

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well done to the two classes with the best attendance for the period 16.9.19 – 20.9.19. They are as follows: -

\*\*\*\*\*

**Early Years & KS1 –ILH– 99.3% KS2 –3AL – 98.1%**

Fantastic attendance figures, keep up the hard work!! 😊

### **Enterprise Day at Norton Canes High School**

Our Year 6 children spent the day at Norton Canes High School on Monday, and took part in the Young Apprentice Challenge. We have been involved in this event for the last few years and it has always been really popular with all the children that go. The children take part in “Dragon Den” style activities by thinking of inventions and clever ideas for the future.

It was very exciting for them to spend time touring the school and seeing the older children in action, after all it will be their turn next year!

They took part in these challenges against other schools. Unfortunately, on this occasion, our children didn't win, but they should be thoroughly proud of themselves. A few of our children had some special “shout outs” during the awards for some thoroughly inspiring ideas which is amazing. Well done Year 6.

**Just to remind Year 6 parents that even though they have only just started in Year 6, their application for the High School of their choice needs to be made by 31.10.19. Most of the High School open evenings have already taken place and I hope you all got on well with them.**

**If you have missed any of the designated sessions and you would like to go there for a visit, contact the High school main office and I am sure they can show you round and give you some more information.**

### **Flu immunization program – 2019/2020**

Letters have been issued to the parents of all children in Reception to Year 6 this week, offering the flu immunisation within the school setting.

The immunisations will be taking place **on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December** throughout the day. If you would like your child to receive it, please return the consent form as soon as possible so the correct amount of vaccinations can be ordered. If you have misplaced the form, please see Mrs Watkins in the office, she does have a few spare.

If you have any queries regarding this or require any further information, please either email; [school.immunisation@mpft.nhs.uk](mailto:school.immunisation@mpft.nhs.uk) or call 0300 124 0366. Thank you.

### **Supertato and Evil Pea!!**

The children in Reception have carried on their exciting adventures as super heroes this week and have really enjoyed learning about “Supertato and Evil Pea”!!



Will Supertato save his vegetable friends from the clutches of Evil Pea... wait for next week's exciting instalment!!!



### **Macmillan coffee afternoon**

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding our annual Macmillan Coffee 'afternoon' this year next **Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> September**. This year we have decided to host the event at the end of the day as we understand that it is sometimes tricky for parents to come to school in the middle of the day. We will set up the KS1 hall so parents can go straight in to the hall after collecting their children. Children can be collected from their classrooms at 2:45pm then you can make your way to the hall to enjoy some cake and a drink before you go home.



**Nursery will enjoy a drink and a cake in the Nursery setting before they go home for any parents who can attend. Any parents who can make it, please come to Nursery at 11:15am.**

If you haven't already done so, please bring in some cake donations for the ladies to sell. If you are making any cakes that are suitable for special dietary requirements or that contain nuts, please ensure you list the ingredients so it's clear.

We know that this is an event that is close to many peoples' hearts and most people have been affected by cancer in one way or another. We really hope that you will attend and support us with this event. All money raised will be forwarded on to this very worthwhile cause. So that the ladies can prepare for the afternoon's event, **toast won't be served next Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> September to the children at break time but will continue the following week.**

### **Teddy Bear's Picnic**

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, the kitchen will be organising a "Teddy Bears Picnic" lunch for the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The kitchen will provide a picnic style lunch, consisting of an array of finger food for the children to enjoy.



Children can bring a named teddy bear in with them if they want to.

There will be no cost to parents for this lunch as all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for a free lunch so there is no need for you to send your child with any food on this day.

If your child is quite new to having dinners at the school and you're not sure if they want one, we are quite happy for them to bring in some lunch from home that they can supplement with items from the picnic, just to be on the safe side.

This is a really popular occasion with the children and I'm sure, as in other years, the fantastic range of "teddies" will be brilliant!! 😊

### **Book Start Bear Club**

The Family Support Service have asked us to share some information with you on their "Book Start Bear Club".

This club is run by them for children aged 12 to 30 months where they enjoy sharing books and stories, bringing stories alive through puppets and props, bringing stories alive through fun drawing and having fun sharing rhymes. If you would like to take part with your child, you can call them directly on 01902 424147 to find out where the closest run sessions are taking place.



Alternatively, let the school office know if they attend Ducklings and you would like your child to take part in one of these sessions whilst they are at school. We can make a direct referral with your permission and if we submit enough referrals they will come in to the Ducklings setting to run the group. Please pop to the office and speak to Mrs Watkins or Mrs Clark (SENCO) if you require any further information. Thank you

### **Dress down day for Oscar!**

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October we are holding a non-uniform day for Oscar. Whilst Jemma's son, Freddie was receiving his treatment for cancer in Birmingham Children's hospital, he met Oscar. Oscar is suffering from an acute form of Leukaemia and following numerous treatments including chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant, sadly the cancer has returned. The only chance he has of surviving this cruel disease is for his family to pay for some lifesaving treatment which isn't currently available on the NHS. The treatment costs £500,000 and the family only have eight weeks to raise the money. His appeal has gone nationwide and the support they are receiving is truly fantastic. They have raised just over £100,000 but they still have much further



to go.

On the day, please send your child to school in non-uniform with a £1 donation for Oscar. If you would like to send in more, then you are more than welcome to do so. Please bring your donations to the office or alternatively give them to your child's class teacher. Let's all work together to help Oscar and his family. A little can go a long way and if we all get behind this we can help to make a big difference. Thank you in advance for your support.

### **Facebook**

We have set up a brand new school Facebook page. Because it's quite new, it may not be easy to find but the more things we post on to it and the more people who like the page, the more

recognisable it will become. To find it, simply search for Norton Canes Primary Academy. The old page is still there but the one you are looking for has recent posts uploaded to it.

As you know, we regularly ask you to complete a permission letter giving us permission to use your child's image to be used on the internet. This can be our public website and Twitter accounts. Whilst the one we hold covers internet based sights, we are sending out a new one that is a little more specific. Please return these to the office as soon as possible. Rest assured, if the permissions letter we currently hold **DOESN'T** give permission for your child's image to be used on the internet, their photo will not be put on Facebook.

### **Free School Meals**

Now we have started the new school year, it is a good time to check if you are eligible for Free School Meals. This especially applies to children who have recently joined the school, especially in Reception. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for Universal Free School Meals but the school will still receive extra money and benefits for children who are eligible to Income based Free School Meals.

**This means additional resources to support your child, including breakfast club access and some discounted school trips.**

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

**If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2022.**

**If you think you may be eligible simply visit**

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

You will receive an instant answer when you apply which will be either a green tick or a red cross. If you received a green tick bring in confirmation to the office and we can record the entitlement straight away. Thank you.

### **October is Walk to School Month!**

Every October is International Walk to School Month – an opportunity for children to join hundreds of thousands of pupils across the globe celebrating the walk to school.

Staffordshire County Council are encouraging families to walk to school throughout October in order to improve health and fitness and help the environment;

- Do you know that walking to school instead of driving can save a family up to £400 a year?
- A 15-minute walk or cycle to and from school will provide your child with half of their recommended daily exercise.
- Research has proven that children who walk to school are more alert in the classroom
- Over a third of parents say that their walk to school is where they find the most out from their children.

### **Piota – our new school app**

Our new school App, Piota is a fantastic way of being kept informed of things that are going on 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.**



### **Aldi**

Thank you to everyone who has brought in stickers from Aldi, we are doing really well but still have a long way to go!

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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.



### **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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

Mrs. B. Hadley  
(Head Teacher)

**Dates for your diary**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September** – Macmillan Coffee afternoon –  
2:45pm – KS1 hall

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** – Teddy Bear’s Picnic – Reception, Year 1  
and Year 2

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October** – Dress down day for Oscar

**W/C 28<sup>th</sup> October** – October half Term

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November** – School opens

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December** – Year 3 & 4 – Lantern Parade

