



Every Pupil Matters, Every Moment Counts

# Auckland College Newsletter February 2020



## A message from Headteacher, Miss Boyd

It seems like just yesterday we were preparing for Christmas and now we're already half-way through the academic year.

I must say, the Winter performances in December for the Early Years department, held at The Grace Family Church and the Winter Gala for Year 1 upwards, held at King's Leadership Academy, were a huge success. Particular mention must be given to, not just the talent of our pupils and staff, but the wonderful story of the history of the school, which was told by each class in their own unique way. It was a truly magical night, and I know Mr and Mrs Akaraonye were extremely touched by the whole experience.

There have been many different events taking place during this half term and you will read in the following pages just what each class has been up to. Some special events which have particularly stood out to me, were the celebrations across the school for Chinese New Year, National Handwriting Day and Safer Internet Day. The learning,

engagement and enthusiasm of staff and pupils taking place right from Pre-Prep was wonderful to witness. National Handwriting Day saw us, not just developing our handwriting to be our best, but to really focus on extended writing and writing for purpose. We also developed our fine motor skills with competitions and handed out a few more 'much sought after' pen licences.

Safer Internet Day provided a basis for us to highlight those positives and unfortunately the dangers of being active 'online'. We shared some parent tools to help protect pupils at home also and we hope you found these useful.

Early in the academic year I was fortunate to meet with the founders of The Chazuka Project, a charity set up to support the children and families of Chazuka in Malawi. I received the wonderful news just before Christmas that they received their charitable status and that we could begin to support their work in the new year. This has begun with our Community Engagement group

within our Enhanced Curriculum setting up their bake sale raising over £160. As we start the new half term, pupils in Year 5—8 will be participating an exciting Engineering Workshop led by The Chazuka Project team. I know the PTA and I have already discussed how we can also support their work, so keep an eye out for any further events we will run to support the children and families of Chazuka.

We continue to encourage our children and staff to maintain high standards of personal hygiene to minimise the spread of germs within the school environment. In light of the Coronavirus situation, if you have been on holiday over the half term and you have travelled to any of the listed countries, (China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Macau) please refer to the guidance published by the NHS and Government and inform the school before returning.

Kind regards, Miss Boyd

## Achievements

Secondary Dojo Leaders	Secondary 100% Attendance	Prep Dojo Leaders	Prep 100% Attendance
Gold Grace C (Yr 8)	Gold Tillie H (Yr 7)	Gold Jessica K (Yr 5)	Gold Amber F C (Yr 1)
Silver Fuad N (Yr 9)	Silver Fuad N (Yr 9)	Silver Samuel D (Yr 4)	Silver Maxine K (Yr 5)
Bronze Millie McE (Yr 7)	Bronze Omar Ar (Yr 7)	Bronze Riley P (Yr 6)	Bronze Sam R (Yr 3) & James S (Yr 5)

# Early Years News

## What has Pre-Prep 1 been up to? - Miss Lloyd

Pre prep 1 has been very busy! We have become very confident with number recognition, sequencing and 2D shapes.

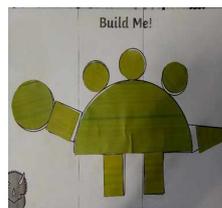
We love to learn new phase 2 sounds, we have begun to look at the initial sounds in words and some of us are beginning to segment and blend simple cvc words like cat, tap, sat.

We have been learning about lots of different topics such as Dinosaurs, Arctic, and Under the Sea. We have engaged in imaginative Dinosaur role play and been learning lots of new words such as 'Carnivore' and 'Herbivore'. Iggy the Inuit needed

help with 2D shapes when he visited our class and left games out for us!

We have learned about different cultures and celebrations such as Chinese New Year; we were Chefs in our Chinese restaurant and made some delicious food for us all to taste!

Our classroom has now turned into a place 'Under the Sea' and we have had lots of fun creating different sea creatures, learning about the ocean and listening to the sounds Dolphins and Whales make!



## What has Pre-Prep 2 been up to? - Miss Patterson

It's been a busy start to the New Year for Pre-Prep 2. We have been learning all about what makes us special/unique by celebrating our similarities and differences.

In honour of Chinese New Year, we learnt about some of the different ways the day is celebrated, we made our own Chinese fans and even ate some yummy food!

The children have particularly enjoyed reading our topic book 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

We have continued to develop our phonics knowledge by singing our Letterland

and Jolly Phonics songs, as well as learning the signs for the different letter sounds.

To help with our physical development we have participated in a number of games and activities in PE. This has been with a focus on throwing, catching, travelling and using equipment safely.

All the children have been engaging in new experiences by using different technology to support their learning. One of our favourite lessons was using a Dictaphone to record our voices to show how everyone's voices are different. We had lots of fun guessing whose voice we could hear!

In Mathematics, we have been continuing to practise our counting between 0-20, as well as looking at different measurements including length and size of different pictures and objects.

In Expressive Arts and Design, we have been developing our knowledge of music by playing some of our musical instruments. The children have even been learning some of the instruments names and are beginning to identify how their sounds differ. We all especially enjoy playing in our new role play kitchen area.

## What has Pre-Prep 3 been up to? - Mrs Collins

Pre Prep 3 have worked extremely hard having to complete patterns this half term in all their lessons. independently.

All the children have received reading books, as they have all been practicing their Phase 2 sounds, their segmenting of Phase 2 and Phase 3 sounds, as well as their blending skills. This is a fantastic achievement for all our Pre Prep 3 children.

In Numeracy, the children have enjoyed learning about 2D shapes and some 3D shapes; they especially enjoyed creating dinosaurs out of 2D and 3D shapes, as well as learning about patterns, and

The children enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year, including taking part in a Workshop to complete many creative activities and learn about the traditions of Chinese New Year.

In PSED, the children have been learning about Friendship and Honesty, and how Pre Prep 3 can tell the truth and help others when needed.

Pre Prep 3 have had an excellent half term.



## What has Reception been up to? - Miss Scholfield and Miss Bainbridge

Our Reception classes have been very busy this term. We've enjoyed our topic of Space, reading fantastic stories 'Whatever Next' and 'Beegu'. We've enjoyed looking at the characters and particularly acting out different parts. Our writing is really improving too and we wrote some great sentences independently.

Our tricky word knowledge is ever increasing and we are constantly trying to improve. We love a bit of competition too!

In our numeracy this term we continued to work with and recognise features of shapes, as well as coin recognition, addition and subtraction.

We were very lucky to welcome author Jude Lennon to our class. She read us her story SuperBob, which she wrote to help the Slow Down for Bobby Campaign. We learnt lots and 'wowed' her with our knowledge of road safety too.

We enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year and participated in a workshop, making traditional crafts, learning about

why each new year has a different name of an animal and also tasting some Chinese food.

We were a bit disappointed that Storm Ciara stopped our trip to Sefton Park to launch the rockets we made, but hopefully if we can get a clear day next week, we can go and let them off.

All in all, we've been really busy these last few weeks. We're looking forward to our next topic and what the Spring half term will bring!

## What has year 1 been up to? - Miss Kelly

Year 1 have continued to make fantastic progress this term and have especially enjoyed our 'Local area & Liverpool' topic. They created some fantastic paintings and prints of the Liver Buildings and the Albert Dock, as well as designing their own 'SuperLamb Banana'.

In Literacy lessons, we have been learning about 'non-fiction' text features. Using the information we learnt about Liverpool, we created our own non-fiction books based on places to visit. The children worked very hard on

their books and enjoyed sharing them with Year 2 pupils.

In Numeracy lessons, Year 1 has been using division as a means of sharing and multiplying to count sets of objects. We then led on to learning our 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

The children are looking forward to their trip next term to 'Imagine That', to do some science-based discovery learning.



# Prep News

## What has Year 2 been up to? Miss Murphy

This term, we have been exploring the life of famous British Queens. We have studied the life of Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. We have been able to compare our lives, to lives of children during the reign of these 3 monarchs.

To finish our topic off nicely, we had an exciting visit to Tatton Park. While there, we were transported to 1887, during the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of Queen Victoria. In order to prepare for the visit of Prince of Wales, Lord and Lady Egerton needed to hire many

extra household staff. We went and tried out in the hope to be hired as servants in the house!

We spent the day preparing the house for visitors, cleaning and even baking! We finished our trip off with a tour of the Egerton Mansion, having the chance to see many original artefacts in the house. We thoroughly enjoyed this trip!



## What has Year 3 been up to? - Miss Lyons and Miss Muscart

During this half term, Year 3 has been studying the Romans.

Recently, we had the pleasure of participating in an exciting Roman tour around the beautiful town of Chester, where we met a legionnaire who put our Roman knowledge to the test and he even taught us how to create a strong Roman defence formation.

Our terrific hosts took us on a very informative tour around the Grosvenor Museum and we had the opportunity to take part in a Roman role play. We have applied our understanding of this

exciting time in history to our writing in our English lessons.

With our excellent knowledge, we have empathised with key characters from this historic time to create some fantastic play scripts and persuasive writes. We have really enjoyed learning all about the Romans and we are really looking forward to beginning our next topic of 'Extreme Earth' in the next half term.



## What has Year 4 been up to? - Miss Trainor and Miss Buckland

We have had another fantastic term in Year 4.

In English, this term we have studied poetry, looking at some famous Victorian poets. We have analysed the poetic devices used by some of the worlds most famous poets, including Christina Rossetti. We have even written and performed our own poems!

In mathematics we have been working on multiplication and division; using a variety of reasoning, problem solving and fluency techniques to up-level our mastery skills. We have tried and tested a number of written methods to find the most efficient way to work out the answer. We have used our timestable knowledge to support us in working out the answers.

In Science we have been studying sound, focusing on pitch and vibrations. We have tested how sound travels and how the distance can effect this. The students particularly enjoyed making noise!

In our topic we have been learning all about the Victorians. We have been comparing how people lived in the Victorian days to how children live today, focusing on jobs, houses and inventions. The children thoroughly enjoyed comparing the Victorian school rules in contrast to our school.

In Art we have continued our Victorian theme, focusing on famous artist William Morrison and how he uses patterns. We have used his work to inspire us to create our own patterns.

We have had a great start to the new year and are all very excited about the new topics we will be learning next term. We will be visiting Chester Zoo the first week back to support us in our new science topic 'living things and habitats'.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this first term.



## What has Year 5 been up to? - Miss Dobbins

Year 5 has fully embraced exploring World War II this half term. They have shown great enthusiasm towards the topic and have learned about different key events from World War II through our English and history lessons. They developed secure understanding and knowledge about the Battle of Britain; the importance of evacuation and rationing; and the significant role women had during World War II. Additionally, we used our new knowledge to discuss values that are important and how we could apply these values to situations in our own lives.

In literacy, we have been using our new understanding of World War II to learn a

variety of structural features to create non-fiction texts that include persuasive writing, diary entries and recounts. Furthermore, the children have been researching, planning and developing their ideas about World War II to produce excellent pieces of independent writing which we will continue in the next half term.

In numeracy, Year 5 has been practising their fluency, problem solving and reasoning skills. They have been using these skills to deepen their knowledge and understanding of perimeter, area, multiplication, division and fractions.

During our science lessons, the children have been learning about different materials, their uses and properties. We have carried out different investigations that allowed us to explore the properties of materials in order to sort and classify objects and discover the most suitable material for different purposes.

I am impressed with the children's ability to work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate the best thermal insulators to make a lunch box and the best electrical conductors to make brighter floodlights.

## What has Year 6 been up to? - Mr Ramsden

This past term, Year 6 have been beginning their preparations for the SATs in May. Though they may be a long way off, it is important that they regularly look at questions alongside their usual learning, so that they are familiar with the tests next term.

It hasn't been all about the tests, Year 6 have been studying a range of topics recently. The main one of these has been The Victorians. This is a common topic to study in schools, as it is such an

interesting part of British history, but in Year 6 we have focused on the lives of children who were poor and the difficulties they would have faced. We particularly enjoyed the book 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and kite making in Design Technology (a popular Victorian pastime). In Spanish we have also been advancing our knowledge by working with ever increasing numbers and learning about how the different verbs are used correctly. We have a

busy next half term coming, but are looking forward to the challenge, wish us luck!



# Secondary News

## Geography— Mrs Moore

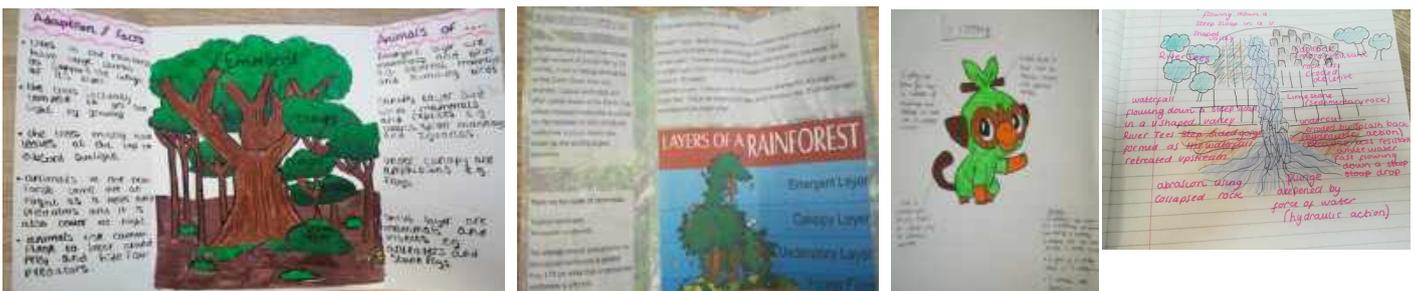
Year 7 has been studying development and globalisation. They have considered the lives of those who live in Low Income Developing Countries. Year 7 have designed houses for those who have migrated to cities and discovered the hard life some have inside an Apple factory in China. They also played a development game which included the distribution of biscuits. The table with one Rich Tea between 5 people thought this game was particularly unfair especially when Tillie got 8 Chocolate Digestives, luckily she came to their aid and shared some of her biscuits.

During this half term Year 8 has been studying Tropical Rainforests. They

have produced some maps to show locations and created climate graphs to show temperature and rainfall. They investigated the layers of the rainforest and produced some super information leaflets. They also studied some animals and plants that live in the rainforest, finding adaptations that help them survive. Students designed their own animal to live in the rainforest. Finally they looked at the impacts of people on the rainforest and wrote a detailed assessment about deforestation. Next half term to complete their studies, they will be visiting Chester Zoo to further look at the environments plants and animals live in and comparing adaptations of

different animals to those who live in other extreme environments.

In year 9 and 10 we have been studying distinctive landscapes, the students have been practicing key geographical skills including creating sketch maps of High Force Waterfall, labelling pictures and diagrams and describing graphs. They have examined the geology of the UK and considered human and physical impacts on different landscapes. Students have investigated the formation of waterfalls in their study of the different courses of a river and will begin to compile revision packs throughout year 10 and year 11 using many different techniques along the



## IT— Miss hodson

Year 11 had an exciting start to this term with a special visit from the Merseyside Police Cyber Security Unit. Pupils participated in a cyber security workshop to strengthen their knowledge for their GCSE course and examination in May 2020.



Year 6 has been learning about George Boole who helped establish modern symbolic logic and whose algebra of logic, now called Boolean algebra, is basic to the design of digital computer circuits. Year 6 have become masters at converting between binary and denary numbers; they have been learning basic logic gates, creating digital logic circuits and have learnt how to create truth tables for their circuits.

Year 7 and 8 have been learning about cyber security, computer legislation and what the

environmental and ethical issues are concerning computer science.

Year 9 and 10 has been advancing their skills and knowledge of modelling data using Google sheets.

Computer Club is a great opportunity to work on topics in more detail. This term we enjoyed some excellent coding using Micro:bit.



## Science— Miss Burns

Year 7 has been busy experimenting with different states of matter this term. They have looked at how state changes occur by finding the melting point of chocolate. They then used their models to discuss diffusion and experimented with tea bags and skittles! At the end of the term they worked as scientists to conduct their own experiment to separate salt from a mixture.

Year 8 has been learning about heat energy transfer; they conducted an experiment to see which material is the best emitter and absorber of infrared radiation. They then explored how to reduce this heat loss by experimenting with different materials. Using what they found out, they discussed how houses are insulated and researched different methods of insulating a house.

## Art— Miss Bradshaw

Year 7 has been working hard this half term to complete their Pop Art Portraits project. During this, year 7 has been developing their ideas through investigations into the Pop Art movement and in particular working in the style of the artist Julian Opie. They have been creating portraits of celebrities in the style of this artist and their own self portrait.

Pupils have been demonstrating their knowledge in colour theory and mixing colours. They have demonstrating warm/cool colour groups and block colour ranges /blending colours.

This term Year 8 has continued to develop on the theme 'Sweets and Treats' into 3D form.

Throughout the project pupils have demonstrated critical understanding of sources to do with this theme, in particular, researching into the work of Claes Oldenburg and his over sized food sculptures.

They have explored techniques such as soft paper sculpture and developed their skill grid technique.

During this term, year 9 & 10 has begun to research into the theme 'Culture', to develop their ideas, experimenting with various materials and techniques such as painting, collage and drawing.

Year 9/10 has been studying genetics in Biology. They started the year looking at meiosis and modelled this using play dough. They then looked closer at the structure of DNA and some were able to use their art skills and make DNA origami. They looked at DNA in different organisms and even extracted it from a strawberry!

Year 11 has been finding different methods of extracting metals and are now able to evaluate these methods. They then focused on speeding up reactions. They have designed experiments and analysed graphs to measure the rate of different reactions.

In Science club we had great fun making lava lamps and also

In Crazy Science we've enjoyed making bath bombs and investigated the density of different liquids.





# Our Gallery of Stars



Author Jude Lennon's visit for the Slow Down for Bobby Campaign



Chinese New Year Workshops



National Handwriting Day

Food Tech creations in Enhanced Curriculum

