

A Message from Mrs Beach, Executive Head Teacher



The last half term flew by at Northwood and it was another successful one for the children. We were so proud of the Year 6 children during their SATs tests. Their attitude and commitment to doing their best and demonstrating all that they have learned at primary school was a delight to observe. The results will be published before they leave Northwood in July.

Our Year 2 children have also been showing off all of their knowledge in their tests too and have tried really hard. The test outcomes will be used alongside teacher assessment to support their transition to Year 3 and beyond. There are a lot of exciting things happening at Northwood as we head towards the end of this academic year.

A Message from Mrs Wassell, Head of School

Welcome back to the last half term of this academic year! The weather seems to be picking up so it certainly feels like summer is on the way. The end of this academic year is in sight and so we start to look forward to transition into the next school year or the next stage of schooling for our children. When you receive your child's school report, you will find out who your child's new class teacher is. To tie in with the secondary school transition dates, children staying at Northwood will be spending two days with their new teachers on Wednesday 28th June and Thursday 29th June.

As this will be my last half-term at Northwood, I wanted to send a huge thank you to all members of our school community. It has truly been an honour to be part of the Northwood team and to work with such amazing families, children and colleagues over the last 8 years. I wish you all well for the future and know the school will continue to 'grow success' as it continues to go from strength to strength.



End of Year Assessments

Over the first few weeks of this half term there will be a number of assessments going on across the school to enable teachers to see how well the children have done this year and ensure we can celebrate everyone's success.



The Year 1 children complete their Phonic Screening Check and the Year 4 children are completing their Multiplication Tables Check. As with all statutory assessments we have to do in school, the children have been well prepared over the year to make sure they can shine during these opportunities and see them as a way to show off. The results of these assessments will be shared with you once they become available (hopefully by the time our reports are sent out).

Staffing Updates

We have some staffing news for after the summer holidays.

Staff Leaving Northwood

- Mrs Shepherdson (Class 1 teacher) will be leaving us at the end of the Summer term. We'd like to thank Mrs Shepherdson for her time and dedication whilst she has been with us at Northwood and wish her all the best for the future.
- Miss Craig (Class 6 teacher) is moving to another school in Darlington in September. Miss Craig has been a great asset to Northwood and her new school is lucky to have her. We wish her all the best.
- Mrs Risbey (Class 5 teaching assistant) is moving to another school in Darlington. I know the staff and children will really miss Mrs Risbey and we wish her lots of luck in her new role.

Although we are really sad to see these members of staff go, we are excited for them to begin their new adventures.

New Staffing at Northwood

- Miss Kelly (currently Assistant Head Teacher) has been appointed as Deputy Head Teacher at Northwood from September.
- Mrs Negus (currently Assistant Head Teacher and SENDCo) is expecting a baby! Her maternity will begin in September. In her absence Miss Hindmarsh (currently Nursery teacher) has been appointed to take over the role until Mrs Negus returns.
- From September, there will be a new Assistant Head Teacher at Northwood – Mr Tapner. He is joining us from Park End Primary School in Middlesbrough.
- We will have three new teachers at Northwood in September – Miss Bacon, Miss Curtis and Miss Welford.

I hope you will join us in welcoming the new members of staff to Northwood.

Uniform and PE Uniform

PE kit is a key part of our school uniform, having the right kit ensures children are not restricted when taking part in sporting activities and that the clothes they wear at home do not get damaged.

Our school PE kit is:

- A pair of plain black shorts
- A standard white T-Shirt
- Plimsolls and/or trainers
- Hair should be neat and tidy and any hair accessories such as clips, slides, beads etc should be kept to a minimum.
- Jewellery, with the exception of one pair of stud style earrings, and make up (including nail varnish) should not be worn in school.



Over this year, we have seen an increase in the number of children wearing jewellery to school and on PE days as well as nail varnish and fake nails. If children have to wear earrings then they should be a simple studs. There are all sorts of health and safety risks with wearing jewellery and having fake nails. If a child were to have an accident then a key thing we may look for is circulation in the fingers, which is impossible if a child is wearing fake nails or nail varnish. Teachers will be reminding children of these rules across this half term and in September. Children will be asked to remove jewellery whilst in school and remove fake nails and nail varnish at home. If your child is wearing jewellery they will be asked to take it off and you may be contacted by the class teacher to remind you that this is not appropriate. If your child comes to school with nail varnish or fake nails they will also be reminded of the school rules and you may receive a reminder from the teacher. I realise that children like to follow fashion, however, we would really appreciate your support with enforcing the school policy around this issue. We have a range of PE kit in school for children who continue to wear inappropriate clothing for their PE lessons.

Sports Days

I am pleased to invite you to our Sports Day events this year! We have set preliminary dates for this, however, this is weather depending. If we are not able to use the field due to the weather, we will aim to move the day but we may have to have it indoors instead. The dates for these events are:



- Nursery morning children and Reception Class 1 – morning of Tuesday 4th July (time to be confirmed)
- Nursery afternoon children and Reception Class 2 – afternoon of Tuesday 4th July (time to be confirmed)
- Nursery all day children – parents/ carers can choose whether to attend the morning or afternoon session
- Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) – Friday 7th July at 2pm
- Key Stage 2 (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6) - Thursday 6th July at 2pm

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 5th June:** Gardening Week – The children will start their fieldwork topic this week which will involve looking at the wildlife in our school grounds.
- **Week commencing 12th June:** Outdoor Classroom Week – Children will complete lots of exciting activities in and around the school grounds.
- **Week commencing 19th June:** Our Culture Week – Across this week we will be celebrating the diversity of our school – where do we come from and what is our heritage. This was suggested by one of our Year 6 pupils and we think it's a great idea!
- **Week commencing 26th June:** World Wellbeing Week - We will be talking about how we can all look after our wellbeing.
- **Tuesday 27th June:** Annual reports will be shared with parents/carers.
- **Wednesday 28th June and Thursday 29th June:** Whole-school transition.
- **Week commencing 3rd July:** Outdoor Safety Week – we will be discussing the importance of sun, water, road and rail safety so children know how to keep themselves safe.
- **Week commencing 3rd July:** Sports Days happening this week (see above).
- **Wednesday 5th July-** We are inviting all parents and carers into school from the end of the school day. This is an opportunity for you to look at your children's books and the work that they have been involved in all year. You can also go and see which classroom your child will be in next academic year, especially children in Year 2 who move upstairs next year. The governors of Northwood will also be coming to this event.
- **Week commencing 10th July:** Careers Week – children will be researching a range of careers to inspire them for the future!
- **Wednesday 12th July:** Y6 Leavers Disco – details to follow.
- **Thursday 13th July:** Year 6 Leavers Assembly – details to follow.
- **Wednesday 19th July:** Term ends. Non-uniform day.
- **Term starts:** Tuesday 5th September (Monday 4th September is a PD Day and school is closed to the children).

On behalf of the whole Northwood team, I would like to thank you for your continued support.

S. Wassell

Mrs Wassell
Head of School