

# NEWSLINE

January 2022  
Issue 1



## North Primary School and Nursery

A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos

We Celebrated our 125th anniversary on 12th November 2019. Visit [www.northschoolcxxv.com](http://www.northschoolcxxv.com)

## New Year's Resolutions

Home and School Working Together so your child can make the most of every opportunity and be the best they can be.

Remember: you were your child's first teacher and will remain their most important teacher.

### Governor's Corner-Home Learning Survey

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to complete the short Home Learning survey sent out last term. The Governors found it useful to understand the parents' views, and we wanted to share some of the most prevalent points.

After everyone's efforts during our 'home-schooling' days, it was reassuring to see that:

- 95% of parents found it easy or very easy to access home learning via Tapestry and
- 85% of parents found it easy or very easy to access home learning via Seesaw.

We know that there are generally mixed feelings about the amount of home learning that children should receive in Primary schools or indeed, whether they should receive any at all. Schools have the unenviable task of negotiating a line through the middle of this debate, so it was reassuring that 87% of parents were happy with the level of home learning set for their child at North.

In an effort to reduce the school's carbon footprint (and printing costs!) the decision was made to avoid the blanket printing of newsletters and home learning. However, although online learning platforms clearly work brilliantly for some, the survey results showed a more even spread of preferences for the online platforms versus paper copies for home learning. We would like to remind you that if you would like to receive home learning in paper form, please speak to your child's class teacher, either in person or via Seesaw or Tapestry, and this can be arranged.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to respond to the survey and for any additional information that you gave us in the comments section. We hope you continue to enjoy the communication with teachers that these learning platforms seem to have provided and wish you a happy and healthy year ahead.

Beth Dagge, parent governor

### **Covid Latest**

The number of new cases seems to be slowing amongst children and staff. Which is good news, but the infection rate is still very high in the community so there is no room for complacency. Thank you for complying with all the testing rules: if symptomatic get a PCR. If a child is positive isolate for 10 days and test on day 6 and 7—if negative return to school. Classmates should LFT for 7 days.

### **The key message in the first assembly of 2022**

Always Do your Best...

Continue to develop your talents and interests

Work hard at the things you find harder

Be Kind One To Another...

So that you can be the best version of yourself

### **Parent Consultations**

Have you had yours yet? Most of you have or are booked to meet your child's teacher. If you haven't please contact the teacher direct via Tapestry or See-Saw.

### **PUNCTUALITY**

Please remember to get your child to school on time. Lateness is unsettling for the child and disruptive to the class and causes avoidable congestion in Reception.

Please also be punctual in collecting your child at the end of the day—we are experiencing difficulties in accommodating children after school who are waiting for parents or older siblings. We do have a sunset club—a paid-for service. We will have to consider charging parents who are persistently late collecting their children.



### Many Happy Returns

Did you see the picture (above) on the front page of the Essex County Standard? Margaret Gilbert was 107 on Christmas Day. She is the oldest living former pupil of North. A truly remarkable woman. If you visit the CXXV website you can see a video of her reminiscing about her times at North –where she started in 1919!

Year 4 wrote to the residents in Alderwood Care Home before Christmas. James was thrilled to get this response. Keeping in touch with our senior citizens has become even more important and precious over the past couple of years.

Dear James  
Thank you VERY much for your lovely letter and card. I don't have any large writing paper, so you will have to make do with this post card! We have 3 trees

decorated + decorations everywhere! I had an Elf help me get dressed this morning, it was great! I love your decorated letter I don't like winter especially fog but spring will soon be here and we shall have daffodils in the garden. Love from your pen-friend Judy.

### 3 Best Primary Schools in Colchester

Came across this website recently—<https://threebestrated.co.uk/primary-school-in-colchester>. Always nice to see our wonderful staff get the recognition they deserve. The site states, **Expert recommended Top 3 Primary Schools in Colchester, UK. All of our primary schools actually face a rigorous 50-Point Inspection, which includes local reviews, history, business standards, ratings, satisfaction, trust, price and their trading excellence. Only the bee's knees!** Take a look.

### Does Your Child Have Asthma?

We have a number of children on our asthma register. Their parents have been contacted to help us update our records as part of our review of school procedures. If your child has asthma and has prescribed medication but you have not informed the school please pop into school to speak to the office staff. Thank you.

### Wellbeing of Children in Essex

North has been selected by ECC to take part in a 3 year educational research study. Details to follow.

### School Council News

This term the council will be focussing on making play-times even better. Classes are coming up with ideas for improving their use of the playspace for everybody and writing a wishlist of play equipment to present to the NSA! They will also be getting involved with Essex University and Colchester Borough Council to make our school more eco-friendly and work towards being carbon-neutral.

### Dates for your Diary

Saturday 15th Jan	Deadline for school application for September 2022
Thursday 20th Jan	Flu Vaccines
Friday 11th February	Last day of half term
Tues 22nd February	Return to school
Friday 1st April	Last day of spring term
Tuesday 19th April	First day of summer term
Friday 27th May	Last day of half term
Tuesday 7th June	Return to school
Thursday 21st July	Final Day of Summer Term
Mon 5th September	First day of New school year

Have you registered online for your child's flu vaccine? The link was sent out via parentmail.

### Great News: Dr. Bike is coming back!

He will be doing 5 sessions this term and this time he will be available to work with parents directly. There will be 3 sessions that are focused on teaching/showing parents the fundamentals of bike repairs and maintenance, as well as carrying out the bike repairs with you. And 2 sessions that focus on helping/teaching people how to ride and then an organised led bike ride as part of those 2 sessions. That all sounds brilliant. The whole project is geared towards families doing things together. Look out for further details and get ready to sign up.