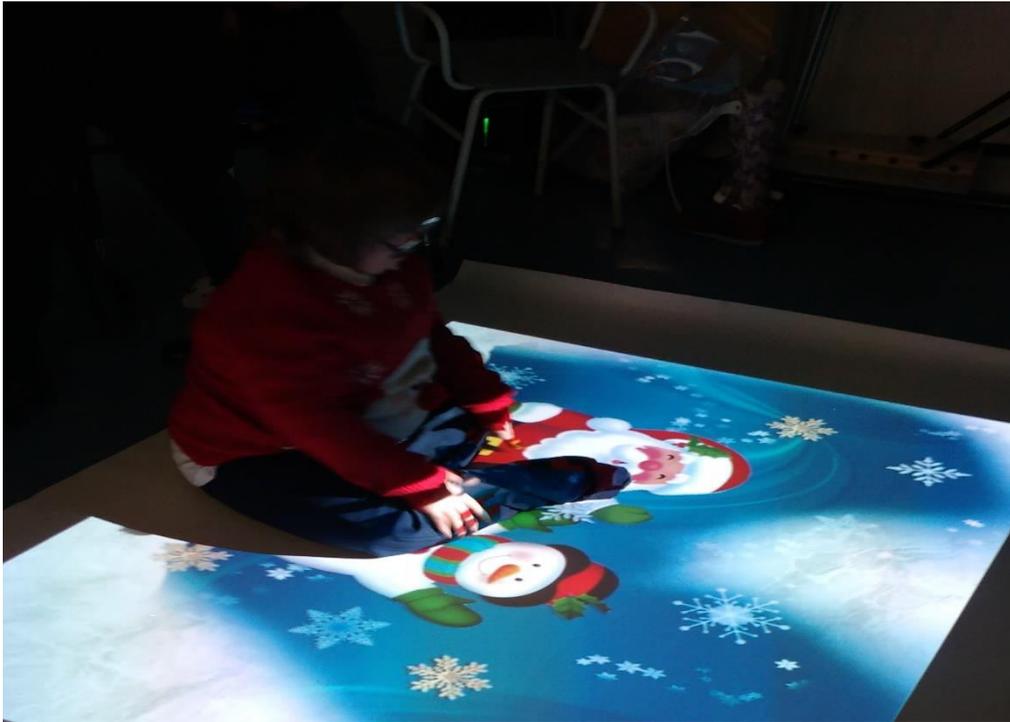
In Enterprise we have researched and made lots of different Christmas products. We have learnt about how to run a 'business' by taking and tracking orders and counting the money. We sold all our Christmas products this year and are very proud of our business!

Within Vocational Studies we have been focussing on gardening skills and have worked up in the school garden learning about health and safety. We have done lots of weeding, planting and sorting the beds ready for the winter months. We have also completed all our recycling collections around the campus and taken it to the recycling centre. Some of us have been working on making clear choices using our communication aids.

In Cookery we have enjoyed making different cupcakes. 2 member of the

class have also been learning about different countries in their Countries and Cultures lesson.





Arighi Class

THIS TERM OUR TOPIC HAS BEEN SUPERHEROES

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

This term we all returned safe and well after a long break. There have been some changes this term. We have to stay in our class bubble and we have had different play times. We have all coped brilliantly. It has been a very busy term. We have celebrated Halloween, Bonfire night, Remembrance day, International Day of the Child and Children in Need.

English

In English, we have read several stories: *Supertato*, *The Stick Man*, *The Lion and the Mouse* and some of us have even read a simplified version of *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare. We have worked on our reading, writing and spelling, speaking and listening and practiced our acting skills.



Maths

In Maths we have been counting, finding more and less, sorting, matching and making tally charts. We have used our maths skills in cooking, gardening and Enterprise sessions.



Creativity

During Creativity sessions we looked at the work of Roy Lichtenstein, paying particular attention to the images and the contrasting colours used in his paintings.

We also made Rangoli designs with coloured rice for Diwali and props for our Christmas performance.



Challenge

In Challenge, we have been learning about Space and the Solar System. We even met an astronaut and asked her lots of interesting questions.



Community

In Community sessions, we have been finding out about Arighi Bianchi and other local businesses. We learned about famous people who lived within the area including Alan Turing. Some of us had a go at code breaking.

Individuality

In PE sessions, we have taken part in football, relay races, balloon tennis and archery. We have all been swimming regularly so we are keeping fit and healthy. In PHSE we have been thinking about who is in our family and the people in our family and support bubbles. We have also talked about personal details such as our age, date of birth, name and address, and considered why we need to be careful when sharing this information in person and on line.

We have been looking forward to Christmas this year and we made an Advent Calendar to help us count down the days. We will all need a good rest over the festive Break.

Merry Christmas everybody!

