



# Topaz Class Newsletter

Autumn 1 – September 2026

Working together to

**inspire nurture empower**

## Welcome Back & Updates

My name is Kelsey and I am so excited to be your child's class teacher this year, alongside our amazing team of teaching assistants: Gemma, Jack, Rhiannon and Emma. We will also be joined by Jim, who will be teaching Topaz on Monday Afternoon. We are truly looking forward to building strong relationships with each child, celebrating everything that makes them unique and creating a happy, calm and engaging classroom where everyone feels safe, valued and ready to thrive. Throughout the term, we will share photos and updates on Evidence for Learning so you can see the wonderful activities your child has been enjoying at school. Families are warmly welcome to upload photos and videos from home so we can celebrate these achievements together. If at any time, you need to ask questions or talk to us, please don't hesitate to email me at any time on [kelsey.grigg@ivy.set.org](mailto:kelsey.grigg@ivy.set.org) and I will be happy to help.

## Key Concepts and Skills

Our topic this half term is 'Joseph's Coat', which will enable us to work with many different colours and textures to get a good picture of what makes us curious. Our book of focus will be "Elmer" which will help us transition into the process of getting to know one another and making new and different friends, with lots of colour and creativity of course. Cognition will be implemented along side this as we will enjoy sensory stories, messy play, community visits and exciting sensory experiences linked to our topic. We will also be attending forest school sessions on a Monday which will help to increase our problem solving and independence skills.



## Reminders / additional information



If it is appropriate for your child to have snack, please use Arbor to pay for it. We have a range of snack options, including yoghurts, crisps, biscuits and juice. Please send in spare clothing, we are an all weather classroom meaning we will access outdoor learning when your child needs to.



Monday Morning – Forest school. Please provide clothes that can get dirty also weather appropriate. More information will follow.  
Monday Afternoon - PE



# Home Learning Curriculum Ideas

## Cognition

Make your own suncatcher, using coloured cellophane to catch the light in the window. This provides a lovely visual effect and is very easy to do!



Make your own patchwork art piece, this can be more fun the more textures and colours you can find to add in!

## PSHE

Our PSHE topic this half term is Self Awareness. This is where we will develop an awareness of ourselves and others, an awareness of our needs and the needs of others and to recognise our own abilities. We will be using the Colour Monster to support our understanding of different emotions and recognising how others may be feeling.



## Physical

A short outdoor obstacle course set out in the garden can be a good way to burn energy for your child and also provide the big movements they crave and seek when climbing on potentially unsafe surfaces.

A walk outdoors does wonders for us all! Grab your coats and head out, however your child enjoys a walk best, get out there and share the fresh air together.

## Communication

Sharing a short story is a great way to encourage your child to communicate enjoyment or laughter with you!

You can offer regular choices in your daily routine, for example choosing the colour clothes they would prefer to wear or which toy they gravitate towards given the decision between 2.

Music is a great way to encourage communication of shared enjoyment!

## Reading

You could read a book or equally listen to an audiobook on youtube.

Here are some good reads you could try together as you navigate new situations with unfamiliar people:

Elmer and the Butterfly by David McKee

The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas

Sharing a Shell by Julia Donaldson

## Makaton Sign

