



## A Message from Mrs Beach, Executive Head Teacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you had a lovely half term holiday. The children have all come back to school ready for the run up to the end of the Autumn term. This is always a very fun-filled and busy half term, and we're planning a range of festive activities and learning opportunities that will develop lasting memories for our children at the school.

During the half term holidays new carpets have been laid in the office areas and Community Room. They have really made a difference to the school premises. We are constantly trying to look at ways to improve the school environment and will keep you all updated of any more improvements over the rest of the school year.

## A Message from Mrs Wassell, Head of School

It's great to be back at school and see the children working so hard in their classrooms to produce brilliant work and show off their progress. The children have already taken part in some great experiences this half-term, such as Outdoor Classroom Day, and there is more to come. Please check the 'Dates for Your Diary' section at the end of the newsletter for upcoming events.

The festive season is nearly upon us – I'm always surprised at how quickly it comes around. Although things aren't back to normal yet, we are continuing to create fantastic experiences for our children in school to ensure they enjoy the build up to the end of this term.



## **Northwood's Christmas Shows**

As a school, we believe that shows and performances are a crucial part of our children's overall development. Unfortunately we will not be able to invite parents/ carers into school this year to watch children perform in person, however, the staff and children are starting the process of ensuring "the show will go on" in a virtual way. I will contact you soon to communicate with you how these will be shared with loved ones at home.

## **Year 6 and the In2 Project**

Those of you who have been to school lately, or have seen our Facebook page, will have noticed the wonderful new banners along our fence on the way to the school office. We also have a range of posters around school which look very similar. This great work has been created by our Year 6 children alongside staff from the In2 Project. The In2 project aims to help build confidence, foster aspiration and improve the general health and wellbeing of children through access to cultural and sporting events. This is the second year we have been lucky enough to work with the In2 project and already the children have been to the Hippodrome to complete workshops and created the inspirational quotes around the school through discussion and debate. I am so proud of the children and the wise words they were able to share with us. We hope you like them as much as we do.



## **Punctuality**

At Northwood, the class register is completed and closed in the classroom 5 minutes after the children's start time. If your child arrives after this time they may get a late mark as they have missed the start of their lessons. Please ensure that your child arrives at school on time so they do not miss out on any vital learning. **Nursery start time is 8:30am or 12pm.**

**Reception, Year 1, Year 3 and Year 6 start school at 8:45am. Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5 start school at 8:50am.** We close the school gates at 8:55am to enable children to get to their classrooms in time for the register to close for the children who start at 8:50am. If your child is frequently arriving at school as the gates are closing then please consider leaving home a few minutes earlier to ensure they have the opportunity to get into school and get settled before their lessons officially start.

## School Calendar

Our school website has a wealth of information that you may need as a parent, one of the pieces of information is the school term dates. Term dates for this academic year are:

Term	Children return to school...	Last day in school...	Other dates not in school
Autumn 1	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2021	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2021	
Autumn 2	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2021	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	
Spring 1	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	
Spring 2	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	
Summer 1	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	Bank Holiday: Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2022
Summer 2	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	

If you would like to access this on our website, please go to [www.northwoodprimary.org.uk/calendar](http://www.northwoodprimary.org.uk/calendar).

## Facebook



If you haven't already, please take a minute to like our Facebook page via the following link: [www.facebook.com/northwoodprimary](http://www.facebook.com/northwoodprimary). If you do not have a Facebook account, and don't want to have one, then you can check our school website which has the Facebook feed that you can see: <https://www.northwoodprimary.org.uk/>.

## Dates for your Diary

- **Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November:** The children have been taught about the importance of Armistice or Remembrance Day.
- **Week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> November:** Anti-Bullying Week – this year, the theme is 'One Kind Word.' Over the week, the children will focus on a different theme each day:
  - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November** – Odd Sock Day – Everyone wears odd socks to school to celebrate uniqueness.
  - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November** – Northwood Smile Day – We all smile in the same language! Let's pass on a smile.
  - Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – Random Acts of Kindness Day – A little kindness can make a big difference.
  - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November** – E-Safety Day – Children will explore e-safety and why it is important.
  - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November** – Children in Need Day: 'Let's Go Crazy' – children can come to school looking as crazy as they like. They could come in bright clothes, with crazy hair, dressed in crazy patterns or anything else they can come up with. If you would like to donate to Children in Need, please send money into school with your child. We will see how many Pudsey faces we can fill with the coins the children bring!
- **Week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> November:** Road Safety Week – this is the UK's biggest road safety event and this year's theme is 'Road Safety Heroes.' The children will celebrate the heroic work of road safety professionals and think about how we all have a part to play in making journeys safer.
- **Week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> November:** Tree Dressing – this is celebrated in different cultures all over the world. It focuses on the importance of trees and we will be encouraging the children to value and care for them. We will also dress the school Christmas tree this week.
- **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December:** Unite the Uniforms Fundraiser – on this day, we invite children to come to school wearing the colours of the emergency services which are red, blue, green or orange to raise awareness and funds for the Unite the Uniforms campaign. All money raised will go towards building the UK's first 'Emergency Services Cenotaph' to honour the millions of people who work in the NHS and emergency services.
- **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Dinner Day – we will send out a letter soon to children who normally have a packed lunch so they can choose to have a Christmas dinner that day.
- **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** Christmas Jumper Day – children can come to school wearing festive clothes today.
- **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** This is also the day that children who had 100% attendance in 2020-21 are being treated to a trip to the Hippodrome to see this year's pantomime, Cinderella. More information to follow.
  - **Week commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December:** Class parties will take place this week. Teachers will be in touch with more details closer to the time.
  - **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December:** Term ends. Children can wear their own clothes on this day.
  - **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022:** Term starts. Children return to school today.

Best wishes,

*S. Wassell*

Mrs Wassell  
Head of School

