



HIGH POINT ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1 2024

Welcome to the latest edition of High Point Newsletter, we'll be taking a look at what our classes have been up to over the first half of the Spring term. But first a note from our Headteacher, Mrs Kulyk:

A NOTE FROM OUR HEAD TEACHER...

This half term has been short but exciting.

I have loved seeing all the pupils enjoying their time at our annual residential. We are hoping to offer day and night residential places to enable more pupils to potentially attend next year.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our well-being and gaming WOW day focussing on internet and gaming safety along with learning about the history of gaming.

I am looking forward to welcoming our school dog Farla to High Point next half term. If you haven't completed the reply slip for us about the school please can you send back during the first week after half term.

I am looking forward to hosting a Makaton awareness for our family next half term. Please let reception know if you'd like to join us to learn all about Makaton.

As always I want to thank all of our High Point families for their continued support throughout this half term and wish you all an amazing break. We looking forward to welcoming all the pupils back on Monday 19th February.

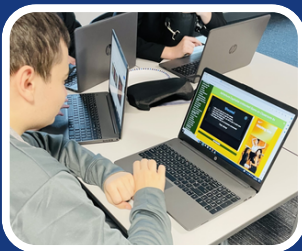
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OUR GAMING WOW DAY

As part of Internet Safety week and Children's Mental Health week pupils across the school have been learning all about how to stay safe online and also whilst taking part in online gaming. Pupils have learnt about who they go to report concerns.

During our WOW day the focus was 'Pupil choice' the student council suggested a gaming focus, so we combined learning about the history of gaming throughout the decades and how technology has impacted on the development of gaming. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed experiencing 'old fashioned' gaming platforms and understanding the importance of healthy gaming.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Has your child had a great experience at our school recently that you'd like to tell us about? Or maybe one of our teachers has gone above and beyond to help them?

Our student's parents and families are an integral part of our school community and your opinion of us matters! If you have some feedback on our school we'd like to hear from you!

Please email with your name and comments to: enquiry@highpoint.fet.ac.

You can also leave a review online: [here](#)

RESIDENTIAL AT WHITMORE LAKES

This week our wonderful pupils have been on our annual residential at Whitmore Lakes. This is open to all pupils of both pathways and year groups.

They have had an amazing time and joined in with some incredible activities.

We are super proud of them all.

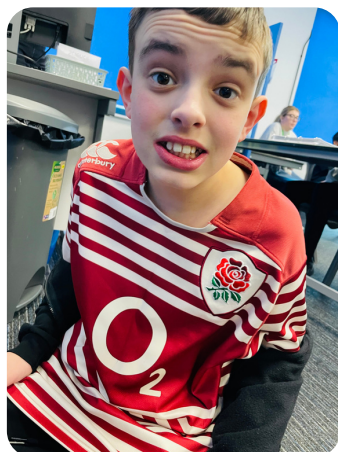


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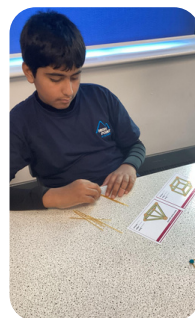
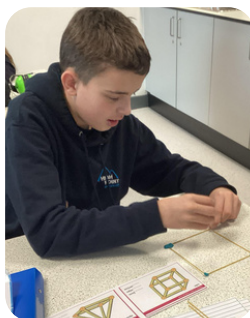
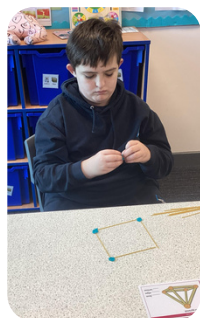
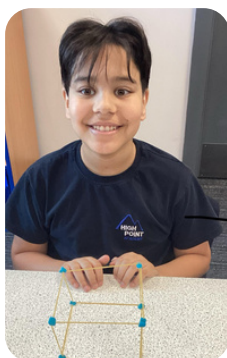


AMAZING MATHS & NUMBER DAY

We celebrated NSPCC's Number Day on 2nd February. It was great to see you all wearing numbers and taking part in maths challenges. Well done to everybody for your hard work and your kind donations to this important cause.



Students have been doing fantastic work with maths this half term. Here are some of them learning about 3D shapes:



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ATTENDANCE

We have seen some unfortunate and unavoidable illnesses affect some pupils this term; this is often unavoidable at certain points of the year. We really appreciate the support and concern from many families regarding their child's attendance, while having taken time off from school.

We continually praise and reward our pupils for their excellent attendance throughout the weeks and terms during praise assemblies and with Diamond time.

We also have started to celebrate pupils with much improved attendance to celebrate the pupils who are trying very hard with their own attendance.

We would like to praise a pupil who (unavoidably) has not been able to attend school for a considerable amount of time but is now accessing their lessons online and engaging, progressing and shining like we know they capable of, attending 100% of their lessons since we returned in January, we are all so proud of this amazing young person.

SAFEGUARDING

We have had a continued focus on online safety in school through PSHE, ICT and home through information shared on dojo.

The last week of term was Childrens Mental Health Week, we want our focus on this topic to continue throughout the year and will be introducing some wellbeing interventions in the new term.

We have now introduced child friendly versions of our safeguarding policy a version for both Developers and Connectors. Our school council members have approved the content, and they will be displayed in classrooms after half term.

Part of our more child centred and friendly approach to policies is the introduction of orange lanyards - worn by the members of staff who make up the safeguarding team, these highlight these staff members for both children and visitors.

CLASS NEWS - 1C

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the term ends, we would like to share with you some things that 1C has been doing during this term at High Point. 1C get to enjoy a range of lessons from English and maths to food technology, art and many more lessons they enjoy. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and hopefully this is a little insight to what your children are doing in school time.

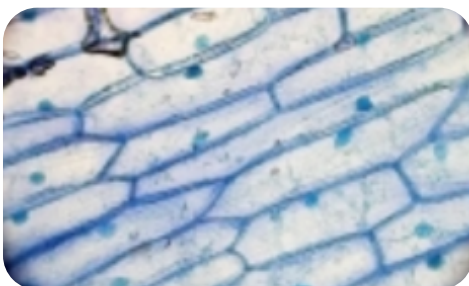
Food Technology - In food technology 1C have been making various foods ranging from muesli to pancakes and jam tarts. They have been learning a range of skills from doing their own washing up to being independent when getting their own ingredients to working as a team when making and baking their foods. 1c's recent creations are pancakes and jam tarts. YUM!



Art - In art 1C has been learning about POP art. Pop art is an art movement that emerged in the 1950s and flourished in the 1960s in America and Britain, drawing inspiration from sources in popular and commercial culture. Diverse cultures and countries contributed to the movement during the 1960s and 70s. Roy Lichtenstein. 1C have been learning all about ben-day dots and have also been making some of their own pop art using their names and including the ben-day dots all around them.



English - In English 1C have been learning to write persuasive adverts. They have also been learning how different writers use persuasive techniques in adverts. They have been using skills to answer what, how and why questions and persuasive adjectives and other unique features used to persuade the reader. They have been using comprehension texts and picking out key information that makes that piece of text and advert. 1C have been amazing at writing their own adverts and they have really enjoyed it.



Science - In science 1C have been learning about cells and have also been looking at cells through a microscope. 1C have been using onion skin to look at all the cells in a single piece of skin, they have also been learning all the different steps they need to prepare the onion skin on the slide to go under the microscope.

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CLASS NEWS - 1D

English - We have been learning about rhyming words and rhyming poems in English since coming back after our Christmas holidays. The children have enjoyed rhyming words and we have used Dr Seuss poems to help us along the way.

Maths - We have been up practicing our timetables. Please access Timestable Rockstars at home with your young person. Log ins have been sent via Dojo messages.

Science - We have learnt about light and how to protect our eyes. We have made protective glasses and labelled eyes.

DT & Art - In DT we have made Thaumatrope and in Art we have learnt about Roy Lichtenstein and his POP art work.

RE - In RE we have studied Judaism- You can view your young person's work on Parents evening in March- (More details to follow).

PE - In PE we have concentrated on team games. We have been working in teams to play games such as dodgeball- This is definitely a firm favourite in 1D.

Life Skills - We have looked at cleaning. The pupils have tested the Hoover and wiped over the sides in the classroom. Please send us any pictures of your children helping you out at home!



It has been a short Half Term but we wish you all a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you for the second half of Spring Term. School reopens on Monday 19 th February 2024.

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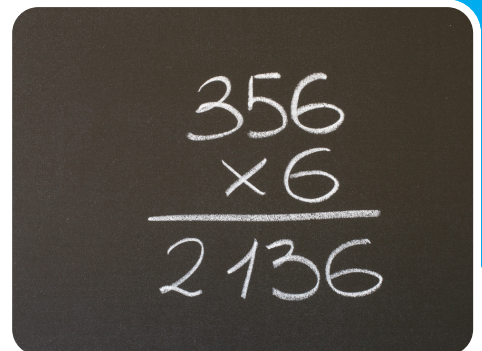
CLASS NEWS - 2C

English - This half term 2C has been focusing on gothic fiction, creating their own stories week by week. They have been learning the meaning of gothic language, gothic settings and what the differences are between horror and gothic. We have merged all our parts together on the computer to make one consecutive story. These stories are all excellent, improving their ability to write stories in preparation for their later years.

Humanities - 2C has been learning about the Roman Empire in Britain. They have looked at the different techniques for attacking and defending themselves in battle to make them a formidable army. They looked at what things they brought to Britain such as roads, building types and many fruits we all love today.



Maths - This half term 2C have been mainly focusing on different methods to make long multiplication and division easier to complete. This includes numbers with 3 digits! They have moved onto fractions and how to simplify them, extend them, make them into mixed numbers as well as how to add, subtract, times and divide them.



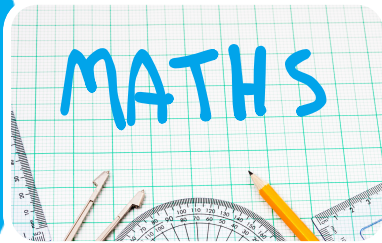
Forest School - Our focus in forest school has been around fire. All students have tried and successfully built and lit a fire with teachers, as well as enjoying the outdoors. They have embraced the outdoors, doing everything without any technology. Their favourite part of the lesson is arguably the hot chocolate and marshmallows they get at the end of the lesson while socialising with peers around their fire they spend the whole lesson building and keeping alive.

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CLASS NEWS - 2CC

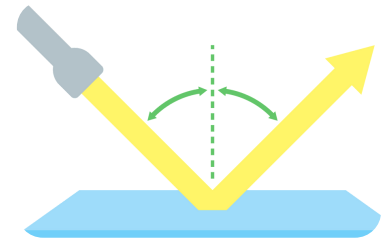
This half term, though short has been an amazing one for 2CC!

English - In English, 2CC have been learning about spooky stories, creating their own storyboards and giving excellent examples of spooky settings.



Maths - In Maths, 2CC have been learning about the area and perimeter of shapes and have excelled in that.

Science - In Science, the students have been learning about the refraction of light using mirrors.



Since the decision was made to remain in class and cut short the transitions to other lessons, 2CC have shown that they are very good at working as a team, enjoy group work and the benefits of staying in class have shown tremendously.

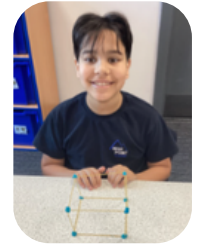
Overall, it has been a very positive half term for 2CC and we are so proud of their progress and can't wait for them to come back in a week!

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CLASS NEWS - 2D

Hello to all our parents and carers! 2D have had a wonderful half term at High Point Academy!

Maths - In maths we have been exploring 3D shapes. We have made models of our favourite 3D shapes out of pasta and playdough. We have identified faces, edges and vertices. 2D are excellent shape builders.

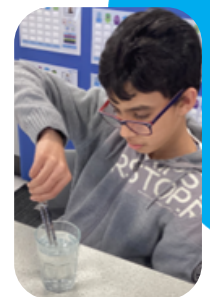


English - In English our focus has been on poems. 2D have written beautiful acrostic poems about Springtime using beautiful, descriptive language.

Science – In science we have completed lots of experiments to investigate what sound is and how it travels. We have concluded that sound is a vibration that travels to our ears. 2D had lots of fun experimenting with 100's & 1000's and seeing how they bounce when we hum. We have also completed an experiment. We hit a tuning fork on the table and then held it in the water to see how the vibrations make the water dance. 2D have enjoyed being super scientists this half term.



Art – In Art, pupil's have been practicing their pencil control. They have been exploring light sources and shading. We have learned different ways to hold the pencil depending on what we want to draw. 2D have created some amazing artwork this half term.



D.T – During D.T pupil's have been exploring different superheroes and have been working to create their very own superhero puppet. Pupil's have completed the design brief and have cut their pieces of wood to size. The next step will be assembling our puppets. 2D are very excited to finally finish their puppets.



Food Technology – We have been focussing on our basic baking skills. We have done lots of measuring and mixing. Lots of egg breaking and using everyday utensils. 2D have made delicious cakes. We hope you got to sample some at home. We are very proud of our Master Chefs!

Life Skills – Our focus this half term has been cleaning. We made a shopping list of different cleaning products and went on a trip to Lidl to buy them. We have used our new cleaning products lots to clean our tables and our mugs when we have made and enjoyed a hot chocolate.



R.E – We have been learning about Christianity. We have made our own stained-glass windows. We are very excited about our visit to Saint Francis Church.

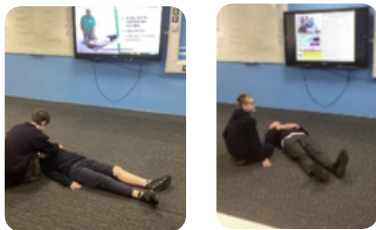
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CLASS NEWS - 3C

Welcome to our first Newsletter of 2024! We have enjoyed helping 3C settle back into their school routine and look forward to the exciting events we have planned for the year ahead. Although, it has been a short half-term it has also been a busy one, but we are all ready for fun and learning.

English - In English the students have finished the topic of Media/Magazines and have produced some amazing work. They have now moved on to the play 'Macbeth', where the students have enjoyed choosing different roles to read out in class and are looking forward to acting out some scenes next term.

PE - 3c's topic in P.E has been Gymnastics, the boys have been learning about different stretches and mobility exercises, as well as having their weekly wellbeing sessions which include going outdoors, using the trim trail and doing Albion Foundation which they enjoy very much.



PSHE - PSHE has been an in-depth and informative topic where 3c are learning about 'Conception and Safe Sex'. We do expect a small level of silliness when starting these types of topics from the 3c boys, however, the boys have shown a great level of maturity and interest during the lessons. We are now moving onto a different topic learning about basic First Aid, the boys have participated well and have done some great work so far.

Food Technology – This term in Food Tech the topic has been about 'Fast Foods'. The 3c boys have been cooking healthy alternatives to fast foods such as, 'easy bake pizza' and been learning about what fast foods are and what the alternatives are. Also, the boys have been making foods related to religious festivals and celebrations such as, 'Strawberry Tarts' for Valentines Day.



HPA - Our HPA sessions have been about telling the time, we have been using miniature clocks, although some of the students have found it more challenging than others, 3c have supported each other with these activities and have done incredibly well and have shown great improvement and knowledge.

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CLASS NEWS - 3D**Hello there from 3D**

All pupils have enjoyed learning lots of new topics this term.

English - We started off the term with learning about past and present verbs. 3D then did work on why it is important to use capital letters and full stops in our writing.

Pupils are now working on rhyming words, and how to recognise and input these rhyming words in a sentence. We are having so much fun exploring limerick poems and finding funny sentences.

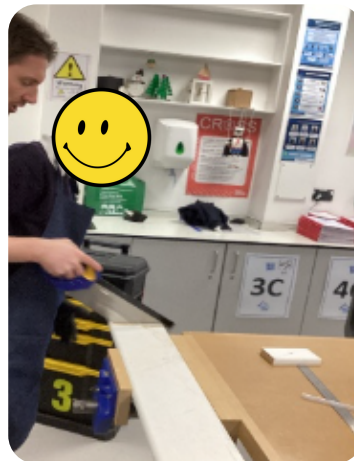
Maths - 3D have been learning to solve subtraction equations using practical resources. This helps pupils to visionise how to solve the problem.

Pupils are now looking at identifying lines of symmetry and describing the properties of 2d shapes.

They are also using mirrors in class to further their knowledge on the lines of symmetry.

Design and Technology - 3D staff are very proud of all pupils and their wonderful efforts in our DT lessons.

Pupils have been working on making a mechanical cam working wooden toy. They are practising their sawing skills very carefully as well as designing how they want it to look.



Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely half term.

From all 3D staff

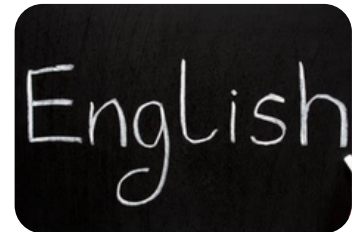
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CLASS NEWS - 4C

Hello there parents and carers,

4C have had a really busy start to 2024, as we are now starting to prepare for Entry Level qualifications. The exams will take place in May, so we are working hard across all subjects to complete any coursework during lessons, which will be put forward towards the qualifications that they can achieve. We are working on past exam papers to check on our current knowledge and see which areas we need to continue working on.

In **English**, the pupils have had the opportunity to create a speaking and listening piece, where they have been able to talk about how we as humans are damaging our planet. We have also been given the opportunity to research this, and research ways that we can prevent the destruction of the earth, and this was then discussed as a whole class. We have been able to write a piece of descriptive writing, showing our grammatical knowledge.



In **Maths**, the majority of pupils have completed the initial assessment in school that goes towards their final marks for their entry level qualification. Pupils who have not yet completed this section will have the opportunity to do so at a later date if they wish.



Due to coursework, we have only done one practical in our **Food Technology** lessons so far. We had the opportunity to make jam tarts from scratch. The pupils who participated did everything independently, and the finished products looked amazing. We hope you managed to try some at home, if your young person didn't eat them all before they got home.

In our **HPA** sessions, we have begun to look at how to open a bank account, and the differences between different types of bank cards and their uses, such as debit, credit and cash cards. We will soon be looking at how to write a CV and cover letter. If there is any topic you feel would benefit your young person from learning about for the big wide world, please don't hesitate to let us know. Have a wonderful half term break!

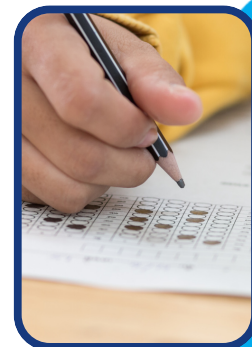
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CLASS NEWS - 5C

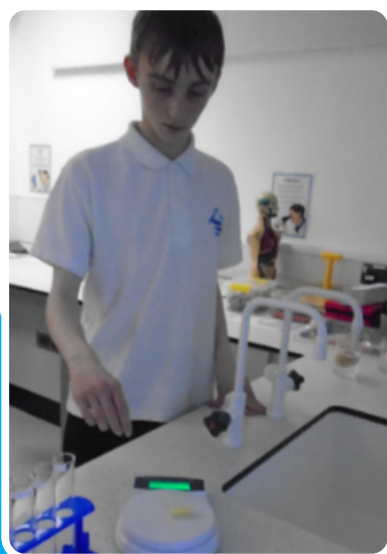
Dear Parents and Carers,

As we draw to the end of another half term, I cannot believe how fast the weeks are flying by. It has been an incredibly busy five weeks, with so much to be proud of and celebrate as this newsletter goes on show! I have been blown away by 5C's hard work, performance, and enthusiasm. It's been five full weeks of fantastic learning experiences and opportunities for both the children and the staff.

GCSE Mock Exams - Year 11 have now completed their mock exams for the core subjects... Maths, English and Science. The students have been using flash cards to help with consolidation and testing of knowledge. Mocks are a good starting point as it gives the students an insight of what to expect on 'Exam Day'. One reason why mock exams are important is that they give you an opportunity to practise what will happen on exam day without actually having it count towards your final grade. A huge well done to them all for their positive attitude and resilience throughout. We are super proud of you.



Design & Technology - Yet another action packed five weeks during Design & Technology this half term. The students have started their preparation to design and make a storage box which will go towards their accreditation at the end of the year. This could be a box to store personal belongings, jewellery or even stationary. The students have completed a design brief which outlines what they want their product to be like. They've completed a design specification which lists the criteria that the product needs to address and even drew 2D and 3D sketches of what their end result will look like.



Science - During the last five weeks, the students have completed two practical experiments. One of which will go towards their Science GCSE. They worked as a team to get a clear understanding of the apparatus and techniques that will be used throughout the experiment. The first experiment was observing onion cells under the microscope. The method for this experiment was as follows - Use a drop of food colouring, stain the layer so you can see the cells. Pop a cover slip on the slide and then put the slide onto the microscope. Take a look! The second experiment that the children participated in were 'investigating osmosis in potatoes'. In a nutshell the students placed potato cylinders into different concentrations of sucrose solution. Depending on the water concentrations in the solutions, the potato cylinders will gain or lose mass due to osmosis taking place.

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TERM DATES

Spring Term Dates

- Monday 8th January - Staff Training Day
- Tuesday 9th January - School Opens for all pupils
- Friday 9th February- School Closes for Half Term
- Monday 19th February - School Reopens
- Friday 22nd March - End of Term

Summer Term

- Monday 8th April- Staff Training Day
- Tuesday 9th April - School opens to all pupils
- Monday 6th May - School Closed - Bank Holiday
- Friday 24th May - School Closes for Half Term
- Monday 3rd June - School opens to all pupils
- Monday 24th June - School closed to all pupils
- Friday 19th July - End of Term School Closes at 1pm

Home Learning

Check out all of these home learning opportunities for our pupils. Please contact your child's form tutor via Dojo for further information.

The logo for myON, featuring the word 'myON' in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font.The logo for NUMBOTS, featuring the word 'NUMBOTS' in a colorful, blocky, uppercase font with a metallic texture.The logo for TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS, featuring the words 'TIMES TABLES' in blue and 'ROCK STARS' in pink, with a black starburst background.

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