

NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY – Aiming High, Striving for Excellence

Newsletter – 20th March 2026

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
Amelya Abel	Selina Teddy	William Riley	William Kurtis	Noah Scarlett	Alice Oscar Mo	Georgie Alexis	Zack Ezmae

Scooters and Bikes: For the safety of all children, staff, and families, please ensure that children do not ride scooters or bikes within the school grounds. We kindly ask that all scooters and bicycles are pushed once you enter the premises. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep everyone safe.



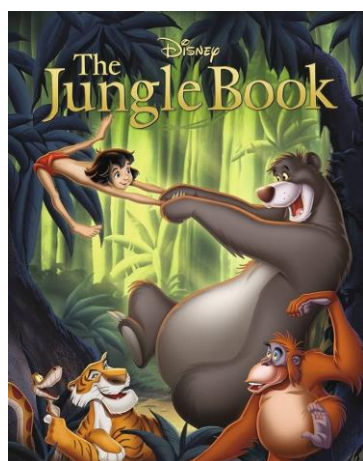
At school, we had a fantastic time celebrating Red Nose Day, with children coming in dressed in red to show their support. It was wonderful to see everyone getting involved, raising awareness, and having fun for a great cause. The day helped the children understand the importance of helping others and working together to make a difference. If you would still like to donate, please visit the official page here:

<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday>

Parents Evenings: Parents Evenings are being held next Monday and Wednesday, **all appointments are face to face in school.** This is your LAST CHANCE to book your appointment for Parents’ Evening through **Arbor**. Attending is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child’s progress and achievements with their teachers. It’s quick and easy to book—simply log in, go to the **Guardian Consultations** section, and choose your preferred time slot.



If you experience any difficulties booking, please contact the school office and we will be happy to assist. Thank you for supporting your child’s learning.



Jungle Book Performance: On Tuesday 31st March the whole school will be watching a wonderful performance from M&M Theatre Company - we are asking for a contribution of £2 per pupil to contribute towards the costs which are also subsidised by school. This is a family-friendly, energetic production based on Rudyard Kipling's classic story. The production features colourful costumes, a mix of singing, and performances and a workshop element for the audience. This will be a fantastic experience for the children. If you have not already done so please can you make your contribution on the Evolve Hub. The payment will disappear once it has been made so if it is still listed we would really appreciate your support. Thank you

Non Uniform Day: The last day of term is non-uniform day in exchange for a £1 donation. If your child wishes to come in their own clothes please send in your £1 donation towards schools fundraising. If it is easier for you, you can pay for all 6 non-uniform days on Evolve. This payment will disappear once paid so if it is still showing you can make life easier and do it all in one go! Thank you for your support.



Bookstart: This week our Nursery children received their Bookstart packs. Bookstart packs play a vital role in supporting early reading and language development. These packs, which include age-appropriate books, guidance for parents, and fun literacy activities, help introduce young children to the joy of stories from an early age. By giving every child access to books at home, Bookstart helps to create positive reading habits, strengthen communication skills, and build a strong foundation for future learning. For many families, these packs can make a significant difference by encouraging shared reading experiences and boosting children's confidence with language. Overall, Bookstart is an important initiative that promotes equality in education and helps ensure that all children have the opportunity to develop essential literacy skills from the very beginning. We hope you enjoy some special times reading together.



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, AND YEAR 4 WHO ACHIEVED THEIR CLASS ATTENDANCE TARGET

Well done to Reception and Year 4 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	93	97 SILVER	92	99 GOLD	97 SILVER	98 SILVER	90	94	95
Late arrivals	2	4	8	3	7	8	11	7	49

School communication: Please ensure you are logged into your Arbor app so that you receive all the important messages we send out. If you need to download the app again, its 'Arbor' 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.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AMIGO

Amigo is a social platform which purports to connect strangers from around the world – and, with built-in translation software, it reduces the expected language barriers. Focusing heavily on one-to-one chat, video calls and live streams, Amigo encourages its users to build up online relationships and unlock exclusive features such as private video and audio calls: essentially, the more that people chat, the more functions become available to them. This is an app designed with mature users very much in mind and is therefore definitely not recommended for children.

AGE RATING
18

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONE-TO-ONE COMMUNICATION

While online chats and livestreaming are a great way to communicate with people that children can trust (such as friends and family), Amigo encourages users to connect with complete strangers and develop a friendship through private chats, calls and videos. This will be a clear red flag for most parents, due to the possibility of a child encountering inappropriate content or an online predator.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTACT

Within minutes of signing up for our trial of Amigo (and without using a profile photo), users of the opposite sex were messaging with suggestive statements such as "You're just my type" and "Let's have fun". While the app's stated intent is to help people build friendships, some users obviously seek to take those relationships in a more mature and amorous direction.

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Like many apps that are free to download, Amigo's business model is centred on in-app purchases. Users are encouraged to pay for VIP membership – enabling them to send more messages each day and boosting their profile's visibility. People can also buy coins (again, for real money) which allow them to send virtual gifts and further increase the number of messages they can send daily.

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Amigo makes no secret of the fact that it's for people aged 18 or above. There's no age verification, however, so a young person could simply sign up under a false date of birth. The app's algorithm claims to match users of similar ages (making them more compatible), but either the algorithm isn't very reliable, or most users have entered a fake age which doesn't correspond with their profile pic.

REWARDS FOR REPEATED USE

Amigo gifts virtual coins to users if they reply to messages within 10 seconds, while there are also daily rewards for posting comments, sharing a video, getting likes or simply opening the app. It also encourages increasing 'intimacy levels' with other users to unlock extra features: once someone's online 'friendship' reaches intimacy level 3, they can hold one-to-one video calls with each other.

Advice for Parents & Carers

MONITOR DOWNLOADS

As well as frequent catch-ups with your child about what they've enjoyed doing online, you could consider taking the additional step of physically checking their phone every so often to see which apps they've installed. The safest option could be to enable 'ask to buy' (Apple) or 'purchase approvals' (Android) on their device, meaning your authorisation is needed to download any apps.

BLOCK, REPORT, DISCUSS

Many children already know that connecting with strangers online is dangerous, but it never hurts to refresh their memory. Whatever communication apps your child uses, make sure they're fully aware that if anything online makes them feel uncomfortable, scared or upset, then they can block the user responsible, report the content, take a screenshot as evidence and come to tell you straight away.

RESPECT AGE RESTRICTIONS

Apps have age restrictions for a reason, and Amigo is very definitely a mature content platform. Given that many of Amigo's users apparently use a bogus date of birth, they might want to remind your child about the implications of setting up a fake profile – such as being exposed to messages and videos that make them feel uncomfortable or feeling pressured into chatting with strangers.

ACTIVE LISTENING

If your child does approach you with a concern, make time to stop what you're doing and actively listen. Let them talk without interrupting or showing any judgement, then discuss their options and the possible solutions: this empowers them and reassures them that you're there to be supportive. If the issue is one that has put your child at risk, however, you may wish to contact the police.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

FRIDAY 15 TH MAY	YEAR 3 TRIP TO 'BRING YER WELLIES' Please ensure you have given consent on Arbor and paid your contribution on Evolve.	9-3PM	YEAR 3
THURSDAY 21 ST MAY	YEAR 1 CHURCH VISIT	1-3	YEAR 1
THURSDAY 21 ST MAY	SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR HALF TERM	3.15PM	WHOLE SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY 3 RD JUNE	SCHOOL RE-OPENS	8.45AM	WHOLE SCHOOL
FRIDAY 5 TH JUNE	COLOURED ITEM DONATION FOR SUMMER FAIR STALL IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAY	ALL DAY	EACH CLASS TO BRING A DIFFERENT COLOURED LUXURY ITEM- TBC
WEDNESDAY 10 TH JUNE	YEAR 1 FAMILY TIME WORKSHOP	9-10	YEAR 1 PARENTS WELCOME
FRIDAY 12 TH JUNE	YEAR 6 TIME ODYSSEY TRIP - Please ensure you have given consent on Arbor and paid your contribution on Evolve.	9-3	YEAR 6
FRIDAY 12 TH JUNE	BOTTLE DONATION FOR SUMMER FAIR IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAY	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
WEEK BEGINNING 15 TH JUNE	YEAR 6 BIKEABILITY	ALL WEEK VARIOUS TIMES AND GROUPS	YEAR 6
MONDAY 15 TH JUNE	YEAR 5 WATERSPORTS DAY AT SALFORD QUAYS - Please ensure you have given consent on Arbor and paid your contribution on Evolve.	9-3	YEAR 5
TUESDAY 16 TH JUNE	YEAR 5 WATERSPORTS DAY AT SALFORD QUAYS	9-3	YEAR 5
WEDNESDAY 17 TH JUNE	RECEPTION CLASS ASSEMBLY	9AM	RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME
THURSDAY 18 TH JUNE	CHOCOLATE DONATION FOR SUMMER FAIR IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAY	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
THURSDAY 18 TH JUNE	YEAR 2 CHURCH VISIT	1-3	YEAR 2
FRIDAY 19 TH JUNE	SUMMER FAIR AT SCHOOL	3.30-5.30PM	EVERYBODY WELCOME – PLEASE COME ALONG AND SUPPORT !!
TUESDAY 23 RD JUNE	YEAR 5 WATERSPORTS AT SALFORD QUAYS	9-3	YEAR 5
TUESDAY 23 RD JUNE	YEAR 4 TRIP TO LLANDUDNO - Please ensure you have given consent on Arbor and paid your contribution on Evolve.	8-5PM	YEAR 4
WEDNESDAY 24 TH JUNE	NEW NURSERY AND RECEPTION PARENTS MEETING AND VISITING THE CLASSROOM	5PM	NEW PARENTS
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 25 TH AND 26 TH JUNE	YEAR 6 HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION DAYS FOR MOST SCHOOL- PARENTS WILL BE ADVISED	ALL DAY	YEAR 6 CHILDREN DEPENDANT ON HIGH SCHOOL

WEEB BEGINNING 29 TH JUNE	NORTH WALKDEN'S 100 TH BIRTHDAY CLEBRATION WEEK OF FUN	ALL WEEK	ALL CLASSES
MONDAY 29 TH JUNE	NEW TO NURSERY PHONECALLS	1PM	RK
TUESDAY 30 TH JUNE	NEW TO NURSERY PHONECALLS	1PM	RK
THURSDAY 2 ND JULY	YEAR 6 VISIT TO CHURCH	1-3PM	YEAR 6
THURSDAY 2 ND JULY	NEW TO RECEPTION PHONECALLS	1PM	CLB
FRIDAY 3 RD JULY	100 YEAR BIRTHDAY TEA PARTY	1-3PM	CHILDREN STAFF AND GOVERNORS
MONDAY 6 TH JULY	ONLINE SAFETY SESSION FOR YEAR 5 AND 6 – Parents are invited to the assembly and for an additional session afterwards to explore trends, usage and safety controls	9AM	YEAR 5 AND 6 Parents welcome
TUESDAY 7 TH JULY	NEW NURSERY CHILDREN X13 TO VISIT SCHOOL	9.15-10.15AM	NEW NURSERY
WEDNESDAY 8 TH JULY	NEW TO RECEPTION CHILDREN VISIT SCHOOL	9.15-10.15AM	NEW TO RECEPTION
THURSDAY 9 TH JULY	NEW NURSERY CHILDREN X13 TO VISIT SCHOOL	9.15AM-10.15AM	NEW NURSERY
THURSDAY 9 TH JULY	YEAR 3 TRIP TO CHESTER AND THE ROMAN MUSEUM - trip letter has been emailed to parents. Consent must be given on Arbor under 'Activities'	9-3PM	YEAR 3
THURSDAY 9 TH JULY	EYFS TEDDY BEARS PICNIC	TBC	EYFS CHILDREN
FRIDAY 10 TH JULY	ANNUAL REPORTS ISSUED TO PARENTS	3.15PM	WHOLE SCHOOL
TUESDAY 14 TH JULY	YEAR 2 TRIP TO MANCHESTER AIRPORT AVIAITON PARK – TRIP LETTER WILL BE EMAILED SOON	9-3PM	YEAR 2
TUESDAY 14 TH JULY	YEAR 6 LEAVERS SHOW FOR PARENTS	9.15AM	YEAR 6
WEDNESDAY 15 TH JULY	KEY STAGE 1 SPORTS MORNING	9.15AM	KEY STAGE 1 PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 15 TH JULY	NEW TO RECEPTION CHILDREN VISIT 2	9.15-10.15AM	NEW TO RECEPTION CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 15 TH JULY	YEAR 6 LEAVERS SHOW FOR PARENTS	2.15PM	YEAR 6
THURSDAY 16 TH JULY	EYFS SPORTS MORNING	9.15AM	EYFS PARENTS WELCOME
FRIDAY 17 TH JULY	KEY STAGE 2 SPORTS MORNING	9.15AM	KS2 PARENTS WELCOME
MONDAY 20 TH JULY	MOVE UP MORNING FOR ALL CHILDREN	9-10.30AM	WHOLE SCHOOL
MONDAY 20 TH JULY	KEY STAGE 2 TALENT SHOW	1-3	KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN WELCOME TO AUDITION
TUESDAY 21 ST JULY	BUMP AND BOUNCE FUN DAY FOR EYFS AND KS1	ALL DAY	EYFS AND KS1
TUESDAY 21 ST JULY	KEY STAGE 2 WATERPLAY AND GAMES AFTERNOON	1-3	KEY STAGE 2

WEDNESDAY 22 ND JULY	YEAR 6 LEAVERS ASSEMBLY	9AM	YEAR 6 PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 22 ND JULY	NON UNIFORM DAY FOR £1 DONATION	ALL DAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY 22 ND JULY	YEAR 6 END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION	10-3- VENUE TO BE CONFIRMED	YEAR 6
WEDNESDAY 22 ND JULY	SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR SUMMER	2PM	WHOLE SCHOOL

Kind regards, Mrs Warburton