



23rd July 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Giant Colourscape event comes to Mill Water

The smiles said it all as pupils enjoyed a multi-sensory explosion of colour and light when the amazing Colourscape experience came to Mill Water last week. They bounced, raced and giggled their way around the interconnecting chambers in their individual classes, while immersed in translucent red, blue, green, yellow and opaque grey.

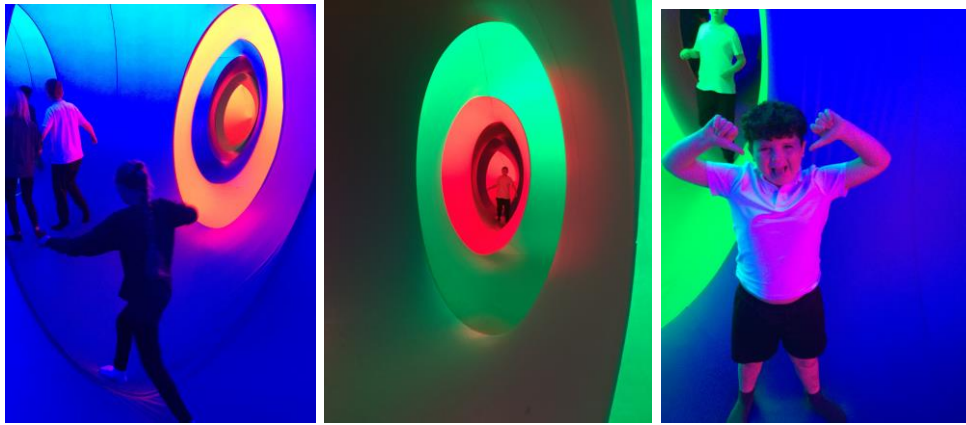


Class 6 teacher and sensory integration lead Andrew Maker said: "All the pupils had a great time. The layout allowed for freedom of movement and the mixtures of colours was very appealing and soothing. Any anxieties or stresses pupils may have had were left behind the moment they entered the dome. A real treat for all."

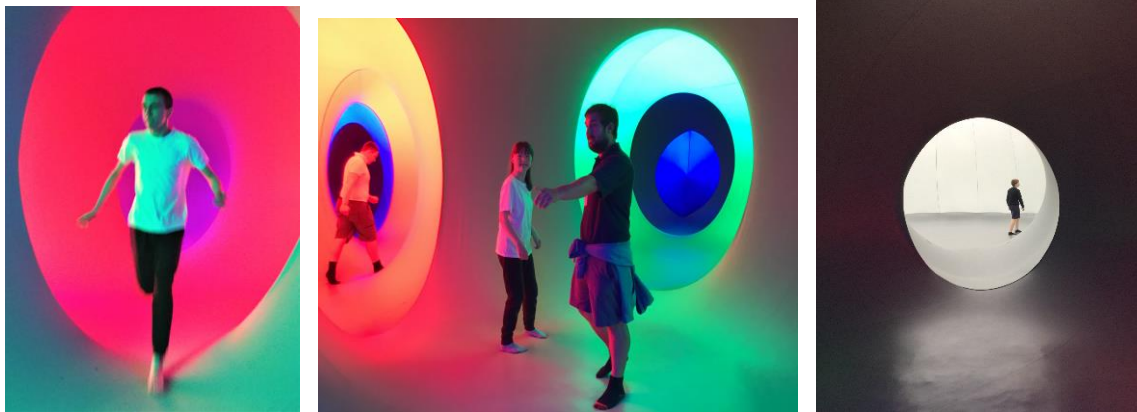
Class 12 pupils' responses included: "It was very, very, very good because it had some amazing colours in it." (Harry P). "The dome was really good and fun, it made me feel relaxed." (Charlie). "The dome was weird but made me feel really relaxed and calm." (Libby).

TA Vicky Woolsey said: "Seeing Pearce having so much fun made my day. He was smiling and laughing the whole session and for him to be able to roam freely in the dome was amazing. I would say the older pupils had just as much fun as the younger ones. What a magical experience for them all."

Some reactions from Class 7 included: "It was really great, it was really fun." "I liked everything there, I wish I could go back there again." "Fun!" "I liked running in it." "It was colourful and bright." "It felt like going through the colours." "When we were playing hide and seek, it was good fun together." "It was so amazing; it was the best thing that has ever happened to me." "I wish the class was the colour dome and I wish the colour dome was at my birthday."



The experience was the result of multiple partnerships between Mill Water and Budleigh Music Festival (who facilitated the project and also hosted the event on Budleigh Green last week), Bicton College (who allowed us to set up on their rugby pitch) and Colourscape. It was largely funded through the Arts Council, with additional support from the Budleigh-based Sampimon Trust and Devon Music Education Hub.



Nature art workshop



Pupils combined their connection with natural textures and art to produce these beautiful prints. Visiting artist Simon Ripley from Exeter's Double Elephant Print Workshop helped Class 3 and 4 pupils 'explore their emotional links with the landscape' while using traditional print techniques. This opportunity was created through funding from the Norman Family Charitable Trust and Arts Council England. Simon will return to work with further classes in the Autumn term.



Splashing good fun!

Our classes have had a great time cooling off with some water fun, thanks to a donation of dozens of small paddling pools from Tesco supermarket in Exmouth. Here are our Early Years and Class 5 pupils putting the pools to good use. They particularly enjoyed getting their teachers wet! A special thank you to local Tesco Community Champion Leanne Fletcher for supporting Mill Water.



Embracing our great outdoors



Our outdoor learning team continues to create a stream of imaginative activities. As a result, our pupils have been reaping the benefits of our wonderful surroundings, from blowing bubbles in the woods and river walks to relaxing art and learning about butterflies. Class 12 visited Woodbury Castle, Class 7 enjoyed a stroll along the River Otter, and Class 9 and Early Years learnt about bees and butterflies in the shade of our beautiful school orchard.

Hydrotherapy pool workout



A brilliant effort was made by Class 6 and 8 pupils during their pool physio session this week. Well done guys!

Cinematic theatre enchants pupils and staff

The magic of theatre came to Mill Water this week when M&M Theatre Production performed their 'cinematic' Treasure Island show in school. Pupils in their class bubbles were mesmerised by the hi-tech production, which creates an innovative and immersive experience when a live performer links up with 10 further actors on screen. This amazing opportunity was made possible thanks to funding from the children's charity Happy Days.



Times of their lives at Country Life

Class 6 had an amazing day out at World of Country Life this week, thanks to Exmouth Rotary Club who kindly funded the trip. They especially enjoyed the interaction with the animals, the trampolines, the Go-Karts and having the freedom to clamber around the soft play area. There were lots of smiles and laughter, especially when a deer sneezed near them!



Mill Water bikes and trikes activity

A big thank you to the Bruce family from Okehampton for their very generous donation of two specialist trikes for Mill Water pupils. We have been busy upgrading and maintaining our suite of bikes ready for next term; and a specialist bike representative from Tomcat brought some fantastic bikes in recently for pupils to try out. We have been busy fundraising in order to purchase some of these incredibly engineered bikes, so watch this space for further exciting announcements...



SIGNPOSTING...

Orthotic support during the summer holidays: Any pupils needing orthotic input or wheelchair support during the holiday should call Opcare at Exeter Mobility Centre on 01392 547400 or email opcare.exeterorthotics@nhs.net.

Dates for your diary

What	When	Notes
Last day of term	Tuesday 27th July 2021 3.15pm	Have a wonderful summer break
First day of term for staff	Monday 6th September 2021	2 Training days for staff
First day of term for pupils	Wednesday 8th September 2021	