

NEWSLINE

November 2024
Issue 2



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



Governor's Corner November 2024

It was good to see so many parents and grandparents enjoying the learning during the open afternoon, the school was buzzing. Parents commented on how much they had enjoyed their visit, that they had learnt something new, and how good it was to see how their children's classes worked.

The challenges set during the Stay and Learn sessions in Reception were also enjoyed by parents and children alike, and again these were very well attended.

Lower key Stage 2 children had a great time at the lantern festival when the city Christmas lights were switched on.

Thank you to all the staff who helped make these events such a success.

Governors look forward to seeing you at the Christmas bazaar on 29th November, and at the many seasonal events that have been arranged throughout December.

Best wishes,
Jan Blackwell.
Chair of Governors.

History On Our Doorstep

Colchester has been built around so much Roman history that we walk past it every day without taking the time to notice. All of the children in Years 5 and 6 decided to take the time to look when we went on a 'Roman Walk' around Colchester to find evidence of the Romans in our City. The walks were led by Claire Parker (pictured right), who is a local historian and a previous parent and governor of the school.

We started at the bottom of North Hill and found the remains of the gate which was one of the entrances into Roman Colchester. We then followed the Roman Wall up Balkerne Hill. The children were particularly interested in the way in which the wall was made and they noticed the use of tiles and stones. We also found evidence of a Roman theatre and a Roman Villa in the grounds of the Castle Park.

We are so lucky to have all of this history on our doorstep and we are very grateful to Claire for sharing her knowledge of Roman Colchester with us.

Mr. Armitage reporting





SAVE OUR WEIR

Aniela, chair of the school council, welcomed a special guest to their meeting on the 19th. Mr. Tony Bland, father of a former pupil, was invited to address the council on his campaign to get the weir at the bottom of Castle Park repaired and the bridge to be reopened. Mr. Bland described what happened on December 10th 2023 and explained the impact of the bridge being closed on the local community.

It makes the routes in and out of Castle Park longer and less safe. A number of our families can no longer use that bridge on the walk to and from school, instead having to go along the path which is in a terrible state. The councillors came prepared with questions ranging from the history of the weir to the cost and logistics of the necessary repairs. He was also asked about how he was organising the campaign. He was very impressed with the councillors' questions, especially this one: *What gave you the courage to start this campaign?* At their next meeting the councillors will decide whether to actively support this campaign. Parents can find out more by visiting www.fixthebridge.org.uk.

Mr. Bland is holding an event at The Weir on December 10th to raise the profile of his campaign.

Dates for your Diary

Wed 27th November	Parents Meeting - applications for September 2025
Friday 29th Nov	NSA Christmas Bazaar
Tuesday 3rd Dec	Y2-Y6 Nutcracker Suite
Saturday Dec 7th	Christmas Party for Grown-Ups
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Lunch (Christmas Jumper day)
Fri Dec 20th	Last day of autumn term
Mon Jan 6th	First day of Spring Term
Fri Feb 14th	Final day of half term
Mon 24th Feb	Return to school
Fri April 4th	Final day of Spring Term
Tues April 22nd	First day of Summer Term
Fri May 23rd	Final day of half term
Tues June 3rd	Return to school
Tues July 22nd	Final day of school year

Christmas Class Dates

RECEPTION	Wed 4th 9.00am
Y2	Fri 6th 9.30am
NURSERY am	Wed 11th 10.45am
NURSERY pm	Wed 11th 2.30pm
Y1	Thursday 12th December 2.30pm
Y3&4	Tues 17th 9.00am
Y5&6 E	Wed 18th

Please Note: there is a crèche available where your little ones will be looked after whilst you enjoy the Reception and Y2 Christmas Plays.

The singalongs for Y1, Y3 and Y4 are suitable for all ages .

The Y5/6 evening show is not suitable for little ones.