

4C class blogs 2024-25

16/05/25

Highlight of the week:

We have had a lovely morning out at the Metrocentre with the class choosing items that they wanted to buy. We just had enough time to get around all the shops we wanted!

Achievements of the week:

This week we have been concentrating on some English skills in readiness to take our exam. We have been learning about plurals and how to put words into alphabetical order. We also watched 'The Incredibles' ready to a review.

In Maths we took a baseline assessment on money ready for next weeks learning. We have been practising our skills using cash when we are out for travel training.

In PE we have been practising our cricket skills especially bowling and in Media we have been keeping a pulse on musical instruments. For PHSE we have completed the topic of body shaming and have a better understanding what it is and why it is wrong.

Lastly, in Food Tech, we have used air fryers to successfully make burger and chips which was eaten and enjoyed by all!

From

4C



09/05/25

Highlight of the week:

We completed our Pupils Views for our annual reports and our staff are very proud that we all were able to recognise our achievements and progress since September. This reflective task is challenging but as some of us in Year 11 are moving on to new places and the rest of us in Year 10 are entering Year 11, we can reflect how far we have come from starting Hill Top to our final weeks here.

Achievements of the week:

Some of us achieved personal bests last Friday for the number of laps achieved in the London mini marathon. The weather was great, water was available and it was a great time to mix for a common purpose. It didn't matter whether we ran or walked, everything was a contribution. There was a social community experience and encouragement of

achieving your best - MT has never done it before but she did 6 laps, **MS** achieved 16 laps, **CA** 5 laps, **CC** 8 laps, **MH** 10 laps, **BP** 8 laps and **Ms Pell** 9 laps - WOO HOO!!

In English we have been alphabetical ordering and using a dictionary to find the definitions of the words in preparation for our exam. In Food Tech we made Pizza wraps with the air fryer; they heartily got eaten afterwards!

We looked at VE day this week on Thursday. We joined up with Mr Master's class (4B). Mrs Bedson, brought in artefacts from her late father in law who was in the 8th Army who was known as a 'desert rat'. There was interesting information and photographs and we enjoyed the experience of handling over 80-year-old history.

From

4C



02/05/25

Highlight of the week:

We all enjoyed seeing each other after the Easter holidays and have been catching up on news but now we are back to reality in a heatwave – typical!

Achievements of the week:

This week has involved more end of unit exams in Maths, which is normal for this time of year for KS4, which we embraced with understanding and were very mature about. We have talked about how many weeks we have left and have tried to understand this time scale, so it's now written on the board to help us and our teaching staff!

As a baseline line assessment for Functional Maths at Entry Level 1 we did very well. Mrs Bedson and Ms Pell are very pleased with us with the progress we have made with our confidence to 'have a go' at problem solving the question and the way we took the exam and assessment seriously.

Lastly, in Food Tech, we have used air fryers for the first time and cooked potatoes which 4C staff called Potato Surprise as Mrs Bedson couldn't remember what we were cooking! Mr Weites showed us all how to use them and how to make the recipe (which did have a different name of Tater Tots).

Next week there will be an update on our experiences of our walking challenge organised by Mr Pallas which we are doing on Friday.

We hope you have a lovely weekend Bank Holiday

From

4C



28/03/25

This week we have been studying some performance poems and have created tableaux and performances around Macavity the Mystery Cat by TS Eliot. We have also been learning about rhyming in poems.

In maths we have been learning about money and have used what we learned in ILS when we visited the local shop to buy some treats.

We have also been learning about deforestation and the impact this has on our world.



21/03/25

Highlight of the week:

MH went bowling with Mr Pallas and they came third in the tournament also **MH** and **CC** took part in a Wanderers Football tournament and Ms Pell said they both gave 100% - she was very proud of them. Miss Rowan is also very proud of **AS**, as she is remembering the dance routine. We have been planning a fundraising event for the PTA to help towards the cost of the prom; we have decided make and sell milkshakes and chocolate rice Crispie cakes.

Achievements of the week:

The girls in 4C have been busy practising their dance routine in readiness to perform at the dance festival next week. In maths we have been working on our AQA component papers for geometry and preparing for our exam.

CA, MH and **MS** kindly helped Mr Walker by going litter picking around the school to help improve the environment. They plan to do some more.

MH spelt his green words correctly in Read, Write, Inc and then created his own sentences using those words. In English we have been thinking about rhyming words which have been getting increasingly difficult. We are next going to explore poems to see if we can find them.

In PSHE we have completed planning our CV's so we can write them next week.



14/03/25

Highlight of the week:

Sharing time with Mr Master's class and walking to the local shop.

We sang solo songs with one of our teachers this week.

Achievements of the week:

We played rhyming games with Mr Master's class which was great fun. We also had a competition playing Blooket with Mr Master's class too which was another rhyming word game.

In Maths we have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes which we have used to create some beautiful and colourful shape art.

In Art we did pencil sketches of the Angel of the North from pictures we found. Mr Weites is hopefully going to take us for a visit to the Angel of the North in the coming weeks.

In PE we did gymnastics which included some parkour. Two members of our class (**CC** and **MH**) represented the school in a basketball tournament, they came back with medals.



07/03/25

Highlight of the week:

We had great fun with Mrs Williams quiz for World Book Day – we were up and down the corridor trying to find the answers between the blurb and the books front cover. There was a lot of team work and some debate about some of the books. We were definitely motivated!

Achievements of the week:

We are still covering different aspects in geometry and this week we have looked at clockwise and anticlockwise positions as well as right angles. We have been investigating objects and furniture in the classroom with our right angled cut outs - some of are learning how to place the cut out against the object to check if it's a right angle and some us can now do it by sight. We recorded our results what we have found and shared them together.

We have moved on to poetry in English by starting with a baseline assessment and looking at what basic rhyme is. Some of us understood it is about the sound at the end of the word and not the spelling. We watched a video that Mrs Bedson thought was funny to give us an extra input to rhyme – but we did remarkably well with the questions it asked.

In RE we have learnt about baptism and the important symbols and we talked about Lent and made pancakes. In Media we have been filming and have been analysing Kes. In PSHE we started looking at our CV's and why they are important. In art we explored different grades of pencils and drew different fruit and vegetables. Finally, in ILS we have started an accreditation unit called Environmental issues. A busy week!



21/02/25

Highlight of the week:

‘Soaking the Teachers’ especially as Ms Pell was in the stocks. **MT, MH, BP** and **AS** certainly threw their wet sponges with enthusiasm and glee! We are very proud of **CC** who cleaned the whole hall of mud with a mop and bucket without being asked.

Achievements of the week:

We have been doing coordinates in Maths starting with basic pictures and moving up to plotting co-ordinates to create an image. In English we have looked at past and present tense and pronouns and how they are used in autobiographies. We have been clearing our classroom ready for the new furniture arriving over the holidays. We have spent a lot of time completing NOCN units for Independent Living to finalise for accreditation. We took part in a boccia tournament on Wednesday afternoon which was great fun and on Thursday

afternoon we took part in 'Soak the staff'. Ms Pell was a great sport and volunteered to be in the stocks. We are looking forward to a morning out at the Metrocentre as part of our independent travel and taking part in another round of our FIFA tournament as part of our enterprise. Hope you have a good holiday!



14/02/25

Highlight of the week:

CC, CA and **MH** enjoyed a morning at Newcastle United Foundation, playing football on the roof top with other SEND schools. We all enjoyed **MH's** birthday cake which his mum kindly brought into school.

Achievements of the week:

We been having a go at symmetry which has proved to be a bit tricky after we completed properties of 3D shapes. In English we further extended our sentences for our autobiographies to make our stories interesting for our audience. This week 4C made the final steps towards starting to film their final WJEC Media Studies final audio-visual sequence, which promises to 'kick off' next week: it's a football film! In PE, pupils discussed nutrition with foods and how some foods help us when exercising. Pupils participated in fitness circuits to improve scores from previous attempts so we are now suffering from sore muscles including Ms Pell! We have done Safer Internet Day and talking about the risks and how to avoid being scammed. In Food Tech we made a savoury pie of our choice and had to line a tin dish with pastry which we all did very well. Lastly, for independent living skills we have been talking about informed choices and consequences



07/02/25

Highlight of the week:

It has been Children's Mental Health Week and we have had discussions and an assembly on why good mental health is important and how we can help ourselves to keep healthy in this way. We are currently working on how to be supportive and extra kind to one another every day. In drama we are studying KES to understand emotions and the impact we can have on others through the words we use. We have positively been responding to working and 'living' together in our classroom with occasional reminders.

AS did exceptionally well in naming 3D shapes independently and in general there have been some wonderful answers through careful thinking and problem solving. Ms Pell and I are really proud of the effort the whole class put into their learning and MS is giving answers to demonstrate his hidden talent in this area...WOW!

Achievements of the week:

The class have been able to extend their sentences from their autobiographical drafts and have added more detail to make it more interesting for the reader. It was a bit of challenge to remember parts of their own life but each person succeeded.

In Maths, the focus this week has been on the names of 3D shapes and exploring their properties. We did have some confusion between 2D and 3D names, so we went around school in two groups and identified objects and gave the name of the shape they corresponded too. We have also made some from nets which MS has proved fantastic at, especially with the cylinder and Mrs Bedson resorted to Sellotape. He was not impressed with her!!!

We made sausage rolls with some extra flair added through choices of seasoning; some of the choices were interesting and a success. All of the class are now getting equipment and ingredients independently to make pastry and washing up with less direction; they have improved on their sequencing in which order they need to do things.

Lastly, a trip to the Metrocentre on Friday for travel training. We researched timetables for the two buses we needed which we will be doing further work on. This is the first time we have had to research which tickets are best to buy and how to get around...a great new learning experience that will meet our EHCP targets!

Have a happy weekend!



31/01/25

Highlight of the week:

We celebrated **MT's** success at mastering partition as she showed so much resilience when being poorly. The 'penny dropped' when we took out physical Base 10 resources. She then demonstrated her mental maths abilities when we convinced her to be tested by several members of staff to display her skills. Fantastic progress and congratulations!

CC we are very proud of. He has worked totally independently and worked in place value up to a thousand in different formats which is a huge achievement for his independent learning and concentration.

Achievements of the week:

Everyone has challenged themselves in progressing with understanding place value and we are proud of their dedication and achievements. Next week we are back to shapes!

Our reflections on our personal life to write sentences for an autobiography has made us think hard but it was different to interviewing Ms Pell for a biography! We found it hard to think of questions however, we all did produce something about Ms Pell and ourselves. Thank you Ms Pell for your help!

Some of us listened to a presentation about internship given by an ex pupil which was interesting and it was great to see him back and catch up with him. This morning we went for a walk to Wrekenton to practice crossing the road safely and recognise different types of crossings.

We worked in collaboration with Mr Masters class on Holocaust Memorial Day. We made and put up thought trains.



24/01/25

We have been watching Kes in Media Studies to help us understand emotional literacy. We have been helping to clear out the classroom in readiness for our new furniture; we have thrown out a lot of items and had a good tidy-up.

In PE we focussed on darts but some of us also went on the trampoline. This week we made vegetarian meat and potato pasty in Food Technology. Most of us are now working independently by collecting our equipment, weighing and making the pastry, and clearing up. It is still quite difficult to fold the pastry when the filling keeps spilling out!

Due to the high winds on Friday, we didn't go travel training but instead started working on our new NOCN accreditation unit 'Getting About Safely' which is just as important. We had a good discussion about possible dangers in the community and how we could avoid them. Some good learning took place.

Finally, a massive well done to **MH** who represented our class in an interschools swimming gala he was awarded 2 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze medals. What an achievement!



17/01/25

Media Studies took an exciting turn this week for 4C as they started to explore ideas for their very own original mini-films. We went to Newcastle to take photos of us crossing roads safely for our accreditation work and we also enhanced our learning in English by looking at the different autobiographies and biographies in Waterstones. The trip was finished off getting our snacks from Poundland and Greggs!

We started to understand key terms in English such as chronological and outlined our own autobiography. We have been looking at key positional vocabulary in Maths as well as properties of 2D shapes.

Everybody made a fantastic effort. This week we made sausage and bean pasty and improved our rubbing in method. PE we continued to learn how to play darts.

The highlight of the week is that **MH** used the bus app and found the bus stop we needed in Newcastle completely independently. Another busy week!



10/01/25

Highlight of the week:

We have all enjoyed sharing our holiday experiences and coming back together as a class family unit as well as a school community. We were tired from the fun and later nights when we returned but now swinging back into routine!

Achievements of the week:

We have started looking at geometry in Maths and this week explored different shape names, some of which are new to us. In PSHE we looked at what perseverance is and how it can help us. In Food Tech we made a cheesy pasty each which we all enjoyed eating afterwards. In English we have started looking at what is an autobiography and biography. For ILS we went travel training to Gateshead and to also met some of our EHCP targets. In PE we did the Beep Test and was exhausted afterwards! In drama we were learning keyboard skills.



06 /12/24

Highlights of the week:

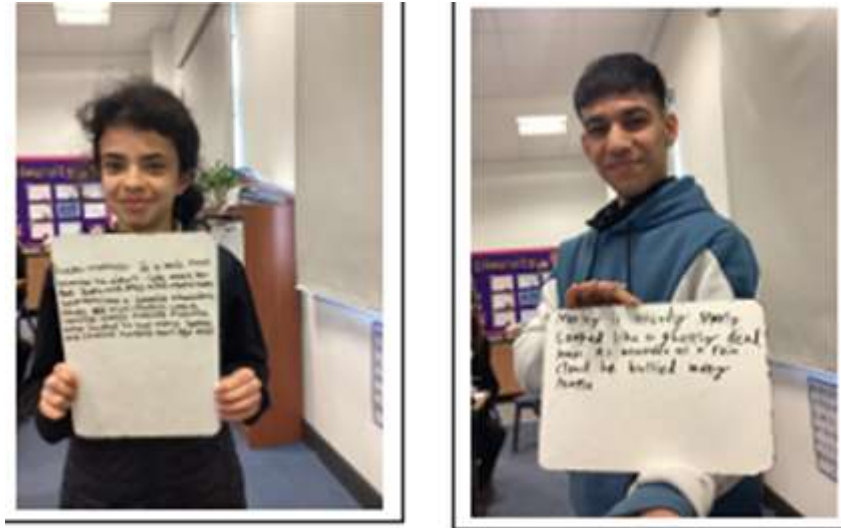
We are enjoying getting ready for the performance on Thursday 12th December - as individuals most of us are involved in some way and some of us have more than one role. Next week is the 'Big Day'; we are a little nervous!

Some of us, when not called for the performance, took to decorating the classroom for Christmas and it looks very festive. Our 15 metre paper chain, representing the Ghost of Marley's chain, was too big for the board and had to be dismantled and put elsewhere (at least that hopefully happened to Scrooge!)

Learning:

We each came up with a descriptive sentence for the Ghost of Marley in 'A Christmas Carol' for English using adjectives, similes and metaphors and put all our ideas together. There were some interesting ones. In maths we played a game with the four operations of maths with Mrs Allison which was fun as we had to win points. In PSHE we discussed how to look after the planet and thought about what was the most important; some of us could give reasons as well. We also watched Newsround as they had a report of plastic being put into foreign countries and explored the consequences of that. We were shocked at the images from the programme and how that hurts the sea life.





13/12/24

A fantastic 'all hands-on deck' week of rehearsals this week and the class and their peers did exceedingly well...

Christmas Performance of 'Sounds of Christmas': majority of the class took on a responsibility for one role and a few took on more – we are so proud of their commitment and dedication to the performance and how they supported each other and their peers in other classes.

As part of the backstage crew, MH knew his responsibilities and checked with the performers that they were happy with microphone height, which is daunting in itself in front of a crowd. Many were involved with singing as 'Voices' which brought joy of participation across all year groups. Some of our performers in the class did soloist singing and have beautiful voices but have the confidence to perform in front of an audience with strangers. I do wish to acknowledge a beautiful singer in our class who had such a presence on the stage and 'smashed it out the park'. The 'secret' contemporary physical theatre dance they took part in was amazing, and as a surprise, added an extra flair to the variety of genres the whole show offered.

We are so proud of BP, MT, AS, CA, MH for contributing their best to a fantastic production. Well done for giving yourself those opportunities to experience something new as you prepare for life beyond Hill Top School. You are flying with enthusiasm and success!

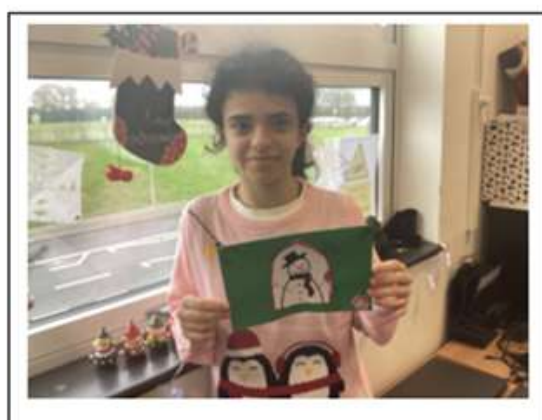


20/12/24

We've all been excited for breaking up for Christmas! Mr Pallas organised a basketball interhouse tournament in which MH did extremely well, but we won't find out the results of the house who won until Friday. We had our Christmas dinner with Christmas crackers and dressed up tables followed by singing festivities and a great disco on Wednesday. Thursday morning, we travelled to Newcastle for our outing and went to see Fenwick's Christmas window with the theme of the 12 Days of Christmas and Newcastle Christmas market. We went with 4B and had a great time together going to various shops. **MS** was fantastic and met his EHCP target twice by telling the bus drivers the destination he wanted and paid for his tickets independently. In the afternoon all the KS4 classes had social time together and played games or sat and chilled. Friday will be a whole school assembly and then preparing for the New Year and term.

This week we also made Christmas cards, did some Christmas maths activities, completed our English assessment on A Christmas Carol and discovered about plastic pollution. A busy week!

Merry Christmas to you from 4C.



29/11/24

Highlights: We have begun to make paperchains for the classroom decorations in connection with Marley's chains and his concern for Scrooge and his afterlife.

English: We have individually understood the differences between similes and metaphors and will apply them to describe Marley next week.

Maths: Subtraction has been the focus and we have all progressed beyond what we thought we could do. **MH** has even used inverse law after being shown by **LDo**.

PSHE: We were able to come up with some for and against arguments for animal rights through discussion groups but we were also all able to give our personal opinion with a reason by the end of the lesson.

ILS: We made paper chains for the classroom (also to do with the Ghost of Marley!)

Drama: We worked as a team helping to get the backgrounds ready for the performance which a lot of us are in.

PE: Having fun playing basketball as two teams of 3

