

Headteacher's Message

Kestrel House has had a wonderful term. Our learners have really enjoyed our very sensory approach to learning. In our newsletter you will see that the children have had lots of visitors to the school including the London African Drumming Company and the fire service. We have also taken lots of trips into the local community and around London.

Our theme 'I need a hero' allowed children to explore the theme of the people we admire, respect and most of all the people who help us. Children have researched into their family trees, written songs, learned new Makaton signs and created lots of sensory stories with their teachers.

As we come to the end of 2019, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all so so much for your support, for the work the learning that you have done in school as families and how you have supported the learning to continue at home. We have seen a huge impact in the way our children communicate and this is down to your continued engagement and hard work.

May I wish you a safe and happy Christmas break, and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday the 7th January 2020.

Lorna P Bailey





Class articles

Angel class

Angel class visited the farm during the term where they got to look at lots of different animals as well as stroke and feed them. They really enjoyed this outing, especially learning about all of the different names of the animals and feeding the cows and geese!



Angel class have also been lucky enough to visit the park and soft play centre. We have been on lots of adventures this term outside of school and explored lots of different activities such as swings, big ball pits and many more. Angel class have had a lot of fun this term, but don't worry we have also done lots of learning!



Hampstead class

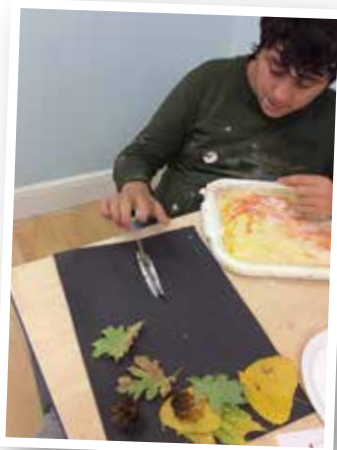
We started off the new school year with a big warm welcome to our new class mate and friend Callum who joined Hampstead Class!

This term we have been learning about 'SUPERHEROS' and how a superhero can be anyone you want because of the things that they do to make us feel happy. We picked our mums as one of our heroes because one of their super powers is to make us feel better when we need cheering up.

We made superhero pictures of our mums.



Here we are making autumn trees during art! We had so much fun mixing autumn colours and collecting leaves from 'Parkland Walk' which is close to our school.



Ogulcan has a big smile on his face when he gets to use the glue stick. In Science he is matching parts of the plant to the picture.



Hampstead class sitting together enjoying some of 'Mr Thorpes Does Phonics' videos for English!



Paddington class

Paddington class have been celebrating Black History Month. We have been learning about famous black people who have made an impact throughout History. We had an amazing experience with the African Drummers teaching us how to drum. We celebrated with food from Congo (Africa) and Jamaica (Caribbean).



Mark and Medhane had lots of fun joining in with the African drumming.



Yvonne made us delicious Caribbean cuisine. We had Jamaican curry chicken with dumplings.



In Art, Medhane created a poster of a traffic light. This was to celebrate Garrett Morgan. Morgan was a famous black man who invented the traffic lights.



African Drumming

At Kestrel House School we celebrated Black History Month.

We invited the drummers from London African Drumming Co to come and play for us. They even did workshops with all of the students.

Everyone had lots of fun learning to play the drums.





Westminster class

Westminster class have been working so hard this term.

We have been using PECS to tell our teachers what colours we want when we are doing art. We use PECS to answer questions when we are reading so that we can show our understanding.



Godwin is looking at the symbols in his book and deciding what colour he will ask for next.



Jama answered the question "what colour is the frog?" by finding the green symbol and matching it to the picture in the book.

This term our topic has been 'people who help us'

We looked at the emergency services and how they help people in our community.

We had lots of fun dressing up as different people who help us for example we dressed up as doctors, soldiers, a policeman and a fireman.



Here is Jama matching symbols for the emergency services.

We have been helping around the school by cleaning our classroom and helping to sweep the leaves in the playground.

We wanted to help more people so we are making gift bags for the homeless and we will be taking them to Hornsey Parish Church.

To make the gift bags we had to take a trip on the bus to Lidl where we got toothpaste, toothbrushes and soap.



We took a trip on the bus



Here we are at Hornsey Parish Church giving the Gift bags to Pearl who will hand them to people who need them.



We sat quietly for 1 minute in the church. Godwin held a timer for us to look at.



Pimlico Class

The theme of our learning has been 'Superheroes'. We have been learning about people who help us. This autumn term Pimlico class students have been very creative during their Art lessons by making Poppies for Remembrance Day. We sold these Poppies to our parents and bus escorts and raised £14 which we donated to the Royal British Legion. During literacy sessions we learned about soldiers by taking part in a sensory story.



Our creativity didn't stop there; we have been helping the adults to decorate our classroom for Christmas. All of the students took part in this activity and were able to do it by following visual instructions with minimal adult support to produce beautiful snowflakes.





Waterloo Class

Waterloo Class – Weekly Shop and Cook

This term Waterloo class have been taking part in weekly shopping trips. They have been learning how to prepare and cook simple healthy snacks; this has given them opportunities to develop independent living skills in the kitchen and out in the community. They choose a recipe, prepare a shopping list based on what they need to buy and what is already in the cupboard or fridge and travel to a local supermarket by bus or walking. Finally they get to cook their food in their cooking session.



We have been working using our shopping lists to find the items, paying for our items and we always remember to say please and thank you and we pack our own bags.



Waterloo Class – The Zones of Regulation

This term Waterloo class have made huge progress with The Zones of Regulation this is what helps us to understand our own emotions and helps us gain more control of our feelings. The aim is for both learners and staff to attempt to regulate our emotions; to understand that experiencing different emotions is perfectly acceptable...



Waterloo class have been working hard on their 'Zones of Regulation' each and every day at school. They take part in 'check-ins' throughout the day; these are opportunities for them, and staff, to say exactly how they are feeling. They have most recently been learning what strategies they can access to help with the different emotions that they experience using their 'Toolbox'.



This helps us choose different strategies to help regulate our feelings.



We have begun to learn more about the different emotions. We do this through role-play exercises where we try to act out different emotions at random. We have so much fun performing them to the rest of the class, here are some examples:

Since the start of the Autumn term Waterloo class have made huge progress with The Zones of Regulation program; they are recognising simple and complex emotions, they are matching emotional vocabulary to visual examples, they are seeking to pinpoint their own emotions throughout the day, and most importantly they are proactively attempting to manage their own emotions so that they can better access their learning at school. Well done Waterloo class!!



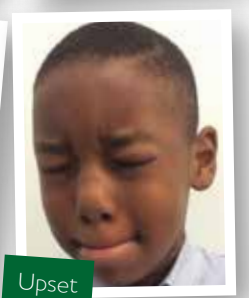
Frustrated



Mean



Bored



Upset



Fire Brigade

Our topic for this term was 'I need a hero'

We were extremely lucky to have a visit from the local fire station.

We all got a chance to wear a helmet and use the hose and look around the fire engine.



Wellbeing

Work Experience

Our eldest student James has started work experience at Action For Kids (AFK)

Action For Kids is a charity that aims to get young adults with disabilities into the work field. James has been going weekly since the start of the second part of the autumn term. His work has included putting stamps onto envelopes, shredding documents, laminating some of his own work, and typing.



Charity contributions

We took part in Macmillan's Coffee Afternoon, Jeans for Gene's Day and Children in Need. We had very successful afternoons raising money for these charities. We have raised over £200 from contributions from the children and parents, staff and people in the local community. A special thank you to local businesses, Dunns, Percy Ingles, Tesco, Co-Op and Waitrose who provided all the cakes.





Halloween

Back in late September we had a Kestrel Family Nest meeting and parents discussed various things but one of them was to have a party that all the children could go to.

Kestrel House listened and we hosted a Halloween part. All the children thoroughly enjoyed it. They had so much fun and couldn't stop dancing.

I would like to thank every parent for sending food, drink and costumes into school but also a special thank you to Greer and Sonja who helped organise and set up the hall with all with staff at Kestrel.



Music Therapy session with families

All families were invited to come and take part in learning about music therapy and how our learners benefit from the weekly sessions they have with our music therapist Joe. Also the families had a chance to make up their own song to use at home. The song families chose was one to support brushing teeth.





Working with the community

Some of you who have visited the school will have noticed that we have gained some extra residents in our front garden. The new plants and ornaments were very kindly donated by a local resident.



How to get in touch

If you are interested in visiting Kestrel House School, or finding out more about the support we provide, please call **020 8348 8500** or e-mail **admin@kestrelhouseschool.co.uk**