



Dear Families and Friends

As we are now in the full swing of the summer term (with a positive, albeit interrupted yesterday, change in the weather), we want to bring you up to date with the events calendar for next few months and share some news. Do not forget that we close on Friday for the half-term holiday and remain closed on Monday 4th June for staff training. We wish you a very pleasant and hopefully sunny half-term break.

Kind regards

Ian Beard
Headteacher

KEY DATES for your DIARY SUMMER TERM 2018



<i>Thursday 24th May</i>	<i>Non-Uniform Day (contributions for Summer Fair – gifts/chocolate)</i>
<i>Friday 25th May, 9.10am</i>	<i>Class Assembly : Nursery</i>
<i>Friday 25th May</i>	<i>Year 4 class visit to The Depot Climbing Centre</i>
Friday 25th May	School CLOSSES for the half-term holiday
Monday 4th June	School CLOSED for Staff Training
<i>Friday 8th June</i>	<i>Non-Uniform Day (contributions for the summer fair - bottles)</i>
<i>Tuesday 5th June</i>	<i>School opens for the remainder of the summer term</i>
<i>Friday 15th June</i>	<i>Class Assembly : Year 5 (Watkin Project celebration)</i>
<i>Monday 11th June</i>	<i>Year 1 Phonics Screening Tests this week</i>
<i>Tuesday 12th June</i>	<i>Year 4 Class Visit to Castleton</i>
<i>Saturday 16th June, 12noon</i>	<i>Summer Fair (12noon – 3.00pm)</i>
<i>Monday 18th June, 9.15am</i>	<i>Morning Concert : Year 4 recorders, brass and woodwind</i>
<i>Monday 18th June</i>	<i>Year 3 Class Visit to Macclesfield Forest</i>
<i>Wednesday 20th June</i>	<i>Sports Day (9.15am - Infants, 1.10pm – Juniors)</i>
<i>Friday 22nd June</i>	<i>Sports Day (Reserve date should Wednesday be cancelled)</i>
<i>Week Beginning 25th June</i>	<i>Year 6 residential visit to the Isle of Man</i>

KEY DATES for your DIARY SPRING TERM 2018



Wednesday 11 th July, 7.00pm	Summer Concert/Performance (Years 3 - 6)
Thursday 12 th July, 7.00pm	Summer Concert/Performance (Years 3 - 6)
Monday 16 th July	End of Year Reports sent home to parents
Tuesday 17 th July, 6.30pm	Year 6 Leavers' Party
Wednesday 18 th July	End of Year Certificate Assembly
Wednesday 18 th July	Class Transition
Wednesday 18 th July, 1.15pm	Early Years Graduation Party
Friday 20th July	School CLOSES for the Summer holidays
Friday 20th July	After-School Club closes at 4.30pm on this day

SUMMER FAIR



The Friends of NCS (the PTA) are now beginning to finalise the planning for the Summer Fair which takes place on Saturday 16th June. As always, we would be keen to hear from any parents who are willing to help on the day. If you can help set up or run a stall, activity or game on the day (even for an hour or two so that you can enjoy time with your children as well), please get in touch with Rachel Binnie, Chair of the PTA, via mobile 07713 744758, the Friend's email address friends@northenden.manchester.sch.uk or via the Friend's Facebook page. The success of the Summer Fair very much depends on a team effort – thank you!

Do not forget our Non-Uniform days on Thursday 24th May (this week) and Friday 8th June. On these days we ask you to donate items for our tombola stalls (gifts and chocolate this week and bottles in June). Teddies for our Teddy tombola can be donated separately, thank you.

Over the last few years, the Friends have been saving your donations and monies spent at summer fairs, quizzes and discos to make a sizeable financial contribution towards the upgrade of the school's ICT suite computers. Our existing computers are now over 8 years old and are showing their age in all sorts of ways. We are looking forward to implementing this upgrade during the summer holidays. Thank you for your generous support.

CYCLING TO SCHOOL

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those children in Year 5 who took part in the recent Bikeability training which aims to teach children how to ride their bicycle safely and check that their bicycle is safe to ride. This training included school-based and road-based sessions. Well done, everyone, particularly for cycling in the rain!



Related to this is the need for ALL children who come to school on their bicycles to wear a safety helmet. Any child who does not wear a safety helmet must NOT bring their bicycle to school. Our local roads (particularly Bazley Road) are very busy in the mornings and we very much want to avoid a serious injury to a child – wearing a safety helmet will help avoid or reduce the impact of a head injury if an accident occurs. Thank you for your support.

RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL



We are continuing our journey to becoming a 'Rights Respecting School'. This means that we recognise and work within the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, or UNCRC, is the basis of all of UNICEF's work.

The UNCRC is the most complete statement of children's rights ever produced and is the most widely-ratified international human rights treaty in history. The Convention has 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child's life and set out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to. It also explains how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights. These rights describe what a child needs to survive, grow, and live up to their potential in the world. They apply equally to every child, no matter who they are or where they come from.

The UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools Award (RRSA) supports schools across the UK to embed children's human rights in their ethos and culture. The award recognises achievement in putting the UN Convention on the Right of the Child (UNCRC) at the heart of a school's practice to improve well-being and help all children realise their potential. The award is based on principles of equality, dignity, respect, non-discrimination and participation. We are aiming to achieve our RRS Bronze award in the summer term and the silver award towards the end of next year. Miss M^cSorley is leading our work in this area and has led a number of assemblies and formed a RRS Steering Group of pupils from different age groups. We would be keen to hear from one or two parents who would be interested in supporting our work in this area and joining the Steering Group. This would mean a commitment to attend a meeting during the school day every term. After the half term holiday, we will be asking pupils and parents to complete a Rights-Respecting questionnaire. Please look out for this and return it to school.

There are many 'rights' for us to explore and we will do this within lessons and assemblies, but more importantly through our daily interactions with each in school and the way in which we expect everyone in school to behave towards each other and show respect for other people's rights. We are, at the moment, exploring every child's **right to an education** and what that means for us at Northenden and for children across the world.

HEALTHY SNACKS AND LUNCHES PLEASE

We are noticing an increase in the number of children bringing to school snacks and lunches which might be considered unhealthy. The school has, for a long time, promoted healthy eating and therefore discourages children from eating foods which are high in fat, sugar and salt, particularly in school. Our infant children have a piece of fruit or vegetable provided every day for their snack. This is funded by the Government. In Years 3 – 6, children bring their own snacks which should be a healthy food choice. **Chocolate, sweets, cakes and other high-fat or high-sugar items should not be brought to school for snacks or provided in lunch boxes.** Please provide a healthy alternative – there is plenty of advice on the Change4Life website (links available on our website) about this, including their mantra, '100 calorie snacks, two a day max!'



We will continue to have conversations with children about their food choices and the food they bring to school. Thank you for your support.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Are you claiming benefits which might entitle your child to Free School Meals? The Government have recently introduced a system which enables schools to check if parents are eligible to claim free school meals. The eligibility rules changed in April. Eligibility is now for children from households with an income of up to £7,400 a year, excluding benefits, which is the equivalent to £18,000 to £24,000 a year including benefits. If this applies to your family and you are not yet claiming, please get in touch with the school, even if you do not want your child to have a school lunch. We receive funding for every child who is entitled (rather than takes) a free school meal.



SCHOOL SPORT



We would like to take this opportunity to say “well done” to all those children who have recently taken part in school sport and competitions. The school is fully committed to sport in school and we now have a number of sports coaches and PE specialists working with the school to develop our teaching of PE and to develop children’s skills in specific team sports. This includes our Early Years pupils.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS

Have you been bombarded with emails from companies to whom you subscribe, or have a contract with, regarding the new data protection rules, privacy notices and the ways in which you would prefer them to keep in touch with you? This is because of the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which come into force on Friday of this week, 25th May 2018.



As well as companies, schools are also affected by this change in the law. However, schools, including this one, have been working very hard for many years to ensure that information about pupils, parents and staff is processed in accordance with existing data protection law – that is in confidence, securely, only for the purposes for which it is intended and for a limited amount of time (although some school records have to be kept for 25 years!) The new regulations make suggestions about how our processes and systems can be improved and require us to appoint a Data Protection Officer. Given the expertise required to carry out this role, including dealing with any breaches, we have commissioned the service of an external company to undertake this role. This week, we will be updating our existing Privacy Notice on our website, including details of the information we store or process about pupils and parents, contact details for our Data Protection Officer and the rights of individuals with regard to the use of and access to their personal data.

Given that we do not carry out sales or other direct marketing but rather use our email system only to communicate information to parents about events and other school news, we are not required to ask parents to confirm their subscription to our email distribution list. However, if you would like to be removed from our distribution list (or want to provide a new email address at any time), please get in touch with us via the school office or send an email to news@northenden.manchester.sch.uk