

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.



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. It is wonderful to be able to hold parent consultations and Christmas performances in school this year and we look forward to seeing parents and carers at these events.



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 third 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.



Parent/ Carer Consultations

We are delighted to be able to offer face-to-face consultation appointments this year as well as phone appointments, however, we did not have as big a response from parents for appointments as we expected. This is the first time since Covid we've been able to open up our school to the parent carer community on Tuesday 8th November and Wednesday 9th November – you should have received a slip with your appointment details on. Teachers have allocated a 10 minute slot for each child so it is quite a tight schedule. If you are coming to school for the appointment then please arrive a few minutes early so you have chance to look at your child's books before your appointment. If you have been given a phone appointment then the teacher will try their best to keep appointments on time. Please be near your phone and look out for a call - the caller ID on your phone will either be 'Northwood', 'Number Withheld' or 'No caller ID'.

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	Monday 5 th September 2022	Friday 21 st October 2022	
Autumn 2	Monday 31 st October 2022	Tuesday 20 th December 2022	
Spring 1	Thursday 5 th January 2023	Friday 17 th February 2023	
Spring 2	Tuesday 28 th February 2023	Friday 31 st March 2023	
Summer 1	Monday 17 th April 2023	Friday 26 th May 2023	Bank Holiday: Monday 1 st May 2023 Bank Holiday: Monday 8 th May 2023
Summer 2	Monday 5 th June 2023	Wednesday 19 th July 2023	

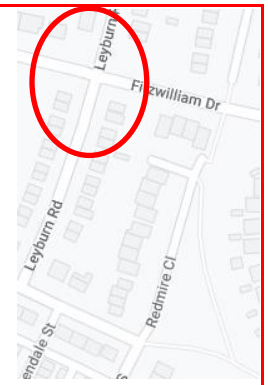
If you would like to access this on our website, please go to www.northwoodprimary.org.uk/calendar.

Communication with School

As a result of parent feedback about school communication, and as a way of reducing our use of paper, we have invested in a teacher-to-parent communication app called 'Marvellous Me', which I will contact you with more information about once staff have had the appropriate training. At the moment, the best way to receive communications from school is to check your emails and Facebook. The best way to contact school is by phone, emailing the school office (admin@northwoodprimary.org.uk) or by Facebook messenger – we aim to answer emails and messages as quickly as possible during normal school opening hours.

Our Community Matters

The Community Police visited school to ask us to communicate with parents about the fact that the junction between Leyburn Road and Fitzwilliam Drive is being closely monitored by the police due to many drivers going the wrong way down this one-way street. Some of the driving on this road could be very dangerous for our children and families who live and play in this area. They have informed us that anyone caught doing this will be issued a fine and will receive penalty points on their license. Over this half-term, some of our children will be helping the PCSOs to monitor this area and raise awareness of the risks involved. Let's do all we can to keep the roads and community safe for children and families.



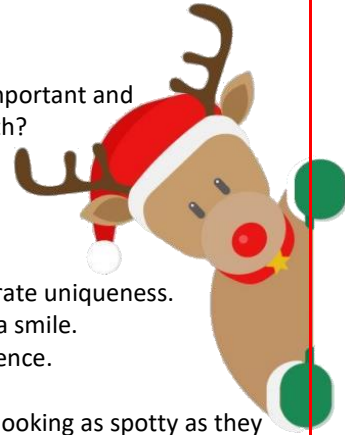
Facebook



If you haven't already, please take a minute to like our Facebook page via the following link: 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

- **Week commencing 7th November:** Money Talk Week – children will be considering why money is important and what their options are with it. Do they save or spend? What are the benefits and drawbacks of both?
- **Friday 11th November:** The children will take part in a minute silence and be taught about the importance of Armistice or Remembrance Day.
- **Week commencing 14th November:** Anti-Bullying Week – this year, the theme is 'Reach Out.' Over the week, the children will focus on a different theme each day:
 - Monday 14th November** – Odd Sock Day – Children are invited to wear odd socks to school to celebrate uniqueness.
 - Tuesday 15th November** – Northwood Smile Day – We all smile in the same language! Let's pass on a smile.
 - Wednesday 16th November** – Random Acts of Kindness Day – A little kindness can make a big difference.
 - Thursday 17th November** – E-Safety Day – Children will explore e-safety and why it is important.
 - Friday 18th November** – Children in Need Day: 'The Great Spotacular' – children can come to school looking as spotty as they like. 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 21st November:** Road Safety Week – this is the UK's biggest road safety event and this year's theme is 'Safe roads for all.' The children will consider how the roads can be made safe for everyone through safe roads, safe vehicles and safe speeds.
- **Week commencing 28th November:** National 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.
- **Tuesday 6th December:** Nursery Christmas Stay and Play session – more details about time and tickets to follow.
- **Wednesday 7th December:** Reception Nativity Performance – more details about time and tickets to follow.
- **Thursday 8th 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. Your child can wear a festive top today if they would like to.
- **Friday 9th December:** Christmas Jumper Day – children can come to school wearing festive clothes today.
- **Friday 9th December:** Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Service at The Well Church - more details about time and tickets to follow.
- **Week commencing Monday 12th December:** Class parties will take place this week. Teachers will be in touch with more details closer to the time.
 - Monday 12th December – Year 1 and Year 2 parties
 - Tuesday 13th December – Year 3 and Year 6 parties
 - Wednesday 14th December –Nursery and Reception parties
 - Thursday 15th December – Year 4 and Year 5 class parties
- **Friday 16th December:** Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance - more details about time and tickets to follow.
- **Tuesday 20th December:** Term ends. Children can wear their own clothes on this day.
- **Thursday 5th January 2023:** Term starts. Children return to school today.



We are looking forward to another fantastic half term at Northwood. Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

S. Wassell

Mrs Wassell
Head of School