



Dear Families ...

Although they seem in the distant past now, I trust that you all enjoyed the Easter holidays and took advantage of the lovely weather, particularly over the public holiday weekend. I am sorry that we didn't get a chance to send out a newsletter before the Easter holidays. We are taking the opportunity here to share with you some news from last term and look forward to the very busy summer term ahead. Since our last newsletter, there has been much happening in school, not least some great class assemblies, PTA events for parents and children, a very enjoyable world book day, fundraising for comic relief and a rather competitive pupil-staff netball match.

I wish you very enjoyable long weekend and sunny summer months ahead.

Best wishes

Ian Beard
Headteacher

KEY DATES for your DIARY SUMMER TERM 2019



<i>Monday 6th May</i>	<i>School CLOSED for PUBLIC HOLIDAY</i>
<i>Week Beginning 13th May</i>	<i>Year 6 National Curriculum tests this week</i>
<i>Week Beginning 13th May</i>	<i>Year 2 National Curriculum tests this week</i>
<i>Tuesday 14th May</i>	<i>Year 1 Class Visit : Stockport Hat Works</i>
<i>Week Beginning 20th May</i>	<i>Year 2 National Curriculum tests this week</i>
<i>Tuesday 21st May, 6.45pm</i>	<i>Meeting for Year 6 parents (Isle of Man planning)</i>
<i>Wednesday 22nd May</i>	<i>Non-Uniform Day (bottles for the Summer Fair please)</i>
<i>Thursday 23rd May (all day)</i>	<i>European Elections (school used as polling but is open)</i>
<i>Friday 24th May, 9.10am</i>	<i>Class Assembly : Year 4</i>
<i>Friday 24th May</i>	<i>School CLOSES for the half-term holiday</i>
<i>Monday 3rd June</i>	<i>School OPENS from the remainder of the Summer term</i>
<i>Monday 3rd June</i>	<i>Class Photographs (note this is the first day back!)</i>

KEY DATES for your DIARY SUMMER TERM 2019 continued



Friday 7 th June	<i>Non-Uniform Day (gifts and chocolate for the Summer Fair)</i>
Week Beginning 10 th June	<i>Year 6 residential to the Isle of Man</i>
Tuesday 11 th June	<i>Year 4 Class Visit :Castleton</i>
Friday 14 th June, 9.10am	<i>Class Assembly : Nursery</i>
Tuesday 18 th June	<i>Year 2 Class Visit : Blue Planet Aquarium</i>
Tuesday 18 th June	<i>Year 3 Class Visit : Tatton Park (Stone - Iron age)</i>
Wednesday 19 th June	<i>Sports Day (Infants 9.15am, Juniors 1.10pm)</i>
Friday 21 st June	<i>Sports Day Reserve (if poor weather on Wednesday)</i>
Saturday 22 nd June, 12noon – 3pm	<i>Summer Fair and BBQ</i>
Wednesday 26 th June	<i>Early Years Class Visit : Blackpool Zoo</i>
Wednesday 26 th June	<i>Key Stage 1 visit to the Halle Orchestra (Dinosaurs)</i>
Monday 15 th July	<i>Children's reports sent home to parents</i>
Tuesday 16 th July, 6.30pm	<i>Year 6 Leavers' Party</i>
Wednesday 17 th July, 9.15am	<i>End-of-Year Certificate Assembly</i>
Wednesday 17 th July	<i>Class Transition</i>
Wednesday 17 th July, 1.30pm	<i>Early Years Graduation Garden Party</i>
Wednesday 17 th July, 3.30 – 4.30pm	<i>Parents' Drop-In session (optional report discussion)</i>
Friday 19 th July, 9.15am	<i>Year 6 Leavers' Assembly and Presentation</i>
Friday 19 th July	<i>School CLOSES for the Summer holidays</i>

FRIENDS OF NCS / PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The school would like to thank the Friends (PTA) for their efforts in running three events last term, starting with the Annual General Meeting in January and the introduction of the new PTA Committee and Trustees of the newly-established charity. We would like to thank those parents and staff who formed teams for the quiz night (it was a very close competition with only half a point between those in first, second and third place!), those who helped at the school discos (and the children for their dancing feet) in March and everyone who bought a ticket or two for our Easter raffle.



Last week, the PTA held a planning meeting regarding the Summer Fair and BBQ which takes place on Saturday 22nd June from 12noon until 3.00pm. As always, this promises to be an enjoyable event. If you can help in any way, including running a stall on the day (even for an hour or so), please get in touch with the Friends via their e-mail address friends@northenden.manchester.sch.uk. In the meantime, please put the date of the Summer Fair in your diary. Please note also the two dates in the school calendar for you to contribute bottles (drink or otherwise) or gifts/chocolate for the Summer Fair tombolas. In exchange, these days are non-uniform days for the children.

SCHOOL SPORT COMPETITION

Mrs Moran and staff running sports teams have been very busy this term ensuring that we continue our commitment to taking part in competitive sport outside school. During this academic year, the school has taken part in many competitions involving Years 2 and above. We are currently seeking to achieve the School Games Silver Award, having achieved Bronze last year.



92 children from Years 2 – 6 (over 60%) have taken part in competitive sport outside of school, including football, netball (Hi-5), swimming, and futsal since September. Our desire to win a few trophies is worked alongside our aim to engage as many children as possible in competitive sport.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY and INTERNAL COMPETITION

This term, our new One Goal coach, Tom Ingham, will be working with some staff and their classes to continue to promote physical activity and exercise. This will include some intra-school competitions where children will complete a number of physical activities (jumping, running, steps, etc.) in a set time (usually 1-2 minutes). These timings will be noted so that children have a record of their personal best which, during the term, they will try to beat. Alongside that, the school houses (Chestnut, Cedar, Pine, Sycamore and Willow) will be awarded points based on their team members' achievement and personal progress. In the lead up to sports day, we will provide opportunities for children to practise their races, again promoting internal competition. Our sports day, weather permitting, is scheduled for Wednesday 19th June, with a 'reserve' day of Friday 21st June.

PUPILS vs STAFF NETBALL

On the final day of last term, our Hi-5/Netball team, who have competed on two occasions outside school, played a match against a staff team. This rather competitive game was watched by the other children and staff. The children's team played very well but were beaten (7-2) by a very determined (and it has to be said taller!) staff team. There will, no doubt, be a rematch in the summer term.



YEAR 4 PERFORMANCE (HANSEL AND GRETEL)



We would like to congratulate our Year 4 children on their fine performance in Hansel and Gretel which they performed at Manchester Health Academy last week. The show was the culmination of a few months' of work with MHA drama, music and dance staff working across five local primary schools. The story was the traditional telling of Hansel and Gretel with quite a few musical liberties, including our children's rendition of *I'm Gonna Be (500 miles)* by The Proclaimers (the walk in the woods).

CYCLE SAFETY / SECURITY

We are pleased that a number of children come to school on their bicycles and scooters. However, we have noticed that some children who cycle to school are doing so without the protection of a safety helmet. It is our policy that all children cycling to school **MUST** wear a safety helmet. This is reinforced in our Bikeability course which takes place in Year 5. We would also like to remind all those with bicycles and scooters to try and secure/lock them to the bicycle racks with a chain and padlock to avoid theft, particularly if left at school overnight or at the weekend. Thank you.

SPELLING BEE

Our partnership with local schools also includes a number of inter-school competitions which are not about sport. These include the annual spelling bee, maths bee and general knowledge quiz (which is hosted here at Northenden). In the Spring term, we held a Spelling Bee in school (staff were quizzed too!) from which five children from Years 2 – 6 were chosen to represent the school (two children competing) at the Spelling Bee final at Sandilands Primary School. Button Lane won overall but Northenden came a respectable 2nd and 3rd place.



EARLY YEARS BUILDING

We are delighted to report that the repairs and some refurbishment of ceilings and flooring has now been completed in our Early Years Building, following the flood which occurred in February. Following the flood, our nursery and reception children were being taught in the main building, including in the school hall. Although this was a challenge and everyone in school had to make adjustments, the team work of staff, children and parents was outstanding. The Early Years staff and children moved back into the EYFS building on our return from the Easter holidays. Thank you to everyone for your support during this time. The children were particularly wonderful at adapting so quickly to changing circumstances.

ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY FOR 2018 – 2019

Our class attendance for the year up to **Friday 26th April 2019** was as follows:

Class	Attendance	Days Missed	Attendance Thresholds				Late Marks
			Pupils who have attendance more or less than the percentage shown				
			<85%	<90%	97%+	100%	
Nursery	95.7%	126	0	5	13	2	32
Reception	96.2%	150½	0	2	18	5	16
Year 1	97.0%	104	0	0	18	5	46
Year 2	96.8%	127	1	1	19	7	125
Year 3	96.6%	130½	2	3	18	3	23
Year 4	97.1%	124½	0	1	20	8	30
Year 5	96.1%	160	1	2	16	5	55
Year 6	97.5%	106½	0	0	20	6	88
All	96.7%	1029	4	14	140	41	415



97%

TARGET
MISSED
WHOOPS!

Well done to Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5 who have achieved 97% or better attendance. Although nearly there, we are missing our ambitious 97% attendance target for the whole school. Of the 1029 days of absence so far this year, 208 days (28 pupils) of absence were due to family holidays being taken during term time which were all unauthorised. The number of children arriving late in Year 2 is very noticeable against that of other classes. There are 14 children with persistent (more than 10%) absence.