

COLLEGE PARK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER- WINTER 2020



A Message from our Head teacher Claire Shepherd

Thank you for all the support we have received over this term. It has been a particularly challenging term with the pandemic, working in bubbles and making some changes to how we work, however with your support and the pupils positive attitudes it has been a good term. The pupils have settled back into school well and worked on the recovery curriculum and our embedded semi-formal and formal curriculum. We had 9 new starters into College Park over this term who have settled into their new classes.

We have installed our new EYFS and KS1 playground which has had a profound impact on the children's time outside. This was supported and funded by Westminster Council.



We are saying goodbye to our Pink Class Teacher, Rujeena this Christmas, who is going off to do different things. We also have some support staff leaving this term- Ashleigh, Pavan and Fidel. Good luck to you all with your future plans and thank you for all your hard work and dedication over the years, *you will be missed!*

Over the term we do, occasionally, have support staff leaving and new staff starting and I appreciate this can cause inconsistency in staff. However, staff may decide to move onto different things for a variety of reasons. We also use supply staff to ensure there are enough staff members in the class if someone is absent. This may mean that there is an unfamiliar staff member with the class for a short period of time. However, we have systems in place to ensure that they are given all the necessary information to know the pupils well and respond appropriately, so please rest assured that there will always be at least two familiar members of staff with the class and that changes to staff within the class are well-considered and with the least amount of disruption to the class being our priority.

As London has entered a further stage of lockdown over the weekend, you can access a wide range of resources to support you and your family during this time on our school website:
<https://www.qe2cp.westminster.sch.uk/>

Lastly, on behalf of everyone at College Park School, I would like to wish you a safe, restful holiday and we look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year.

SILVER CLASS NEWS

We have done some amazing work in Silver house this term! In Literacy we have been exploring two stories: 'Elmer the patchwork Elephant' and 'We are going on a Bear Hunt' while learning about colours and animals. Also we have been practicing in requesting motivating story props to improve our communication skills. In Maths we have been learning about 2D shapes and numbers.

A very important part of our daily practice was the exercise of interaction and social skills: we learnt how to take turns sharing a toy, how to play alongside our peers, how to request what we need and how to wait for our turn! We are so excited about our new playground; we love bouncing on the trampoline, balancing, sliding and playing with sand! Last but not least, we have started exercising our fingers through daily

fine motor skills activities! We are looking forward for an even more exciting Spring Term!



For more information and news from College Park School, please visit our website: <http://www.qe2cp.westminster.sch.uk/>

RED CLASS NEWS

This term, Red Class have been on so many adventures.

Throughout the school year our focus was to practice our fine motor skills, our communication, as well as emotional regulation and independence skills on a daily basis.

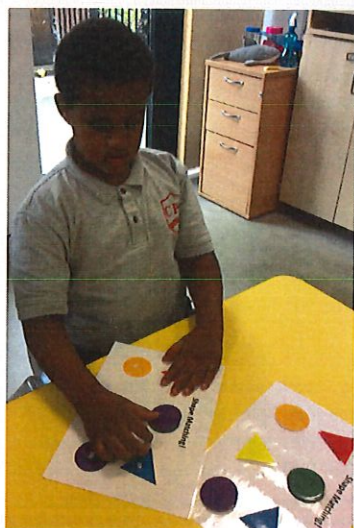
We have been using tweezers, threads, cutting, cereal, spaghetti and other everyday items.

We learnt how to use our timetable, make requests, to share and play with our friends.

In Literacy we have been exploring the stories *We are going on a Bear Hunt* and *The Gruffalo*.

We learnt have been practicing tracing story key words, explored new textures and had so much fun during messy play.

We also loved making crafts inspired by our topic and enjoyed practicing our requesting skills while creating animals, snow, mud, sand, etc.



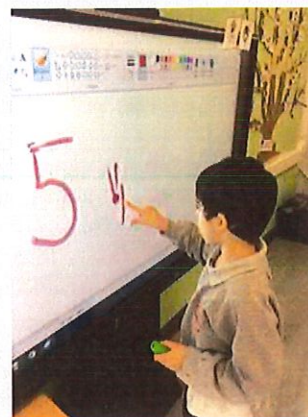
BLUE CLASS NEWS

This term Blue House have made tremendous progress.

In Literacy we looked at The Gingerbread Man and explored all areas from the story. Blue House particularly enjoyed our sensory story and eating lots of gingerbread. In Maths, we looked at numbers, counting in 2s, one more/one less and writing numbers.

In Science, we looked at materials and opposites. Currently Blue Class are learning about 'bodies', naming our body parts etc. In Topic, Blue Class visited, India, Italy, Morocco, Spain and Greece. We tasted all kinds of traditional foods and looked at the map of the World.

Overall Blue have been a delight, I wish them a restful and happy holiday.



ORANGE CLASS NEWS

This term in Orange Class we explored Land, Sea and Sky via our sensory story. We had sensory activities using different foods and textures to go on a magical journey learning through play.

Our activities were followed by educational worksheets that encouraged our pupils to work on their Maths and English subjects via work that included counting, reading and writing with visual aid and support.

Our aim in Orange Class is to make every lesson as fun and knowledgeable as possible. That is why we created an Orange Class 'shop', where our pupils are able to 'buy' their favourite snacks in exchange for money in the currency of 1p and 2p, to help them with their counting and ability to understand and differentiate between numbers and addition.

We also give the pupils a chance to expand their taste buds and explore different smells, tastes and textures in our Food Exploring class.

Orange Class have come a long way in communication, emotional regulation, acknowledging likes and dislikes and being able to interact in their own individual way. We are very proud of our pupils!



PINK CLASS NEWS

We have been extremely busy in Pink house this term.

We have explored Land, Sea and Sky through different countries that we recognise and are familiar with.

Just like our school , we , in Pink Class are a diverse group.

We looked at transport, animals and culture in Britain before travelling out to explore countries such as Spain, Poland, Malaysia and Nigeria.

We remembered to mark our passport along the way. We tried a range of food from jelly puddings to crackers that have been transported.

In ICT we practiced typing and have learnt how to follow instructions, search and to copy and paste images. We have also been playing with size and font.

We even managed to go to Forest school this term and it has been wonderful to get out in the fresh open air.

We regulated on the swings and hammock and sat by the stream and watched the water trickle

past the pebbles. We even generalised our Science lessons and threw sticks and stones into the pond to see what would float.

Some of us sang Bear Hunt at the top of our lungs, as we pretended to navigate past the Forest trees. Some of us ran through the wooden bridge, chasing each other, welcoming the cold air to greet our cheeks.

We sang on the school bus and screeched together with laughter as we felt the speed bumps.

We read Peter Pan in English and created a range of crafts like Tinkerbell's wand and a pirate's telescope.

We also looked at how we can make our sentences more interesting with adjectives. Pink house have started to use prepositions and we try to use these in our sentences.



PURPLE CLASS NEWS

Purple Class have been working really hard this year to achieve academic and personal development via sensory play, dressing up and emotion activities – executing communication skills relevant to their individual levels of language.

We have implemented Attention Autism into our daily routine to work on requesting and joint attention abilities via a range of activities such as making lava lamps, volcanos, elephant toothpaste and new sensory toys for bucket time.

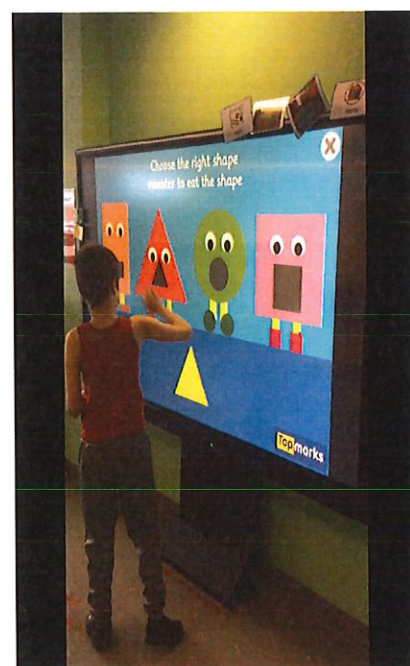
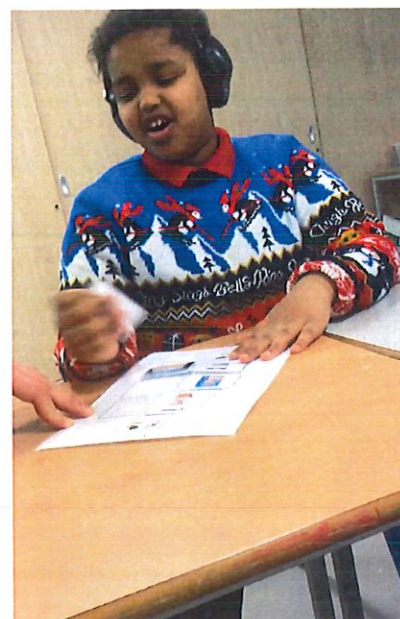
In our fine motor skills sessions, the higher ability group have been working on cutting various shapes and lines, while the lower group have been working towards independently dressing themselves. This includes, putting on a taking off shoes, socks and jumpers – they have made great progress with it so far and improvements to their dexterity is visible compared to the beginning of the year.

This year, Purple Class have been introduced to two sensory stories, 'James and the Giant Peach' and 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. The higher ability group have been working at their workstations to improve on their reading, sentence building and visual matching skills using resources related to the stories. The lower ability group have been using sensory play to engage with the story, making gingerbread playdough as a group and using cookie cutters to make different shapes.

Our maths lessons have been following the curriculum topic and have been based around money and shapes – both groups have been working on their recognition of coins, notes and shapes in matching activities. The higher group in particular have been doing role plays of supermarket interactions using a fake money, food and a toy shopping till to further promote their understanding of social situations and currency. After lockdown we made sure emotional regulation and intelligence a big priority as the year has been very different for them - reflected in the emotion activities we do, which enables them to explore and identify different emotions of other people as well as themselves.

The teachers in Purple Class are very proud of the way the pupils have adapted and developed during these strange times, we are looking forward to consolidating all we have achieved thus far in the New Year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from Purple Class



INDIGO CLASS NEWS

We've been having fun in Indigo this term learning about land, sea and sky. We've learnt about some of the animals that inhabit them and the differences in these animals. We also enjoyed reading our sensory stories, Indiana Jones and Charlie and the chocolate factory.

The best bit is when we get to eat the blue berries in the story! We've also been working hard in maths learning about different shapes and using them to make pictures, we tried potato printing and had great asking for the different potatoes and then making patterns.



GREEN CLASS NEWS

In Green Class, Everyone has settled down well this term! We have made new friendships with the new students in class and have enjoyed working with our teachers this term.

For maths we have been learning a lot about money and creating our own shopping lists to make food as well as play role shopping. We have also been learning about different forms of measurement.

Students in Green class have enjoyed cooking activities such as making pizza and fruit salad following visual steps.

We have been celebrating black history month throughout painting our hands in different colours.

For our communication, we have worked really hard at making full sentences when communicating with other people as well as language of thinking activity. Green class, has enjoyed reading 2 sensory story this term 'The Turtle and The Island' 'We all went on Safari'.

MUSIC NEWS

It has certainly been a different start to the year for Music, but we have made the most of it here at College Park. Lessons are now being delivered in each classroom allowing all pupils to access learning through group music, improvisation and sensory songs.

Secondary pupils have been working on rhythm and pulse songs using djembes, cajons and percussion. They have also been exploring singing and signing using social story songs about sharing and feelings.

Primary pupils have been learning about playing as a group and

turn-taking through using tuned and un-tuned percussion.

They have enjoyed the sensory songs about Land, Sea and Sky that incorporate sensory play, singing and playing instruments.

We are looking forward to sharing our upcoming Christmas performance video with you all so you can see the hard work and fun we have been having this year.

Happy Holidays,

Emily Stratford, Music Teacher

DRAMA NEWS

All our pupils have coped incredibly well with their drama sessions since we have returned to school.

It has undoubtedly been challenging not having access to all our usual resources, but everyone has pulled together and responded brilliantly. We continue to focus in drama on all aspects of communication, confidence, play, sensory exploration and use of imagination.

Whilst we are sad not to perform a Christmas play in the hall for friends and family, we look forward to filming our talented youngsters as they demonstrate their drama and music skills for families to enjoy at home.

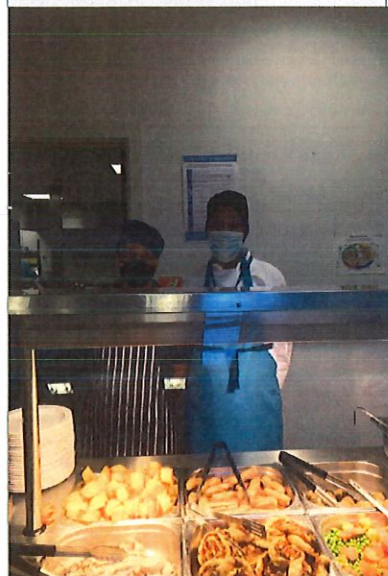
We wish you all a relaxing break after a tough year.

James Rigby (The@trical)

WSS Drama teacher

LUNCH TIME NEWS

A big thank you to our catering team, Bridgette and Ayak, for a yummy Festive lunch and for always making our school meals a Masterchef- worthy experience!



HM Government

NHS

**GOT SYMPTOMS
OR
TESTED
POSITIVE
FOR CORONAVIRUS?**

**YOU MUST
SELF-ISOLATE
FOR 10 DAYS**

WHITE CLASS NEWS

This has been exciting term for White House and a challenge settling back into our new school routines. We've been working hard and have learned a lot. In English, we read the novel, Kensuke's Kingdom, about a 12year boy who is washed overboard and survives on an island in the South Pacific.

We learned about sailboats, sea animals, Gibbons monkeys and orangutans as well as exploring new words and writing skills. We created crafts about turtles, jellyfish, and even made islands. In Topic, we explored World War Two through machines and learned about tanks, spitfires, battleships and even bomb shelters. In Geography, we learned the continents of the world and land formations as well as the

five oceans and different bodies of water.

In Maths, we learned about measurement and measuring with rulers of different sizes, understanding how to use weight and volume. We practised our number skills, especially place value and our time telling skills.

Unfortunately, White House was not able to go on any trips during the Autumn term but we are hopeful for the Spring term .



YELLOW CLASS NEWS

This term has been an exciting and inspiring return to school for our students.

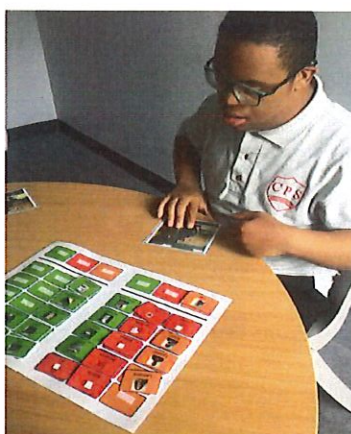
Yellow house have been developing our abilities and communication skills across a range of subjects, exploring Communication, Community, Money, Land Sea and Sky, as well as utilising our Social Time sessions to interact positively with our peers.

Communication sessions give our students the opportunity to build upon their knowledge of prepositions and using functional vocabulary – focussing on 'On', 'Under', 'Next To', 'Behind' and 'Between'. In our sequenced tasks we have been building independence by following in-activity visual schedules to complete models by size, shape and colour.

Yellow Class have worked particularly hard this term at developing our functional skills. We have been learning the value of notes

and currency in our Money topic, by setting up a class shop. This has provided students the opportunity to build independence and become familiar with exchanging money and purchasing items, as well as recognising notes by colour, size and value.

Land, Sea and Sky has been an interesting topic for us to explore, allowing us to learn about living things, habitats and vehicles that belong to each category. We look forward to building upon our progress next term.



New Tier 4 restrictions for London (Updated 19 December, 2020)

The Prime Minister has announced that all of London (including Westminster), the South East and the East of England will be in a new Tier 4 from Sunday, 20th December. This is due to Covid-19 spreading more rapidly in these areas.

This means for Tier 4 areas:

- residents in those areas must stay at home, apart from limited exemptions set out in law
- non-essential retail, indoor gyms and leisure facilities, and personal care services must close
- people must work from home if they can, but may travel to work if this is not possible, for example in the construction and manufacturing sectors
- people should not enter or leave tier 4 areas, and tier 4 residents must not stay overnight away from home
- individuals can only meet one person from another household in an outdoor public space
- communal worship can continue to take place
- those in tier 4 areas will not be permitted to travel abroad apart from limited exceptions, such as for work purposes
- people in tier 4 areas should not mix with anyone outside their own household at Christmas, though support bubbles will remain in place for those at particular risk of loneliness or isolation

As before, there will be no relaxation on 31st December, so people must not break the rules at New Year.

All tiers will continue to be regularly reviewed with the next formal review point taking place on 30 December.



LOCAL COVID ALERT LEVEL

VERY HIGH

Find all local
restrictions
and laws at
gov.uk/coronavirus

STAY ALERT
CONTROL
THE VIRUS
SAVE LIVES

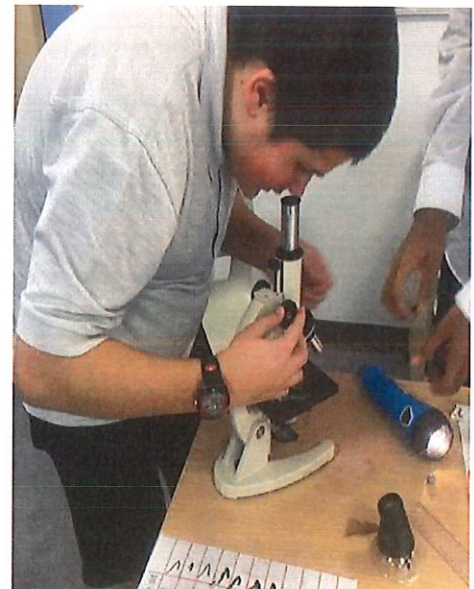
GOLD CLASS NEWS

This term Gold class have been learning all about the different countries of the world by reading *Around the World in 80 days*. We saw the pyramids in Egypt, painted elephants in India and learned about sushi in Japan. It's great practice for our reading skills and also gives us a chance to do fun art projects.

In science we have learnt about materials and what they are made from, and have done some interesting experiments. We looked at different materials under a microscope, and tried to predict which materials sink and which float.

It's sad that Covid restrictions mean we can't go out into the community, but we've been working on our adulthood and independence skills at school: cooking, recycling and employability skills. We are also working to-

wards our functional skills exams in maths and English.



POST 16 CLASS NEWS

Festive newsletter

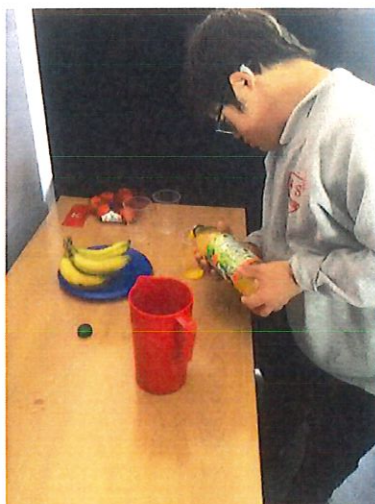
Post 16 have missed their regular trips out in the community but have continued honing their social skills in scenarios recreated in the classroom. Students request fruit and drinks in the same way they would order refreshments at Costa Coffee and also practice making squash. Students engage in communication with each other using Talking Mats and board games.

A variety of Life Skills tasks are carried out in the classroom and we even practice crossing the road safely using our own traffic lights.

It's important for our students to be active and whilst we can't go to the gym or the leisure centre, they participate in a range

of sports in P.E. and enjoy circuit training and yoga during Movement, as well as our daily chair exercise routine.

So, while things have been different in Post 16 this term, learning has still focused on developing independent skills and thinking and has been lots of fun.





Federation of Westminster Special Schools
& Bi-Borough Inclusion Service

COLLEGE PARK SCHOOL
REOPENS ON
TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2021



City of Westminster



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA



Sustainable Travel
Accredited & Recognised

