



Northborough Primary School

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

A note from Mr Mallott.

A very warm welcome back to the Spring Term. We hope you and your families had a fantastic Christmas and New Year. I would like to take a moment to reflect on some of last terms highlights and provide you with dates to look forward to during the Spring Term.

We are so proud of all the children's achievements during the Autumn Term, what a fabulous close to 2018 we had with all the performances!

Anyone who came to the performances of Foundations 'A little bird told me' will know how heart-warming it was to see all of the children involved, each with their own precious part in the performance, to collectively create such a magical Christmas feel. The children were simply stunning and parents and relatives who attended must be so proud, I know we are! A huge 'thank you' to the Foundation team and parents for helping the children to perform so beautifully.

Key Stage 1 production of 'The Inn-Spectors' and Key Stage 2 retelling of 'Aladdin' made for a busy yet fantastic week! The children performed to the best of their ability and we all enjoyed the production immensely - well done to everyone, we are very proud of you.

Year 6 took parents on a journey back in time, during World War 1 and 2. Thank you to all who attended this celebration of learning. Emotional and thought provoking times were had listening to children talk about relatives that were a part of the war effort. It was a pleasure to listen to the children singing songs and sharing their work with parents over trench cake and a cup of tea.

REFLECTION.

Foundation

Mrs Holland and Mrs Dovey were delighted by how well the children settled in after the October half term break. The children are becoming so much more independent and self-confident and this was evident in their Nativity production. Everybody is getting quicker at changing for PE! In phonics we have learnt the first set of sounds and we will start on the second set after Christmas. We have been writing and reading number sentences in maths using symbols for **adding, subtracting and balancing**. Every single day the Play Leaders have such wonderful things to say about the children after lunch time play. Thank you to all our parents and carers for the hard work supporting our learning. The celebration shoe boxes are spectacular! 2019 will kick off with People Who Help Us - a topic that engages the imagination...

Year 1

During the second half of the Autumn Term Year 1 completed a topic called 'Memory Box.' They have learnt about their bodies, the different stages of life and looked at various different memories throughout our lives so far. For example, weddings we have attended or parties we have been to. Finally, they compared our lives with the lives of children in the 1940's using the book 'Peepo.' The children were fascinated by the outside toilet and tin bath.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a fabulous start to the academic year, with many exciting events to support our learning. This half term we learned about nocturnal animals and wrote our own fact files about Barn Owls. We went on a visit to Deeping Lakes to leave our fact files in the hides there for members of the public to use.

We came back to school when it was dark for a fun time finding nocturnal animals in the orchard. Everyone found them all, and earned a yummy hot chocolate with cookies.

We also had a fascinating visit from the Raptor Foundation. We were lucky enough to hold Goliath, an African owl. We also had a barn owl flying over our heads. It was completely silent when it flew! Wow!

To round up this wonderful start to the school year, we performed in our nativity play, 'The INN - spectors'. How proud we were of you all! Well done, Year 2 - you have worked very hard and learned lots!

Year 3

We have really enjoyed our 'Playlists' topic this half term in Year 3, especially our afternoon 'concert' where we got to watch popular artists such as Ed Sheeran and Elvis singing live. In English, we researched into a chosen singer, finding out all about their childhood and their singing career and then wrote information texts about them. We found out some very interesting facts! Throughout the half term, we were able to listen to a wide range of music genres and produce pieces of artwork for each genre. We also investigated how sounds are created through vibrations by playing many musical instruments.



Year 4

Year 4 have enjoyed our 'Playlists' topic this half term which we kicked off with an afternoon watching live performance recordings by a wide variety of artists, from Elvis to Ed Sheeran. The children produced a wide range of interesting homework, including timelines of family members' musical tastes and memories, musical performances, band logos and even band t-shirts! The children enjoyed researching and writing fact-files about popstars. We enjoyed producing abstract art influenced by Kandinsky and inspired by the improvised jazz of Miles Davis. In Science, we have investigated materials which are good at absorbing sound in order to design and make ear guards to stop Mr Henderson going deaf during band practices!

Year 5

Last term, we have been learning all about World War One. We have studied the history of the War, time lining the key events. Using different resources, we have found out all about life in the trenches. We wrote diaries, describing what daily life was like for the soldiers, what they ate and thinking about how much they must have missed home. We also have written information reports about the end of the war and thought about Remembrance Day. Using different art resources, we have created pictures of landscapes and poppies. We have explored rationing and read some War poems. Year 5 have also created fantastic homework linked to World War One, ranging from cooking to artwork. In Maths, we have explored multiplication and division, area, perimeter and co-ordinates. The children have worked really hard. A great half term!

Year 6

Last term, we have been learning about World War 1. It has been an interesting and exciting topic. We have learnt many new things and even gone home asking more questions. In Literacy, we have explored many parts of the War including: the trenches, the battlefield and the diaries they wrote home to families. Our class then wrote diaries as if we were a soldier who lived in the trenches, experiencing the terrible events. In Maths, we have been looking at division, multiplication problems and BIDMAS. We have now learnt the short and long method for division and the order of operations. Year 6, have also focused on Christmas co-ordinates which was very fun as well. In PE we have been learning Gymnastic routines and learnt how to use our core in balancing and strengthening. We loved the topic this term, learning things we never knew before.

Reported by Ella and Emily

A fond farewell.

It is with great sadness that we said goodbye to Mrs Fulstow (Teaching Assistant) who has left us to pursue her career elsewhere. We are sure she will miss us as much as we will miss her! We wish her every success in the future and hope she will be happy in her new role. Thank you Mrs Fulstow!



INTRODUCING 'Class Dojo'

Look out for the ParentPay email launching Class Dojo. The oldest child in each family will receive an opt-in letter at the end of the school day tomorrow! Please return it to school with urgency.

Carol Services & Silly Songs

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Knott who made a guest appearance at the Silly Song assembly on Wednesday and played the organ at both of our carol services this week. Also, thank you to all the parents and family members for coming along to join in. We love sharing these special moments with you!

Christmas Market Success!

Another incredible evening had by all who attended our annual Christmas Market on the 7th December. We are thrilled to announce the evening raised £1,819 - WOW, WOW, WOW. Thank you to our dedicated PTFA and supporting parents across the school, for your help planning, setting up, clearing away and donating! We simply couldn't do it without you.

Parent Consultation Evenings.

Parent Consultation Evenings will take place on Monday 11th and Wednesday 13th February between 3.50 and 7pm. Parent consultations are an important opportunity for parents and carers to meet teachers to discuss pupil progress. You can book an appointment with your child's class teacher via the school website on Monday 14th January at midday.

Time Keeping.

Classroom doors open at 9.05am. Every effort should be made to arrive for when the doors are opened so that teachers can make a prompt start to our learning day. The end of our school day is 3.30pm. Thank you for your co-operation.

Spring Term Menus.

Spring Term menus are now available on the school website.

<https://www.northboroughschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=910&type=pdf>

School Census Day.

National School Census takes place on Thursday 17th January.

What is Census Day and why is it so important?

On two days every year we have a school census where we complete data about the numbers of children in school and whether they are having a school meal. The schools funding is paid based solely on the information we gather on Census Day.

Universal Infant School Meals Funding

The money that the school receives for Infant School children for the 'Universal Infant School Meals' scheme, is based on the average of how many children have a school meal on the census days. **We therefore need as many Key Stage 1 children (Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2) as possible to have a school dinner on Thursday 17th January 2019.** We appreciate your support securing this much needed funding.

Because of the census day, we will change the menus on Tuesday and Thursday next week as follows:

Tuesday 15th (normally favourites day) we will serve:

Roast pork
Cheesy Yorkshire pudding
Cold choice - Ham
Roast potatoes
Carrots or Butternut squash
Dessert: Muffin, jelly, yoghurt, fruit

Thursday 17th (Census Day)

Beef Burger
Vegetarian Burger
French Fries
Sweetcorn/ Baked Beans
Dessert: Chocolate crispy cake, jelly, yoghurt, fruit

Daily jacket potatoes with a selection of fillings and the salad bar will be available as normal.

Income based Free School Meal (FSM)

The school received extra funding based on the numbers of children having an Income based Free School Meal. If you receive any income based benefits we encourage parents to fill in a form for us to check if you are eligible. To do this check we need your child's name and your name, date of birth and National Insurance Number. If you are on benefits or have an income of less than £16,190 you may be able to claim.

Children getting FSM also get free milk. If you think you are entitled to support, please contact the school office, this information will be treated confidentially.

Lost property.

Our lost property pile grows larger by the day, unfortunately most of it is unnamed. Can we ask parents to label all uniform items? It will make it much easier to return them. It is also important to label your child's water bottle to ensure they are not drinking from another child's. Thank you.

Car park.

Please be reminded that our small car park is for staff only. Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

JANUARY

- **START OF THE SPRING TERM. Mon 7th**
- Final prospective parent tour. Wed 9th 9.30-10.30am
- After school clubs start week commencing Mon 13th
- Sensory Circuits start. Tue 14th
- Parents evening appointments go live on the website. Mon 14th at 12pm
- AMVC Sports Ambassadors Conference. Mon 14th 12.15-3pm accompanied by Mrs Henson
- Foundation class trip to Oakham Fire Station and Tesco's. Tue 15th
- Y5/6 Darwin's Delights topic morning. Tue 15th
- Foundation parent question time. Wed 16th 6pm
- School Census. Thur 17th (see menu changes above)
- PTFA Cake Sale. Fri 18th 3.30-4pm in the dining hall. All cakes 50p
- Paramedics visiting the Foundation class. Tue 22nd
- Foundation, Year 1 & 2 bedtime stories evening. Thur 24th 6-6.30pm (info to follow)
- Y5 Table tennis festival @ AMVC. Wed 30th 11.15-12.30pm

FEBRUARY

- Class photographs. Mon 4th (during the morning)
- Bin lorry visiting the Foundation class. Mon 11th
- Y2 class assembly for parents. Thur 14th 9.30-10.30am
- Parents Evenings. Mon 11th & Wed 13th
- Y1 parent drop-in afternoon. Fri 15th from 2.30pm
- Y2 Cake Sale. Fri 15th (in the dining hall)
- **HALF TERM. 18th - 22nd**
- **STAFF TRAINING. Mon 25th**
- SOKE cross-country relays. Wed 27th 1.45-4pm (individual children to be notified)
- Y4 Stibbington residential parent meeting. Wed 27th 5.30pm (children welcome)

MARCH

- World Book Day. Thur 7th (information to follow)
- Y4 Stibbington residential. Mon 11th - Wed 13th
- JMP Music demonstration to the children during assembly. Thur 14th
- British Science Week. 9th - 18th
- Y1 Cake Sale. 15th 3.30-4pm (in the dining hall)
- SOKE netball & football tournament @ AMVC. Wed 20th 1.45-4pm (letter to individual children)
- Comic Relief. Fri 15th (information to follow)
- Y4 Stibbington residential presentations to parents. Fri 22nd 2.30pm

- Y5 Bikeability Training. Mon 23rd - 26th
- Y6 SATs parent information evening. Wed 27th at 6pm
- School Disco. Fri 29th. Foundation, Y1 & Y2 - 5-6pm. Y3, 4, 5 & 6 - 6.15-7pm
- Mother's Day Gift Shop. Fri 29th during the afternoon. (information from the PTFA to follow)

APRIL

- Y5 Egyptian craft afternoon with parents. Mon 1st 2.30pm
- **END OF SPRING TERM. Fri 5th April**

Our school calendar is ever expanding. Should we have any additional dates to add we will notify with as much advanced notice as possible. Thank you.