

NewsLetter

Term 3.1



Important Dates Coming Up

- Child Safety Week 1st -7th of June
- Healthy Eating Week 9th - 13th of June
- The King's Official Birthday June 20th
- Make Music Day June 21st
- National Writing Day 25th June
- International Joke Day - July 1st
- Wimbledon Fortnight June 30th - July 13th
- Summer Fayre - July 15th

What a bright term Aycliffe has had!

Learners throughout the school have enjoyed Autism Acceptance activities such as Acceptance Walk, Autism Awareness Door Decorating, Creating Art Displays, and Going Gold for Autism event! Our classes have been exploring various topics such as land to sea, under the sea, Once Upon a Time, healthy eating, and so many more! Learners have been enjoying the various weather we have been having by enjoying basking in the sun at the park, or even listening to the hail! It's been a great half term, continue reading to see what the learners have all been up to!



Pink Class

Learners in Pink Class have been exploring the theme of Under the Sea. We have enjoyed completing sea themed crafts, reading Hooray For Fish, and Sharing a Shell, and enjoying sea themed continuous provision. In cookery, students have been chopping different vegetables and making their own humous. They have then been sniffing, touching, and eating new and different foods! In travel training, we have enjoyed visiting parks especially since the weather has been so nice! Our favourite so far has been Wynyard Woodland Park where we can climb, go down big slides, zoom down the zip line, and shovel sand!



Celebrations!

- Ayan has been communicating his wants and needs more frequently with his staff! Great job, Ayan!





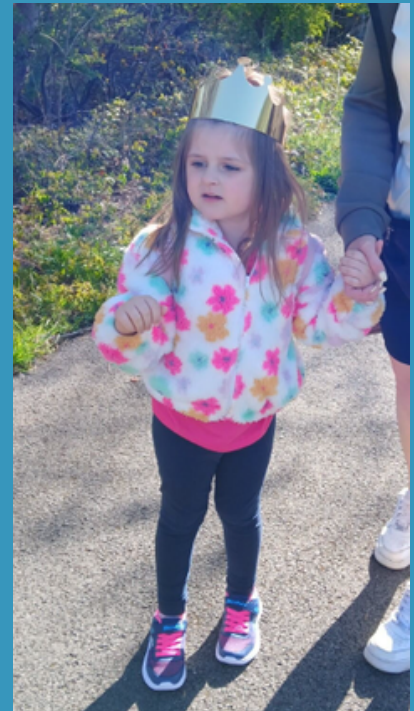
Yellow Class

This half term our overarching topic has been focusing on "Once Upon A time", where we have been all learning about dinosaurs before focusing on nursery rhymes. We have enjoying listening to different sensory stories, most recently reading "Goldilocks and the Three Bears". This topic has also been the focus in our tuff trays, where we have been able to play and explore different sensory textures! A lot of us particularly enjoyed playing with the porridge oats by picking them up and dropping them!

Yellow Class has also been focusing on our communication, following our core word as part of sign of the week. So far, we have focused on "swing", "thank you", look", "sit" and "stand up". We have been learning these words through using Makaton, symbols and dancing songs!

Celebrations!

- Yellow Class would like to give a special shoutout to Nova for jumping in the pool at swimming! Nova has really impressed all the staff with her resilience and confidence to trying new experiences such as having water in her face and doing something out of her comfort zone!





Green Class

In green class, this half term, learners have been focusing on their preparing for adulthood. They have been working hard on creating snacks or meals which they would likely make when they're at home. They've been choosing their own pasta sauce when shopping, using the self-serve to purchase their chosen items found with visual shopping list guide. In PSHE we have been focusing on personal hygiene where learners have been identifying hygiene products important to them, and how to use them, alongside brushing their teeth daily. Enterprise is full of colour, as we start creating our tie dye products for the summer fayre. We have been communicating with others around the school to find out what people's favourite colours are, so we can ensure we make something for all.



Celebrations!

- Well done to Jackson for beginning to explore school environments safely, staying safe at the entrance doors, and returning to class.





Celebrations!

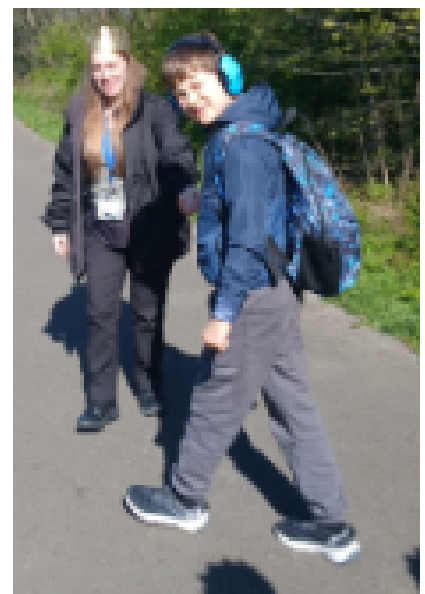
- A big shout out to Darren and Mijash, who are enjoying playing and sharing toys together. Do you like the tower they built for their creatures?



Silver Class

Time is flying by for Silver Class! We are having so much fun with lots of whole school events that we have enjoyed being part of. For Earth Day, we spent time outside collecting litter that was around our school. We learnt about the importance of keeping our world free from rubbish.

We all took part in the Autism Acceptance Walk from Newton Aycliffe to Shildon. We enjoyed waving to the trains as they passed by, they even honked their horns!

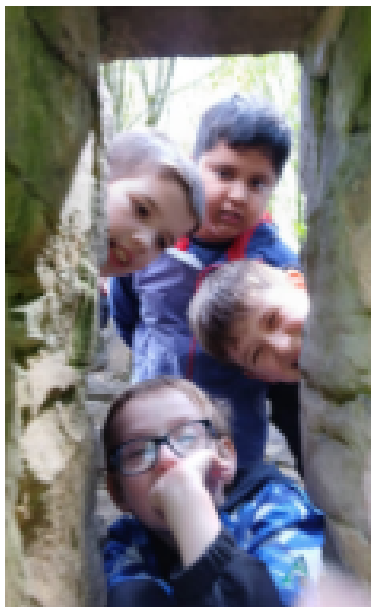




Silver Class Continued

We continue to enjoy going out into the community and visiting different parks. We recently visited Hardwick Park. There were lots of ducks and different ruins for us to climb on and of course the park to play on!

Silver Class like it when the sun shines and we can be outside, but we also like the rain! We had a hail storm recently and some of us enjoyed standing outside, feeling the air become cool and listening to the sound of the hailstones hitting the ground and our umbrella! It was great fun!



Blue Class

This Summer Term, in English we are using our Annual Events calendar to write about important days; Earth Day, Shakespeare Day, VE Day & World Bee Day, for example. The writing is non-fiction, gives information to others and demonstrates our understanding.

In Maths we are learning about Weight and Money. We are enjoying lots of practical tasks and ensuring we use the correct vocabulary. We are continuing to work on improving our mental agility in addition & subtraction and multiplication.

In Science we are learning about Plants! What the functions of different plant parts are and what plants need to grow.

On a Monday we are swimming at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre pool, until our school pool is back up and running. We are also shopping for our cooking ingredients. This term's recipes are from our own menus (mains and desserts that we would like to make!) If there are any leftovers we will bring some home!!

New for Summer Term, on a Wednesday morning is Horseriding at Stainsby Stables. This is already proving to be a favourite! We spend half an hour completing stable management (cleaning out & grooming) and half an hour riding.

In PSHE we are learning about Puberty and the school nurse, Karen, will be in to support us with this too during the term.

In ICT we are learning about Online Safety and are having important ICT sessions with VP John & Purple Class. We have looked at how too much screen time affects you and what you can do instead!

Celebrations!

- Alfred Egglestone for improved engagement in daily reading tasks!

Purple Class

This term Purple class have been looking at healthy eating and, as you can imagine, the idea of salads and vegetables has not gone down well 😊 However, they have made healthy chicken nuggets and carrot cake cupcakes. Apparently, "it's got carrots in it so it must be healthy" student voice.

Maths has been concentrating on telling the time using both analogue and digital clocks and in English the learners have been looking at debating and how to argue a point to a satisfactory end. So now they can tell the time and debate how far they can stretch their breaks. Topic this term has been looking at the Great Fire of London. The class has learned about what happened in the years before the fire – they loved the Great Plague – the fire itself and the following events to make London a safer place to live.

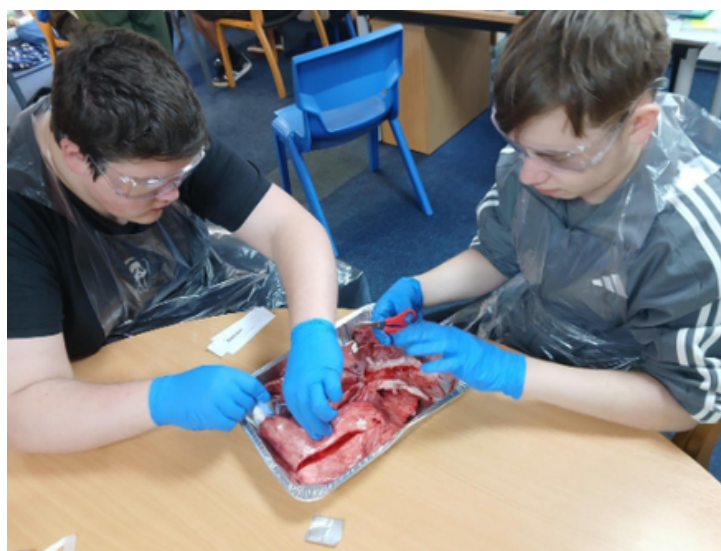
In community inclusion we are making the most of the good weather with as much time out in the fresh air as possible. The learners decide where they would like to go each week and the local parks are proving very popular.



Celebrations!

- A big shout out to Tristan this term. He is now accessing the local community three times a week and getting to know our local shop keepers in Aycliffe. One of his favourite places to visit is the local pet shop where he chats away to the parrots. He is also coping with changes in staff and environment very well. Great work Tristan!





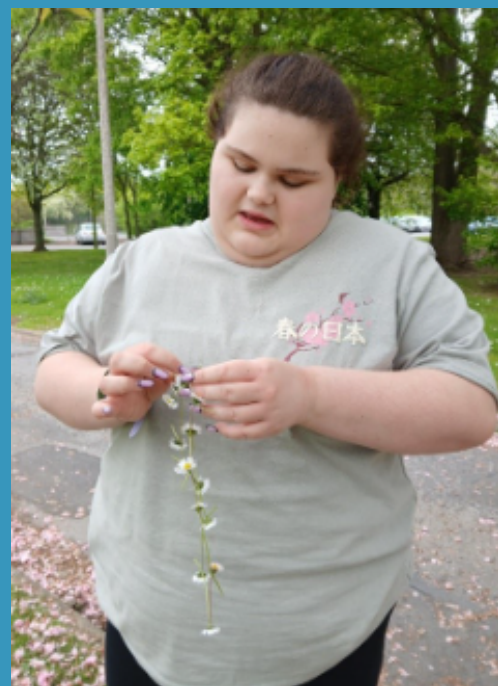
Black & White Class

A very good term for learners, all be it short. They have managed to cram in lots of activities from Visits to the Mighty Mutts Day Care Centre in Belmont Durham, as part of their work experience, they have had the pleasure of interacting with a pack of 20 and more dogs in their purpose-built buildings.

Some of our learners have also had the extra special opportunity to work alongside Alpacas and Anvil Alpacas in Durham. Where they have fed and exercised them and learnt all about husbandry.

All learners are making great progress towards their qualifications and enjoying the usual trips to parks, shops and swimming sessions as part of their PFA. They continue to build confidence in social and communication skills whilst exploring the local area.

In science learners have had the fantastically gruesome opportunity to dissect a set of sheep lungs as part of developing the knowledge of the respiratory system and explore the way it works.



Red Class

This term Red Class have been on a land to sea adventure; exploring our class story The Snail and the Whale. We have been diving under the sea to meet some sea creatures, exploring different textures in our investigation trays and creating some shimmering snails that we discovered cast a lovely rainbow on the ceiling when in the sun! In the community we particularly enjoyed visiting Butterfly World - no snails or whales to be found but plenty of mesmerising fish which we enjoyed feeding!



Celebrations!

- We are super proud of Red Class who all had a fantastic first walk to and from Aycliffe Leisure Centre for a refreshing swim!



Safeguarding

Student Council

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LOVE

Be there for your child and show care and love



EXERCISE

Encourage play, exercise and sport



BEHAVIOUR

Keep an eye out for any changes in behaviour



SUPPORT

Regularly support, encourage and praise your child



REST TIME

Help your child to manage stress by building in some rest time



BE PROUD

Tell your child that you are proud of them



PATIENCE

Be patient. Don't pressure your child



HELP

Don't be afraid to seek help from professionals



FEELING

Get to know how your child is feeling



EDUCATE

Educate yourself about mental health problems



PROBLEM SOLVING

Help your child to effectively problem solve



LISTEN

Make sure you take time to listen to what your child has to say



COPING

Help your child to learn some simple coping skills such as relaxation



SYMPTOMS

Be aware of signs and symptoms



CONVERSATION

Encourage your child to engage in conversation



ENVIRONMENT

Provide a positive environment for your child where they can thrive



Summer Half Term Events

Autism Acceptance Month

The month of April is Autism Acceptance Month. Learners participated in a large variety of activities to raise awareness about myths about Autism, celebrate being Autistic, decorate the door competitions, and create art to raise awareness.

Door Decoration Competition

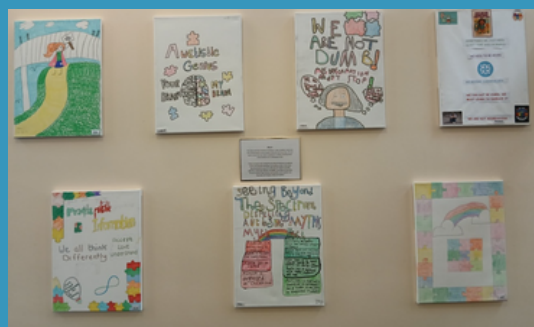
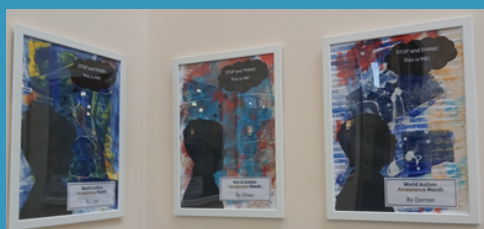
Aycliffe students decorated their doors to raise awareness about Autism.



Aycliffe School learners in Red Class received second place for their door by Head Office. For their themes about community and personal growth! Great Job Red!

Autism Acceptance Month Continued Art Exhibit

During our Parent/Caregiver Meetings, each student had prepared an art project for the Art exhibit. Learners designed projects around the theme of Full Stop. A clear confident statement that misinformation around Autism is harmful and must stop. This art work is more than just about acceptance it is about breaking down misconceptions and challenging myths.



Autism Acceptance Month Continued Art Exhibit

Autism Awareness students all wore Gold and participated in Gold activities in the hall such as sensory bins, dancing, craft making, and cookie decorating!



Autism Acceptance Month Continued

Autism Acceptance Walk

Autism Acceptance Walk was celebrated by learners by walking from the Aycliffe Train Station to the Shildon Train Station! Learners from each class walked over 2 miles while singing songs, dancing to music, and watching passing trains.

