

NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY – Aiming High, Striving for Excellence

Newsletter – 16th October 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
Rio Jiyana	Sumayah Elijah	Selina Penny	Leah Wyatt	Savannah Elisha Dylan	Scarlett Theo	Esther Otis	Thomas George

Remembering Mrs O'Reilly

Mrs O'Reilly remains very much in our thoughts, and we would like to thank you once again for all the kind words, thoughtful gestures and support you have shown our school community during this difficult time. Your kindness has helped to make a very sad time a little lighter for us all.

A remembrance book is available in school for anyone who would like to share their condolences, write a special message or take a moment to remember Mrs O'Reilly.

As shared previously, we are planning to create a memorial garden in school to celebrate Mrs O'Reilly's life. We feel this will be a very fitting tribute, as she loved gardening and flowers. We hope it will become a peaceful and special place where children and staff can reflect, remember and celebrate the wonderful person she was.

If you would like to support our fundraising efforts, you can do so by purchasing tickets for our **Halloween hamper raffle**. Mrs O'Reilly always made our hampers, so we thought this would be a particularly meaningful way to remember her and something she would have appreciated.

Next week, we will also be sending home sponsor forms for our **Danceathon**, which will take place after half term. We are aiming to raise £1,000 to help support our memorial garden project, and we are very grateful for any support you are able to offer.

Thank you again for your kindness, compassion and generosity. It means so much to our whole school community.

This Week in School

It has been lovely to see the children working hard, enjoying their learning and making the most of their time in school. We are enjoying these important everyday moments before the excitement and busyness of the Christmas period begins!

Year 6 – Learning Together

On Wednesday, our Year 6 children enjoyed welcoming parents into school to join them for an English lesson. It was wonderful to see the children sharing their learning, demonstrating their skills and involving their families in their classroom experiences. Thank you to everyone who were able to come along and be part of the lesson. Your involvement makes such a positive difference to the children's learning and confidence.

Year 4 – Celebrating Harvest

Year 4 visited St John's Church to learn more about the Harvest Festival and its importance within the community. The visit provided a lovely opportunity for the children to develop their understanding of this special celebration and reflect on the importance of gratitude, sharing and helping others. As part of our contribution, we will be donating a scarecrow to St John's Church, which the children made together in school. We hope it will bring a little extra colour and cheer to the church's Harvest celebrations!

Nursery – Learning with Our Families

Our Nursery children had a wonderful time on Thursday when parents joined them in school to enjoy learning together. It was lovely to see families getting involved in activities, sharing special moments and experiencing a little of what the children enjoy during their nursery days.

Opportunities like these are so valuable. When children see their families taking an interest in their learning, it helps to build their confidence, enthusiasm and love of discovery. Sharing stories, exploring activities and playing together strengthens the important partnership between home and school, helping children feel supported in all aspects of their development. Most importantly, the children absolutely love having their grown-ups alongside them, sharing their achievements and showing off what they can do! Thank you to all the parents who joined us and helped make the morning so special.

Next Week – It is Disco Time!

Get your dancing shoes ready, because next week it is time for our school disco! We are looking forward to a day of music, dancing and fun for the children.

It is also the perfect opportunity to start practising those dance moves ahead of our Danceathon after half term. We cannot wait to see the children's enthusiasm, as they get ready to dance for a great cause!

Please remember to book your child's place on Evolve to ensure they don't miss out:

[Book via MyEvolveHub](#)

Please see the attached posters for full details of the discos.

Attendance – Every Day Counts!

As previously advised, we are monitoring attendance closely and continuing to work in partnership with children and parents to ensure that every child has the best possible attendance and access to learning.

As a school, we are currently achieving the expected national attendance figure of **96%**. We monitor attendance both across individual classes and at pupil level, so that we can identify where additional support or intervention may be needed. Our expectation is that every child achieves a **minimum attendance of 96%**, but we would love to see everyone aiming even higher!

It is worth remembering that **96% attendance across a full school year still equates to approximately eight days of missed learning**. While we fully appreciate that illness and other circumstances can

sometimes make absence unavoidable, every day in school really does count. Missing lessons can mean missing important learning, opportunities to practise key skills and valuable time spent with friends and teachers.

We therefore ask all parents and carers to continue supporting us by ensuring that children attend school every day wherever possible, arrive on time and avoid unnecessary absences. Working together, we can help our children establish positive attendance habits that will support their learning, progress and wellbeing.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. **Every day matters, every lesson counts, and together we can help every child reach their full potential!**



Attendance Percentage	Number of days missed	Number of lessons missed
100%	0 days	0
99%	2 days	18 lessons missed
97%	6 days (more than a week!)	54 lessons missed
95%	9 days	81 lessons missed
94%	11 days (more than 2 weeks!)	99 lessons missed
93%	13 days	117 lessons missed
92%	15 days (3 full weeks!)	135 lessons missed
91%	17 days	153 lessons missed
90%	18 days	144 lessons missed
85%	28 days (over 4 weeks!)	252 lessons missed

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you have a lovely weekend!

Attendance celebration:

Each week we recognise attendance by class, looking at the class attendance figure for the previous week. This is celebrated by giving the class extra play time in recognition of their class achievement. Each term we will also celebrate individual children who have achieved the target of 96 % for a whole term.

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	94%	96% Bronze	93%	98% Silver	99% Gold	97% Silver	98% Silver	91%	96%
Late arrivals	1	4	0	3	1	3	2	8	

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.

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
WEDNESDAY 21 ST OCTOBER	AUTUMN DISCO	2-3- EYFS 3.30-4.30- KS1 5-6.30-KS2	ALL CHILDREN WELCOME TO ATTEND
THURSDAY 22 ND OCTOBER	TEACHING OF READING WORKSHOP FOR RECEPTION PARENTS	9AM	RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME TO ATTEND
FRIDAY 23 RD OCTOBER	PUMPKIN DECORATING COMPETITION	9AM	ALL CHILDREN WELCOME TO BRING A DECORATED PUMPKIN TO SCHOOL.
FRIDAY 23 RD OCTOBER	SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR HALF TERM BREAK	3.15PM	WHOLE SCHOOL
DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TIME	CLASS/STAFF
MONDAY 2 ND NOVEMBER	SCHOOL RE-OPENS	8.45AM	WHOLE SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY 4 TH NOVEMBER	RECEPTION STAY AND LEARN WORKSHOP	9-10AM	RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME
WK BEGINNING 9 TH NOVEMBER	ASSESSMENT WEEK FOR YEARS 1-6	ALL WEEK	YEARS 1-6
WEDNESDAY 11 TH NOVEMBER	2 MINUTES SILENCE FOR REMEMBRANCE	11AM	YEARS 1-6
WEDNESDAY 11 TH NOVEMBER	YEAR 5 FAMILY TIME WORKSHOP	9-10AM	YEAR 5 PARENTS WELCOME

FRIDAY 13 TH NOVEMBER	BBC CHILDREN IN NEED – children can wear yellow or spots. All donations to be made via the donation page link below. Thank you https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/		WHOLE SCHOOL
MONDAY 16 TH NOVEMBER	NASAL FLU INJECTIONS BY SCHOOL HEALTH (CONSENT REQUIRED)	9-12PM	FURTHER INFO TO FOLLOW
THURSDAY 19 TH NOVEMBER	YEAR 6 HEIGHTS & WEIGHTS	9.30AM	YEAR 6
MONDAY 23 RD NOVEMBER	PARENTS EVENING FACE TO FACE.	3.30-5.00PM	N-Y6
WEDNESDAY 25 TH NOVEMBER	PARENTS EVENING – FACE TO FACE	3.30-6.00PM	N-Y6
FRIDAY 27 TH NOVEMBER	EXTRA PLAY IN EXCHANGE FOR A LUXURY ITEM FOR CHRISTMAS HAMPER	TIME TBC	ALL CHILDREN ASKED TO DONATE AN ITEM
MONDAY 30 TH NOVEMBER	CHRISTMAS HAMPER TICKETS GO ON SALE	UNTIL END OF TERM	ALL PARENTS INVITED TO PURCHASE TICKETS ON EVOLVE
THURSDAY 3 RD DECEMBER	YEAR 3 CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE AT CHURCH	1.30-2.30	YEAR 3 CHILDREN
FRIDAY 4 TH DECEMBER	COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS- CRAFT DAT AT SCHOOL	ALL DAY	ALL CLASSES
MONDAY 7 TH DECEMBER	SUPPER WITH SANTA	3.30-4.30PM	KEY STAGE 1
TUESDAY 8 TH DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 CHRISTMAS SHOW FOR PARENTS	9.15AM	KEY STAGE 2 PARENTS WELCOME – TICKET SYSTEM TO FOLLOW
WEDNESDAY 9 TH DECEMBER	EYFS CHRISTMAS SHOW FOR PARENTS	9.15AM	EYFS PARENTS WELCOME – TICKET SYSTEM TO FOLLOW
WEDNESDAY 9 TH DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 CHRISTMAS SHOW FOR PARENTS	2.15PM	KEY STAGE 2 PARENTS WELCOME – TICKET SYSTEM TO FOLLOW
THURSDAY 10 TH DECEMBER	EYFS CHRISTMAS SHOW FOR PARENTS	9.15AM	EYFS PARENTS WELCOME – TICKET SYSTEM TO FOLLOW
THURSDAY 10 TH DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS JUMPER/CHRISTMAS ACCESSORY DAY	ALL DAY	ALL CHILDREN WELCOME TO WEAR A JUMPER OR ACCESSORY
THURSDAY 10 TH DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY	11-1PM	ALL CHILDREN WELCOME TO

			HAVE A FESTIVE LUNCH
FRIDAY 11 TH DECEMBER	DAZZLING DARREN MAGIC SHOW- £2 DONATION	9-11AM	ALL CHILDREN WELCOME TO ENJOY THE SHOW.
WK BEGINNING 14 TH DECEMBER	NO PE IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK DUE TO HALL USAGE FOR SHOWS	ALL WEEK	NO PE FOR ALL CLASSES.
MONDAY 14 TH DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 1 CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA FOR PARENTS	9.15AM AND 2.30PM 2 SHOWINGS	KEY STAGE 1 PARENTS WELCOME – TICKET SYSTEM TO FOLLOW
MONDAY 14 TH DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 MOVIE AFTERNOON WITH TREATS	1-3PM	YEARS 3-6
TUESDAY 15 TH DECEMBER	EYFS PARTY AFTERNOON- CHILDREN MAY WEAR PARTY CLOTHES ALL DAY	1-3PM	EYFS CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 16 TH DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 2 TRIP TO THE PANTOMIME	9.30- 12.20PM	KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN – INFO TO FOLLOW
WEDNESDAY 16 TH DECEMBER	KEY STAGE 1 PARTY AFTERNOON- CHILDREN MAY WEAR PARTY CLOTHES ALL DAY	1-3PM	KEY STAGE 1 CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 16 TH DECEMBER	SCHOOL COUNCIL TO DRAW WINNERS FOR THE HAMPER	1PM	SCHOOL COUNCIL
FRIDAY 18 TH DECEMBER	NON UNIFORM - CHRISTMAS THEMED FOR £1 DONATION	ALL DAY	ALL CHILDREN WELCOME TO WEAR FESTIVE JUMPERS
FRIDAY 18 TH DECEMBER	SCHOOL CLOSES FOR THE CHRISTMAS BREAK	2PM FINISH	WHOLE SCHOOL CLOSING