



# HIGH POINT ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2, 2025

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

## A NOTE FROM OUR HEAD TEACHER...

Celebrating a Wonderful Festive Season at High Point

It has been truly delightful to see our school embracing the traditional High Point Christmas celebrations this year. From the festive Christmas dinner and magical grotto to the excitement of the snow machine and all things Christmas, the atmosphere has been nothing short of spectacular.

One of the highlights was the joyous Christmas performance, where our talented young people took to the stage with confidence and enthusiasm, performing to a huge audience. Their energy and creativity were inspirational and a testament to their hard work and dedication.

We also thoroughly enjoyed the ACE Awards ceremony, celebrating the incredible successes and achievements of our pupils. It was a proud moment for everyone involved.

As we look ahead to the spring term, there is so much to be excited about! Upcoming events include the much-anticipated school residential and a range of new careers opportunities on the horizon.

We are thrilled to welcome Mrs Kayran, our new Science teacher, and pleased to announce that Mrs Sharratt will be joining us in the new year as our new Safeguarding, Attendance, and Family Support Lead. Miss Plested will also be supporting Mrs Sharratt in safeguarding. At the same time, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Hogan and thank her for her contributions to our school community.

Finally, we wish all our pupils, families, and staff a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday, 5th January for another exciting term ahead.

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



## SPOTLIGHT ON...

Each newsletter a student will interview a member of staff to find out a little more about them. This issue spotlights on **Miss Trinder** who was interviewed by one of our pupils **Jack**.

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

I started at High Point in January 2024 and I previously worked as a support Worker

### **Tell us something about your home life...**

At home, I have a French bulldog called Milo, who is definitely the most spoilt dog ever!

### **What is your favourite....**

**Food:** Italian

**Football Team:** Lionesses

**Film:** Wicked

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

Turn back time



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

I am 1/8<sup>th</sup> Egyptian

### **Which do you prefer...**

**McDonalds or KFC?** McDonalds

**Summer or Winter?** Winter

**Dogs or Cats?** Dogs but love all animals

**Flying or sailing?** Flying

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

Praise every week, no matter what week you have it always ends positively

### **Sum up High Point in 3 words:**

Inclusive, Laughter, Teamwork

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

## CLASS NEWS - 1C

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year!

We have had an incredibly positive term and are delighted with how settled everyone is becoming. Having now completed a full term at High Point, pupils are feeling confident, secure and well-adjusted within the school environment.

As we approached the festive period, there was lots of excitement across the school. Pupils enjoyed a wide range of activities, including arts and crafts, board games and movie afternoons. These provided valuable opportunities to relax, have fun and celebrate together as the term came to a close.

**Art:** pupils explored insect-themed symmetrical designs inspired by the artist Christopher Marley. They demonstrated great creativity by using foil to decorate their beetles before adding paint to complete their work. The finished pieces were both artistic and thoughtfully designed.

**Maths:** pupils developed their understanding of measures and algebra expressions. They worked hard solving equations and learning how to convert between different units. We were particularly impressed with how quickly they grasped these new concepts and applied their learning with confidence.

Our first High Point Christmas has been a huge success. Pupils enjoyed a festive Christmas dinner, Santa's Grotto, the snow machine and the Christmas fayre, truly experiencing the magic of a High Point Christmas. We were especially proud of how well pupils learned and performed Makaton signs during their performance. We recognise that being on stage can be challenging, and this is something we will continue to support and build upon as pupils become more familiar with our annual traditions.

A big thank you to all pupils who took part in raising money for the Baggy Bird Penalty Shoot Out. We were impressed by their enthusiasm and dedication to supporting the local community.

Finally, we would like to wish all our pupils and families a wonderful Christmas and a happy, safe festive season. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in 2026. Happy New Year in advance!



## CLASS NEWS - 1D

1D have been working very hard this term!

### English

In English, pupils have been writing about superheroes, composing sentences using correct punctuation and grammar.

### Maths

In Maths, pupils have been learning about place value and how to partition 2- and 3-digit numbers.

### Science

In Science, pupils have been growing seeds and exploring the life cycles of plants.

### Festive Activities

This term has been full of Christmas fun, including Art, Cooking, and singing activities.

### Trips

1D really enjoyed their trip to the zoo, seeing all the animals – and we even got to meet Santa!

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break, and we can't wait to see everyone in the new year!



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## CLASS NEWS - 2C

**Hi everyone!**

2C have been brilliant since returning from the October half-term break. It's hard to pick just a few highlights as they have been amazing throughout!

**Forest Learning**

As the weather became colder and damper, Miss Joyce taught pupils how to safely use a flint and steel, and they even started their own fires. 2C listened carefully to fire safety instructions, learned what equipment was needed before starting a fire, and what to do in case of an emergency. They loved learning these new skills – and the hot chocolate at the end was a perfect reward!

**Science**

In Science, pupils have been learning about acids and alkalis and have carried out lots of experiments. It has been fantastic to see them engaged, using their health and safety knowledge to wear the correct PPE and handle equipment responsibly. Their end-of-unit work, including detailed drawings of a pH scale, demonstrated how well they understood the topic.

**English**

During English lessons, pupils have been reading *A Christmas Carol*. They watched parts of the film and answered questions about the story, exploring Scrooge's feelings and emotions, and reflecting on why he may have behaved the way he did. Many pupils demonstrated impressive insight and depth in their responses.

**Design & Technology (DT)**

In DT, pupils created wooden snowmen, practising skills such as measuring with a steel rule, sanding, painting, and using a drill safely. A running theme this term has been 2C's excellent use of health and safety. Their willingness to learn and apply new skills safely suggests we may have some budding carpenters in the class!

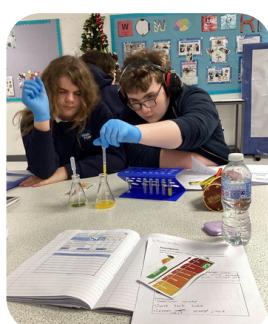
**Trips & Rewards**

We finished the term with a trip to Laser Tag in Walsall. Pupils behaved perfectly, followed safety rules, and were polite and supportive to staff and each other. They enjoyed the experience so much that they are already excited about working together in an escape room in the future!

Overall, it has been a wonderful and joyous half term. We are so proud of 2C for all their hard work and effort.

We hope everyone has an amazing Christmas and a Happy New Year!

2C Staff Team – Mr Winsper, Miss Wilde & Mr Dheeg



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## CLASS NEWS - 2D

Hello to all our parents and carers!

2D have had another amazing half term!

**Maths**

This half term, 2D have become time geniuses! Pupils have been learning to tell the time using o'clock, half past, and quarter to and past on an analogue clock. They have also been comparing numbers using the greater than and less than symbols to identify which numbers are bigger or smaller. Some pupils focused on arrays, exploring columns and rows to develop their multiplication skills. Well done, 2D – you have worked incredibly hard in all your Maths lessons!

**English**

This term, 2D have been focusing on graphic novels and their features. Pupils have loved listening to the Pizza and Taco story and have created their own comic strips using action words, sequences of pictures and speech bubbles.

**Other Activities****Forest School**

It has been a cold half term in Forest School; however, pupils have kept warm by exploring fire safety and even having a go at fire starting. 2D focused on how to keep safe around fire and practised using a flint and steel. To finish off the chilly half term, pupils enjoyed marshmallows around the campfire.

**Cooking for Life**

Pupils have been practising their measuring and weighing skills by making salt dough. They followed recipes independently and measured their own ingredients. Great work!

**Science**

In Science, pupils have been learning about personal hygiene and germs. 2D explored the importance of washing our hands and brushing our teeth. Great work, 2D!

**Topic**

This half term, pupils explored volcanoes and their features. 2D even made their own volcanoes and watched them erupt!

**Life Skills**

Pupils took part in an Enterprise Project, creating reindeer popcorn bags to sell at the Christmas fayre. 2D, you have been excellent entrepreneurs.

As always, 2D have shown great enthusiasm and enjoyed participating in all the wonderful events taking place in school. Pupils also took part in a sponsored Baggy Bird penalty shoot-out, with everyone scoring against the WBA mascot! Christmas officially arrived at High Point Academy to round off our busy half term, with a visit from Santa and a whole-school Christmas dinner.

Merry Christmas to all our parents and carers, and we wish you a happy New Year! 🎄🌟



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## CLASS NEWS - 3C

## Class 3C – End of Term Newsletter

This term has been an excellent one for 3C. We are delighted with the progress each pupil has made and are proud to conclude the year on such a positive note.

**Design & Technology**

Pupils have demonstrated creativity and practical skills by designing and constructing wooden Christmas trees. Throughout this project, they have used a variety of equipment, including drills, and have handled them responsibly and safely.

**Art**

In Art, the class explored propaganda art from World War II. Pupils created Spitfire planes using recycled materials. Everyone enjoyed the project, and the finished pieces looked fantastic!

**English**

Our English lessons focused on magazines and their contents. Pupils worked collaboratively to produce their own magazines, developing writing, editing, and design skills throughout the process.

**Forest School**

3C have thoroughly enjoyed Forest School this term. Pupils learned how to safely build a campfire and roasted marshmallows, fostering teamwork and practical life skills in a fun and engaging way.

**Term Highlights**

We were pleased to enjoy a successful trip to Laser Tag, which offered pupils an excellent opportunity to strengthen teamwork and resilience in an exciting setting. Additionally, our Careers Fair was truly inspiring, giving pupils the chance to meet professionals from a variety of industries and gain valuable insight into future career possibilities.

In the lead-up to Christmas, the class also took part in a range of festive activities, including rehearsals for the Christmas performance, the Christmas Fayre, a visit to Santa's Grotto, and a traditional Christmas dinner.

3C have ended the term on a high note, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year!



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## CLASS NEWS - 3D

## Welcome to 3D's Newsletter

3D have had a busy but fun half term!

High Point were very lucky to host our first Reverse Careers Fair. Professionals from the world of work visited classrooms to share information about their jobs. Pupils really impressed staff by asking thoughtful questions about day-to-day work and what people enjoy about their roles. We even welcomed the Head Chef from Wimbledon, who prepared food with some of our pupils – a fantastic experience for everyone involved. We also had another exciting opportunity this half term, as all pupils took part in a Road Safety Workshop delivered by Sunbelt Rentals. Pupils learned how to cross roads safely and took part in a range of interactive workshops.

Earlier this month, 3D went on a trip to West Midlands Safari Park. Pupils had the opportunity to see animals in their natural habitats, including zebras, rhinos, lions, tigers, giraffes, camels and wild dogs. We also saw hippos and penguins and even enjoyed a walk through the bat cave. It was a full day of fun, ending with a visit to see Santa in his grotto. Pupils demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout the trip and did us all very proud.

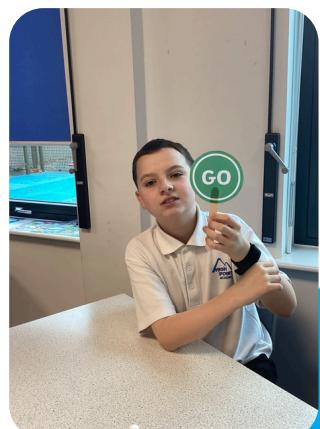
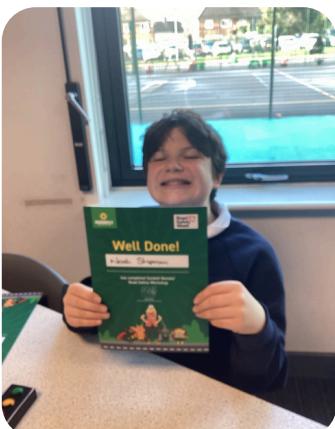
## Maths

In Maths, 3D have been learning how to tell the time using an analogue clock. Pupils have focused on o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past, as well as telling the time in five-minute intervals. They have also been identifying time past the hour and time to the hour. Pupils have worked extremely hard on this topic over the past few weeks.

## English

Each week, 3D practise their spellings and complete a test to show what they have remembered. Pupils have also been exploring non-fiction texts, identifying key features and understanding how they are used. All pupils created a fact file to demonstrate their understanding of non-fiction writing. To finish this topic, pupils learned about formal and informal letters, focusing on the differences in language and presentation.

All staff in 3D would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. We look forward to seeing you all again in January!



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## CLASS NEWS - 4C

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

As we approach the end of the term, we're thrilled to share the fantastic progress our students in 4C have made across a variety of subjects and activities. From achieving great results in their studies to enjoying festive experiences, it's been a busy and rewarding period for everyone.

**Maths**

All students are progressing well as they work through their GCSE topics. They're tackling each area with growing confidence and skill. Keep up the great work!

**Science**

We are pleased to announce that all students have passed their recent science test with flying colours! They've also been applying their knowledge through a series of hands-on experiments. 4C are not only understanding the theory but also enjoying the practical application of their learning.

**English**

Students have made significant strides in both reading and spelling. They've been engaging with a range of texts, boosting their reading fluency and comprehension. Their efforts in improving spelling have also been commendable, with many showing noticeable progress.

**Physical Education**

This term, 4C took their fitness journey to the next level with a visit to the local gym. Pupils learned new exercises and techniques to keep fit, enjoying a hands-on approach to maintaining a healthy lifestyle. PE continues to be a highlight, and this experience was a great opportunity for all involved.

**E-sports & Communication Skills**

4C have been hard at work on their esports course at Halesowen College, completing challenging activities and developing valuable teamwork and strategy skills. They've also been improving their communication abilities through a dedicated unit, which will benefit them in future careers. It's fantastic to see them excelling in both creative and professional pursuits.

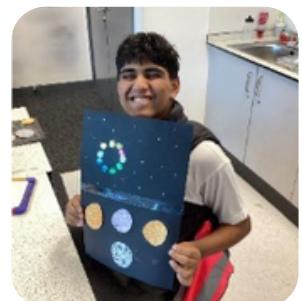
**Festive Activities**

To celebrate the season, we enjoyed a wonderful week of festive activities. Pupils savoured a delicious Christmas dinner, visited Santa's Grotto, and experienced a snow machine, bringing a touch of winter wonderland to the school. It was a joyful way to come together and embrace the festive spirit!

We are incredibly proud of all the hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm 4C have shown this term. We look forward to more progress in the coming weeks and wish everyone a restful and joyful Christmas.

From all the 4C staff,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## CLASS NEWS - 4CC



Hello 4CC families and carers,  
As we reach the end of this Christmas term, we want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible effort and achievements of our pupils. They have worked brilliantly, showing resilience, creativity, and a real commitment to learning. We are so proud of everything they have accomplished and the progress they've made. Their enthusiasm and hard work have truly made this term special, and we look forward to seeing what they will achieve in the new year.

**Maths**

In Maths, pupils have been expanding their knowledge of time. They have been learning how to convert hours and minutes and applying these skills to read and interpret timetables. Their confidence continues to grow, and it has been fantastic to see everyone persevering and happily having a go at answering questions.

**Cooking for Life**

Cooking for Life lessons have been especially exciting this term as we got into the Christmas spirit. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed making chocolate yule logs and gingerbread teddy bears, particularly rolling out the dough and cutting out shapes. Of course, tasting the finished products was a definite highlight!

**Physical Education (P.E.)**

In P.E., pupils have been working hard to improve stamina and perseverance. Our focus this term has been fitness, and alongside attempting the famous bleep test, pupils created their own fitness circuits and taught their skills to one another. It has been challenging at times, but everyone has shown great determination and effort.

**Life Skills**

Life Skills lessons have been full of fun and teamwork as pupils planned and prepared for the High Point Academy Christmas Fayre. As part of our Enterprise project, students researched products and prices, developed ideas for our stall, calculated costs, and transformed our form room into a Christmas factory to create hot chocolate reindeers. Pupils demonstrated excellent teamwork and problem-solving skills, which will support them in their future learning.

From all of us on the 4CC team, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We hope you enjoy a relaxing break with family and friends and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year to continue our amazing journey together.



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## CLASS NEWS - 4D

We have now reached the end of our first full term in Year 10. Pupils have had many new opportunities this half term, including beginning work for Preparing for Adulthood at Forge Mill Farm. They enjoyed seeing some of the baby animals and helping to clean out the living areas – a fun and valuable hands-on experience.

**English**

In English, pupils have been exploring the key features of posters and leaflets. They created their own posters to advertise the book shop at our Christmas Fayre, experimenting with font styles, sizes, and colours, and adding key information and images to let everyone know when and where the book shop would take place.

**Maths**

In Maths, pupils focused on time and temperature. We refreshed knowledge of dates, calendars, days of the week, and months of the year. Pupils then explored analogue clocks, identifying o'clock, half past, quarter past, and quarter to. In our temperature module, they learned to read thermometers in both Celsius and Fahrenheit.

**Science**

In Science, pupils studied habitats and the Creation Story. They learned that a habitat is where an animal lives and identified different habitats and the animals that inhabit them. Pupils also explored various Creation Stories and reflected on which one they personally feel is true.

**Cooking for Life**

In Cooking for Life, pupils practised skills that contribute towards their AQA qualification, including peeling, chopping, stirring, and grating safely. They prepared and tried a variety of foods, including potato latkes and honey cake – traditional Hanukkah foods – applying their skills in a practical and enjoyable way.

**Life Skills**

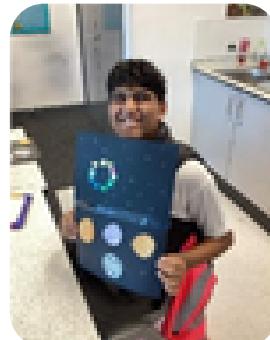
In Life Skills, pupils focused on enterprise, which also supported the Christmas book shop. They researched book genres, planned what to sell, and learned about customer service, developing valuable organisational and communication skills.

**Design & Technology (DT)**

In DT, pupils created a Christmas hanging ornament. They used a variety of skills, including drilling, sanding, sawing, and painting, to produce their finished pieces.

We wish all pupils, parents, carers, and your families a wonderful Christmas break and look forward to welcoming you back on Monday 5th January 2026.

The 4D Team



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## CLASS NEWS - 5C

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Christmas has finally arrived, and there have been many wonderful events over the past few weeks. The Christmas break has come at the perfect time for our Year 11 students, following a very busy and demanding half term.

**Gym Experience**

What a fantastic fitness experience for our Year 11 pupils! It was a real privilege to accompany students to use the gym at Leisure United. Pupils took part in a full induction and training session, learning about health and safety when using the specialist gym equipment. They then worked in pairs to develop their own physical fitness using the different machines available. Pupils showed maturity, enthusiasm, and excellent engagement throughout the session.

**Mock Exams**

This half term has been one of the most challenging in our students' school journey, with the completion of their mock examinations. Pupils demonstrated resilience, determination, and a strong ambition to achieve their best possible results. We are extremely proud of how well they prepared and how responsibly they conducted themselves during this important period.

**Year 11 Party**

During this half term, 5C organised and hosted their own Chocolate Party. Pupils worked both independently and collaboratively to plan the event, completing all the key paperwork involved. They set a budget, created a guest list, sent invitations, and confirmed the date, time, and venue. Due to student illness, the party has been rescheduled from Tuesday to Thursday. Photos will be shared on Dojo.

**Christmas Events – Grotto, Christmas Dinner, Snow Machine & Christmas Fayre**

It truly has been the most wonderful time of the year at High Point Academy! Students took part in a range of festive activities during the final week of term. 5C enjoyed a traditional Christmas dinner with their classmates, a visit to Santa's Grotto (complete with a photo and early Christmas present), and the excitement of the snow machine — possibly the only snow we'll see this year! The Christmas Fayre was a great success, with pupils coming together to raise money for charity. Thank you for your continued support, trust, and engagement throughout the term. We wish you all a wonderful holiday season filled with joy and rest.

We look forward to seeing you in 2026!

From the 5C Team – Miss Eardley, Miss Sanderson & Miss Amos

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## CLASS NEWS - 5D

5D have had an amazing half term in the run-up to Christmas! Pupils have continued to work hard on their AQA awards and have made excellent progress across all subjects. The Harry Potter trip was a magical experience for everyone!

A particular highlight this half term has been our work experience placements at Forge Mill Farm. Pupils worked on site, helping to clean animal areas, feed animals, and learn about health checks. Through this experience, 5D have developed many new skills and built confidence – we are very proud of them and look forward to more work at Forge Mill next half term.

Here's a snapshot of what they've been learning in lessons:

**English**

In English, pupils have been studying persuasive writing and created their own advertisements for holiday homes. These are stunning pieces of writing – the 5D staff would certainly book a holiday to their destinations!

**Science**

In Science, pupils have been exploring the solar system, learning about planets and the journey through space. They also studied spacecraft parts and functions, and even designed and built their own models!

**Maths**

In Maths, pupils focused on time and duration. They have been telling time to the nearest five minutes on analogue clocks, creating their own clocks, and learning about hours, minutes, seconds, am/pm, and the 24-hour clock. We hope pupils will continue practising these skills at home.

**Performing Arts**

In Performing Arts, pupils have been working on characterisation and preparing for the Christmas performance. 5D not only rehearsed their Makaton signing song but also performed a reading of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas'. Well done, everyone!

**Life Skills**

This has been a fantastic half term for developing life skills. Pupils chose a charity to support, conducted research, and helped design and run events at the sponsored activities and Christmas Fayre. Thanks to their efforts, a superb amount of money has been raised!

5D continue to grow and develop in all areas. The 5D staff would like to give a huge well done to all pupils in the class – and to parents and carers who support us every step of the way. 😊



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## SCHOOL NEWS

**A Huge High Point Family Welcome!**

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Kayran, who will be joining us as our new Science Teacher from January.

Mrs Kayran brings great enthusiasm for science and a real passion for supporting and inspiring our pupils. We are very excited for her to become part of the High Point family, and we know she will be a fantastic addition to our school community.

Please join us in giving Mrs Kayran a very warm welcome — we can't wait for her to get started!



"I am really looking forward to joining High Point, becoming part of the school community and getting to know the young people and their families. I am excited to support pupils in their learning and be part of a team that values inclusion and high expectations.

I am especially looking forward to all the exciting science experiments we will be carrying out!

My favourite food is a roast dinner, I support West Bromwich Albion and in my spare time I enjoy going on long hikes with my daughter."



"Our Christmas Fayre has been a huge success, and we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the event!

A special highlight was our main raffle, with some fantastic prizes kindly donated by West Bromwich Albion, Morrisons, and a wonderful chocolate hamper. Your generosity helped make the event extra special for our school community.

Thank you to all our families, staff and pupils who helped make the day so enjoyable — we really appreciate your continued support! 🎁🌟

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## KEY DATES

### Spring Term

**All Pupils return on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

- 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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