

# NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY – Aiming High, Striving for Excellence

## Newsletter – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### End of Year Newsletter – July 2026

As we reach the end of another incredible school year and prepare to close for the summer holidays on **Wednesday 22nd July**, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your continued support throughout the year.

What a fantastic year it has been! Looking back, it is amazing to reflect on everything our children have achieved. From their very first days in September to the confidence, resilience and maturity they are showing now, it has been wonderful to see every child grow both academically and personally.

At North Walkden Primary School, we pride ourselves on providing opportunities that go far beyond the classroom. Throughout the year, our children have enjoyed a wealth of memorable experiences that have enriched their learning, developed new skills and created lasting memories.

### A Year Full of Opportunities

| Area                                        | Highlights from 2025-2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Educational Visits</b>                   | Year 6 Residential at Conover, Stockport Air Raid Shelters, Eureka!, Knowsley Safari Park, Imagine That, Crucial Crew, Greater Manchester Fire Service, Seven Acres, Smithills Farm, Manchester Museum, Bring Yer Wellies, Llandudno, Chester Roman Museum, Manchester Airport Aviation Park, Time Odyssey, Blackpool Tower, Blackpool Zoo, Church visits across the year, Total Ninja |
| <b>Performing Arts</b>                      | Altru Drama Workshops, Jungle Book Theatre Performance, Christmas productions, Year 6 Leavers' Show, Talent Show                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Sports &amp; Physical Activity</b>       | Swimming lessons, Bikeability, additional PE sessions across all year groups, Watersports at Salford Quays, Sports Mornings, Water Play, Bump and Bounce Fun Day                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Wellbeing &amp; Personal Development</b> | Mental Health Week, Family Time Workshops, Online Safety sessions, World of Work Week, School Council activities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Community &amp; Family Events</b>        | Stay and Play sessions, Meet the Teacher events, Parents' Evenings, Reading & Phonics workshops, Family workshops, Summer Fair                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Celebrations</b>                         | World Book Day, Red Nose Day, Harvest, Christmas celebrations, Easter activities, Halloween Disco, Valentine's Disco, Summer Fair and our unforgettable <b>100th Birthday Celebration Week</b>                                                                                                                                                                                         |

None of this would be possible without the dedication of our staff, governors, volunteers and, of course, your continued support as parents and carers.

It is an absolute privilege to lead North Walkden Primary School and to watch our children flourish each day. Seeing their confidence develop, friendships grow, talents emerge and aspirations rise is what makes this role so rewarding. We are incredibly fortunate to work alongside such wonderful children and such supportive families who truly value our school community.

### Looking Ahead to September:

As we prepare for another exciting academic year, there are two important developments we would like to make you aware of.

## Management of Allergies in School

From September, schools will be implementing new procedures relating to the management of allergies following the introduction of **Benedict's Law**.

Our updated Allergy Management Policy will be published next week, alongside a letter explaining what these changes mean for families. We kindly ask that all parents read the information carefully and give their consent on Arbor promptly to ensure we can safely administer emergency treatment where required. These changes are designed to further strengthen the safety and wellbeing of all children in our care.

## Attendance

Attendance continues to be a national priority and remains one of our key school improvement areas.

We are extremely proud that many of our children achieve excellent attendance throughout the year. However, as a whole, our school is currently below the attendance target that the Government identifies as giving children the very best opportunity to succeed in their education.

Every day in school matters. Missing school means missing valuable learning, opportunities to practise key skills and important social experiences. Research consistently shows a clear link between poor attendance and lower educational attainment. Even small amounts of absence can have a significant impact over time, making it harder for children to keep up with their learning, build confidence and achieve their full potential.

As a school, we have been asked to implement additional measures to improve attendance and to work even more closely with families to ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to succeed.

Over the summer, we will be reviewing and updating our Attendance Policy so that we can provide the best possible support for families while maintaining high expectations for attendance. The revised policy will be shared with parents in September, and we hope you will work in partnership with us as we continue to put our children's futures at the heart of everything we do.

Finally, I would like to thank you once again for your ongoing support, encouragement and partnership throughout another successful year.

Whether your child is returning to us in September or moving on to the next stage of their education, we wish every family a wonderful summer filled with fun, rest and special memories.

Stay safe, take care of one another, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting year at North Walkden Primary School.

## Summer Reading Challenge

Finally, we would like to encourage all of our families to take part in this year's **Summer Reading Challenge** at your local library.

As you know, **reading is the key to every child's education**. Strong reading skills unlock every area of learning, helping children to develop their vocabulary, imagination, confidence and understanding across the entire curriculum.

The Summer Reading Challenge is a fantastic opportunity to keep those important reading habits going over the holidays in a fun and exciting way. Children can set themselves a challenge, collect rewards along the way and discover new authors and books they may never have chosen before.

Summer holidays are the perfect time to curl up with a good book, enjoy stories together as a family and take a well-earned break from screens. Even reading for just 10–15 minutes each day can make a huge difference and helps children return to school in September ready to continue their learning with confidence.

We hope as many of our children as possible will take part, and we cannot wait to hear all about the wonderful books they have enjoyed when we return in September.

Thank you once again for your continued support throughout another successful year.

Have a safe, happy and restful summer, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another exciting year at North Walkden Primary School.

Have a fantastic summer!

Best wishes,

Mrs Warburton

### Summer Reading Challenge 2026

This summer, give your child the chance to fall in love with reading!

The Summer Reading Challenge, created by The Reading Agency and delivered in partnership with public libraries, is a FREE, fun-packed way to keep kids reading and learning all summer long.

This year's theme, Read to the Beat, and is powered by Universal Music Group UK. The Challenge will celebrate the joy of music and the power it has to move, inspire, and connect us – all through the magic of reading. The Challenge is being brought to life with illustrations by award-winning author and illustrator, Harry Woodgate.

#### How it works

Sign up for free at your [local salford library](#) from **Saturday 4th July 2026** and receive a Read to the Beat collector pack.

You'll get a special edition Read to the Beat sticker for your collector pack every time you visit or attend an event in the library or return a book.

There are 6 stickers to collect in total, and everyone who collects 6 stickers will receive a Summer Reading Challenge medal and certificate!

The Summer Reading challenge is open to all children from the ages of 4 to 11, it's completely free to take part, and you can update your progress through the Challenge at any library in the city.

You can read any library book you choose (stories, fact books, comics – they all count!). You can also read digital eBooks using our free [BorrowBox app](#).

**The summer reading challenge will end on Saturday 12th September.** [Summer Reading Challenge 2026 - SCL](#)  
Library Events over the summer [Summer 2026 at Salford Libraries - SCL](#) OR [What's On - SCL](#)



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

**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 | 92      | <b>99 GOLD</b> | 90     | <b>96 BRONZE</b> | 91     | 95     | 87     | 84     | 92           |
| Late arrivals          | 2       | 0              | 6      | 2                | 4      | 3      | 7      | 4      | <b>28</b>    |

**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](mailto:northwalkdenprimary.pupilcontact@northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk) and we will respond the same day or call 0161 921 2921.

**DIARY DATES:** Whilst we aim not to change dates once set sometimes circumstances mean we have to, please always check the dates each week and update your plans accordingly. Any changes will be highlighted.

| DATE                            | ACTIVITY/EVENT                            | TIME      | CLASS/STAFF                              |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------|
| MONDAY 20 <sup>TH</sup> JULY    | MOVE UP MORNING FOR ALL CHILDREN          | 9-10.30AM | WHOLE SCHOOL                             |
| MONDAY 20 <sup>TH</sup> JULY    | KEY STAGE 2 TALENT SHOW                   | 1-3       | KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN WELCOME TO AUDITION |
| TUESDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> JULY   | BUMP AND BOUNCE FUN DAY FOR EYFS AND KS1  | ALL DAY   | EYFS AND KS1                             |
| TUESDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> JULY   | KEY STAGE 2 WATERPLAY AND GAMES AFTERNOON | 1-3       | KEY STAGE 2                              |
| WEDNESDAY 22 <sup>ND</sup> JULY | YEAR 6 LEAVERS ASSEMBLY                   | 9AM       | YEAR 6 PARENTS WELCOME                   |
| WEDNESDAY 22 <sup>ND</sup> JULY | NON UNIFORM DAY FOR £1 DONATION           | ALL DAY   | WHOLE SCHOOL                             |

|                                           |                                  |                                   |                    |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| WEDNESDAY<br>22 <sup>ND</sup> JULY        | YEAR 6 END OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION | 10-3- VENUE<br>TO BE<br>CONFIRMED | YEAR 6             |
| WEDNESDAY<br>22 <sup>ND</sup> JULY        | SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR SUMMER        | 2PM                               | WHOLE<br>SCHOOL    |
| <b>DATE</b>                               | <b>ACTIVITY/EVENT</b>            | <b>TIME</b>                       | <b>CLASS/STAFF</b> |
| WEDNESDAY<br>2 <sup>ND</sup><br>SEPTEMBER | SCHOOL OPENS                     | 8.45                              | WHOLE<br>SCHOOL    |