

Elm Class

Autumn Term

Class Welcome

Well – I can't believe that the first term is nearly over! What a term it's been. A new class, a new garden (again, many thanks to the family who gifted us a lovely large place to play). Familiar faces and new friends.

The children have settled in so well, have picked up the class routine, built relationships with the adults and each other and worked really hard each day.

We have enjoyed school events such as the Halloween Disco and pumpkin carving competition, learning what Children in Need is all about and taking part in Remembrance Day activities.



Communication and interaction

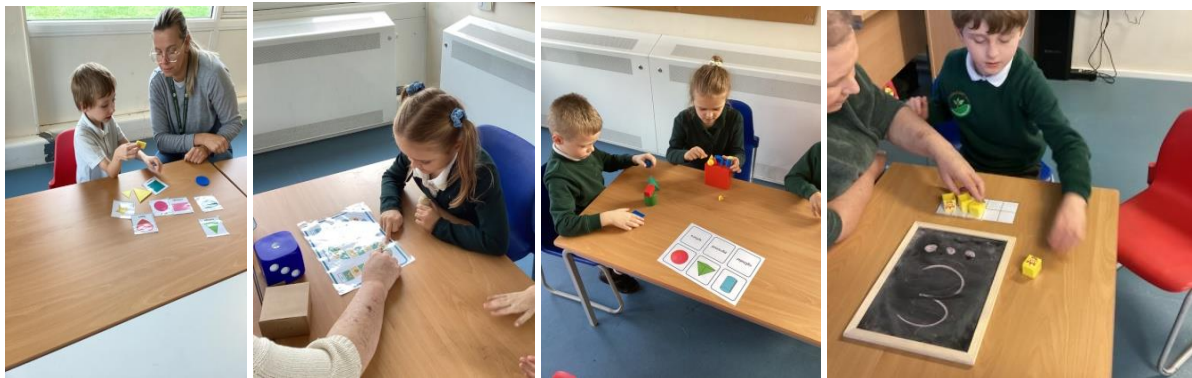
As a group we have been reading books about the character 'Frog' written by Max Velthuis. The children have enjoyed meeting Frog in various situations and have been able to identify the emotions he feels and link these to their own emotions. In our weekly News sessions, we have learnt to listen to each other, give accurate information and talk about how we felt about the things we did at the weekend. Next half term we will be encouraging the children to ask each other questions about their News using their individual methods of communication. We have regular phonics lessons, supporting each child at their individual level. We have also loved the talk about box, where we have been learning to describe what we can see.



Cognition and Learning

In maths we have been learning about sorting and grouping objects according to their properties; identifying groups that contain more or less objects; adding and taking away objects from a group; combining and counting groups of objects and are now learning about representing numbers using a tens frame.

We have also explored and learnt about the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, and looked at object placement and position. We have experimented using different forces to change the position of a static object.



Independence, social and emotional development

In PSHE we have been exploring our feelings. Identifying how we feel, naming and describing our emotions and talking about strategies we can use to regulate when we feel angry or sad.

We have also been developing our relationships with each other and learning to play cooperatively together. The children have been developing their interactions with each other and are beginning to seek each other out for play.

With regular attention autism sessions, the children have been learning to focus on adult led activities for longer periods. These sessions also bring joy and wonder and support each child to turn take, wait, watch and bring a sense of calm when needed.



Physical and Sensory

In PE we have explored how our bodies move, with a focus on climbing and mounting and dismounting equipment safely. We have begun to develop our ball control through throwing, catching and kicking games.

The children have all loved swimming and have built their confidence in the water, learning to swim on their front and back, dip under and push off from the side.

We have used the soft play room to play physical games together and the sensory circuit to regulate our sensory needs.

We have developed our fine motor skills through various activities and are working on our pre-writing and writing, mark making and letter formation.



Special news and upcoming events

We are looking forward to our Christmas events over the next two weeks including Christmas dinner, Christmas jumper day and Class Parties.

Some notable dates for your diary for the end of this term and the beginning of next term are:

Wednesday 17th December – Merit awards and craft afternoon

Friday 19th December – End of term (Early finish for pupils)

Tuesday 6th January – Start of Spring Term

16th–20th February – Half Term

Our learning when we return will be based around the books written by David Walliams.

We hope you have a lovely Christmas Break and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

Sandra, Amy, Eliza & Emma