



# Newsletter December 2024



What a brilliant Autumn term this has been.

There have been so many amazing things going on in and around school. There are too many to mention here but just a few to highlight:

Careers & Transitions event

Careers & Transitions advisor Jenny in school

Eco Schools Award gained

Project Linus delivered handmade blankets

Christmas production of "Scrooge".

Christmas Fayre

Thanks to all family members who have attended and supported events this term and a special big thank you to the "Fountaindale Family" parents group who arranged the Christmas Fayre. The event was very well supported by parents, families and members of the local community and made over £2000.

A massive thank you to Dawn, one of our staff members for donating our amazing real Christmas tree. It took a bit of wrestling, but we managed to get it up in the hall where it looks absolutely fantastic.

Have a fabulous festive season and I look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

## Dates for next term:

16<sup>th</sup> January, 1.30pm Panto- Peter Pan

21<sup>st</sup> January, 10am – Parent Support Group – Internet safety

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb – Valentine's disco in school

17<sup>th</sup> Feb – 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb Half term holiday

24<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> February Inset Days

21<sup>st</sup> March – Red Nose Day

4<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Parade

Chris Evans  
Headteacher



**Fountaindale**  
A SPECIAL SCHOOL

# Hedgehogs Newsletter– Autumn 2024

For Children in Need we had a non-uniform day and participated in lots of Pudsey Bear activities.



Our weekly UNICEF lessons allow us to learn about the Rights of children.



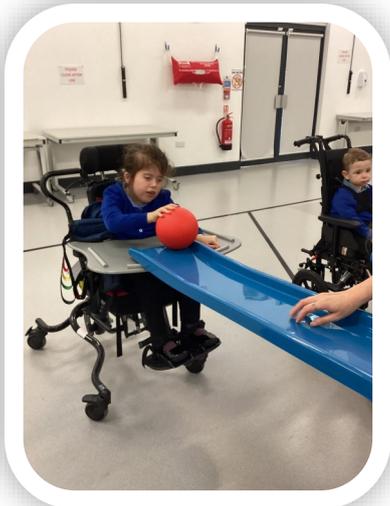
The theatre production who performed in the hall were a huge hit!



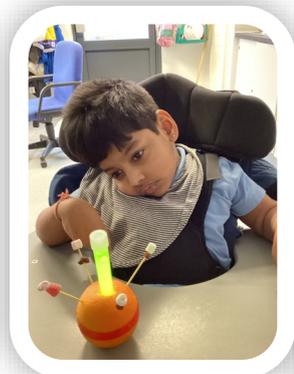
Our weekly lessons in the Food Technology and Sensory Room provide us with lots of different learning opportunities.



We still team up with Rabbits class for our PE sessions and participate in fortnightly physical sessions with RISE sport.



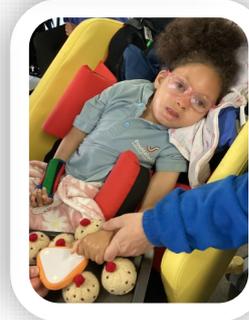
# Rabbits Class



We have done lots of maths and switch work

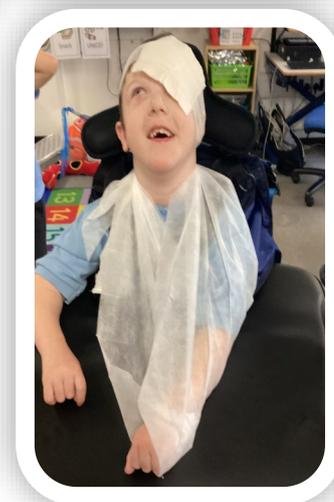


We have enjoyed exploring different instruments



And played lots of sports

We have made lots of mess.....



# Autumn Term in Butterflies



We had a brilliant time in the snow filming for our Christmas performance



Thank you for a brilliant first term in Butterflies Class. We hope you enjoy your time off and get to spend lots of time with family and friends. Take care and stay safe. Butterflies Team



Our Christmas performance day

# Autumn Term in Butterflies

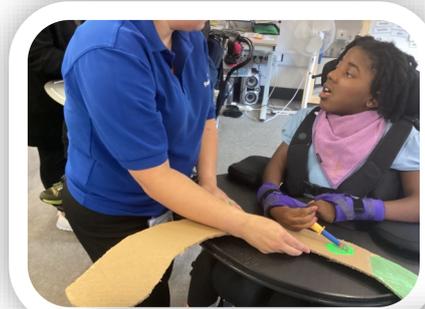
The end of Autumn Term has arrived. It has been a very busy term filled with lots of learning and fun. It doesn't seem five minutes since we were welcoming you all back from the Summer holidays! We would like to take you on a little trip down memory lane and share some of our favourite moments...



Exploring Autumn



Joining in with lots of maths songs with props and technology



Getting ready for our assembly for Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day



Using our switch toys



Enjoying our time outside in the woods and in the playground

## Foxes Class Autumn term

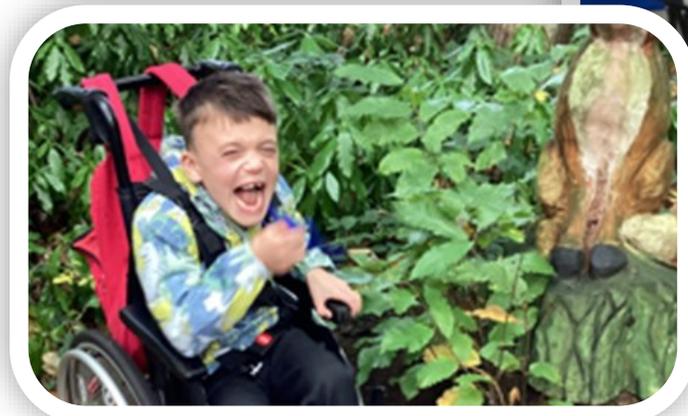
This term our topic has been Mighty Metals  
We have explored this topic in many ways.

We enjoyed using different metal equipment to make our own music. We particularly enjoyed the big metal bin, it was so noisy!

We also looked at the forces pushing and pulling and how we use these daily.



How can we talk about Autumn term and not mention Christmas! We were so busy with our performance and think you have to agree that we all did amazing!



This term we have had the opportunity to work with Rise sports in PE. We all joined in so well with the different team based games each week. We loved it that in the end we all won and got photos with the trophy.

# Robins Class

As part of our Mighty Metals topic, Robins class have enjoyed creating a sound wall, making music with pots and pans, decorating the nature trail with metal windchimes and created some lovely tinfoil art.



Throughout the term we have enjoyed cooking and baking lots of different treats!

This term we have celebrated lots different holidays and events. We enjoyed having Halloween photos, meeting Santa, exploring the snow, creating fireworks, dancing to Diwali music and remembering the fallen soldiers.

What a truly wonderful, Autumn Term we've had in the Moles Class!

Our topic this term has been all about **Coastlines** and **Materials**. We've shared stories all about the seaside and had lots of fun along the way. We've learnt lots of new words linked to our topic and learnt the Makaton signs too!



### Visitors!

The RNLI came into class to tell us all about their role as the RNLI. We even got to try on some of the equipment. We learnt about the importance of keeping safe near the water.



### Autumn

We've explored the season of Autumn, making lots of crafts, walks in the woods and the best bit- exploring the early snowfall!



### Keeping Healthy

We've learnt about keeping our teeth and bodies healthy. We know that eating a variety of foods helps our body stay healthy. We've also explored how people help us if we need medical help.



We've loved Baking this term!



Well done MOLES!



This term we have enjoyed learning all about 'Coastlines and Materials'.



Owl



Class



lifeboat

We enjoyed a visit from the RNLN as part of our topic, we learnt all about 'Water Safety'

**Bake Off**  
We have enjoyed baking lots of yummy



baking



Autumn



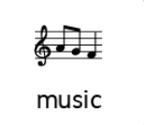
**Halloween and Autumn**  
We have loved exploring Autumn, especially



snow



**Snow Day!**  
We loved exploring the snow, inside



music

**Electric Umbrella**  
Every week we have enjoyed joining



# Squirrel's Class—Autumn Term 2024



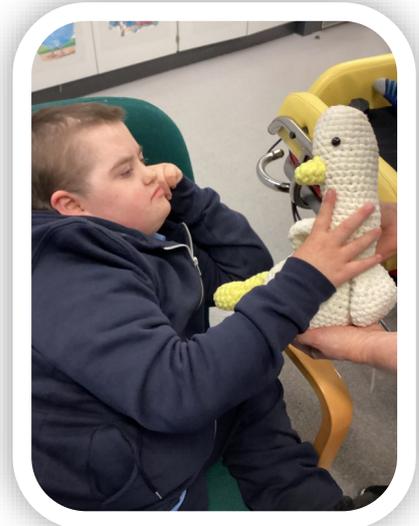
Getting creative for Christingle



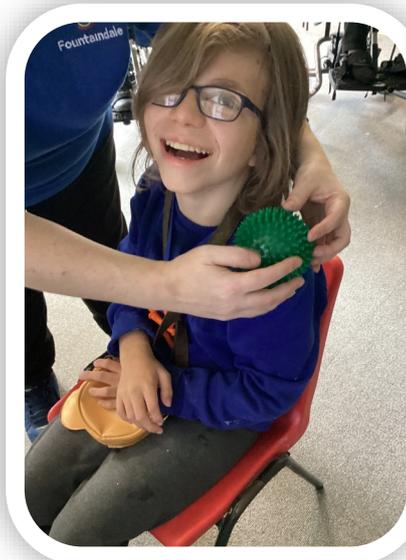
Intensive interaction using drums



Making shapes with cloud dough



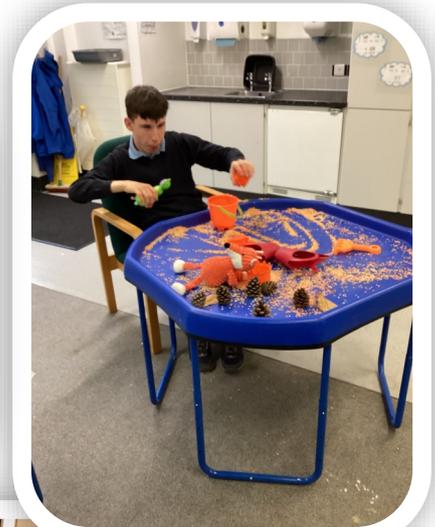
Engaging with the goose from our sensory story



Relaxing in musical massage



Using our motor skills



Measuring out the ingredients in our cognition trays



Enjoying the swing in our outdoor area



Exploring the pretty lights in our sensory room



Using letters in phonics

# Woodpeckers



What a term! Everyone has worked so hard in Woodpeckers class.....but we have had a lot of fun as well. Our 'Blue Abyss' topic this term has really captured our interest—learning all about Jacques Cousteau and travelling all around the world, learning about the different oceans; the animals that live there, their habitat and how climate change is affecting it. We enjoyed listening to our visitor from the RNLI and we were able to ask him questions about his job. We also had lots of fun when the theatre company came to school and some Woodpeckers got the opportunity to be part of the performance. Eco-Warriors are still working hard to save our environment and we recently planted some crocus bulbs that were donated by the Rotary Club—we can't wait to see them bloom in the Spring term. Our Physical curriculum has really developed this term with our different visitors that come into school—RISE PE, Moving Together Dance session and we have recently started PE lessons with our new friends from Portland College who are studying Sports Leadership. Another busy term in Woodpeckers class where no two days are the same—and we wouldn't want it any other way!

# Post 16



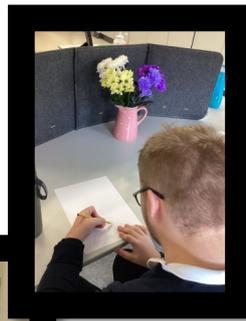
What a busy start to the academic year we have had! Lots of hard work but also lots of fun! Here are just a few photos of some of the most memorable bit!

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year!

## Christmas!



Moving Together and Sports with Portland



Creativity—Music and art



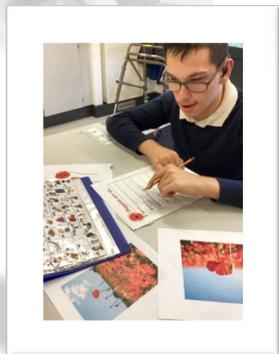
## Communication



Eco—Schools



Sensory Stories



## Cooking



## Panto!



## Festival of Light Day and Remembrance Day





## Jenny—Next Steps Advisor

Jenny Hallam is our Next Steps Advisor at Fountaindale and is with us once every 2 weeks on a Friday. Jenny is here to support students and families with information, advice and guidance on all issues relating to Next Steps and ensuring a smooth transition after Fountaindale. If there is anything that Jenny cannot help with directly, she will support with signposting to the appropriate team or organisation. In the Autumn term, Jenny has been getting to know our 6<sup>th</sup> Form students, attended our providers market-place event, she has been making contact with parents and forming links with different Nottinghamshire providers, including; Brooke Farm and Landmarks to arrange visits and set up work placements.



In the Spring term, Jenny will be offering coffee drop in sessions for families and will be linking with the Preparation for Adulthood Team and Ask Us, to provide support and advice on transitions, applications, day services and referrals for social care. Jenny will also be supporting students on visits to different education and day service providers and will be setting up a careers board with key information and contacts in the reception area of school.