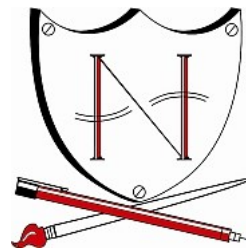


Northmead

Newsletter



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14th September 2021 : Issue 1

Dear Parents and carers,

We have had a great start to the new school year ! The children have come back full of energy and eagerness to learn and showing real happiness to be back in school. It was lovely to see their excitement when they saw the new brightly coloured playground for the first time as they came down the winding path from the top gate.



The school gate opens at **8.30am** and registration is at **8.50am**. This allows everyone to arrive at the pace that suits them and it is pleasing to note the majority of the school are in class in good time. This allows the teacher to get started with activities straight away and no-one misses any of the learning. It also ensures a positive , calm start to the day as no-one has to walk into class when lessons have started.

All children have moved into their new classes and settled quickly and enthusiastically to the new expectations and routines. Thank you for joining the induction meetings on zoom last week for years 4,5 and 6 to hear more about the year ahead in their new year group. Year 3 parents had their induction meeting last term in July.

Welcome to the new children and families who have joined us for the first time . Children in Year 3 have started their time at Northmead with confidence and positivity and they are already demonstrating our behaviour values of `ready, respectful and safe`



Year 5 have started with a Bang! Here they are displaying their Space Artwork!



Coronavirus

It continues to be vitally important that we all work together to keep the school as safe as possible for everyone. We wanted to reassure you that the school is still taking the ongoing pandemic seriously and we are working with the Athena-GEP trust and Public Health England to ensure our response is appropriate. We are maintaining high levels of ventilation in classrooms and corridors and keeping practices for hand washing and cleaning in shared areas a priority. Schools are no longer required to carry out track and trace as this will now be handled by the NHS track and trace system.



If your child develops any COVID symptoms at school, we will contact you and ask you to collect them as soon as possible. Unless there is a large outbreak, we do not envisage having to send home whole classes of children.

If anyone in your household displays any of the key symptoms associated with COVID 19 please arrange for a PCR test as soon as possible. If the test comes back positive, they are required to isolate for 10 days, other members of your household do not need to isolate providing they have been double vaccinated or are under 18 years old. If you have any queries, please contact the school office who will be happy to help.

Secondary School Transfer

We would like to advise parents of children in year 6 that **Sunday 31st October 2021** is the closing date for applications to secondary school. However, as this is during half term, we strongly recommend you submit the application by Friday 22nd October 2021. Please visit surreycc.gov.uk/admissions for more information on the application process and admission arrangements for surrey schools.

Snacks

At Junior school we are not able to provide children with break time snacks, so please do send your children in with fresh fruit or vegetables to keep them going until lunch time.



Please be reminded that **Northmead is a NUT FREE SCHOOL**

It is vitally important that we remain vigilant about this and reduce, as far as possible the chances of children who have nut allergies coming into contact with any form of nuts. The school caterers do not use any form of nuts in the preparation of school meals. We must insist that children's packed lunches do not include any products containing nuts. This is also a good opportunity to remind everyone that morning snacks must only be fruit or vegetables.

If you have any questions please contact our Home School Link Worker.

Parking & Access to School Premises

At the beginning and end of the school day the driveway and car park are very busy. Parents should NOT be bringing their children on to the school premises and dropping them by car. At the start of each term we therefore remind all parents to park considerately and respect our neighbours especially in the following roads :

- Grange Road
- The Gables
- Harts Gardens
- The Grange
- Waltham Avenue

taking care NOT to park across driveways.



Yellow zig-sag lines outside schools indicate the length of road where stopping or waiting is **strictly prohibited**. You may also find an upright sign, indicating a mandatory prohibition of stopping during the times shown

The only vehicles that should be coming through the gates are TAXI's that regularly do the school run or parents who can display a valid **Blue Badge (Disabled Parking Permit)** for someone in the car or being collected at that time.

As with all issues relating to parking outside of the school grounds , we advise parents to report incidents to the police and the council.



Crossing Patrol

The School Crossing Patrol Officer does a marvellous job of ensuring that children can cross Grange Road safely. However she does need the cooperation of all road users and parents. If she asks you to move on you must do so. Please be reminded of the following:

- When crossing at the crossing patrol pedestrians **MUST** walk **IN FRONT** of the Crossing Patrol Officer.
- Those with bicycles **MUST get off** and walk them across the road.
- Parents **MUST** not congregate at the top of the drive blocking access to the footpath which in turn means the children walk around the group into the road to get passed.
- Parents should drop children where it is safe to stop - NOT on the Yellow zig-zag lines at the top of the drive.

Studybugs

Please continue to use the studybugs app to report absence and follow the NHS advice on there.

Studybugs is our online absence system that enables you to report your child's absence.

Get the app or register now: <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

DIARY DATES - check out what is happening and how you can be involved!

Please be aware that these events are planned a term in advance and sometimes, due to unforeseen circumstances, some dates have to be changed. If there are any changes, or additional dates we will endeavour to inform you at the earliest opportunity (usually text message, school newsletter or school website)

Thursday 16th September & Friday 17th September	All Children	Skateboarding and Scooter Workshops
Saturday 25th September		NST Autumn Fair
Friday 22nd October	3.15 pm	Break up for Half Term
HALF TERM		
Monday 1st November	8.30 am	School Reopens after Half Term
Thursday 4th November		NST Bonfire
Friday 5th November		Nasal Flu Vaccine in school
Week Commencing 15th November		Virtual Parents Evenings
Monday 6th - Thursday 9th December		Production Week
Friday 10th December	INSET DAY	School Closed
Friday 17th December		Break up for Christmas Holidays