

NORTH HEATH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL ERICA WAY HORSHAM WEST SUSSEX RH12 5XL



NEWSLETTER 1

3rd September 2024

Dear Parent/s and Carer/s,

We look forward to welcoming all our pupils and parents back to school on Wednesday 4th September after what has hopefully been a refreshing, relaxing holiday for everyone. Over the last few weeks Mr Gildea and I met to complete the handover of the school and I am delighted to be able to start the year as North Heath's Interim Headteacher. I am looking forward to a positive and interesting term ahead. In this role, I will be on the front playground to open the gates in the morning (whenever possible) and I look forward to seeing many of you and your children before school each day – please pop by to say hello!

Staffing

We welcome two new teachers to our amazing team. Miss Dew will be the class teacher for Y5 Rowan and Mrs Teakle joins us in Y6 Whitebeam.

Teachers are already back at school and have been busy with safeguarding training, developing the curriculum and organising their classrooms so that the children have the best possible start to the year. As always, teachers will be waiting at the external doors to welcome the children from 8:40am. Although they will happily give you a wave at this time, it would be helpful to pass on any messages through the school office or via the year group emails, so that teachers and classroom assistants can focus on settling their pupils.

Teacher meetings

This year, parents will have an opportunity to hear from their children's teachers at the beginning of term. Each year group will offer a 10-15 minute talk that will explain the main events and expectations for the year ahead. The teachers will talk through homework and how best to support your children at home as well as upcoming topics, trips and other events in school. Please see the dates and timings in the table below. It would be great to see as many of you as possible for these meetings as they will help home and school work together for the benefit of all children. However, as there is quite short notice of the meetings, we appreciate it may be difficult for some parents to attend and so all presentations will be saved on the school website. These should provide the key details of the meeting but you can use the year group emails if you have any other questions.

Parents of Reception pupils will have an opportunity to meet the teachers at their meeting later on this term in addition to the home visits taking place over the next 2 weeks.

	Date	Time	Location	Teachers
Year One	11·09·24	5:00 – 5:15	Chestnut	Mrs Lowe and Miss Byrnes
Year Two	10·09·24	5:30 – 5:45	Elder	Miss Ogle and Miss Taylor
Year Three	11·09·24	5:30 – 5:45	Hazel	Mr Cousins, Mrs Rowlands and Miss Sowton
Year Four	10·09·24	5:00 – 5:15	Lime	Ms Davies and Mr Jackson
Year Five	12·09·24	5:00 – 5:15	Hawthorn	Miss Bouchiba and Miss Dew
Year Six	12·09·24	5:30 – 5:45	Mulberry	Mrs Boniface and Mrs Teakle

Parents Consultation Evenings will be held in the Autumn and Spring terms. The electronic booking system will be set up in good time for parent/s and carer/s to sign up and there will be further details about this in a separate letter.

Autumn Term – Tuesday 8 October (3:40pm-6:10pm) and Thursday 10 October (4:00pm-7:00pm)

Spring Term – Tuesday 4 February (3:40pm-6:10pm) and Thursday 6 February (4:00pm-7:00pm)

Uniform

All pupils should be in school uniform for their first day. This consists of their yellow polo shirt and trousers/shorts/skirt or a yellow summer dress, a grey school or unbranded jumper/sweatshirt or cardigan and a coat. They should have black shoes that are suitable for playtimes as well as all-day wear. Plain black trainers can be used in place of standard school shoes.

For school, hair should be neat and we ask that hair of shoulder length or longer to be tied up during the day. Pupils should not wear make up or nail varnish. Small hoops or stud earrings can be worn in school as can a necklace with a religious charm but no other jewellery is permitted. Watches can be worn in school but pupils will be asked to remove them for PE.

PE days for each class will be agreed and shared by the end of this week. On PE days, pupils will be expected to come to school in their PE kits with either a plain hoodie (ideally black or grey) or their school jumper. They should also wear trainers that are suitable for all-day wear and that they can put on and take off unaided. Ideally, earrings should be removed at home for PE days as this can be a worry for children at school and adults are not able to help with either removing them or putting them back in.

Site

In this first newsletter, I'd like to remind all parent/s and carer/s that classroom doors open at 8:40am each morning, ready for the register at 8:45am when their teaching and learning will begin. Any later arrivals will be marked as late in the register. The school day finishes at 3:15pm and pupils will be released to parent/s and carer/s from the external doors (YR from the front playground). If you wish your child (Year 4 and above) to walk home alone, or walk round to meet you at another part of the school, please put this in writing for your child's class teacher.

Before and after school, the front and side playgrounds are open for parents to drop off or pick up their children. Please be mindful that parents are responsible for their children until they enter, and after they leave, the classroom. Although, they are free to play under your supervision, we would ask everyone to be considerate of others who are moving about the site. For their safety, children should not be playing on the top playground or behind and between the sheds on the front playground where supervision is challenging.

For safeguarding reasons, we would ask any parents who collect children from the playgroup before the end of North Heath's school day, to wait away from the railings by the front playground until after the infants have had their afternoon play.

Bicycles and scooters can be ridden to school and can be stored during the day using the bike racks provided but please remember that neither should be ridden on the school grounds.

Currently, due to work carried out on the school roof over the summer, there is a scaffolding tower on the front playground. While it is clearly fenced off to prevent pupils from accessing it, we would appreciate your support in reminding pupils to stay well away.

Dates

SEPTEMBER			
	2 / 3	Inset	No pupils on site
Wednesday	4	First Day	All pupils return (YR on phased induction)
Friday	13	Parents Evening Sign up	Appointments available online
Monday	16	Y5 9am-12pm	Millais Computing workshop
Tuesday	17	Y6 + staff to Fairthorne	3 night residential
Friday	20	Y6 + staff return	Siblings can be collected following Y6 return
Monday	23	Y5 9am-12pm	Millais Computing workshop
Thursday	26	Y3 swimming (pm)	Pavilions (Y3H return after end of school day)
Monday	30	Y6 9am-12pm	Millais Computing workshop
OCTOBER			
Monday	7	Y6 9am-12pm	Millais Computing workshop
Tuesday	8	3:30pm – 6:00pm Parents Evening 1	
Thursday	10	4:00pm – 7:00pm Parents Evening 2	
Wednesday	16	Y5 + staff to Sayers Croft	Remaining pupils to Y4/6.
Friday	18	Y5 + staff return	Siblings can be collected following Y5 return
Tuesday	22	Individual Pupil Photos	
Friday	25	Harvest Festival	Donations to the hall from 8:30 please
Half Term			
NOVEMBER			
Monday	4	Pupils return	
Wednesday	6	Y3 trip	Y3 + staff to Butser Ancient Farm
Monday	25	YR am NHS nasal spray	Nasal spray in cookery room
DECEMBER			
Tuesday	3	Y3/4 Christmas rehearsal performance for grandparents and siblings 1:45pm	
Wednesday	4	YR Christmas rehearsal performance to grandparents 9:30am	
Thursday	5	YR Christmas performance to parents 9:30am	
Tuesday	10	Y1/2 Christmas rehearsal performance for grandparents and siblings 1:45pm	
Wednesday	11	Y1/2 Christmas performance for parents (Elder/Chestnut) 9:30am	
Thursday	12	Y1/2 Christmas performance for parents (Silver Birch/Oak) 9:30am	
Thursday	19	Y5/6 Christmas performance for parents at St Marks Church 6:30pm (TBC)	
Friday	20	END OF TERM	

Assemblies

Class assemblies for parents will be held between 9:00am and 9:30am on Thursday mornings this year. Each pupil will perform twice across the year, either with their whole year group or within class. This is in addition to the Christmas performances and we look forward to your presence in support of your child/ren. Ideally, younger siblings will not attend but if this is unavoidable, please be sensitive to the children performing and leave the hall should there be any distracting noises – thank-you.

Year	Class	Assembly 1	Assembly 2
YR	Apple	Reception Mothers Day Assembly FRIDAY 28 th March 2025	Apple Class 26 th June 2025
YR	Cherry		Cherry Class 3 rd July 2025
Y1	Cherry	Year 1 Assembly 13 th March 2025	Cherry Class 3 rd July 2025
Y1	Chestnut		Chestnut Class 10 th July 2025
Y2	Elder	Year 2 Assembly 20 March 2025	Elder Class 19 th June 2025
Y2	Silver Birch		Silver Birch Class 12 th June 2025
Y3	Hazel	Year 3 Assembly 14 th November 2024	Hazel Class 1 st May 2025
Y3	Willow		Willow Class 8 th May 2025
Y4	Larch	17 th Oct 2024	Year 4 Assembly 3 rd April 2025
Y4	Lime	24 th Oct 2024	
Y5	Hawthorn	Year 5 Sayers Croft Assembly Thursday 21 st Nov 2024 6pm	6 th Mar 2025
Y5	Rowan		27 th Mar 2025
Y6	Mulberry	Year 6 Fairthorne Assembly Thursday 3 rd Oct 2024 6pm	Year 6 Leavers Assembly Thursday 17 th Jul 2025 6:30pm
Y6	Whitebeam		

Our harvest assembly this year will be held at 10:00am on Friday 25th September. Although this is only for the pupils, we hugely appreciate the efforts of many parents and carers in collecting and donating tins and packets of food or hygiene products for a local charity. Further details will follow in a newsletter nearer to the time.

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Thank-you

Evidence tells us that children benefit most when school and home work together. So, thank you to all parent/s and carer/s for all the help you offer your children for their education and development and for your support of the school.

I am proud to lead a brilliant team at North Heath, who regularly go above and beyond in their work with the pupils. They do their best every day to nurture, inspire, care for and teach your children.

Working together, your children and our pupils are in the best possible position to develop, progress and reach their personal and academic potential.

Enjoy the Autumn Term!

Yours sincerely

Nicky Chesshire

Interim Headteacher