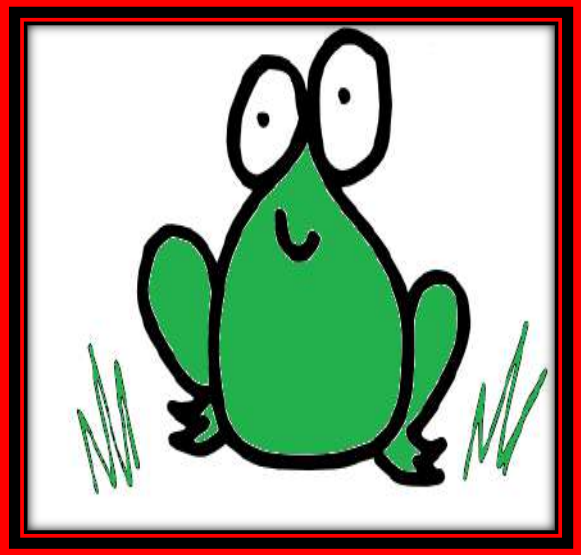
NORTHBOROUGH NEWS



CHRISTMAS 2023

Message from Mrs Boucher

It has been a really busy term and the children have continued to amaze me with their wonderful attitudes towards their learning and the work they have produced.

The EYFS, Yr1 and 2 and the Yr3, 4, and 5 pupils were absolutely brilliant in their Christmas performances. They showed amazing, singing, dancing and acting skills - well done!

I would like to challenge all the children over the Christmas break to read in an interesting place. Please send a photo to your childs class teacher of where they have read via Class Dojo. I can't wait to see them!

I would like to say a massive thank you for all the support you provide your children and the school

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas!

KEY DATES AND INFORMATION

January

Start of Spring term: Thur 4th

- EYFS prospective parent tour: Mon 8th at 9.30am
- EYFS & Y6 height & weight screening: Tue 9th
- Sports Ambassadors Conference at AMVC: Tue 16th (invited children only)
- School Census: Thur 18th
- PTFA AGM meeting: Tue 30th 7pm at school
- Y5 Table tennis festival at AMVC: Tue 31st (information to follow)

February

- EYFS vision screening: Wed 14th
- Proposed EYFS tobogganing trip: Thur 15th (information to follow)

Half Term 19th – 23rd February

March

- Y5 Bikeability training: Mon 11th – Thur 14th

End of Spring Term: Thur 28th

We are saying a sad farewell to Mrs Holland. Mrs Holland is the only teacher to have been class teacher to every single child who started with us in reception.
We have loved you being part of our school family – you will be missed.
Good luck in your new ventures, Mrs Holland.

This half term has been busy in Year One.

Christmas festivities…
Nativity Santa and
Christmas dinner.

Food tasting
and the Christmassy
dishes we made for
for our DT project.

Looking at the signs
of autumn on our
woodland walk.

Finding and identifying
3D shapes in the classroom.

Exploring old
and new
toys with
the museum
visitor.

Year 3 Highlights

Merry Christmas Everyone!

I liked making the clay pots because it was messy.
Harry

I'm getting a violin for Christmas!
Jessica

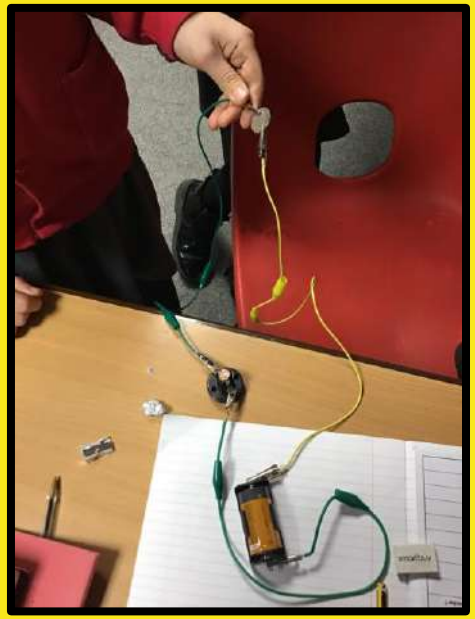
I would like to go back again to Flag Fen when we could see the Bronze Age boats.
Charlotte

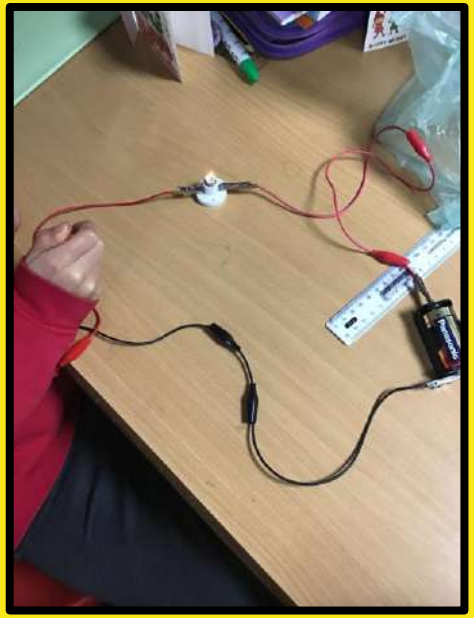
Touching the historical artefacts made me full of questions.
Sasha

I loved going in the round house and hearing the legend. Henry

Our dance at AMVC Gym and Dance morning had a Christmas theme.

What’s been happening in Year 4?





We have explored the topic of electricity in our Science lessons. The children have enjoyed building circuits, identifying conductors and making their own switches.

We came first at the Sportshall Athletics event kindly organised by Arthur Mellows Community College.

The children showed lots of ‘elf-confidence’ at the Christmas shows!

Y5- Autumn 2

VISIT TO THE NATIONAL SPACE CENTRE

By the Soyuz Rocket

Year 5 studied Space as part of their science studies. They enjoyed a fantastic day out at the National Space Centre.

YEAR 6 TRIP TO DUXFORD MUSEUM

Recently in Year Six, we travelled to the Duxford Air Museum to learn more about World War 2 and consolidate our learning throughout the topic. Whilst there, we were able to look around the site, taking in all of the history that they had to offer. We looked at the various different aviation vehicles and were able to see what a real 'War Room' looked like. Another reason we went was to talk to 2 gentlemen who had been involved in conflict. In particular, we met John, who was 3 when World War 2 broke out. He was able to tell us stories about his childhood throughout the war, and the way he had to live his life after it had ended. All in all, we had a great day and the pupils were amazing.

School Council 2023

The school council are currently collecting ideas, planning and designing repairs and replacements for the Key Stage 2 playground equipment. Riley Murthwaite has collated many fantastic ideas and made a plan which will be submitted to Mrs Boucher for pricing. Year 3 school council representatives have started to measure up and are shocked at the cost of the equipment.

Advent and R.E. visitors

Rev Keir read us the story "Owl Babies" because the baby owls were waiting for their Mum. We are waiting in Advent for Christmas. Layla Y3

Thank-you very much for your generous shoebox donations to Operation Christmas Child, last month.

Sharon helped with our Hinduism learning in R.E. She taught us about her beliefs and showed her religious artefacts. Thank-you for coming. William Y4

We practiced for 3 weeks and we really enjoyed performing it for everyone at AMVC - Rosie

We did a dance to the song 'Let It Snow' and did a whole class dance. It was an enjoyable experience. - Francesca

We were told our dance was the best because it was the most memorable and we really thought about our dance moves. - Emily

On Wednesday 6th December, our Year 3s went to AMVC to partake in a Gym and Dance festival with 7 other schools. The dance that was choreographed by our YDP, Tom was a huge success and everyone had an amazing time.

Year 3 Gym and Dance Festival

Year 4 Indoor Athletics Festival.

- Our Year 4's took part in an indoor athletics festival hosted by AMVC. They had various different sports and races to partake in. Everyone had a brilliant time and tried exceptionally hard to win every race they could.

'At AMVC, our class went to AMVC and had a smashing morning. We had to do some warm up workouts, went and did some jumping over stools and different events. When we go back into the main hall, we tried very hard to win all of our races to come 1st and we did! Everyone tried their hardest and it was a great morning!' – Isabelle and William

KS2 Girls' Football Tournament

- YDP hosted their first tournament of their calendar year and 'kicked off' with Girls' football. We went to compete with various different schools around Peterborough and we really battled hard to get the results. Overall, the whole morning was a success and we really enjoyed it.

- 'We went to John Fisher Secondary School to play in a tournament against lots of other schools on their 3G pitch. It was so fun! We got split into 2 separate groups and played against some tough schools. We lost 2, lost 2 and Drew once, which ultimately wasn't enough to make it through to the Semis. Based off of our points, we would have came 6th out of the 14 teams, which is a big achievement for a lot of the girls who had never played. We showed perseverance and determination.' – Samara (Y5)

The Team:
Nell,
Kim,
Amelie,
Poppy
Megan
Mary,
Samara,
Emmie,
Ayla
Bethany

BW **BBC 500 Words** 10:47
To: silvena Minciu >

BBC 500 Words - First Round success!

First Round success!

Dear silvena minciu,

Congratulations! We're pleased to say that the following made it through to the next stage of BBC 500 Words:

- The Ultimate Kicker
  by Alexander Minciu on 09/11/2023

We received thousands of entries and only around 5,000 go through for the second round of judging by the Reading Agency. You should be very proud!

We'll be back in touch with an update when we have selected our shortlisted stories in January.

Thanks,

BBC 500 Words Team

BBC Teach
3rd Floor Bridge House
Media City
Salford M50 2BH
500words@bbc.co.uk
www.bbc.co.uk/500words

Sophia was in a 2 day competition in St Neots recently and got some amazing results!

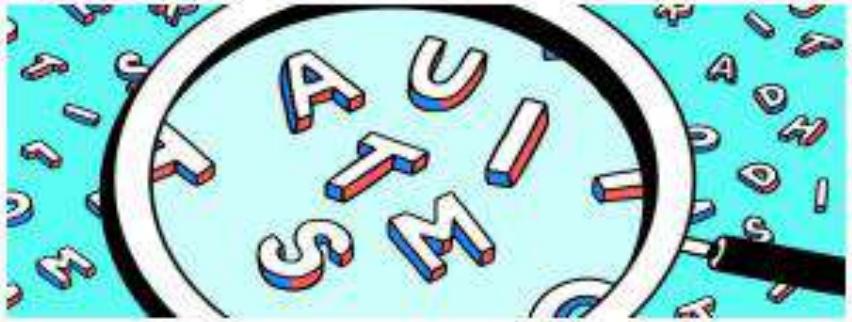
3rd for ballet trio
1st for when I grow up (lyrical)
1st for Swiss national
3rd for finding hope (lyrical)
1st for flower festival (ballet)
1st for wonderland and trophy for best stage performance!
1st for run & tell (musical jazz)
1st for Arabian nights (acro)
3rd for freaks like me(street)

Special judges award for the kindest and best behaved dance school!

This is great to hear. Good luck both of you!

YDP camps reminder

Holiday support



I have a diagnosis, what does this mean to me?

Thursday 18th January @ 4.00pm – 5.30pm

(For both Professionals and parents)

At: Stanground Academy, Stanground, Peterborough, Road, Peterborough. PE7 3BY

To book a place email

sen.inclusion@peterborough.gov.uk

(Booking will close at noon on the 17th of January)

What will we cover in the session?

- What autism is in simple terms-clearing up some misconceptions
- It will focus on aspects of explaining diagnosis to a child (What? When? How? Who? Why?)
- Troubleshooting: What to do if a child doesn't accept their diagnosis? What if they don't want to be different from others? What if they using it as an excuse?
- Provide resources that can assist and guide you and the autistic individual
- Opportunity to ask questions in a general context in the chat section
- Signposting to useful sites/links/literature

PETERBOROUGH

COSY UP

A half termly newsletter for by the Autism Advisory Teacher Service for Peterborough's Autism community

Reflections in the Baubles

As we come together to celebrate the magic of Christmas, we begin to reflect on our unique experiences and the trials and tribulations of our journey through this past year. For those of us working within the field of Special Educational Needs, we aspire to create a brighter, more inclusive future for our children. In this issue, we shine a light on the current challenges and reflect on how we are making progress towards our goals.

One of the challenges we face is the need for increased awareness and understanding within the education system. While good progress has been made, there's still a call for more comprehensive training for educators to better support neurodiverse students. As a service, we are providing free Autism Education Trust training to schools across the city, empowering teachers to create inclusive spaces that celebrate neurodiversity.

Many parents advocate for improved access to specialist support services and a more tailored approach to education. Addressing this issue requires collaborative efforts between policymakers, educators, and advocacy groups to ensure that adequate resources are allocated to meet the needs of neurodiverse learners. As a service we have expanded, and now have a bigger team than ever to meet the growing demand for specialist support.

Inclusivity extends beyond education, encompassing community engagement and understanding. Social isolation remains a concern for many families, with the need for increased awareness and acceptance within the broader community. What's more, the financial strain on families with autistic children is another significant challenge. While our service is primarily concerned with education, we recognise that we need to support children holistically in order to improve outcomes for children and families. We operate a free parent support line where families can book a phone consultation with one of our teachers by emailing sen.inclusion@peterborough.gov.uk.

Inclusivity is not just a goal; it's a shared responsibility. Facilitating an education system that accommodates the unique strengths and challenges of every child requires continuous collaboration and open dialogue. As we exchange gifts and good wishes this Christmas, let's extend our support to those advocating for positive change in the realm of autism and education.

From everyone at the Autism Advisory Teacher Service, Merry Christmas.

TOP TIPS FOR AN AUTISM FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS

1. Be Predictable: Create a visual holiday schedule and prepare your child for any upcoming events to reduce anxiety.
2. Create a Sensory-Friendly Environment: opt for soft lighting or gentle music and designate a quiet space, free of decorations where your child can retreat to.
3. Giving Gifts: Select gifts that align with your child's interests and sensory preferences and if your child doesn't like surprises, put a photo of what's inside on the wrapper.
4. Christmas Dinner: Consider an alternative Christmas dinner or allow them to have their preferred food. Avoid crackers or take out the snapper if loud noises are a problem
5. New Traditions: Don't feel as though you must stick to traditions, Christmas is a time for happiness and joy so do what works for you and your family

Out & About

Kids go Half Price at Sacrewell: Click here

Springfields Winter Wonderland Walk: Click here

Vivacity SEN Christmas Club Click here

SEN Friendly Sessions at Safari Softplay: Click here

Nene Park Winter Festival:
- Enchanted Forest
- Performances
- Fairground Stalls

Click here

Angle Gaming Lounge: A £5 wristband gives you access to the board game library and VR Headsets. Click here

Rainy Days

Try these...
- Melted Snowman Biscuits...Click here.
- Christmas Chocolate Play Pudding... Click here.
- Edible Snowmen...Click here.

Christmas Apps..
Crazy Santa Run... Click here.

Christmas Countdown Story... Click here.

Crafty Christmas Tree...

NOTICE BOARD

Recognition award for TACPAC – December 2023

We are thrilled to announce that Donna was presented with the Susie Fuller award by TACPAC during our TACPAC training day on the 1st of December. This annual award is in recognition of anyone who has shown outstanding commitment to embedding TACPAC in their home or workplace, showing the benefits of this work in the progress and development with their children, young people, older people and families. Donna is very much a worthy winner of this award and it's great that her work and enthusiasm is widening the number of children who are enjoying TACPAC across Peterborough.

Thirty people attended the training session on the 1st of December to learn how to use TACPAC. Everyone was very keen to learn and use the resources they were given with their children already we are hearing how children are really enjoying it across Peterborough. It was lovely to see how committed people are to learn new ways to engage with our children and even better to hear how our children are enjoying it as part of their school day. For those people who have not heard of TACPAC it's a programme which draws together touch and music to create sensory communication between two people. TACPAC creates sensory alignment and helps people of any age who have sensory impairment, for example, visual impairment, developmental delay, complex learning difficulties, Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD)or limited or pre-verbal levels of communication.

Christmas at Northborough.

Children in Early Years performed brilliantly in 'The Innkeepers Breakfast' .

KS 2 performed Christmas with the Krackers What a treat!

Year 4 were cheeky little elves.

Year 3 were very cute carol singers

Year 5 took on the roles of the principle characters. It was great to be on stage in front of a live audience.

You'd better watch out… Santa Claus is coming to town!

Many thanks to the PTFA for the great idea of putting Santa's gifts in bags which we decorated ourselves. They look fab!

Good job everyone at Northborough is very good!

Christmas Lunch
and
Christmas Jumpers

A huge thank you to our dinner ladies and cooks. We are very grateful for the way you look after us every day.

We went to St Andrew's Church for a carol service. Mrs Skillman was impressed with the way we behave in church and was super- impressed with our singing.

St Andrew's will be holding a midnight mass on Saturday night if you would like to attend.

Thanks to Mrs Skillman for a lovely service, Mrs Knott for playing for us and Rev Keir for the prayers and blessings.

Northborough Christmas Carols 2023

Thank you to the PTFA for delicious the cocoa and other refreshments.
£117.13 raised towards the Patch.

Many thanks to Mrs Simcoe for her support with the choir this term.

Well done, to the choir – you were fabulous!

PTFA INFORMATION

WELL DONE TO THE WINNERS OF THE CHRISTMAS HAMPERS:

GEORGE- Y3, JAMES- Y5, ELLA -EYFS, LOUIE– Y 2, BONNIE AND JOSH Y1 AND 4

Please let the school office know if you are keen to join our team of hardworking PTFA members.
The more the merrier!

A massive £607.79 was raised. Many thanks for supporting the PTFA

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough 5-19 years school nursing team offers help and advice for a whole host of issues:

Emotional Wellbeing

- Managing emotions, low mood, eating concerns, school transition support & attendance issues for health reasons

Healthy Lifestyles

- Healthy eating, sleep, bed wetting, smoking, drugs and alcohol

Puberty & Growing Up

- Healthy relationships, self image and identity

CALL 0300 029 50 50

cpm-tr.peterboroughschoolnurses@nhs.net

SAFE GUARDING AND WELL BEING

- If you have any concerns regarding your child please come and see your class teacher in the first instance, followed by Mrs Jackson or Mrs Boucher if you are still worried.
- Any enquiries for the class teacher that you can't pass on face to face should come through the office. If you do use dojo, please be mindful that class teachers will not always look at dojo throughout the day.
- If your message is about illness, a change in pick up or anything that needs instant action, it **must** come through the office. Thank you.

The emergency email is -

emergency@northborough.peterborough.sch.uk

Please use this email for safe guarding emergencies.

We have yet again been very proud of the children and the way they have dealt with the long term, inclement weather and busy, busy times. We hope they have learned lots this half term and have taken away some treasured memories of fun events too.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we will look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Return to school – Thursday 5th January

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Enjoy your special day– HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Wishing you all a day as brilliant as you!

Birthdays celebrated this half term

EYFS: Tommy, Oliver, Arlo, Matilda & Etta

Year 1: Jacob, Toby, Florence P, Hordii & Hattie

Year 2: Louie, Isaac R, Hassan & Isaac W

Year 3: Priya, Rosie M, Sasha & Tate

Year 4: Eva

Year 5: James, Joshua, Riley & Alice

Year 6: Rufus, & Nell

Staff: Miss Sly, Mr Taylor, Mrs Heavens & Mrs Rowcliffe

IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER –

PARENTS WILL BE INFORMED VIA A PARENTPAY EMAIL. THIS WILL HAPPEN NO LATER THAN 8AM ON A PREDICTED SNOW DAY. A MESSAGE WILL ALSO BE PUT ON THE HOME PAGE OF OUR WEBSITE. PARENTS CAN ALSO LISTEN OUT FOR NOTICE ON HEART RADIO, CONNECT FM AND BBC RADIO CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT – THE NORTHBOROUGH TEAM.