



HIGH POINT ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 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 Summer term. But first a note from our Headteacher, Mrs Kulyk:

A NOTE FROM OUR HEAD TEACHER...

What a busy half term it has been here at High Point. We have had the pleasure of hosting a series of pizza making workshops which was so lovely to see twelve of our families come and join us for these sessions. If you missed out on these sessions don't worry we'll be having another one after half term .

We have also had the pleasure of welcoming our beautiful chicks to our High Point family. All the pupils thoroughly enjoyed this experience, we hope to be able to participate in this again next year.

We also had a visit from Ofsted this half term, we are unable to release the outcome at this stage so once we have any further information parents and carers will be the first to know.

I also wish to take the opportunity to congratulate our year 11's as they embark on their next adventure. Study leave starts for our year 11's after half term so they'll only be attending for their exams or revisions sessions. Many of our year 11's joined when the school first opened in September 2021 in year 9. I am so proud of each and every one of you as I know your journey has been tricky at times, but your determination has made you succeed I know that the future is exciting for you all. I want to wish you luck in your exams and know you'll be amazing. Try your best and shine!!!!

I hope that you all have a wonderful break and look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 3rd June.

Mrs Kulyk

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SPOTLIGHT ON...

Each newsletter, our Deputy Head, Mrs Thomas (a.k.a the roving reporter) will interview a member of staff to find out a little more about them. This issue spotlights on..... **Farla our school dog!**

Farla, when did you start at High Point and where did you come from?

I started at High Point in February 2024 as the school dog to help pupils who are feeling sad, I want to talk to someone or who would like to spend some more time with an animal. I want to be there to help them feel happy again.

Tell us something about your home life..

I live at home with my hooman mum (Mrs Kulyk) my hooman brother Noah and my hooman Dad.

What is your favourite....

Food: Doggie biscuits I like to eat twice a day but my favourite food is the occasional prawn cracker

Football Team: I prefer watching cooking on the TV because food looks great!

Film: Marley and Me

If you were a superhero, what superpower would you like?

I have already got a superpower I have a super sense of smell, I can sniff any piece of meat around.

Tell us something we would not know about you already....

I don't like the rain.... Why would any dog like water.

Which do you prefer...

McDonalds or KFC? I'd prefer KFC if mum let me

Summer or Winter? Summer as I get to run around in the long grass and chase the bees

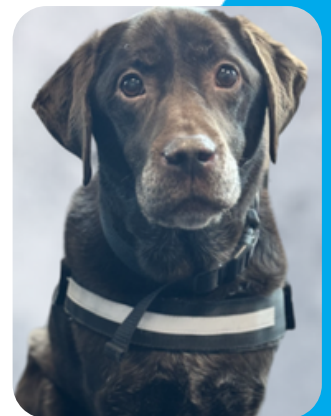
Dogs or Cats? Dogs of course

Flying or sailing? Sailing I love a good boat trip to the Isle of Wight

Tell us about a great moment at High Point for you so far...

One pupil who was super scared of dogs has trusted me to be their dog pal and is learning all about my doggie moves. I promise not all dogs are scary.

Sum up High Point in 3 words: Awesome, friendly and happy.



ATTENDANCE

Spring term has had its attendance challenges for us at High Point but firstly we want to thank all families for their continued support towards their child's attendance. We can't do this without your support.

Attendance at High Point is (and will continue to be) very individualised and we will always look at a variety of options to support families with a pupil's attendance where needed.

Whole school attendance for Term 2 of 23/24 was 86% which is in line with national average of non-mainstream schools and a 1% increase on Term 2 of 22/23.

We are very proud to say we have 37% of pupils at High Point that have attendance of 99 to 100% which is a 6% increase on Autumn term 23/24.

We are now two weeks into summer term and attendance is improved on Spring which is amazing!

SAFEGUARDING

As a school we have secured a partnership with West Bromwich (Community Church) Food Bank. These are big steps forward for us as a school (community) to be able to support

We have introduced our 'Handle With Care' system to allow families to notify us if pupils have had a difficult evening, weekend or holiday.

We had 'wear it green day' on the 16th May during Mental Health Awareness Week. We will always continue to have a focus on wellbeing and mental health awareness throughout the year.

We had our pizza making parent workshop. We are also scheduling further workshops for next academic year; including more awareness focused workshops to support families and pupils.

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PIZZA WORKSHOP

This week we have hosted two pizza making workshops. It was lovely to see our families and enjoy making yummy pizzas!



FAREWELL CHICKS

We said our final goodbyes as the chicks embark on their forever home.

Special thanks to Birmingham silkies for supporting us to make this experience possible.



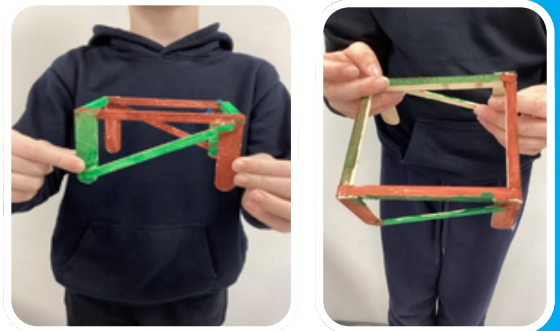
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CLASS NEWS - 1C

English - In English we have been learning about Greek Mythology. We have studied the different Greek Gods and Goddesses and their powers and learned how stories of the Gods were used to keep order in Ancient Greece. We know the differences between creation and quest myths and have created myths of our own using a storyboard app on the computer. We are currently working on a drama performance of 'Theseus and the Minotaur.'

Design Technology - We have had lots of fun in our DT sessions putting our practical skills to use every lesson to build our bird hive which is still ongoing. We have been mastering measuring with the steel rule then ensuring accuracy by marking lines with a tri square. Our general life skills are always being promoted in this lesson by folding our gloves into one another and managing our own safety. Here are some photos of where we are with it so far.



PSHE - During PSHE we have been learning all about voting and elections, we have discussed all the different parties and the process of new laws being finalised. Now we are creating our very own manifestos to support issues we would tackle if we were up for election. One idea that one of our groups came up with is having Futsal/5 aside teams in prisons and making it mandatory to allow prisoners to play football twice a day. This included a party name and logo.

PE - We are already practicing our sports day activities to perfect our skills before the big day next term. Currently we are perfecting our running skills in various relay race games. As well as this we have been racing against time in a slightly different way for PE where we have been reading maps of our school layout to find different signs across the school to improve our communication and teamwork skills in our current topic of orientation.



Chicks - 1C had the pleasure of having the chicks in our class for a whole day. It was so nice to see how therapeutic they have been for us bringing out our caring gentle sides. We also had lots of visits with them while they were here, it was lovely seeing them grow and develop each day. Our class TA Miss Barnsley has a few of them so we are looking forward to updates on them in the future.

CLASS NEWS - 1D

Welcome to 1Ds newsletter,

This term has been slightly different for 1D, as new staff arrived in class at the beginning of term. Along with Mr Turrell, Mrs Woddyatt, Miss Plested and Miss Sheehan joined 1D. We enjoyed our first term in 1D, and we have had lots of fun learning new topics in lessons.

English - Instructions and sequencing - 1D have started an introduction to instructions, they are identifying and describing an instruction. They are working on following and responding to verbal instructions., and they worked alongside peers. They then started to give and follow directional instructions and key words. Pupils are now moving onto imperatives and connectives.

Maths - Addition and subtraction - We are learning how to solve addition and subtraction using resources, such as number squares, and number lines. Pupils used partitioning to answer sums and demonstrated their understanding of partitioning 2 digit numbers. 1D used a variety of methods to work out subtraction formulas.

Science - Forces - This term science has been all about the forces (push and pull). All pupils took part in practical examples of push and pull forces. They can identify what happens to objects when these forces take place. Pupils then started an introduction to gravity and looked at the scientist who discovered gravity – Isaac Newton. Pupils designed a poster including facts about gravity.

Food Technology - Fruits & Vegetables - This term 1D are learning about the importance of fruit and vegetables and taking part in taste tests. We are talking about why we should include healthy foods in our diets, and even made our own fruit smoothie. We then started to design what vegetables we want on our pizzas and had a go at making our own. All pupils enjoyed exploring and tasting a variety of vegetables.



**We hope you all enjoy half term and get a chance to rest and relax.
Many thanks, from 1D staff.**

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CLASS NEWS - 2C

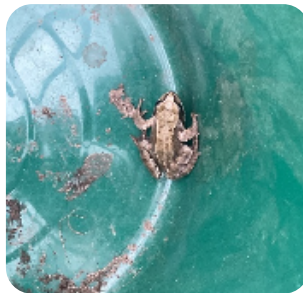
English - This half term 2C have focused on different components of English. We also read about the boy in the striped pyjamas and watched the film. We focused on the parallels of the main characters as well as the similarities. We have recently moved onto travel writing with 2C writing about their holiday destinations they have been to, and they also created a travel brochure to a destination of their choice.

Albion Foundation/ P.E - This half term in Albion foundation 2C have been doing a lot of team games like rounders, cricket and boccia. In P.E 2C have been improving their navigation skills and team building games through a variety of different things like collecting the treasure where the pupils had to collect the equipment in teams and bring it back.

Art - This half term in 2C we have been doing a range of different stories and created their own illustration for them based off stories like here comes the aliens, Mr Gum and we have just started to do the hungry caterpillar.

Forest School - This half term in forest school 2C have been focusing on gardening and going into our Polytunnel and planting a range of different flowers and vegetables and just exploring their outdoor environment.

Design Technology - During this half-term 2C have been creating an Olympic medal using a range of new techniques and will be using the fire writer after half term to engrave their medals.



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CLASS NEWS - 2CC

Welcome to 2cc Summer Term 1!

English - In English, we finished reading the BFG and created our own step by step instruction on how to catch a 'Phizzwizard' (good dream). We really enjoyed this story and will continue to perfect our 'Gobblefunk' language! We have now moved on to travel writing, focusing on recounting a holiday. 2CC have shared their own travel experiences with the class, researched other places in the world to visit, made a travel brochure and have learnt how to write a letter to a Pen-Pal.

Music - Music has been so much fun this half term! We have looked at popular instruments from different countries and listened to traditional music. We learnt all the Djembe drum which originates from Mali and got to practise some call and response rhythms for ourselves.



Science - Science has been very interesting. We have learnt all about the male and female reproductive system and what changes we might experience during puberty. We are very proud of everyone's concentration skills and their maturity during these lessons.



Forest School - In Forest School 2cc have planted a range of different fruit and vegetable seeds and returned to the polytunnel to make sure they are watered and looked after each week.

Art - In Art 2cc have been focusing on illustration and how a good illustrator uses the words on the page to determine what they will draw. They have also been following the illustrator David Tazzyman who illustrates the 'Mr Gum' series and have had a go at copying his style of drawing along with creating their own versions of illustrations.

Finally, as you may already know the school had the pleasure of watching several chicks hatch a grow for a few weeks and 2cc were absolutely, amazing and gentle with the lovely chicks and we witnessed some brave and wholesome moments.



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CLASS NEWS - 2D

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

Maths - In maths we have been learning about position and direction. We have been outside using scooter boards to scoot forwards, backwards, left and right. We have used chalk to draw large clocks on the playground so we can turn clockwise and anti-clockwise. We also completed a scavenger hunt around school using positional language to our partners to direct them which way to go. We had lots of fun!

English - In English our focus has been on Newspapers. We have been learning about the features of a Newspaper, finding interesting articles to share with our friends and we have been conducting interviews with our classmates and Mrs Kulyk. 2D are super journalists.

Science – In science we have been traveling around the Solar System. We have been exploring the planets, sun and moon. We have even made our own rockets to blast off!

Art – In Art, pupil's have been creating illustrations of their favourite children's stories using a range of art mediums, pencil, chalk and paint.

D.T – Pupils have been working with wood; designing, measuring, sawing and drilling to create their own medal. We are very impressed with their woodwork skills.

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 – We have been out visiting different parts of our community. We have been learning about road safety. 2D have been super sensible when crossing the roads. The pupils have really enjoyed their visits to the Café and Lidl and have made us really proud.

R.E – We have been learning about Sikhism. We have made beautiful rangolis and have enjoyed listening to traditional Sikh drumming.

Scarecrows – 2D are taking part in the Scarecrow festival at Forge Mill Farm again this year. We have been busy designing our traditional scarecrow and stuffing old clothes with straw. Don't forget to visit during half term and vote for 2D's scarecrow!



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CLASS NEWS - 3C

Welcome Parents and Carers to 3C's Newsletter, here is a look out at what 3C have been learning and doing this half term in most subjects. Hope you enjoy!



English - This term, 3c's topic has been about 'Poetry', the 3C boys have been reading and looking at different poems based on real life stories from different writers around the world. The boys have worked very hard annotating the poems and having discussions of what each poems mean and how the poems are effective around the world and to the society.

Science - 3c have been learning about Metals and Non-Metals which they have produced some great work on the periodic table and knowing the basic elements on the periodic table. Also, the 3c boys have been doing work on Adaptation and Inheritance where they have been researching and watching videos on.

Maths - the 3c pupils have been working really hard and doing work on Angles, using the protractor and compass to work out questions around angles and charts.

DT - The 3c class have really enjoyed their D.T lessons, they have been making a musical instrument called the 'Kalimba' which is made from wood and other materials. The boys have been working extremely hard on their products and have enjoyed the making of them and are excited for the outcome.

Performing Arts - 3c have been learning about 'Stage Combat', the class have been learning the 5 stages of stage combat and relating it to the film 'West Side Story' where the boys have been looking at different scenes from the film. The 3c boys have really enjoyed and participated well in groups on practising and learning stage combat, they have had much fun creating scenes and using the stages very well.

Food Technology - The 3c class have been cooking and making different types of foods including religious festival related foods such as, spicy rice, chicken curry, green pancakes which was for Neurodiversity week. The boys have enjoyed cooking and learning different techniques and how to make different foods.

PE - We have enjoyed P.E very much this half term, the class have been learning how to play Badminton and the techniques used in Badminton, also the techniques used on how to play Volleyball. The boys have played really well and have got involved in doing these sports and learning the different techniques.



The 3c class have really enjoyed seeing and looking after the cute little guests that Highpoint have had the chicks, they were very gentle and kind towards them. Even more, coming to the end of the half term the boys enjoyed a lot of fun in the sun with a crazy water fight and playing. Thank you.

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CLASS NEWS - 3D**It has been a very fun and productive half term for 3D!**

HPA - During HPA sessions, 3D has learned about a plant's life cycle and what a plant needs to grow and survive. From there, everyone in 3D chose a name for two flowers that they would then plant in the school's polytunnel. The "High Point Flower" and "Sunshine River". Over the course of the past few weeks, 3D has been going out to the polytunnel to water their flowers and have noticed the plant starting to grow.

English - In English, 3D has been learning about postcards through the story of "Meerkat Mail" and what information they might find on one.

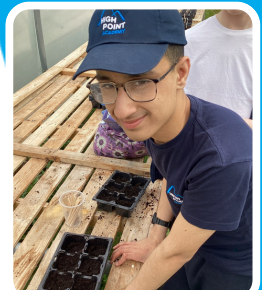
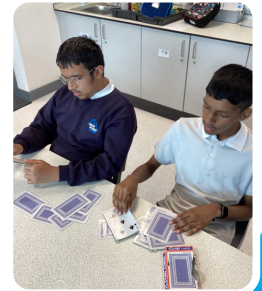
Maths - 3D started off the term with column addition and subtraction and have just moved on to telling the time which they have taken to very well, with the whole class able to tell the time to the hour and some to the half hour.

Science - As always, science has been very fun for 3D! The class have been studying magnetic forces and have been conducting experiments using a magnet trying to separate magnetic and non-magnetic objects throughout school. All students of 3D can list some materials that are magnetic and non-magnetic, and they have taken part very well.

P.E - Has seen 3D learning and playing the sports of badminton and volleyball. In both sports, 3D has learned how to serve, and some can perform a short rally with their partners which has been amazing to see. Every pupil in 3D always tries their absolute best and are always up for the next challenge. Their support staff and teachers are very proud of them.

Design and Technology - 3D has started making their own musical instrument using wood and have been able to use a junior hacksaw and steel rule to measure out and saw the wood. They will be fantastic to see when they're all finished!

Overall, 3D has had an extremely positive half term, and we look forward to welcoming them back for the final leg of our school year.



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CLASS NEWS - 4C

Hello there parents and carers,

This half term 4C have been busy preparing for their entry level exams which we have now completed. This has been a new experience for all of 4C however the pupils have amazed us with their level headed approach and we couldn't be prouder of them. This is being rewarded with a trip to the cafe in 4C style and some doughnuts courtesy of Mrs Kalkat.



Due to completing exams we have been reading the play 'Our day out' by Willy Russell which pupils thoroughly enjoyed. The story follows a group of under privileged children and is set during the 70s in Liverpool. They are taken on a school trip to Wales as part of their curriculum to experience something new. 4C enjoyed taking on the parts of the characters and reading out loud to the class, we then finished this off with watching the film.



In **food Technology** we have been cooking up a storm making Quorn bolognese, Stir fry, Rainbow pancakes and spicy rice. Pupils have impressed us with their willingness to try new things and to top it off have been completing coursework towards their qualification in Hospitality.



Here's to the next half term of the year we wish you all an amazing break!!

4C

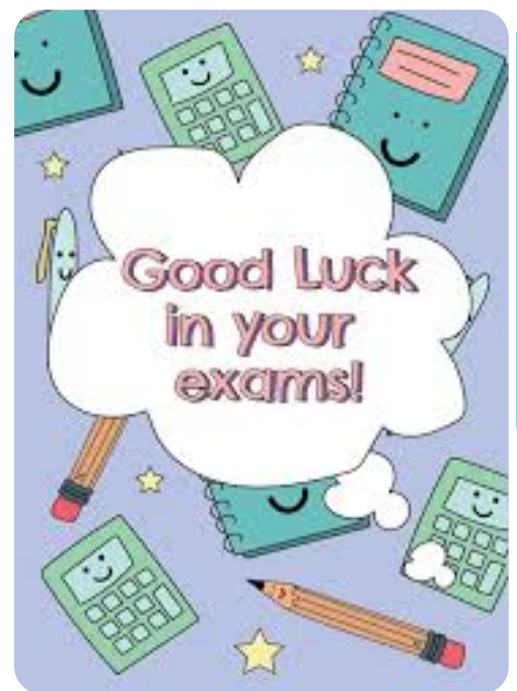
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CLASS NEWS - 5C**What an action packed half term it has been...**

The exam season is upon us, it's time to shine! We can't congratulate 5C enough on their outstanding efforts, dedication and perseverance. We are now entering our final week on full timetables. Every lesson and moment counts, and we are all proud that the students are doing everything in their power to benefit from the additional support that's on offer. As expected, the revision sessions have been a massive success! And the practice papers have proven that the students are capable of great achievements and outstanding results. It's an incredibly busy time for 5C and they are continuing to work extremely hard to embrace the challenges that they will be facing. GCSE examinations have started, so can we ask that you keep our Year 11 pupils in your thoughts and prayers during the examination season.

As we all know, coursework is a key component of many GCSE subjects and as such coursework deadlines are a crucial part of the academic year. Year 11 have gone above and beyond to make sure that their coursework is completed to the highest standard. Students have completed coursework in different subject areas! Physical education, Design and Technology, Food Technology and Computing. Which all go towards another qualification under their belt.

Hope your all have a great half term.



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KEY DATES

Summer Term

- Friday 24th May - School Closes for Half Term
- Monday 3rd June - School opens to all pupils
- Monday 24th June - School closed to all pupils
- 2nd July - Parents Evening
- 3rd July - Trust Awards
- Sports Day- 4th, 11th, 18th July – (Three provisional dates weather dependant)
- Friday 19th July – ACE Awards
- Friday 19th July - End of Term School Closes to all pupils 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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