

# Newsletter



## Important Dates

School reopens: 25.04.2022

May Day Bank Holiday: 02.05.2022

School closes: 26.05.2022

Half term including the extra bank holiday for the Queen's jubilee.

School reopens: 06.06.2022

End of school year: 22.07.2022

## Café 16

Café 16 is open to the public, Monday 10am – 2pm and Tuesday 10am – 2pm, we would love to see more parents and carers visiting. It is a student led café serving hot and cold drinks, a range of tasty snacks as well as lunches. It offers our Post 16 students work experience and we are always excited to welcome new customers.



## Message from Janis

Dear Families,

Here we are at the end of another term in school and what a term it has been! It has, as you are aware, been extremely challenging in terms of COVID infections both with pupils and with staff. We have stretched our resources as far as we possibly can but there have been times when we just had to make the horrible decision that some pupils could not be in school because staff absence was too high to be safe. Everyone in school and the Governors appreciate how disruptive this has been and thank you for your understanding and patience.

Despite all of that, it has been wonderful to see some fantastic learning going on right across school and lots of incredible achievements. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the examples in this newsletter. As always, I am sure you join me in thanking all of the school staff who make this possible.

I wish you all a happy and healthy Easter break and look forward to returning on 25th April for the summer term.

Kind regards  
Janis

## Safeguarding Information

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Janis French, Emma Fox or Paula Smith. Our safeguarding Governor is David Mudd.

Out of school hours, please contact Middlesbrough as below:

During working hours:

Monday to Thursday 8.30am – 5pm

Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Middlesbrough Multi-agency Hub

Tel: 01642 726004

Email: [MiddlesbroughMACH@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:MiddlesbroughMACH@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

Out of hours:

Emergency Duty Team

Tel: 01642 524 552

In an emergency contact Cleveland Police on: 101



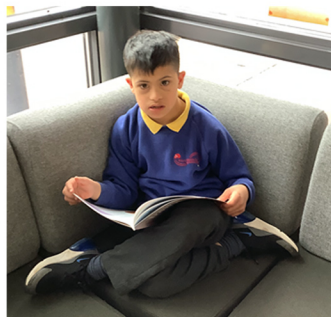




## Lower School

### Blue & Green

Blue and Green Class have loved learning about Spring. We are very proud of the beanstalks and sunflowers we have been growing. We have also enjoyed our weekly trip to the library and playing outside. Wishing you a lovely Easter with your families.



### Pink & Red

We have had a very busy term in Pink and Red. There's been lots of (extremely!) messy play for our Muck, Mess and Mixtures topic, and now Spring has sprung we have all loved getting outside. The children dressed up as their favourite characters for World Book Day, and we enjoyed reading stories together. Happy Easter everyone love from Pink and Red!

### Purple

In Purple Class we have been developing our communication and language skills. We enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day.



### Silver & Gold

Silver and Gold class have enjoyed our topic all about Spring and growing including making our own garden and garden centre shop areas in our classes.

Our sensory drama is always a great session, the drama studio becomes a garden and the favourite part is usually hiding under the umbrella from the rainfall!

We have been getting ready for Easter, including a visit to the shops to buy ingredients for Easter baking activities. The chocolate cornflake cakes we made were yummy!

Silver and Gold class continue to enjoy joining in sports, dance and Yoga activities which are led by great coaches and instructors.





## Art

Students from Y13 and Y14 visited Bradford to attend an open day for the Mind the Gap Academy. This is the second visit to the Academy and an opportunity for students to meet artists and participate in dance and music workshops. Whilst we were there, students also visited the Cartwright Hall Art Gallery.



## Puppet Show

Local arts company, 'Whippet Up' treated Post16 and Upper School students to a performance and Q&A session! The company came to school and performed three pieces of puppetry.



## Musical Achievements



Music students have been busy performing in the local area. Year 6 Student, Daniel Yang, performed at the Raising Stars event in Yarm in celebration of him receiving top marks in his piano exam.

## Artsmark Filming

Film maker Nick Jackson was in school to record creative lessons and interview staff and pupils about the importance of the arts. Arts Council England commissioned the film, which will promote the Artsmark programme and celebrate our Artsmark Platinum Award. It was fun to work with a professional filmmaker. We are very excited, as we are one of four schools from the country to feature in the film.



## Tin Arts

The group of post 16 students who are involved with the Emerging Young Dancers programme with Tin Arts have been selected to perform in the second round of the U.Dance competition at Dance city in Newcastle.



## Wow said the Owl

Arts Award Discover students visited the Dorman Museum to explore the 'Wow Said the Owl' exhibition based on the children's book by author Tim Hopgood. This colourful and interactive exhibition captured our students' imagination and we have decided to create some exciting artworks following our visit.



## Open Orchestra Sharing Day

Some of our Open Orchestra performed and ran a workshop for over 40 pupils from other schools. The event was at Middlesbrough Town Hall and was part of The Open Orchestra Open Day. It was a great day and included a Q&A session with disabled musician, Clarence Ado MBE. To complete the day, everyone involved performed an original Priory Woods composition - which had been taught to them by our students.



## Peter and the Wolf

Upper school had a visit to the Middlesbrough Town Hall to see the animated film 'Peter and the Wolf'. Students enjoyed watching the film whilst listening to local professional pianist Alison Gill play the soundtrack live. Alison also performed excerpts from 'The Carnival of the Animals' and explained all about the music. This classical concert was a real treat.





## Upper School

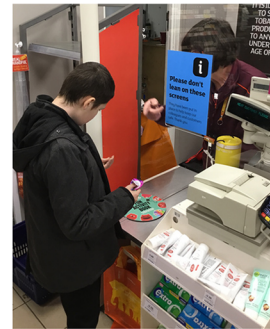
### G2

Our Spring term has been brilliant! One of the highlights has to be our visit to York's Chocolate Story. The students had been learning about the history of chocolate in their English lessons and were able to share their knowledge on this visit. The whole class had a day to remember, exploring the museum, making a chocolate lolly and visiting a sweetshop on York's cobbles. In our cooking sessions we became inventors and created some wacky food inventions: curry balls, Yorkshire trifles and wjbs (Weetabix, jam and beans)! We have also had a fun filled term with other lovely days such as World Book day and Comic Relief.

Well done G2 you have had a brilliant half term and I am so excited to find out what fun we will have in the summer term.

### G8/9

G8 and G9 has continued to make frequent educational visits within the local community. We particularly enjoyed visiting the local parks and garden centres. We are looking forward to visiting lots of new places next half term! We have also been working hard with our enterprise activities and are currently making our very own planting bags having bought the resources during our shop visits.



### G3 Mama Mia!

The HE room was filled with the delicious smells of Italy this half-term. Every Tuesday morning G3 cooked their own pizzas demonstrating fantastic independent skills, creativity and a flair for cooking. Potato wedges and salad were added to the banquet which saw pupils designing their own pizzas, setting the table, serving each other drinks and thoroughly enjoying the Italian atmosphere.



### G5

G5 have had lots of fun this term developing their lifelong skills, using tools to make planters for our enterprise project, taking part in careers week to explore the world of work and investigating the surprise arrival of an alien crash-landing!! We have enjoyed working in our role play areas, learning stories and finding out new skills, such as Jack playing the piano.

Well done G5, once again you have worked really hard this term and made us smile!





## Upper School

### G4

We have had an exciting spring term. We especially enjoyed our careers week where we experienced different jobs. We also had great fun during our skills building launch on the theme, 'Crash Landing'. We developed our skills and demonstrated great leadership and speaking and listening skills. G4 you have worked brilliantly, well done.



### G6

G6 have had a great term and have been working very hard. We have been developing our life skills through planning events, managing a budget and visiting local shops to buy products. We have also been learning about healthy lifestyles, we discussed different vegetables that we could use to make soups then made these in our cooking sessions. This also helped us to develop skills such as chopping, grating and blending. We have also been growing our own fruit and veg, watering the seeds regularly and making sure they are getting enough sunlight. We are hoping these grow in time to use in the summer term in our cooking!





## Skills Builder Launch Week

Upper School and Post 16 enjoyed our Skills Builder Launch Week. We worked on eight essential skills: listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, staying positive, aiming high, leadership and teamwork. We worked on the activity 'Crash Landing' throughout the week. The students witnessed the aftermath of a real alien spaceship crash landing in our forest schools area! Throughout the week we worked on activities related to crash landing, which encouraged the students to develop their eight essential skills. We are going to continue to use Skills Builder in our lessons and also for our reward system.



## Careers Week

Upper School and Post 16 enjoyed celebrating careers week. We took part in some exciting activities, including a World of Work day. Our students had the opportunity to experience different jobs and activities to prepare them for adulthood. They also really enjoyed dressing up for different jobs, such as police men and women. They also had fun pretending to arrest the staff! Post 16 spent time working in our Priory 16 café, serving customers and preparing staff lunches.



Our Post 16 enterprise team worked hard to prepare another very successful Mother's Day Sale, we made and sold lots of lovely gifts. We hope you like them.



Post 16 students were lucky enough to take part in a football competition ran by Middlesbrough Football Foundation and Bridgehill Day Service. It was a great opportunity to meet new people, play football as well as experience potential Post 19 provision. We have also visited other Post 19 providers including; Middlesbrough Life Centre, JPC Community Farm, Prior Pursglove College and Redcar and Cleveland College.

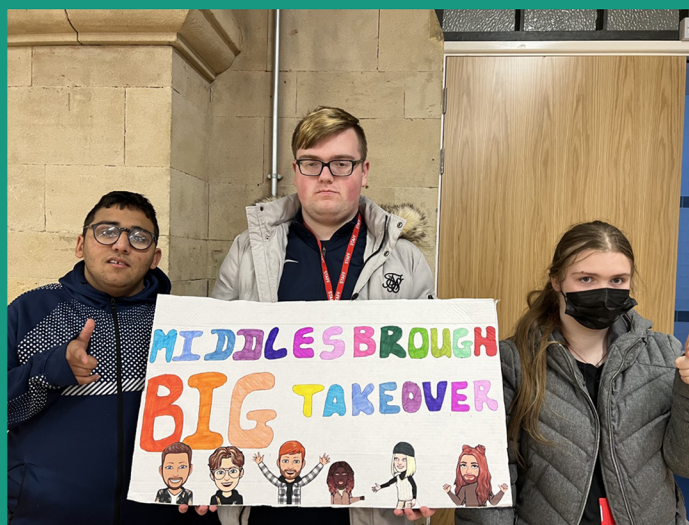




## Middlesbrough Big Take Over

Our Post 16 students have now finished their piece of work for Middlesbrough's BIG TAKEOVER. This was a national event organised by the Children's Commissioner for England, giving young people in Middlesbrough the chance to work with senior leaders in Children Services at Middlesbrough Council to co-produce solutions to challenges together; they all really enjoyed it.

Our students were tasked with the challenge of promoting EHCPs in order to get young people themselves more involved with their plan. They decided to make a video, a poster and an invitation for the young people. These can now be viewed on Middlesbrough's Local Offer website, as well as our website and facebook page as a supportive tool for schools, families and young people themselves.



## Young Person's Conference

Some of our Post 16 students participated in a Young Person's Conference. They made us incredibly proud when they voiced their opinions on topics such as their own rights and personal goals. Well done everyone!

