

# 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.

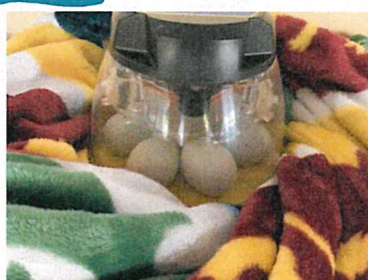
Currently, each year group will have 1 Science lesson a week, lasting between 1 -2 hours long. **Year 3** are learning about light including dark, reflection and shadows. In the next couple of weeks, we shall be making our own shadow puppets and be looking at how to make a shadow bigger/smaller and why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

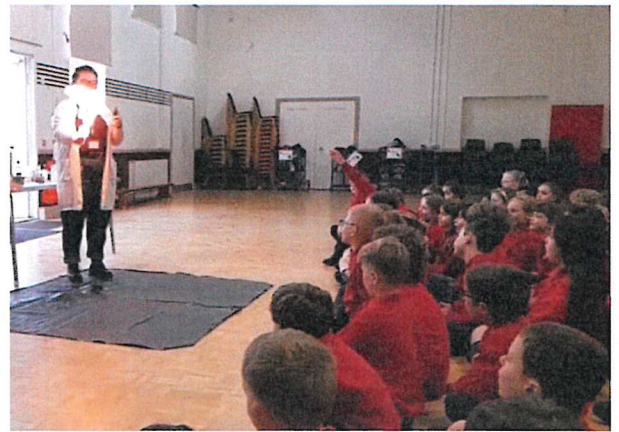
During my research last year, I found that working scientifically was an area of development within our Science curriculum. Working scientifically refers to a set of scientific skills that children should achieve by the time they leave Northmead. We use them constantly throughout our Science lessons, 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](mailto: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.