

# NEWSLETTER

## Endeavour Academy Newsletter

### Message From The Principal



Dear parents, colleagues and friends of Endeavour,

I would like to draw your attention to environmental improvements, as Endeavour Academy has worked very hard to increase pupils learning opportunities for this academic year.

The Hexagon Hub has now been officially opened. Since September we have seen an increase in communication and the use of new skills. All of the pupils have opportunities to access the café for food technology, socialising or sensory play and the Hub has quickly become the heart of Endeavour.



The school enterprise project has flourished this academic year and our work related learning classroom has been used for arts and craft, pottery, card making, hairdressing experience, office work such as shredding and Christmas design and technology, including woodwork. Our pupils also attended a Christmas Fair in Thame and raised money towards a new sensory garden.

Over the summer holidays and during the first half term, other locations had an 'uplift' with a refurbished library and an outstanding sensory room. Both rooms are being used around the clock.

Alongside the school, Endeavour House has undertaken lots of upgrades and the children can now enjoy outdoor play away from any unpleasant weather conditions. Further improvements to the outdoor space is planned for this academic year. The living spaces have been upgraded and had a colour injection with beautiful cushions and beanbags purchased with the help of our pupils.



Our pupils have had some important decisions to make. We now have a School Council and also an Eco Committee where our pupils are proposing and making changes in the school practice in order to promote environmental sustainability.

We have been very busy and are now looking forward to a nice Christmas break.

I would like to wish you a peaceful festive season and looking forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Michaela

## TERM DATES

2nd November - 18th  
December  
6th January - 14th  
February

## Inset days

19th December  
2019  
24th February  
2020  
16th March  
2020

## Our new Staff

### House

Residential Support Workers - Zoe  
Kinchinton, Alketa Tzoumpi, Jackie  
Evans

### School

Occupational Therapist - Tara Rossow

### Promotions

Raul Corrales - Head of Care

Alba Cansino has been promoted to  
Deputy Head of Care.

## Upcoming events

- Christmas concert- 18th December
- Signing Training- 25th January/25th  
February
- Dr Shepperd  
Clinics;
- 27th & 30th  
January and  
3rd & 6th  
February



## TWITTER & FACEBOOK

We often tweet things that happen at Endeavour, or when  
out and about in the community. Please follow us on Twit-  
ter @ MATEndeavour\_ac to see some of our tweets .

## A few of our school activities

### Fundraising At Thame Craft Fair

On the 22nd November many of our  
students visited the Thame Craft  
Fair. Alongside having the opportunity  
to visit a wide variety of stalls  
selling a multitude of hand made  
items including Christmas decorations,  
cards and bookmarks, the students  
also helped to run a stall for  
Endeavour. The stall was a huge  
success and raised an amazing £255!  
The money raised at the fair will be  
used to build a new sensory garden in  
the school.



### Trips, trips and more trips

Our students have been very busy  
recently going on a variety of trips.  
On top of the usual visits to Vana  
farm and being out and about in the  
community the students have gone to  
Winter Wonderland and various  
Pantomimes with another Panto visit  
coming up on the 17th December.

### Ready for Christmas

Christmas has officially arrived at  
Endeavour! The students have been  
hard at work creating Christmas  
decorations and decorating the  
school's Christmas tree.



# Signing Training

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 & Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**4.00-5.30pm (Both sessions to be attended)**

**Cornwallis House, Cornwallis Road,**

**Oxford OX4 3NH**

This workshop is for anyone with an interest in signing, e.g. Teachers, TAs, Parents, Grandparents, Education/Healthcare workers.

The vocabulary will include a range of topics, such as everyday objects and actions, animals, food, activities specific to the nursery/school environment. There will be an opportunity to learn and practice in a fun informal way.

If you would like to attend, please contact the Central Admin Team on Tel: **01865 904464** or email [centralchildrens.therapies@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:centralchildrens.therapies@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk)

There will be no charge for parents of children who are involved with Childrens Integrated Therapies and a £50 charge for professionals to include a booklet of pictures showing the signs learnt.

# Square Class



Square



class



wrote



letters

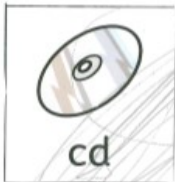
to



Santa

Dear Santa

For Christmas please can I have:



cd

From



cookery



toy

Charlie

Dear Santa

For Christmas please can I have:



cd

From



ball

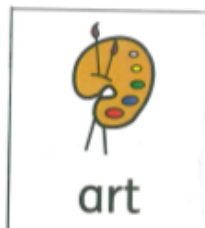
SAMUEL

Dear Santa

For Christmas please can I have:



cookery



art

From

Alex Dunlop

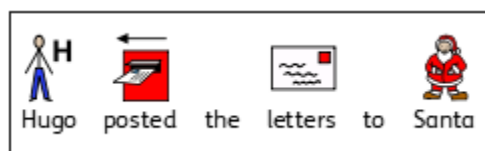
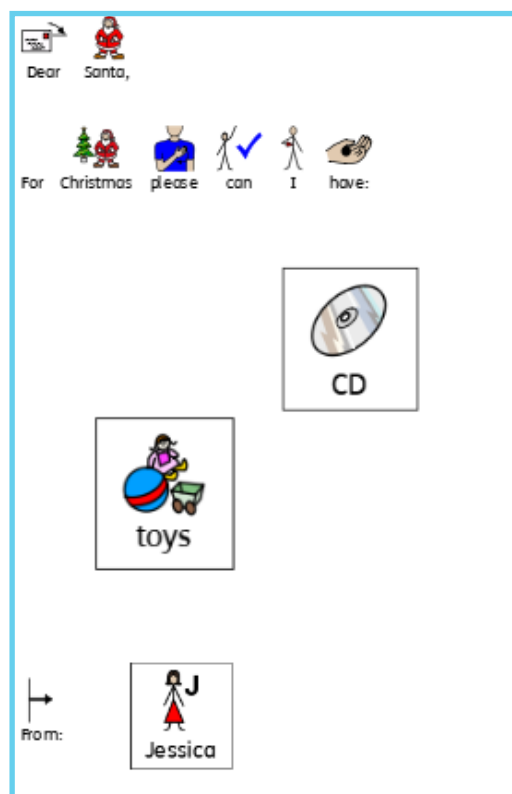
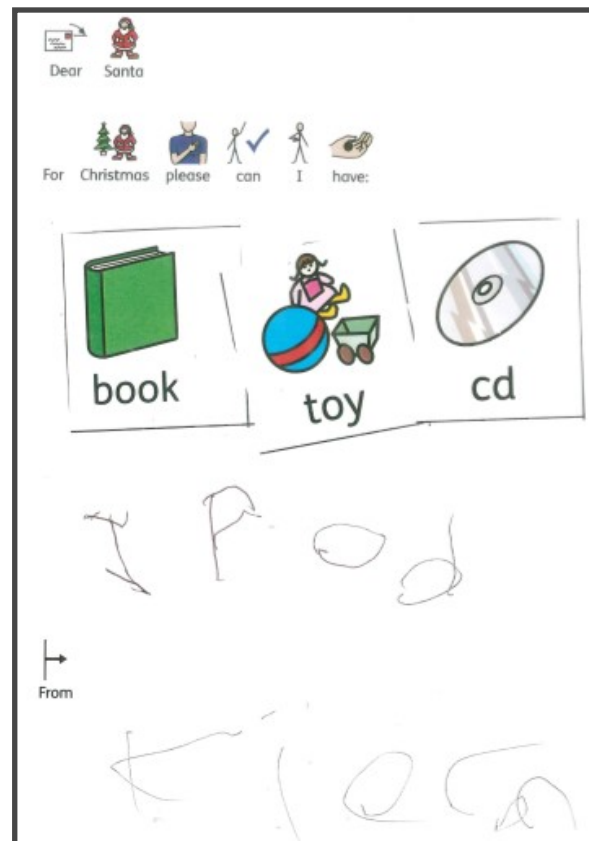
Dear Santa

For Christmas please can I have:



From

I want Paw  
Potato sets  
Hugo





# Circle Class

Go to the farm.



I do jobs for Sophie.



We went to a restaurant in Headington.



We go to work.



We work with horses.



We go to cafes



We go shopping.



We work hard.



We got a Christmas tree.



We spent our wages.



We walk Ralph .



I got interviewed by the governor.



Written

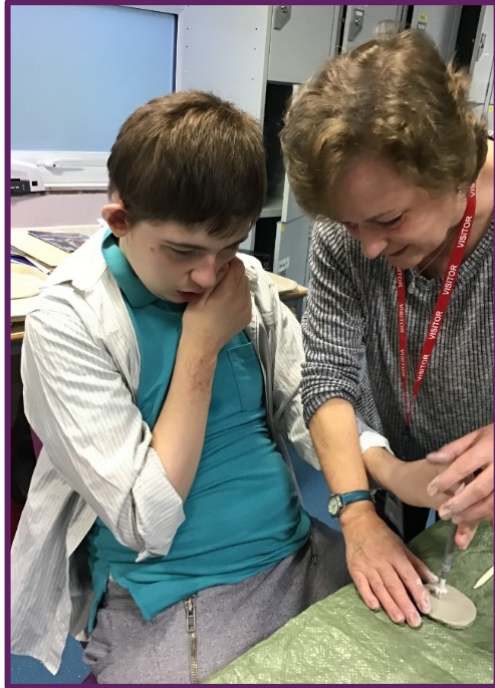


by

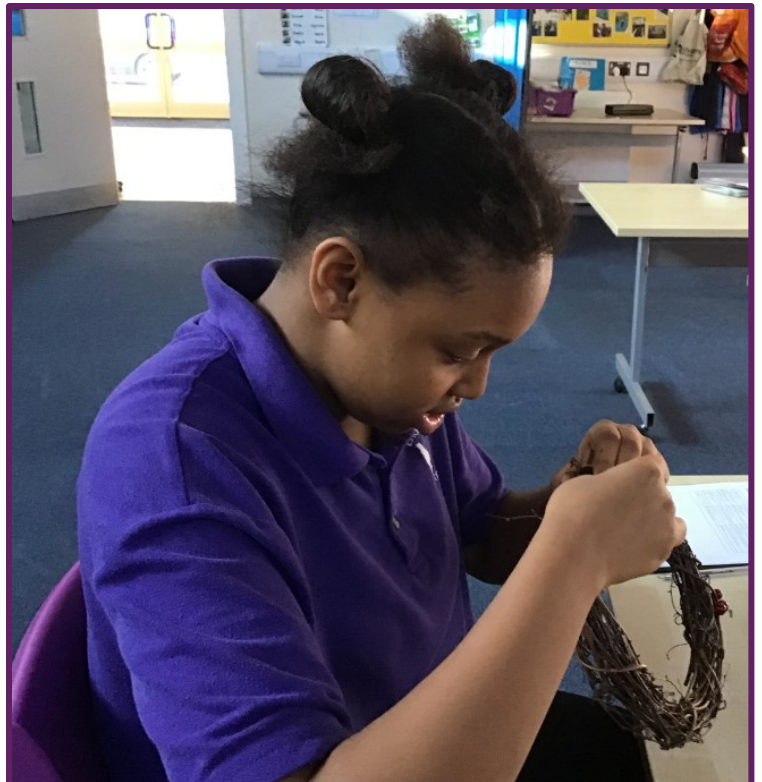
Benny



# Star Class



In Star Class the students have been preparing for Christmas. We have learnt the words and signs for some Christmas carols and have been creating Christmas ornaments, cards and labels to sell as part of our Enterprise Project. These were sold at the Thame Christmas Fair and during the recent parents' evening. The pictures show John creating a Christmas tree decoration in a pottery lesson, Ashley doing sensory play with Christmas colours to create tags and Sohna making a Christmas Wreath.

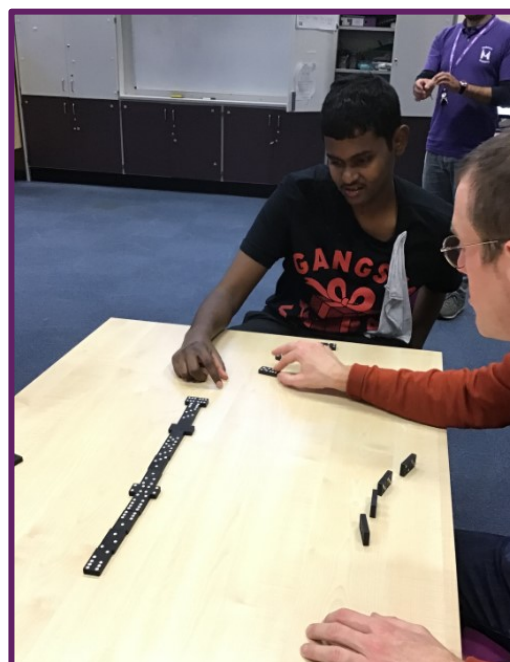






As ever, Star class students have been out and about in the community to help develop life skills and functional maths and literacy. The students go on a range of trips including going shopping, café visits, Thomley Hall, using public transport, Earth Trust, trampolining, swimming and work experience at a farm. The pictures show Grace using the public bus, and Jack at the café.

This term we have worked on developing turn taking and interaction through playing traditional board games. Andrew is playing dominoes with his teacher James and Kieran are playing pop up pirate.

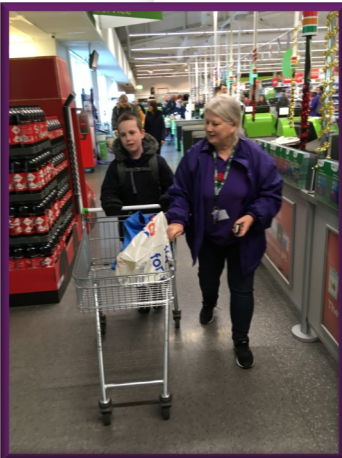
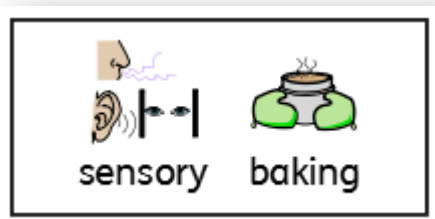


# Triangle Class

The end of the Autumn term seems the perfect opportunity to update you on just a few of the achievements within Triangle class. All our students have been building relationships with staff outside the class team by helping Facilities clear leaves off the playground and learning to buy ingredients for the Hexagon Hub.

Our weekly walks with Ralph have enabled our young people to develop their awareness of being around a dog and many have grown in confidence walking and patting Ralph while enjoying learning whilst out doors.

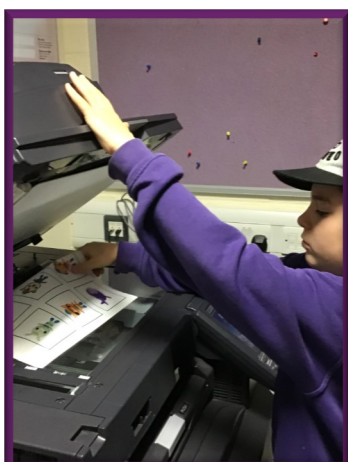
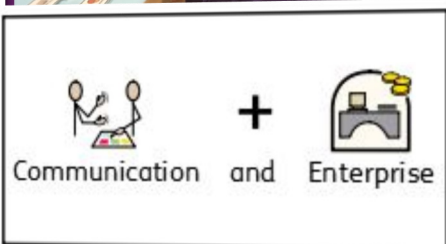
In Sensory baking sessions students are now buying the ingredients and following visual and verbal instructions to make and ice small cakes and muffins as they develop their understanding of the whole baking process.





All our young people have developed their communication using their preferred method to make requests –gesture, symbols, PECS sentences and/or Makaton signs. As well as requesting snacks in the Hub they have been learning to request resources while busily working on a range of enterprise items. These have included colourful bookmarks, cards, wrapping paper, gift bags and even a bird box.

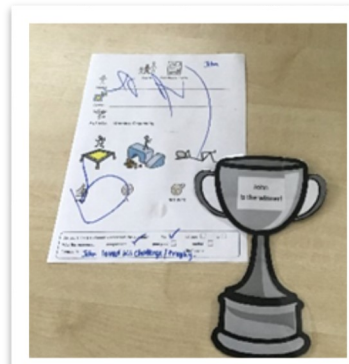
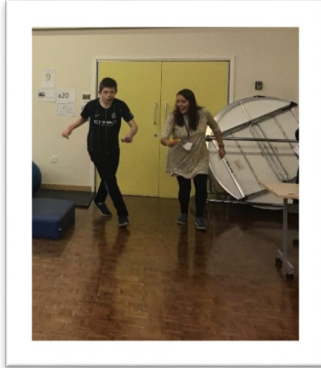
As a staff team it has been wonderful to see individuals grow in confidence to make clear choices about their preferred form of work experience which will help guide their individual learning programs and personalised curriculums.





# Therapy

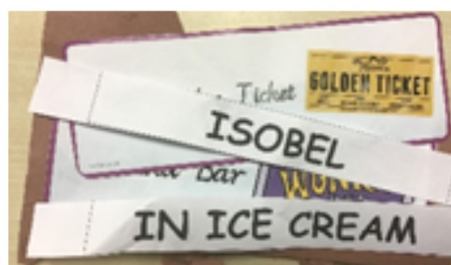
The therapy team have had a busy half-term, with Tara, our new Occupational Therapist joining the team. The students have adjusted well to their new morning organisational activities which help to get them ready to complete later tasks. This is now a more intensive 9 stage routine and we have been capturing 'student voices' where the students can feedback to staff. There have been lots of positive responses (and some negative) but we can already see improved skills in motor planning, body coordination and increased participation across our students. The staff are also ensuring that it's lots of fun in the morning and that they are also having a good physical workout themselves!



We have continued with our group work sessions, such as the Monday "girl's group", and Attention Autism sessions across the school. We have also been working hard with Helen in the Hub to increase the student's use of symbols to make requests at snack time, with many individuals now remembering to take their PECS book with them to request snacks, and directing their requests to Helen, which has been wonderful to see.



This term we have been reading Charlie and the Chocolate factory, introducing new sensory experiences each week and working alongside the AQA English literacy criteria. This has been a great success and we will continue with the book in the new term.



# After School Club

Afterschool club is always a wonderful time where we have lots of fun doing different activities.

We like cooking, here we are making pizzas.



We do arts and crafts we've been making tree decorations and snowflakes which is featured in the 2019 school calendar.



We enjoy reading books to each other using actions and sounds.



We play games that help develop coordination and team work.



## Newsletter Endeavour House

November has been an exciting month for all at Endeavour House. With Just 1 month before Christmas, the children and staff have been gearing up preparing for the most wonderful time of the year. The children have continued to enjoy various activities including visits to local shops and exploration within the City Centre. As well as this, the children and young people have enjoyed visits to the museum, cinema, Christmas markets and long walks in the woods including Shotover.

The house also underwent an OFSTED inspection on the 5th and 6th November. Well done to our young people and staff who made the inspector feel welcomed.

Sadly the House is saying goodbye to our current head of care, Adam Lawrence. Thank you Adam for all that you have done for our young people and staff in making Endeavour House the great place it is. All is not lost as we will now be welcoming Raul Corrales as our new head of care.



Some of our students enjoying the Christmas lights.



The children enjoying trips out whilst also having fun indoors.



Finally Endeavour House would like to extend a warm welcome to Zoe Kinchington & Alketa Tzoumpi in their role as Residential Support Workers. Congratulations to Alba Morales in her role as Deputy Head of Care.