

# NEWSLETTER

**Endeavour Academy Newsletter** 

## Message From The Principal



Dear family and friends of Endeavour,

After writing in the last newsletter that summer seemed to have disappeared, we started the autumn term with a late burst of sunshine and heat to welcome the young people back to school!

The first half term has been a busy and productive 6 weeks. We had our first "wheels afternoon" where we clear the car park and get all the new bikes and trikes out for the young people to ride round in a larger space than our playgrounds. This was such a highlight of sport day that we will do 2 wheels afternoon each  $\frac{1}{2}$  term, weather permitting. The young people had a great time, especially on the drift trikes, although I suspect the staff enjoyed it even more!

The students have been engaging in a range of activities focused on fine motor skills, including baking, peeling, and chopping fruit and vegetables. All of the students have taken part in a range of activities associated with our book of the half term, Peely Wally. There has been some superb spotty artwork created. The next book we will be focusing on is Elmer and the Butterfly.

Students have enjoyed the weekly cricket sessions, where their batting and bowling skills were developed.

The outdoor learning area is developing nicely and we have Pumpkins growing ready for Halloween. Seeds have been donated to the school by Notcutts and these have been planted by the students. We are looking forward to them blooming in the Spring.

Singing Hands have visited Endeavour and all staff and students had a wonderful time developing their signing skills.

Finally, a reminder that next week is the half-term break and Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October is an INSET day. Pupils return on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October.

#### Mark

## TERM DATES 2023/2024

- 31 October to 20 December 2023
- 8 January to 9 February 2024
- Inset Day- 8 March 2024
- 19 February to 28 March 2024

### Our new Staff & News

We gave a warm welcome to our new Teacher, Sophie Scott who joined us in September.



Amy Byrne one of our HLTAs went on Maternity Leave at the end of September and we are pleased to announce that she has had a baby girl called Edith.

Congratulations to Amy and her family!

### Upcoming events



Our annual Christmas Market will be taking place on Friday 15th December. Parents and carers will be able to come along to enjoy Christmas drinks and mince pies and will be able to buy some Christmas presents & gifts that have been made by our students.



#### TWITTER & FACEBOOK

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

## A few of our school activities

















This term students have been developing their fine motor skills by using scissors, stamps, brushes, glue sticks and their fingers. The art work they have created will be kept for Endeavour's First Art Exhibition in the Spring but here are a few photos of them working on this term's projects.













Links to UNICEF Rights Respecting Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

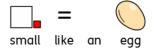


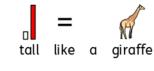


One of this term's Wellbeing activities was a Peely Wally story exercise trail which Circle class are demonstrating for you to copy.

Movement



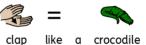
















Emma has restarted weekly yoga sessions and as the photos show the students are doing well learning to copy the yoga positions.









Links to UNICEF Rights Respecting Article 31: Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.



Students and staff enjoyed a day of music, singing, dancing and signing when Suzanne & Tracy from Singing Hands joined us. The smiles show how much fun we all had.





Links to UNICEF Rights Respecting Article 23: If I have a disability I have the right to special care and education. This includes opportunities for me to participate in activities with others.

# Square Class Newsletter









In square class this half term we have been incredibly focused on learning and developing our fine motor skills through a variety of new and exciting activities.

These have been taking place in a variety of locations across school. This has included classroom-based learning, community-based work experiences as well as outdoor learning opportunities.



Personal care sessions have also been a large focus with daily sessions highlighting the importance of personal hygiene. These lessons have included teeth brushing, hand washing and applying deodorant to help support body awareness.

Square class students also appear to be engaged and enjoying our community-based learning opportunities. These sessions are including accessing local parks, woodland areas, local shops, supermarkets, including road safety, farm/animal care-based work experiences, swimming, Earth trust, Forest school and the Duke of Edinburgh scheme.

In square class and across the school we continue to be so proud of all our young people for all their achievements and hard work.



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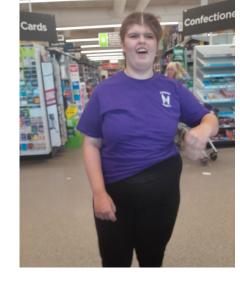




















# **Triangle Class**











It's been wonderful welcoming back the young people into Triangle Class. This term Triangle have welcomed our new student Frankie.

Triangle have explored different textures and materials in art and sensory based activities to encourage fine motor skills and created some lovely artwork connected to Peely Wally.

We have continued to encourage outdoor learning through regular trips to the farm and Earth Trust as well as doing on site learning through gardening, Forest School and Duke of Edinburgh.

Triangle Class continue to build positive relationships and impress us all with their motivation to learn.



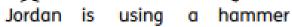




















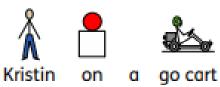






Kiki choosing a book in the library









In September we welcomed Abi to the Speech and Language Therapy team, and she has made a great start getting to know our pupils and in supporting using communication devices.



This term, we say goodbye to Tara, our Occupational Therapist who is moving home to Australia in November. We thank her for her 4 years at Endeavour and wish her and her family all the best!



#### <u>Resources</u>

Please see some Halloween sensory ideas for trick or treating for those who observe Halloween. <u>Halloween-Feb-2021.pdf (sensoryfriendly.net)</u>

Some ideas to get you outside in autumn Things to do with the family this autumn | Forestry England

The calendar on the next page might be useful for some, but we are aware this isn't accurate for all our pupils, please do get in touch if you want an individualised calendar, and send me the info you need me to add in! <u>kate.hopcraft@macintyreacademies.org</u>

			Oct			
-Monday 2nd	Tuesday 3rd	Wednesday 4th	Thursday 5th	Friday	Saturday	Sunday 8th
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At Endeavour house we had lots of fun over the summer with trips to the beach, sea life, fairy tale farm and more. We also enjoyed a lot of amazing activities in the house also.



# Term Dates

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Oxfordshire 2023/24 Academic Calendar

Pupil Days

School holidays

Inset Days

Bank holidays