

Dear Parents / Carers,

Letter from Mrs Winslade, our Chair of Governors

Thursday 19 January 2022

Dear Northbourne,

I am writing to thank you all for warmly welcoming Mr Thompson and myself into school on Wednesday.

Mr Thompson enjoyed seeing children arriving happily and enthusiastically at both the top and bottom gates. I was able to chat with staff and children as they arrived calmly in their classrooms, sharing their news with teachers and then settling into the routines of the day.

We joined the school community for Collective Worship where the theme was Sharing and would like to thank the children who spoke with us afterwards, discussing the theme and how they intended to actively demonstrate sharing during the rest of the week.

Thank you to Lyra and Zach, Head Pupils, who along with Mr Reynolds and Mrs Morrison gave us a tour of the school. We enjoyed visiting your classrooms and observing children fully engaged and enjoying their learning, ranging from Maths, cricket skills, reading and even digging for dinosaur bones. The displays around the school gave us the opportunity to see the curriculum you enjoy at Northbourne.

As a school you made us feel very welcome and we thank you for making our visit so enjoyable.

We look forward to seeing you again during our next visit.

Best Wishes

Mrs Winslade
Chair of Governors

Teaching union – Strike action

As I am sure you are aware, on Monday of this week the teaching unions announced their results of the national ballot. One teaching union has since announced they intend to strike on 4 days over the next couple of months.

The first of these will be Wednesday 1st February. We are following the guidance that both unions and the government have given schools on how to handle industrial action in schools.

At this point in time I am unable to clarify how this will impact Northbourne, however, we will endeavour to inform you as soon as we can so that you may make the necessary arrangements should there be any class closures due to industrial action.

Two upcoming non-uniform days

- **Fri 3rd Feb – NSPCC Number day**
- **Fri 10th Feb – Let's Connect, Children's Mental Health**



We have two non-uniform days coming up, on the last two Fridays of term. The first is on the **3rd Feb, in support of NSPCC Number Day**. This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to experience " Maths, but not as we know it!"

The theme for the day is "Dress Up For Digits!" We would like to invite the children to **come to school wearing something with numbers on**. They do not need to wear their uniforms, they could wear sports kits, clothes with numbers printed on or numbers added on, numbers in their hair - numbers anywhere! We will be raising funds for the NSPCC. The NSPCC provides vital services for children such as Childline and the Speak out Stay Safe programme.



On **Friday 10th February we will be supporting Children's Mental Health week**. This is an opportunity for us to shine a spotlight on children and young people's mental health. By getting involved, we'll not only be raising important awareness, but also vital funds to ensure every child has easy access to mental health support. This year's theme for Children's Mental Health Week is "Let's Connect." This will encourage children (and adults) to look at how we can make healthy and meaningful connections.

To help raise funds for Children's Mental Health Week we would like to invite the pupils and staff to use clothes and colour to express yourself. **Wear your favourite party dress, or your team's football kit, or whatever outfit you feel best expresses your personality and interests!** We will be collecting donations for Place2Be children's mental health charity that provides counselling and mental health support and training in UK schools.

Tweaks to the Whole School Meals menu

Please note the following changes to the current 3 week rolling menu on offer from Whole School Meals:

Week 1

Thursday Salad will be replaced with mixed veg

Week 2

Monday Veggie Burrito will be changed to Mac n cheese

Friends of Northbourne – DISCO!

The F.O.N. will be running a Disco for the pupils at Northbourne on Friday 3rd February from 4.30pm to 6.00pm!

Tickets are £5 and the Disco will include:

- An amazing DJ
- Hot Dog
- Snacks
- Unlimited Squash

You can purchase your child a ticket via the Teacher2Parents school app. The Disco is open to all Northbourne pupils.

If any parents / carers would be interested in joining the F.O.N. team or helping out at events, such as the disco, please contact Mrs Berridge in the school office.



Learning Warrior **20th January 2023**

Willow – Willow
Beech – Charlotte
Maple – Gino
Hazel – Poppy
Oak – Isabella W
Head Boy Award – Lachlan
Head Girl Award – Elsie
Attendance Ted – Willow 99%
Punctuality Pup – Willow & Maple

Please make a note of this year's INSET days, where school is closed to pupils

Friday 23rd June
Monday 26th June

INSET DAYS 2023 – 2024

Friday 1st September 2023
Monday 30th October 2023
3 further inset days - dates to be announced



