NORTHSTEAD NEWS

Issue 7 31 March 2023

Message from the Headteacher

As the daffodils begin to bloom and the weather finally starts to warm up, we have a lot to be thankful for and celebrate from the spring term. As is the case every minute of every day in school, our staff team tirelessly provide their very best for every child in our community. I thank each and every one of them for their dedication, perseverance, understanding, patience and their overall commitment to our school and our community. Without each cog in the system, our school would simply not work.







During our training day in January, Mrs Linsdell introduced a new approach to writing that we have implemented over the course of this term. The evidence so far shows that the children's progress in writing is improving. In fact, writing attainment at the end of Spring term has gone up on average by 8% in each year group. Well done to the staff team on the hard work of implementing a new way of working and to the children on improving their writing. How can you help with your child's progress in writing? Read, read and read. The more you read, the more you will know. The more you know, the easier it becomes to write. Thanks for your continued support with this.



Fingers crossed that the recent spurt of sickness is now past us and our attendance as a school continues to improve. Our attendance in the Autumn term was 92.86% and to date as I write this, our attendance for the Spring term is 93.48%. This brings our year to date figure up to 93.13%.

Many thanks to everyone for continuing to support high attendance in school. We have set an ambitious target of reaching an attendance of 95% for the summer term with the aim to bring our yearly attendance up to just short of 94%.



Please remember to book a time slot to visit your child's class teacher(s). A great opportunity to view their learning and to discuss the progress they have made this year.



It is with great sadness that we announce the departure of some of the dedicated members of our staff team. Leaving us at Easter will be Mr Jack Kilner and Mrs Dawn Crow.

Having worked at Northstead for many years, we wish them all the very best for their future endeavours and thank them whole-heartedly for the contribution they have made to the education and support for the children of Northstead during their employment with us.

Retiring...

We are also saying a big goodbye to one of our cleaning operatives at the end of this term. Ruth Sweetlove has been with us for a number of years and we wish her well as she ventures into retirement. A big thank you from all of the Northstead staff team.



Planting

Many thanks to our friends at the Woodland trust for providing us with equipment and trees recently. We are now hoping the saplings take off and we are able to successfully grow a number of trees around the grounds. Not only will they provide shade in the summer months, but they will also provide valuable habitats for local insects and birds.

Congratulations to Miss Colmer on the safe arrival of a baby girl. Sending lots of love and best wishes to her and her family.





Removal of 'Dojo' Messaging as a school

Unfortunately, there have been many incidents throughout 2022-23 where the class dojo messaging tool has been used by parents / carers to communicate with staff at times way outside of their normal working hours or to try and communicate with staff during teaching time leading to missed messages or important messages not being relayed correctly.

There have also been several occasions when class dojo has been used like a social media site with varied comments being made which have resulted in staff's wellbeing being negatively impacted. This is not what class dojo is for.

Therefore, in order to protect the wellbeing and workload of our staff, the following changes are being made to class dojo immediately after Easter.

As a school we will:

Continue to use class dojo as a positive reward tool in school with children earning dojos.

Continue to share class stories to share learning and information about your child's year group.

Contact parents / carers by telephone in the first instance or send an e-mail through our office systems (scholarpack).

Meet with parents and carers more regularly in person or on the phone.

As a school we will not:

Write or reply to any messages on class dojo. (We expect parents to do the same).

Parents and Carers will:

Communicate with their child's class teacher by calling the school office on 01723 362249 to arrange an appointment or see their child's class teacher at the end of the school day. (Always leave a voicemail if not answered.

You may also send written messages into school on paper, if you want to share information immediately with the class teacher or relay a message to a member of staff who is on duty on a morning.

Class dojo will still remain in school but the messaging service will not be monitored. Please do not try and use it to contact school in any way after Easter.



Year 5 Perform Mary Poppins for their Penpals

On Monday, Age UK came into school to visit their penpal who they have been writing to over the past 4 months. Year 5 performed for our guests followed by cake, sharing and celebrating the children's schoolwork and enjoying each others company. It was a truly magical morning full of community spirit and happiness. One lady told us when she receives her letter it is the highlight of her year. This was set up to bring the old and young together and tackle loneliness and Monday it certainly did this! We are extremely lucky to be part of such a wonderful experience and look forward to inviting them back.

5MY were on BBC Radio York and in the Scarborough Evening News which was a huge treat. Please do look out for us in the paper.







5CD won the North Yorkshire Coast Rocks TTRockstar competition out of 151 classes taking part.









TTRockstar Day was a huge success. The children looked fantastic and enjoyed spending time budding up with other year groups. It was wonderful to watch how kind and supportive all of the children were with each other. EYFS and Year 1 spent time with Year 5 and Year 4 using the WhiteRose minute maths app. It is free to download and is a great resource. All other year groups spent time exploring the TTRockstar app/ website. If your child needs their password to access the site at home, please ask your child's teacher.



EASTER EGG STORY TRAIL

2nd - 7th April 2023



Esplanade (opposite Pitch & Putt)





Get set to follow the trail...
...discover the eggs that tell the tale!



Scan the codes to watch the amazing
Easter Bible story unfold on your phone
- told by an 'eyewitness' cast!

Just turn up between 2nd & 7th April.

Have fun spotting the eggs and cracking the case in the delightful Shuttleworth Gardens!

The trail team will be in the gardens with Easter treats for families taking the trail:
WEDS 5th APRIL: 1pm - 2.30pm
THURS 6th APRIL: 10.30am -12 noon







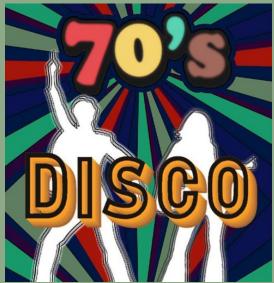
Vacancies—General Teaching Assistant

Please see information about current vacancies here...

https://www.northsteadprimary.co.uk/job-vacancies

Please be aware that there is an extra bank holiday on Monday 8th May due to the King's Coronation. School will be closed on this day.





A huge Thank You to Mrs Squire for organising the 70s disco which was held in conjunction with Gladstone Road School.

Her hard work is very much appreciated and the night was a great success. A grand total of £972.67 was raised for Northstead school funds which the children will benefit greatly from.

Thanks to everyone who supported the event.

Contact Details

Please could you make sure that school are kept up to date with any changes in address / phone number / e-mail so we have your current details on our system.

Many Thanks









Upcoming dates for your diary

Monday 17th April School re-opens after Easter Holidays

Tuesday 18th April Parents Evening

Wednesday 19th April Primary School Offer Day

Thursday 20th April Cross Country SRUFC

5ES & 5CD Danby Trip

Tuesday 25th April 5MY Danby Trip

Monday 1st May School Closed—May Day

Monday 8th May School Closed—King's Coronation

Tuesday 9th—Friday 12th May Year 6 SATS

