

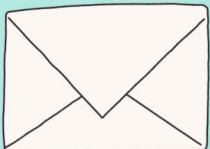
### HEAD TEACHERS MESSAGE

What an amazing start we have had to our new academic year. It has been wonderful to welcome our new year 7 pupils into their new school. All pupils have adopted our 'High Point Way' and have shown resilience and determination in all of their subject areas since returning from the summer break.

It was lovely to meet so many parents on our parents evening this half term and we are looking forward to our parent work shops next month.

We hope you all have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back on Monday 6th November.

Mrs Kulyk



**NEWSLETTER**



### THIS TERM....

All our staff and pupils have had a really busy but brilliant term this half term! What a way to kick start Autumn! Stay tuned to see what we've been getting up to!



# Safeguarding

“Safeguarding all our pupils is always the priority at High Point.”

During the year we will have a focus on certain areas that come under safeguarding, such as:

- Online safety
- Wellbeing
- Healthy relationships etc

If a parent/guardian has any safeguarding concerns they can share or wish to discuss please contact Mr Seward or Mrs Kulyk 0121 594 0750.



Andy Seward  
Safeguarding and  
family support lead

# Attendance

Attendance is incredibly important at High Point. Our total attendance for this academic year to date is 86.9% which is a 2.1% improvement on this point last academic year!

If any families want to discuss attendance please contact Mr Seward via ClassDojo, email [a.seward@highpoint.fet.ac](mailto:a.seward@highpoint.fet.ac) or 0121 594 0750.

## Family workshops:

We will be running a range of family workshops throughout the year, starting with Christmas card making family workshop towards the end of November, this date will be confirmed when we return after half term break, these will be advertised on ClassDojo



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Our highest attending year  
group this half term is Year  
7 (1C/1D) with 96.4%

# Student Council



## Student Council 2023-2024

As we enter our new academic year, we have introduced a new student voice at High Point Academy. We have ten representatives on the student voice. A member was voted from each class group to represent and communicate with their class groups and bring any suggestions to the student voice meetings. An assembly was held to launch our Student Council.

Representatives of student voice have been discussing a few things to how they want High Point Academy to look this year. They have discussed many fantastic ideas and they are very excited to see their ideas put into practice.

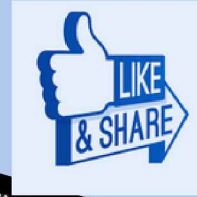


Well done to all representatives this half term. We will continue to communicate any voice many ideas throughout this academic year.



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# Our Social Media



**High Point Academy** @HighPointAc... · 4d ...  
Last month we held our first MacMillan coffee morning for the pupils 🍵  
All pupils were invited to wear green and bake and purchase some yummy treats 🍰🍪  
#MacmillanCoffee #Macmillan

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**High Point Academy** @HighPointAc... · 12h ...  
Interested in helping our school deliver some amazing opportunities for our students? We've got some great volunteering opportunities including being part of our Local Academy Council. [ayr.app/1/9Mvd](http://ayr.app/1/9Mvd)  
#volunteering #schoolhelp

Want to make a difference?  
**JOIN OUR LOCAL ACADEMY COUNCIL**

**High Point Academy** @HighPointAc... · 17h ...  
Pupils join in our praise assembly every Friday, where achievements across the week are celebrated, attendance winners are revealed and our dojo winners are announced. Pupils are able to select their well-deserved prize from our famous prize trolley! 🌟🛒  
#prizetrolley #SEN

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**High Point Academy** @HighPointAc... · 2d ...  
Check out our lovely display in reception for the autumn season. These pumpkins were grown by our students in the polytunnel 🎃  
#autumnTerm #highPoint #pumpkins

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**BOOO!**

  Find us on X  
"HighPointAcade5"

 Find us on Facebook  
"HighPointAcademy"

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# College and Careers

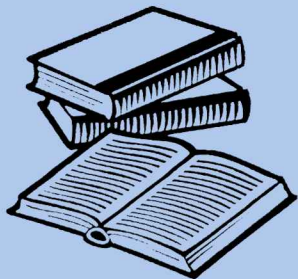
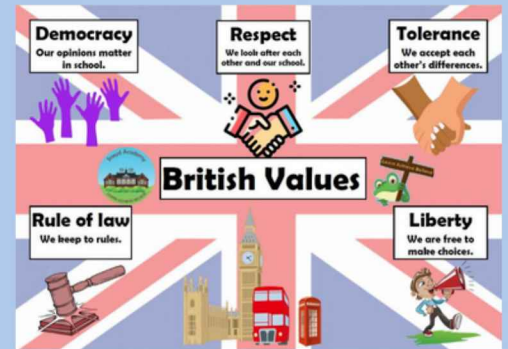


Key Stage 4 pupils have begun their studies at Walsall College, and those who are attending are well on their way to achieving their qualifications.

Our Year 10 are completing a unit on British Values as part of their Employability Entry Level Certificate. It has been a pleasure to see them engaging positively with college staff and taking part in team building activities.

Our Year 11 pupils who have returned to college have been able to focus on one area, from Life Skills, Gardening, Cooking, Care and Performing Arts – don't worry if you didn't get your first choice, it'll be all change again at Christmas.

We are so proud of how our learners have interacted with those from other schools within their group.



“Can we also mention Buraima as being the most enthusiastic reader at High Point this half term - always can be seen with a book in his hand - at break time, lunch and when transitioning to lessons.”

Also we have 2 'Readers of the half term' who have read the highest number of words.

They are:

Noah - 71,452 words  
Jude- 69,946 words.



Here are the students who have achieved 100% in a quiz this half term:

- Ilyas
- Lucas
- Oliver
- Jayden
- Sofija
- Kacper
- Paul
- Ryan
- Aston-Lee
- Liam
- Rohan
- Kye
- Olivia
- Dylan

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# TTRS & ClassDojo



“The children have really taken up the challenge and made huge progress with Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS). Every week the children are scoring higher and higher with so many of them are being rewarded with certificates and prizes during praise assembly.

There is a tremendous buzz about TTRS and this is wonderful to see. Every class is given a twice weekly opportunity to access TTRS and their response has been nothing short of amazing. Please continue to access this at home.”



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# What's New



*New  
Open!*

We have recently had our brand new playground installed By Creative Play.

Our Trim Trail has been designed with support from our Occupational Therapist along with our student council.

Pupil who achieved 100% attendance this half term will be the first to try out the equipment.

## Food Technology Contributions



The Food Technology contributions is now available on the 'MyChildAtSchool' app.

We ask for a contribution of £1.50 per week to support the purchase on the ingredients.

We thank you for your continued support to enable us to offer this weekly on the timetable.

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# Connector News



It's been an extremely busy start to the Autumn term for all our Connector classes.

Firstly, could I extend a warm welcome to all our new pupils and their families from 1C.

It has been lovely to see so many new smiling faces at High Point Academy. The first half term can feel a little bit overwhelming for pupils returning from the long summer holidays, but I am proud of how our Connector Phase has settled back into life at High Point. Well done everyone!

I have the privilege of leading our Praise Assemblies on a Friday morning. It's been wonderful to witness our teachers presenting so many awards and certificates to pupils in the Connector phase. We also have a fantastic prize trolley in Praise Assembly, so if your child returns home with a small prize it means they really have had an extra special week!

On Friday 27th October, everyone in school will be participating in our very first WOW Day of this academic year.

Our first WOW day will be celebrating everything to do with the Black Country. Each form will be investigating and researching a particular Black Country town. At the end of the day, we will all come together in the hall to share our learning and hard work.

Have a wonderful half term break and I look forward to seeing everyone after our well-deserved holiday.

Take care all,

Mr Waterhouse  
Phase Leader - Connectors



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# Developer News



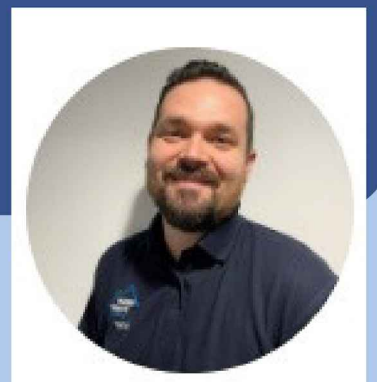
We have had an incredible first half term in Developers. I am very proud of all the pupils who have settled back into school after the long summer break. I want to give a special well done to all our new year 7 pupils who have joined our High Point family. As staff we have really enjoyed getting to know them and we are all excited to see the progress they will make at High Point Academy.

Pupils in class 1D have settled very well into class and have enjoyed learning about properties of shapes in Maths and taking part in all about me lessons in PHSE. In class 2D pupils have really enjoyed studying Charlie and the chocolate factory and learning about changing materials in Science. In class 3D pupils have been learning all about the Vikings in their topic lessons. Pupils created Viking armour and sailed on a Viking ship in our Sensory room.

During the 8 weeks we have had lots of engaging and fun special events. We had an amazing day taking part in our Water cycle workshops ran by South Staffordshire water. The pupils created models and learned about where our drinking water comes from. Pupils in Developers have also been learning about money and some classes went to the local shops to buy products and some pupils spent money in our own High Point spooky Halloween shop.

I hope that you all enjoy your holiday, and we are all looking forwards to welcoming you back After the break.

Mr Turrell  
Phase leader – Developers



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## 1C

1C have had a great start to their journey at High Point Academy, making lots of friends with each other, and the older children as well. We have been settling in well, and learning all about the High Point way. We have really got stuck into our lessons, with some of us experiencing Food Technology, Design Technology and Forest School for the first time.

In English, we have been looking at autobiographical writing. We were able to sit in groups, and talk to our peers about ourselves, such as the things we like and dislike. We looked at an extract from Roald Dahl's 'Boy', where we were able to read about the sweet shop, and the practical joke that the boys played on the terrible Mrs Pratchett.

In Maths we have been covering lots of different topics, including time, 4-digit addition, and working on our calculator skills. This has been more of an exercise to see what pupils have already learnt in primary school, and what they remember. It's clear to see that we have plenty of mathematicians amongst our group.

In Food Technology we have been looking at safety and good hygiene practice in the kitchen. 1C were the first group to get stuck into a practical of making honey cakes for their first lesson, whereas other classes had looked at health and safety first. The group have been extremely sensible, which is excellent to see when they are working away. And no one has shied away from the washing up (yet)!

We have also looked at health and safety in Design Technology. All pupils know that safety in the workshop is extremely important. Especially as so many pupils have never operated any tools before. We ensure pupils are wearing the correct PPE, and they adhere to the classroom rules. They have begun by using a vice to secure a piece of wood, and then sanding it down, which is harder than it looks if we're not holding the sanding block correctly.



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## 2CC

2CC have had a lovely first half term. We are really enjoying our new timetable including drama, forest school and PE.

We are looking forward to our Wow day on the last day of term which will be all about local history.

Here is a taster of what we have been doing:

### English.

In English this term we have been reading *Romeo and Juliet*. We have read the play and looked deeper into the relationship between the Montagues and the Capulets. We have also used the events in the play to write our own newspaper article.

We have also spent some time trying to improve our use of capital letters and full stops.



### Maths

In Maths this term we have been working on our addition and subtraction skills. We have been working with up to 4-digit numbers both with and without exchanging. We have also been working on problem solving. This has involved reading a worded question, picking out the relevant information and deciding what we need to do with that information to find the right answer. Word problems have included adding, subtraction, multiplication and division.

### Science.

In science we have been investigating the human digestive system. We have looked at the function of the digestive system and what happens to the food we eat.

We have also looked at the properties of the food we eat. What foods are good or bad for us and which foods give us energy.

Food Technology

In food tech we have looked at food linked to special festivals. We have also practised our practical skills by cooking basic biscuits, cornflake cakes and pizzas to mention a few. We have been trying to improve our cleaning up skills, we still have some work to do on this!

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## 5C

We've had a busy few weeks to the start of our GCSE year and have been looking forward to sharing our news with you.

### Nova Training

During October, NOVA training attended our PSHE lesson to talk to the students about the Post-16 options that they offer at their centres in Sandwell. After the talk, the students were given the task of which team could build the highest tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows. It was a messy job and there was a little bit of cheating when one student, (who will remain nameless), thought they could win by sticking the marshmallow and spaghetti to the ceiling.



### MacMillan

As part of their Food Technology Award, 5C organised a Macmillan coffee morning. They made posters and baked cakes and raised money towards Macmillan Cancer Support.



### Design Technology

5C have started DT lessons and are working towards their Entry Level 3 in Creative, Media and Performance and have been learning how to measure, cut and sand wood; how to use a cordless drill, hammer nails and put in screws. They are progressing well and learning how to safely use these new skills.

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## 3C

Welcome to 3C's first Newsletter in Year 9. All students have settled well and enjoyed seeing their friends again this half term.

In Food Tech, 3C have enjoyed making a variety of different foods such as, biscuits, cornflake cakes and quiche. Although many were not keen when we made rice pudding.



3C are showing great interest in the novel 'Lord of the Flies' in English. They have been able to imagine what it would be like for themselves if they were stranded on an island and have created some excellent character descriptions.

In P.E we have been reinforcing their team building skills. They have taken part in various assault courses, sometimes even blindfolded.



Science has been very interesting as the students have been involved in experiments and demonstrations that help to explain the meanings of Conduction and Convection. This topic is very tricky but we are very proud of 3C for their perseverance and continuous effort. Well Done!



Mr Waterhouse has been teaching 3C many life skills in DT that include safety in DIY and know how to put together and use different drill bits.



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## 1D

We hope that newsletter gives you an insight into what we have been doing with your children at the start of their Highpoint Journey. Please enjoy the read and we look forward to seeing and communicating with you more. We wish you all a Happy Half Term.

### English

During our first half term at Highpoint we have looked at two stories in English. We have read and researched 'The Ugly five' and 'The Baddies'. We have also created sentences using capital letters and Full stops. The pupils were able to describe what was happening in various scenes during the stories and enjoyed reading with their peers.

Reading: we ask that you actively encourage your child to read at home- This can be books, magazines and much more. When your child completes their reading book at School they will complete a short quiz about the book. If they get 100% they will receive a certificate.

### Science

In Science pupils have looked at materials. We have looked at different materials, where they come from and whether they are man made or naturally made. The pupils have conducted an experiment around school to locate various materials and what they are or have been used for.

### Food Technology

In our Food Technology lessons we have looked at pastry's and eggs. We hope you have enjoyed tasting the foods made by the pupils. We will be making more yummy treats for you over time.

### Maths

Since starting at Highpoint we have been completing baseline activities. We have completed number bonds, number lines, shapes, patterns and more recently- Money. The pupils have enjoyed all activities and we have been able to create such fun and interactive lessons for them.

Times Tables Rockstars: we actively ask you to encourage your child to complete some time on Timetables Rockstars when at home if possible. If they score a certain amount they will receive a certificate. We have sent logins via Dojo to parents and carers. Please ask if you need any further support.



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**2D**  
2D have had fantastic first half term back at High Point Academy!

## Maths

In Maths we have been recapping and revisiting maths strategies for addition and subtraction. We have continued to strengthen our Number bonds knowledge. 2D have been working hard to develop independence and confidence to complete our maths tasks.

## English

In English our focus has been The Wonderful World of Roald Dahl. We have been reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Georges Marvellous Medicine. The pupils have been very enthusiastic and have enjoyed listening to and reading the stories.



## Other Activities

Science – Our topic this half term has been changing materials. We have completed lots of experiments involving melting ice and freezing water. We have melted chocolate. We have even investigated waterproof materials; students completed an experiment choosing materials to keep teddy dry. We then wore waterproof clothing and went onto the playground where Miss Joyce sprayed pupils with the hosepipe. Luckily, we learned waterproof means water stays out.

Art – The students have been studying aboriginal artwork. They have created different aboriginal symbols throughout this half term and are now ready to transfer these skills into creating their own didgeridoo.

Computing – 2D have been learning about E-Safety and how to stay safe online. They have made their own instructional video and Power Point Presentation highlighting key facts.

D.T – 2D have been getting reacquainted with the D.T workshop and the different tools. We have recapped how to stay safe and enjoy D.T.

Food Technology – Our focus this half term has been bread. The pupils have taste tested different types of bread and have identified their favourite. We have made bread dough and bread rolls. We have practiced our buttering skills and making toast.

South Staffordshire Water Visit – 2D have taken part in a water conservation workshop. Students have learned about the water cycle and how to reduce water waste.

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## 3D

We have had a busy and fun half term.

In English we have been reading Mr Stink by David Walliams. We created our own acrostic poem, described the main characters and formed our own sentences about the events of the story. All pupils then started to read the book, Super worm. We focussed on using capital letters and punctuation whilst writing about features of the book cover.

In maths we used number lines to help us add and subtract. Using number lines and number squares helps us to solve maths problems. We are now learning about UK coins and recognising the value of denominations. 3D are practising with real coins to help solve mathematical problems by counting in 2s, 5s and 10s.



In science we have done lots of fun experiments this term. All pupil's made their own predictions about whether materials would sink or float. We then carried out the experiments and compared our results. We hope you all have a nice half term, from everyone in 3D

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## 2C

This autumn term 2c have settled very well into the new academic year with their new support group staff.

PE: This term in Pe 2C have been focusing their skills on net games such as tennis, badminton, and volleyball. They have been learning the different techniques and rules of each net game and implementing their knowledge into successful friendly competitive games against one another. Their skills have improved, and they have showed their skill progression during each Pe lesson. They have been able to prove they know the different throws such as a 'set' in volleyball and how to and how not to serve in badminton. They have really enjoyed these lessons and are always eager to play matches in teams and show great teamwork communication within their groups.



Science: In science 2C have been studying nutrition and have focused mainly on carbohydrates and the digestive system. They have been able to carry out a few practical experiments and extracted nutritional information on the back of food packages onto tables. They have been able to describe the process food takes within our bodies and how the journey ends.

English: This term 2C have been really engaged in their English lesson studying and watching Shakespeare Romeo and Juliet. To begin with they studied Shakespearian history and language by exploring Shakespearian insults and they were able to write their own and share them with the class which they enjoyed. They have also been reading the play out loud as a class sharing the character roles and dissecting each character's importance as well as comparing the play to the modern version film.



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## 4C

4C have got off to a fantastic start in Design & Technology this half term. The children have sparked an interest in using an automatic drill and have used their knowledge along with support and guidance to drill screws/nails into wood materials. The students have started to complete coursework as evidence of this, and they will gain a certificate as the outcome. They will also be completing other topics throughout the year to add to their coursework to achieve the highest grade possible.

Well Done 4C, we are very proud of your enthusiasm and hard work! KEEP IT UP!

We've had so much fun taking part in PE this half term. The students have been participating in 'Inclusive Sports'. Year 10 found it to be a fantastic and enjoyable experience for them all. These activities are not only fun but also incredibly beneficial. 4C have participated in sports including 'blanket ball, boccia, curling and blind football'.

As part of the year's curriculum, 4C have started to take the first steps into their Entry Level Examinations in English, Science and Maths.

For English, the students have already been practising mock papers (and knocking our socks off with how fantastic their results have been!), going over their persuasive writing and practical English skills.

In Science they've been engaging with exciting practical experiments to do with Cells and how the body turns food into energy. This included watching our resident scientist Mrs Liscott light different types of crisps on fire to see which ones burned the hottest! We have been very impressed by the students' work so far, and are excited to see where their hard work pays off!

Wishing everyone a happy and safe half term!

# Term Dates



High Point Academy follows Sandwell Local Authorities term dates.	
Autumn Term	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	Term Starts
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	School opens for pupils
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	School Closes for Half term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	School opens for pupils
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023	End of Term School Closes for pupils at 1:00pm
Spring Term	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Term Starts
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	School Opens for pupils
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	School Closes for Half term
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	School Re-opens
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024	End of Term
Summer Term	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	Term Starts
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School Opens for pupils
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	School Closed – Bank Holiday
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	School Closes for Half term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	School Re-opens
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	School closed for pupils Morning - New pupil Induction Sept 2024 Afternoon - Existing pupils learning discussion
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	End of Term. School closes for pupils at 1:00pm

Staff Training Days
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June

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