



# Fountaindale

A SPECIAL SCHOOL

## Summer Newsletter



# Hedgehogs newsletter– Summer 2024

We have teamed up with Rabbits class for our PE session and completed activities such as parachute games and T-ball.



Our PRIDE day was a huge success and the children enjoyed their parade around school.



We did lots of bug hunting for our Creep, Wriggle and Crawl topic.



We worked hard practising for Sports Day and had a great sunny day for our annual event.

The brass band who came in during Access for All Arts week were a huge hit!



We all had great fun on the accessible bikes!



We set up lots of fabulous props in the sensory room and investigated them under the lights.



# Summer Term in Butterflies

Is the end of term already? It doesn't seem five minutes since coming back from Easter. We have had a jam packed term and have enjoyed many exciting activities and special days. We would like to take you on a little trip down memory lane and share some of our favourite moments...



Designing our own Earth for Earth Day



Flying kites during Outdoor Learning Week



Rides on the roundabout in the sun



Maypole for the Olympic opening ceremony. We represented the UK & NI. We then participated in Sports Day. Red Team were the winners on the day!



# Summer Term in Butterflies



Enjoying one of our sensory areas—this one has lots of sand!



Having lots of fun playing instruments in different ways.



Interactive projectors in the sensory



Cooking lots of delicious desserts connected to our topic.

Thank you for a brilliant year in Butterflies Class. For those of us that are moving on, we wish you all the luck and love in the world. For those of us staying in Butterflies next year, we cant wait to see you for more learning and fun. Take care and stay safe this Summer.



Riding the adapted bikes

# Foxes Class Summer term 2024

**This term our topic has been The Scented Garden**

**We have explored this topic in many ways. We have grown our own flowers and looked after them well. We have looked at the main parts of plants and thought about what our plants need to survive. At the start of our topic we also explored a variety of flowers and broke them in to their different parts.**

**Our story focus has been The Enormous Turnip and we have looked at the characters from the story and worked on ordering the story. We also picked characters and acted the story out also.**



**This term in art we have recreated Van Gogh Sunflowers and Andy Warhol flowers in two projects over this term.**

**As always we have done plenty of cooking practicing a variety of skills in mixing, rolling, pouring and many more.**

**This term there had been so many exciting events and visitors in school.**

**We had visitors that came and taught Kwick cricket**

**and we really enjoyed participating in this session and practicing batting and throwing skills.**

**This last few weeks we have been celebrating the Euros and we were Italy and enjoyed making pizza and making flags to represent this country.**

**We had a brilliant sports day and all enjoyed joining in their races and competing.**

**Well done red team!**

**This last term we have had a team bring in some accessible bikes and the children really enjoyed trying the different bikes.**

**Outdoor learning week was also this term and we got outside as much as we could and did some more planting. We also made some bird feeders and have filled them up many times.**

**We also had a very exciting accessible arts week where we explored music, art and dance. We had a brass band play in the hall and this was very fun!**



## What a year we have had in Rabbits class.

We have had lots of lovely experiences; Outdoor Learning Week, Spiltmilk Dance Group, The Big Wildlife Watch, Sports Day, Accessible Bikes, Kwik Cricket, the Pride parade and time with Tom Bacon a real musician--Phew!!

The bikes were our favourite, being able to speed round the track with our teachers doing the work!



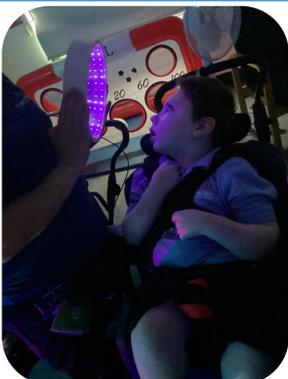
We have enjoyed learning about the woodland in our topic The Enchanted Forest. We have added sounds to our Hansel and Gretel story, made gingerbread men and animal masks, made lots of creative things for our display and used the Resonance Board.

On Pride day we enjoyed coming to school in our green clothes and for the Olympic parade we were 'Germany' for the day and wore German flag colours and performed our dance for everyone.



We have made lots of yummy things in our cookery sessions each week: fairy cake, cheesecake, jam tarts, pizza, Rocky road and Gingerbread.

Cooking helps us learn skills such as weighing, mixing, adding and dividing



Well done to everyone in Rabbits for a fantastic year. Hope you all have a lovely summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September!

# Robins Class

**We have had a brilliant year in Robins! We have all worked hard and achieved great things. Well done Robins Class!**



**We have enjoyed lots of different activities this term. Our favourite was the accessible bikes!**

**We celebrated PRIDE month by wearing colourful clothes and doing lots of fun activities, like designing PRIDE t-shirts and emojis.**



**We joined the nation in supporting England in the Euros! We enjoyed trying scones with jam, creating a ST George's flag and listening to some well known Football chants.**

**Through our topic, we have enjoyed exploring the outdoors, learning about the parts of plants, planting our own flowers, creating art out of nature and learning about the different animals we can find in our local habitats.**



# Squirrel's Class—Summer Term 2024



Having fun with the new switches



Sowing seeds and repotting plants



Exploring our emotions through Sensory stories .



Weighing and measuring in cooking .



Interacting with others using drums .



Out and about on the accessible bikes



Finding letters in the sand outside



Exploring lots of lovely textures and sounds.



Making a flag with everything red and white

# Owls



We have had great fun exploring different materials.



Sports Day!



We enjoyed using the accessible bikes.



Arts for All fun!

# Post 16's Summer Term



We have worked hard to gain our CREST award during the summer term by producing a book all about the trees in local environment. We have also completed some work with the eco-committee while will allow us to apply for our Eco Schools Award this year.

We were lucky enough to have Leicester Wheels for all come into school to show us a range of special bikes that we had. Much fun was had that day doing laps around the playground!



We celebrated Pride month throughout June and ended with a fantastically multicoloured Pride parade around the school!



Wize Up Financial education came in to teach us how to budget and manage our money. We got to buy lots of sweets and chocolate!



Boccia, tennis, football, cricket and lots of dancing in our Moving Together sessions and RISE sessions as well as sports day.

A wonderful week celebrating everything art! 3D sculpture, dancing, making music and brass bands.



A snippet of some of the Independence skills that we have been learning—cleaning, washing clothes and looking after our teeth.





# Woodpeckers

The Woodpeckers have had a very busy but wonderful term together! Our topic was called Burps, Bottoms and Bile! We learned all about what happens to your food when you eat; learning about the different types of teeth we have and their function and the digestive system. We had a visit from a Dentist who taught us the importance of oral hygiene. We also worked hard on different activities relating to the outdoors; Outdoor Learning Week, Wildlife Watch. We have celebrated PRIDE month, had a go on accessible bikes, Sports Day and performed a gig to the school with Tom who we work with on Thursday afternoons. We also had Access All Arts week which was great—we used plaster of Paris to make sculptures and we had a dance workshop with a dance company called Spilt Milk! We have continued our work towards the Eco-Schools award and completed the CREST Award qualification. Sports visitors, wheelchair training with Whizz Kids; the list goes on!

What a busy but brilliant term!



# Moving Together & Leicester Wheels for All

**Moving Together came into school in June 2024 and we had so much fun together. We worked on exploring different colours and water as mediums to explore dance and movement.**

**Moving Together is a community dance organisation based in Leicester, offering and developing high quality community dance opportunities for participants of all ages and abilities since 2011. They specialise in creative dance delivery and Arts Award programmes.**

**We are so excited to say that Moving Together will be offering dance and Arts awards with all of our young people over the next academic year.**

**On Tuesday 2nd June 2024 we had Leicester Wheels for All in school. Leicester Wheels for All is a registered charity, formed in 2016. They provide disabled children and adults the opportunity to experience the sense of freedom and independence that cycling can bring. We had so much fun trying out all the different bikes on offer, some students didn't want to get off the bikes. So just want to say such a big thank you to all the staff, families and volunteers that supported the event. We hope to have them back in the new academic year.**





### PROM at Fountaindale school 2024

On Friday 19th July 2024 we had our annual prom celebration in school, which was so much fun. We dressed to impress, took pictures in the library and then had a super lunch in the hall. In the afternoon we had a DJ from Portland College come over and support our disco. Thanks to all the staff and families that supported Prom and make this occasion so memorable for our young people.



# An introduction from our newest member of SLT– Rob Mulvey

**Hello there to all parents, carers and friends of Fountainsdale School.**

**I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you all.**

**My name is Rob Mulvey and as from September I will be joining Chris and the Fountainsdale Senior Leadership Team as the second Deputy Headteacher along with Dan and Charlotte, the Assistant Head.**

**I have worked in education for 30 years; I was originally a Secondary Mainstream Drama and English teacher but was given the opportunity to work in my first SEND school 20 years ago and I have never looked back. I have worked in designated SLD schools in Wakefield, Derbyshire and Rotherham and have been part of the Nexus Multi Academy Trust since 2015. I have a real passion for working with SEND students and their families to help them become the very best they can be.**

**I am truly delighted to be joining the staff at Fountainsdale, it is such a wonderful school and the students and staff are amazing. I have been spending a few transition days at Fountainsdale before the end of term in preparation for September.**

**I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know you over the next few months and to being part of the Fountainsdale family.**

**Warm Regards**

**Rob**



# Headteachers Round-Up

Well here we are at the end of another academic year and what a year it has been. Fountaindale continues to go from strength to strength with so many areas of development it would be impossible to list them all here. Some of my highlights this year include the Christmas show, our careers week, the sports day and our eco schools nature monitoring days/weeks. It has been amazing to see all of the young people at Fountaindale developing their skills and understanding whilst learning with a huge smile of their faces.

We have seen some staff move on to new jobs this year and we have welcomed new staff into the fold at Fountaindale. In September we will be joined by Lizzy and Emily, two new teachers who will be working in our new Moles class. Rob will also be joining us in September as a new Deputy Headteacher working across the school.

Looking forward to the new academic year we will be joined in September by a number of new pupils across the school in various classes. Work is due to commence in September on the conversion and extension of the old residential rooms to create additional learning spaces. These rooms will enable us to incorporate more life skills into our curriculum with the long term aim of using these rooms to house our 6<sup>th</sup> form/post 16 provision. We are also looking forward to the launch of our parent led fundraising group the "Fountaindale Family". If you are interested in being involved in this group please contact Gayle at school, the more people involved the better. We would love a new school mini bus to enable us to take our youngsters out and about more often!

We had some fantastic news this week, we have been awarded the Eco Schools Green Flag. Thanks to Majella, Katy and all of the Eco Warriors for all of your hard work.

Thank you for working with us to keep disruption to a minimum during the school day by either dropping off or picking up your young person from reception rather than entering classes whilst learning is taking place. Some young people find it distressing when unfamiliar adults come in and out of classrooms other than at the very start or end of each day.

I hope that you all have a fantastic summer break and that the weather decides to be kind to us all. I look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Take care

Chris

