

AUCKLAND PREP NEWSLETTER



Key Dates

- Last Day of Holiday club - Fri 22nd Dec
- Holiday Club Opens - Wed 3rd Jan
- Spring term begins - Mon 8th Jan
- National Handwriting Day - Mon 23rd Jan
- National Storytelling Week - Mon 30th Jan
- NSPCC Maths Day - Fri 3rd Feb
- Children's Mental Health Week - Mon 6th Feb
- Safer Internet Day - Wed 8th Feb
- Chinese New Year- Sat 10th Feb
- End of Term - Fri 16th Feb

Deputy Head's Message

After a long term, we hope you all have a wonderful break. The children have been working extremely hard since September and we are really pleased with what they have achieved.

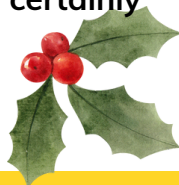
I have been particularly proud of the way in which the children have worked with the local community; raising money for charity, litter picking, singing for a local care home and performing in the fantastic Winter Performances. It is so important to reach out to others and this is something that we want to instil in our students for the future.

We hope you enjoy reading about our achievements in this newsletter; we certainly enjoyed completing them.

Have a great winter break.

Miss Kelly

Deputy Headteacher



Important Notices

school Uniform

Can all families please ensure that students have their full school uniform each day. In particular that the correct PE kit is worn, this includes the school branded black PE sweatshirt. It is important for the students to have pride in the school and part of this is being ready to learn in the correct uniform.



Year 1

What a wonderful half term we have had; the children have really settled in to year one life and are making fantastic progression across all areas.

In English this term, we have been reading and writing traditional tales. The children have produced fantastic pieces of independent writing and are continuing to develop their level 5 phonic knowledge. In Maths we have been working on time and measurement and the children have really grasped these concepts and are confident in sequencing events.

In topic we have been learning all about 'Our Local Area'; it was lovely to see the children's wonderful local area creations and hear all about how they had made them with their grown-ups. We also enjoyed a trip to the Museum of Liverpool as part of our topic and were delighted when the staff at the museum commented on how well our pupils behaved, which was lovely to hear.

We were so proud of how well the children performed the winter production this year; they worked really hard in the run up and have had a fantastic week celebrating their achievements this week.

Next term we will be starting our 'Great Fire of London' topic and looking at place value within 20.

Have a lovely winter break,

Miss Monaghan, Miss Martin and Mrs Gordon.



Year 2

It has been a very busy half term for Year 2 and it has flown by!

In Maths, we began the term with word and reasoning problems before moving onto our money unit. The children have spent lots of time adding coins and working out change. We have just begun multiplication and have used festive themed questions to help us learn.

In English, the children have incorporated language features from Autumn 1 into writing postcards, job adverts and Haiku poems. We are very proud to have seen some creative adjectives, verbs and adverbs used in the children's work!

Through our termly topic 'What a Wonderful World', children have been able to name and locate Earth's continents and oceans. We also discussed the types of habitats across our planet and the different animals which live in them. This learning was brought to life with a workshop in the World Museum where we saw the animals which habituate in rockpools.

We spent lots of time rehearsing for our Winter Performance and were so proud of how well the children did! We wish all families a safe winter break and we are looking forward to hearing about the adventures the children get up to when we see them again in January!

Have a happy Christmas and a lovely start to 2024.

Miss Thompson and Miss Hanson



Year 3



Wow! What an amazing, busy half term we have had in Year 3.

In English, pupils studied non-fiction travel brochures about Liverpool. The pupils learnt about the language features of a brochure and used their knowledge of this to help them plan, draft, edit and perform their own brochure about Liverpool. Following this, the pupils read 'The Curse of Cogston House' and wrote their own mystery story inspired by the book with two alternative endings. The stories were full of creative language, suspense, and imagination! Towards the end of term, we focused heavily on our spelling, punctuation, and grammar and learnt how to accurately use direct speech within our work.

In Maths, pupils have been very busy working on their multiplication skills using repeated addition and subtraction, number lines, equal groups, arrays, and inverse operations to help them solve calculations. Throughout our Multiplication and Division unit, we have been primarily focusing on recapping our 2-, 5- and 10- times tables as well as learning our 3-, 4-, and 8- times tables. The pupils have loved using catchy songs to help them memorise their multiplication and division facts.

In Science, Year 3 have been learning all about light and its importance as an energy source. Pupils explored what reflection and darkness means and how mirrors reflect light to create a clear image. Following this, we discussed the properties of reflective materials and their importance in increasing visibility and safety in low light conditions. In addition, the children discovered the benefits and dangers of the sun and investigated how UV rays can damage our eyes. Year 3 also celebrated World Science Day at the beginning of November. In aid of World Science Day, pupils explored how water and bubbles can bend light rays allowing us to see the different waves of light.

This half term we enjoyed a brilliant day out at the Story Barn in Calderstones Park. The trip allowed pupils to delve deeper into our Autumn 1 topic, The Stone Age. Pupils enjoyed a guided Heritage Trail foraging walk through the park. The children learnt about how Stone Age people lived and created beautiful artwork inspired by Stone Age cave paintings.

During this half term, we have been extremely busy practicing for our Winter Performances. All the children have worked hard, and we are very proud of how well they performed.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support. We wish you all a wonderful winter break and a great start to 2024.

Miss Duvall, Miss Lett and Miss Stables.

Year 4

We have had a great half term and have done lots of lovely things! The children have really settled into Year 4 and it is fantastic to see how hard they are all working!

In English, we have been focusing on Greek Myths and Legends which the children have found fascinating. They have learnt all about the features and have even written their own Greek Myths containing their own mythical creatures!

In Maths, we have delved deeper into Perimeter as well as Multiplication and Division. Children have been able to apply their knowledge to reasoning and problem solving questions and word problems. We will be learning more about formal written methods of Multiplication and Division next term.

At the start of this half term, we had a lovely trip to Eureka Science Museum. The children had a great time and made lots of memories alongside learning lots of new facts! We were fortunate enough to be able to experience a workshop which demonstrated the function of our digestive system. We were also able to link our learning in school of Sound and States of Matter to the exhibits at the museum!

During this half term, we spent lots of time preparing for our Winter Performance of Home Alone. The children worked extremely hard, practising every day and learning their lines. We think it's safe to say that it definitely paid off! We are so proud of how well the children performed, especially considering how many lines there were to remember! Year 4 Yellow were excellent on their recorders and their hard work paid off!

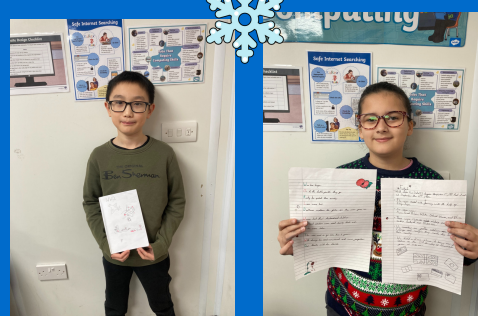
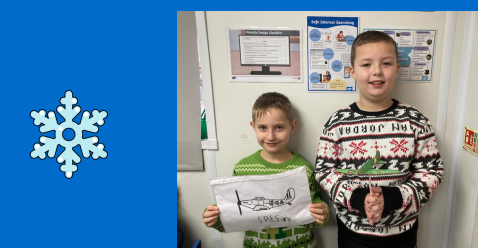
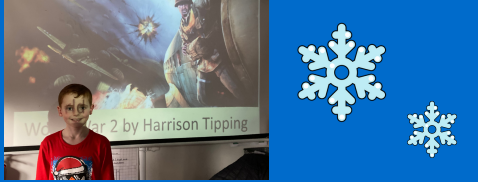
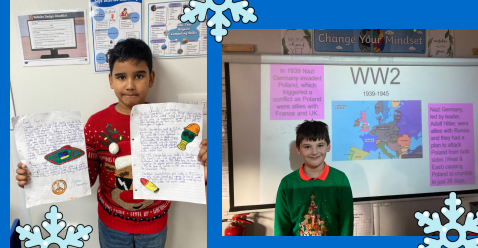
We hope that you have a lovely Christmas and we are looking forward to welcoming the children back to school in the New Year!

Miss Thomas and Mr Coate





Year 5



This half term in English, we have been studying Goodnight Mr Tom by Michelle Magorian, which links to our World War Two topic. The children have really engaged with the story and have produced some great character and setting descriptions. They also really enjoyed watching the movie version.

In addition, the children have been writing War Diaries as if they have been evacuated and they have produced some fabulous writing!

Also, in mathematics, we have been doing some really tricky work on area and perimeter. It has been a challenge but I'm proud of the children for persevering!

Additionally, in Science, we have been learning through practical activities about materials and their properties and the children enjoyed testing their hardness, flexibility, transparency and whether they are magnetic.

Furthermore, the class have worked super hard on their WW2 projects which they have presented to the class. I am so impressed by their hard work and craftsmanship (and yourselves as parents I'm sure!)

And last but certainly not least, the children worked so hard this half term to put together their Winter Performance: A Christmas Carol. Many were nervous, but I was so proud of them all for getting up on stage and I'm sure you will agree they did so well!

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for all your continued support and to wish you all a very happy holiday!

Best Wishes,
Miss Read.



Year 6



Well, what a half term, I'm so proud of this group of children and have absolutely loved getting to know each and every one of them. Despite my short time with them I can honestly say it's been a blast, they are all wonderful young people. Given the somewhat eventful start to the half term. The children have absolutely smashed it.



In English, we have been reading *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness, which they have loved reading. We did a lot of planning and creative writing using a variety of complex language features, all building up to writing our own version of the opening chapter. Having read them I have never been prouder of a group of children. Their work was incredible.



In Maths we have predominantly focused on fractions, using our knowledge of common factors and multiples to order, express and simplify them. We expanded our knowledge to be able to apply the 4 operations to fractions. We then finished the term looking at position and direction, learning how to translate images across axis.



In our Geography topic we learnt all about the continents of the world and the seven wonders of the UK.

Finally, the culmination of a lot of our (and your) hard work was the Winter Performance, which I think we can all agree was incredible! Thank you to all the parents and children not just for that, but for all your support this term, none of this would be possible without you.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! Mr Hyman

Auckland in The Community

Community service

This term, the community service enhanced curriculum group has partnered with Waverley Care Home to spread some Christmas cheer. After discussing how important it is to give back to the older generation, especially those in care homes who might be lonely around Christmas time, the children decided what projects they would like to do.

They decided to make Christmas cards for the residents and staff and sing some Christmas carols.

We are really thankful to have had the opportunity to give back to our community.

Mr Coate

Parent News: Sefton Park Library

One of our parents has shared some fascinating news with us!

Rex (Year 1) & Temple (Pre-Prep) joined Sefton Park Library a year ago. Since joining the library, they have taken out a grand total of 366 books- just over a book a day!

Parent- *'I have found the library a great resource for the children and they have really enjoyed regularly going and picking their books. They are even allowed to date stamp the book, which they love doing. I know the school has encouraged parents in the past to join a library and I can honestly say it's been a wonderful activity for our family.'*

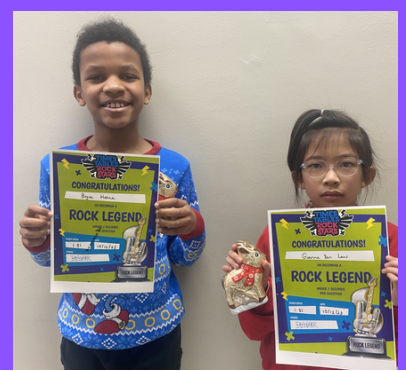
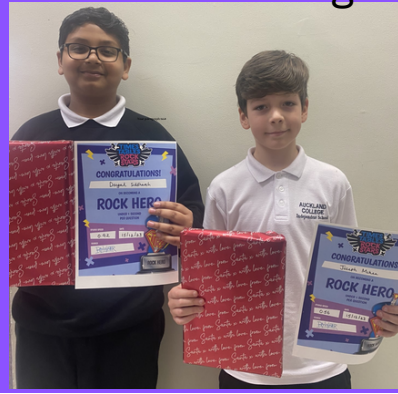
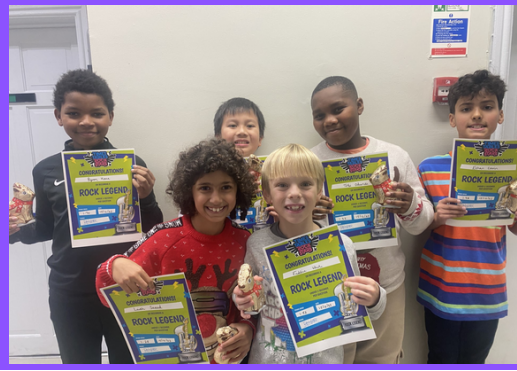
This is wonderful news. If you would like to send in any 'parent news' that could feature in our school newsletter, please contact us via Dojo!





Times Table Rockstars

Our students continue to practise their multiplication and division by using TTRockstars regularly. On the last day of term, our highest scoring rock stars received special awards for becoming 'Rock Heroes'-answering under 1 second per question. Other prizes were given out to pupils who have become 'Rock Legends'-answering under 2 seconds per question. The automated TTRS reports keep teachers updated on your child's progress and the clever algorithms ensure pupils are constantly challenged. Over the half term break, we advise pupils to login and have fun whilst learning and rock out!



Auckland Stars

At the end of term we celebrate the attitude and achievement of a selection of students throughout the school who have gone above and beyond in their learning and attitude towards others and made a real positive contribution to their class and school. Here are a selection.





Winter Performance 2023

And finally, during the month of December, over 500 parents, families, students and staff descended on to Grace Family Church to enjoy our annual Winter Performances.

This year, each year group performed their own Christmas story. Staff and pupils worked incredibly hard in the run up and we are delighted to say their hard work paid off!

Thank you to everyone who supported the shows.

