



# Northowram Primary School Newsletter

Inspiring Success Beyond Expectation

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Spotlight on.....Music!



WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE 2025



Music is such an important subject in our curriculum and we aim to inspire a life-long love of Music and nurture children's talents as musicians. All classes have weekly music lessons and year 3 and 4 have weekly class instrumental lessons taught by a music specialist. Many children also have instrumental lessons in school provided by Calderdale Music and now is the time to book lessons for the coming academic year – you can sign up for a wide range of instrumental tuition here:

<https://www.calderdalemusic.co.uk/music-lessons/>

Performing and experiencing performances is also a key part of our Music curriculum and we would like to wish our lovely KS2 choir (pictured) luck as they rehearse for their Voices Together concert at the Victoria Theatre in July.

Over the last two weeks, children have also enjoyed musical performances from some amazing musicians from within our parents and families – a huge thank you to Keiran Nicholl (pictured) who entertained us all with his impressive Ed Sheeran tribute music and also to Ian Fantom who (assisted by Helen Fantom) gave us a magical experience of a piano recital of his own compositions – children were enchanted by both of these very special experiences.

Last Friday, we were also treated to a special drumming concert with amazing performances from our own talented pupils: congratulations Wilf, Bodhi, Louie, Ben, Tyler Noah and Joshua and thanks to our drumming teachers David Heywood and Stephen Drinkwater for giving us a drumming masterclass (pictured). If you have any questions about music (including instrumental tuition), please contact our Music leaders in school Mrs. Masheder and Mrs. Ledger.

*Jane Scardifield*



## Stop Press - Breaking News!

### Library - a sneak peak!

We are delighted to let you know that it is not long now until our new library will be arriving! We have had a long-held dream to create a library right in the heart of our school which will benefit all children from Nursery through to year 6. A school library is far more than just a room filled with books. We hope our new library will be a vibrant hub of learning, imagination, and discovery. A well-resourced library provides a quiet space for focused reading and research, encourages independent learning, and supports our curriculum across all subjects. More importantly, it nurtures a lifelong love of reading—a cornerstone of academic success and personal growth.



Our vision is to create a modern, inclusive library that serves all pupils. This space will not only include a rich and diverse collection of books but also provide quiet study areas, storytelling corners, and reading initiatives that inspire curiosity and creativity. We are currently in the design stages and hope that it will be installed over the Summer holidays (or at October half term depending on timescales of the installers). We just can't wait!



### PTFA

Our grateful thanks go again to our lovely PTFA for arranging the fathers' day gifts to celebrate all the super-hero men in our children's lives - I know how much these were appreciated!

## Increase in technology

Children in school benefit from laptops and iPads which they use for their computing curriculum and to enhance learning in other subject areas. We are pleased to let you know that we have now received delivery of two class sets (64 in total) of Chromebooks which will go into circulation from September to allow much greater capacity for children to use these to support their learning across the curriculum.



## New classroom designs

As we approach the end of the Summer term, the summer holidays are set to be a busy period in school! Following the success of our case study in year 5 of using altered colour schemes, lighting and zoning within classrooms, we are excited to completely re-design and decorate our two year 6 classrooms. Following extensive research, we have allocated budget for two new-look classrooms which will be distinctly different to our usual classroom designs.



With flexible seating arrangements, fresh soft colour pallets and an emphasis on calming, comfort and nurture, we hope that next year's year 6 will enjoy and benefit from this different approach to classroom design. We have based our design principles on the Therapeutic classrooms approach - if you would like to read more about this, more information about this can be found here on this Therapeutic Classrooms Website:

<https://www.tpctherapy.co.uk/therapeutic-classrooms/>

We can't wait for you to see them!





Year 6 children thoroughly enjoyed their final time in Forest School before they begin their new adventures in Secondary School. All children enjoyed a 'Forest School Experience Day' where they were fully immersed in outdoor learning and play for the whole day – making dens, braiding forest school friendship bracelets and cooking and eating lunch in the fresh air! Year 6 always remind me that you're never too old for imaginative play and that forest school cannot be beaten for the impact it has on positive team-work and productive relationships. We're glad you enjoyed your time in Forest school year 6!



## Staffing and Transition

We have now shared with you and the children next year's teacher staffing. We bid farewell to Mrs Kelly and Miss Durn at the end of this term and wish them love and luck as they commence their maternity leaves and we welcome two new teachers into school – Miss Dyson and Miss Morris.

All our teachers are looking forward to meeting their new classes on the morning of Friday 4th July where children will get a flavour of what they can look forward to after the Summer holidays.



Visiting art galleries is a wonderful way for children to explore creativity, imagination, and the world around them. As part of children's trips and visits, children have 2 Art-themed visits during their time with us. We are very lucky in this region to have some nationally and internationally renowned Art galleries and parks within easy reach! This term, our pupils have enjoyed exciting art adventures beyond the classroom. Year 1 had a fantastic day at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, where they explored large outdoor sculptures and discovered how art can be part of nature.

Meanwhile, Year 6 visited the Hepworth Gallery in Wakefield, where they were inspired by contemporary artworks and learned about famous local artist Barbara Hepworth. These visits help develop a lifelong appreciation of art and encourage children to express themselves in new and creative ways.

## YEAR 6

### HEPWORTH GALLERY VISIT, WAKEFIELD



## YEAR 1

### YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK VISIT





## Attendance



We have seen an increase in the number of holiday request forms recently and therefore we would just like to remind you that, where children have been absent from school owing to a holiday, this will not be authorised and, if there are more than 5 days within a 10 week period, a penalty notice will be issued.

Further discussions with our Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) have also indicated that penalty issues may be issued outside of this 10 week period and that these will be assessed on an individual basis.

Where there have been any days of illness attached to a holiday period, we will refer this onto the EWO who will expect to see evidence that you were not on holiday during this time – this may be a holiday booking, flight tickets etc.

If your child's absence drops below 90%, this will also be referred to and discussed with the EWO. Please do get in touch if you are concerned about your child's attendance.



## Online safety for younger children

Introducing Techosaurus!

With children being exposed to technology at an increasingly younger age, the NSPCC have created a guide for how to broach this with our younger children. They have produced resources and videos for parents and children to support with some possibly daunting conversations which may need to happen around using technology safely.

[Help keep children safe online with Techosaurus! NSPCC](#)

## Suncream, water and hats!

We have welcomed the return of Summer sunshine recently in school! Please remember that children are out for lunchtime play for an hour at the warmest part of the day and suncream is a must to protect your children's skin against sun damage. Children may bring sunscreen to school and apply this themselves (please teach your children how to do this) but most good quality sunscreens protect for long periods and we find it best for sunscreen to be applied at home before arriving at school.

Keeping hydrated is also especially important in these warmer months so please ensure your child has a suitable (and inexpensive!) water bottle which they bring to school each day. Sun hats or caps of any kind are encouraged in school and we will remind children to wear these before play sessions. Thank you!



## Water safety in summer

As the weather heats up, more families take up activities which involve water.

Our Year 5 children have recently completed their water safety lesson as part of their swimming lessons. I am sure many of you remember swimming in your pyjamas yourself.

We would like all of our children to remain safe during the summer months and this guide from the Royal Lifesaving Society provides some really useful advice about how to have fun safely in water.

Water safety advice for you and your families  
Royal Life Saving Society UK ( RLSS UK )

## ALWAYS FOLLOW THE WATER SAFETY CODE



Whenever you are around water:



In an emergency:



Enjoy Water Safely

Learn basic lifesaving and CPR skills.  
Visit [www.rlss.org.uk](http://www.rlss.org.uk)

