



Newsletter

Summer Term 1 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been a wonderful summer term so far with everyone making the most of the brighter days. Personally, it's felt like a particularly fun time of year to step into my role as Headteacher, and I have been overwhelmed by everyone's encouragement and support. Thank you!

The term began with the Wentworth class going to Bendrigg for their first residential trip and having a fabulous time away from home. There are plenty of pictures on the back page evidencing the amazing activities they were able to take part in. This was swiftly followed by a Paces annual highlight- Multicultural week. Each class put their heart and soul into learning about their country of choice and there was a wonderful display of flags, costumes, dancing, tradition and food in every room. It was so lovely to see the pupils getting stuck in to all that was on offer. Thank you to all who came and got involved at the end of the week.

Finally, Ruth and I had the absolute honour of representing Paces at the Royal Garden party at Buckingham Palace where we were celebrated amongst thousands of others for our contribution to education and skills. It was a very special treat and a memory that will last a lifetime.

Before we finish for the break, we have the Danceathon to round things off!! Then the final half term of the year will no doubt involve more time spent outdoors, particularly (we hope!) on our Sports Days and at our end of term music festival. As always, thank you very much for all you do to support our school- we are so grateful. We look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 3rd June.

Best wishes,

Lizzie

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Finish for Half Term: Friday 23rd May 2025

Staff Training Day: Monday 2nd June 2025

Pupils return to school: Tuesday 3rd June 2025

Parents/Carers coffee morning: Tuesday 3rd June 2025 (9-11am)

Parents' Evening: 3rd - 4th June 2025

Sports day: Monday 9th June 2025,
Wentworth, Chatsworth, Balmoral, Windsor

Sports day: Tuesday 10th June 2025,
Hardwick, Warwick, Durham, Edinburgh

Growing Up Days: 16-17th June 2025

Careers week: 30th June – 4th July 2025

Summer Festival: Tuesday 22nd July 2025

Finish for Summer Holidays!! Wednesday 23rd July 2025

Durham Class:

This term, Durham Class has dived into the fascinating topic of Coastlines across all subjects.

In English, we enjoyed *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*, using role play, storytelling, and descriptive writing to explore seaside settings and develop our reading and writing skills.

In Maths, we focused on multiplication, division, and money, using hands-on activities to make learning practical and engaging.

Our Science investigations centred on Sinking and Floating, exploring materials and their properties through exciting experiments.

In Geography, we took a virtual trip to the coast, learning about features like cliffs, beaches, and harbours.

Art brought our learning to life as we have been creating textured 3D coastline models using a variety of materials.

In Music, we enjoyed singing and moving to traditional Sea Shanties, learning about rhythm and teamwork.

Our PSHE lessons focused on staying safe when we are out and about.

It's been a busy, fun-filled term full of exploration and discovery!



Warwick 1 Class:

This term we have been busy with our topic 'Sunshine and Sunflowers'. The class have enjoyed the sensory story 'Errol's Garden' and then planned and made their own 'garden in a box' just like Errol. We have been learning about and growing our own plants. We made a flowerpot to plant our sunflower seeds in and are now looking after them and watching them grow.

(It's a bit of a competition to see who's will grow the tallest!)

Our class have had some very special guests that have helped us learn about a butterfly lifecycle. We have watched caterpillars grow, and they are now at the special stage of a chrysalis. We are hoping to have butterflies by the start of our new term. We made our very own caterpillar, and a butterfly suncatcher that shows off all the beautiful colours of a butterfly.

During multi-cultural week we had a lot of fun learning about Italy, and enjoyed making pizza, and lemon sorbet, before taking a trip around all the different countries!

We hope you have a lovely half term. We can't wait to carry on our learning on 'Sunshine and Sunflowers!'.



Edinburgh Class:

Edinburgh Class have had a lovely half term. There has been fun and laughter, alongside learning about our new Olympics and Paralympics topic.

We had fun at Easter creating our "Conductive Egg-ucation" scenery, which won the competition! We were all very proud.

Multi-cultural week was this term, and we enjoyed learning all about Pakistan. We created Mandalas, explored and designed a prayer mat, and learnt a Bhangra-style dance, which we performed to our parents and carers.

We have enjoyed learning about Paralympians with Cerebral Palsy, and it was amazing to meet a real-life para-athlete called Ellie Simpson. We even got to look at a real silver medal that she won! We've watched videos of Hannah Cockroft, a wheelchair racer, David Smith, a boccia player, and Tully Kearney, a swimmer. We were all very shocked to learn they'd all been given special medals from the King because of all their achievements, and we wrote speeches stating why each person is a "Sporting Hero!"

We also visited Crucial Crew, learning about fire, bus and road safety. We practised phoning 999, learnt how to use a pelican crossing and got to sit on a bus!



Hardwick Class:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hardwick Class have had a huge amount of fun with our topic this half term: Splash! As the name suggests, the pupils have been exploring, playing with and getting the classroom covered in water! The maths sessions have centred around this topic by working on number rhymes such as 5 Little Ducks & 5 Little Speckled Frogs where after each one jumps in, there has been a huge splash of water, which the pupils have been very clear in saying if they wanted 'more' or not.

Hardwick Class have also hosted a wonderful beach day! The classroom was decorated with lots of things you might find at the beach: a sand pit to make sandcastles, a water tray to splash in, lots of sea creatures to play with and the absolute highlight of the day – lots of food! The pupils have had ice cream, doughnuts & hot dogs!

The Hardwick Class have worked hard on their physical skills this half term, making full use of the length of the classroom by walking, crawling and transferring all the way down, they have been making some incredible progress, and it is a true joy to see how motivated they are!



Wentworth Class:

Dear Parents and Carers,

We're now over halfway through the half term, and it's been a busy and exciting few weeks! The pupils have taken part in a range of enriching experiences that have supported their learning across the curriculum.

Our residential trip to the Bendrigg Trust was a huge success! The pupils had the chance to try new activities such as abseiling, canoeing, caving, and zip wiring. Many faced their fears and worked together to overcome challenges.

It was a brilliant opportunity for them to grow in independence, develop teamwork skills, and build self-confidence. These experiences are now supporting their learning back in the classroom, especially in their writing and PSHE sessions.

As part of our RE and cultural learning, we visited a local mosque. The pupils were respectful, curious, and engaged throughout. They learnt about Islamic traditions, the purpose of prayer, and the features of the mosque building.

This visit helped us explore similarities and differences between cultures and promoted understanding and tolerance.



Warwick 2:

In Warwick class 2, we have welcomed two new friends, Ada and Myla as well as a new conductor assistant, Regan.

We have enjoyed exploring all things spring within our topic 'Sunshine and Flowers'.

We have been on spider hunts, collecting and counting flowers in maths. Digging and planting seeds linking to our class sensory story "Errol's Garden", We have learnt the importance of sharing and helping our friends.

We have been little investigators watching our 5 little hungry caterpillars eat, eat and eat to grow into beautiful butterflies. We have been observing the process and learning lots of fact about them. As well as creating some amazing master pieces.

WOW! We have done so much this half term, and we can't wait to continue our topic next half term, we have some very exciting things planned.

We hope you have a lovely half term break,



Chatsworth Class:

We've had a great start to our new topic: Castles, Knights and Fairytales. In English, we have had fun reading a sensory story called 'Sir Pranceabout and the Dragon' which is all about what a knight does when he meets a fierce dragon! We have used this to develop our anticipation of the story's events, purposeful exploration of props, and attentive listening skills. The nature of the topic means that History lessons have been rich and varied – for example, we explored a sound story about the different sounds we might encounter inside a castle, and enjoyed experiencing royal life as a king or a queen! In Maths, we have worked on cardinality and counting and have used topic-related resources such as figures of kings and queens to expand our awareness of number. Our RE learning centred on the Christian celebration of Easter. This included crafting, an Easter sensory story, and even an Easter-themed Phonics session. Finally, we have benefited from further enriching activities such as multisensory Music sessions, Multicultural Week, Hydrotherapy sessions, and the highly anticipated Danceathon!



Windsor Class:

Windsor class had a wonderful start to this half term with our fabulous French week, where they created art inspired by Monet, wrote postcards and helped construct a model Eiffel Tower. Students not only bravely explored the French cuisine, but also cooked a marvellous French onion soup to share on Friday. In our music sessions with Rosie we have explored some traditional Breton music; the accordions were very popular.

part of our Food and Health WJEC Science unit, we have been learning about why we need food and nutrition guidelines, putting this into practice by making healthy Banana Bread, and an Aubergine Dahl and Raita which provides your 5-a-day. Developing independence and communication continues to be a core focus of everything we do, and we have been very impressed by how students have helped get organised for cooking, directed people to help them cook, and cleaned up afterwards.

Thinking about Preparing for Adulthood, students have also enjoyed two visits: to Barnsley College and to a community VE day afternoon tea. Both experiences have helped students develop confidence in new situations and given a glimpse of things they might like to do in the future. Students were very impressed by the college facilities and very keen to attend the next community lunch.

We have begun our Tudor topic, linked to our class novel. In Humanities, students enjoyed meeting the "Naughty King" and making crowns and they have been comparing modern and Tudor toys and games. We have lots to look forward to with this exciting topic!



Balmoral Class:

We've had an inspiring and action-packed term in Balmoral Class as we've explored our topic "Spirit." A real highlight was our visit from Ellie Simpson, a world champion race runner with cerebral palsy. The children were truly inspired by her story, asking brilliant questions and showing great empathy and interest.

In English, we've been learning the art of persuasive writing – from creating adverts to sell delicious chocolate bars to writing speeches that support football teams or celebrate incredible athletes like Jessica-Jane Applegate, Jesse Owens, and Tanni Grey-Thompson.

We've also enjoyed trying out inclusive sports such as Goalball, sit-down volleyball, javelin, shot putt, and even having the opportunity to go swimming which was fantastic, all while learning how sports can be adapted to be more inclusive.

We have read our text The Ancient Olympic Games and have explored the origins and evolution of the Olympic Games and had fun designing our own Olympic torches, rings, and are even designing our own Balmoral Class flag.

We also enjoyed our trip to Crucial Crew learning how to call emergency services, cross a road safely and how to catch a bus.

It's been a fantastic term and we're looking forward to continuing this exciting topic next term with even more amazing activities planned.



Multicultural Week:

The collage features 18 photographs of children and adults participating in Multicultural Week activities. The photos are arranged in a grid-like fashion, overlapping each other. The background is a bright blue sky with colorful butterflies and flowers. The photos show children in various costumes, including a lion's mane, a Viking hat, a Japanese kimono, and a Native American headdress. They are also engaged in activities like playing musical instruments, reading books, and working on crafts. The photos are set against a background of a bright blue sky with colorful butterflies and flowers.

Bendrigg:



Message from Director of Services:

This half term has been another jam packed half term with both pupils and staff working really hard throughout. Some of my favourite events take place in the summer term including multicultural week and the danceathon. I have continued to thoroughly enjoy spending time in the school, working closely with Lizzie and Jenny as well as the rest of the staff team.

We look forward to some key events next half term including sports day and the music festival which is always good fun. But as always what is the best of part of being at Paces is being in school on a normal day and witnessing the progress and commitment of the pupils.

A huge thank you also to parents and carers for their ongoing support particularly with the danceathon.

Best wishes

Ruth