

NEWSLINE

North Primary School and Nursery

A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos

April 2018
Issue 1



FULL STEAM AHEAD FOR THE SUMMER TERM

The school is looking shipshape, the grounds are clean and tidy, the sun is shining. We are all set for a successful summer term which, as ever, is packed full of exciting events. Most of the main dates are included overleaf, music concert dates will follow soon. The teachers will give you full details of their plans in their termly letters very shortly.

The School Council have a busy term ahead. They meet on the 19th with plenty to discuss. They are keen to seek the views of the children on school uniform - general and PE - and on appropriate footwear for school. They will also be meeting with senior midday assistant Mrs. Burton to review lunchtime playground rules. And in July an assessor will visit the school to see if we are worthy of the Rights Respecting School Silver Award.

You will remember that the school attendance policy changed in February and one of the key changes was the time that morning registration closes which is now 9.10. This change has reduced the number of children who are very late. Meetings are scheduled for families where this is not the case.

There is a poster on the front door of a nearby school which reads:

**Early is on time
On time is late
Late is never acceptable.**

So, although the vast majority of children arrive in good time, and the situation is improving for others, the point does still need to be made that the school can be accessed from 8.30 and the doors open at 8.45 for an 8.55 start. Establishing good time keeping habits in children is vital for their future success.

Although we are two thirds of the way through the school year we are now starting a new financial year. You may have seen on the TV or read in the newspapers reports from teacher union conferences during the holiday where concerns were expressed around funding. Governors have written letters to local MP Will Quince in the past and I joined a group of local headteachers in meeting with Mr. Quince last month to express our concerns. He listened carefully to the points we made and has pledged to lobby the Department for Education in his role as constituency MP. In the meantime our budget is very tight this year and is projected to be worse next year.

North is a wonderful community school. A school that I have been proud to lead over the past 17 years. It is staffed and governed by so many skilled and dedicated people that make a difference every day in meeting the needs of your children and give them an excellent education. There are some features of North which are unique and we will do everything we can to protect these and maintain the highest possible standards of education and care. But it is going to be a very tough challenge and we will need the support of every family to achieve this.

Reception Places September 2018

It was a pleasure to see so many smiley faces on the first day of the summer term. Nursery parents have just received letters from County Hall informing them of their child's school places for September. It would seem that this year there is not one family putting North as their first preference who did not get an offer of a place with us. All parents will now receive a letter from the school seeking acceptance of the place and an invitation to the New Parents Meeting to be held on Thursday 24th May. And as one cohort of 60 children get ready to join us another 60 are starting their final term. Here is where they will be going....

Where Year 6s are going in September

| | |
|---|----|
| St. Helena | 30 |
| Philip Morant | 9 |
| The Gilbert | 4 |
| St. Benedicts | 4 |
| Colchester Royal Grammar School | 4 |
| Colchester County High School for Girls | 2 |
| Southend High School for Boys | 1 |
| Thomas Lord Audley | 1 |
| Colchester Academy | 1 |



A busy term ahead for the NSA with Bingo, the Penny Race, the Summer Fete and the Year 6 leavers' do to organise. The first big event of the term is a sponsored run which will take place on Friday 27th April.

The School Council decided that they would like to show their support for the school's half marathon team by emulating the runners' magnificent achievement. Now, 13 miles is too far for a child to run so the aim is for every class to run at least 13 miles in total. Reception will do this in the school grounds. Year 1-6 will do this on Hilly Fields which the Colchester Institute have kindly allowed us to use for the day. This is a venue familiar to some of our pupils who have taken part in cross country competitions in the past.

St. Helena have kindly agreed to provide us with some students who will help as marshals. Parents are very welcome to come and watch and cheer on the runners. Look out for the sponsorship form which will have all the event details. Please help your child collect as many sponsors as possible.

A big thank you to Mrs. Eves who is organising this event. Fingers crossed for good weather.

Praise for the Easter Parade

Mr. Hornett is a regular supply teacher who is well known to the children in KS2. During the holiday he sent me this email which I thought I would share.

"I just wanted to compliment the school on the Easter Parade. I've never seen anything like that. So many children participating and loving it. The bonnets, colours and atmosphere were just amazing. I'm sure you've had good things said about it before but as a 'first-timer' to witnessing it, I just wanted you to know how impressive it was."

Parents and children did work so hard, so I hope you enjoyed reading this as much as I did.



SUNRISE CLUB

7.45am

SUNSET CLUB

'til 5.45pm

A few places still available

PLEASE ENQUIRE AT SCHOOL OFFICE

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|------------------------------------|---|
| Friday 27th April | Sponsored Run |
| Monday 7th May | School Closed - Bank Holiday |
| Friday 11th May | NSA Bingo Night |
| Monday 14th May | Y6 SATS WEEK begins |
| Friday 18th May | North's Got Talent Final |
| Thursday 24th May | 6.00pm New Parents Meeting |
| Friday 25th May | Penny Race and last day of Half Term |
| Tuesday 5th June | Return to school |
| Wed 13th June | Y5&6 SRE Parents Mtgs (evening) |
| Tuesday 26th June | KS1 Sports Afternoon |
| Wednesday 27th June | Reception Sporty Morning |
| Wednesday 27th June | KS2 Sports Afternoon |
| Friday 29th June | NSA Summer Fete |
| Tuesday 3rd July | KS1 <i>Free For All</i> evening performance |
| Wednesday 4th July | KS1 <i>Free For All</i> morning performance |
| Friday 6th July | KS2 <i>Free For All</i> Event |
| Meet the teacher (times to follow) | |
| Monday 9th July | am New Entrants |
| Tuesday 10th July | am Current Y3 |
| Tuesday 10th July | pm Current Reception |
| Wednesday 11th July | am Current Y5 |
| Wednesday 11th July | pm Current Y4 |
| Thursday 12th July | am current Y2 |
| Thursday 12th July | pm current Y1 |
| Friday 13th July | Open Evening |
| Tuesday 17th July | Y6 Show |
| Thursday 19th July | Y6 Leavers' 'Do' |
| Friday 20th July | End of Term |