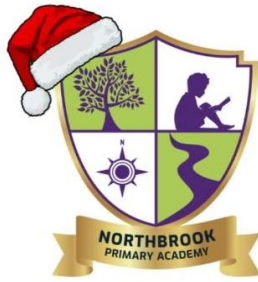


FRIDAY



LETTER

Friday 22nd December 2023



VALUE FOCUS

This half-term our value focus is empathy. We are challenging all the children to:

- ✓ Everyone in our school treats each other with care and compassion.
- ✓ We listen to each other and show kindness.
- ✓ We offer support to each other.
- ✓ We are committed to promoting positive mental health and well-being for everyone.



★ 'Empathy' Awards ★

Reception	Frankie C & Ava T
Year 1	Ella A & Talia B
Year 2	Isabelle M & Fionn W
Year 3	Kobe C & Demi P
Year 4	Jaxon D & Freddie S
Year 5	Poppy H & Kayden O
Year 6	Roman C & Abi L

★ THIS WEEK'S BEST ATTENDANCE ★

Year 5
94.4%
Well Done!



House Team Competition: Each week in the 'Friday Celebration Assembly' we have been checking the totals of the house points. At the end of the first term the results are...

Red Team	2 nd
Yellow Team	4 th
Blue Team	3 rd
Green Team	1 st

Well done to the **GREEN team** who have managed to stay at the top for this half-term and the second half-term consecutively. They enjoyed their cake and juice!

Reading Rewards.... Thank you to all of you that have supported your child's reading at home this term. To reward the children we have introduced a bronze, silver and gold reward system! To achieve the bronze award pin badge the children need to earn 60 reading points, silver 200 reading points and gold 300 reading points. Well done to the children below for achieving an award this week...



Reception	Frankie C, Oscar J
Year 1	Lorriane LD, Elektra N, Maxwell P & Harley T
Year 2	Cohvan F, Tilda M, Isabelle M & Lewis T
Year 3	Lucy RS
Year 5	Darcie B,
Year 6	Jack Mc, Abi L (Silver Award)

Attendance Awards Term 1: We challenge all our children, with support from their families, to aim to achieve an attendance figure of 98% or above. We are really proud of the fact that our children want to attend school and that our families support us by ensuring our children have really positive attendance! This term the following children have an attendance figure of 98% or above. Amazing – well done! The children in **BOLD** achieved 100% attendance for the autumn term.

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Frankie C	George A	Elise B	Charlotte C	Lucas B	Katie A	Lilly-May B
Jacob C	Talia B	Reggie B	Kobe C	Ruby D-F	Amber C	Roman C
Oscar J	Harley C	Maksims C	Lottie-Mae H	Abbie-Rose F	Layla-Mae C	Poppy D
Teddy K	Arla-Rae F	Cohvan F	Joey H	Freddie H	Elliott H-H	Joshua E
Niamh M	Harper H-C	Noah H	Millie H	Theo K	Parker H	Robyn F
Zachary M	Eliza J	Harley K-S	Seth L	Ruby M	Layla L	Erin F
Julia N	Lacey L	Sophia M	Eddie M	Fif O	Reiss L	Scarlett F
Jake P	Amelia L	Logan P	Demi P	Harry R	Elissia M	Oscar G
Maxwell P	Georgia T	Lewis T	Lucy R-S	Charles S	India N	Lorenzo J
Ollie S	Harley T	Izzy W	Edward S	Jamie T	Cemil O	Abi L
Kobe T				Danny W	Stefan S	Teddy M
						Jack M
						Hannah N
						Jacob O
						Alfie Y
						Emily Z



Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party Day 2023...

All the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 had a fantastic time on Wednesday this week, as they took part in their Christmas Party and enjoyed Christmas lunch! They were all so well behaved and danced, played party games and had a festive fun filled day! **Find more photos on our website here...**[NPA Christmas Party Day 2023 | Northbrook](#)



Key Stage 2 Christmas Party Day 2023...

All the children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 had a great day at their Christmas Party and enjoyed their Christmas lunch. We were so impressed with the children's behaviour and how they created a fantastic warm and friendly atmosphere – a truly enjoyable day! **Find more photos on our website here...**[NPA Christmas Party Day 2023 |](#)



A special visitor was in school on Thursday...

It was lovely to see the excitement on the children's faces when they received their personal gift from Father Christmas. It is also heart-warming to see the Year 6 children interact with their 'buddies' in Reception and help them pick up their gift, working as Santa's Elves... **Find more photos on our website here** [Father Christmas Visits NPA! |](#)



Important messages



In January, Mrs Adams will move from her current role as Primary Executive Headteacher to a part time position developing SEN provision across the schools within the Endeavour Learning Trust. All the staff at Northbrook Primary Academy would like to thank Mrs Adams for the significant impact she has had shaping the positive changes within the school. The Senior Leadership Team would especially like to recognise



the guidance and support they have received during the school's improvement journey. We all wish Mrs Adams the very best in her new role and hope she enjoys her increased time with friends and family!



We wrote to parents earlier this month to inform them that Mr Sharkey will be leaving Northbrook Primary Academy at the end of term, as he has decided to take a change in career pathway and pursue opportunities away from education. Today, in assembly we said our goodbyes and thanked Mr Sharkey for his hard work and dedication to our children and their families. Year 6 presented him with a number of gifts and a signed football from all of them. We wish Mr Sharkey the very best for the future and we know that he will keep in touch with us.



As for Mr Sharkey's replacement, we have been able to secure the services of Mr Whalley on a secondment until the end of the academic year. Mr Whalley is an experienced Year 6 teacher who has recently achieved outstanding results in his current school. He will join Northbrook as part of the Senior Leadership Team, in the role of Assistant Headteacher. Over the last couple of weeks Mr Whalley has been into school to meet the children and work with Mr Sharkey and Mrs Morris to ensure we hit the ground running in January and there is a smooth transition.

Thank you to the Friends of Northbrook for organising another successful funding raising event with the Christmas Eve boxes. If you ordered a 'Christmas Eve Box' your child will be bringing it home at the end of school today! Thank you to those families who 'gifted' Christmas Eve boxes to others – it is just another example of what makes the NPA family so special. We will be planning more events in the New Year and, as always, FON would welcome more help from parents and families with connections to the school. Please either speak to Mr Cunniffe at the school, message through their Facebook page <https://en-gb.facebook.com/people/Friends-of-Northbrook-Primary-Academy/100054343789753/> or email friendsofnorthbrook@gmail.com. Thank you, we would love to have you on board.



**HOLIDAY
ACTIVITIES**

28 and 29 December and 2-5 January



Once again South Ribble Borough Council are providing support to families in South Ribble by providing free children's activities and healthy meals during the upcoming school holiday. This Christmas, they have an exciting programme of events including a pantomime, skateboarding, gymnastics, swimming, football and much more. Including 'Active Camp' based at Northbrook Primary Academy, for Years 1 to Year 6, on Tuesday

2nd, Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th & Friday 5th January. Families of children who qualify for free school meals, or children who would benefit from a place due to meeting any of the other criteria, can book their place soon (see the HAF website for details of the criteria: <https://bit.ly/3t8xyDJ>) **Booking is now open! You can follow their Facebook page for further information too.**



Year 6 Bike ability will take place on Monday 8th January to Friday 12th January. Bikeability involves the first morning on the playground achieving the Level 1 award. If the riders are competent and pass Level 1 they will then go out in the afternoon to start learning the skills required for Level 2 on quiet roads. All children are required to pass the Level 1 award before they can move onto Level 2. We will also be running 'Tots on Tyres' for Reception and 'Scoot Safe' for Year 3, at

the start of the new term. We have sent information out this week and will remind parents and children before we come back after the holidays!



Dr Bike is also scheduled to take place Thursday 18th January. This is a free service where qualified mechanics come to Northbrook to carry out bike maintenance. Please feel free to bring your bikes into school on this day, we have a maximum of 25 bike maintenance places available.



Forest School January 2024: Over next half term your child will have the opportunity to participate in Forest School. The sessions will take place in the forest school area within the school grounds. The class has been divided into two groups and sessions will either take place on Tuesdays or Thursdays for your child. A letter has already been sent out to confirm which day. Please ensure your child is dressed in their PE kit bringing the following clothing with them:

- Outdoor shoes (walking boots or wellingtons)
- Warm socks
- Warm, waterproof coat
- Change of trousers
- Waterproof over-trousers if possible
- School uniform to change into if necessary

Winter Water Safety: In winter, more people who are walking or running alongside water fall in and drown than in any other season. Slippery paths, patches of ice and a lack of daylight can make being near water more dangerous than in the summer months. If you fall into the water, the cold temperatures make it difficult for you to control your breathing, to use your hands to climb out and can even cause you to have a heart attack. So, follow the RLSS UK safety tips to make sure that your winter walks are enjoyable and safe.

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/winter-water-safety>



Please tell your children to keep off the ice!



Uniform and Appearance: We would like to remind everyone of our expectations related to uniform and the key information can be found on our website [here](#). A key feature of our policy is what we wear (uniform) and how we wear it (appearance). In summary, some key points of note are:

- Grey skirt/pinafore, trousers or shorts.
- Leather style and sturdy school shoes for **non-PE days** – *trainers and ballet style pumps are not permitted.*
- Full PE kit required for PE days (NPA hoodie & t-shirt, black shorts, black jogging bottoms and trainers)
- Plain black jogging bottoms (on PE days).
- Hair colour should be natural with no severe cuts or styles.

What does good attendance really mean?

- 100%-95% attendance gives your child the best start in life ...
- 94%-90% attendance makes it harder to learn and progress to your child's full ability...
- 90%-85% attendance is regarded as being persistently absent and negatively impacts progress...
- 85% attendance and below seriously affects your child's learning and development...

Did you Know? 90% attendance, although it sounds really positive, actually means your child will miss the equivalent a ½ day a week or 19 days a year or 247 days over your child's primary and secondary education (1 year and 10 weeks).

100% Attendance for	0 days missed...
95% Attendance	9 days' absence or 1 week and 4 days of missed learning.
90% Attendance	19 days' absence or 3 weeks and 4 days of missed learning.
85% Attendance	29 days' absence or 5 weeks and 4 days of missed learning. Almost one-half term missed.
80% Attendance	38 days' absence or 7 weeks and 3 days of missed learning.
75% Attendance	48 days' absence or 9 weeks and 6 days of missed learning.



A polite reminder that applications for a reception place in September 2024 are submitted through the local authority, the link is here: [Starting primary school \(reception\) - Lancashire County Council](#) . The closing date to apply is **Monday 15th January 2024**. If we can support you in your application, please do not hesitate to contact us at school on enquiries@northbrookpa.org



And Finally, school is closed over the Christmas break and this extends to all of our colleagues who work for the Endeavour Learning Trust in the Central Team. If you do contact school over the break, you will receive an automated response and the messages will be reviewed on Monday 8th January when school re-opens. However, we would like to remind parents that there is a range of support available even when we are not in school. There are contact details for further help and signposts to reliable information on our 'Parents/Carers' section of our school website <https://northbrookpa.org/parents-carers/external-agencies-information-for-families>

Key Dates for this term:

- Monday 8th January – School re-opens for all children.
- Monday 5th – Friday 9th February – Children's Mental Health & WellBeing Week.
- Monday 5th – Friday 9th February – Targeted Learning Plan Meetings with Parents.
- Tuesday 6th February – Young Voices 2023.
- Friday 9th February – School Closes for the Feb Half-term



If you need to contact me at school please do not hesitate to email enquiries@northbrookpa.org
Tel: 01772 421599 [Contact Us | Northbrook Primary Academy](#)

Thank you for your continued support this term!

See you on Monday 8th January.

School opens at 8:30am for our FREE breakfast club and 8:45am for all children.

