



# Midsomer Norton Primary School

Head teacher: Mr Alun Randell

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Despite the weather, it has been a super start to the new term. I was really impressed with our children as they returned to school last week after the Christmas break; they seemed taller and more confident and definitely ready to learn!

## Reading

Well done to all our families for continuing to read regularly at home. As with anything, frequency of practice leads to improvement and being a fluent reader leads to greater enjoyment and a long-term love of reading. I was very impressed that some of our children had read to an adult on Christmas day! Willow our wonderful volunteer reading dog and owner Sally Teall returned to school on Wednesday - it is amazing to see how our children respond to such a gentle giant.



## Volunteers

We are always looking for volunteers to help out in school, particularly, but not only, to listen to children read. If you would like to help out in any way, please do let us know.

## Silly Limbic

Naomi Harvey, psychotherapist and creator of Silly Limbic, a program to support children with anxieties, will be coming into school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February during Place2Be's Mental Health Week. She will be talking to our children about the brain and how our limbic brain controls our fight, flight and freeze instincts. She will also be talking about strategies children can use to cope with their emotions. Parents and carers are invited in at 2;30pm pm on that day to join Naomi to find out more about how they can support children with anxieties. Her fantastic children's books will also be available for sale. Our wonderful PTA will be providing refreshments. We hope you can join us!

## Champions for Change

Our Champions for Change have been working on our Anti-Bullying Charter over the last few weeks. In assembly on Wednesday, they introduced it to the children. They explained the difference between an argument or falling out and the repeated, deliberate nature of bullying and provided advice on what to do if they experience or see bullying in school.



## Clubs

With the exception of gardening, archery and netball, we still have places in many of our school clubs. Clubs will start next week but it is not too late to sign up.



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 one week 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

## Can we help?

Midsomer Norton Primary School holds Foodbank Vouchers. If you are struggling to feed your children please speak in confidence to reception who will be able to give you further information

## Healthy packed lunches

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

## Holiday requests

Please remember that term-time holiday requests can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances (e.g. on compassionate grounds). Parent who take their child out of school for a holiday in term time risk being fined £60 per child per parent - £240 for a family with two children. The government is very clear that parents have a legal obligation to ensure their child attends school all year.

### Speech competition

Our children in Year 5 and 6 are working on their persuasive writing techniques this term. They will be writing arguments in preparation for our public speaking contest. After half-term, a team will compete against other schools in our academy trust at Norton Hill Secondary School. Last year, the standard of our team was excellent with their confidence and articulation making a real impression. I look forward to seeing our children on stage again this year.



### Year 6 SATS evening

We will be holding an information evening for parents and carers of Year 6 children at 6:00pm, 11<sup>th</sup> February. Come along to find out how you can help your child to approach these assessments with confidence.

### Thanks you!

Thank you to Trevor, family friend of Ms Stokes, for very kindly making Sunbeams a bird table. He has put the school logo on it and painted it in the school colours! Last year he also made Sun and Sunbeams lovely wind chimes.



### Reminders

If your child has long hair please make sure that it is tied back in school for health and safety reasons. Jewelry is not allowed in school other than watches and plain ear studs (not ear rings). Ear studs must be removed or taped over for PE. We do not allow smart watches in school. Thank you for your support.

Have a lovely weekend  
Alun Randell  
Headteacher



### Birthdays

Myla, Bradley, Alfie-Lee, Lily-Rose,

Freya, Harrison, Max, Harry,

Emily, Tiffany, Alex



## News



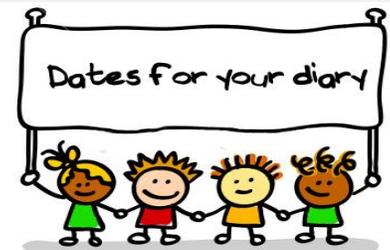
Don't forget that you can catch up with what's going on in school on our twitter feed:

<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.



Neptune Class - Swimming begins  
w/c 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Parents Evenings 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March