

NEWSLINE

February 2020
Issue 2



North Primary School and Nursery

A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos
Celebrated our 125th anniversary on 12th November. Visit www.northschoolcxxv.com

Former Headteacher 007 visits Year 4

As part of our CXXV celebrations, an important visitor came in to talk to Year 4 on Wednesday 5th. Mrs. Schiaccetano was Headteacher of North Primary from 1995 – 2001 and spoke to both classes about the school during this time. It was a great visit and the children all enjoyed learning about how the school had changed during this time and what had remained the same. Some of their discoveries included the fact that the Headteacher's office used to be at the top of the school, that the girls and boys were no longer separated and that many of the classes had mixed year groups as there were fewer children.

Asiya said, "I was interested to learn that they didn't really have a curriculum when Mrs. Schiaccetano started teaching." Eddie added, "She moved her office downstairs because the children were too scared to go to the office because they thought the ghost of John Harper was upstairs." Editor's note: there is no ghost!

Her talk led to a lot of discussions and was a good way of developing their historical skills. We would like to thank Mrs. Schiaccetano for being so generous with her time and inspiring both classes.

Mr. Stacey reporting



Year 3 enjoy visit from Amateur Palaeontologist

On Wednesday morning, year 3 had a special visitor, Mr Dunn, who brought along his collections of rocks and fossils to share with the children.

Mr Dunn had an extensive knowledge of rocks and fossils and quickly engaged the children in both classes. The children asked really valid questions and had a chance to look at his collection through magnifying glasses and a microscope. This experience enriched their learning and enthused their desire to find out more and go on a rock and fossil hunt themselves.

Miss Moroz reporting



PLEASE HELP THE SENSORY GARDEN

We are currently developing the Key Stage One outdoor area. Our aim is to turn it into a sensory garden and learning area. The children have already started to plant seeds and bulbs, make compost and create works of art for the area and a local garage has kindly donated some old tyres that we will turn into flower beds.

Have you got anything that you could donate to support us with this project? We need containers for planting, compost and plants. If you think that you can help, please talk to your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your support.

Miss M Wicks and the Key Stage One Team.



Attention all parents!

You can now pay for school items on your mobile.

Search for ParentMail in your App store.



With effect from week commencing 24th February you will be able to make payments for school dinners online via your Parentmail account - this will apply to children who pay for their meals in KS2. Please refer to the letter sent home last week for full details. All parents are advised to check you can access your Parentmail account as we will be rolling this out to pay for other items very soon.

ParentMail

N.S.A.

The committee met on the 10th to plan upcoming events and even looking ahead to the summer fete.

First shout out for the quiz. It was a great success last year. Aimed at local businesses and organisations, but all welcome. You need a team of eight. You book a table for £80, with the price inclusive of a superb curry. Get talking and put the date in your dairy.



TERM DATES

Friday 14th February	End of half term
Mon 24th February	Return to School
Mon 24th February	KS2 Monarchs' Week
Friday 28th February	KS2 Monarch Week Open House
Friday 28th February	CHOCODOLLY
Tuesday 17th March	Children's Music Festival—Charter Hall
Thurs 19th March	Mother's Day Lunch
Friday 20th March	NSA Spring Fair
Saturday 28th March	Tree planting on Riverside
Sunday 29th March	Colchester Half Marathon
Tuesday 31st March	OPEN AFTERNOON (KS1&KS2)
Friday 3rd April	Easter Parade
Friday 3rd April	End of Spring Term
Monday 20th April	First day of Summer Term
Friday 1st May	NSA Bingo Night
Friday 8th May	Bank Holiday
Friday 22nd May	Penny Race Sponsored Run at Hilly Fields End of half term
Tuesday 2nd June	Return to school
Friday 12th June	NSA Quiz Night
Friday 26th June	NSA Summer Fete
Wednesday 22nd July	End of school year
Mon 7th September	First day of new school year
Mon 7th September	Year 6 Residential to Weymouth

Governors' Corner

Last week, a team of Governors held their twice-termly meeting to discuss curriculum at the school (other meetings discuss finance, premises and personnel). One of the areas that we spoke about was home learning (or as we used to call it back in the day, homework!). During the meeting, we were updated by staff governors that not all children complete their home learning each week. We were all a little surprised!

The question the Governors would like to ask parents and carers is, 'Can we do anything to help you, help your children with their home learning?' We'd love to hear any ideas from you that would ensure that all children at the school take part in home learning each week to help consolidate what they've learnt in school.

A little extract from the policy... *Learning starts in the home. Talking, listening, playing games. Exploring the local area – the park, the woods, the seaside. Children are little apprentices, learning alongside their family members. As parents we model learning behaviours – cooking, making, fixing, tidying, reading. At school we build on these foundations and want to help you to continue to support and develop your child's social, emotional and academic development.*

You can read the Home Learning Policy on the website (<http://northschool.org.uk/policies/>), and also refresh your memory of the Home School Accord (<http://northschool.org.uk/parents/>) that you signed when your child first started at North. We look forward to hearing your views on home learning soon!

Adele Jennings (Matilda's Mum, year 6)