

Newsletter



Important Dates

School reopens: 08.04.2024
After School Clubs Restart 15.04.2024

Bank Holiday:
Monday 6th May 2024

May Half Term
Break up Friday 24th May
Return Monday 3rd June

End of school year: Friday 19th July

Café 16

Please remember Café 16 is open to the public Monday and Tuesday, 10am until 2.30pm with lots of yummy new treats on offer.



Message from Emma

What a short but jam-packed term this has been!

As always so much has been taking place across the school that I can't possibly mention everything here, your children are always so busy learning and having fun. I hope that you enjoy reading about all of this over the next few pages.

An absolute highlight of the term for me was watching the Open Orchestra perform at the Schools North East Patrons' Dinner. They were amazing and held the attention of all of the 500 educational professionals in the room – not an easy feat! They were all so cool, calm and collected and absolutely rose to the occasion. I want to give a special mention to David, he is a born showman and wowed the audience with his high energy vocal performance of Fell Good Inc. by Gorillaz. People didn't stop coming up to me afterwards and saying how proud I must be, and they were right!

Another thing that has made me exceptionally proud recently is the attitude and dedication of our young people who are fasting during Ramadan. They haven't made a fuss and are just quietly getting on with it, I'm sure their families are very proud of them too.



All that remains is for me to wish all of your families an eggcellent Easter. We will see you all on Monday 8th April ready for an eggciting summer term.

Safeguarding Information

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Emma Fox, Vicky McDermott 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

Out of hours:

Emergency Duty Team

Tel: 01642 524 552

In an emergency

contact

Cleveland Police

on: 101





Lower School

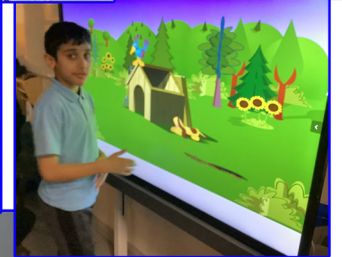
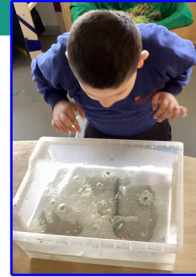
Blue Class

Blue Class have had a brilliant half term exploring our 'In The Garden' topic!

We have planted sunflowers and watched them grow. In the tuff trays we explored soil, plants, flowers and twigs. We have had a lovely time going out on the bus and seeing the plants and trees grow and change as we move into Spring.

World Book Day was great with lots of us dressing up and enjoying our theme which was Jack and the Beanstalk and we all wore red for Comic Relief on Friday the 15th of March.

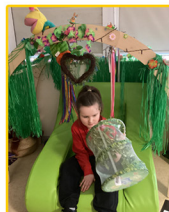
Have a lovely Easter and a nice time at home with families and we'll see you all back after the holidays, ready for another busy Summer Term!



Gold Class

Gold Class have had a lovely half term doing our 'In The Garden' topic. We loved planting sunflower seeds in our Sensory Garden, and are enjoying watching them grow. We enjoyed a trip to Stewart Park, and looked around the grounds and gardens there.

Our classroom has had a spring makeover with some lovely new furniture and decorations. We particularly love exploring the sensory arch. We had a lovely World Book Day and set the classroom up with a wide variety of switch toys computers and screens all linked to 'The Enormous Turnip'. We made cards for Mother's Day and had a lovely Red Nose Day. We loved Zoo Lab and were happy to explore lots of different beasts.



Green Class

Green Class have been very busy this half-term with our topic, 'In the Garden'. We have enjoyed our story, 'The Enormous Turnip', where we have taken part in role-play to pretend to be the different characters. We have also enjoyed making a garden sculpture from clay and done lots of digging and planting.

We really enjoyed World Book Day, which was based around the story, 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We got to build a beanstalk and then chop it down with axes just like Jack did, which was fun.

This week, we have been having fun working on lots of Easter activities. We would like to wish you all a lovely Easter break and hope that the weather is kind.



Lower School

Yellow Class

Yellow Class have had a lovely but very busy half term!

We have been learning and having great fun throughout our topic 'In the Garden'. Some highlights have included exploring in soil, splashing in puddles at Forest School and planting cress and sunflower seeds. We are excited to see how big our sunflowers will grow, so far they are looking promising.

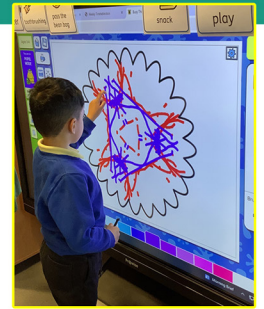
We looked amazing when we dressed up for World Book Day and Comic Relief and had lots of fun across Lower School.

Wishing you all a lovely time off with your families, looking forward to seeing you all back in school after the Easter holidays.

Silver Class

Silver Class have been very busy this half-term, learning about our topic 'In the Garden'. We have particularly enjoyed our Garden Sensory Story, where we explore lots of things we find in the garden, including worms in the soil, birds that peck for food, and tasting honey made by bees. We have learned what plants need to grow by planting cress seeds. We have also recently planted sunflower seeds, and we can't wait to see how tall they will grow! To celebrate World Book Day, we participated in different activities across Lower School, including biscuit decorating and beanstalk building – those who wanted to dress up as their favourite character looked fabulous in their costumes.

This last week, we have been having fun working on lots of Easter activities, and we would like to wish you all a lovely Easter break; we hope you have a wonderful time off.





Lower School

Pink and Red Class

Pink and Red Class have worked very hard this half term exploring 'In the Garden' in different ways. Our sensory story this half term was 'The Enormous Turnip' and children helped to retell the story, enjoyed getting messy and making different pictures using a variety of different materials, they then enjoyed digging deep into some messy soil and even had a go at planting their own seeds. In maths, children have been singing '5 Little Speckled Frogs' and explored different shapes. We have enjoyed going around school on a 'shape hunt' to spot different shapes in the environment.

Children have also taken part in World Book Day, where children dressed up as their favourite book character and enjoyed the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.



Orange Class

Orange Class have had a lovely half term doing our 'In The Garden' topic. We've loved planting and watering our sunflower seeds and cress heads. This half term we have had a trip to Priory 16 Café where we enjoyed juice and cakes.

We had a lovely World Book Day and had great fun with our 'Jack and the Beanstalk' sensory story!

We were all brave during Zoo Lab and loved touching the different animals.





Upper School

G1

G1 have had a lovely term learning about all things Space, followed by our 'In the Garden' topic. We've learnt about how the solar system works using inflatable planets, compared NASA missions to Space and looked at life on the International Space Station. We've also planted sunflowers, grown cress heads and investigated micro-habitats. We've had some wonderful trips out to Tees Barrage, Teesside Park and B&Q to search for gardening tools. Alongside this we have been to Flatts Lane Country Park for Forest School sessions each week where we have lit steel bowl and Kelly Kettle fires, built dens and played team games.

Well done G1, we are very proud of you!

G2

This term in G2, we have been having lots of fun and doing some work too!

We have been learning how to become more independent; this includes learning how to use public transport and buying our own shopping. With support, we have learnt how to be safer when we are out- including using buses, trains and crossing the road. We also have done our shopping for cookery and followed a shopping list.

This half term, we have been focusing on 'In the Garden'. We have been learning about what birds eat, what a plant needs to grow and about insects in the garden! We have learnt lots.

G3

G3 have had a great Spring term. We have thoroughly enjoyed our swimming sessions and have made fantastic progress whilst swimming on our front and backs. We have been learning about Ramadan and Easter and have demonstrated care and respect whilst exploring artefacts. We have made some fantastic progress in our communication sessions. Our signing is improving and some of our students have worked really hard whilst using their communication aids.



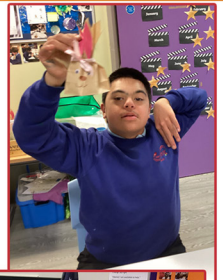
Upper School

G4

G4 have had a brilliant Spring Term exploring and learning about our topics 'Space' and 'In the Garden'. They were all fantastic during our Space whole school assembly where they dressed as astronauts, told everyone facts about Neil Armstrong and the Moon Landing and led a fantastic blast off countdown!

During our 'In the Garden' topic G4 have enjoyed learning about plants and how they grow. They have planted seeds and bulbs and watched them germinate and go through the growing process. They have also worked hard during Enterprise lessons to produce some fantastic Easter products ready to sell at the Easter Fair.

Well done for all your hard work this G4 and we will see you after the holidays ready for an exciting Summer Term.



G5

G5 have had another busy half term, and we have all worked hard on our topic of 'In the Garden'. Our roleplay area has been transformed into a garden centre, and we have used our trips out on the bus to research what should be in there and what kind of jobs are available in garden centres.

We worked hard to learn and act out the story of Jack and the Beanstalk for our class assembly. Most exciting of all, we had the opportunity to meet lots of different animals when Zoolab came in to visit.

All of the staff look forward to catching up with the children in Summer 1 when we will be learning all about where our food comes from. Happy Easter!



G6

G6 have had a lovely half term exploring our topic 'In the Garden'. G6 have really enjoyed exploring a range of stimuli surrounding this. We particularly enjoyed planting our sunflower seeds ready to watch them grow!!

We have also worked really hard engaging in a sensory story surrounding looking for a teddy in a garden, exploring pirates, space and a magical garden.

Well done for all your hard work this term G6, have a lovely holiday and ready for hard work in the Summer term!



G7

What a super busy term!

All G7 students have worked very hard this term. We have been learning new stories, planting sun flowers, dressing up, dancing, super hard physio and helping each other!





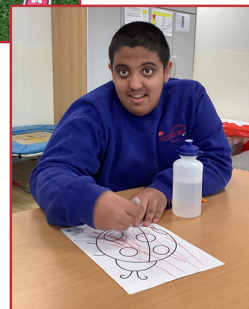
Upper School

G8

G8 Class have loved our topic this half term exploring 'In the Garden' in lots of different ways. Our sensory story this half term was 'Planting a Little Seed' the students loved helping plant their own seed and explored what our little seed might need to grow!

We have enjoyed our weekly Attention Autism sessions focusing on what we might find in the garden, we have used a range of tools to help create butterfly images, ladybirds and some wonderful Easter cards.

We have all worked extremely hard this half term and we wish you all a Happy Easter from G8.



G9 Spring Adventures

G9 have had a great term exploring things we might find in the garden. We have been planting seeds and painting with flowers. We have encountered mini-beasts and have been heroes with Superworm.

We explored texture, paint effects and collage in our Buddhism inspired art. Our wonderful work is displayed in our classroom. Our visits have included cafés, parks and a garden centre where we have gained experience of social time in community environments and have watched as signs of spring have changed our time outside.



G10

G10 have enjoyed the Spring Term. We have all really enjoyed our new RE and yoga lessons. We have explored two new stories in our English lessons and have practiced writing and spelling words with a similar theme to our stories. The whole class enjoyed our visits to Senses Wellbeing Centre in January.

Well done G10 have a lovely Easter!



Open Orchestra

The amazing Open Orchestra received a standing ovation when they entertained over 500 of the North East's CEOs, Head Teachers and Senior Leaders at the Schools North East thirteenth annual Patron's Dinner.



This term, the group have also been lucky enough to have worked with international composer Kate Whitely and musician Clarence Ado on a brand new piece of music; that will be shared nationally by the Open Orchestras network.

Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience

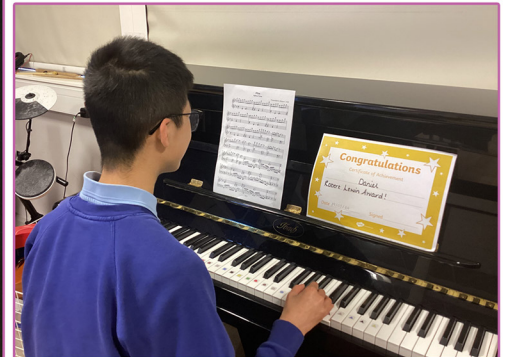
A selection of Post 16 artists had great fun experiencing the Van Gogh: The Immersive Experience in York. In art lessons we have been doing workshop skills on Van Gogh use of striking colour, emphatic brush strokes and contoured forms.

Post 16 students have been using this work and that of Henry Frazer to create this years creative event which will be an exhibition space in the style of Van Gogh. Tickets available soon.



Robert Lewin Prize

Daniel has been awarded the Robert Lewin prize by the 'Awards for Young Musicians'. Well done Daniel!



Fuse Dance Festival

A group of Upper School and Post 16 dancers performed together at this years Fuse Dance Festival.

They wowed the judges, and received an award for most inspirational piece and one of our students was award most promising dancer. They also got through to the regional finals of U.Dance Festival which will be held in Newcastle next term.

Congratulations to everyone involved.



Our next Open Orchestra performance is due to be on the evening of June the 7th at Middlesbrough town hall. (18.30 approximately)

This will be a public performance and ticket information will be hopefully released shortly.

My Voice Matters

Post 16 students continue to work with the team from Pupil Participation, they are currently planning the 'My Voice Matters' Young Peoples conference day in June. The students are enjoying this project and look forward to having their voices heard.



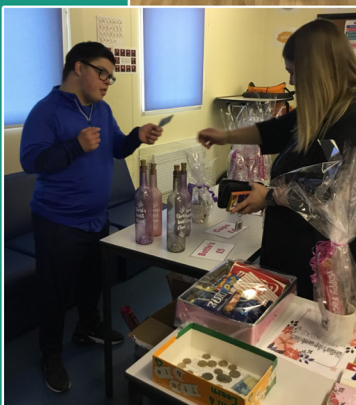
Capital One Banking

Some Post 16 students have been working with Capital One Banking. They worked on how they can develop their skills, money management and interview techniques. The students really enjoyed these sessions and we are grateful to Capital One for providing us with them for free.



Priory Products

Priory Products Enterprise continues to go from strength to strength. The students have continued to work hard on building their own businesses. This term has seen our Mother's Day and Sale and Easter Fair. We are delighted with the success but even more so with the skills that continue to develop within the groups. One of our groups can now work, virtually independently, in all areas of completing orders. The skills of these gifted entrepreneurs have allowed them to carry out peer tutoring and to help out some of their fellow students. We have been contacted by Larchfield, a SEN supported living and day service. They would like us to supply products for them to sell in their community shop. In addition to this we have been working with MFC, who approached us to provide vinyl stickers for them to use in the grounds. The students received MFC merchandise as a thank you, so we had some very pleased young adults.

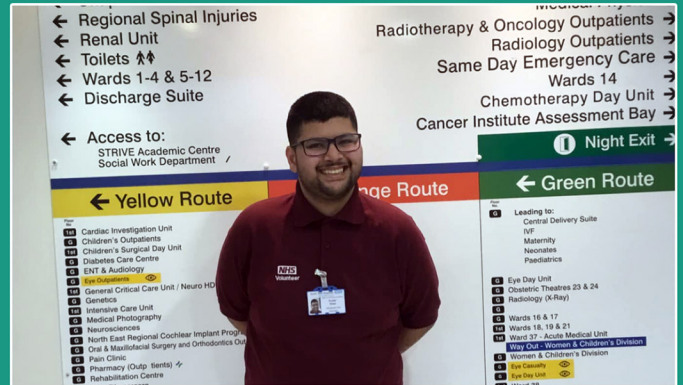


Independent Living Centre

Post 16 are excited to be involved in giving the Independent Living Centre a new lease of life. The current Year 14 students have been planning and designing the revamp. They enjoyed a visit to B&Q and invited kitchen designers from other companies into school, to help bring their visions to life.

Work Experience

Two Post 16 students have secured Work Experience within the NHS. This sees one working in the post room at North Tees and one completing an administration role at JCUH.



First Aid at Work

Earlier in the year a student expressed a keen desire to learn CPR. As a result of this we are delivering a fully accredited Emergency First Aid at Work qualification to him and seven more of his fellow students.



P1

This half term, P1 have been continuing with their sensory baking skills and making treats for special people for Mother's Day and Easter. We have been bowling each week in class, as well as brushing up on our Boccia skills. Country dancing has continued to be a hit for our class, as well as 80's sensory dance and art sessions on creative days. We have loved exploring sensory massage stories to learn about different events such as Ramadan, Easter, St Patrick's Day, World Book Day and Comic Relief. We have planted sunflowers as part of our 'In the Garden,' topic as well as had fun in the drama studio recreating the lifecycle of a plant, so we know how to look after our sunflowers so they grow super tall. During the last week of the term, P1 thoroughly enjoyed a visit from Zoo Lab where we were extremely brave when meeting, touching and looking at a snake, rat, millipede, giant snail, cockroach and a tarantula.



Whole School - Zoo Lab

Some of our students had a fantastic time interacting with some of the animals during the Zoo Lab session. They met some interesting animals, including snakes, rats, centipedes and tarantulas. They had the opportunity to hold and stroke them too. Thank you to Zoo Lab for a fantastic day.

