

# Norton Hill News



Newsletter 3 - Monday 6th November 23

## MESSAGE FROM MRS WATERHOUSE

Welcome back to Term 2.

As a school we have been thinking and learning lots about Black History Month and all of our children have been immersed in diverse texts and learning challenges. This term has also brought a local History study and a whole school Democracy Week (Weeks 1&2) and the children have been busy voting for their favourite books amongst a wide range of other learning linked to British Values and Democracy. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page to see more of what the children have been exploring.

As we said goodbye to Autumn Term and Harvest celebrations, we said hello to the school stage! You always know when it is winter term at a primary school and before you know it, you will all be listening to the Christmas songs shared by the children as they begin to learn their Christmas songs and performances. We promise to try and keep this quiet until at least week 3 but be warned- they are on the way!

We have just completed another successful round of parents meetings across all classes. The team would like to say another "thank you" for your continued support and we hope you have enjoyed seeing a little bit of what your child is learning at school. Learning maps for this term will also be shared with parents from each class to keep you informed of what is being taught this term.



### [Harvest festival donations](#)

Thank you all for your amazing generosity in your donations for our harvest festival.

Julian House were very grateful.

## HEADTEACHERS AWARD

Friday 13th October  
Headteacher awards go to

**Bumblebee:** Isaac  
**Cricket Class:** Avis  
**Dragonfly Class:** Nellie  
**Dolphin Class:** Theo  
**Turtle Class:** Finley  
**Gecko Class:** Radley & Maybel

Friday 20th October  
Headteacher awards go to

**Bumblebee Class:** Priya-Lily  
**Cricket Class:** Hattie  
**Dragonfly Class:** Iris  
**Dolphin Class:** Henry  
**Turtle Class:** Alfie-Lee  
**Gecko Class:** Milena

Friday 3rd November  
Headteacher awards go to

**Bumblebee:** Percy  
**Cricket Class:** Eira  
**Dragonfly Class:** Skye  
**Dolphin Class:** Hunter  
**Turtle Class:** James  
**Gecko Class:** Oliver



## Year 2

We have hit the first week with a bang - Democracy week! In year 2 children have been reading and taking ideas from 'If I was a Prime Minister' in English, by the end of the week the children then adapted this to 'If I was a student councillor' and had a vote as to who they believe should represent them on the student council.

We also had a fantastic history workshop focussing on sources found in the local area. We were able to identify the uses of each source and we discussed which time period each piece was from. One question we had was 'How can these artefacts help us learn about history', throughout the session we built a knowledge of what life has been like in Midsomer Norton and Somerset for hundreds of years. The most interesting source we looked at was a hand axe which was hundreds of years old!

In science we made predictions about some halloween pumpkins and what they would look like at the end of this term and then at the end of next term!



## **Year 3**

Wow, it's been a busy week yet again. We have been exploring all kinds of new topics in Gecko Class.

Firstly, we had a special visit from a Historian who helped us examine a census and find details about the people of Midsomer Norton over 100 years ago. This involved decoding the old handwriting and using deduction. He taught us how to recognise facts we know for certain and separate these from things we assume. Our Geckos behaved beautifully and responded very impressively to a range of questions and tasks.

Secondly, among all our other lessons, we explored the timeline and how enormous it is when we consider BC. Although we have introduced Prehistory as our new topic, we also revisited The Gunpowder Plot ahead of the end of week. Apparently, our Geckos have a fascination with all things gruesome as they had many questions about the torture and execution part! Naturally, we then discussed why such a plot was devised and how our government has changed since then. This leaves us with a solid foundation to build on throughout UK Parliament Week this week... I can't wait to see how our future leaders get on!



## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Details
Wednesday 8th November	Wessex Water Visit	Year 1 & Year 2
Thursday 9th November	Wessex Water Visit	Reception & Year 3
Monday 13th November	Photo order deadline	Please order online only. All forms have been sent home.
Wednesday 15th November	Cheddar Gorge Trip	Year 3
Friday 17th November	Bath Uni China Society Visit	Year 1
Tuesday 21st November	Preschool-Learn with me	2-3pm Please see the SchoolPing
Wednesday 22nd November	Preschool-Learn with me	2-3pm Please see the SchoolPing
Thursday 30th November	Bath uni Asia workshop	Year 1
Wednesday 6th December	Xmas production 2-3pm	Curiosity Corner further details to follow
Friday 8th December	Term 2 clubs finish	All clubs finish
Tuesday 12th December	Xmas production 5.30-6.30pm	Year 1- details to follow
Wednesday 13th December	Xmas production 5.30-6.30pm	Year 2- details to follow
Thursday 14th December	Xmas production 5.30-6.30pm	Reception-details to follow
Monday 18th December	Xmas production 5.30-6.30pm	Year 3- details to follow
Tuesday 19th December	No after School Club	No After School Club
Tuesday 19th December	Term Ends	All

### Office News

#### Absence

If your child is off school, it is very important you phone by 9am on the morning of absence to tell us why. If you leave a message or email please give a brief description of why your child is off. Our statutory duty is to call you if you have only advised us that your child is ill.

#### School Meals

Please remember to book your school meals by Midnight on Thursdays for the following week. Unfortunately, if you miss this deadline we will be unable to provide a meal and you will need to send your child with a packed lunch.

#### Wraparound Care

All wraparound care bookings should now be made via ParentPay. Tax Free Childcare payments will be allocated in ParentPay on Thursday.