

NEWSLINE

March 2019
Issue 5



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

UNICEF Rights Respecting School Silver Award

"I have assessed over 120 schools and I have never seen a school council do this before." This was just one of the compliments Mr. Paul Harris paid the school during his visit on Monday 11th.

Mr. Harris is an RRS award assessor from UNICEF. In advance of his visit he had received the school evaluation form, pupil and staff survey results. He had also looked on the school website. In school he met with senior leaders, a sample of children from all year groups, a group of parents, MDAs, LSAs, teachers and governors. He was given a tour of the school by Year 6 councillors and spoke to classes 3M and 6S. He also looked through a range of evidence of class work, Newslines and assemblies. He even bumped in to parent governor Duncan Stewart who had been visiting Reception to talk to them about the work of police officers.

In 2016 Mr. Johns led the school council to achieve the

introductory award. Now we were to find out if we were worthy of the Silver Award. To achieve this Mr. Harris had to be clear that the majority of children and the rest of the school community have a good knowledge and understanding of the Convention of the Rights of the Child and how it influences the life of the school.

Mr. Harris was very impressed with the children's responses and the work of the school council. He said that he has not seen any other school council get involved in analysing data and contributing to the school's self-evaluation report - signs of RRS being deeply embedded in the school culture. He said we should feel very proud of our school.

He will now be writing a full report which will be available on our website when it arrives in the next couple of weeks along with a certificate declaring North has gained the Silver Award. Good News. Great Work everybody.

SAVE OUR SCHOOLS

Mr. Quince would like the people of Colchester to do more to highlight the strength of feeling about current and future spending on Education. Over the course of the past year he has come to accept that schools are faced with having to make terrible decisions which are having a significantly negative impact. He has written to all headteachers in his constituency asking us to pass on a petition for him. The Governors and staff of North are more than happy to do this.

He writes,

"I am organising a petition which I can present to the government.... I would be grateful if you would kindly circulate this petition as widely as possible, and I will collect the signatures and present to Parliament in due course.

"I want you to know that I am on your side, and hope that together we can bring about real change. Education is one of the most important policy areas, and together we are responsible for the future of Colchester's young people. We cannot afford to let them down."

In the recent National Governor Association Campaign Week North was the only school in Colchester which got parents to sign the letter presented to Mr. Quince. He would like other schools to do the same as us.

For this petition you can collect as many signatures as you can. **And why not get them to sponsor our half marathon team whilst you are having that conversation!**

The children will be bringing home the petitions in their book bags. Good Luck. Please return petition forms by Monday 1st April.





**NSA
News**

£487

A big “thank you” to the NSA team for a great disco which raised £487. The committee could not have run it without the help of staff. It was also great to see some new faces helping in the kitchen. The new arrangement for entry seemed to work well too.



N.S.A.

**SPRING FAIR
Friday 22nd
March**



Afternoon Tea & Craft Fair

The NSA would like to invite you to our Afternoon Tea and Craft Fair being held on Friday 22nd March, starting at 3.45pm until 6pm.

The Craft Fair is being held in the Junior Hall and has stalls where you can buy things, and also stalls where you can make things – perhaps a gift for Mother’s Day?

The Afternoon Tea will take place in the infant hall straight after school and is a chance for a well deserved sit down with a scone and cup of tea (squash and fairy cake for the little ones) before venturing along to the Craft Fair. [pictured left: the Tripp family enjoying their afternoon tea last year.

You will need to book and pay in advance by **Tuesday 19th March. Look out for the letter in book bags which will include a booking form.** We look forward to seeing you there!

TERM DATES

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
Friday 29th March	Mothering Sunday Lunch	Details to follow
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 10th May	NSA Bingo Night	6.00pm
Friday 24th May	Penny Race	
Friday 24th May	Last day of half term	
Monday 3rd June	Return to school	
Friday 7th June	NSA Quiz Night	Details to follow
Friday 5th July	NSA Summer Fete	6.00pm
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	

PLEASE SPONSOR OUR HALF MARATHON TEAM

On <https://mydonate.bt.com/events/freeforall2019/484559>

AND TURN OUT ON THE DAY TO OFFER YOUR SUPPORT