

NEWSLINE

October 2023
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



School Council 2023 –2024

The School Council held their first meeting on September 29th. The first job was to elect their officers. Congratulations to...

Courtney Chair [top centre]
Reegan Treasurer [top left]

Neve Secretary [top right]
Meera Press Secretary [mid left]

What lies ahead for the School Council?

Councillors will consult with their classes to find out their views before the next meeting on October 4th. And there are 3 big ongoing pieces of work too: analysing the pupil survey from last year; completing the Friendship Area, and reviewing the safe routes to school WOW project.





On Monday 25th September the school was filled with bright colours and even a few superhero capes! The adults and children's expression of colour couldn't help but make you smile. The day began like any other Monday in school, with an assembly. Except this one was special, it was our first Monday assembly in person in the junior hall. The children and staff enjoyed watching a video message sent from Gemma Keir, the author of the Abilities in Me books, where she expressed her thanks to the school for helping to raise both awareness and funds for this amazing charity. The children learnt about the Abilities in Me Foundation and some of the work that they do in schools, hospitals and many other areas within our communities.

Throughout the day children took part in various creative activities with the aim of getting them all thinking about their own special abilities, the things they feel they are good at, as well as thinking about some of the things other children might find difficult and the reasons behind this.

In Reception the children collaborated to make a huge rainbow, just like the one in the Abilities in Me logo, using painted hands. They then spent time thinking about what makes them special.



In Year 1 the children read a poem called 'I'm Quite Unique' which you can find on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PnV8RbL6WQ> which discusses all of our differences and how wonderful it is that we are unique. The children then made their own fabulous fish to go on display as a visual reminder of how special we all are.

In Year 2 the children listened to the story 'Incredible You' by Rhys Brisenden. You can find a Read Aloud version on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7PEAQeiQ0Sc>

The children used this beautifully illustrated text to inspire them to create their own artwork. The children used bright colours, interesting drawings and annotated it with words that express who they are.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 6th October	Book Fair Arrives
Thursday 12th October	Book Fair Last Day
Friday 13th October	NSA DISCO
Thursday 19th October	Pupils' Flu Vaccinations
Friday 20th October	End of half term
Tuesday 31st October	Return to school
Tues 14th November	OPEN AFTERNOON
Thurs 30th November	Prospective Parents 2024 Open Evening
Friday 1st December 6.00pm	Christmas Bazaar
Wed 6th December morning	RECEPTION Nativity
Friday 8th December morning	Y2 Christmas Play
Wed 13th December Morning and afternoon	Nursery Christmas singalong
Thurs 14th December Afternoon	Y1 Christmas singalong
Friday 15th December	Y3&Y4 Christmas singalong
Tues 19th December evening	Y5 and Y6 Christmas Evening
Wed 20th December	Last day of autumn term

In KS2 the children looked at a presentation about famous people who are super talented in lots of different areas and also have a disability or health condition.

In Year 3 the children talked about their own 'super powers' and special abilities that make them unique. They then presented this information on colourful stars and rainbows to be displayed around their classrooms for all to see.

In Year 4 the children collaborated to create a word cloud made of lots of different synonyms for words that they would use to describe themselves. Each child then carefully chose the ones they would like to use and wrote them onto a watercolour rainbow background. They didn't stop there, they continued to engage in positive discussions about themselves and created handprints full of words that make them unique. In

Year 5 the children used their classroom text 'The Barnabus Project' by The Fan Brothers to help them create a Biography about themselves. They designed bright, colourful front covers and then wrote blurbs introducing themselves. The children (and adults) then enjoyed dressing up in superhero capes to present their new books.

In Year 6 the children engaged in conversations about their amazing abilities and talents and they celebrated these by creating front covers for their own Biographies.

Our hope is that the children spent the day immersed in positive discussions, giving them time and space to realise how wonderful they all are. We also strongly believe that children are their best advocates and for many children this may have provided them with the confidence to talk about themselves in a safe and supportive way. One mum told me "my child came home from school and for the first time ever said that they had chatted to their friends about having Dyslexia. He's never told any of his friends before so this was a big step for him." This is an excellent example of why days such as these are important to the children, and with the Abilities in Me books that we will receive we will ensure that these kinds of open dialogues will continue.



Mrs. Catchpole reporting