

AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER 2024

# COLLEGE PARK SCHOOL

BAYSWATER  
PIMLICO



HALLFIELD  
GEORGE ELIOT



**C** – Collaboration **P** – Positivity **S** – Success



Federation of  
Westminster Special Schools  
& Bi-Borough Inclusion Service

# A Message from our Head Teacher



## ***Claire Shepherd***

As we reach the end of a busy Autumn term, we would like to thank you for your continued support. We really do value our relationships with the whole school community. Together, our pupils, families, and staff create a supportive and inclusive community where achievements are celebrated, and every individual contributes to the success of our school.

### **We have had many exciting things happen this term:**

We have had many lovely visits to the local community like Costa, the zoo, work experience, trips to local shops, The Portrait gallery, The Tate, Winter wonderland. Some secondary classes have been involved in the Tri-borough music Hub and performed in their Christmas production. We continue to work closely with our local providers to ensure our children and young people have access to a range of activities. We are hoping to get a new minibus in March, which will extend the trips we can do

We look forward to next term and all the exciting opportunities for learning.

Our College Park Pimlico continues to be a success and we have grown from 16 pupils to 24 pupils. The space is shared with Short Breaks, who offer weekend and after school provision - if you would like any further information, please contact the Short Breaks service.

College Park @George Eliot opened in September and we now have 10 children at GE. The class have settled in well and are enjoying the space available. There is also positive collaboration between College Park and George Eliot primary.

As you would have heard in the news, staffing continues to be a concern across the education sector, there is a recruitment crisis and schools are struggling to secure staff. We have unfortunately had some teachers leave and had to make some changes to support other sites.

We say goodbye to the following teaching staff:

- Estela (lead teacher Hallfield), who will be moving back to Spain. Estela has been wonderful at leading Hallfield satellite and I know will be missed. Estela is going to be leading a new provision in Spain.
- Mateo (class teacher Cheetah)- will also be moving back to Spain. Mateo has been a class teacher for a number of years and has taught across primary and secondary.

- Debbie (Penguin class teacher). Debbie started with us in September and has decided to pursue something different
- Fatima will be moving from Dolphin to lead Hallfield satellite for the rest of this academic year.

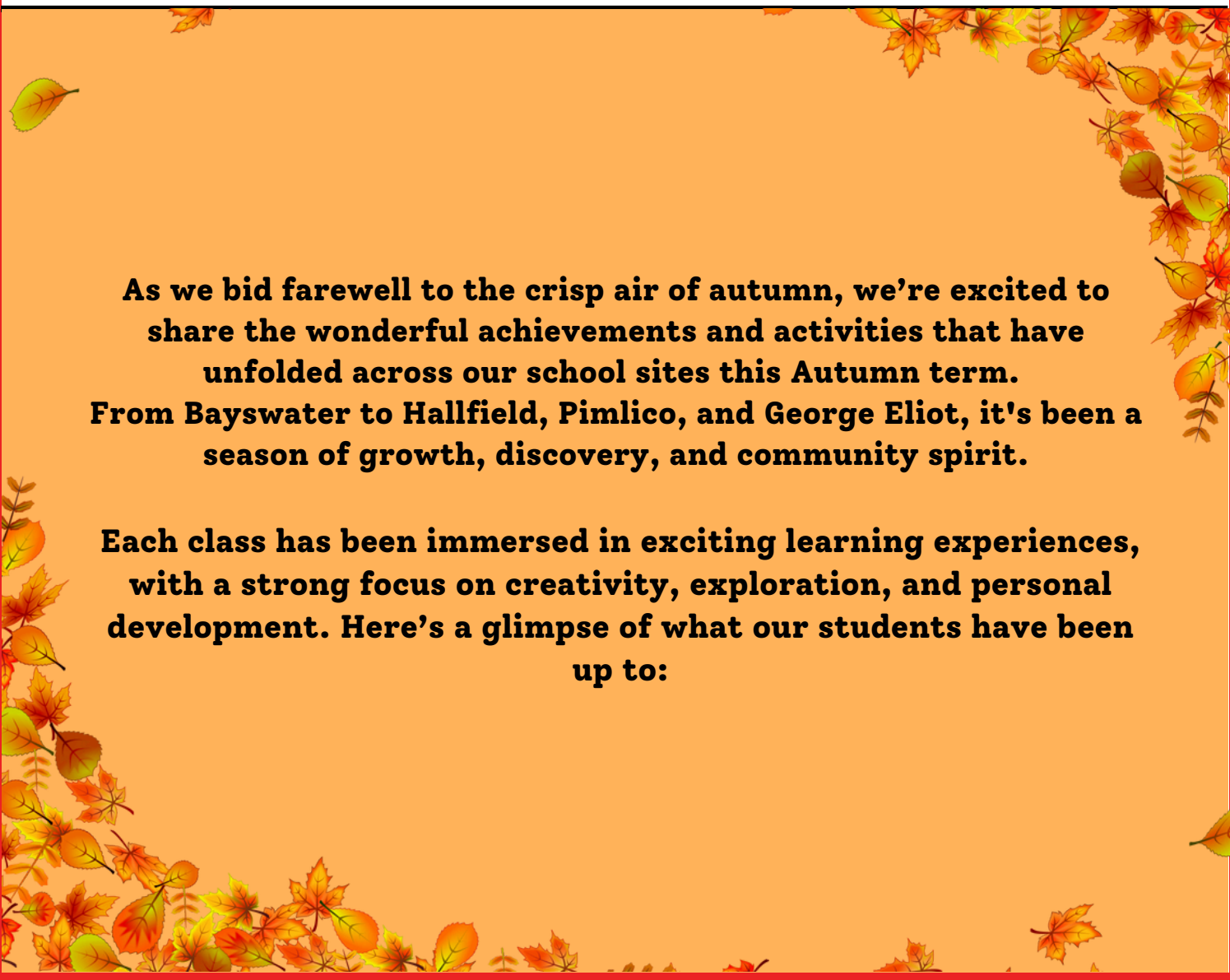
We wish all of our teaching staff all the best for their new adventures and new roles. We also say goodbye to a number of classroom support staff. Each staff member brings a range of skills and abilities and we wish all staff the best for their plans.

Lastly, we would like to wish Mariam Hassan (admin and HR) all the best with her future plans. Mariam has been a valuable member of the admin team, stepping up to support HR admin across the Federation and supporting admin across the sites. Mariam leaves us in January. We wish her all the best.

A reminder that we will be returning to school on **Tuesday 7th January 2025.**

We look forward to seeing our pupils return. I hope you have a wonderful and restful holiday break.

***~ Claire Shepherd - Head Teacher College Park School***



**As we bid farewell to the crisp air of autumn, we're excited to share the wonderful achievements and activities that have unfolded across our school sites this Autumn term. From Bayswater to Hallfield, Pimlico, and George Eliot, it's been a season of growth, discovery, and community spirit.**

**Each class has been immersed in exciting learning experiences, with a strong focus on creativity, exploration, and personal development. Here's a glimpse of what our students have been up to:**



# **SUNSHINE CLASS**

We have had a very busy and fun first term in Sunshine class for our newest learners at College Park School! As well as settling in and making new friends,

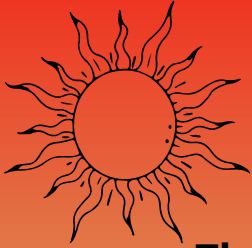
Sunshine class has been making great progress adapting to the daily routine and having a go a wide range of learning activities around our topic of land, sea and sky.

Our sensory story at the beginning of this term 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' was a wonderful opportunity for the learners to experience thick oozy mud, deep cold rivers and not so scary bears! We did lots of requesting using visuals and objects of reference to create elements from the story as well as learning new vocabulary along the way. This half term we have explored 'Stickman', exploring this magical Christmas story through storytelling, roleplay and craft activities. Learners have also developed their reading skills through turning pages of the book, answering 'who', 'what' and 'where' questions and anticipating what comes next in the story.

In maths learners have been developing early number skills through fun activities such as making playdough and fruit kebabs while learning maths vocabulary such as one and lots as well as securing our knowledge of counting objects to 10. In topic we have been learning about different animal habitats through mark-making and small-world play activities.

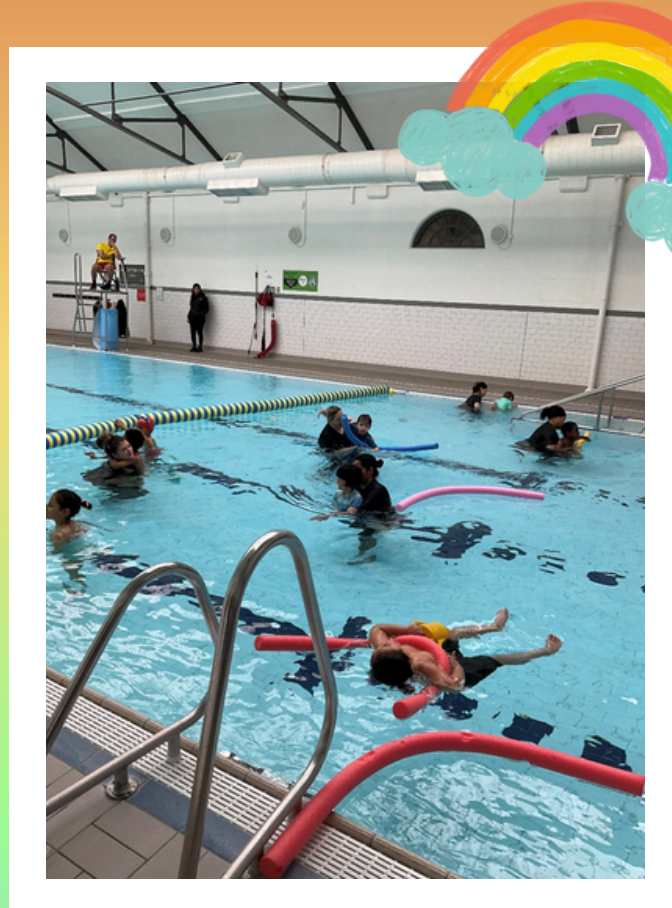


**Happy Holidays from Jake, Sara, Maria, Inma, Muna, Nik and Hasna.**



# ***RAINBOW CLASS***

**Rainbow Class had a wonderful term!  
Thanks to our topic “Land, sea and sky” we had the  
opportunity to learn about the different transports and  
animals that we can see in the world around us!**



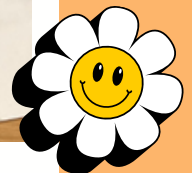
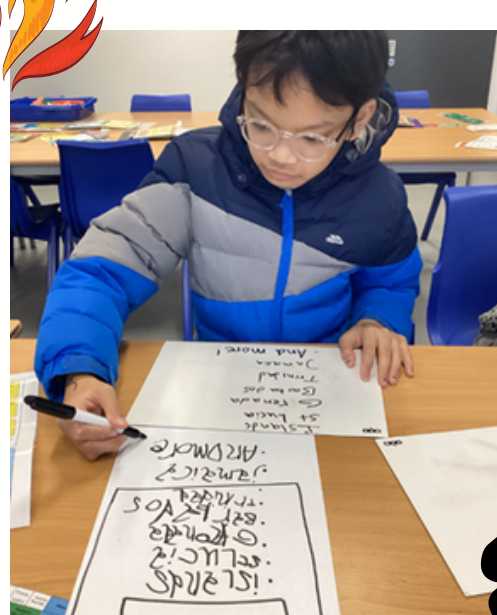
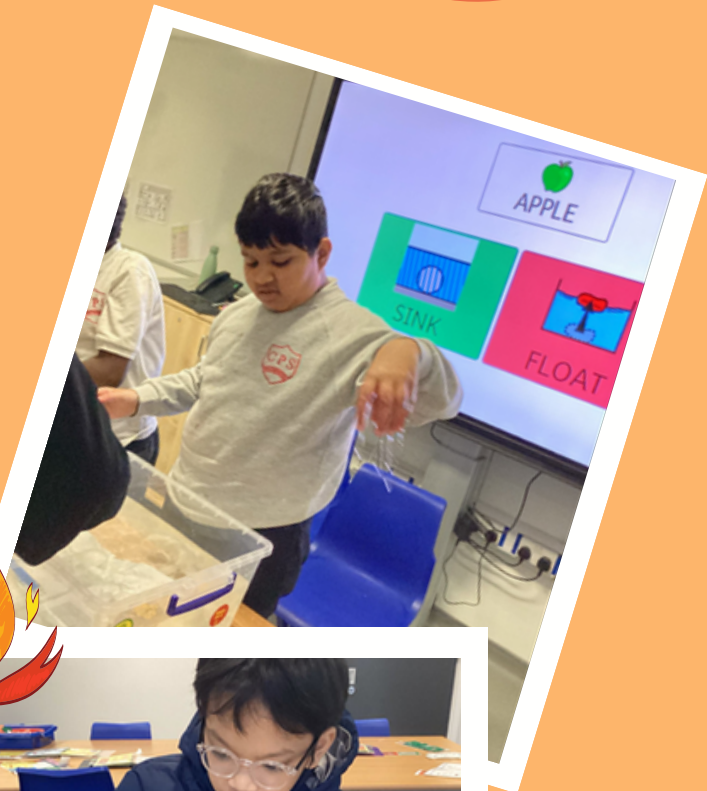
**We had so much fun with our sensory stories “Commotion in the ocean”  
and “The magic train ride”. Immersive sensory activities helped us to be  
engage and have so much fun!**

**We loved our cooking lessons! We have so much fun making different  
animals on toast! We also started going to Waitrose to buy all the  
ingredients for our activity and we really enjoyed it!  
And something very special that happened this term was our visit to the  
swimming pool every Friday! We had so much fun!**

**Well done little Rainbows! We are very proud of your amazing job this  
term!**

# ***FIRE CLASS***

We're excited to share that Fire Class has had a fantastic first term at GE! It's been a fun and busy time, especially as we settle into our new school. This term, we've been exploring the amazing topic of Land, Sea, and Sky.



We've learned about animal habitats, weather patterns, and the different types of transport used in these environments, both now and in the past.

A special highlight was our very first class trip to Winter Wonderland! The CYP had an incredible time, enjoying the festive fun, going on lots of rides, and sipping hot chocolate.

***We can't wait to continue our learning adventures in the next term!***

***– Fire Class Team***

# ***BEAVER CLASS***

We are so happy to see how well all the pupils in Beaver class have settled into College Park school!



Following our daily routines with a visual schedule and now and next boards has helped everyone feel comfortable and safe, and exploring the different rooms in the school has been a fun adventure. We especially love how much you enjoy our sensory room and soft play!

This term, some of our pupils had swimming lessons, having fun playing in the pool with their peers and teachers. For some of them it was scary in the beginning but after 2 lessons they were refusing to come out of the water. In English we carried on with our story Pirates Love Underpants but this time with fun game searching for real treasure chest full of jewels, the pupils had so much fun looking at the treasure map and finding the treasure chest.



Math's has been full of fun too! We have been exploring treasures, counting coins, and practicing turn-taking with a piggy bank. In our topic lessons, we have been exploring the land through sensory exploration with Leaves and Autumn weather season. We have also been learning about hygiene routines and practicing how to wash our hands before lunch and brush our teeth after.

***Keep up the splendid work, everyone! We are excited to see what you will learn next Beavers!!!***

# ***PENGUIN CLASS***

Penguin class have had a fantastic first term! We have focused on Land, Sky and Sea and engaged in the sensory story 'Pirates Love Underpants'.



We have had fun exploring the story using props, sensory play, communication boards and Makaton signs. In Maths, we engaged in lots of different activities including; counting treasure, following a 3-step recipe to make pizzas, sorting and building colourful block towers and taking turns with the car ramp. In Topic, we have explored the weather and transport related to land, sky and sea through art, sensory and structured play. We continue to follow our daily routines to wash our hands before lunch. We aim for our students to be independent and are actively encouraging them to check the daily schedule and use their communication books during these lessons and throughout the day. Penguin class will be focusing on Space and Time in Topic and will be exploring the sensory story 'An Alien Encounter!' In Maths, students will focus on elements of time, colour, shapes and measurement. We continue to follow our daily routines to wash our hands before lunch. We aim for our students to be independent and are actively encouraging them to check the daily schedule and use their communication books during these lessons and throughout the day. We wish everyone a safe holiday break with their loved ones.

# ***KANGAROO CLASS***

This term, Kangaroo Class has had an incredible time exploring our topic, "Land, Sea, and Sky." Through engaging lessons and activities, we've expanded our knowledge across a wide range of subjects, including English, Maths, Science, PSHE, RE, and Geography.



In addition to our classroom learning, Kangaroo Class has been developing vital safe travel training skills. We've enjoyed exciting trips to the local library, London Zoo, and College Park School at Hallfields, all of which have enriched our learning experience.

As we look ahead to the new year, we're excited for even more fun, motivating, and inspiring opportunities to grow and learn together.

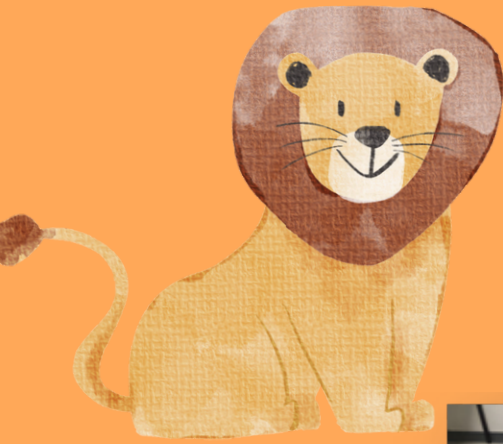
## ***CHEETAH CLASS***

It was a great term for Cheetah class! We have explored the topic "sea, land and sky" and looked at different transports from the past, present and future! Pupils have enjoyed their shopping in maths and have accessed the community in our trip to the National Portrait Gallery! Well done Cheetahs!



# LION CLASS

We are excited to share the fantastic progress Lion Class has made with the curriculum this term. During the winter term, our focus was on the theme "Land, Sea, and Sky."



The class had great fun engaging with the sensory story "Pirates Love Underpants", where they explored a variety of sea-related sounds, colors, and textures. Music sessions were a highlight, with students thoroughly enjoying the song "The Pirate Goes to Sea, Sea, Sea." They also practiced Makaton symbols through interactive songs like the weather song, the good morning song, and throughout their daily activities.

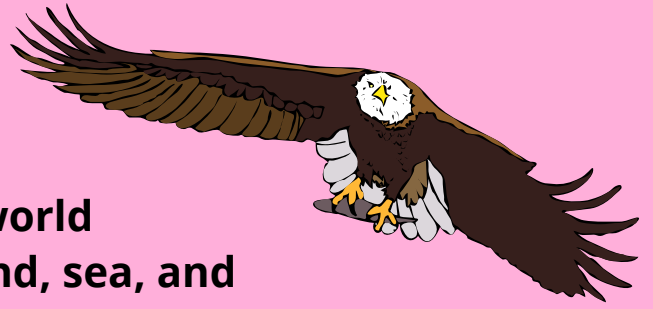
In Mathematics, we focused on counting and understanding quantity using songs such as "Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed" and practiced number tracing. In English, students explored different phonetic sounds and letters each week, and they have begun tracing the alphabet. Through sensory play, the class learned about farm animals, adding an exciting hands-on element to their learning. In Food Exploration, the students enjoyed discovering the textures and scents of a variety of fruits and vegetables.

We continue to encourage independence in every activity, from selecting learning tasks to making snack-time choices. We are looking forward to an exciting and productive new term ahead!



Happy Holidays from Eleanor, Nelly, Ade, Ajten, Isha and Magda

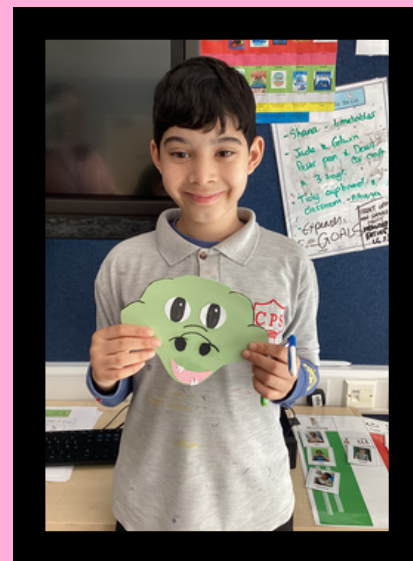
# ***EAGLE CLASS***



**Eagle Class has been exploring the world around us through our studies of land, sea, and sky.**



**In geography, the class has been travelling all over the globe, trying food from many countries. In topic and science, we have investigated the diverse landscapes that make up our planet, from towering mountains and vast deserts to the oceans and skies above. We've learned about different ecosystems, climates, and natural wonders, of the Earth. Through hands-on activities and engaging lessons, Eagle Class has gained a new appreciation for the world we live in!**



# ZEBRA CLASS

Zebra class has been diving into the exciting topic of Land, Sea, and Sky through a variety of sensory and fine motor activities.



One of their favourite activities is the sensory bucket, which incorporates bubbles, foam, songs, and movement. They particularly enjoy using interactive toys like a flying disc to explore the concept of airborne vehicles.

In addition to their sensory exploration, the class has been making great strides in developing fine motor skills and life skills, especially in food tech. The students have shown bravery and determination as they learned how to safely boil pasta and chop vegetables to prepare tomato pasta and pitta bread pizzas. Their efforts in the kitchen have been impressive!

Looking ahead, Zebra class is excited to explore the next topic: Space and Time. This new unit will include a variety of sensory experiences and activities, such as experimenting with different textures and mixtures. The students will also delve into the concept of time in various ways, including learning to tell time and exploring the human growth cycle. It's an exciting journey ahead for Zebra class!



# OWL CLASS

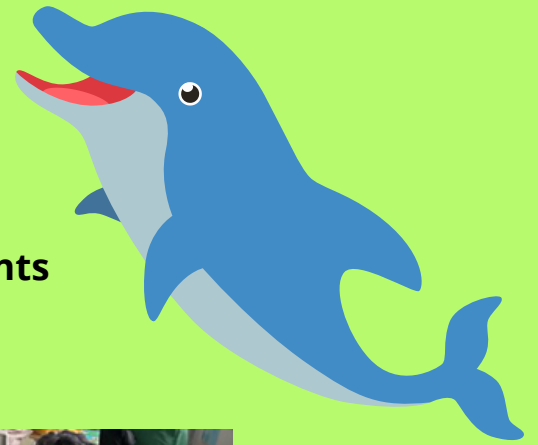
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Autumn Term has been a busy time for Owl Class. We have explored land, sea and sky by studying different modes of transport and their histories. We've also looked at being clean and healthy in Science, and a kind and respectful person in PSHE. In History and Geography, we have studied the cultures of many countries, sampling exotic food and creating themed artworks. We have been exploring the city of London with many trips out! We have been buying our own food for food tech and borrowing books from the library. We had a great time at Winter Wonderland and the National Portrait Gallery!



We cannot wait to see where next term will take us!  
Have a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

# ***DOLPHIN CLASS***



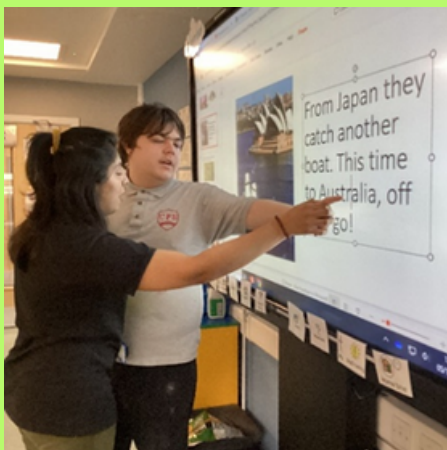
**This term has been filled with amazing achievements and creative activities in line with our school topic 'Land, Sea and Sky'.**



**Dolphin Class showed great improvement in using communication aids to request activities and construct sentences using Subject Verb Adjective Object with minimum adult support.**

**We had been learning about our topic through sensory stories of 'The Snail and the Whale' and 'Around the World in 80 days'. The students explored different textures and tasting different types of fruits and vegetables through involving cooking session in relation to the stories.**

**Dolphin Class has celebrated their success during RSE lessons with NHS nurses, where they have been able to answer the questions around naming body parts, hygiene and public and private supported by flash cards.**



**We have also celebrated Anti-Bullying week and Choosing Respect during our school assembly. The children did a great job in completing the activities. We also celebrated Black History Month and Remembrance Day.**

**I wish everyone a wonderful winter holidays and a happy new year. Thank you to my team for all the support.**

**Happy Christmas from Dolphin Class to all the staff, students and their families.**



# ***GIRAFFE CLASS***

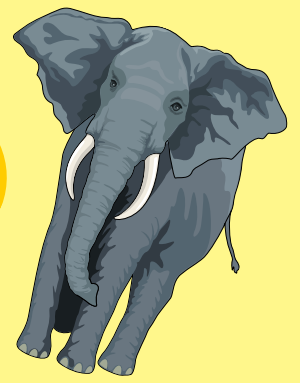
This term has been extremely busy in Giraffe class. In school we have been working hard on our Maths and English, with great improvements in telling time and reading comprehension being seen!.

With weekly visits from the speech and language team, we have worked on our conversational skills. We have also been on 17 school trips! We have been to the Westminster archives on work experience where we learnt how to explore old documents and clean and maintain old books. As the holiday season approached, we were lucky enough to go to Winter Wonderland as well as the Lyric theatre to watch Aladdin. It was the first time a lot of Giraffe class had been to a pantomime and they loved the interactive nature of the performance. A small group of our students took part in an art workshop with post 16, where at the end of it they were lucky enough to go to the Tim Burton exhibition at the Design Museum. To top the term off, half the class joined in a Christmas concert at Kensington Town hall where they sang beautifully alongside neighbouring schools.



***We've had an exciting, jam-packed term and we look forward to seeing all our students back in the new year. Happy holidays!***

# ELEPHANT CLASS



Elephant class had a busy first term. We have learned a lot about land, sea and sky, travelling around the world in 80 days, learning about different animals and their habitats and creating different types of artwork for all of them



Our highlights this term were the joint art project 'It's my City Too', our trip to the Tim Burton Exhibition and the Design Museum and of course our adventures at Winter Wonderland. We have learned a lot about moving on when listening to young people about paths ways into adulthood through a play which Elephant class thoroughly enjoyed.

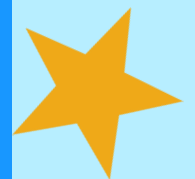
Next term, we will be looking at the topic of Space and Time. We are hoping to explore past, present and future through various activities, travel into space and to learn m our planets. There will also be a number of exciting trips for the children to take part in.

***All of us from Elephant class wish you and your family a lovely and restful festive season and a happy new year.***

## POST 16 CLASS



Post 16 have enjoyed working on an art project with Open City and created designs for bags and t-shirts. Trips have included ice skating at Somerset House and going to the Cutty Sark to explore working on a ship as part of Topic. The class also attended PE sessions at Moberly Sports Centre where they worked alongside learners from another setting to reinforce their social interaction as well as physical skills. Learning in and being part of the community will continue with more trips and workshops in 2025.

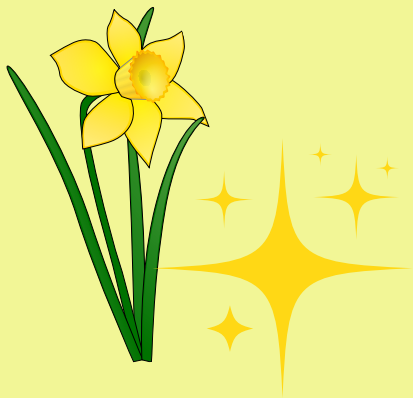


# **BLUEBELL CLASS**

**We have done such amazing work in Bluebell Class over the Autumn term! We are looking forward to more learning and fun in Spring Term!**



**In Literacy we will explore the story 'Hello, moon', while practicing requesting motivating story props to improve our communication skills, story sequencing as well as symbol or word reading. In Maths, we are planning to explore the value of numbers through hands on activities such as cooking delicious recipes! In Topic, we will make lots of fun craft activities to enhance our learning about 'Time and space'! Finally, as part of our PSED lesson, we will continue learning how to take turns and to share with our friends as well as increase our independence with our self-care tasks!**



# **DAFFODIL CLASS**

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**In Daffodil class we have been doing amazing work in maths such as understanding numbers, shapes and developing our understanding of addition. Through sensory play, worksheets and our communication skills daffodil class have progressed in these areas of learning.**

**In Daffodil Class we have been building on our independence by using our workstations, turn taking activities and building our communication with messy play activities. Through messy play activities daffodil class have been able to identify positive communication and social interactions with other learners.**



Throughout this term we have been building on our fine motor skills, we encourage the learners to develop independent skills through roleplay and in PSHE we explore different emotions. This is to demonstrate the specific expectations and for the learners to have an understanding of waiting turns as part of the interaction with peers.

## ***ROSE CLASS***

This term, Rose Class has been exploring the story of Treasure Island, diving into the world of pirates and treasure through sensory activities and various tasks. We've also been studying the topic of Land, Sea, and Sky, learning about different modes of transport and the animals that inhabit these environments. One of the highlights of our topic lessons was discovering the fascinating history of planes and trains.



Rose class also went on our first community outing, visiting Tate Britain in Pimlico. We had a delightful experience at the museum, where we engaged in various painting activities and interacted with a range of sensory materials. We cannot wait for the upcoming Spring term.

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# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

## Early Years & Primary

In this Autumn-term, students from Rainbow and Sunshine groups have been exploring movement and body awareness through dancing and working on basic lower-body coordination skills. They have also carried out hand-eye coordination tasks by throwing and catching foam balls during Physical Education (PE) lessons. Pupils from Bluebell, Daffodil and Rose class groups have been exploring different movement patterns, balance activities, and hand-eye coordination skills by interacting with PE equipment. In Penguin, Beaver and Lion classes, pupils have also explored different equipment and dynamics, resuming balancing, gross-motor-skills-tasks, bouncing tasks, or throwing foam/basketball balls to a specific target. In Kangaroo house, our children and young people (CYP) have been working on different motor and coordination skills, trying to find a good dynamic for this group, and keeping on their individual progress line at the same time.



## Secondary & Post-16

In Secondary, Eagle's and Cheetah's CYP have been remembering handball knowledge acquired on the previous school year, but also delving in basketball elements. Similarly, students from Owl, Giraffe and Post-16, have been working on these sportive disciplines, adding football activities during the sessions. In Dolphin, Elephant and Zebra houses, learners have been invited to interact by performing adapted tasks related with the sport specialties named before. At CPS - George Eliot, Fire's students have been introduced to handball skills, having a quick progress then moving to basketball elements. CYP from different class groups were instructed and prompted to carry out sportive and coordination activities, trying to address them to enrich their social interaction with both staff members and classmates.

## Special Activities

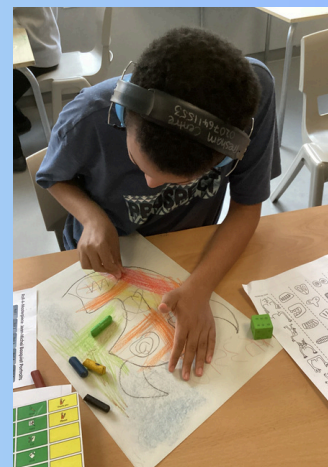
Throughout this Autumn-term, CYP from Beaver, Penguin, and Rainbow groups have been attending the swimming pool at The Porchester Centre, enjoying a first aquatic experience, or resuming this dynamic from the last school year. Other special activity that CPS took place in this term has been Panathlon, involving students from Primary (Kangaroo House) and from Secondary (Eagle, Elephant, and Giraffe groups). Additionally, Post-16 and Owl groups participated in a 2-sessions-workshop delivered at school by Disability Sports Coach organisation, being introduced to some Paralympic specialties such as Goalball, Blind Football and Sitting Volleyball, and receiving Sophie Hahn's visit, a Paralympic award-winning athlete.



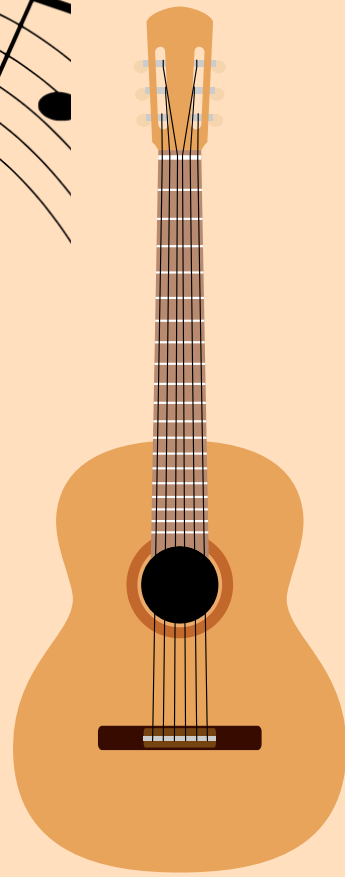
## ART NEWS

This term the students were learning about Land, Sea and Sky creating and exploring famous artists like Vincent Van Gogh and Katsushika Hokusai. The students created the famous paintings of the Starry Night, The Great Wave and Red Fuji in their own style using paints, crayons and cardboard.

The students also learnt about Jean Michel Basquiat for Black History month. They created paintings based on his work by choosing from different style heads, eyes, mouths, and bodies and created their own images. They also learnt about who he was, where he lived and what his art represented.



# **MUSIC NEWS**



This term in music we explored the topic of Land, Sky and Sea, and worked with music of various genres and cultural backgrounds. Some of the pieces we covered were Proud Mary/Ike&Tina, Mountain/Sam Ryder, Albatross/Fleetwood Mac, Le Mer/Claude Debussy, Jambo Bwana(Kenya), Here Comes The Sun/The Beatles.

Other musical highlights were taking part in Tri-Borough Music Hub Christmas Festival at Kensington Town Hall, where group of learners from Giraffe and Owl class performed together with 5 other schools in front of large audience, and the school band performance at the schools Christmas Fundraiser Fair that took place in the drama studio and was enjoyed by an engaged group of parents, teachers and fellow students.

## ***Equal Voices***



Equal Voices is a collaboration of special school students in Westminster and RBKC. The schools are, College Park School, Kensington Queensmill, St Marylebone Bridge School and QE11 School. Equal Voices is made up from each schools, school council representatives

This is a photo of us all at Kensington Town Hall. We will meet there once every half term. Our representatives from College Park School are Emma, Callum and Ali. We will be looking at how we can improve the lives of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities in our boroughs.

If you have any questions or suggestions, then please do get in contact with us at College Park School

***~ Sue McGrath Pastor Support Team***

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas fundraiser, it was a great turn out!

I would like to especial thank all the classes that made the wonderful items for the stalls, and all there help running the stalls in the hall and to our wonderful school band who played wonderful music and entertained everyone.

*~Mireille Godfrey*



*Thank you to the companies that donated for our cake stall:*

Norma's  
Wenzel's cake shop  
Gurkin catering  
Salwa Restaurant  
Roddas for there clotted cream and strawberry jam

***A special Thank you to these companies that donated gifts:***

Eves & Samuel - Naroon - Taste Card - Bread Ahead - The Elder Press Cafe - Pret A Manger - Daunt Books - Westminster Abbey - Aesop - Oddons Ice Cream - Next Gifts - Clink Prison - AROMA - Clown Town - Holly Carrot - Birdie Gold - Browns Hotel - Royal China - Six Portland Rd Restaurant



**-A REMINDER SCHOOL RUTURNS -**

***Tuesday the 7th of January 2025***

Thank you for your continued support throughout this term. We look forward to the adventures the Spring Term will bring and wish you all a peaceful and joyous holiday season.

