



If you would like further information or would like to contact a member of staff at Abbey Hill Academy Sixth Form the contact details are listed below:

Have a great Easter Break

From all of the staff and students at Abbey Hill Academy Sixth Form



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Thirteenth Edition



Spring Newsletter 2019



Horizons Specialist Academy Trust
Providing infinite opportunities

Message From the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the Spring Edition of Abbey Hill Academy Sixth Form's newsletter.

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and carers for their attendance at the recent Educational Health Care Reviews. Parents and carers will soon receive copies of the draft Educational Health Care Plan, which should be checked in detail by yourself, with any changes being returned to the Local Authority within 15 days.

We have had another very busy term at the Sixth Form. Students in years 13 and 14 have been working tremendously hard to complete their coursework in preparation for their final assessments. Our dedicated GCSE group 7 even came in recently on a Saturday to prepare their photography portfolios for their upcoming exam. We expect all students to keep up their fantastic efforts, ensuring they get the best grades possible.

Students leaving this summer are also currently in the process of visiting colleges, completing application forms and attending taster sessions at their next provision. They have also been engaging with organisations such as Global Bridge, Successful Futures and our business and enterprise advisor to develop both their interview and CV skills. If you require further support for your son or daughter in preparation for their next steps, please contact Gaynor Wells (Youth Direction -Telephone 01642 677600) or our own CEIAG Coordinators, Steve Cropper and Nicola Bingham.

This term students have participated in numerous exciting and challenging activities. A number of option groups have teamed up with Tees Valley Wildlife to support their local volunteering days at Lazenby Wood. Several students have also been embarking on their supported employment placements with great success; recent placements include the Premier Inn, The café @ The Family Hub, The Land of Make Believe Child Care Centre and Stockton Riverside Catering. The Vocational DIY option has also been very busy this term re developing one of our polytunnels to include a number of raised beds to make it accessible for all. The hair dressing students are also looking amazing in their new uniforms!

Group 2 had great success recently at the SEND Inclusive Skills Competition at New College Durham. The group entered the independent living round, which resulted in a win for one member of the group, which we are extremely proud of! We are looking forward to entering the next competition themed around E safety at the end of May.

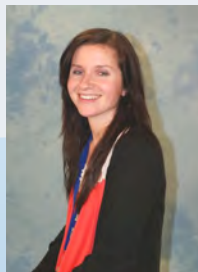
Finally, we will be running an Easter Revision School for our GCSE Group 7 students. The Easter School last year was a great success and it is essential that your son or daughter attends, in order to give them the best opportunity to succeed, complete any outstanding coursework and make their final preparations for the summer GCSE exams.

I hope that you enjoy reading our Spring Newsletter and that you have a very relaxing Easter Break.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kathryn Thompson

Principal, Abbey Hill Academy Sixth Form



Be Prepared - Term Dates 2019—2020

Start Date	Break Up
Tuesday 3rd September 2019	Thursday 24th October 2019
Monday 4th November 2019	Friday 20th December 2019
Monday 6th January 2020	Friday 14th February 2020
Monday 24th February 2020	Friday 3rd April 2020
Monday 20th April 2020	Friday 22nd May 2020
Monday 1st June 2020	Friday 17th July 2020

PD Days/Bank Holidays 2019 — 2020

The PD Days for 2019-20 will be:

- Monday 2nd September 2019
- Friday 25th October 2019
- Friday 31st January 2020
- Monday 3rd February 2020
- Monday 4th May 2020 (Bank Holiday)
- Monday 20 July 2020



Spring Word Search



Spring Flowers

T	T	E	C	L	O	E	E	A	H	D	P	L	L
Y	T	I	R	M	S	L	W	I	A	P	A	I	S
U	C	T	O	I	S	T	R	H	R	B	R	T	W
U	Y	O	C	C	Y	R	A	T	I	A	D	F	E
C	I	T	U	A	S	E	D	Y	W	B	C	A	E
H	R	U	S	L	I	M	N	S	Y	Y	U	L	T
T	I	L	R	I	A	E	E	R	S	S	A	S	W
N	S	I	E	L	D	P	V	O	T	B	I	A	I
I	D	P	Y	Q	A	E	A	F	E	R	N	D	L
C	E	S	L	S	A	R	L	S	R	E	U	A	L
A	N	M	L	A	W	C	Q	A	I	A	T	H	I
Y	H	H	I	I	Y	Y	S	S	A	T	E	L	A
H	P	N	L	Y	S	N	A	P	M	H	P	I	M
A	V	J	O	N	Q	U	I	L	S	Q	I	A	E

LAVENDER
 SWEET WILLIAM
 HYACINTH
 LILLY
 PANSY
 BABY'S BREATH
 DAHLIA
 FORSYTHIA
 PETUNIA
 DAISYS
 CREPE MERTLE
 JONQUILS
 LILAC
 TULIPS
 IRIS
 WYSTERIA
 CROCUS

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1732/>



Group 7 - GCSE Easter Revision Timetable

Monday 8th April	Tuesday 9th April	Wednesday 10th April	Thursday 11th April
Maths/PSD	Employability/ Science	English/ Literature	Art
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Maths/PSD	Employability/ Science	English/ Literature	Art

Classes will start at 9:00am and finish at 15:00pm.

Year 13/14 Leavers Dates 2019

Important Dates – Summer Term

Group 7 (and those students on a bespoke timetable)	Formal leaving date Friday 28th June
Group 5	Leave Friday 28 th June
Leavers from Groups 1,2 and 3	Leave Friday 28 th June
All Remaining Students	Break up for the summer holidays on Friday 19 th July



Group 7 - GCSE Exam Timetable

May 2019

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6 Bank Holiday	7	8	9	10
13 Normal Lessons	14 <i>Science Revision</i>	15 <i>English Lit Revision</i>	16 Chemistry	Options or PSD catch up
	Biology	English Lit	ICT Lesson	
20 Normal Lessons	21 Maths	22 <i>Science Revision</i>	23 English Lit	Options or PSD catch up
Maths Revision	<i>English Lit Revision</i>	Physics	Normal Lessons	

Hair and Beauty Group Are In The Pink

Our Hair and Beauty Option students and staff were keen to show off their new uniforms—a change from the former traditional black to the more colourful pink look. The option allows the students to develop skills in hair, beauty and cosmetic techniques and also promotes a consideration for hospitality and customer care.



Redcar Research - It's Life "Gym" But Not As We Know It

We always have an open ear listening to the views of our students and try to respond to their requests. From some of our most recent student surveys, students have suggested that we could improve our outside spaces by developing an outdoor gym. As part of the planning for this potential development, some students visited Zetland Park at Redcar and enjoyed trying out all of their outdoor gym equipment. Iron was pumped and the students came back with some good ideas on how we can move our project forward.



Group 7 - GCSE Exam Timetable

June 2019				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3 <i>English Revision</i>	4 English Lang	5 <i>Maths, English and Science Revision</i>	6 Maths	7 English Lang
	<i>Science and Maths Revision</i>		<i>English Science Revision</i>	Biology
10 Maths Revision	11 Maths	12 Chemistry	13 <i>Science Revision</i>	14 Physics
	<i>Science Revision</i>	<i>Science Revision</i>		

Students will not have to attend after 14th June unless coursework needs completing.

John Muir Group ... Conservation Spring Clean

The John Muir Group have had yet another busy term supporting a variety of conservation projects in the Tees Valley area. Working with Tees Valley Wildlife at Lazenby Bank Ancient Woodland, we have been cutting back the Rhododendron that have invaded the Ancient Woodland from the formal gardens of Wilton Castle. We have also supported Environment City in Middlesbrough, clearing Saltersgill beck of rubbish and debris, as part of the Great British Spring Clean. Meanwhile, over at Stillington, we are supporting Gwynn and the Parish Council convert an overgrown area of land into a village allotment.

There's no rest for the eco-warriors of the John Muir group.



Virtual Reality

Some of our Sixth form students have been working hard on their entry level qualifications in Product Design/Preparing for Work. They have designed and modelled a product of their choice using CAD (computer aided design) to produce virtual models and are now using a range of tools and equipment to make their product in the workshop.



Group 7 - GCSE Preparation in Full Swing

You may have seen the full GCSE revision and exam timetable on the first few pages of this newsletter but preparation for this vital exam time has already started. Saturday 16th March saw our students spend a day completing their work portfolios for success in their GCSE Photography. This will be followed up with 4 days of revision for other subjects during the Easter break.

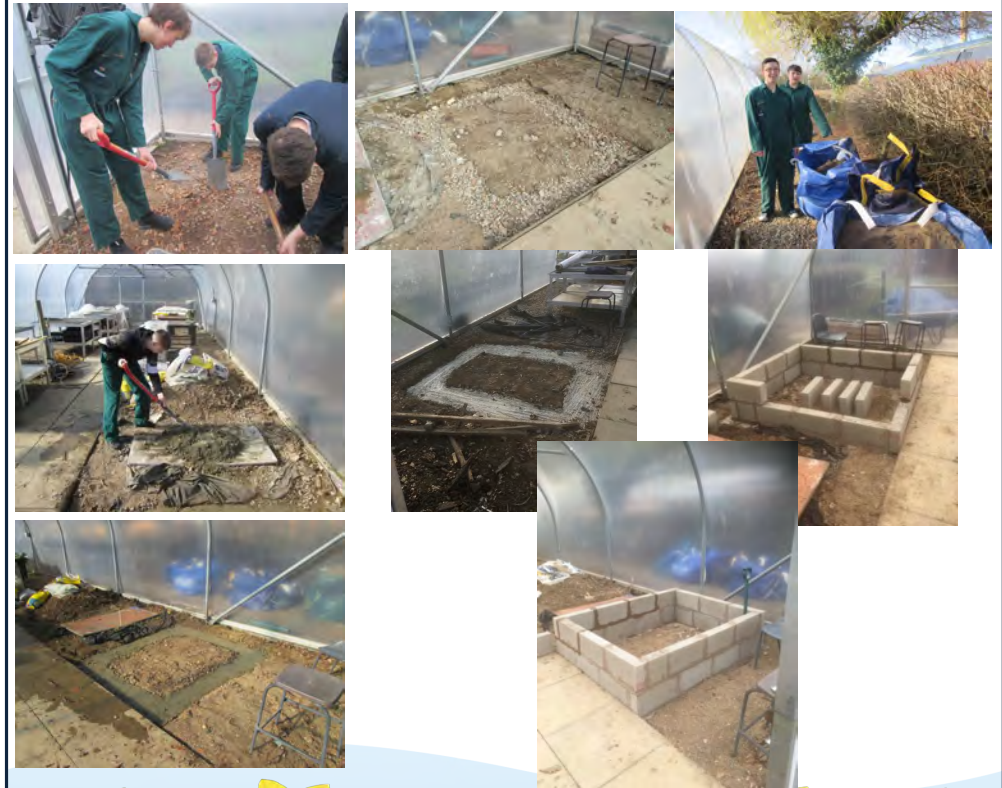
We wish them the very best as they strive for success after their 2 years of hard work.



DIY Group Have An Early Bedtime

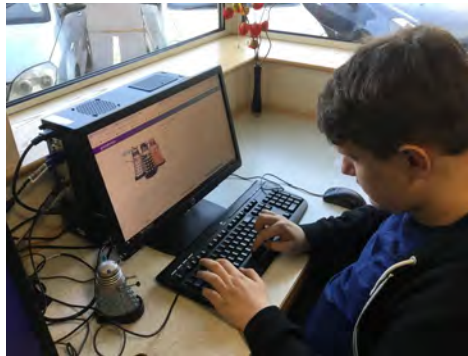
The foundations have been laid for the DIY group to further develop their building skills. Our task has been to design and build new brick raised beds in the Stephenson poly-tunnel ready for an early planting season. The whole project from laying the foundation to building the brick walls has taken several weeks, but we're now in the final stage, ready to hand over a wheelchair friendly poly-tunnel to the outdoor learning groups.

Well done to the Sheraton Builders who have enjoyed the project and learned new skills in the process.



Sheraton Students Build Bridge To Their Future

Group 6 and 7 students have been participating in Global Bridge workshops this term. Students have been setting up individual profiles and CVs to showcase their talents, achievements and skills for future Post 18 colleges, training providers and employers.



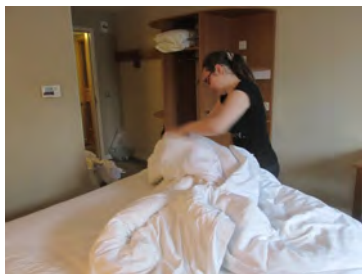
Skills For Working Life

The college curriculum aims to develop the skills in our students that will best prepare them for employability once they finish their course. You can see our Group 5 students below working with Roy Fraser from Digital Telecoms Network Academy. They enjoyed spending the afternoon with Roy practicing “Mock Interviews” in preparation for the real thing in the not too distant future.



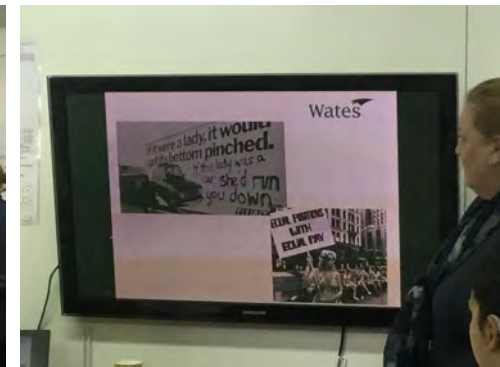
Skills For Working Life

The post 16 curriculum followed by our Sixth Form students covers a range of different subjects, but together they develop the skills they will need for working life. You can see below some students engaged in their supported work placements at the Family Hub Café at Billingham and at The Premier Inn on the Tees Barrage



Year 13 Girls Engineer Future Job Prospects

Some of our Year 13 girls attended the 'Wates' construction workshop this term. The aim of this project is to encourage young adult females into a job sector that has traditionally been male dominated. Our young female pioneers are standing up for equal opportunity in the workplace.



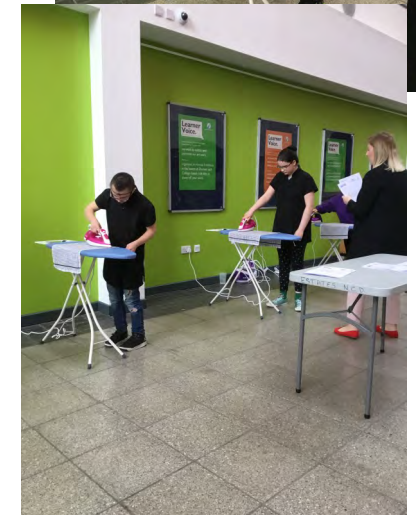
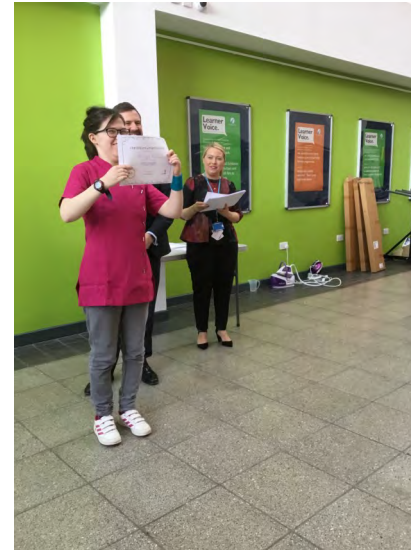
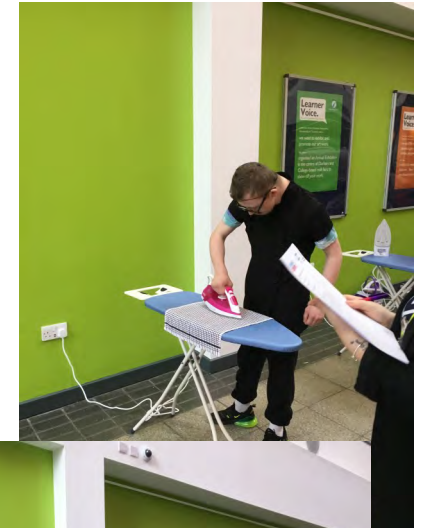
Sheraton Staff Go Walking —They May Be Some Time!

Spring has finally sprung and we're all delighted that we can look forward to some warmer weather and lighter days. However, this term has shown us some cold, harsh days of winter, as seen in the photographs below of some of our staff taking on Antarctic conditions as they explore Teesdale's waterfalls on their Saturday walk.



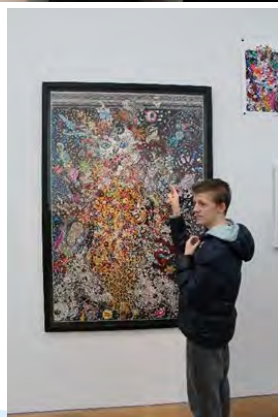
Group 2 - Press Ahead With Independent Living Skills

New College Durham was the venue for the “Inclusive Skills Competition” and our Group 2 students entered the Independent Living: Ironing round. All performed very well and ironed out any difficulties they faced making a smooth path for Michaela to win the heat we were entered for. Well done to all.



Group 1 Are "Going Places"

Group 1 students enjoy getting out and about as part of their Going Places topic. This provides an opportunity to take learning out of the formal classroom and allows the students to gain new experiences that can be further developed back at their college base.



Maths is Just in Time For Fun Learning

No matter how important classroom learning is to our students, we can always find time for a bit of fun. Take some time to have a look at this practical maths lesson where students and staff were making 'Human Clocks' as part of their functional skills numeracy course.



The Art of Outdoor Learning

Last year we developed our Woodland Outdoor Classroom and this year has been an opportunity to give it a bit of a make-over—adding a touch of “Feng Shui” to the outdoors. The Outdoor Learning Option students have really enjoyed making and installing their woodland artistic pieces. As part of a collaborative natural arts project, the aim was to create many works of natural art turning the woodland area into an art gallery.

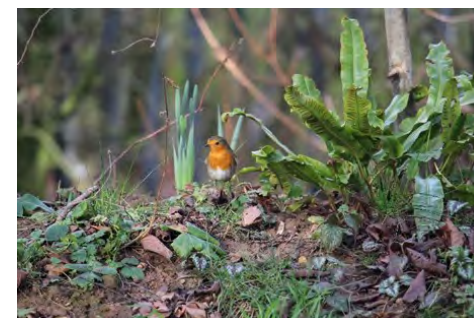


The group have also worked out the ‘Spiders Web’ in the woodland. This is a great opportunity for problem solving and team work – it’s also great fun.



Group 1 - Twitter Feed

Students from Group 1 have installed and are maintaining a number of bird feeder stations in the woodland area. They have enjoyed listening to and watching the birds that have come to feed.



Group 1 - Art Attack

Group 1 students have shown they have a flair for art. They have created some original artwork which has been influenced by the work they have been studying about care for the environment. They have also been working on an art installation in the woodland which is an ongoing project that students add to over time.



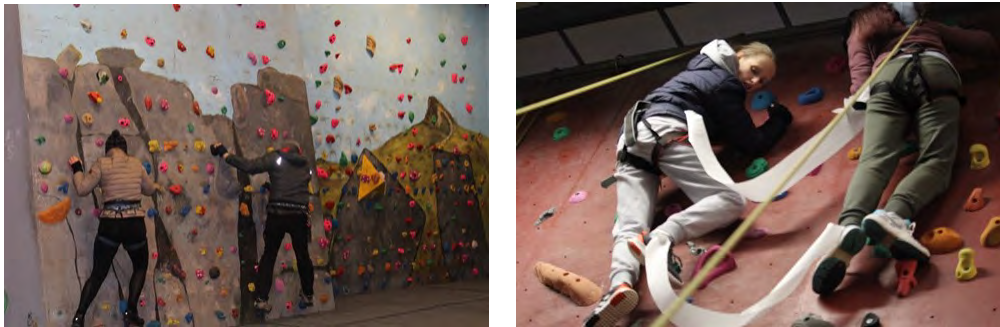
Team Building - Cut Them Some Slack

Learning how to support each other is an essential part of the Team Building Option and trying out the slack-line is the perfect example of this. Chad held the record at 8 seconds.



Team Building — School Of Rock Climbing

The Team Building group have attended three sessions of indoor climbing at Rock Antics this term. Some pretty impressive climbing by all members of the group. There was a mix of climbing, some bouldering, and some top rope work. We even had chance to play some games, and some team activities.



Team Building — Lost And Found

The group have been orienteering at Summerhill Park and Stillington Park. They have learnt how to find their way using simple maps – locating points of interest and orienteering markers. To communicate the group used PMR radios. When it got a bit chilly everyone got together in the group shelter to experience survival techniques.

