

North East Autism Society - Aycliffe School

NewsLetters

Term 3.2



Important Dates Coming Up

- First Day of School September 3rd, 2026
- October Half Term Break - Oct 26th - 30th

School Year 2025-26 finished!

What an incredible school year we have had. This term we have enjoyed many outdoor activities such as a whole school picnic, the colour run, and many water activities! Classes have been enjoying growing in the learning of health living, community inclusion, and a wide variety of topics! Overall, the 2025-2026 school year has been a great year! We will see everyone back in Autumn 2026!

In June we had our Ofsted inspection! We recently received our report. Here's what Principal Tracey has to say: "I am delighted to share the Ofsted report with you all. I feel it's a true reflection of our school and demonstrates that the learners are at the heart of everything we do."

Parents/Guardians have received the report but feel free to check the website if you would like another look!



Yellow Class

This half term our overarching topic has been focusing on "From Land to Sea", where we have been learning about mini-beats and animals that live in the ocean. We have enjoyed listening to different sensory stories, including "Aaaarrgghh! Spider!" and "Ten Little Fish". This has also been extended into our tuff trays, where we had fun splashing in the large water tuff tray with sea creatures and making different bugs with mud-like playdough. Many of us have enjoyed playing in the garden and jumping in the tuff trays outside!

Yellow Class has also been accessing different places in the community and have been going to Tesco for our shopping and Tesco café for our break. We have enjoyed picking up our different shopping items and going to self-scan, where we have scanned our shopping and using money to pay for them. We have enjoyed picking our snack in the café, and sitting with our friends!

This term we have also been exploring the park on site! We have all had fun running around on the grass, playing on the gym equipment and playing with staff on the swings!

Celebrations!

- Yellow Class would like to give a special shoutout to the whole class! Nova, Cherry, Chizaram, Louis, Luca, Phoebe, Bonnie-Lee and Callie have continued to impress staff with the way they are playing and having fun with each other! Well done, Yellow Class!



Blue Class

This term English writing was based around curriculum links and, in particular, writing non-fiction texts and using the correct past tense and time connectives.

Maths was linked to Data Handling - creating and interpreting tally charts, pictograms and bar charts, and Multiplication. We used the Numicon and other concrete apparatus to show our understanding of 'times' as 'lots of & groups of' and some of us completed formal written multiplication.

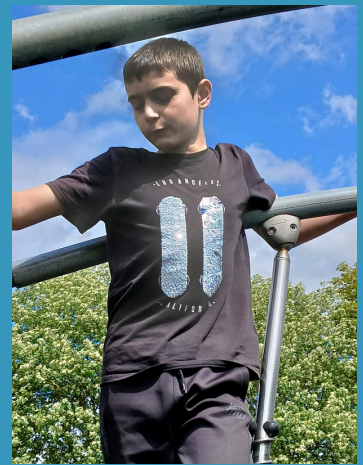
Science & Forest School continued with the topic on Plants. We went to the Garden Centre and bought small plants which planted at the entrance to our school and cared for until they were blooming!

ICT continued with the NEAS Online Safety Campaign, and the topic was Screen Time. We have thought of ways in which we can reduce our screen time and know what to do if we experience uncomfortable online gaming with others.



Celebrations!

- We want to say, 'Goodbye & Good Luck' to Rustam who is moving to a school nearer his home and 'Goodbye & Good Luck' to Kai who is moving (next door) to Purple Class!



Blue Class Continued

Karen, the school nurse, has been in weekly to revisit Puberty (what changes happens to male and female bodies during puberty) and what we need to do to keep on top of our Personal Hygiene & why.

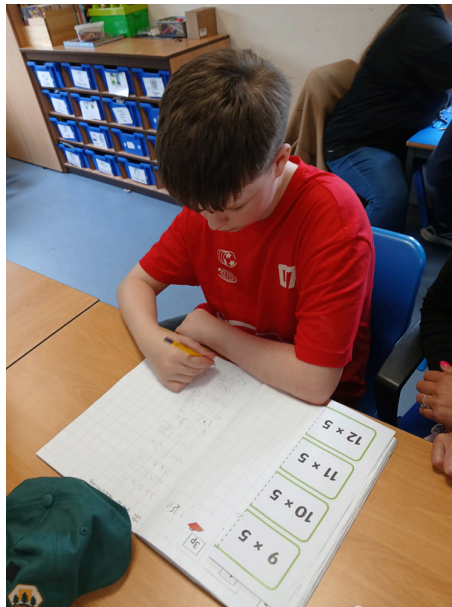
History was a continuation of Egyptians, including a disgusting lesson on mummification - thanks Kelly!

We have continued to do PE with Purple Class in the Sports Hall on a Wednesday afternoon, enjoying games, football & dodgeball. We have also participated in a session with Durham Cricket Club and are developing our horse-riding and stable management skills at Stainsby Stud Stables!

By the time you read this we should have enjoyed an end of year trip to Haven Point Pool, Beach and Park for a fun day out and to celebrate a fantastic year.

Celebrations!

- Also 'Thank you' to parents and carers for supporting Blue Class this year x



Red Class

This half term Red Class have been learning about how to look after our bodies in our topic Healthy Lives.

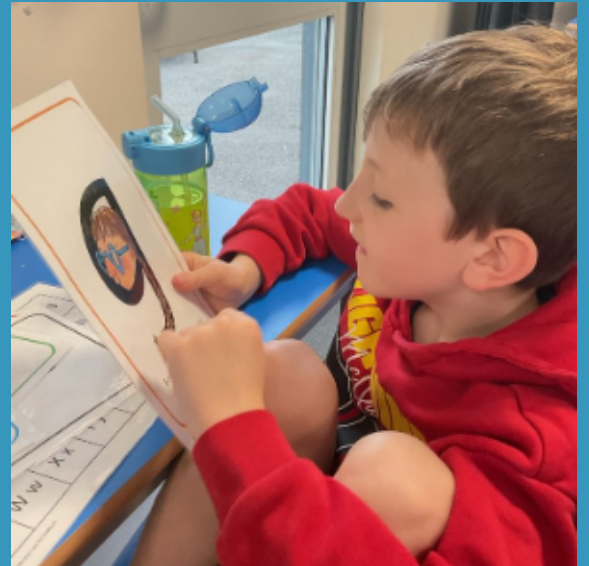
During cooking we have been making fruit smoothies; buying the ingredients, preparing fruit, following a visual recipe and exploring different tastes.

We have talked about the importance of exercise and taken part in lots of physical activities at school and in the community. We have enjoyed lots of songs and activities about the human body and thought about why we need to stay hydrated, wash our hands and how we stay safe in the sun.



Celebrations!

- Red would like to shout a big well done to Ivan- who this term has handled his transition to a new class like a champion! We are all so proud with how Ivan has managed the change and we can't wait to hear about all his fun adventures in Silver class.





Silver Class

We have had a great year in Silver Class, which we marked with a visit to South Shields Haven Point Leisure Centre. We loved the slides, although the steps to the top were a bit of a climb! Obviously swimming makes you hungry so a well deserved McDonald's was enjoyed afterwards!

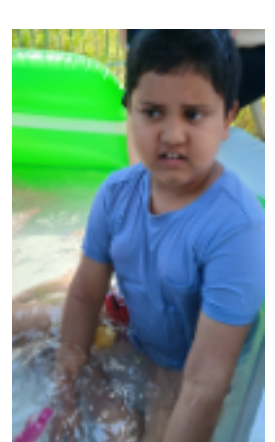
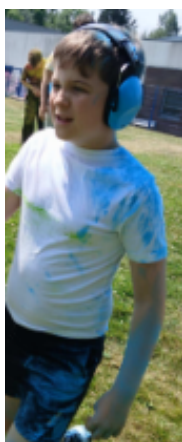
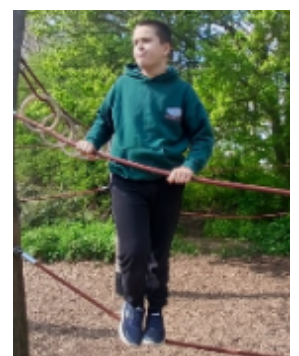
We took part in lots of whole school events this half term, one of our favourite's being the Colour Run! We had colour everywhere! But we had so much fun doing it!

The warm weather has meant we have had to have lots of ice lollies and spend lots of time in the paddling pool to keep ourselves cool.

We have enjoyed different sensory activities indoor and out, as well as working on our balance and co-ordination at different parks.

Celebrations!

A big shout out to Kamil who has been a wonderful member of Silver Class this year. We will miss you! Have lots of fun in your new class!





Celebrations!

- Khobi and Oliver have done a great job accessing new and busy environments and have been great this term doing their work.

Orange Class

This term orange class have been focusing on independent living skills, learners have been cleaning the classroom using different equipment. They have also been using the washing machine putting clothing in and taking it out.

Orange class have also been doing cookery where the focus was eggs and what they can prepare with them, they have made French bread, scrambled egg and poached eggs. Learners have been going to Tesco to buy there own ingredients and handling money showing their understanding.

In Travel training learners have been visiting Beamish and looking at the different transport and being able to access them. They also looked at the clothing and the different shops and the layouts of them. They went to the 1900s and seen the different styles of clothing and items such as the toys and electrical equipment.





Green Class

Green Class has had a very busy and exciting term ! We organised a whole-school party to celebrate the King's Birthday, which was enjoyed by everyone. A special shout-out goes to **Ava**, who took on a major role in planning the celebration. She showed fantastic organisation, creativity, and teamwork, helping to make the event a great success.

We also took part in a healthy eating picnic, where we explored the importance of making healthy food choices while enjoying time together outdoors. To finish the month, we had great fun planning and participating in the school Colour Run. It was a fantastic event filled with laughter, teamwork, and plenty of colourful excitement.

This term, we have also focused on learning about our personal hygiene routines and why they are important for staying healthy. With the recent heatwaves, we have been learning how to stay safe in the sun by wearing sun cream, drinking plenty of water, seeking shade, and wearing a hat to protect ourselves.

We are incredibly proud of all the enthusiasm, teamwork, and positive attitudes Green Class has shown throughout the term. We hope everyone has a wonderful and well-deserved summer break!

As this term comes to an end, we would like to give a very special mention to **Charlie** who is finishing his journey with Green Class. Charlie joined us in 2021 and has been a valued member of our class ever since. Over the past five years he has shared a wonderful journey with both Kirri and Gill who started at the same time, creating many happy memories and achieving so much along the way. We are incredibly proud of everything Charlie has accomplished and wish him every success and happiness as he begins his next exciting adventure. We will all miss him very much!

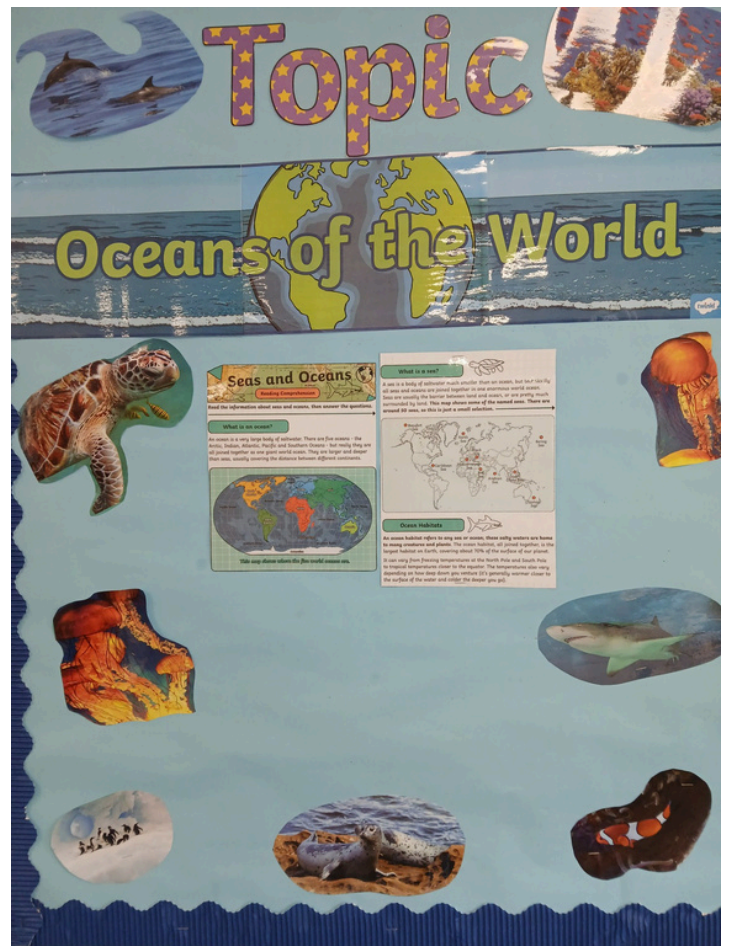


Purple Class

This term Purple class has been studying the life of Walter Tull. He was a footballer who fought in WWI and became the first black officer in the British Army. In maths The learners have been looking at 3D shapes and plotting co-ordinates on graphs using the x and y axis. Oceans of the world has been the subject for topic this term with the learners looking at the levels of the oceans and what creatures live in them. Science has been looking at rocks and fossils and how they were created.

Celebrations!

- The shout out this term is for all our learners in Purple class. They have created a 'human fruit machine' for the summer fayre. So roll up and win a prize.
- Thank you to our learners in Purple. It's been a great year!





Celebrations!

- All of our learners this year have done so well! Thank you for a great year! We will be sending best wishes to Evan, and Ayan as they move to new classes!

Pink Class

This term Pink Class has been enjoying reading and exploring topics around the Jungle Theme. We have loved doing sensory stories around Alan's Big Scary Teeth, Giraffe's Can't Dance, and the Snail and the Whale!

in cookery, we have been focusing on eating healthy foods in fun ways. We made chocolate ice bananas and fruit lollies!

In art, we have been doing lots of fun summer activities such as tie dying, painting plant pots, rainbow painting, and bottle cap bugs.

We have been enjoying our PE sessions in the Sports Hall lead by

We have been enjoying this final half term by doing a lot of dancing, colouring in the garden, gardening, playing in water, and going on onsite walks.





Black/White Classes

The majority of Term 3 has consisted of REVISION! REVISION! REVISION! For the learners in both Black and White Classes.

They have been completing sample maths papers and learning about formulae to help them when completing their exams.

English lessons have all been super busy with learners practicing their presentation skills in time for their English speaking and listening component of their exam. Their reading and writing skills have been tested regularly also.

And if that wasn't enough, the learners have all been sitting their ICT exam.

After all this hard work, the learners were rewarded by helping to make some lovely items for the summer fair such as Jewellery, pin trays, fairy doors and some magnificent artwork. The fair is 15th July and coincides with parent consultations. A message from our learners to all parents is 'Bring your wallet'

Of course our learners have had some R&R time also and enjoyed their end of year trip to Treetop Golf in the Metro Centre and a great time was had by all.

Goodbye!

- We would like to say goodbye to our leavers this year:
 - Brandon Blackburn
 - Kai Hayward
 - Thomaz Paylor- Bent

We wish them well in their future endeavours and it has been a pleasure getting to know them over the years.

Safeguarding

As we approach the summer holidays, we would like to wish all our families a safe, happy and enjoyable break.

The safety and wellbeing of our pupils remains our highest priority. We encourage all parents and carers to talk regularly with their children about staying safe, both in school, out of school and online. Many children spend more time using devices during the holidays, so regular conversations about who they are communicating with, what information they share, and what to do if something makes them feel worried or uncomfortable are important. Please remind your child that they can always speak to a trusted adult if they have any concerns.

Working together helps us to provide a safe, supportive environment where every child can thrive.



Whole School Events

Firetruck Visit

Aycliffe School enjoyed a special treat all thanks to our local Fire Department visiting! The learners had a blast!



Culture Day

Students around the school learned about different cultures! Students enjoyed a large array of activities such as art projects, sensory trays, food tasting, and presentations.



Whole School Events

Careers Fair

Members of the ocommunity came to visit and speak with our learners. We were very spoiled to have so many different jobs on display!



Whole School Events

Colour Run



Whole School Events

Whole School Picnic

Learners took advantage of this warm weather to enjoy a bit of sun and eat an afternoon snack!



Great North Run Fundraiser

Kayleigh, a Level 4 TA at Aycliffe School, is participating in the Great North Run! She says:
"Working with our children every day is incredibly rewarding, and I see firsthand the importance of creating an environment where every child feels understood, supported, and able to thrive. Taking on this challenge is my way of giving back and helping make a positive difference. Training is already underway, and while 13.1 miles will certainly be a challenge, I'm proud to be doing it for such an important cause."



Special Thanks!

We would like to thank all staff, teachers, administrators, parents, guardians, nurses, carers, community members, and the senior leadership team for making a great year. Aycliffe School has been spoiled to have so many people come together to make this school year amazing for our learners. This year has been filled with learning, laughs, smiles, bus trips, whole school events, community member visits, and trips into the community. We are so proud of the work we have done this year and look forward to continuing to support our learners when we return in autumn! We hope you all have a wonder summer break and we will see you in September!



Special Thanks, continued!

