



Dear Families ...

As we are now a week or so into the new academic year, I want to formally welcome everyone back to school after the summer holiday and extend a special welcome to all those children (and their families) who have joined us in Early Years. I would also like to welcome Mrs Matthews (Year 6) back to the Northenden teaching team.

We have now set most of our event dates for the year ahead so we would like to share our Autumn term calendar (some class trip dates may be added) with you in this newsletter; dates beyond December are published on our website. There are also a few requests and reminders to share with you so that you can help in the smooth running of the school and keep your children safe.

I wish everyone an enjoyable and successful year ahead.

Kind regards

Ian Beard
Headteacher

KEY DATES for your DIARY AUTUMN TERM



<i>Friday 21st September (all day)</i>	<i>Year 4 Class Visit : Dewa Centre, Chester (Romans)</i>
<i>Wednesday 26th September, 6.45pm</i>	<i>Meeting for Year 5 parents/children (Robinwood)</i>
<i>Monday 1st October</i>	<i>Ready, Steady, Rock – Morning concert for children</i>
<i>Friday 5th October, 9.15am</i>	<i>Poetry Assembly</i>
<i>Friday 5th October</i>	<i>Year 6 Class Visit : Chester Zoo</i>
<i>Mon 8th – Wed 10th October</i>	<i>Year 5 Residential Visit : Robinwood (3 days)</i>
<i>Tuesday 9th October, 6.45pm</i>	<i>Friends / PTA meeting (all parents welcome – see article)</i>
<i>Friday 12th October</i>	<i>Individual Photographs (no assembly on this date)</i>
<i>Monday 15th October</i>	<i>Nasal Spray Flu Vaccinations</i>
<i>Friday 19th October, 9.15am</i>	<i>Harvest Assembly (donations for the Food Bank please)</i>
<i>Friday 19th October</i>	<i>School CLOSES for the half-term holiday</i>

KEY DATES for your DIARY AUTUMN TERM



Monday 29th October	School OPENS for the remainder of the autumn term
Friday 2 nd November	Visiting Theatre : Snow White (whole school)
Thursday 8 th November	Northenden (Village) Remembrance Service (Year 6)
Friday 16 th November	Children in Need Day (Non-Uniform day for donations)
Tuesday 20 th November	Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 5.30pm)
Wednesday 21 st November	Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 7.30pm)
Thursday 22 nd November	Year 3 Class Visit : Poole's Cavern
Friday 23rd November	School CLOSED for Staff Training
Monday 10 th December, 1.45pm	Early Years Christmas Play (afternoon performance)
Tuesday 11 th December, 9.30am	Early Years Christmas Play (morning performance)
Thursday 13 th December, 1.45pm	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play (afternoon performance)
Friday 14 th December, 9.30am	Years 1 and 2 Christmas Play (morning performance)
Wednesday 19 th December	Early Years Christmas Party
Wednesday 19 th December, 7.00pm	Christmas Concert (Years 3 – 6)
Thursday 20 th December	Christmas Lunch (and Christmas jumper day)
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Parties (Years 1 – 6)
Friday 21 st December	School CLOSES for the Christmas holidays
Monday 7 th January 2019	School OPENS for the spring term

Event dates for the remainder of the year can be found on our website.

SCHOOL UNIFORM – FOOTWEAR, JEWELLERY and BAGS

Parents are reminded that trainers and shoes with flashing lights are not part of our school uniform. We therefore ask parents whose children do not have the correct footwear for school to purchase the correct footwear as soon as possible. In line with many other schools and safety guidance, children are not allowed to wear jewellery (e.g. necklaces, bracelets or rings) for school. Children should not bring rucksacks to school as we do not have space to store them – children should bring a book bag (which is stored in class) and a pull-string PE bag (which is stored on a peg).

PE KITS

A number of children have not yet brought a suitable PE kit to school and for this reason some children have not been able to take part in PE lessons. Please ensure that your child has appropriate PE kit in school every day – plain or with school logo white T-Shirt or polo shirt (no other markings, writing or pictures please), plain black or navy blue shorts. Shorts, leggings, tracksuit bottoms and trainers or plimsolls are required for outdoor PE. On most occasions, children will undertake gymnastics and dance activities in bare feet. Thank you for your support.

E-NEWSLETTER and MOBILE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

We will be sending out regular updates, reminders and news to parents via email again this year, although this will not necessarily be on a weekly basis. We have the email addresses of most but not all parents. If you want to request to receive news and updates by e-mail or have recently changed your e-mail address, please send an e-mail to news@northenden.manchester.sch.uk stating your name and your child's name(s) and class(es). If you have changed your mobile telephone number, please contact the school office.



SCHOOL NURSE

Our new school nurse, Emma Davies, has started working with the school on a more substantial basis from this month. She will be in school every Tuesday morning. Emma is able to offer confidential support, advice and sign-posting on a number of health-related issues including continence, sleep, emotional well-being, healthy eating and diet, allergies and asthma. She is also happy to talk about any other health concerns you may have about your children and will be working with the school in monitoring health-related pupil absence. Emma will also be working in class alongside teachers to help deliver some aspects of our PSHE curriculum and Sex and Relationships Education (SRE).



If you would like to make an appointment with Emma (Tuesday mornings from 9.00am) please contact the school office to do so. Emma will also make herself known and be available in the playground before school on Tuesdays.

FRIENDS OF NCS / PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Next Meeting : Tuesday 9th October 2018 at 6.45pm



The first meeting of this year of the Friends of Northenden Community School (PTA) will take place at school on Tuesday 9th October starting at 6.45pm. In recent years, our PTA team has been a relatively small but committed group of parents who have organised a number of events for children and/or adults. Some of these people are no longer parents of the school and others are stepping down from their key roles.

We would very much welcome the participation of more parents in the running of the PTA and this year we are looking for people who can commit to taking on a key role, including Chair (Rachel Binnie is stepping down from the role). Without the support of more parents to attend meetings and organise events (and help secure the commitment of other parent helpers in plenty of time for events such as discos and the summer fair), the PTA is in danger of folding or reducing rather than growing its activities, which would be a shame. If you would like to be involved in the PTA, please come to our meeting on Tuesday 9th October. If you are interested in the position of Chair of PTA, please contact Mr Beard so that we can arrange a nominations process.

HEALTHY SCHOOL : No Birthday treats please

We would to remind everyone that we are no longer allowing the distribution of sweets, cakes or other food items (even if considered healthy by parents) for children's birthdays. This to promote healthier eating in school. Thank you for your support.

PUNCTUALITY for SCHOOL : SCHOOL STARTS AT 8.50am GATES will be LOCKED at 8.55am

Thank you to everyone who is arriving at school on time, that is for 8.50am (or 8.45am in the nursery). We have noticed that the vast majority of children are arriving on time, with just a few (but usually the same) children arriving after 8.50am. **All children should be in the playground by 8.50am so that they can be collected by their teacher at that time.**



RELAX KIDS CLASSES – Northenden Methodist Church

Relax Kids classes are now running at Northenden Methodist Church on Wednesdays and Thursdays for children aged 2 – 8 years. Leaflets have been distributed to some classes via school but if you would like more information please contact Tracey Graham on 07703 737589.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you are receiving benefits (e.g. income support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, child tax credit, universal credit) please make sure that you register your child as **entitled to free school meals**. We ask you to do this even if your child receives a free meal because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 (this is a different entitlement) or your child does not have a school meal. **This is important because the school receives additional funding for every child who is entitled to a free school meal.**

SUPERVISION and SAFETY OF CHILDREN on SCHOOL PREMISES

Please help us to keep your children safe

We would like to ask all parents to ensure that their children remain with them and are properly supervised for their safety at all times when entering and leaving the school premises. At the end of the school day, we have noticed a number of children wandering off or running ahead from parents and reaching the car park without a supervising adult in sight. This is not safe, particularly for our younger children. Please do not allow your children to leave your side when on school premises. We do have a member of staff on duty in the car park at the end of each day to remind the children and parents.



Children should not play games or chase or hide around the cars parked in the car park. Also, in the interests of safety and to encourage safe habits, all parents and children are asked to **use the pedestrian gate only** (even if the vehicle gate is open) to access the premises. Thank you.

NO-DEBT POLICY

Please note that the school operates a **no-debt policy** for the payment of services offered by the school including Morning Club, After-School Club, school meals and instrumental tuition. Too much time is spent by our office staff chasing payments for services received but not paid for. Please note that the school will refuse to provide services (including childcare and school meals) to parents who do not pay for them in advance. The school budget is not intended (and is not sufficient enough) to offset and subsidise debts relating to services and other additional activities, including extra-curricular activities and residential visits. Parents are asked to ensure payments are made on time and to consider the impact on the school of not doing so. Thank you for your support.