

### A Message from Mrs Beach, Executive Head Teacher



This is a really short half term and we want to make sure it is a really successful one here at Northwood. The staff have worked hard to continue to ensure that the curriculum is exciting, challenging and ultimately rewarding. The children are making really good progress in their learning and we know you will all be pleased with the updates you will receive during our consultations that are coming up. It is so important that you request a telephone meeting with your child's teacher, as the rest of this academic year will be focused on ensuring that all of our children reach their full potential and are ready for the next stage of their education.

### A Message from Mrs Wassell, Head of School

I hope that you all enjoyed a good half-term break. It has been lovely to see everyone back at school. Spring is definitely in the air at Northwood as days seem to get longer and we hope the weather soon gets warmer. We have lots of exciting things going on over this half term that we are all looking forward to. We have already celebrated World Book Day in school and look forward to celebrating other theme days over the half term. Please keep checking back on our Facebook page for news and photos over the half term and keep hold of the 'Dates for you Diary' section of this newsletter. If you haven't done so already then please download the Marvellous Me app so you can receive updates from your child's class teacher and also important letters and messages.



### Parent Consultations – Nursery, Reception, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6

Teachers are looking forward to speaking to you on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March or Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March for our parent consultation meetings. You should have received a slip to let you know when your appointment will be. If you have not returned a letter stating a preferred date or time then your child's teacher will send you an appointment. Depending on where in school the teacher is phoning from, the caller ID on your phone may be the school number or may be 'Number Withheld' or 'No caller ID'. Please be prepared to answer the call as it helps staff make sure they keep to their timetables for the evening.

### World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

World Book Day is always something we look forward to at Northwood – the staff as much as the children! Reading is at the heart of our curriculum and World Book Day gives us an opportunity to celebrate it. As is tradition at Northwood, children came dressed as a book character or in their favourite outfit to read in. Don't forget to exchange your child's book token for a book or for money off a book before the expiry date.



### Red Nose day – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March



On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March we will be celebrating Red Nose Day in aid of Comic Relief. This year's event is all about coming together to raise some smiles – and some money – to help people through the toughest times of their lives. I am inviting the whole school community to come dressed in their own clothes on that day. If children would like to wear fancy dress, onesies, sportswear or just their favourite outfit, they can. We will be accepting donations on this Friday to raise money for this worthwhile charity and children will be covering as many Red Nose Day posters as possible with the money they bring to school.

### Communication Strategy

With this newsletter you will also receive our Communication Strategy for parents/ carers outlining the way we will be communicating with families moving forward. If you currently have the email address of a member of staff or a class email address, these will no longer be responded to directly. Please use the Communication Strategy if you have a question or query so we can make sure your requests are followed up appropriately.

### Attendance Reminder

Being in school every day and on time makes a huge difference to a child's progress and attainment, as well as their personal and social development. We understand that sometimes children are ill and cannot attend school and on those days it is vital that you contact school to let us know, preferably before 9:30am. We have a duty of care to know where your child is, so if they are not in and we don't hear from you then we have to start ringing home and on occasions we may visit the home to check in with children and families. It would be a great help if all parents/ carers could get in touch with school instead. Recently we have had quite a few children arriving to school after the gate closes. Children's start times are:

Nursery – 8.30am    Reception – 8.45am    Year 1 – 8.45am    Year 2 – 8.50am  
Year 3 – 8.45am    Year 4 – 8.50am    Year 5 – 8.50am    Year 6 – 8.45am

Learning starts from the minute your child enters their classroom so please ensure they arrive on time so they are able to have a settled and enjoyable start to the day.

## Term Dates for 2023-2024

We know some families are looking at booking holidays for next year at the moment and have asked for the term dates. The dates for next academic year are:

	School Opens	School Closes
Autumn Term 1	Tuesday 5th September 2023	Friday 27th October 2023
School Holiday: Monday 30th October 2023 - Friday 3rd November 2023		
Autumn Term 2	Monday 6th November 2023	Tuesday 19th December 2023
School Holiday: Wednesday 20th December 2023 - Tuesday 2nd January 2024		
Spring Term 1	Wednesday 3rd January 2024	Friday 16th February 2024
School Holiday: Monday 19th February 2024 - Friday 23rd February 2024		
Spring Term 2	Monday 26th February 2024	Thursday 28th March 2024
School Holiday: Friday 29th March 2024 - Friday 12th April 2024		
Summer Term 1	Monday 15th April 2024	Friday 24th May 2024
School Holiday: Monday 27th May 2024 - Friday 31st May 2024		
Summer Term 2	Monday 3rd June 2024	Tuesday 23rd July 2024

There will be some additional training days where school will be closed for children, however, these dates have not been set yet. I will let you know these dates as soon as they have been confirmed. (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 is a PD Day, therefore school will not be open to the children).

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> March:** Northwood's World Book Day
- **Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> March:** British Science Week – 'Connections'
- **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March:** Red Nose Day - dress up day at school – wear your favourite outfit that makes you smile. Children are invited to bring money into school to donate to this worthy cause.
- **Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> March:** Big Walk and Wheel Week – how many children can we get walking, biking and scootering to school this week?
- **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March:** World Maths Day – children will be completing lots of fun maths activities on this day.
- **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March:** Term ends. Children can wear their own clothes on this day.
- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April:** *Term starts-children return to school.*

## School Calendar for this current academic year

Our school website has a wealth of information that you may need as a parent/ carer, 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 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	
Autumn 2	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	
Spring 1	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	
Spring 2	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	
Summer 1	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Bank Holiday: Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2023 Bank Holiday: Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
Summer 2	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	

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

Thank you for your continued support as always,

Mrs Wassell  
Head of School