

NEWSLINE

February 2019
Issue 3



North Primary School and Nursery

A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos.

Looking forward to its 125th anniversary on 12th November. Visit www.northschoolxxv.com

Purple Pinky Day Friday 8th February Purple Pinky Day Great Success

The Rotary Club of Colchester were overwhelmed by the response of the school to their campaign. Children and staff looked amazing in their pinks and purples. Ian and Nigel returned to the school for the special assembly. They were delighted with what they saw. Teachers had the impossible task of nominating the most colourful child in their class. These children were presented with knitted little finger warmers and Lauren was presented with a special teddy bear by Ian and Nigel. The money has now been counted and you donated £443.35. Thank you. This money will go to fund the campaign to eradicate polio across the world. Ask your child to tell you why it is called purple pinky. Answer - the doctors put purple dye on children's little fingers so they know who has been inoculated.



Abigail

On Friday 8th, Children in KS2 were joined by parents from Year 5, governors and family to remember Abigail in a special assembly. Abigail's friends are keen to have something in the playground dedicated to her. School Council will be deciding what and how they will raise the money for it. Some parents have already asked if we are doing something and can they contribute. Yes please. Please kindly hand in your donations to the office in an envelope marked ABIGAIL. Thank you.

Governors' Corner

A new feature that will appear occasionally in Newsline and will be written by different governors. This first feature is a letter written to you by Jan Blackwell, our Chair of Governors.

Dear Parents,

You asked that we keep you updated with regard to the funding crisis in education, and what you could do to help support us.

The government's claim that schools are receiving more money than ever before is disingenuous as increased costs from staff pay awards and pensions have not been fully funded forcing us to make staff cuts to try to balance the budget.

Last week, Mr. Garnett suggested if you feel strongly about the crisis on education funding you could sign the online petition <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220>

I know some of you have. I must warn you that if you do sign the petition you will receive a reply from the Department for Education which will give the impression that they are fixing the problem. The Government's distortion of the figures is on record and last autumn was being investigated for being in breach of the ministerial code. A very serious offence. It seems they may be at it again.

We have written a letter to Will Quince, which we will send to you soon outlining our concerns and asking that he raise the matter with the government. We ask you to sign this letter and Governors will circulate in the playground on Thursday and Friday so that we can collect your signatures.

It is planned to present this letter to him at his surgery after school on Friday March 1st, and we hope you will join us in walking to the surgery as a mark of your concern. It is hoped other local schools will also join in with this action and their letters, as all schools are similarly affected.



Date for Disco

Friday 8th March

Infants 5.30 - 6.30

Juniors 6.45 - 8.00pm

Enter via Infant Entrance

Leave via Junior Entrance

Tickets will be available soon

GRANDPARENTS LOVE COMING IN TO SCHOOL

and their grandchildren love it too. So do the teachers! A couple of years ago the children invited their grandparents to school to share their favourite stories. We are planning to do this again to celebrate WORLD BOOK DAY on the afternoon of Thursday 7th March. Details will follow but please pass on this information to your parents to see if they can come. Last time we had grandparents from all over the country and one gran came all the way from New York!

Primary 500 Word Short Story Competition

It is that time of the year again. Radio 2 have launched their 500 word competition.

Details available at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/28zgDX98FnDYbN9j1jbk4HS/500-words-2019>

It is a great site to visit - full of amazing stories from previous years which can give children ideas and are just great to read or listen to.

St. Helena are also running their competition at the same time. There are two age categories 5-9 and 10-13.

Entries can be typed or handwritten and must have the children's name, age and school clearly written.

Every child will get a certificate. Last year North won. Deadline is Monday 4th March. Please make sure stories are handed into the office.

A perfect activity for rainy days in the half term holiday. Let's hope we can retain the trophy?

Get Writing

Did you read the E-Safety letter sent out via Parentmail on the 7th? Have you replied?

The letter is available on the school website parent page. We look forward to reading your views and whether you would like a meeting to find out how to help your children best use their devices.

TERM DATES

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|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| Friday 15th February | Last day of half term | |
| Monday 25th February | Return to school | |
| Friday 1st March | Chocodolly Evening | Details soon |
| Thursday 7th March | WORLD BOOK DAY Grandparent Afternoon | |
| Friday 8th March | NSA DISCO | |
| Saturday 16th March | Children's University Graduation Ceremony | Invitation only! |
| Friday 22nd March | NSA Spring Fair | After school |
| Sunday 24th March | Colchester Half Marathon | 9.00am start |
| Tuesday 26th March | Colchester Music Festival | 6.30pm |
| Tuesday 2nd April | Open Afternoon (KS1 and KS2) 2.00pm. Reception Stay and Learn dates to follow | |
| Friday 5th April | Easter Parade and Governors' Awards | assembly |
| Friday 5th April | End of Spring Term | |
| Tuesday 23rd April | First day of Summer Term | |
| Friday 24th May | Last day of half term | |
| Monday 3rd June | Return to school | |
| Wednesday 24th July | End of school year | |
| Monday 2nd September 2019 | Year 6 residential to Weymouth | |
| Thursday 5th September | First day of new school year | |