



# Midsomer Norton Primary School

Head teacher: Mr Alun Randell

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

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back to school after the half-term break. It was a pleasure to see so many parents and carers at our Parents' Evenings and Great Art Exhibition this week. We have received wonderful feedback about our children's artwork with many families 'investing' in our up and coming young artists. Thank you very much to everybody for your generosity; we managed to raise over £500 in much needed funds to help ensure that we are able to continue to offer the broad, balanced and creative curriculum that we are so proud of.



## School Funding

Talking of funding, I would like to appeal for your support in asking parliament to debate an increase to school funding on 4<sup>th</sup> March by clicking on this [link](#). All schools, including our own, are facing huge pressures and making tough decisions on a daily basis. You can find out greater detail about just how schools in our local area are faring by visiting the Commons Library [here](#). According to the website, in real terms, schools in the England have seen their budget drop 4.9% over the past 5 years but in our constituency the drop has been 6.7%! This at a time of massively increased costs due to increased pensions and national insurance contributions schools must pay and cuts to local services which mean they are no longer provided free to school but must be bought in instead.

## Key Stage 1 Revamp Morning

Due to the pressures mentioned above, we are appealing for volunteers to help out on our Key Stage 1 Revamp morning Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 9:00am-1:00pm. If you love flat pack furniture or are a dab hand with a brush please come along so that we can overhaul what has become a very tired area of the school. In return, we promise bacon butties and as much tea or coffee as you can drink! Please contact the office if you are able to spend the time helping out so that we know how many people we are catering for.

## Sports News

All the hard work paid off when, our football team played Westfield away this week and had a fantastic 5-1 win! Mr Andrew was really pleased at how well the children all played.

## School Charity - Bath Big Sleep Out

As you may remember, our school charity this year is Julian House - a fantastic local charity that supports the homeless in range of different ways. Back in September, the school community helped raise over £500 for the charity by sponsoring me to walk 20 miles around Bath. Next weekend, I will be taking part in the Big Bath Sleep Out, spending the night in Alice Park. This cannot in any way replicate the true experience of being homeless but will help raise awareness of the issue and much needed funds for Julian House. If you would like to participate in this event you can find out more at: <http://www.bigbathsleepout.co.uk/> . If you would like to sponsor me, please visit: <https://www.justgiving.com/Alun-Randell1> . JustGiving sends your donation straight to Julian House and automatically reclaims Gift Aid if you are a UK taxpayer, so your donation is worth even more.



## Important Announcement

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

## 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. Also Nursery snacks should not contain biscuits, cakes or chocolate. No fizzy drinks 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.

### E-safety/Managing online time

Please see this week's letter about e-safety and a reported 'game' causing upset to children. Whilst the media is now saying that this scare was blown out of proportion, this is a timely reminder of just how important it is for parents and carers to be aware of what their children are doing online. Please, please make sure that you closely supervise your child. I would also like to take the chance to urge parents and carers to limit screen time as head teachers and teachers around the country are increasingly concerned at the negative impact it can have - especially on children's willingness to read. My own 12 year old son has a 1 hour limit on a week night and a 2 hour limit on the weekends; he doesn't like it - but he doesn't have a choice!

### World Book Day/ Book at Bed time

It's World Book Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. As always, children are invited to come dressed as their favourite book character. At 5:00pm on that day, we will also be enjoying Book at Bedtime. The children are invited to come back to school in their pyjamas to enjoy a hot chocolate and biscuit and listen to stories read by staff. We also have a return visit from Andy Seed the children's author who will be working with each phase during the day on Wednesday.

### Red Nose Day

We will be selling red noses via the office to help raise money for this fantastic cause from after half-term. 150 noses have been ordered! Noses cost just £1.25.

### Science Challenge

We hope as many children as possible accept our challenge to design a moon buggy - science themed prizes are available! We already have some wonderful entries!



### Community News

Midsomer Norton FC Under 9s (school yr 4) are looking for some new players to join their friendly squad. Training is on Thursday evenings with games played most Sunday mornings. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Steve Russell on 07870 789349.

### Bath City

Please visit: <http://www.bathcityfc.com/bath-city-family-day-announced-for-2nd-march/> for information about their Family Day tomorrow.

Have a lovely weekend,

Alun Randell  
Head teacher



## News



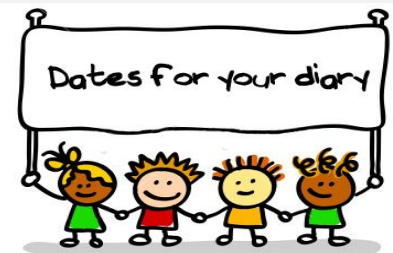
Don't forget that you can catch up with what's going on in school on our twitter feed:

<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.



**Sat 9<sup>th</sup> March - KS1 revamp morning**

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> March, 6:00pm Speak Out **Public Speaking Competition** at Norton Hill

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March- **World Book Day/Book at Bedtime**

Mon 11<sup>th</sup> - Fri 15<sup>th</sup> March- **Science Week**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March -**Red Nose Day**



Angel Lucas Summer Summer  
Elle Archie Jack Jecaela  
Kezia



## Gold Awards



For demonstrating exemplary behaviour...

Kyran    Skye    Ella-Rose    William  
 Harvey    Rosie    Evan    George  
 Libby    Caitlin



## Birthdays



Aston    Molly    Eva    Jamie  
 Lily    Bailey

### Attendance Champions of the week

1 <sup>st</sup>	Earth	98.2%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Uranus	97.8%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Neptune	97.7%