

NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY - Newsletter

5th December 2025

Headteacher's Weekly Awards - WELL DONE TO OUR STARS OF THE WEEK

All the children get a special mention in the Achievement assembly on Friday and will bring home a certificate detailing the reason for their award.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Eli Sumayah	Olivia Orion	Aashi Wyatt	Theodore Mason	Farhan Charlie	Archie Brantley	Jaiden Hallie	Carter Delilah

This week has been a busy and joyful one in school, with the children working incredibly hard—especially practicing for their Christmas shows! Their enthusiasm, creativity, and teamwork have been shining through, and we cannot wait for you to see all they have been preparing.

The next two weeks promise to be especially exciting. We begin on **Monday after school**, when we will be welcoming a **very special visitor**! From there, the festive fun continues with:

- ✨ **Christmas show performances** by the children
- 🎵 **Carol concerts**
- 🎭 **Theatre visits**
- 🎩 **A magician visit**
- 🎬 **A cosy movie afternoon**
- 🎁 **Parties for every class**, complete with another **very special guest** delivering presents!

We are truly grateful for the magic this season brings to our school community.

A polite reminder:

To help us make these wonderful experiences possible, we kindly ask for your continued support with voluntary contributions. Every little bit helps, and we are incredibly appreciative of your generosity. **Thank you for everything you do.**

Supporting Children with Screen Time:

We know managing screen time can be tricky—especially at this busy time of year. Below, you will find some helpful information and tips to support healthy screen habits at home. Limiting screen time is important for children's wellbeing, sleep, and learning, and we appreciate your partnership in helping them find a good balance.



Games We Love!

In school, some children have been enjoying traditional games such as **dominoes**, which has sparked lots of conversation and teamwork. We would love to hear about the games you play at home—board games, card games, puzzles, anything! Please feel free to share these with us so we can talk about them in class and maybe even try a few together.



After School Clubs: If you were able to complete the survey then your child has a place on the club. If you missed out for any clubs please check with the school office to see if we have any spaces or to add your child to the waiting list.

Wishing you all a warm, festive, and joyful week ahead.

Children should be in school by 8.45am if you arrive after this time you are late!

Well done to Reception, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 for achieving their attendance target – let's see if every class can achieve this next week!

Our attendance policy is on our website here

<https://www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk/page/policies/25098>

Punctuality and Attendance

Please remember school starts at **8:45am** – Doors will be open from 8.35am. Children arriving after 8.55am must enter through the school office and be signed in.

Last week's attendance – Our School target and individual pupil target is 96%

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Class attendance award	85	94	93	98	91	94	85	96	92
Late arrivals	3	7	5	5	6	6	4	4	40

School communication: Please ensure you are logged into your school spider app so that you receive all the important messages we send out. If you need to download the app again, its 'School Spider' and then you can simply go to the log in page and click forgot password to reset your log in details.

Contacting School: If you wish to contact school then you can email us on northwalkdenprimary.pupilcontact@northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk and we will respond the same day or call 0161 921 2921.

'POSITIVE APPROACHES TO BEHAVIOUR'

TRANSITIONS FROM SCREENS WITHOUT MELTDOWNS

WHEN TURNING SCREENS OFF FEELS IMPOSSIBLE

Screens offer predictability, dopamine, focus and a strong sense of control. For many, especially neurodivergent young people, switching them off isn't a simple request — it's a sudden neurological drop. What looks like refusal is often a nervous system overwhelmed by the shift from digital engagement to real-world demands.

WHEN THE BRAIN NEEDS TIME TO ADJUST

Two-step warnings give the brain space to prepare. "In five minutes we're finishing, and then it's time for dinner" helps reduce the shock factor. Without warning, the transition can trigger fight, flight or freeze responses, because it feels abrupt, confusing and dysregulating.

WHEN TIME NEEDS TO BE VISIBLE

Visual timers minimise arguments because they make time concrete. Many neurodivergent children experience time blindness, so a countdown they can see externalises the demand. It also removes the adult from the role of 'time enforcer', which instantly reduces tension.



WHEN CONNECTION COMES BEFORE DIRECTION

Co-regulation before the transition changes everything. Sitting beside them, noticing what they're doing, or offering a gentle cue helps shift their nervous system into a safer state. A regulated adult creates a regulated pathway out of hyperfocus.

WHEN THE BODY NEEDS A BRIDGE

Sensory bridges support the physical shift. Stretching, standing up, cold water on hands, a favourite fidget, or a quick movement break helps reset dopamine levels and ease the jump from screen focus to the next activity. Think of it as a warm-up for the nervous system.

WHEN RITUALS MAKE LIFE SMOOTHER

Predictable, repeated end routines like "pause → save → stretch → drink → next activity" give the child something familiar to anchor to. These rituals reduce anxiety and establish a rhythm the brain can rely on every time, making meltdowns far less likely.

FOR A COPY OF A BITESIZE INFORMATION SHEET, HEALTHY SCREEN HABITS, COMMENT SCREEN IN THE COMMENTS.

THURSDAY 18 TH DECEMBER	SCHOOL CLOS	2PM	WHOLE SCHOOL
DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TIME	CLASS/STAFF
MONDAY 5 TH JANUARY	SCHOOL RE OPENS	8.45AM	ALL CLASSES
THURSDAY 8 TH JANUARY	YEAR 5 AND 6 EXTRA PE	1-3PM	YEAR 5 AND 6 CLASSES
FRIDAY 9 TH JANUARY	SWIMMING LESSONS BEGIN FOR YEAR 4	1.3PM	YEAR 4
WEDNESDAY 14 TH JANUARY	YEAR 4 FAMILY TIME WORKSHOP	9-10AM	YEAR 4 PARENTS WELCOME
THURSDAY 15 TH JANUARY	YEAR 3 EXTRA PE SESSION	1-2	YEAR 3
FRIDAY 16 TH JANUARY	YEAR 6 VISITING STOCKPORT AIR RAID SHELTER	9-3	YEAR 6
THURSDAY 22 ND JANUARY	YEAR 1 AND 2 EXTRA PE SESSIONS	1-3	YEAR 1 AND 2 CLASSES
WEEK BEGINNING 26 TH JANUARY	'WORLD OF WORK WEEK' IN SCHOOL	ALL WEEK	ALL CLASSES
WEDNESDAY 4 TH FEBRUARY	ALTRU DRAMA WORKSHOPS	9-3	YEAR 1 YEAR 5 YEAR 6
THURSDAY 5 TH FEBRUARY	NURSERY STAY AND PLAY SESSION	9AM OR 1PM ON A BOOKING SYSTEM	NURSERY PARENTS WELCOME
WEEK BEGINNING 9 TH FEBRUARY	MENTAL HEALTH WEEK	ALL WEEK	WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
WEDNESDAY 11 TH FEBRUARY	RECEPTION VALENTINES WORKSHOP	9-10	RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 11 TH FEBRUARY	VALENTINES DISCO	2-3 EYFS 3.30-4.30- KS1 5-6.30- KS2	WHOLE SCHOOL- DETAILS TO FOLLOW
FRIDAY 13 TH FEBRUARY	NON UNIFORM DAY FOR £1 DONATION	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
FRIDAY 13 TH FEBRUARY	SCHOOL CLOS	3.15PM	WHOLE SCHOOL
DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TIME	CLASS/STAFF
MONDAY 23 RD FEBRUARY	SCHOOL RE OPENS	8.45AM	WHOLE SCHOOL
THURSDAY 26 TH FEBRUARY	YEAR 2 TRIP TO EUREKA	9-3PM	YEAR 2
THURSDAY 26 TH FEBRUARY	EXTRA PE FOR YEARS 5 AND 6	1-3PM	YEARS 5 AND 6
WEDNESDAY 4 TH MARCH	YEAR 3 FAMILY TIME WORKSHOP	9-10AM	YEAR 3 PARENTS WELCOME

THURSDAY 5 TH MARCH	WORLD BOOK DAY	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
THURSDAY 5 TH MARCH	ALTRU DRAMA WORKSHOPS	ALL DAY	ALL KEY STAGES
WEDNESDAY 11 TH MARCH	CRUCIAL CREW TRIP	12 – 3PM	YEAR 5
THURSDAY 12 TH MARCH	EXTRA PE FOR YEAR 3	1-2PM	YEAR 3
FRIDAY 13 TH MARCH	EXTRA PLAY IN EXCHANGE FOR A DONATION FOR THE EASTER HAMPER	VARIOUS TIMES	WHOLE SCHOOL
WEEK BEGINNING 16 TH MARCH	ASSESSMENT WEEK FOR YEARS 1-6	ALL WEEK	YEARS 1-6
THURSDAY 19 TH MARCH	EXTRA PE FOR YEARS 1 AND 2	1-3PM	YEAR 1 AND 2
FRIDAY 20 TH MARCH	RED NOSE DAY	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
MONDAY 23 RD MARCH	HAMPER TICKETS GO ON SALE	2 WEEKS	ALL WELCOME TO BUY TICKETS
MONDAY 23 RD MARCH	PARENTS EVENING PHONECALLS	330-4.30PM	WHOLE SCHOOL – DETAILS TO FOLLOW
WEDNESDAY 25 TH MARCH	PARENTS EVENING – FACE TO FACE CONSULTATIONS	3.30-6.30PM	WHOLE SCHOOL- DETAILS TO FOLLOW
THURSDAY 26 TH MARCH	NURSERY STAY AND PLAY	9AM OR 1PM BOOKING SYSTEM	NURSERY PARENTS WELCOME
THURSDAY 26 TH MARCH	YEAR 5 EASTER CHURCH VISIT	1-3	YEAR 5
TUESDAY 31 ST MARCH	JUNGLE BOOK THEATRE PERFORMANCE £2 DONATION PER CHILD	9.15AM	NURSERY-YEAR 6
TUESDAY 31 ST MARCH	EYFS AND KEY STAGE 1 EASTER HAT PARADE	BRING DECORATED HATS TO SCHOOL	EYFS AND KEY STAGE 1 CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 1 ST APRIL	EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE DRAW	2PM	SCHOOL COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY 1 ST APRIL	KEY STAGE 2 EGG DISPLAY COMPETITION	BRING ANY EGG DISPLAYS TO THE HALL 9AM	KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN WELCOME TO ENTER
THURSDAY 2 ND APRIL	NON UNIFORM DAY FOR £1 DONATION	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
THURSDAY 2 ND APRIL	SCHOOL CLOSING FOR EASTER HOLIDAY	2PM	WHOLE SCHOOL

Kind regards, Mrs Warburton