

Norton Hill News



Newsletter 11: Tuesday 14th July 2026

House Team Winners

Overall house team winners for the 25/26 academic year are: Saxons with a total of 2755 points	The children that were awarded the most house points in each year group are:
Bumblebee Class	Frank B
Honeybee Class	Chester G
Dragonfly Class	Karrina T
Firefly Class	Evelyn R
Turtle Class	Edie R
Gecko Class	Jesse T
Iguana Class	Walter H
Leopard Class	Mila B
Jaguar Class	Esme W
Cobra Class	Daniel F

Saxon (green team) houseteam will be participating in a celebration event on Thursday afternoon; individual winners listed above from each class will also be invited to join us in celebrating their achievements. The children in Saxon Team are invited to wear their own clothes into school on Thursday but please ensure they are able to be active in their clothes and that they are appropriate for school. You will find your child's house on Arbor.



100 % Attendance

Congratulation to the pupils below who have achieved 100% attendance this academic year. To celebrate your achievement we would like to invite you to participate in the celebration event on Thursday 16th July. Children below are invited to wear their own clothes into school on Thursday, but please ensure they are able to be active in their clothes and that they are appropriate for school.

Sophie A	Gecko
Henry B	Dragonfly
James B	Leopard
Lois	Iguana
Eudora	Turtle
Max C	Gecko
Riley	Iguana
Isla-Rose	Dragonfly
Frankie C	Firefly
Ralphie	Jaguar
Avis	Gecko
Alice	Gecko
Lauren	Cobra
Walter	Iguana

Bertram	Leopard
Luna L	Leopard
Carter	Cobra
Darcie	Cobra
Isla O	Leopard
Aidan	Leopard
Aila	Turtle
Lenny P	Turtle
Finnley P	Honeybee
Edie R	Turtle
Joshua R	Honeybee
Imogen T	Turtle
Averie	Leopard

Curiosity Corner

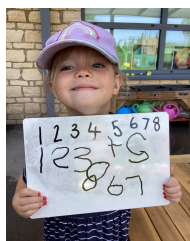
Curiosity Corner nursery have had a fantastic final term. We started our term by learning about 'Where Safari Animals Live'?

We had opportunities to explore and discuss similarities and differences between children from around the world. We also tasted food from the story 'Handa's surprise'. The children had the opportunity to observe a real snake skin, they looked closely at its properties and made fantastic observations.

We are ending our term by covering the topic of 'Who lives by the sea' and understanding how to stay safe at the seaside as we approach the hot weather.

While we have been busy preparing for our pre-schoolers transition to their new reception class. We have had discussions about starting school, trying on school uniforms and spending time with Reception. To prepare the children for their transition to school, we have introduced 'pen disco', which continues to be a huge success- this has greatly improved the children's pen grip, whilst also creating meaningful marks. A fantastic one to practice over the summer!

The children have all shown great enthusiasm for both topics and we look forward to seeing what the final week brings.



Reception

What a fantastic and memorable few weeks it has been in Reception! We have been busy with lots of exciting learning and have loved making the most of our final weeks together. Our focus on sustainability has inspired some wonderful discussions, particularly about plastic pollution and the small changes we can all make to help care for our planet. The children were passionate about sharing their ideas and proudly wrote thoughtful letters to Mrs Waterhouse, suggesting ways to make our school even more sustainable.

We have also enjoyed being introduced to Shakespeare through the delightful story *Romeosaurus and Juliet Rex*. The children were completely captivated by the imaginative tale and some of Shakespeare's wonderful language, and they thoroughly enjoyed learning and confidently reciting some of the memorable lines.

One of the highlights of the term was our fantastic trip to Carymoor, where the children loved pond dipping, searching for fascinating minibeasts, and exploring the natural environment. The staff at Carymoor commented on this as well as the exceptional behaviour of our children, representing our school fantastically. They truly amazed us with the incredible facts they shared and the knowledge they demonstrated throughout the day. We are so proud of everything the children have achieved this year. Their enthusiasm, curiosity, kindness and love of learning have shone through in everything they have done, making these last few weeks a wonderful way to celebrate an amazing year in Reception.



Year 1

Year 1 has had a fantastic term full of exciting learning and memorable experiences! We have dived into the wonderful world of Shakespeare by exploring *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, bringing the characters and story to life through our learning. In Science, we have enjoyed carrying out a range of fascinating investigations, including exploring the question, *Why do pine cones change shape?* In Geography, we have been learning about different types of extreme weather, which has felt particularly relevant with the recent heat waves and thunderstorms! Our favourite project this term has definitely been our DT topic, STEM-terprise. We have formed our own businesses, designed company logos, carried out market research and created our own product ideas, ready to turn them into real fresh farm food! In Maths, we have had lots of fun learning about time and money, including setting up our own shop where we practised buying items and giving change. Well done to all of Year 1 for your enthusiasm, hard work and fantastic learning so far this term. We are so proud of everything you have achieved this year, I hope you have a lovely, restful summer.



Year 2

Year 2 pupils have been enjoying a coast/sea theme in Term 6! We conducted an interesting investigation in Geography, testing the effect of waves on the base of cliffs and the resulting damage to coastal structures. In English, we have been practising some drama techniques including freeze-framing and role-playing whilst studying 'The Tempest'. We definitely have some budding, talented Prince Ferdinands, Mirandas and Prosperos in our midst!

In Science, the children have continued their learning about habitats and microhabitats, focussing on oceans, beaches and rock pools. We have discovered some worrying facts about plastic pollution in our most recent investigation, where we tested various materials in salt water to see how (and if) they decomposed. Our STEMterprise topic has been enormous fun and we have enjoyed creating logos, slogans and researching our product. It has certainly been a busy term!



Year 3

This half term has been packed with exciting learning opportunities across the curriculum, and one of the highlights was our fantastic Arts Week, centred around the inspiring theme of 'Creating a Greener Future'. Throughout the week, the children explored environmental issues through a range of creative activities including beautiful watercolour paintings of sea creatures, designing and building guitars from recycled materials, and bringing environmental messages to life by performing scenes inspired by 'The Odd Fish', telling the story of a plastic bottle's journey through the ocean.

Our entrepreneurial skills have also flourished through our whole-school 'STEM-terprise' DT project. The children worked collaboratively to create their very own muffin businesses, designing eye-catching logos, developing original recipes and producing persuasive advertising to promote their products. It has been wonderful to see their creativity, teamwork and business skills develop throughout the project!

In English, we have enjoyed studying 'The Merchant of Venice', exploring the characters, themes and language of this famous play. The children wrote their own playscripts before confidently bringing a scene to life through performance, developing both their writing skills and their understanding of drama.

Science lessons have focused on the fascinating properties of plants. The children carefully observed a range of real plants and flowers, producing detailed scientific sketches complete with accurate labels and thoughtful observations, through which they have developed their understanding of the important roles each part plays in helping plants survive and grow!

In Geography, we have continued to develop our map skills by learning about lines of latitude and longitude. The children used these coordinates to accurately plot capital cities across Europe before using atlases to locate famous landmarks from around the world.

It has been a fantastic end to another successful term, with the children showing enthusiasm, resilience and a genuine love of learning in everything they have undertaken. They should all be incredibly proud of their achievements and the progress they have made. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year and we wish everyone a wonderful, restful summer break!



Join the 5 Ways to Wellbeing Summer Challenge

Support your family's wellbeing over the summer holidays with Bath Mind

Take on a different challenge each week

- Accessible
- Easy to try
- Good for your mental health

 Bath



Scan here to get involved



WELTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Join us from 24th to 28th August for a week of free events for the whole family including our fantastic morning club from 10am - 12pm, Monday - Thursday with games, crafts, stories, songs and lots more!

Our FREE morning club is taking place at MSN Methodist Church. To find out more and book in your 4-11 year old head to weltonchurch.org.uk.

Registered Charity 1188181

Year 4

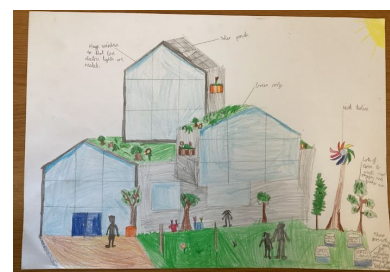
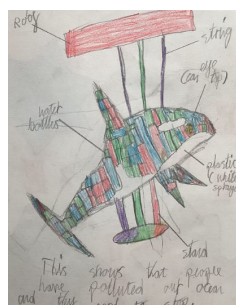
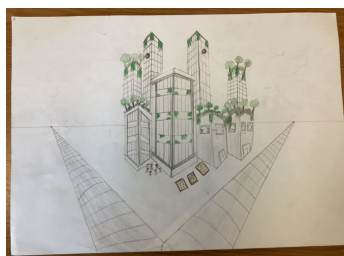
Year 4 recently completed a fantastic Design and Technology project entitled 'Tomb Builders'. The children were challenged to design and construct prototype simple machines that could have helped the pharaohs of Ancient Egypt build their incredible monuments. Throughout the project, pupils followed the full design process of researching, designing, constructing and evaluating. They explored and tested a range of simple machines, using their findings to inform the designs of their own prototypes. Working collaboratively, the children demonstrated excellent teamwork, creativity and problem-solving skills as they developed and refined their ideas. The project was thoroughly enjoyed by all and provided a wonderful opportunity for pupils to apply their learning in a practical and engaging way. Here are some photographs from a fantastic week of designing, building and evaluating their innovative creations.

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed studying William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar this term. They developed their acting skills by bringing scenes from the play to life and impressed us with their enthusiasm and confidence. Pupils particularly enjoyed writing persuasive speeches from the perspective of different characters and taking part in conscience alley activities, where they debated the motives and actions of the conspirators involved in Caesar's assassination.

In Art, pupils explored the beauty of Islamic art, creating their own intricate motifs and geometric patterns inspired by traditional designs. They were also fantastic participants during Arts Week, where the theme of sustainability and building for a greener future inspired them to design imaginative eco-houses and striking recycled sculptures. Pupils also made panpipes from recycled materials and used this to sing and compose a song on the theme of 'things that can be done at home to save our planet.'

In Geography, our Road Trip USA topic took pupils on a journey across the United States. They explored its diverse physical features and landmarks before producing informative tourist brochures to showcase everything this fascinating country has to offer.

It has been a wonderful term of creativity, curiosity and hard work, and we are incredibly proud of everything Year 4 has achieved.



Year 5

Year 5's learning has continued at a great pace in Term 6, and the children have been impressing us with their attitudes to learning across such a wide variety of content! Capturing the children's imaginations was our ongoing STEM-terprise whole-school project in DT, where they have been fascinated with the real-life practicalities behind creating a viable vegetable samosa business - complete with market research and brand design! We are now eagerly awaiting the launch of the Norton Hill Primary Farm Shop.

Elsewhere, they have greatly deepened their learning about William Shakespeare's plays with analysis of the characters from no fewer than four across their English and Guided Reading work: 'As You Like It', 'Macbeth', 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', and 'The Tempest'. Comparing and contrasting the bold and brave women characters is setting the children up well for their end-of-term writing. Pupils have also discovered expressionism in Art, the tenets of dharma in Buddhism in RE, and musical theatre in Music, and have showcased their skills across the Computing curriculum, connected by the theme of Mars rovers.

Finally, the children have loved going in-depth with their scientific knowledge in the 'Scream Machine' project, which has tested their knowledge of forces, materials, and structural design - all bound by the topic of a theme park. The way they have thrown themselves into their practical experiments has really impressed the staff!



Free School Meal Changes for the 2026 to 2027 Academic Year

Free School meal eligibility is changing - Many families will become eligible for the first time under the expanded FSM Criteria which is changing from September to the following:

- **Targeted FSM, which continues to be based on the existing threshold, covering pupils who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less**
- **Expanded FSM, a new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted FSM, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit with annual household earning of £7,400 & above**

If you believe you may qualify for the expanded FSM please make an application now. Please see the link here: www.bathnes.gov.uk/form/apply-free-school-meals

School Meal Bookings

You will receive a message via School Grid to let you know when meals are available to book. All meals need to be booked by midnight Thursday 3rd September.

Tax Free Childcare /Childcare voucher payments - To enable us to allocate the payments quicker please can you email the School Office with the following information EVERY TIME. Please allow 1 week for funds to be allocated to Arbor. If payments are made during the summer, please be aware that allocations to Arbor may take longer than normal due to the volume we will receive.

- **Child's Unique Reference Code**
- **Date Paid**
- **Amount £**

Unfortunately we are not able to accept vouchers to pay for extra-curricular clubs/meals or trips.

Wraparound Care Bookings - September 2026

Sessions will be released in August to book sessions for the new academic year. You will receive an email when this is available.

Extra Curricular Clubs - September 2026

Clubs lists will be share at the beginning of September.

Emails to school

When contacting the school office regarding your child. Please could you include your child's class for us to be able to process your request quick. If requesting wraparound care booking, please ensure you inform us of the time of the session required.

Our annual Scarecrow Hunt is taking place on **Saturday 10th October** (weather dependant). His years theme is *DISNEY* if you are able to create a scarecrow, please let us know which character in the form below.

[Scarecrow sign up link](#)

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Details
Friday 17th July	End of Term 6	
Thursday 3rd September	INSET day	
Friday 4th September	INSET day	
Monday 7th September	Start of Term 1	
Monday 7th September - Friday 11th September	Wellbeing week	
Tuesday 8th September	Reception First Day	
Wednesday 9th September	Colour run payments due	
Thursday 10th September	Year 6 - PSHE bus	Details shared on Arbor
Friday 11th September	Colour Run	Details shared on Arbor
Monday 14th September	Term 1 Extra curricular clubs start	Year 1 - Year 6
Monday 21st September	Works Peace Day	Activities within school
Tuesday 22nd September - Monday 28th September	Recycling week	Activities within school
Tuesday 29th September & Wednesday 30th September	Individual and sibling photos	Details to follow
October	Black History Month	
Friday 2nd October	National Poetry Day	Activities within school
Monday 5th October - Friday 9th October	Space Week	Activities within school
Saturday 10th October	Annual Scarecrow Hunt	Details to follow
Wednesday 14th October - Tuesday 20th October	Democracy Week	Activities within school
Friday 16th October	Just One Tree Day	Details to follow
Wednesday 21st October	Term 1 Clubs finish	
Wednesday 21st October	End of Term 1	
Thursday 22nd October	Inset Day	School and Nursery closed
Friday 23rd October	Inset Day	School and Nursery closed