

NewsLetter

Term 2



We have all blossomed this term!

Learners have enjoyed so many activities this term such as celebrating Mother's Day, conducting science experiments for British Science week, exploring a Double Decker Bus, and several Easter/Spring activities! Students have enjoyed exploring various different topics in their classes. It has been a great half term!

Important Dates

- Earth Day - April 22nd
- Autism Acceptance Walk - April 24th
- World Heritage Day - April 18th
- National Shakespeare Day - April 23d
- World Laughter Day - May 3rd
- International Firefighters Day - May 4th
- VE Day - May 8th
- World Day Cultural Diversity - May 21st
- Mental Health Awareness Week - May 10th



Purple Class

This term Purple class have been looking at foods they haven't tried before. So far they have produced Moss cake from Poland made with spinach and Ramen Noodles from Japan.

This term's book of choice is Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief. The learners are enjoying the story and also looking further at the Greek Gods who are mentioned in the chapters.

In English the class is looking at how sentences are structured and what make up simple, compound and complex sentences.

Maths this term is looking at conversion between fractions, decimals and percentages with the learners gaining a good grasp of the calculations.

Topic this term is looking at Japan. Learners are learning about the culture, food and art and were horrified to learn that Japanese children school hours were a lot longer than here in England. They certainly don't want to go to school in Japan!

Celebrations!

- Shout out to Edward this term for his Polish Moss cake. This was his idea for 'foods we haven't tried' and turned out rather well. It is supposed to be green!





Silver Class

March has been a busy month for Silver Class learners! We have been taking part in lots of whole school events and celebrating national events, such as Mother's Day, World Book Day and much more.

We enjoyed our Mother's Day afternoon enjoying tea, coffee and cakes with someone special. Each class helped prepare a different food item to bring along and celebrate together.

Silver class enjoyed celebrating World Book Day, our book choice was The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We enjoyed reading the story together with our class peers and food tasting some of the yummy snacks from the story.



Blue Class

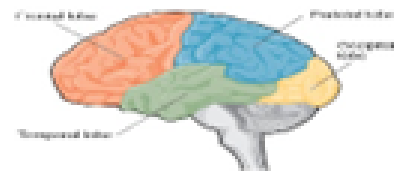
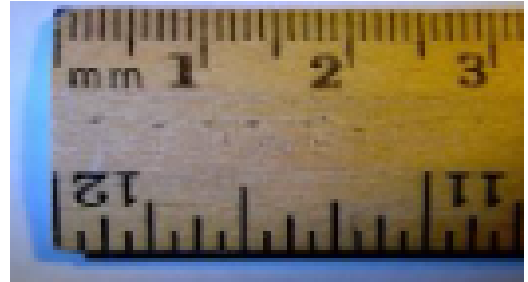
This Spring Term, in English we have been using our Annual Events calendar to write about important days. The writing is non-fiction and gives information to others.

In Maths we have learned about Length enjoying lots of practical tasks. We have focused on length & width, tall & short and distance. We are continuing to work on improving our mental agility in addition & subtraction and are continuing with Fractions towards the end of term.

In Science we are learning about Space! During National Science Week we came up with questions that we wanted to find answers to...Are there any plants in Space? Who was the second man on the moon? Will the Milky Way crash into our galaxy? This was linked to the topic of Curiosity!

Our travel training visits have centred on Farm visits and Garden centres. We are planting our flower beds at the entrance to school! In PSHE we are learning about Our Brain and how different parts help us do different things. We are reminding ourselves that when our brains are busy, confused or overwhelmed, we need to regulate and can choose what helps us to do so.

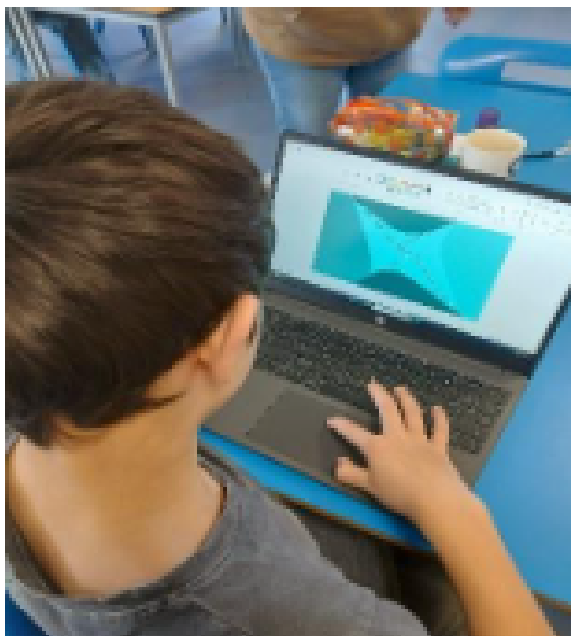
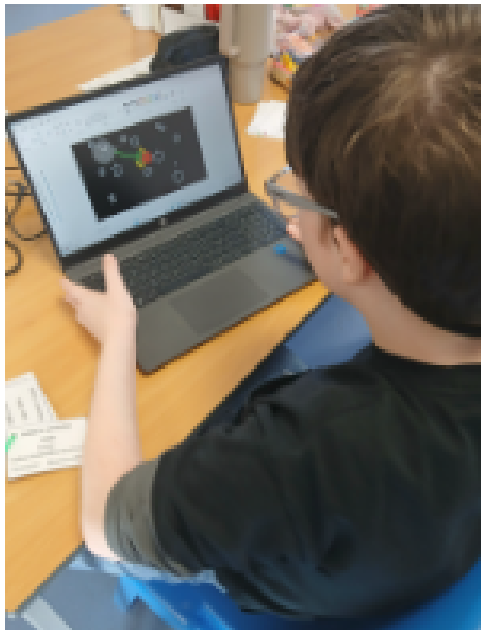
In ICT we continue with our Digital Literacy. We are working on using Word to type and print text, linked to our Annual Event topics, being able to change font, size and colour. We are also learning how to use Paint and appropriate icons, to draw matching illustrations for our printed text!



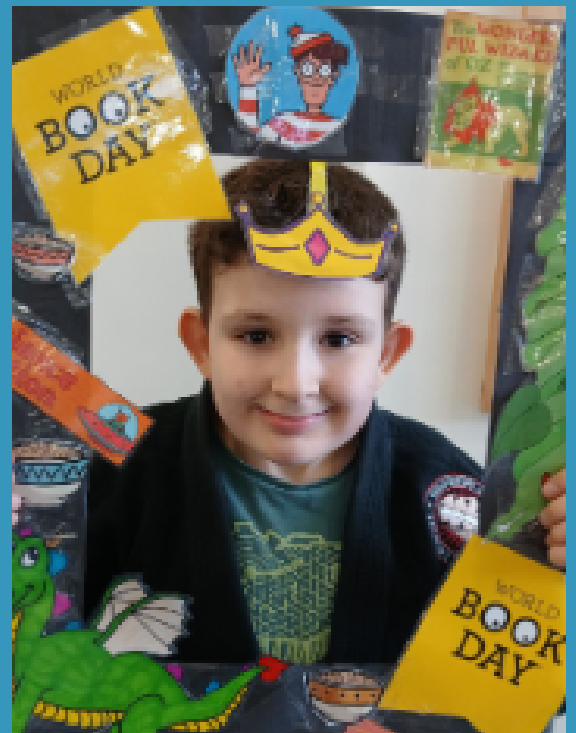
Celebrations!

- SHOUT OUT to Riley for completing several weeks of full time at Aycliffe!
- She is an absolute asset to the class, an amazing artist and clever crafter!
- She sold some amazing bracelets at the Easter Fayre!

Blue Class Continued



- Here are some photos of our learners enjoying their time at Aycliffe!





Yellow Class

This half term our overarching topic for Understanding the World has been 'How does your garden grow'. This fitted perfectly with British Science week! Yellow class enjoyed some planting activities. We enjoyed planting beans and sunflowers which we are excited to say are just starting to bud!

This half term has been a fun one as we've also enjoyed World Book Day where some of us dressed up as 101 Dalmatians. We enjoyed reading stories and read and explored a lovely sensory story called Grow a Rainbow. During this story we explored soil, bulbs and packets of seeds, we explored colours with scarves and the makaton signs linked to these colours.

Celebrations!

- I'd like to make a special call out to Luca, he has started to read individual words! I am so impressed with the way he has taken to this, he loves listening to the tricky word song which has been a great way into reading for him!





Pink Class

This term, Pink Class has been learning all about the signs of spring. Students have enjoyed activities around spring such as flower sensory trays, frog chia seed slime, and reading spring books!

Students have also been enjoying our spring crafts such as Easter Bonnets, Attention Autism Art projects, and Easter Egg decorating.

All of the learners have been getting active through sensory circuits, PE sessions, trampolining, accessing the park, and going on scavenger hunts!

This term, learners have enjoyed travel training to parks, shops, sensory rooms, and soft play areas. In cookery, learners have been making rice crispy cakes. Learners have enjoyed making these for special events like Mother's Day Tea and Coffee and the Easter Fayre!



Celebrations!

- Gabriel has started a new timetable this term! Great job trying new things such as going on scavenger hunts, and making messy play recipes!



- Shayaan has made great progress in his ability to maintain his attention to lessons. He has been especially enjoying Attention Autism sessions! Awesome job!





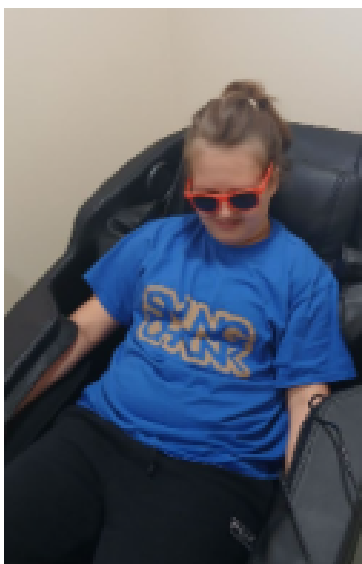
Orange Class

In orange class this term we enjoyed seeing different transport at the train station and at the airport.

We went to the train station and had a ride on a train from Newton Aycliffe to Darlington. We have also been on a public bus and visited the Dolphin Centre to swim.

We have developed our love of being active and fitted that into our daily routine, we do some active work each morning. We rode bikes, played ball games, went swimming, learned how to use the new equipment in the gym and walked into town to go shopping.

We have also been to the Alan Shearer sensory pool.





Red Class

This half term Red Class has been focusing on 'how does your garden grow.' We have been looking at how plants grow and different plants we find in the garden. really enjoyed looking at what animals belong in which place and what these places look like. When looking at how does your garden grow, we had different tuff trays with soil and worms made with ribbons, decorating the flowers and watering the flowers.

In math's we have been focusing on different topics including push and pull, counting to 20, adding numbers to 20 and making and adding equal groups.

In travel training, we have been visiting a variety of play parks, museums and started going to sensory rooms, which we have been really enjoying.

In English we have continued creating sentences using colorful semantics. We have looked at a picture and used symbols to create a sentence about what is happening in the picture. We have worked through many sentences as a class by looking at a picture and identifying who is in the picture, what they are doing, and where they are.

This term in cookery we have been following a recipe to make fruit pizzas and shredded wheat buns. We have also continued to do lots of exercise, we have a PE session where we have been practicing our throwing and catching skills, we have daily sensory circuits and weekly swimming sessions.

Celebrations!

Big shout out to Adam for his great development in signing using Makaton, well done Adam!





Green Class

This term we have explored a new music center as part of our travel training. It has been very exciting to explore different instruments and it made us feel very relaxed. We have enjoyed this and are looking forward to spending more time here. We have been making grilled cheese sandwiches in cookery, we have all mastered the skills of flipping, grating and staying safe around heat. In enterprise we have been making pom poms to sell at the easter fayre, we have really enjoyed this and we can't wait to see how many we sell. Overall it has been a fantastic term here in green class.



Celebrations!

- Shoutout to Dylan who has coped really well when he did not have access to his vehicle, you coped so well in school and it was great to see you having so much fun. You have also been doing amazing with your trampolining sessions well done.



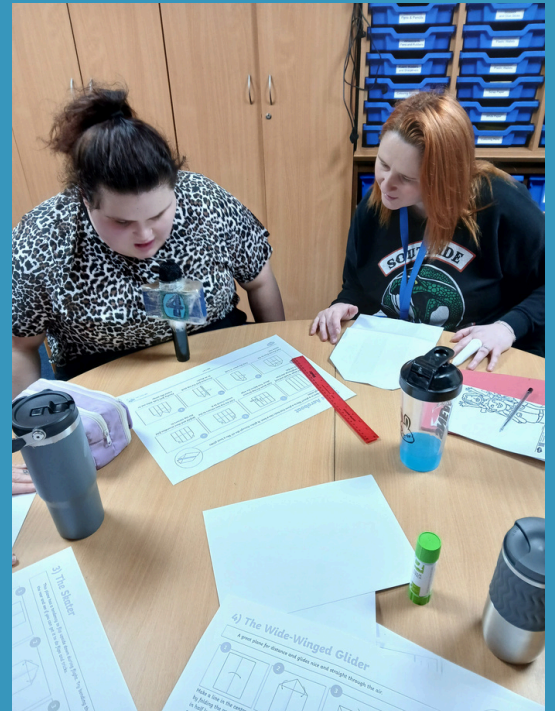


Black & White Class

It has been a busy and enjoyable half term in White and Black Class. In English, pupils have been practising dictionary skills to check spellings, meanings and word classes, while also identifying different purposes of text and exploring the organisational features of books such as contents pages, headings, indexes and glossaries to locate information quickly.

In maths we have studied a range of approaches to multiplication, including the column method and repeated addition, and pupils have also started learning about division of whole numbers, making links with multiplication through sharing and grouping activities.

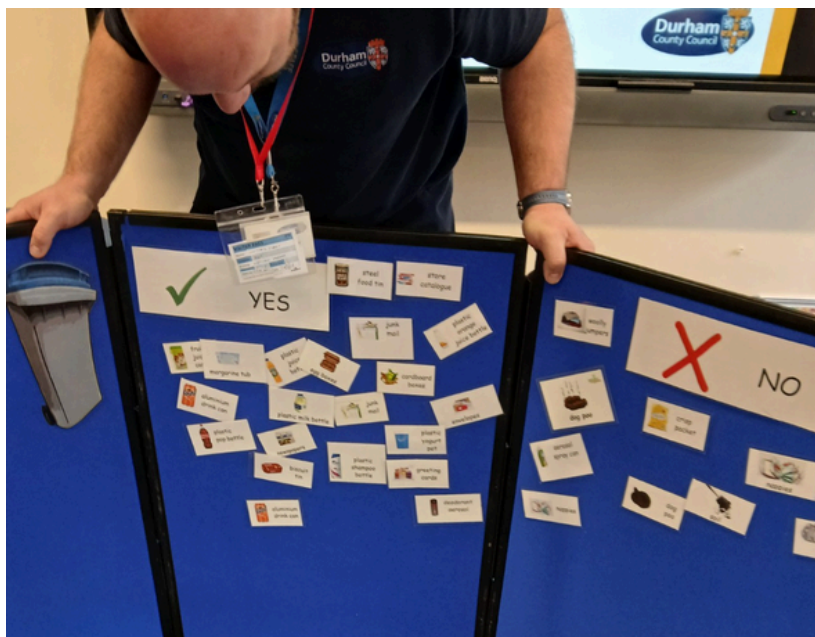
During Science Week the learners explored the curiosity of flight, researching how an aircraft becomes airborne and the forces that make flight possible. The classes then carried out a practical experiment, designing and building three different planes from a variety of materials and holding a competition to see which material and design flew the furthest - congratulations to the winner, Josh Taylor!





Black & White Class

We also welcomed representatives from the local council who spoke to the children about the environment and recycling; Blue and Purple Class joined us for the session, and everyone enjoyed the practical ideas for reducing waste. In history, pupils have been studying the local history of Durham and recreated their own versions of the Penshaw Monument and the Lambton Worm, bringing local stories to life.



Spring Half Term Events

British Science Week

Students at school spent British Science Week exploring gardening, and scientific reactions!



Spring Half Term Events

Double Decker Bus

Purple Class at Aycliffe School hosted a fundraiser to raise money to have a double decker bus come to school! Each class was able to take a turn sitting on the bus, talking to the bus driver, and hearing the bus honk its horn! A special thank you to John the bus driver and JH Coaches.



Spring Half Term Events

Mother's Day Tea and Coffee

Aycliffe hosted a Mother's Day tea and coffee. Learners enjoyed sharing drinks and snacks with their mothers and carers. A huge thank you to all Mothers and Carers we know you do so much!



Spring Half Term Events

World Book Day

Students across school enjoyed a day filled with reading! Students loved different books being read to them and reading books themselves! Many students and staff also dressed up as their favourite characters from their books!



Spring Half Term Events

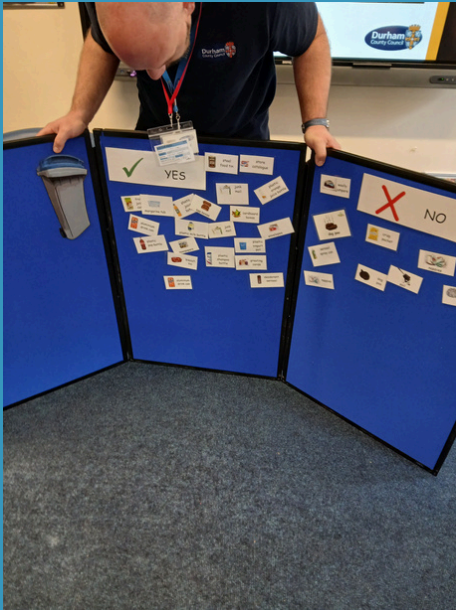
World Book Day Continued



Spring Half Term Events

Recycling Discussion

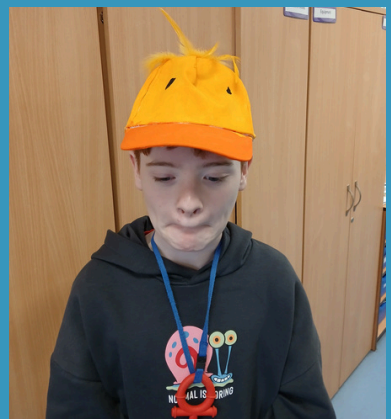
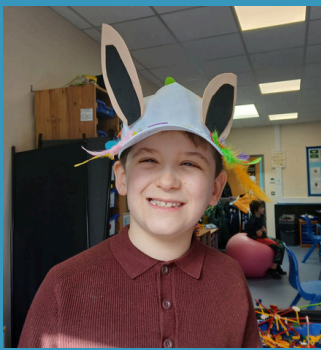
Students enjoyed having a visitor from the local council to speak about recycling!



Spring Half Term Events

Easter Events

Students throughout the school have been engaging in lots of different Easter Events. These events include Easter Bonnet decorating, Easter Egg decorating, Easter Egg hunt, Easter Crafts and Easter Sensory activities.



Spring Half Term Events

Easter Events Continued

