



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the start of our school year, it is lovely to see everyone looking so smart and with a such a positive attitude.

Snack

Snack money for Nursery will be £10 for this Half Term and for **Reception** it will also be £10.

Milk money for Year 1 and 2 will be £8.75 for this Half Term for those children who will be having milk at morning break.

All payments for snack and milk are to be paid via Parent Pay. Please ensure it is paid by next Friday, 13,9,19.

Our tuck shop is open for all children in KS2 (Years 3-6) at every morning break. We sell a range of healthy snacks and drinks ranging from 10p – 30p an item.

All children who bring a snack to school need to ensure that it is a healthy snack (green or amber on the nutritional label) and water or milk to drink. Thank you.

We still encourage all children to bring a water bottle to school with them with a sports lid. The bottles should be filled with still, unflavoured water only and will be kept in a designated area in their class rooms where they can go and get a drink when required.

To all parents who are new to the school, welcome. If you haven't already received a letter confirming how to activate your Parent pay account, you will in the next few days. It can take a little longer if your child has transferred from another setting as we have to wait for the records to be transferred to us. Hopefully this will be sorted for you quite swiftly.

Attendance

As you know, attendance in school is very important and something we feel very passionate about.

Education lays the vital foundations of a child's life. Regular and punctual attendance at school is key to both academic and social development, which in turn will improve the life chances of children and young people.

We really want to make a positive start to the year and for attendance this year to be better than ever!

What is good attendance?

Attendance	Description	Approx. days lost per year	Approx. weeks lost per year
99-100%	Excellent	0-4	Less than 1
96-98%	Good	5-9	1-2
95%	Satisfactory	10-13	2-3
90-94%	Unsatisfactory	14-18	3-4
Below 90%	Persistent Absence	More than 19	More than 4

So what does 90% attendance actually mean?

90% attendance over a school year = ½ day absent every week!

Weekly attendance awards - We will continue to give out the attendance trophy in our Friday, weekly assembly to the class who received the highest attendance figure in the preceding week.

Children who achieve 100% attendance during each week will receive a raffle ticket that will be placed in a box in their classroom every Friday. We ask that all dental and optician appointments are made out of school hours or are made during the school holidays. If a morning or afternoon mark is missed due to a hospital appointment, then that

child will still receive a raffle ticket as these appointments are often unavoidable. At the end of the year, all tickets will be collected and combined, a ticket will be drawn and the winner will receive a bike! There will be a bike for KS1 and one for KS2. The more raffle tickets collected means the more chances each child has of winning!

Half termly attendance awards - If a child receives 100% attendance for a half term, they will be able to come to school in non-uniform on the last day of the following half term as well as receiving a free item from the tuck shop. We will send a slip home confirming this with the date your child can come to school in their own clothes.

End of Year award - Our school target for attendance is 97%. Any child who receives 97% or more will receive a certificate in assembly with a treat.

Let's work really hard to make this year's attendance the best year ever 😊

Behaviour policy in school

The behaviour policy in school is changing this year. A provisional copy has been posted on the school website, pending approval from our Governors. If after reading it you have any questions regarding it, please pop and see me next Thursday, 12th September at 2:30pm for an informal chat.

After school clubs

After school clubs start again next week and letters have been handed out to parents this week.

The clubs on offer are;

Multi-skills – Available to the children in Years 1, 2 & 3. This takes place after school on Tuesday till 4:25pm at the cost of £7 (to be paid for on Parent pay)

Dodgeball – Available to the children in Years 4-6. This takes place after school every Tuesday till 4:25pm at the cost of £7 (to be paid for on Parent pay)

Dance – Available to the children in Years 1-6. This takes place every Monday after school till 4pm at the cost of £3 per week (To be paid in advance in cash- £21 for this Half Term)

Steel Band – Available to the children in Years 1-6. This takes place every Wednesday after school at the cost of £14 (To be paid in advance in cash- £21 for this Half Term)

Please make the payment on Parent Pay (if required) and return the slip to the office. If you would like any further information, please contact the office. Thank you.

Music lessons

Over the last couple of years, the children in Years 1 to 6 have had the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument in school and the children who previously participated progressed really well. We are hoping that these lessons will continue and start again in the next couple of weeks.

The lessons cost £40 and cover 10, 20 minute lessons that will take place between now and Christmas, in small groups. Payment covers the hire of the instrument which needs to be brought to school every week on the designated day. The instruments on offer will be guitar, keyboard, piano, flute, clarinet and drum lessons. (Sadly the hire of a drum kit isn't included if your child wants to play the drums)

If your child is interested in learning to play an instrument or you require any further information, please come to the office and we will give you a contract. Payment for the lessons will be paid for on Parent pay and this will be added once all contracts have been received. Thank you.

Piota – our new school app

Our new school App, Piota is a fantastic way of being kept informed of things that are going in within the school. This has replaced our texting service and has proved to be really popular so far. Over 95% of people own a smartphone or tablet and Piota is free to download. If you haven't already downloaded the app, please do so as soon as possible.

Once the app has been downloaded, search Piota schools and type in Norton Canes Primary Academy. **Once the app is up and running, click on the lock symbol in the top right hand corner and follow the instructions to register your device.**

Apart from the Newsletter, which in subsequent weeks will continue to be uploaded on to the website, this will be our only form of communication so it's really important you download it and unlock it if you haven't already done so. Thank you.









Head bumps

If a child has a head bump in school, they will receive first aid treatment and receive a head bump sticker and a slip home to confirm that it has happened. Nine times out of ten it's usually a simple bump with another child and everything is fine. If a child has had a more significant bump to the head, we will telephone home to let them know it's happened. Usually the child can stay in school but if the bump has left a large graze or bump, we don't want

parents to be alarmed when they collect their child at the end of the day. On the odd occasion where we feel it would be best for parents to come and check their child or take them home, again, we will phone home. Thank you.

Uniform

It's great to see that everyone is looking so smart for the first week of term. I have attached our list of uniform expectations as often, when the seasons change, parents have questions on what is allowed;

Clothing item	Girls	Boys
Shoes	Black sensible shoes that can be polished. No trainers. 	Black sensible shoes that can be polished. No trainers. 
Uniform	 White/royal blue polo shirt Royal blue cardigan or jumper.	 White/royal blue shirt polo shirt. Royal blue jumper.
	Dark grey trousers or skirt During the summer months blue or lilac gingham dresses can be worn.	Dark grey trousers. Dark grey shorts
P.E. kit	 Black shorts, white T-shirt & black pumps or trainers. During colder weather dark coloured joggers and a sweatshirt can be worn. (no logos)	 Black shorts, white T-shirt & black pumps or trainers. During colder weather dark coloured joggers and a sweatshirt can be worn. (no logos)
Jewellery & accessories	Small and discreet stud earrings Any hair bows/accessories must be school colours and an appropriate size.	Small and discreet stud earrings

Any volunteers?

We have some volunteer vacancies in school for the following roles;

Making toast for the children in Year 1-6 for morning break – Monday morning.

PTFA members

If anyone is interested in helping us in one of these roles, please see Mrs Watkins in the office who will collate a list. Thank you in advance for your support.

Book People Book Bus

I just wanted to let you know that we have booked The Book People Book Bus to come to school **on Thursday 19th December**. This is the same as the Book Fayre that we have previously held in school twice yearly, but instead of the books being on sale in the library, there will be a book bus in school all day. Parents will be able to visit the bus at the end of the day to buy competitively priced books for your children to enjoy or even for presents for Christmas! Children will be able to visit the bus during the school day. We will send out leaflets to you closer to the time giving you an idea of books that will be on sale.

Keeping us up to date

It is really important that you keep the school up to date if there are any changes in your circumstances, mainly contact numbers.

If there is a change that effects where a child's parents live we also need to know. We will be sending out pupil update forms during the next few weeks so this will be an opportunity for you to let us know if there have been any changes. In the meantime, just pop and see Mrs Watkins in the office. Thank you.

Aldi

Aldi have set up an initiative to get 1.2 million children eating healthier by 2020!

They are getting schools involved and providing learning materials to develop children's understanding and love of fresh, healthy foods.

Aldi have provided us with 2 large posters that will be situated in the KS2 office/library. Every time a member of our community spends £30 in Aldi they will be given a special Team GB athlete sticker. Simply bring these stickers to the school office where you can stick them on the sticker chart we have received from Aldi. There are 300 stickers to collect on each chart and once completed, if done so by 3rd November we may have the chance of winning £20,000! Please let all your family and friends know!! Thank you in advance for your support.



Photo Day – siblings

Academy photography will be coming in to school on **Thursday 26th September** to take individual photographs of the children. If there are also siblings in the school in Nursery up to Year 6, we will take a photo of them together as well. If your child has younger siblings, you can bring them in for a group photograph before school starts, simply come to the office from 8:10am where there will be a queuing system in the corridor leading to the KS2 hall.

September is children's cancer month

During the school holidays, as some of you already know, Jemma's son Freddie finished his treatment for cancer and was able to ring the bell. This is such fantastic news and I'm sure you'll all join me on passing on huge congratulations to the family.

September is childhood cancer awareness month so we are selling golden ribbon badges, in a variety of designs to support the Golden Ribbon Appeal.

If you would like a badge, simply bring a £1 to the office and choose your design. The money will be forwarded to the appeal once we have sold all the badges.



Mrs. B. Hadley
(Head Teacher)

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 11th September – swimming starts for Year 5 pupils

Thursday 26th September – Individual school photographs

W/C 28th October – October half Term

Monday 4th November – School opens

