

NORTH HEATH COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

ERICA WAY HORSHAM WEST SUSSEX RH12 5XL



September 2025

NEWSLETTER 1

Dear Parent/s and Carer/s,

Here we are again! I hope you have enjoyed a restful summer break and that you, and your children, are keen to get back to school and a normal routine!

It seems amazing to me that we have already reached September and we are preparing to welcome in a new cohort of Reception children and seeing others take the next step in their Primary School Journey. There is always a lot to fit in to our Autumn Term so we have made the most of our three INSET days to make sure as much as possible is ready to go. Thank-you, as ever, for helping to prepare your children for their return and we hope they greet you full of news at the end of their first day.

School Values

This term, we will be focusing on our new school values



Be Kind, Be Creative, Be Courageous



through our assemblies and in class. There are many ways our pupils demonstrate these values at school and we are looking forward to being able to recognise their efforts. Keep a look out for our new stickers that have been designed to convey our appreciation of their demonstration of these values!

Children's Parade

There was so much to celebrate in sport at the end of last term that I missed the opportunity to praise our representatives in the Horsham Children's Parade. The theme this year was West Sussex. North Heath was tasked with representing the Shipley and High Salvington windmills. Our Year 3 pupils (last ever Hazel and Willow Classes) did a brilliant job in creating bags of wheat, some little mice and a fabulous windmill.

I'm sure those of you who saw them will agree that our model was impressive!

We are already looking forward to finding out our new theme in 2026!



Reading



Send in your certificates for a special Reading Challenge Assembly on Friday 19th September. It would be lovely to see all those from Y1-5 (Y6 will be on residential and so can bring theirs in the following week) who have been reading lots of books and sharing their enjoyment with the library as well as their family. I hope they have some good recommendations to share with their classmates and teachers!



Uniform



As communicated last term, we have made a slight change to our PE kit. The T-shirts have stayed the same: coloured house T shirts with the school emblem or similarly coloured plain T-shirts for PE. For trousers, the PE kit should comprise black tracksuit or jogging trousers or black shorts of an appropriate length. To keep the PE kit appropriate for colder weather, pupils should wear a plain black hoodie or sweatshirt or, failing that, their school cardigan or sweatshirt. These black jumpers should be easily, and cheaply, available and will help us maintain a more consistent appearance on PE days. We would also expect all pupils to wear black trainers that they can put on and do up themselves.

This is a small change but we feel it is important and we appreciate your efforts in supporting us with it.

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Thank-you

After our call out for helpers to build our new school sheds last term, I was extremely grateful to receive support in the form of Jon, George and Stuart who all put in a full day's labour, to build our two new sheds. I had not fully appreciated how much effort and time it would take to get them put together. However, the 3 of them battled on (despite a very heavy downpour in the early afternoon) and were determined to finish both before leaving. They managed it and made sure both were complete and weatherproof before finally packing up their vans.

The two sheds are already fully in use to store PE equipment and now that our new play area is complete, the last shed can be constructed so that we can organise the resources for easy use during PE lessons and playtimes.

A huge thank you to Jon, George and Stuart – your good spirits, expertise and willingness are hugely appreciated.
We definitely couldn't have done it without you!



Morning Snacks

As you know, pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with a fruit snack at school each day. Pupils in Key Stage 2 are also encouraged to bring in a fruit (or vegetable) snack to help see them through the mornings. This year, pupils are going to be eating these snacks in the classroom during a class reading session, rather than in the playgrounds. If you order milk for them, they will also drink the milk during this session.

These snacks should consist of fresh fruit or vegetables rather than processed foods or cereal bars.

Thank-you for your help with this.



Meet The Teacher

In a similar way to last year, we are running Welcome Meetings for each year group so that parents can meet their new teachers and find out more about the expectations and likely opportunities and experiences in the new year groups. As happened last year, the presentations for these will be available on the school website following the events but it would be good to see as many parents as possible during the sessions so that you all hear similar messages and can ask questions. Please check the dates below and we look forward to seeing you there.

Site Safety and Security

Our new play and physical development area in the KS1 playground is complete and looks amazing (after some hard work this summer!) This area is fenced and gated so that access is only available under the supervision of school staff. It will not be available to pupils before or after school. It will be exciting for the children and we are making sure that all year groups have an opportunity to see and, where appropriate, use the area during the first few weeks of school. Some of the equipment could be quite challenging for even our oldest children!

Similarly, the school's play equipment and PE sheds are only for use or access during school hours for a range of safety reasons as well as to ensure items are reliably available during the school day. Please help us by reminding children of this, regardless of how tempting extra games time might seem. Thank-you.

A HUGE thank you to FONH for funding two of the brilliant pieces of equipment that we know the children are going to love! We can't wait to see them climbing all over it!

We ask that you support us in our endeavour to keep pupils safe by restricting its use to school supervised times only. This will also help keep it more special!



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Bikes



Cycling is a fun, healthy way to travel to school and we encourage our pupils to come to school on bikes.

However, safety for cyclists, pedestrians and any road users is of utmost importance.

For this reason, pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 participate in Bikeability at North Heath. In Year 5, Level 1 Bikeability ensures pupils have basic cycling skills. In Year 6 they revisit level 1 and, if ready, take the Level 2 course which provides specific training to make sure they are safe on the road.

Following a number of 'near-misses' reported to school by local residents, parents and members of the community, we now ask that pupils do not cycle to school unaccompanied by an adult before gaining their Bikeability level 2. Prior to this, all pupils are welcome to cycle to school and store bikes here during the day but they should be accompanied by an adult.

Yours sincerely

Nicky Chesshire (Headteacher)

Dates for 2025-2026

SEPTEMBER			
Wednesday	3		
Thursday	4	INSET days – no pupils in school	
Friday	5		
Monday	8	All pupils return (Reception begin their phased start)	
Wednesday	10	5:00pm Year Six Welcome Meeting	Y6 parents
Tuesday	16	9:30am Y6 pupils to Fairthorne Manor	Y6 pupils + parents
		4:45pm Year One Welcome Meeting	Y1 parents
		5:15pm Year Two Welcome Meeting	Y2 parents
Wednesday	17	5:30pm Year Five Welcome Meeting	Y5 parents
Thursday	18	4:45pm Year Three Welcome Meeting	Y3 parents
		5:30pm Year Four Welcome Meeting	Y4 parents
Friday	19	9:00am Reading Challenge Honour Book 2:30pm Y6 pupils return from Fairthorne	All relevant pupils Y6 pupils + parents
Thursday	25	Morning (time tbc) Guitar Performance (2024-25 guitar students + parents)	
Friday	26	Young Shakespeare Company	Years 4, 5, 6
OCTOBER			
Wednesday	1	9:15am Fairthorne Assembly	Y6 Parents + pupils
Thursday	2	All day – Y4 trip to Bignor Roman Villa 5:30-7:00pm – Reception Parents 2026-27 Open Evening	
Tuesday	7	3:45-6:15pm Parents Evenings	All parents + pupils
Thursday	9	4:00-7:00pm Parents Evenings	All parents + pupils
Tuesday	14	2:15pm Volunteers' Safeguarding training in the hall 5:30-6:15pm – YR + Y1 Phonics Evening	Parent Volunteers All Reception + Y1 parents
Wednesday	15	9:30am Y5 pupils to Sayers Croft	Y5 pupils + parents
Friday	17	2:30pm Y5 pupils return from Sayers Croft	Y5 pupils + parents
Tuesday	21	Individual School Photographs	All pupils
Wednesday	22	2:15pm Volunteers' Safeguarding training in the hall	Parent Volunteers
Thursday	23	Black History Month Drama Workshops	Y6 pupils
Friday	24	Harvest Assembly END OF HALF TERM	All pupils All pupils

NOVEMBER			
Thursday	6	9:00am Y3 Assembly for all Year 3 parents and siblings	Year 3 year group assembly
	6	Maths Evening for Parents +- (More details to follow)	Y2-5 parents
Thursday	13	9:15am Sayers Croft Assembly	Y5 Parents + pupils
Mon-Fri	17	3:15-4:00 Book Fair	All parents + pupils
Thursday	20	9:00am Y2 Assembly for all Year 2 parents and siblings	Year 2 year group assembly
Thursday	27	9:00am Y4 Assembly for all Year 4 parents and siblings	Year 4 year group assembly
	27	Maths Evening for Parents x÷ (More details to follow)	Y2-5 parents
DECEMBER			
Tuesday	2	9:30am YR Christmas performance for Grandparents	Reception Grandparents
Wednesday	3	9:30am YR Christmas performance for Parents	Reception Parents
Monday	8	2:15pm Y1/2 Christmas performance for Grandparents	KS1 Grandparents
Tuesday	9	9:30am Y1/2 Christmas Performance for Parents	Y1/2 Parents
Wednesday	11	9:30am Y1/2 Christmas Performance for Parents	Y1/2 Parents
Monday	15	Rocksteady Concert (time tbc)	Rocksteady pupils' parents
	15	2pm – Y3/4 Christmas Performance for Grandparents	Y3/4 Grandparents
Tuesday	16	9:30am – Y3/4 Christmas Performance for Parents	Y3/4 Parents-Robin & Kestrel
Wednesday	17	9:30am – Y3/4 Christmas Performance for Parents	Y3/4 Parents-Starling & Red Kite
	17	1:30pm–Y5/6 Carol Concert for Grandparents at St Marks	Y5/6 Grandparents
Thursday	18	pm – Christmas Parties	All pupils
	18	6:30pm – Y5/6 Carol Concert at St Marks for Parents	Y5/6 parents + community
Friday	19	LAST DAY OF TERM	