

Northmead News

10th May 2022 – Issue 13



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Dear Parents and carers,

It is great to see school residential visits have returned this week. It was with a mixture of excitement and a little apprehension on Monday morning as we waved off the first year 5 coach to PGL activity centre at Marchants Hill in Hindhead. The weather forecast is good and the children are keen to try out the activities and team building sessions, so year 5 children are set for a wonderful bonding experience with their friends. I am looking forward to joining group 1 on Monday afternoon and group 2 on Thursday afternoon.

This week has also seen year 6 children taking their SATs tests. They have worked really hard with their teachers to prepare for these assessments after such an interrupted time over the last two years. I am pleased to say they have approached the tests calmly and purposefully. They have appreciated the early breakfasts provided on site by our catering team and have enjoyed their special chocolate snacks at break to keep them going!

We are all looking forward to the visit from the ice cream van, for Year 6, on Thursday to celebrate the end of SATs by eating an ice cream on the playground in the sunshine.

Congratulations to the members of the Young Voices Choir who performed at the 02 Arena on Friday 6th May. They had an amazing experience and I am pleased to say their behaviour and attitude was a credit to the school and their parents. Many thanks to Miss Ramsay for organising the trip and to the staff who cared for the children at the event.

Please enjoy reading our new feature – “**Subject in the spotlight**”, where subject leaders highlight new developments and exciting activities in their subject. The two subjects on this newsletter are Personal, social and Emotional Health Education and Science.

A reminder School Photo day is on Monday 16th May, so best school uniform and tidy hair.

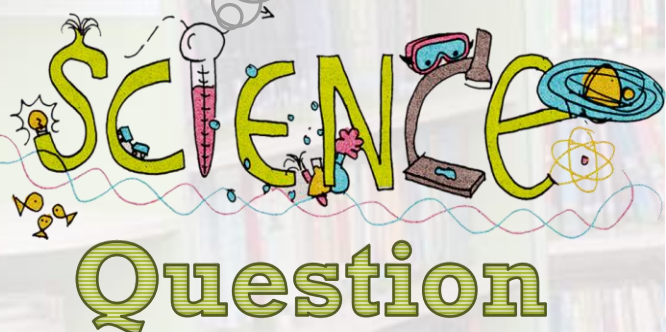
Best Wishes

Debbie Brown



Our theme this half term is **Honesty**.
Talk to your children about the following questions. In assemblies and classes, we discuss one a week.

What would happen if humans were not at the top of the food chain?



Summer 1

Half Termly Theme:

Honesty



What is honesty?

Who should be honest?

How can we show honesty at school?

What happens in friendships if there is no honesty?

Who should we show honesty to?

Is it ever appropriate not to be honest?



Safety at the School Gates

To ensure the safety of all, especially the children please be reminded of the following:

- NO PARKING/dropping off on the stretch of road with the Yellow Zig Zag markings
- NO PARKING on double yellow lines
- Pedestrians should only access and leave the school premises via the Pedestrian gate – not going into the road to walk through the vehicle gates
- Parents/Carers should NOT congregate at the top of the drive as this causes congestion on the pavements to and from the school.

Platinum Jubilee Day!

On Monday 23rd May, we will be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee with a day of crafts, singing, picnics and games. We will be making sandwiches and decorating cupcakes. Please email your class teacher with any allergies by the Monday before. We would like the children to wear red, white and blue, or regal clothes for the day. Please note we will be outside all afternoon. We are also holding a decorated hat/headwear competition, with prizes. We look forward to seeing your creations.

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Miss Ramsay and Miss Luxton could not be more proud of the Young Voices choir who performed with 7,000 children to an audience of 10,000, on Friday 6th at the O2 Arena. The children were brilliantly behaved, sang their hearts out and partied so hard! A huge thank you to all the choir members, families and staff members who supported us. You were a credit to the Northmead family. Please keep an eye out for a video of the highlights of the concert.



SCIENCE



Hello, I am Miss Busby and I have been the Science Leader at Northmead for a Year and a half. I took on Science last year and spent a lot of time looking at our curriculum and seeing what we can do to make Science at Northmead even better.

Currently, each year group will have 1 Science lesson a week, lasting between 1 -2 hours long. **Year 3** are learning about light including dark, reflection and shadows. In the next couple of weeks, we shall be making our own shadow puppets and be looking at how to make a shadow bigger/smaller and why this happens.

Year 4 are learning about living things and their habitats including classifying into groups, using keys to classify animals local to us and noticing that environments can change and how this can affect animals. They will be heading outside to explore our grounds and find animals which live near us.

Year 5 are also learning about living things and their habitat, but are specifically looking at life cycles and reproduction of some animals. Each class are lucky enough to have some duck eggs which they are looking after and are hoping to hatch soon!

Year 6 are currently revising for SATS this week. We wish all the children the best of luck and know they will all do brilliantly! For the rest of the summer term, Year 6 will be learning about animals including humans.

This year, we have been working with Mr Pat Sharma from Christs College who has come to see our Science teaching and get involved with the children. He has already worked with Years 3, 4 and 5 and has been really impressed with our knowledge within the topics we have been learning. Mr Sharma is currently working with small groups in Year 6 giving them some pre-teaching of areas that they will come across in Year 7!



Science skill		Science skill	
	1 Asking scientific questions		2 Presenting results
	3 Planning an enquiry		4 Interpreting results
	5 Observing closely		6 Drawing conclusions (KS2 only)
	7 Taking measurements		8 Making predictions (KS2 only)
	9 Gathering and recording results		10 Evaluating an enquiry (KS2 only)

Our Focus This Year

During my research last year, I found that working scientifically was an area of development within our Science curriculum. Working scientifically refers to a set of scientific skills that children should achieve by the time they leave Northmead. We use them constantly throughout our Science lessons, but we do not always realise we are using them! This year, I have introduced the working scientifically skills and symbols in poster and sticker form to make pupils more aware of when they are using these in lessons. If you come in to have a look in your child's books, you may notice some stickers with symbols on. These are our working scientifically stickers!

Another focus we have had this year in Science, is our assessment. We have changed the assessment to an online system that we use for Maths and English and note when the children have reached the learning intention for each topic. Next year, we plan to use this assessment to begin some intervention groups for anyone who needs support with their Science learning.

New Exciting Opportunities in Science

After May half-term, a new Science Club will be starting for Years 3 and 4! The club will be run by Genie Lab, the company who were at the Autumn Fair and completed a show on Science Day, and will last until the end of term. It will take place on a Wednesday afternoon, starting at 3:05pm and ending an hour later at 4:05pm. Please look out for the flyer which will be sent to you soon. It will have all the details on about how to book, how much it will cost and how many sessions there will be. Be quick as unfortunately there are only limited spaces so it will be on a first come first served basis! I am very excited for this club and will be joining in too!



If you are interested in reading our Intent, Implementation and Impact statements, please see the Science page on the website as this will explain further. You will also find some websites that relate to Science and some experiments that you can complete at home with your child!

Thanks for reading!

Miss Busby

Pupil and Staff Survey

I have recently conducted a staff and pupil survey to find out which areas are working well, what needs to be improved and anything that we would like to do more/less of.

From the staff survey, I found that staff enjoying teaching Science, they are confident with their knowledge of science and enjoy the practical element during lessons. An area that we need to improve on that has come from the survey, is differentiation. This is where the teaching and planning is adapted for all children. Although, we are quite strong on this as a teaching team, there are areas that we need to improve on. Tom Holloway (an ex-teacher and Science expert) will be completing some Science CPD with us in June to help us feel more confident in our differentiation abilities.

From the pupil survey, I found that the children really enjoy Science, they enjoy the Science experiments that we do and understand what a scientist is. An area of development that has come from the pupil survey is to use our outside space more in Science. This will be one of our main focuses next year, to make sure we are getting outside for Science as much as possible!



We are proud to be taking on the mental health and well-being award for schools. The award is helping us provide information, support and awareness across our whole school community. Our vision is to ensure good emotional well-being and mental health are at the heart of the culture and ethos of Northmead, so that pupils, with the support of their teachers, can build confidence and flourish. We welcome any comments, suggestions and should you require any further support please contact us on the following email – wellbeing@northmead.surrey.sch.uk



Mrs Powell, Miss Ramsay and Mrs Cook have been working hard to complete the wellbeing award, alongside the Mental Health Champions photographed above. Mrs Cook has worked with parents in cookery and sleep workshops, Mrs Powell has introduced Wellbeing Wednesdays for staff and worked on workload and Miss Ramsay has re-launched the 5 Ways to Wellbeing. Be sure to ask your child about the daily challenges they have to improve their own wellbeing.



PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH EDUCATION



Welcome to the PSHE section of our newsletter. I am Miss Ramsay and I have been leading PSHE for five years now. I thoroughly enjoy leading this subject as it covers such vital and important topics, teaching children skills they need to live happy, healthy lives, building positive relationships and keeping safe as they grow up. I have always felt very strongly that this is imperative to a good primary school education. PSHE at Northmead had always been a strength. I have developed many aspects including Relationships becoming statutory, changing the way we present learning and re-writing the curriculum to suit our children at Northmead. Our children are positive about their PSHE learning and understand its importance. They like the variety covered, skills learnt and opportunities. I hope the following information helps you to understand why your children love the subject so much!

Our curriculum fits under the three titles Living in the Wider World, Relationships and Health and Wellbeing. Each half term, different year groups study a variety of topics under these overarching themes.

Year 3 have been busy learning about how their actions impact the environment. This fits perfectly with the rainforest topic in Geography and the children have enjoyed the cross-curricular links to deforestation using stories to enhance their learning.



Year 4 have been learning about keeping their teeth healthy and have been enjoying some home learning about healthy diets.



	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 3	How can we be a good friend?	What keeps us safe? How can we manage risk in different places?	How can our choices make a difference to others and the environment?		Why should we keep active and sleep well?	What are families like?
Year 4	What strengths, skills and interests do we have?	How do we treat each other with respect?	Why should we eat well and look after our teeth?	How can we manage our feelings?	What makes a community?	How will we grow and change?
Year 5	How can friends communicate safely?		What decisions can people make with money?	What jobs would we like?	How can we keep healthy as we grow?	How can we help in an accident or emergency?
Year 6	How can our choices make a difference to others and the environment?	How can friends communicate safely? (yr 5) What makes up a person's identity?	How can the media influence people?	How can drugs common to everyday life affect health?	What will change as we become more independent?	How do friendships change as we grow?

In Year 5, children have been focusing on money, savings, debt and they link this to jobs and future aspirations.

Children in Year 6 have been learning about how the media influences people including appropriate use of social media and online reliability.



PSHE is taught through a mixture of weekly lessons, topic days, trips, visitors and whole school events. Where possible we have visitors to enhance the curriculum such as our recent visit from the Dogs Trust. We are looking forward to focusing on British Values through a whole school celebration for the 70th Jubilee. Our assemblies follow themes that encompass many values we see in our children as they develop throughout Northmead. This is something we are very proud of and is often complimented on by outside visitors. We value PSHE not only as an important subject as the core values run true throughout the ethos of our school.

This year we have been trialling a new assessment method to compliment our whole class record books so that individual progress can be seen for each child. This works well for sensitive topics covered in relationships education. I have been working with other schools in our Trust to think about how the implementation of our subject can best fit us as an individual school.

ASSEMBLIES – Four Year Plan

	Value	(2014-15) (2018-19) (2022-2023)	(2015 – 16) (2019-2020) (2023-2024)	(2016 – 17) (2020-2021) (2024-2025)	(2017 – 18) (2021-2022) (2025-2026)
Autumn 1:	New beginnings	Resilience	Relationships	Perseverance	Acceptance
Autumn 2:	Citizenship	Community	Citizenship	Loyalty	Faith and Love
Spring 1:	Mutual Respect and tolerance	Friendship	Tolerance	Patience	Unity
Spring 2:		Empathy	Respect	Caring	Appreciation
Summer 1:	Democracy and individual liberty	What is democracy? Freedom	Courage	Hope	Honesty
Summer 2:	Rule of law	Equality	Rights and responsibilities	Fairness	Actions and consequences

Living with Covid-19 – School Attendance

Free Covid tests are no longer available for the vast majority of children so you will need to make decisions as to what action to take, based on symptoms alone.

Symptoms of COVID-19, flu and common respiratory infections include:

- A continuous cough
- Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath
- Unexplained tiredness, lack of energy
- Muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
- Not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry
- Headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual
- Sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
- Diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick

If your child feels unwell with a combination of these symptoms, **and has a high temperature**, then they should not come to school until they feel better.

Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough can continue to attend school.

Covid In School

The number of Positive Cases in School is currently = **0**

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).

Dates	Class/Year	Event
Monday 9 th – Thursday 12 th May	Yr 6	SATS
Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th May	Yr 5	Marchants Hill
Monday 16 th May	All Years	School Photo Day
Friday 20 th May	All Years	NST Film Night
Monday 23 rd May	All Years	Jubilee Day
Tuesday 24 th May	4R	Holmbury Trip
Wednesday 25 th May	4P	Holmbury Trip
Thursday 26 th May	4W	Holmbury Trip
Friday 27 th May		Jubilee Lunch
		Break up for Half Term
Monday 6th June		INSET Day
Tuesday 7th June		School reopens

Community News

SURREY COUNTY CRICKET CLUB
**PRIDE
OF LIONS**

MAY HALF TERM YEARS 2-9 HALF DAY CRICKET CAMPS AT SURREY CRICKET CENTRE, GUILDFORD

Our Pride of Lions half day camps will focus on key elements of batting, bowling and fielding with an emphasis on developing new ideas that can be tested before being used by the players back at their clubs. With the sessions led by our experienced and knowledgeable coaches, each course is sure to give your child plenty to think about as they develop both technically and tactically.

Year Group	Date	Time	Session Type
Year 2 - 3	Mon 30th May	9.00am - 1.30pm	Mixed
Year 6 - 8	Mon 30th May	9.00am - 1.30pm	GIRLS ONLY
Year 4 - 6	Tue 31st May	9.00am - 1.30pm	Mixed
Year 7 - 9	Wed 1st June	9.00am - 1.30pm	Mixed

PLACES £48 PER SESSION!



TO BOOK VISIT
<https://prideoflions.co.uk/get-playing/coaching-courses/>
Or contact Dan Brimson dbrimson@surreyccricket.com
0207 820 4190 07702 908 194



Scan here

JUBILEE PARTY ON QEP



Join us to celebrate the
Queen's Platinum Jubilee
QEP, Railton Road Green, GU2 9LX
Friday 3 June 2022
12pm till 5pm

Free family day filled with inflatables - live music - food & drink - bar - face painting - cream teas - ice cream - dog event - competitions & more
Fancy dress competition for children based on a 'Royal' theme

See www.facebook.com/QEParkGuildford and www.qepark.co.uk/category/events/ for more details