



HIGH POINT ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2 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 end of the Summer term. But first a note from our Headteacher, Mrs Kulyk:

A NOTE FROM OUR HEAD TEACHER...

What an amazing half term it has been and what a year too. I firstly want to thank all the parents and carers for turning out to cheer our pupils on for their sports day. It was a huge success and I think the ice cream van went down well too.

We hosted our annual Wimbledon afternoon, which in true British style was a wash out, but this didn't dampen our spirits. On the same day five of our pupils went to visit Wimbledon and were given a VIP experience with merchandise and Strawberries and Cream. Massive thank you to the staff team for organising both events.

And certainly not forgetting our amazing Ofsted result. We are still in celebration mode and are so grateful for all the support that parents, carers, pupils and staff have shown over the past twelve months. None of this would have been possible without you all!!!

This is also a difficult time of the year where we have to say goodbye to a familiar face. Mr Sedgwick has been at High Point since September 2022 and has been our Maths teacher. Mr Sedgwick is renowned for his weekly praise assembly runway, gathering all the pupil's high fives before he announces the Timetables Rockstars achievers of the week. Mr Sedgwick will be missed by staff and pupils, and we wish him well on his next adventure!

We have many new faces to welcome in September Mr Murcott will be joining us as the new Maths teacher, Miss Hogan as the new developer teacher. We also welcome back Miss Darby who will be returning from maternity leave, Miss Harper and Mrs Van-Lanker our new Teaching Assistants.

We also have lots to look forward upon our return. We look forward to welcoming our new year seven cohort to High Point. The Birmingham Hippodrome will be visiting us every Wednesday and The Albion Foundation will continue to join us on Monday's.

We hope you all have an amazing summer and look forward to welcoming all our pupils back on Wednesday 4th September.

Mrs Kulyk

Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!



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..... **Mr Winsper!**

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

January 2022 and previous to this I was a factory worker – what a difference eh?!

Tell us something about your home life...

I have a fiancé in America and I enjoy going there as I can at the moment – my favourite part of America other than my fiancé is definitely the food!

What is your favourite....

Food: Cheeseburger

Football Team: WBA

Film: Shrek

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

The ability to fly as my trips to America would be cheaper!

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

I play guitar

Which do you prefer...

McDonalds or KFC? Maccies!

Summer or Winter? Winter

Dogs or Cats? Both!

Flying or sailing? Flying - I get seasick!

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

Santa's grotto! It is just amazing!

Sum up High Point in 3 words: Family - Unique - Fun!

Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!

ATTENDANCE

Summer term attendance of pupils at High Point has improved on Spring so firstly we want to thank all families for their continued support towards their child's attendance. We can't do this without your support.

As we conclude the 23/24 school year, we have improved our overall school attendance by 3% on 22/23 this (although sounding a small number) is a huge achievement! The local authority had set schools a target of a 1% improvement for 23/24

We are very proud to say we have 5 pupils at High Point that have attendance of 100% and a further 35 pupils with an attendance of 95% + which is absolutely amazing! And means 40.8% of our school has 95% + attendance

We also appreciate and acknowledge that some pupils have made huge improvements in their personally attendance

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.

We just want to remind families that any absences need to be reported daily via telephone to the school office. We will be further increasing our communication with families when pupils are absent from school.

We will have a real focus on attendance during the first half term of Autumn term (September) to ensure we can get the best possible attendance of our pupils, this is to ensure the best possible outcomes – socially, emotionally and academically for your child.

We will also continue to reward and celebrate pupils attendance both improved and high attendance through rewards and praise assemblies, diamond time, our bronze, silver, gold pin badges, family raffle

SAFEGUARDING, WELFARE & FAMILY SUPPORT

What a wonderful year we've had with family engagement – craft events to pizza making.

As a school we are working on new ways to increase family engagement and gathering feedback from families, with some new ideas coming out in September.

We will continue to support pupils and families with signposting for services such as CAMHS, Murray Hall and Strengthening Families.

We will have a new timetable of family workshops for the new term. We are also introducing some new parental advice sessions around topics that may help to support pupils at home or raise awareness for families in topics.

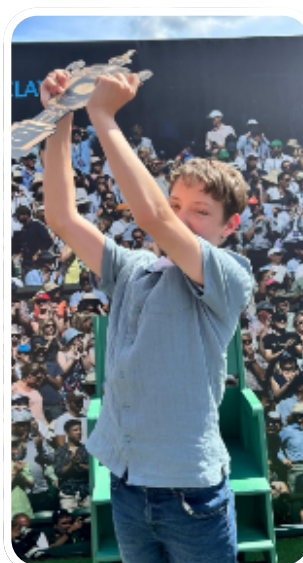
We will continue to work with and educate our pupils around safeguarding and welfare topics – online safety, use of the NSPCC pants initiative, wellbeing and supporting good mental health.

**Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!**



WIMBLEDON AFTERNOON

Our annual Wimbledon afternoon was a big success despite the weather! Five of our pupils went to visit Wimbledon and were given a VIP experience with merchandise and Strawberries and Cream. Thank you to the staff team for organising both events



Ambitious aspirations,
 Challenging the impossible,
 Encouraging independence for all!



BAKE OFF

In pure British bake off style High Point pupils and staff took on the HPA bake off challenge

We received incredible entries and the judges had an amazing time sampling the delicious treats!

Well done to 2CC, our official winners of the High Point Bake Off!



Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!

HAF TAKEOVER

HAF takeover was an a great success! A big thank you to Miss Eardley for all her hard work in organising.

Thank you to everyone who attended!



Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!

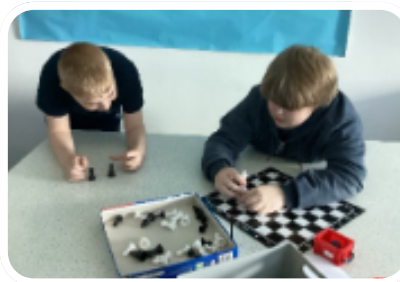
CLASS NEWS - 1C**Parents & Carers**

What a busy 7 weeks we have had! Year 7 students have had an extremely exciting term and have excelled in all elements of their learning. Our first year at High Point is drawing to an end and 1C have made a fantastic start to their High Point journey. It has been a pleasure to witness the year group grow in confidence and spirit. Friendships have formed and students seem to be feeling more at home. I would like to personally thank parents and carers for your continued support during the last 12 months. It is wonderful to be building such strong relationships between both home and school. In this newsletter I wish to highlight some of the wonderful work our year group have been doing and exciting activities that they have been embracing.

Food Technology - Baking offers many opportunities for children to work on their motor skills. Baking is a great all-rounder for learning, from baking to measuring, counting and maths thrown in too, without them even realising it. This half term year 7 took part in 'The Great Highpoint Bake Off'. The students battled against other year groups to try and bake the winning cake. Our fun-filled baking session was the perfect way for the students to team up and enjoy some time together!

Sports Day - On Friday 5th July our school was able to enjoy the much-anticipated Sports Day! Sports Day was back for 2024 and the excitement was high. The atmosphere was electric! Students were buzzing to get started and you could tell that they were passionate about sport. It was an action-packed day and the performances from all events were impressive. Everyone was so excited to see who would take the crown of Sports Day 2024. Sports Day was an amazing event to both participate in and spectate.

St Francis of Assisi Church - Even the youngest of our pupils can get so much out of a visit to a sacred space. The year 7 students visited the St Francis of Assisi Church in Wednesbury. Where they explored the beautiful and symbolic artwork on the walls of the church. Churches are always interesting places to visit, with lots to see and explore. They also took part in a question-and-answer session with the bishop. This brings their topic of Christianity 'to life' and is a wonderful opportunity to develop their knowledge of the religion.



**Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!**

CLASS NEWS - 1D

Welcome to 1Ds newsletter, 1D have had a fun and busy term!

English - 1D have been looking at scripts and identifying the features of a script. Pupils read part of a script and answered questions to do with the script or scene.

They then did some work about their favourite scene and character and explained the reasons why. The whole class then took part in acting out *The Three Little Pigs*. Pupils had fun practicing their acting skills!

Maths - Pupils are working on tally charts this term. The class created their own tally charts and walked around the school collecting data. Then 1D attempted to convert tally data into a pictogram. For the next few lessons, pupils are learning how to draw and interpret bar charts. They are carefully converting data into their own bar charts using knowledge and understanding of this term's maths topic.

Science - This term's topic was all about conducting experiments, such as predicting if objects will be magnetic or not. Pupils then predicted if objects would sink or float. Pupils had fun conducting experiments by adding items to water to find out if they sink or float. The class then converted these results into their work.



HAF Afternoon - Highpoint also had the privilege of having organisers from Sandwell council showcasing the free activities on offer during the summer holidays. Pupils had fun taking part in activities, which included having a go on the climbing wall. The pupils were very brave!



Please take care during the six weeks, and make sure you all have lots of fun and rest.

See you in September

From the 1D team.

**Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!**

CLASS NEWS - 2C

This term has been filled with lots of fun activities such as sports day and the high point bake off, finishing off with a inclusive sports WOW day .

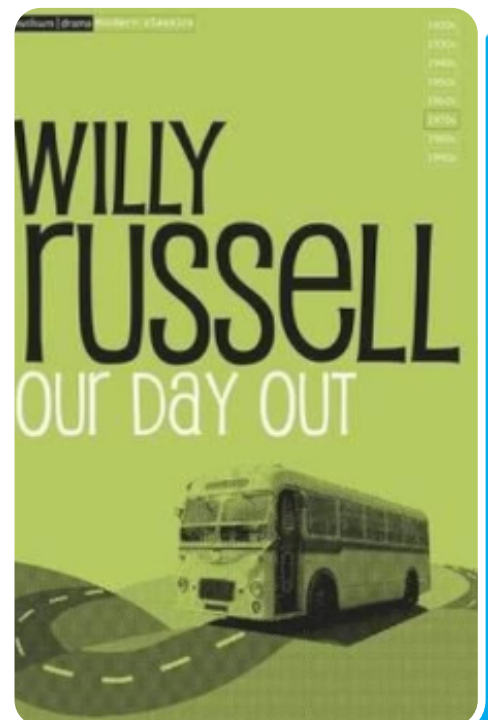
English - In English we have enjoyed reading the play 'Our day out' by Willy Russell about poor children from Liverpool who go on a school trip to Conwy. Pupils have acted out the characters and Taken part in a Q and A session as the teachers from the play. 2C have enjoyed watching the movie version.

Design Technology - In D.T pupils have designed and made Bee houses for the bee's to provide shelter for solitary bees. Pupils have used a range of materials to create them.

Art - In Art pupils have been looking at Sugar skulls from Mexico for the day of the dead celebrations that take place in November. Pupils created colourful skulls using dot work and flowers.

We hope that all of our pupils and their families have a lovely break. We look forward to welcoming you all back in September.

The 2C team 😊



CLASS NEWS - 2CC

Well it is official, 2CC were today named winners of the first Great High Point Bake Off!

2CC worked amazingly together to decide on what bakes they would like to make for their entry. They incorporated their decision making into their recent HPA sessions where they have been looking at Friendships. Pupils were given a picture of a mixing bowl, and could put in their favourite ingredients that make a good friend. They all listened to each other, decided on what they wanted to make, and also decided amongst themselves of who would be in which groups. They made heart shaped strawberry cheesecake, strawberry shortcake, chocolate cake pops, and we even made some small heart shaped chocolates. They were all very well received by the judges!

Well done, 2CC! The competition is going to be extremely hard next year, as everyone has seen how high we have set the bar. We'll have to put our thinking caps on in September, to see what ideas we can come up with for next time.

English- 2CC have been studying the incredible book 'The boy, the mole, the fox and the horse.' They have evaluated the different characters in the book and demonstrated different emotions in a role play activity. The class have shown an excellent understanding of the kindness that is shown in the story and were able to identify how to be kind to themselves and others around them.

Science- Science has been so much fun this term as we have taken part in quite a few experiments. Our topic has been forces and we have explored how different types of forces can deform objects. The children especially enjoyed the experiment using 'Hook's Law.'

Computing- In computing this term 2CC have been making posters and logos about a chosen game (Minecraft, Roblox, animal crossing etc.) They have used their creative skills as well as using the tools they have learnt on PowerPoint to create interesting text and pictures. To end they also created their own holiday wish list featuring themselves!

Food Technology- Food Tech has been particularly exciting this term as we had been working hard towards our entries for Highpoint Bake off. Here are some photos of our entries and although the winner is yet to be announced we have a feeling we have a good chance of winning.

Sports Day- As some of you may have witnessed for yourselves 2CC's participation at sports day this year was phenomenal, and we are very proud of their performances and effort. Well done 2CC.



**Have a good summer and we look forward to welcoming you back in 3CC,
your third year at Highpoint Academy!!!**

**Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!**

CLASS NEWS - 2D

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

Maths - In maths we have been using Numicon to add, subtract and find doubles. Pupils have been super mathematicians using this new skill.

English - In English pupils have been learning the features of a script. We even put on our own play of Jack and the Beanstalk with pupils following the script to produce a fantastic performance. Bravo 2D!

Science – 2D been following in the footsteps of David Attenborough and have transformed into amazing naturalists. Pupils have been exploring and categorising different groups of animals. We even went on a bug hunt around Forest School

Art – In Art, pupil's have been creating different form of Mexican art from Sugar Skulls to dream animals. 2D have created some beautiful art work.

D.T – Pupils have been working with wood; designing, measuring, sawing and drilling to create their own Bee hotel. D.T is always one of our favourite lessons, 2D pupil's shine

Food Technology – 2D Master Chefs have been baking party food this half term. We have made sausage rolls, cakes and sandwiches. Our cooking skills and confidence in the kitchen are really improving! Well Done 2D, you all deserve a Hollywood Handshake!

HPA – 2D have now completed the NSPCC Speak Out. Stay Safe programme. Our young people have been incredible with this sensitive topic. Their maturity and engagement has been outstanding. Every pupil earned a certificate and we are all very proud of them.

Extras – Pupils have enjoyed taking part in all the additional activities this half term. As always 2D did us proud on our visit to Lidl. Its wonderful to see the pupils becoming more confident with handling money and following the shopping list.

Pupils enjoyed taking part in our HAF afternoon and fully participated in all of the activities on offer from making butter cream, planting seeds to rock climbing.

All of Developers had a wonderful picnic on International Picnic Day. We made our own sandwiches and snacks and enjoyed a picnic on the field with all of our friends.

And of course, all of 2D did us proud during Sports Day. What super sports stars we are!



**Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!**

CLASS NEWS - 3C

Welcome to 3C's last Newsletter of 2024.

English - In English, 3C have been reading the play 'Noughts and Crosses'. This has been a very interesting and sensitive book which the boys are enjoying, taking turns to read each part and having great mature discussions of the sensitive topics that come up in the play.

Science - This term in science 3C are learning about Planet Earth and how rocks and fossils are formed, the 3c boys have worked extremely hard in Science and produced great work.

Maths - In maths 3C have been learning about common denominator and prime numbers, they have been working on puzzles around these topics to enhance their problem solving and learning.

DT - In DT, 3C's project has been making a musical instrument called a 'Kalimba', which is made from different woods, bobby pins, elastic and using the wood burner tool to make their design on their instrument. The boys did an amazing job doing this project and worked well individually and as part of a team. Each of their Kalimbas turned out excellently and they were all happy to take them home. In this last term, the 3c boys have been making their last project of the year in which they're making a garden ornament out of a plastic bottle, tins, stickers to design and putting soil and seeds inside the bottle so it will grow in their garden. 3C boys have worked well on this and have produced wonderful products



PE - the 3C boys having been learning and practising their catching and throwing skills and putting into practice in games such as, Rounders and other catching and throwing sports. To help them learn new skills and develop their learning on this topic. Moreover, the 3C boys enjoyed their Sports Day participating in Sports Day and supporting their friends, finishing the lovely sunny day off with an Ice-cream and slush.

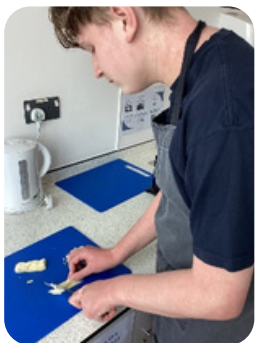
PSHE - the 3C boys have been learning about Contraception and STI'S, 3C have been very mature in the PSHE lessons with the important topics and discussions that they have had within the class and groups. 3C have formed great work and have understood the topics with their own opinions individually and as a team where they have talked about different topics and learnt a lot throughout PSHE.

Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!

CLASS NEWS - 3C CONTINUED

College - the 3C boys enjoyed half a day at Halsowen College for the first time as they will be going to college one day a week starting in Year 10 in September. The 3C boys had a wonderful trip to college and enjoyed themselves very much. The 3C boys had a tour of the college and then a workshop on Animal care where they had a look at all the animals the college has, holding and doing some care of the animals. Also, the boys had the chance to go to the college canteen and buy something for themselves. It was a very successful trip to college as the boys enjoyed it and really liked how the college provides a variety of different subjects and departments that the boys can have a slight look out for the end of their year at Highpoint and are hopefully looking forward to it next year going into year 10.

As 3C's form team we are extremely proud of 3C and how far they have come this year as Year 9, they have all worked really hard in all lessons and it has been a pleasure working and supporting the 3C boys this year, we are looking forward to working with them again in Year 10 starting in September.



Food Technology - the 3C boys have been making different foods related to different festivals such as chicken curry, vegetable noodles also learning new skills such as cutting vegetables, i.e. carrots, onions. Even more, this term at Highpoint there has been the new exciting activity of the Highpoint Bake Off, 3C worked exceptionally well making a cake which they came up with as a team to make a Lemon Drizzle Cake. The cake looked fantastic, and the boys did a great job working together.



RE - 3C have been learning about the Sikh religion, concentrating on the 5K's and knowing what they mean. This topic has been given a lot of information and work, but the boys have worked very well and have given a lot of respect during the RE lessons. They have produced amazing work throughout RE and participated really well.

Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!

CLASS NEWS - 3D



English - This half term 3D has focussed on different components within English. We read and watched short clips of Romeo and Juliet and wrote a book review and used comprehension skills to put the story line in order. We have also been reading a new book called Giraffes can't dance and wrote a fact file on an animal of choice.

Maths - This half term in maths 3D have focused on a range of topics from using rulers to measure up to 30 CM and calculating the perimeter of shapes by counting squares and the last topic we are doing is time where we have been learning the concept of time and learning half past and quarter to.

P.E - In PE 3D have been focusing on team building games for example rounders and kick rounders and they must work as part of a team to field and catch each other's team out.

Art - This half term 3D has been focusing on the street artist Banksy and they have been creating their own street art on canvases stencils and using spray paint to create a Banksy like street art on a huge canvas.

Design and Technology - This half term in DT 3D have been creating their own garden ornament which is a statue and a plant pot where the children have to use a range of new techniques like drilling and cutting wood and plastic to create there ornament.



Forest School - This Half term in forest school 3D have been focusing on gardening and planting plants in our Polytunnel where they all planted plants and vegetables. They also got to go and explore our forest school area.



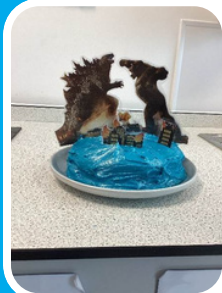
Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!

CLASS NEWS - 4C

While we're still waiting for the sun to remember that it is actually Summer in the UK and to come out for a visit, everyone at High Point is looking forward to the Summer holidays regardless of the British weather.

Where to start.. what a busy term to end the academic year on.

During this half term our 4c students have been working extra hard to complete their module for **DT** which is working together. Students have been gaining independent living skills and working together to paint the compound and what an absolutely brilliant job they have done! We are incredibly proud of the team work they have displayed and communication skills to help them through this project. Well done guys, we are super proud of you all!



Also this term we have had our delicious 'The Great High Point bake off' which was a huge success! 4c created a fantastic Victoria sponge cake with Nutella in the middle, smothered in a exquisite blue vanilla frosting with king kong and Godzilla having a slight disagreement in the middle of the sea. It tasted as good as it looked, absolutely divine!

4c have also completed their course at Walsall college which they enjoyed attending every Wednesday morning, especially for the breakfast and lunch, the food is a 10/10. Our students did high point academy proud throughout their time at the college and they are looking forward to working on post 16 options in their final year at high point.

Next week 4c are going for a local walk to Brunswick park to celebrate their success of 2023/2024 by having a short while to relax and utilise the park, then after working up an appetite going to the café for breakfast sandwiches! Delicioussss!!



Well done 4c for all your hard work throughout 2023-2024 you should all be super proud of yourself for what you have achieved! Can't wait to see what 2024/2025 brings, we will be seeing you September, but for now...



Ambitious aspirations,
Challenging the impossible,
Encouraging independence for all!

TERM DATES 2024-2025

Autumn Term

- **Term Starts:** Monday 2nd September 2024
- **School Opens for Pupils:** Wednesday 4th September 2024
- **Half Term:** Monday 28th October- Friday 1st November 2024
- **Term Ends:** Friday 20th December 2024 at 1:00pm

Spring Term

- **Term Starts:** Monday 6th January 2025
- **Half Term:** Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025
- **Term Ends:** Friday 11th April 2025

Summer Term

- **Term Starts:** Monday 28th April 2025
- **Half Term:** Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May 2025
- **Term Ends:** Friday 18th July 2025 at 1:00pm

Inset Days

- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- Monday 16th December 2024
- Friday 13th June 2025
- Friday 27th June 2025

- **W:** www.highpoint.fet.ac • **T:** 0121 594 0750
- **E:** enquiry@highpoint.fet.ac

