

Autumn 2021 Newsletter



**Bleasdale
School**

Learning Together / Achieving Together

Primary 1



This term, Primary 1 have welcomed a new member to class – Cain. He has settled into school really well.



We have enjoyed the story of 'Postman Bear' and 'The Jolly Christmas Postman' this half term. We have been posting letters and exploring the school grounds to post letters to characters from the stories. During our 'Colours' topic we listened to the stories 'Dog's Colourful Day' and 'Brown Bear' – we had fun making animals from the stories using different colours.



In our lessons about the world we have been

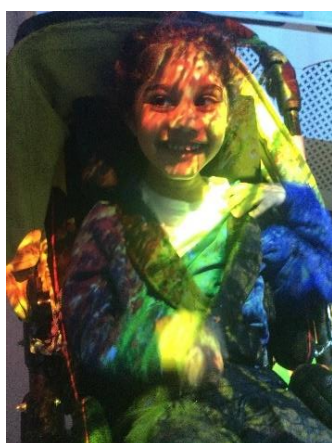


exploring 'Silverdale Seashore'

- we loved feeling the sand and shells and made some sandy footprints! In our sensory suite we felt the wind and cold and listened to the sounds of the waves crashing on the beach. We have also been



learning about different colours – we had fun exploring blue ice and water, red fruits, orange pumpkins and yellow banana milkshake!



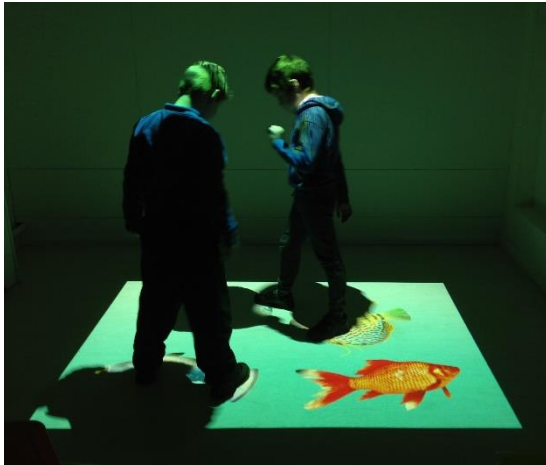
We have enjoyed exploring different materials with our hands in our art lessons. We have made textile decorations and had fun using our hands and fingers to make marks using different colours.



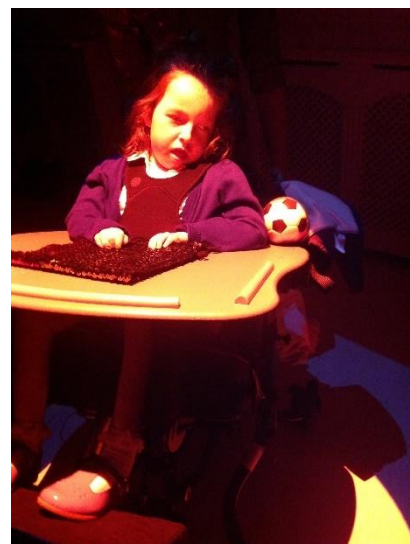
Primary 2

What a busy first term the pupils in the Primary 2 class have had! In Functional Skills, everyone experienced following instructions. The pupils made leaf men and played fun instruction games in the Immersive Suite. Also in Functional Skills, the pupils have explored 3D shapes. They have touched and explored faces, edges and corners and built some very impressive 3D shape towers! The pupils have continued to join in with fun sensory number songs to improve their understanding of number. In PE the pupils chose their own dance moves and sequenced these into an impressive performance. Everybody cheered their friends at the end of each dance. In Sensory Science, the pupils have investigated 'who can build the best bridge?' They explored and used

different materials each week, including plastic cups, paper, wooden blocks and even ice! All the pupils agreed ice was the hardest material to build a bridge with: it was too cold and slippery and melted far too fast!



In their 'Our World' topic, the pupils have learnt about the human body. They helped to draw round each other's bodies and compared each other's hand and foot sizes. Andy Warhol was our inspiration this term in Creativity: Art and Design. All the pupils created artwork in the style of Andy Warhol with repeating objects and colour patterns. The children's work really brightened up their classroom. In Creativity: Design and Make, Primary 2 explored different materials to make fabric faces of humans and winter animals. They produced a great display for everyone in school to enjoy. In PSHE, the pupils have learned about the importance of making their own choices and expressed preferences about their favourite animals, food and smells. Everyone in the Primary 2 Class would like to wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and New Year.





Secondary

This term in 'Our World', we have been exploring the different seasons. We focused on Autumn and Winter. We listened to a sensory story based on each season and explored different multi-sensory resources. We all loved the different smells! Each week we went out to experience the weather that the different seasons bring. We enjoyed collecting different items from the garden such as branches, leaves and apples from our trees.



In 'Let's Investigate' we have been investigating how different liquids travel. We all took a trip to the coffee shop in a sensory story all about a trip to Starbucks! Each week, we had to create our own drinks and test which travelled the fastest and which travelled the slowest. We used dice and switches to decide what ingredients we were going to add to our drinks and the amount we were going to add. Everyone enjoyed spilling the drinks at the end to test which was the fastest!



During our PE lessons, we have been exploring different styles of dance. We have looked at Latin, Samba, Hip-Hop and Disco dance. We made different costumes and head dresses to wear for each of the different styles. Hip-hop was our favourite style of dance. We all loved wearing our caps, chains and sunglasses- don't we look cool!



14-16 Department

Students in the 14-16 Department have had a busy and exciting term. Pupils have been getting accustomed to their friends in class, school routines and lessons during the initial weeks.

The students' reading focus for this term has been to explore several texts including *Oliver Twist*, *The Lady in the Van*, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, *T'was the Night Before Christmas* and our sensory poem on 'Life.' We explored the texts through a range of fun sensory materials and reading / motor skills activities. In Functional Skills, the pupils have explored 'Long and short and

measure'. We have played board games such as Hungry Hippos, car racing tracks, fishing, camping along with measuring parts of our bodies and objects around the classroom.



Students have had opportunity to carry out investigations and use different equipment. They have enjoyed experiencing a range of inflatable objects and how they change shape and are designed for their purpose.

During DT and Art we have learnt about felt making and stencil designs, and created products from different eras and cultures.



During music, the students have explored 'Pitch of Sound.' They have enjoyed listening to and responding to the different Disney Pop Songs and played a variety of instruments that make low and high pitched sounds.



As part of our Inclusion activities, we helped the Rotary Club plant purple crocuses in our school grounds as a symbol of a worldwide campaign to eradicate polio. We also made hampers from food donations from our parents and carers and gave them to the local foodbank.



16-19



16 – 19 have welcomed Joseph to the team this term. Joseph loves to dance.

Each week 16 -19 have visited Morecambe Dance Academy to take part in dance sessions. We use our symbols to put different moves together to make a sequence of moves.

One of 16 – 19's favourite sessions has been trolley dash, where they go wild in the aisles to complete different challenges linked with shopping. Once a week we also take it in turns to go into Carnforth to purchase items from our shopping list.

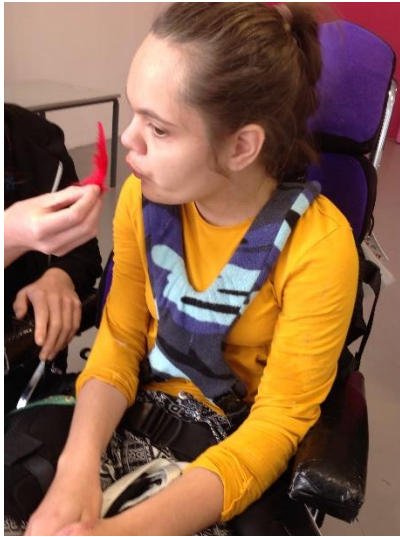
In meal preparation, 16- 19 have experienced making pizza and apple crumble. We employ our switches to operate the food processor and use our senses to make choices about what to put on our pizza. We harvested the apples from the school garden for our crumble.



16 – 19 have relaunched Bleasdale Brews. We serve customers with drinks and teacakes in our pop-up café every Wednesday between 10.00 and 11.00 am. The customers' feedback is good and we now have set of regular customers who have said in their feedback that they will come again and recommend us to others. Please pop in to see for yourself how professional we are at greeting and serving customers.

Emily has started work experience at the RSPB café. She is enjoying working in beautiful surroundings as she completes all her jobs.

Some of 16 – 19 have started visiting the public swimming pool in Carnforth. They are learning to use a public swimming pool and interact with members of the community. The first job is to pay for their swimming ticket.



Residential News

This term, the residential students have been getting involved with the sensory story 'Snowy Footprints.' Leon thoroughly enjoyed exploring all the resources and tried to make as much mess as possible.



This term we have also started a keep fit session. Students have to do arm and leg stretches, as well as other exercises. Hannah's target during this session is to sit in a supported position. She has done this repeatedly throughout the sessions. Well done, Hannah!



During DT sessions the students have been making their own face masks. The girls enjoyed this activity whereas the boys were a lot less enthusiastic.



Before the recent tightening of restrictions around Covid we were able to invite some of the pupils to join us on Fridays after school. We even managed a trip to Blackpool to see the Illuminations and have fish and chips on the Prom.



On the weekend of Bonfire Night we explored the school grounds, completed lots of activities in the Sensory Suite and even had a bonfire with sparklers in the evening.



Children in Need

This year each class took part in their own "Do-athon". Some had a danceathon, others went on a Pudsey hunt in the grounds whereas Secondary took inspiration from the BBC weatherman Owain Wyn Evans and held a drumathon. Here are some photos to show you what we got up to. We raised a total of £345.50 which is a fantastic amount so thank you very much to everyone who supported us.



Staff News

This term we have been joined by the following new staff: Annamaria Madera who is the Teacher in Primary 1 and Joel Beal who is our new Business Manager. Chloe McDade, formerly a TA in Secondary, is now the Teacher in that class.

The following staff have moved on this term: Mat Cook (TA in 14-16) and Steve Hartley from the Residential Team.

Term Dates

Staff Training Day Tuesday 4th January, 2022

Pupils return at 9.00 am on Wednesday 5th January, 2022

Half Term Holiday – Monday 14th to Friday 18th February, 2022

Closure after school on Friday 1st April, 2022

Ofsted have a section for parents called Parent View. Parents can access this at any time to tell Ofsted what they think of their child's school. Please go to the Ofsted website to register.



We have our own school Facebook page which is updated on a weekly basis. Here you will find lots of photos and details of what the pupils have been doing in class together with useful information for parents and ideas for activities which can be done at home. Please take a look if you have the chance.

The pupils, staff and Governors all wish you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful, healthy New Year.

