NMP Newsletter

Autumn 1 2024

WEBSITE LINKS JUST CLICK:

NMP News

News Listing

Curriculum Map

Parent Handbook and Virtual Tour

Child Illness Advice

Well Being

SEND & ELP

We Are Norbury!

Learners Today. Leaders Tomorrow. Make Every Moment Count!

As we settle into another exciting term, I'm delighted to share with you the vibrant happenings and important updates from our school. The past weeks have been a whirlwind of activity, learning, and growth, and I'm eager to bring you up to speed on all that's been occurring within our bustling corridors and classrooms

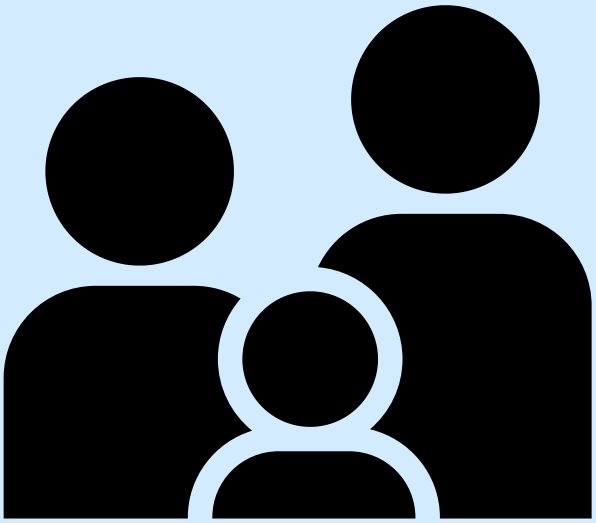
First and foremost, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the parents who contributed to the success of our recent 'WE are Norbury Week'. Your efforts in preparing delicious dishes for our feast and joining us in the celebration were truly appreciated. The turnout was fantastic, and it was wonderful to see our school community come together in such a spirited manner. For those who couldn't attend or would like to relive the memories, I encourage you to click on the NMP News link on the left side of our website. There, you'll find a video capturing the essence of the event, including examples of the remarkable work our pupils produced during challenge week. It's a testament to their creativity and dedication, as they explored artists linked to their class names.

In our ongoing effort to keep you informed and involved in your child's education, we've recently updated our school website. A key addition is the curriculum maps, which provide a comprehensive outline of what each year group will be studying each term. These maps are an invaluable resource for parents who wish to support their child's learning journey at home. You can easily access this information by clicking on the curriculum map link on the left-hand side of our website. While you're there, you might also notice that we've refreshed our school policies. I encourage you to familiarise yourself with these updates as they reflect our commitment to providing the best possible educational experience for our pupils.

Click on the links above to explore pages on our school website

Parent Evening

As we approach parents' evening, I want to emphasise the importance of this opportunity to discuss your child's progress. These meetings are a crucial time for you to gain insights into your child's academic performance, learn about any interventions they're participating in, and understand the reasoning behind these support measures. To ensure we're making the most of our time together, we've already begun implementing interventions from the start of this term. It's important to note that these interventions cater to all pupils who require additional support and are not exclusively for those on the special needs register. Our approach is holistic, considering various factors including maths and reading test data, classwork, Boxall profile assessments, and wellbeing questionnaires



Wellbeing

For those interested in learning more about our wellbeing support initiatives, I encourage you to explore the dedicated pages on our website. You'll find valuable information about our nurture group and other wellbeing programmes we have in place. Our intention is always to support the whole child, nurturing both their academic and emotional growth. I'm incredibly proud of my team's dedication to this cause, and I kindly ask for your continued respect and support during parents' evening as we work together for the benefit of your children.

In light of recent news reports highlighting the shortage of spaces in special needs schools and units, I want to assure you that Norbury Manor is adapting to ensure all pupils receive the education they deserve. We've had the pleasure of hosting numerous visitors who've come to observe and learn from our inclusive practises. Our approach to supporting pupils with special educational needs has garnered attention, and we're proud to be at the forefront of inclusive education. I invite you to visit our SEND and ELP link on the school website to learn more about our strategies and how we collaborate with Croydon's SEND Locality Support team.

We learn in our own way and in our own time

Egg-cellent news

Reflecting on the past half term, I'm filled with pride at the myriad of experiences and achievements our pupils have enjoyed. Our Year 5 pupils had the incredible opportunity to visit the House of Commons as part of the Heartstone Project. This initiative uses storytelling to promote understanding and break down prejudices and stereotypes. I was particularly proud to hear that our pupils were given the chance to share their insights from the project. Meanwhile, our Year 4 pupils expanded their horizons with a visit to the British Museum, enhancing their topic work with real-world experiences. And let's not forget Ghana class, who celebrated being the class with the best attendance – well done to them!

We kicked off the term with an exciting visit from TV personality Theo Paphitis, accompanied by the team from the British Dyslexia Association (BDA). They were particularly interested in our methods for supporting pupils with dyslexia and other special educational needs. It's a testament to the innovative and inclusive approach we're taking at Norbury Manor. Our Reception parents also had the opportunity to participate in our Reading workshop, further strengthening the home-school partnership in supporting early literacy.

For a comprehensive look at all the exciting events and activities from last term, please click on the News listing link on the left side of our website. It's a wonderful showcase of the diverse and enriching experiences we offer our pupils.

Now, I have some egg-citing news to share! Our school chickens are growing rapidly, and our Young Vet team is doing an outstanding job caring for them. Their hard work is truly paying off as our hens have started laying eggs. In the spirit of sustainability and community engagement, we're now selling our eggs. If you're interested in purchasing some, pop into the school office. They're priced at £2 for 4 eggs. However, as we're currently only getting about 3 eggs per day, there may be a waiting list. It's a small initiative, but one that teaches our pupils valuable lessons about responsibility, animal care, and even basic economics!

Attendance and the DFE changes

First, I must draw your attention to recent changes in attendance guidance from the Department for Education. As of 19 August 2024, new statutory requirements have come into effect, including a national framework for penalty notices. At Norbury Manor, we aim for all pupils to achieve at least 96% attendance, recognising the clear link between regular attendance and academic achievement.

Our approach to attendance is rooted in support and early intervention. We may raise concerns even if your child has only missed a couple of days due to illness, not because we doubt you, but to work together in preventing patterns of absence and identifying any underlying issues.

Under the new framework, schools must consider a fine when a child has missed 10 sessions (5 school days) for unauthorised reasons. Fines, issued by the Local Authority, will be £80 per parent if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. Repeated fines within a three-year period will be charged at the higher rate.

If your child is too ill to attend school, please inform the school office promptly. This communication is crucial for safeguarding purposes. Regarding term-time holidays, I must stress that these are not considered an acceptable reason for absence. If you need to request a leave of absence, please complete the form available from the school office well in advance.

To support you in making informed decisions about your child's health and attendance, we've created new resources on our website. These pages offer NHS suggestions about common illnesses and guidance on when a child should stay home or attend school.

I have an exciting opportunity for those of you who'd like to become more involved in our school community. We're looking for parents and carers interested in joining our Friends of Norbury Manor group. This organisation plays a vital role in enhancing our school, raising funds for extra resources and activities that fall outside our regular budget, and strengthening our school community. If you're passionate about making a difference and have some time to spare, we'd love to have you on board. Please look out for further information.

School Uniform

I am delighted to share some exciting news with our school community. Our dedicated Business Manager, Ms Glaze, has been working tirelessly to expand our uniform purchasing options. We are thrilled to announce that Bubblegum Schoolwear in Thornton Heath will soon be stocking our school uniform. This additional outlet will provide greater convenience for our families when acquiring uniform items. We understand the importance of accessibility and are committed to making the uniform purchasing process as smooth as possible. We will keep you informed and let you know as soon as our uniform is available at Bubblegum Schoolwear. Thank you for your continued support and patience.

As we navigate through this term, I'm filled with optimism about the learning, growth, and experiences that lie ahead for our pupils. The dedication of our staff, the support of our parents, and the enthusiasm of our pupils create a powerful synergy that makes Norbury Manor Primary School truly special.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. Together, we're nurturing not just scholars, but compassionate, curious, and capable young individuals ready to make their mark on the world.