



# Midsomer Norton Primary School

Head teacher: Mr Alun Randell

[www.midsomernortonprimary.co.uk](http://www.midsomernortonprimary.co.uk)



Dear Parents/ Carers,

At the end of a very busy term, I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you to everybody who works so hard to support our children in reaching their potential - our parents and incredibly hardworking staff, of course - but I would also like to say a special thank you to all our volunteers who have contributed so much to our school. Everyday, sees a small army of volunteers reading with children, supporting in class, walking children to the swimming pool or library, putting up flat pack furniture, helping out in Forest School and more! Volunteers have always played a crucial role in schools but as educational budgets come under ever more pressure, schools are having to make very tough decisions about what they can provide for their pupils; volunteers make a huge difference to our ability to continue to offer a broad range of experiences and support to our children. We are always looking for more volunteers; if you are available to volunteer please see your child's class teacher or contact the school office.



## Educational budgets

It seems like every day more news counters the government's claim that it is spending more on education than ever before. As I have previously mentioned, the Institute for Fiscal Studies has calculated that in real terms the education budget has shrunk by 8%, and that is before factoring in the massively increased costs schools face. This week, the media reported that high needs educational funding has dropped by 17% per pupil. <https://www.theguardian.com/education/2019/apr/04/funding-pupils-special-educational-needs-send-drops-north-england>

I would like to, once again, ask parents to contact their MP to express their concerns about the impact of cuts on their child's education.



## Trips

Educational trips play a valuable part in broadening our children experience and, therefore, understanding of the world. Over the past four years, we have consistently run trips at a significant loss, a situation which we are no longer able to sustain. We do try hard to minimise the cost of voluntary donations so that trips can run; however, going forward we will have to cancel trips that are not financially viable. A decision about whether next term's Year 3/4 trip to the Roman Baths can go ahead will be made on the Tuesday we return to school.

## Dance Umbrella

Congratulations to both of our dance teams who participated in the Dance Umbrella showcase events over the past two weeks. I was lucky enough to see the Upper Key Stage 2 team in action on Monday evening and I was so impressed by the standard and the complexity of their performance. I would like to say a big well done to all of the children and the staff who have helped each team to flourish.

We offer breakfast and after school care on School premises. Please sign up on ParentPay or pop into the office to find out more.

Please book school dinners on ParentPay, they need to be booked 48 hours in advance

## Online Book Shop

Visit our [scholastic book shop](#) to buy books to shop and the school receives 25p for every £1 spent! All funds raised will be spent on books for our library

## Tennis

Leaflets available in the office concerning Tennis Taster sessions at Writhlington. Please ask for one if interested.

## Healthy packed lunches

Please ensure that your child's lunchbox is healthy and does not include items that contain nuts. Also Nursery snacks should not contain biscuits, cakes or chocolate. No fizzy drinks are allowed in school. Drinks bottles that children have in the class should only contain water.

## Unauthorised holiday

Please remember that term-time holiday can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Parents who take unauthorised holiday are at risk of being fined £60 per child, per parent. For a family with two children this equates to a fine of £240.

## Sports

We sent a team to compete in the B&NES Basketball competition this week and they did excellently. After just being pipped into the semi finals by losing a 'golden basket' tie break, we won our last two games to finish in a respectable 5th place overall. Well done to our whole team for their attitude and performance on the day!

Congratulations to Isabella in Earth class who swam her first swimathon for cancer research at the weekend. She swam 1 mile (66 lengths) in 50 minutes.

## Green Team



In assembly today, our Green team introduced the Big Battery Hunt. We are encouraging children to hunt for old batteries at home so that they can bring them to school to recycle. The Green Team explained how batteries take a long time to decompose and leak their dangerous chemicals into the environment. If we can collect enough batteries, there are prizes to be awarded by Duracell. Thank you to Sam Selway and Jodi Plummer for finding out about the campaign. Please see today's letter for more details.

## PTA Easter Egg Raffle

We drew the winning tickets of the PTA Easter Egg raffle in assembly today and these four children seem very happy with the result! Thank you very much to all who supported our school by buying tickets. All proceeds raised by the PTA are used to enrich children's learning in school. Thank you to our PTA volunteers for all of their fundraising efforts - including last week's Spring Ball.



## Early Years Photo Frames

Our Early Years team are appealing for old, unwanted picture frames (no glass, just frame) of any size. They plan to use them for reusable art!

## Community Event

NFest Easter - Sunday 14th April, 3:30pm - 5:30pm at Somervale School.

If you are aged 4-11, Welton Baptist church invites you to have lots of fun celebrating Easter together at this free event. There's loads packed in to 2 hours including an Easter egg hunt - Drama - Craft - Games - Biscuit decorating - Cafe for parents/carers - And more! Spaces are limited so please book in soon at

<https://nfesteaster.eventbrite.co.uk/>

Have a lovely holiday  
Happy Easter!

Alun Randell  
Head teacher

## Head Teacher Awards

Kai Olivia Josh Calum

Mia Siena Caitlin Kyran

Daisy Adam Oliver Lena



## News



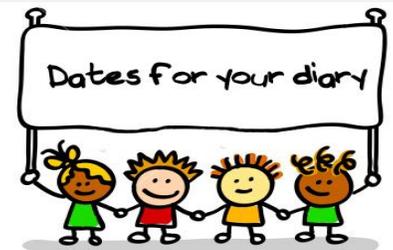
Don't forget that you can catch up with what's going on in school on our twitter feed:

<https://twitter.com/MSNPrimary>



Like us on our Facebook page! Search for Midsomer Norton Primary School and Nursery

All letters are uploaded to the school website.



**Fri 5<sup>th</sup> April Term 4 ends**  
**Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> April Term 5 starts**  
**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April Girls Tag Rugby at Avon Valley Rugby Club**  
**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> Netball & Rugby County Finals**  
**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> - Year 3 & 4 Roman Baths Trip**  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> - Netball Cup Match**



## Gold Awards



For demonstrating exemplary behaviour...

Ronnie Phoebe Harvey Pippa

Josh Harvey Bradley Liam Amber Erica



## Birthdays

Harry	Seb	James	Daisy	Mya- Rose
Harry		Amira	Myla- Rose	James
Dexter		Isaac	Abigail	Charlie
Daisy		Alasdair	Lily	Otis
Libby		Isabella		Samuel

### Attendance Champions of the week

1 <sup>st</sup>	Venus	97.6
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Uranus	97.2
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Earth	96.3