



Spring Newsletter 2023 Volume:25



Peat Rigg Trips

Art GCSE



7ER Superstars

Enterprise

Sensory Assemblies for 5AB

Abbey Hill at North Shore

Promoting Digital Literacy

News from 8AB

World Book Day 2023!

Enterprise

Fun at Fairfax

Website: <https://abbeyhill.horizonstrust.org.uk>

Twitter: @HorizonsTrust



Message from the Principal

Welcome to the 2023 spring edition of the Abbey Hill Academy newsletter.



As you will be aware, this is our first official 'digital' version of this newsletter. I must say that although I love anything technological, I do sometimes miss paper copies. This said, the cost of paper and printing over 300 newsletters is now becoming remarkably high, and I feel that we could use the money saved to much better effect in other areas of the school. If you would like a printed version, please contact the school and we will happily send a copy home.

It is clear from the write ups and pictures within this newsletter how well our students engage with the many different activities at school. Our curriculum philosophy is based around the **Head**, the **Hand** and the **Heart**. The head part of the curriculum is the knowledge and understanding students get from their subjects. This helps them make sense of the world they live in, as well as providing them with the skills to get useful qualifications that will help them move on to their next stage of education. The hand aspect of this is where students get to experience and try different things so that they can put their learning into practice. The heart part of the curriculum is where they develop and explore the type of person they are. We want all of our students to be respectful, tolerant, and confident young people who will make a positive difference to their local community.

We are now nearing the end of the spring term and moving into the summer term. I would like to thank you all for your continued support in helping Abbey Hill Academy be a place 'where amazing children do amazing things'.

I hope you all have relaxing and enjoyable Easter break and look forward to seeing the students return on Monday 17th April.

Website: <https://abbeyhill.horizonstrust.org.uk/>



Horizons Specialist Academy Trust
Providing infinite opportunities

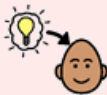
Our Amazing Curriculum

At Abbey Hill we use our:

Head



Learning



Heart



Being kind



Feeling great!



Aiming high



Hand



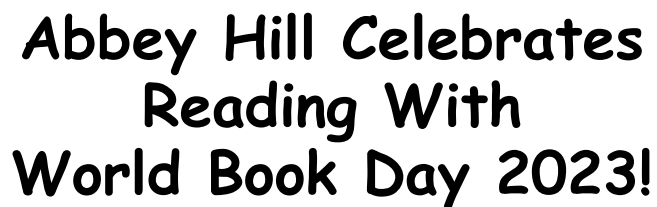
Joining in



Trying new
things



Twitter: @HorizonsTrust



Students were in tutor groups for the morning and created, as pictured above, some FANTASTIC pieces of work. Classroom doors were decorated, bunting for the library was made and Roald Dahl extracts were read throughout the day, with fancy dress and best work prizes being handed out too.



Sensory Assemblies for 5AB

Exciting news from us!!!

This term we have been exploring a different way in which to access Assemblies. We have joined up with 5KO and have started our new Sensory Assemblies on a Thursday afternoon.

Everyone is doing amazing!!! We love going into the hall and experiencing being together with our friends.

We are learning new assembly songs and have a different theme every week. Here is a wee snap shot of some of the things we have been doing.





Promoting Digital Literacy

This term in computing, learning has focused upon digital literacy developing students understanding of steps that they should take to stay safe online and protect their online reputation. The intention is to prepare students for their future interactions in the online world.

Supporting children's online well-being is very much a partnership between school and student's families. The NSPCC have recently published a quick quiz that can support conversations at home.

NSPCC Positively online: top tips for online wellbeing

Staying informed in an ever changed digital world that present opportunities and challenges is of great benefit for everyone. Horizons Trust actively applies National Online Safety (NOS) resources for continued professional development.

These NOS resources include regularly updated free guides on a wide range of online safety issues, which can be download after setting up a free account.

National Online Safety mobile application can be downloaded at the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

National Online Safety Mobile App (nationalcollege.com)

BRAND NEW

National Online Safety Mobile App

It's time to get **#OnlineSafetySavvy**.

Children are spending more time than ever online. As adults, we need to do everything we can to keep them safe in the digital world. But with new apps, games and platforms emerging every day, how can you stay in the know?

Say hello to the new National Online Safety mobile application. Created by experts, developed by us.

With all online safety knowledge available at your fingertips, the NOS app empowers parents and teachers to understand and address online safeguarding risks – any time, anywhere.

The world's most comprehensive online safety app, it's packed with insightful courses, explainer videos, webinars and guides on topics that will help you protect the kids you care about when they're online.





8AB

8AB had a fantastic morning for World Book Day. The book we were given was *Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Some of the students dressed up as Willie Wonka (Chloe A and Aqib). One student was an Umpa Lumpa (Georgina), and one student was Violet (Chloe D) which was great to see.

The students enjoyed decorating our classroom door as Willie Wonka's factory. They learnt how to wrap a parcel and how to make lollypops.

We then invented vegan chocolate pizzas, with the students deciding what to put on the top. They had to follow the instructions to cook the pizza. Then they enjoyed eating the pizza.



During the half term, 8AB enjoyed studying the play *Macbeth*. Students really enjoyed learning their lines and performing their scenes. All the videos and photographs have been uploaded on to Free Flow Info for 8AB families to look at and enjoy.



Peat Rigg Trips

On Monday 6th March 2023 we set off on our adventures to Peat Rigg off over the moors we went with lots of questions like are we there yet ? How long will it take? What do we do when we get there?

Up hills down hills through the glorious North Yorkshire Moors. Cheers of joy filled the coach when we saw the Peat Rigg sign ! We were greeted by the very welcoming Peat Rigg Team. Now our fun and adventures could really begin!

We had a talk and heard about all the fulfilled and exciting activities which lay ahead of us whilst we were at Peat Rigg. We made our own beds unpacked our bags, had the most delicious lunch made by Wendy.

We took part in Zip lining , a ropes course, a night line in the woods where we got wet the staff blamed the animals for wetting us but we know it was the staff with water guns Haha.

We learnt how to create a fire and cooked marshmallows on the campfire , we tasted meat cooked on the fire and we made bread sticks .

We climbed up crates and put our trust in each other to help us get to the bell to ring it which was very high. This also tested our nerves as when the crates fell over we were hanging and we had to put all our trust in our team mates to help lower us down! Great team building exercise. We also became young Robin Hoods as we took part in archery challenges. We also went abseiling off a bridge we had nerves of steel!

Sadly our 3 days at Peat Rigg was to come to an end as we welcomed the next group of Abbey Hill Academy students to Peat Rigg to enjoy the adventures we had enjoyed very much. As we left Peat Rigg we waved good bye to the Peat Rigg Team and Ned the dog. It started to snow!

The next few days at Peat Rigg were very cold but this didn't stop us from trying out new exciting activities from Zip lining, the ropes course, cooking on the camp fire orienteering in the dark, the snow ,the wind & hail.

On Thursday it began to snow we were all very excited as the snow fell. All we could think about was having snowball fights and building the biggest snowman. Our wish came true as we woke up on Friday morning we had a lot



Peat Rigg Trips

We were so excited and couldn't wait to get out side and play but first we had some housekeeping to do we had to make sure our bags were packed and our beds had been stripped, rooms were cleared ready for the next group. After a cooked breakfast and our warm clothes on we were ready to go and play in the snow. We had a great time building snowmen we built a snow giant We had a great time in the snow.

After lunch it was sadly that time again when we had bid farewell to the Peat Rigg and the team lots of memories of a great time and experiences ! But we will be back in September and again in March 2024!

We would like to say a big thank you to all our staff for a great time at Peat Rigg and the Peat Rigg Team for making it so much fun and helping us create long lasting memories.

Happy Easter to you and your families

Best wishes
Suzanne Florence



Last day of spring term: Friday 31st March

First day of summer term: Monday 17th April

Bank holidays: Monday 1st May and Monday 8th May

Summer half term: Monday 29thth May to Friday 2nd June

PD Day: Friday 21st July



Peat Rigg Trips





Abbey Hill at North Shore

Tour of The Globe Theatre

On Thursday 19th January, 8RB went to visit The Globe Theatre in Stockton as part of our English studies. We met our tour guide, Josh, who told us a lot about the history of the building and the famous people who had played there. We got to see all the areas of the theatre including the foyer, bars, auditorium, stage, back stage and even the dressing rooms! Josh allowed our students to control the lights and sounds from the control room and we learned a lot about the day to day running of the Globe. There are lots of original features including an old door that had the autographs of famous people that have played there over the years.





Abbey Hill at North Shore

Contemporary Dance Workshop

On Friday 10th February 8RB enjoyed a visit from Debbie of 'The D-Project', who delivered a very special dance class to our students in our dance studio at North Shore. This opportunity was the final piece of an exciting dance project that our students engaged in through Darlington Sports Partnership. We learned parts of a dance in school each week and performed it for Debbie and our sponsors 'We Can Dance'. It was a fantastic event and we really enjoyed learning a new style of dance and also sharing our fabulous dancing with an audience.



Panathlon Competition

On Tuesday 28th March, 8RB are going to take part in the Panathlon Challenge competition at Queens Campus in Stockton. This event will be an inter-school Panathlon Xtend day for secondary school students with SEND. The event will feature activities such as field athletics, standing long jump, speed bounce, volley bat, boccia blast, new age kurling, floor tennis, Harlem hoops and precision games. Each team will work together to score the most points and every participant will receive a medal for taking part. We are looking forward to showing off our sporting skills!





Abbey Hill at North Shore

Our Wonderful Work!

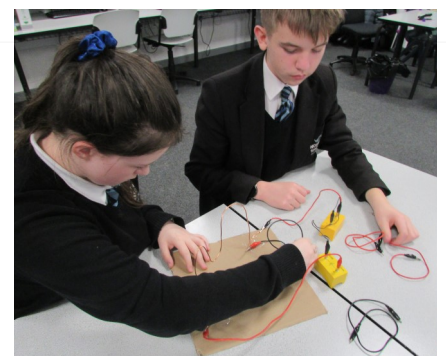
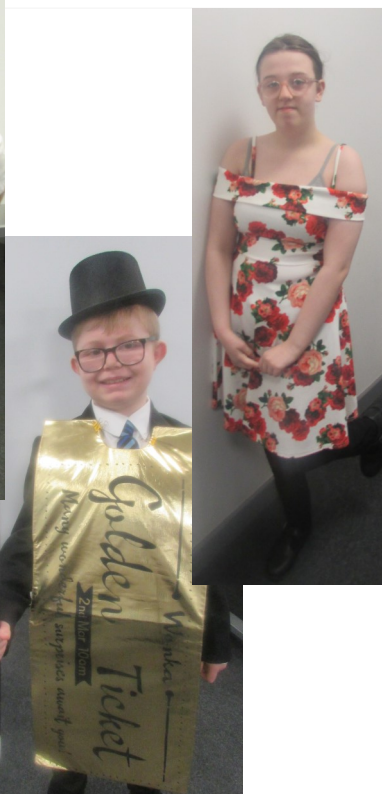
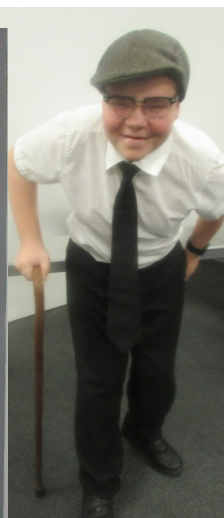
We have had a busy spring term at North Shore, here is a selection of some of our wonderful work!



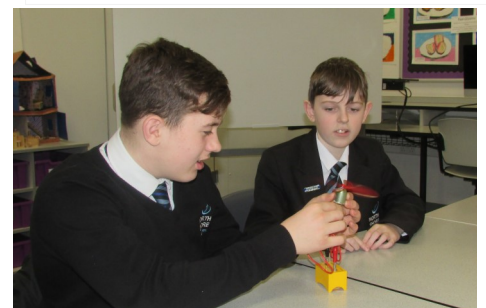
Amazing Art—Creating our own cave paintings while learning about early illustration.



Awesome Acting—We enjoyed making our own props, costumes and acting out some scenes of Shakespeare's



Super Science—We learned all about electrical circuits!



World Book Day—Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



7ER Superstars



Isabella was very kind and caring and wrote to the king about the late queen's death, she said how much she would miss her and drew a lovely picture of the late queen. For Isabella's amazing letter she received a card off the king!
How AMAZING! Well done Isabella!



7ER have been doing some brilliant work in PE, they have been doing lots of different sports such as basketball, cricket and badminton. They all work so well as a team and are very supportive and encouraging to one another.

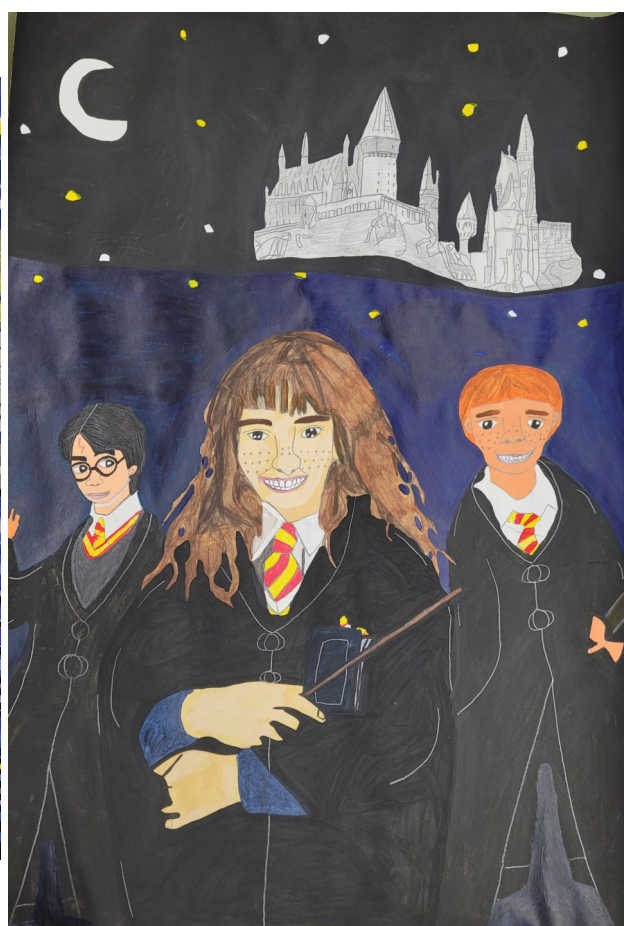


Art GCSE

Raphael and I are doing Art GCSE and we painted Frida Kahlo. My first favourite painting is my Starry Night portrait and my second is Hogwarts with me as Hermione Granger. Then I put my besties as Ron Weasley and Harry Potter. The reason why Art means the world to me is because at first it was like a hobby then I made new friends at my new school and now Art is more like a passion, talent. When I'm not having a good day I just start drawing/painting pictures it helps me to be lost in my own artwork.

Sometimes I draw my friends all the memories we did. If anyone asks how can an autistic girl with anxiety control it and become the best artist in the world? I would say 'I did control it but I don't have a disability I just have a different ability and I tried my best that's all that counts'. That's what my best friend said about trying your best. My other friends help too. Also my Mam helps too.

By Evie Poole





Enterprise

Tuk In has been a great success, business is growing weekly and students are enjoying the independence of visiting the daily stall.



Students will be attending the Young Enterprise awards in April to showcase their business plan and products to a panel of judges.

Lets wish them luck, fingers crossed they receive an award for all of their hard work.





Enterprise

Students of HR worked hard in the run up to Christmas to set up and run their business HR World.

They created products to sell such as chocolate sleighs, tree decorations, marshmallow snowmen and chocolate coin money tins. They attended events; Stockton market and Aspen Gardens Christmas fair.

Students have developed valuable employability skills and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities to attend and sell their products to the public.





Fun at Fairfax



Over at Fairfax we have had a great start to spring with some brilliant World Book day costumes! With the help of witches, giants and a handful of golden tickets we have set up our very own library for students to relax in and be lost within a book.

Fairfax has also welcomed a range of visitors this term to help broaden the experiences of our students and bring learning to life.



The RNLI visit was particularly engaging for the students as they shared with them how to stay safe near open water this year. The free goodies also helped sweeten the deal!

Visits from HSBC have also allowed students to gain a deeper understanding of managing money and finances.



TGI



During TGI this term the students at Fairfax have broadened their horizons by taking part in new and exciting activities. Students have further developed their cookery skills baking goods such as short breads, pizza and scones.

Students have also been learning conversational French! They have done a great job at counting to 20 with some French bingo.

Gardening has been highly successful with the students growing some radishes, tomatoes and other vegetables. The development of a garden area near our playground is well under way.

Students have been jumping away and flipping around with Trampolining. Developing their control and style, students have developed some excellent sequences or moves with increased fluency.

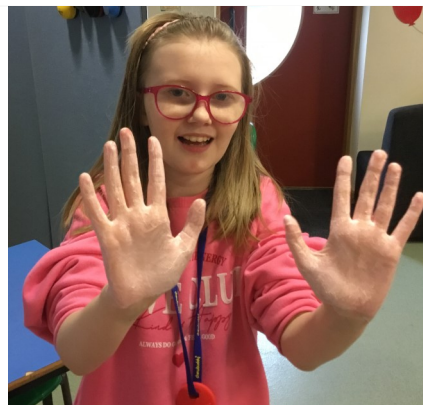




Hand Hygiene with 6AC

The students in 6AC have been investigating how to keep healthy this term. One of their activities was the 'Hand Wash Challenge' where the students experimented with lots of different substances to see which ones were the easiest to clean off.

Students helped carefully plan their experiment by writing a list of equipment, organising their resources and recording their findings. Afterwards, they designed some brilliant posters to remind students how important it is to keep our hands clean.



**WASH
YOUR
HANDS**



Written by 6AC



Snapshots of spring term 2023

