



Dear Families and Friends

In this newsletter, I want to share some recent news with you and let you know about events for the remainder of the autumn term.

First though, I would like to thank all those parents who attended our Welcome and Curriculum evening on Wednesday 10th September. We were delighted that so many parents came to the event and found the information shared by teachers useful. We are also pleased to hear that parents and children are beginning to use the materials provided in the Home Learning packs. If you have any ideas as to how these packs can be developed, please let us know. We are aiming to provide you with some additional materials at parents' evening in November.

UNISON / GMB STRIKE DAY – TUESDAY 14TH OCTOBER

I would also like to confirm that the school will be OPEN to pupils next Tuesday, 14th October 2014. Both morning club and after-school club will operate on this day but after-school club places will be limited to those who already have a confirmed booking. No additional places can be confirmed at this stage. This is due to a reduced staffing level on this day. However, we may NOT be able to SERVE ANY SCHOOL MEALS on Tuesday. ALL children, including those entitled to FREE SCHOOL MEALS will therefore need to bring a packed lunch from home. We will confirm this either tomorrow or on Monday as soon as we have more information from our catering supplier.

Kind regards

Ian Beard
Headteacher



KEY DATES for your DIARY

Tuesday 14th October, 6.30pm

Year 5 Parents' Meeting (Robinwood Residential)

Friday 17th October, 9.15am

Harvest Assembly

Tuesday 21st October, 2pm

Learning Walks (see article)

Wednesday 22nd October, 9am

Learning Walks (see article)

Thursday 23rd October (AM)

Individual and Family Photographs

Friday 24th October

School closed for half-term holiday (school open on this day)

KEY DATES for your DIARY continued



<i>Monday 3rd November</i>	<i>School opens for the remainder of the Autumn term</i>
<i>Friday 7th November</i>	<i>Class Assembly : Year 5</i>
<i>Mon 10th – Wed 12th November</i>	<i>Year 5 residential visit to Robinwood Activity Centre</i>
<i>Monday 10th November</i>	<i>Class Visit : Year 3 (Poole's Cavern, Buxton)</i>
<i>Thursday 13th November</i>	<i>Class Visit : Year 2 (Staircase House)</i>
<i>Friday 14th November</i>	<i>Visiting Theatre Company : Sleeping Beauty</i>
<i>Tuesday 18th November</i>	<i>Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 5.30pm)</i>
<i>Wednesday 19th November</i>	<i>Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 7.30pm)</i>
<i>Thursday 27th November, 6.30pm</i>	<i>Friends of NCS meeting at school</i>
<i>Monday 8th December, 1.45pm</i>	<i>Early Years Christmas Play (1st performance)</i>
<i>Tuesday 9th December, 9.30am</i>	<i>Early Years Christmas Play (2nd performance)</i>
<i>Thursday 11th December, 1.45pm</i>	<i>Key Stage 1 Christmas Play (1st performance)</i>
<i>Friday 12th December, 9.30am</i>	<i>Key Stage 1 Christmas Play (2nd performance)</i>
<i>Friday 12th December</i>	<i>Christmas Discos (to be confirmed by The Friends)</i>
<i>Tuesday 16th December, 7.00pm</i>	<i>Christmas Concert (at school)</i>
<i>Wednesday 17th December, 9.30am</i>	<i>Christmas Concert (at school)</i>
<i>Wednesday 17th December, 7.00pm</i>	<i>Christy Christmas Concert at The Monastery, Manchester</i>
<i>Thursday 18th December</i>	<i>Christmas Lunch</i>
<i>Friday 19th December</i>	<i>Christmas Parties (afternoon)</i>
<i>Friday 19th December</i>	<i>School closes for the Christmas Holiday</i>
<i>Monday 5th January 2015</i>	<i>School opens for the Spring Term 2015</i>
<i>Wednesday 7th January 2015</i>	<i>Reception Class Visit : The Lowry Theatre We're Going on a Bear Hunt</i>

Class Assemblies for other year groups will take place in the spring and autumn terms. The dates for these events are available on our website.

THE CHRISTIE CHARITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

You will note that the school has again been asked to take part in the annual Christie Charity Christmas Concert at The Monastery, Manchester. This event will take place on Wednesday 17th December starting at 7.00pm. If any child in Years 3 – 6 would like to take part in this concert, they will need to join the choir immediately after the October half-term holiday and come to rehearsals after school on Wednesdays.



YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL VISIT TO THE ISLE OF MAN

23 children and 4 members of staff recently travelled to the Isle of Man for a 5-day residential visit. This was the school's 7th residential visit to the Isle of Man. It has to be said that, despite a slightly uncertain start (the bus not having a luggage hold), what followed was a very successful visit. The children visited a number of interesting sites during the week and travelled on the Isle of Man Steam and Electric railways which have been in existence since Victorian times when the island was very popular with holiday makers. The fantastic weather permitted us to play on the beach every night until it went dark, apart from Wednesday evening when the children showed off their dancing skills.



DISCOVER
*The Story
of Mann*

Mrs Boardman, Mr Arkell, Miss Sander and Mr Beard would like to thank all of the children who took part for their good company, excellent behaviour and good humour during the week. It is always a bonus for staff when no-one is ill on the ferry or feels excessively homesick at 3am – we think this was a first! Well done, everyone.

BIKERIGHT and CYCLING TO SCHOOL

We would like to say “well done” to all those children in Year 5 who recently took part in the BikeRight Cycling Proficiency programme. This programme is offered every year to Year 5 pupils and is aimed at improving cycling skills and road safety. All children travelling to school by bicycle must wear a helmet for their safety. A helmet can significant reduce the chance of head injury should a child fall off their bicycle.



WEBSITE

Our new school website is now online. Although it has a new web address www.northendenprimary.co.uk, it can also be accessed via the old web address www.northenden.manchester.sch.uk. The website has a different look to our previous website in that there is a new colour scheme and everything is now accessed via drop-down menus. The website will continue to be updated in the weeks and months ahead. The HOME page now includes a calendar of events (refreshed daily) so that you can always find out the dates of future events. School meal menus are also available via our School Meals page. Our website is also now tablet-friendly.



MR HAROLD PAYNE, d. September 2014

We are sad to report the death of Mr Harold Payne who was served as Headteacher of this school from 1965 until 1981. Parents or grandparents who attended this school as children may remember Mr Payne as their Headteacher. We have contacted Mr Payne's family to express our sympathy. It may interest some of you to know that we still have the school log books from Mr Payne's years as Headteacher. They contain over 130 pages of his handwritten daily entries about the events taking place in school during his headship.

LEARNING WALKS

Parents are invited to attend our learning walks which take place on Tuesday 21st October (2pm) and Wednesday 22nd October (9am). This is an opportunity for you to spend some time with your child sharing the work your child has been doing in class since September.

PAYMENTS TO SCHOOL

Thank you again to all those parents who are now using Parent Pay to make payments to school. This is proving very popular and over £4,000 of payments have been made in this way since September, meaning that the school is handling a lot less cash and far fewer cheques.

If you would like to call in at the office to pay for things, you can still do so. Instead of waiting in a queue, you can make a quick deposit by simply completing a payment envelope (available next to the school office) with your payment and dropping it in the deposit box (cabinet).

ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY

Our class attendance for the year up to Thursday 2nd October 2014 is as follows:

Class	Attendance	Days Missed	Attendance Thresholds				Late Marks
			Pupils who have attendance more or less than the percentage shown				
			100%	97%+	<90%	<85%	
Nursery	93.6%	25	23	23	6	6	8
Reception	98.4%	11	21	22	0	0	
Year 1	96.6%	23½	21	22	2	2	2
Year 2	96.2%	26	15	19	5	1	21
Year 3	96.2%	26½	20	23	3	2	10
Year 4	99.1%	6½	25	26	1	0	12
Year 5	96.0%	27	17	18	4	3	26
Year 6	97.0%	20	20	21	1	1	8
All	96.8%	165½	162	174	22	15	91



97%

Well done to Reception, Year 4 (very impressive 99.1%!) and Year 6 who are currently achieving 97% or above attendance. All other classes, with the exception of nursery, are close.

Some of the absence to date this year has been due to family holidays taken during term time without permission. This is not helpful at the start of an academic year. Parents are reminded that family holidays taken during term time are not permitted and that parents who choose to do this may receive a penalty notice / fine which is £60 per child per parent if paid within 21 days.