



HIGH POINT ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1, 2025

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...

What a Busy and Fun Half Term It Has Been! 🎉

We've had an action-packed half term filled with exciting events and activities. From welcoming our new school dog, to a magical Harry Potter WOW day and thrilling cinema trip, and football matches along with our curriculum learning.

Welcome to Our New School Dog! 🐕

We are thrilled to introduce our newest and furriest member of the school community, Tula! Tula is a friendly Miniature Dachshund who will be joining us as our second official school dog. She will be available for a couple of times a week and will also help out listening to pupils read. Tula's presence is sure to bring joy and comfort to everyone. Make sure to give her a warm welcome when you see her around!

Harry Potter WOW Day 🪄🌟

Get ready to be enchanted! On February 14th, we hosted our Harry Potter WOW Day. Students are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite characters from the Harry Potter series or House colours. The day was filled with magical activities, including potion-making classes, Quidditch matches, and a special feast in the Great Hall and Spell creations.

Exciting Cinema Trip 🎬

Our 2D group enjoyed their curriculum linked cinema trip to watch Dog Man. It was lovely to see what a wonderful time they had.

KS4 College Courses 🎓

We are pleased to share that our students have been excelling in their college courses. These courses provide valuable skills and knowledge that will benefit them in their future careers. Keep up the great work, everyone!

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



4D Group's First Performance 🥰

Our talented 4D group have conducted their first performance this term. They have been working hard on their production, and we are excited to see their creativity and dedication come to life on stage.

Saying Goodbye to Mr. Murcott 🙏

It is with mixed emotions that we announce Mr. Murcott will be leaving us at Easter. Mr. Murcott has been a dedicated and inspiring teacher, and he will be greatly missed by students and staff alike. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors and thank him for his invaluable contributions to our school community.

Looking Ahead:

We can look forward to the residential trip next half term.

Teacher's Corner:

A big thank you to Mr. Turrell and Mrs Siddall for organising our amazing Harry Potter WOW day.

Thank You for Your Continued Support!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all parents, students, and staff for your continued support. Your involvement and encouragement make our school community stronger and more vibrant.

We wish you all a lovely half term please send on dojo anything you'd like us to share of your adventures. We look forward to welcoming pupils back on Monday 24th February 2025.

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..... **Staff member**

When did you start at High Point and where did you come from?

I started at High Point before the school was finished being built in January 2021

Tell us something about your home life...

I have a mini farm with two dogs (Farla and Tula), 3 chickens (Cookie, Hattie, Belle), 2 guinea pigs (Cinamon and Angus), Hamster (Spex) and two rabbits (Rosie and Roux)

What is your favourite....

Food: Roast Dinners (Especially lamb and Mint sauce)

Football Team: Cross between Wolves and Villa

Film: Tangled

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

I would like to sprinkle happiness for everyone. (Sunshine and Rainbows)

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

I love to go to Devon by the seaside at any opportunity

Which do you prefer...

McDonalds or KFC? KFC

Summer or Winter? Summer

Dogs or Cats? Dogs

Flying or sailing? Flying

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

The Ofsted celebration disco with the pupils. (I love a good boogie)

Sum up High Point in 3 words: Family, community, happiness

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ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE , WELFARE & SAFEGUARDING

We finished for February half term with a whole school attendance of 86% and an overall attendance of 88% for the academic year to date.

We had 37 pupils who had 100% for this half term and enjoyed their diamond time combined with WOW day.

We have had some real positives with attendance this half term! we average 79 pupils a week with 100% attendance, which is absolutely amazing!

There are also some real success stories of pupils overcoming their own personal attendance barriers and improving their own attendance to school.

We are really pleased to be able to share our partnership with MAGIC BREAKFAST which will start officially around mid-March.

This partnership will give us the opportunity to be able to offer a free breakfast to all pupils at High Point!

We know the morning routine for some of our pupils and the time constraints of transport means breakfast is sometimes rushed or causes dysregulation prior to leaving home. We hope this will support a smoother morning routine for families.

We would like to thank Mrs Brazier for all her hard work with organising Magic Breakfast.

We have some parental workshops upcoming next term that we are excited about!

One confirmed - Juile Link who is our school educational phycologist will be holding an open forum coffee morning with parents, which will provide an excellent opportunity to seek advice or guidance from her.

For any families who need to share any information before we return to school or that may require some additional support during this February half term, please if needed dojo Mr Seward so we can help with signposting for services etc.

CLASS NEWS - 1C

Hi! The 1C team here! It has been yet another superb half term at High Point. Since coming back from the Christmas break, 1C have been doing some fantastic work in all of their subjects.

English

In English, 1C have been showing their skills using persuasion in their writing. They had to map out key words that are used in persuasive writing to create their very own leaflet about their made up magical school, using the AFOREST technique, students would ask rhetorical questions, alliteration as well as backing up their persuasion with facts and statistics. It goes without saying, we have a few future estate agents in 1C! After they created their leaflet, the class presented their work to the rest of their peers and staff and we are so proud of them for doing so.

Maths

In maths, 1C have been learning to tell the time in 12 and 24 hours as well as read bus timetables and answer questions based on time keeping. 1C have also started to learn how to count and use money and have created their own sums based on how much money they have and would spend on multiple items.

Forest Learning

1C absolutely LOVE Forest Learning. This half term they have had an introduction into different types of wood cutting tools and even practiced using them outside. Of course, without fail the staff bring out the hot chocolate and the students will soon let us know if it's up to their standards. Thankfully, it is! A lot of this session is based around exploring not only the outdoors but exploring with their peers and building friendships and I'm so pleased to say that 1C have an amazing bond during this lesson that continues to grow each time they are a part of it.

Science

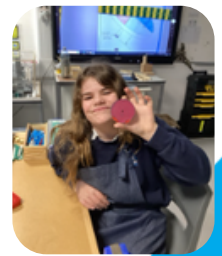
Our science lessons are always fun and engaging. This half term, 1C have been learning all about solids, liquids and gases. They are able to explain what the term is called when a solid turns to a liquid, when a liquid turns to a gas and when a liquid turns to a solid. I'm sure if you were to ask them at home, they would be able to tell you! They have shown us how clever they are with their ability to retain all of this information and answer questions based on the subject.

DT

This half term in DT, 1C have been using tools and have been making their own fidget spinners. This requires them to design and then use a variety of tools and paints to sand and cut pieces of wood to make their very own designs come to life. 1C are doing so well when it comes to being safe around tools and are quickly gaining the knowledge of how to use them.

Well done for another amazing half term 1C! Enjoy your break and we will see you after half term!

Mrs Kalkat, Mr Winsper, Miss Wilde & Miss Barnsley



CLASS NEWS - 1D

Hello to all our parents and carers!

1D have had a wonderful half term!

Maths - In maths we have been exploring multiplication and arrays. Pupils have been working hard, exploring sharing and equal groups. 1D are super sharers!

English - In English we have been focussing on rhyming words. We've had lots of fun practicing tongue twisters and matching rhyming words. Students have loved the funny story 'Fox in Socks' by Dr Seuss. We as always have been working on our sentence structure and punctuation. We are also getting super at spotting and using different adjectives.

Other Activities

Forrest School – Forest school has been a very soggy experience at times this half term, but 1D have made the most of the rain, splashing in puddles and making full use of the mud kitchen. As always the Trim Trail and hammocks remain a firm favourite of the whole class.

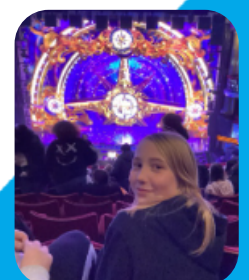
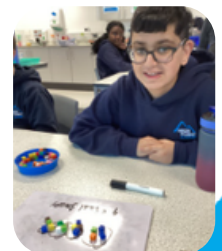
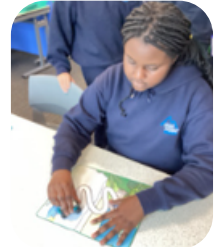
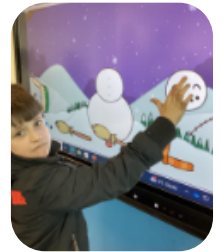
Food Technology – We have been exploring where our food comes from and have made some delicious cookies and bread rolls which we hope you got a chance to sample at home.

Science – 1D students are super scientists. We have been investigating light sources and how shadows are made. Pupils have had lots of fun experimenting with the torches and making shadow puppets.

Art – Pupils have been creating bright, colourful pop-art pieces of work. Pupil's have been using a variety of techniques with paint, crayons, felts and chalk to create their beautiful artwork.

Life Skills – In Life Skills 1D have been honing their cleaning skills as we have explored household cleaning. We have experienced lots of different cleaning techniques and discovered why it's important to keep our homes clean. It has been lovely to see the pupils using these skills at home. Thank you for sending in your photos, pupils have earned lots of Dojo Points this half term.

Finally, 1D had an amazing visit to the Peter Pan Pantomime at Birmingham Hippodrome. Everybody had a magical time, and it was a pleasure to share this experience with your children. They were all super stars and represented High Point beautifully, they made us all very proud!



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CLASS NEWS - 2C

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the end of another fun-packed week, we are at the end of our half-term block – where does the time fly?! This newsletter showcases another amazing half term at High Point Academy. The children have been making super progress academically and we have enjoyed sharing their successes over the last couple of weeks.

English

In English this half term we have been learning about all things Gothic. We have become familiar with gothic settings such as dreary, dark weather, animals you would see in gothic settings and

talking about the fashion that would represent the gothic style. We are currently reading about Frankenstein, which has inspired us to do our own descriptive writing on a Gothic scene.

Maths

We have gained some valuable life skills on understanding how to tell the time through our work on clocks and 24-hour clocks too. Currently we are learning about money and have been understanding on how much things cost and using our laminate cash in class to role play buying things and calculating or change.

Forest School

In forest school we have been practicing our tool skills to saw wood cookies with a large saw. Our sawing skills have come on a long way and we are also doing things a lot more independently and safely. We still love just exploring in the forest and having our campfire chats.

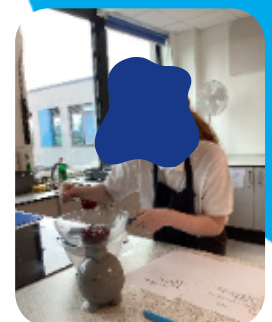
Expressive arts

Our expressive arts lessons are where we get to let ourselves go in fun games and amazing characters. We have been coming together to engage in games such as cops and robbers, change three things and secret murder to put our drama skills in practice. This has enabled us to express our creativity with our body language, gestures and facial expressions.

We hope you have a lovely break, and we look forward to seeing you on the countdown to Easter half term.

Enjoy the break! You deserve it.

Mr Weston, Miss Begum, Miss Rafiya, Miss Kaur and Miss Amos.



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CLASS NEWS - 2D

Hello parents and carers.

2D have had a fantastic term and we have seen some lovely levels of engagement in so many of our lessons!

English

We started the new term off by looking back at Dogman. We all read this book together before Christmas, and all of 2D thoroughly enjoyed it. We looked at the events of the story and completed a range of comprehension questions. Pupils also completed their own book review of Dogman. We then moved onto Poetry/Acrostic Poems and pupils explored their common features. Pupils finished the term by creating their own acrostic poems based upon seasons and common interests.

Maths

Our new topic started off with measurement. Pupils used equipment to record capacity using standard units of measure. They all had a go at recording measurements in litres. Our next topic was recalling properties of 3D shapes. 2D used practical resources to identify and describe the properties of the shapes - this included identifying the faces, lines of symmetry and vertices of a shapes. To finish off this topic 2D constructed a model building using 3D shapes and resources.

Science

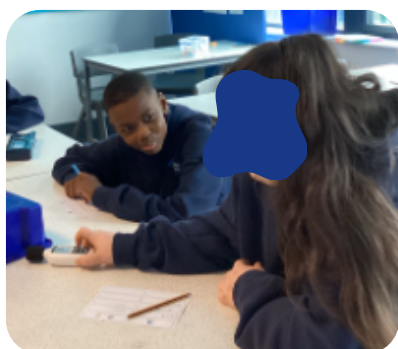
The topic for this term was all about sound and we have enjoyed lots of practical investigations, exploring volume, pitch and sound insulators. We firstly conducted a survey around school to explore what sounds we could hear. Secondly, 2D took part in an experiment to understand how sound is created by vibrations. Our next experiment was to explore pitch sounds with glass and water - each glass was filled with a different amount of water to help us identify how pitch is affected by mass. Next, all pupils investigated sound insulators. Each pupil used a decibel meter to measure the volume of a sound.

Cooking for Life

This term, we have been looking at baking methods. We explored the science of baking and the use of fats and rising agents to aid food production. 2D have also been showing their increased awareness of food hygiene and safety in the kitchen, demonstrating some great skills for adulthood. 2D have really enjoyed making and tasting a range of both savoury and sweet products – our chocolate cake was a firm favourite amongst the pupils and staff!

We hope you all have a fantastic half term and thank you for your continued support!

Mrs Hogan, Mrs Woodyatt, Miss Aziz and Mrs Van-Lancker



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CLASS NEWS - 3C

Hi Parents/Carers

Humanities: This term in Humanities, 3C has been exploring the rich and diverse history of women. The focus has been on the "suffragette movement," a significant and transformative period in women's history. By studying this movement, students are gaining insights into the struggles and triumphs of women who fought for their rights and autonomy.

The curriculum highlights the importance of understanding historical contexts and the impact of these movements on contemporary society. Through engaging discussions and activities, students are developing a deeper appreciation for the contributions of women throughout history.

3C have learnt about key figures in the suffragette movement such as Emmeline Pankhurst best known for organizing the women's suffrage movement in the United Kingdom to Emily Davison best remembered for her final protest, which caused her death.

This exploration not only broadens their historical knowledge but also fosters empathy and a greater understanding of social issues.

P.S.H.E: This term, 3C has been delving into the important topics of "How to deal with failure" and "emotion regulation." By understanding how these aspects affect daily life, students are learning to develop a growth mindset that helps them overcome challenges without feeling overwhelmed. The curriculum emphasizes accountability and taking ownership of actions, fostering a sense of responsibility.

Through engaging worksheets and practical activities, such as role-playing scenarios where students practice handling disappointing news or resolving conflicts with peers, and group discussions, students are also enhancing their communication skills, which are crucial for expressing emotions and resolving conflicts. Team-based activities like collaborative problem-solving tasks and peer feedback sessions further reinforce these skills. This holistic approach not only builds resilience but also equips students with the tools to navigate life's ups and downs more effectively.

English: This term in English, 3C has been diving into the classic play "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare. Using this timeless work as a foundation, students are exploring various aspects of literature and writing. They are engaging in perspective writing, where they reimagine scenes from different characters' viewpoints, and delving into the art of monologuing and soliloquy, learning to express complex emotions and thoughts through powerful speeches.

The curriculum also includes analysing themes, character motivations, and the rich language of Shakespeare. Through group discussions and dramatic readings, students are developing a deeper understanding of the text and enhancing their critical thinking and interpretive skills. This immersive approach not only brings the play to life but also fosters a love for literature and creative expression.

Science: This term in science, 3C has been exploring the fascinating world of separation techniques. Students are learning about various methods used to separate mixtures into their individual components, such as filtration, distillation, and chromatography. Through hands-on experiments, they are discovering how these techniques are applied in real-life scenarios, from purifying water to separating pigments in ink. The curriculum emphasizes the importance of understanding the properties of different substances and how they interact.

Group activities, such as designing and conducting their own separation experiments, encourage teamwork and critical thinking. This engaging approach not only enhances their scientific knowledge but also fosters a deeper appreciation for the practical applications of science in everyday life.

Upcoming Events & Reminders:

Parents evening will be held on the 10th of March as well as World Book Day (TBC)

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CLASS NEWS - 3CC



In English 3CC are reading Macbeth. We are really enjoying learning about the witches and the predictions that they made for Macbeth early on in the book. We have made our own spells, and were able to analyse the characters that we have met so far.

In Cooking for Life we have had lots of theory lessons, but had the opportunity to make vegetable stir fry and mini toad in the hole. We have been able to demonstrate our weighing, chopping, sieving and stirring skills within these lessons.



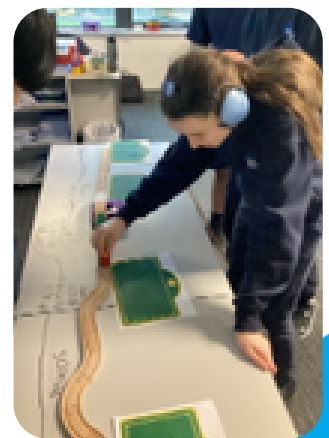
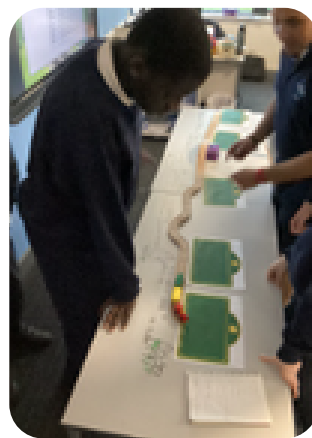
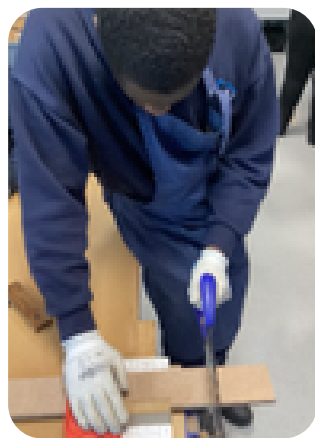
In Design Technology we have been making our own moving toys. We have decided on the design we want on the toy, and measured and cut the wood ourselves to make the frame for it.

In Maths we have been looking at time. Pupils have been able to look at the timetable for trains, and move a train along a track to work out how much time had passed between the stations.



In Computing we have been looking at Minecraft Education. We have been able to create a self-portrait using the Minecraft blocks, made a reconstruction of Big Ben independently, and even identified why bridges are important and made our own in Minecraft.

We hope you all have a well-rested half term.



CLASS NEWS - 3D

Hi parents and carers,

This half term has been jammed packed with lots of fun activities for 3D.

In English the class have been learning about Limerick poems. We have been looking at rhyming words and syllables to help our understanding of Limericks. The class have enjoyed clapping along to words to discover how many syllables are in each one. 3D will even be making their own class poem together.

For Maths this half term the class have been working on their subtraction abilities, using counters and objects to help with their counting. We have explored 2D shapes and their properties, they can now tell how many corners each shape has, and we are currently looking at measure. The class have been using rulers to measure in cm, we will soon be looking at measuring liquid.

In Science 3D have been looking at electricity. The group have explored how we can use electricity within the house and with portable objects. They have looked at main electricity and battery electricity. 3D have been using circuits to understand better how electricity works, they enjoyed working in groups to create working circuits.

For forest learning this half term 3D have been looking at how to make shelters with Miss Joyce. They have enjoyed being outside experiencing new skills such as pegging the shelter, finding natural resources amongst socialising with their peers.

During our cooking for life lessons, we have been looking into the journey of food. The pupils have been learning about the journey from farm to plate for foods such as eggs, milk, cheese and flour. We have been enjoying delights such as mac and cheese, milkshakes and vegetable soup during these lessons.

Parents you will be delighted to know that 3D have been learning about cleaning the home in life skills. Pupils have been practicing their vacuuming, mopping and washing up skills. Get them to give you a demonstration at home, they are all experts now.

We hope you all have a lovely half term, regards the 3D team.



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CLASS NEWS - 4C



Hello and welcome to 4C's newsletter.

Throughout this first term after Christmas, the 4C boys have settled back into school very well. With welcoming a new student in our class, the boys have been kind, friendly and mature and have started the new year off excellently.

The boys are currently still focusing and working extremely hard on their Entry level 3 work in English, Maths, Science and Computing.



OPTIONS

During this term, the 4C boys have chosen again their options out of Music or Art and what they want to do for this term. The boys are enjoying their options so far and have already started to produce some great work and have shown some really good knowledge of what they know.



College

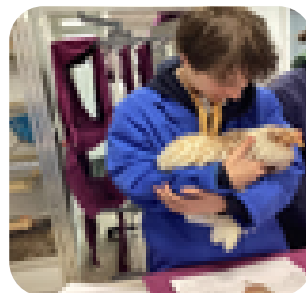
The 4C boys always look forward to College Day on Tuesday mornings; they thrive in college and thoroughly enjoy their time there. The boys are still currently studying Animal Care and have done an excellent job with their theoretical work. They have extended their knowledge in Animal Care by learning and doing Health checks on animals, also they had the chance to take the goats on a walk down the trim trail, which was an experience.



The 4C lads do enjoy their double Cooking for Life lesson, they have all improved and are making great progress in learning different cooking skills and life skills. Also, a few of the boys have made good progress in tasting

the food and trying different foods that they wouldn't normally have.

We hope the 4C boys have a well-deserved half term break, we look forward to continuing supporting and working with the lads throughout this year. Thank you.
From all 4C staff.



CLASS NEWS - 4D

Hello everyone as we're approaching the end of term 4D have had an exciting past couple of weeks.

This half term 4D has focussed on a range of things such as, SPAG which is spelling, punctuation and grammar. In English 4D have been focusing on (COSST) which is using colourful semantics and being able to write sentences using the who, what doing and were using images. Recently 4D have been focusing on how to identify and record personal information where they have been learning how to send an email which we will continue to learn at the start of next term. This half term in maths 4D have focused on grouping where they learn to group and share objects in groups of 2,3,5 and 10. Recently 4D have been learning how to identify and use positional language, which is learning to use their lefts, rights, next to and behind which 4D will continue to do in the next half term.

In life skills 4D have been focusing on customer service/retail and learning how to use different phases when working retail and even acting out their own retail role plays to learn new skills for the future after the half term 4D will be going to create their own shop.

This half term at college 4D have been learning how to build their confidence and independence. At college 4D have been doing drama to work together to act out a play called the Tempest as a group. 4D have now completed the rehearsals for their play. They got to do a dress rehearsals for their play and then show their performance to parents and carers which all the pupils in 4D did amazingly!

CLASS NEWS - 5C

What a busy term we've had 5C!

Firstly, we want to start off by saying well done to all our 5c legends as they have completed their mock GCSEs for Maths, English and Science in January. Throughout this term pupils have been doing revision sessions during HPA and even doing lite revision at home but just remember guys don't overdo it and stick to your revision timetables you have set yourselves. We are so unbelievably proud of you all for the resilience and hard work that we have witnessed as we know this time in your life isn't easy and can become very overwhelming and stressful. We just want you to know, we see the effort you have been putting into your education and should be super proud of yourselves too!

Cooking for life...

What is the fastest cake in the world? Scone. Hahahahah! Anyway. This term in cooking for life the master chefs blew us away with the cooking/baking skills we have been observing. They are all independent when it comes to their cooking for life lessons only needing a few prompts, so safe to say parents/carers you can take a night off and let them do the cooking for you for a change. Here's a look at our dishes from this term being vegetable curry, mini toad in the hole and last but not least meringue. Oh, they all look Super delicious!

PFA...

On Fridays we now have the pleasure of Lynn who is the schools careers advisor from connexions join us and meet with our 5C pupils and parents to discuss with each of them their post 16 options and supports them in their application process to relieve some of the added stress our pupils may be feeling during this time. Pupils are now at the stage of applying for what it is they wish to do as their post 16 option and in PFA to tie in with Lynn's visits we have been looking at the different options that are available to them when it comes to their education after secondary school.

This term we also touched on road safety and created a poster aimed for a younger audience to inform them how to cross roads safely and they were brilliant, our 5c lot are so tech savvy! Speaking of being tech savvy also need to mention the websites that pupils have been creating for their creative media and performing arts relating to music!

Thank you for your hard work this term 5c but now its time to kick back and relax, enjoy your half term pupils/parents/carers and we will see you in a week's time!



WOW DAY- HARRY POTTER



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KEY DATES

Spring Term

- Half Term: Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025
- Term Ends: Friday 11th April 2025 at 1:00 pm

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

World Book Day 7th March 2025

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.

myON

NUMBOTS

TIMES
TABLES
ROCK
STARS



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