



Welcome Back

I do hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and were able to see family and friends over the Christmas period. The children have returned eager and ready to learn which is lovely to see. The Spring Term is always a little shorter than the other two terms but just as busy and interesting.

Staff News: Mrs Winter-Valentine will be returning after half term, teaching in Year 3 on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Flintoft will continue to work in Year 3 on a Thursday and Friday. Mrs Herbert will be leaving us at the end of this half term having covered both Mrs Winter –Valentine and Mrs Gibbs maternity leave during the past year. We also welcomed Mrs Radford to Star Class in Autumn 2.

Parking Last term we were asked by Norton Dog to not use their car park, citing safety reasons. Following communicating this message I have received no further correspondence which we will take as a positive. With the Village Hall carpark fully operational now as well as the Salvation Army hopefully there are enough car park spaces for parents dropping children off at school. Caroline Vallance, Pastor of Norton Baptist Church, has also shared that there are a few spaces at the Baptist Church which she is more than happy for parents to use when dropping off and collecting children. Thank you your continued support in this matter.



Governor News - Nicky Broughton Happy New Year to you all. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas break with your loved ones. I have been a parent governor for 3 years, becoming vice chair last year and took over from Paul Marshall in November as Chair. Within a couple of weeks we got the call for a SIAMs inspection, and soon after Ofsted. It was an exciting start to my role to say the least, but having been waiting for the inspections for such a long time meant Mrs Sparkes and the staff were ready, and I was extremely grateful for the work that Paul and the governing body had done in preparation. We look forward to sharing the feedback from these inspections as soon as they are published.



Mrs Sparkes and her staff work extremely hard in producing a school that has a fantastic curriculum, both in the classroom and out, and a strong Christian vision, which all leads to well rounded and happy children.

I am very much looking forward to continuing to work closely with all the staff to ensure Norton Primary School continues to thrive. We are still looking for a co-opted governor to join our team. If anyone is interested please feel free to come and talk to myself or anyone from the governing body. Having 3 children at the school, I am usually around at drop-offs and pickups!

A Big Thank You The month of December, as you can imagine, was a very busy month with performances, Christmas Carol Services and parties to name but a few events. One of our Christian Values is community and it was displayed in abundance during Autumn 2. During these events there was an opportunity to donate to Home Start; I am pleased to say that we raised £245.89 to Home Start from the carol services, performances and jumper day. In the same term we celebrated Children in Need, raising £332.30 and an amazing 503.11 for the Royal British Legion through purchasing poppies and other merchandise.



Values for Life Attached is a sheet linked to the Values for Life scheme that we use in assembly. This half-term's theme is 'Courage' As a family have a go at discussing and completing Home School Challenge linked to Children of Courage. Is there someone you can think of who has shown courage?

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Norton CEVC Primary School

School Close, Norton, Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk, IP31 3LZ

Newsletter Spring 1 2025



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ Governor News P1
- ☺ Children's Mental Health Week P2
- ☺ Committees and Teams P3
- ☺ Diary Dates P6
- ☺ All newsletters, important events and updated school policies are published on our website. See the regular gallery of children's work and photos of latest events too.

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Children's Mental Health Week

This year Children's Mental Health Week is the 3rd-9th February and is celebrated throughout the UK. It is a time to learn about taking care of your mind and body and helps us understand our feelings and how to stay happy and healthy.

There are lots of things that affect our feelings, below are a few that we will be focussing on in school during Children Mental Health Week:

- Exercising
- Eating Well
- Friendships
- Being Creative
- Resilience
- Self-Confidence and Self-Esteem



The theme for Children's Mental Health Week this year is **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**. The aim is to equip and empower children across the UK to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. The more that we understand ourselves, the better we are prepared to tackle life's ups and downs. By helping children understand themselves, they start to build self-awareness, allowing them to cope much better with the challenges that life throws at them.

With the support of the **ELSA Team**, our assembly this half term will be led by the Behaviour Ambassadors on Wednesday 5th February, and will focus on the importance of accepting ourselves and taking care of our mind and bodies. During the assembly, the Ambassadors will introduce their display board in the hall that will have a **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself** theme. The board will feature Riley from Inside Out and will focus on Riley's Personality Islands from the film. Like Riley we all have different parts to our personality that make us who we are. The Ambassadors will be asking the children to think about the things that are important to them, what they enjoy doing and what makes you who you are. The children will then have an opportunity to draw their own Personality Islands and add them to the display.

The **ELSA Team** will also be asking KS1/KS2 to draw a **Me Tree**. This is a fun activity and a creative way to explore your gifts and strengths, to reflect on the unique things that make you – you, and to think about the people and communities that surround and support you. Each element of the tree represents a different area of your life.

We hope the children will enjoy all of these activities and come away with a stronger sense of self and a better understanding of their strengths, talents and who they are as unique individuals.

Extra-Curricular Activities to develop Personal Development

At Norton, the children are very fortunate to have the opportunity to experience a wealth of enrichment activities, some of which happen during the school day and others after school. Staff at Norton have been keen to lead some clubs where they have a personal interest and passion. Clubs which happen at lunch time are open to all the children but after school clubs need to be booked via the office.

Mondays

- 12.15—1.00pm Ukulele Club
- 12.00-12.30 Key Stage 2 Art Club (Mr Deering)
- 3.15—4.00pm Choir Year 2-6 with Mr. Cole
- 3.15—4.00 Basketball Ball with Mrs. Ashton

Tuesdays

- 8.00—8.45am Dance Club (Yr 1-6)
- 12.00 -12.30 Year 4 Book Club (Mrs. Woodward)
- 3.15—4.15 Running Club (Yr. 3-6)
- 3.15-4.15 Racquet Club (Yr. 1-4)

Wednesday

- 12.00 –12.30 Year 5 Book Club (Mrs. Woodward)
- 12.00 –12.30 Junior Journalist/JRSO (Mrs Fenn)
- 3.15 - 4.15 Premier Sports Football (Years 1-4)

Thursdays

- 12.00—12.30 Year 5 Book Club
- 12.00 –12.30 Times Table Rockstars
- 12.00 –1.00 Premier Sports—Active Club
- 3.15—4.30pm Lighthouse Club Years 1-6

Fridays

- 8.00 –8.45 Premier Sports Gymnastics Club Years EYFS - 4
- 12.00 –12.30 Year 6 Book Club (Mrs Kirk)
- 3.15 -4.15 Fun and Fitness (Year 2-4)
- 3.15-4.15 War Hammer Club



Sports Ambassadors have planned a timetable of weekly events for all the children to enjoy. These will be shared with children during assembly. Behaviour Ambassadors are also running activities and clubs for the younger children.



Spotlight on Attendance and Punctuality: At the end of the Autumn term our school attendance percent was 95.9% compared to 95.1% locally. This is a good position to be in as we enter the Spring and despite an outbreak of Chickenpox, I am hopeful we can increase this percentage now that the colder months are nearly behind us. Can I also remind you that we open the school gates at 8.35am to allow all our pupils to be in their classrooms at 8.45am ready to start the school day and their learning. Coming in late disrupts the learning of others, as well as that of children who are arriving late. The easiest way to ensure your child attends school on time every day is to establish good morning and evening routines to suit the needs of your child/ren. We are aware that at times things do not go to plan and due to unforeseen circumstances you may be late. In these cases and if you are able, please phone the office so that we can inform class teachers.

Please also let the school know if you are having difficulties getting your child to school on time, so we can work together to find a solution with our trained ELSA staff.

FAPONS News Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas break with family and friends. We had a busy term before Christmas, and from the uniform and Christmas jumper sales, school disco, Saltmine refreshments, rainbow raffle and a generous donation from RenYoga (thank you so much Lauren), we raised just shy of £1500. The commission from the Christmas shop is still pending and will be added to the above total. Thanks to your fundraising and support, last term we gave the school cheques to contribute to the 2023-2024 class trips, the school pantomime, as well as providing funding to support the purchase of two new picnic tables. This term we are planning a movie night and of course chocolate bingo and the Great Norton Bake Off will return! As always, please email us with offers to get involved, queries or ideas at fapons@norton.suffolk.sch.uk – we would love to hear from you!



Committees and Teams At Norton we believe it is important that our pupils are involved in making our school the best school it can possibly be, their voice and actions do count and matter and we are so pleased that the children are keen and willing to be actively involved in school life. Here is what the committees and teams have been doing and plan to do in the new year.

Worship Team This half term, we will be thinking about the value of courage. We are keen to celebrate the Bold Adventurers in our Friday assemblies. If you feel your child has displayed courage then let their class teacher know. We are also thinking of other ways we can encourage children to be courageous in school. We will also be learning the Lord's Prayer spoken, sung and in sign language.

The School Council During the school council meetings, we have been looking at pupil voice, reading and listening to the comments on how we could make our school better and discussing should and how we could implement suggestion. This term we will also start thinking about our school fundraiser, an event planned for the summer term.

JRSOs: The JRSOs are going to be focusing on bicycle safety on and off the roads.

Junior Journalists The Junior Journalists led a very informative on Nasa Space Weather Mission. This half term they will be linking up with the behaviour ambassadors to do an assembly during Children's Mental Health week.

Eco News The Eco Committee had an exciting and productive afternoon transferring the wonderful rich compost from our compost bins on the playground to our 'no dig' vegetable patch. This should be ready to plant as the weather turns warmer. We worked hard digging and transporting by wheel barrow before refilling the bins with the leaves that have filled the playground this year. We also enjoyed a visit from Samantha from the Waste Management Team from Mid Suffolk District Council. She explained how we could survey the litter and recycling opportunities at school and also make better choices about what we buy at home to reduce waste. Try to reduce the packaging you buy on food products and check what can be recycled to ensure it is in the correct bin. Enjoy helping our amazing planet in 2025! Ralph, Elliot, Louisa, Rowen, William, Nina, Ottoline, Grace and William.

The Behaviour Ambassadors The Behaviour Ambassadors are starting 2025 full of enthusiasm and lovely ideas for the year ahead. They will continue to provide games and activities for KS1 children at lunchtime, as this was so popular in the Autumn Term. They will start the year by running an Art Club, Reading Club and more. They will also be combining their talents with the Junior Journalists and leading a joint assembly with them in February. The assembly will be inspired by Children's Mental Health Week and will talk about how mental health and self-esteem are impacted by positive, healthy friendships. We want to encourage everyone to know that good friends, talking and sharing are important for our mental health and well-being. The Behaviour Ambassadors will be constantly reminding people of their motto 'We are here for you'.

Sports Ambassadors Over the last term, we have been running the Scrap Shed from Monday to Thursday and, on Fridays, have led varied sporting activities with different year groups. Each year group gets a turn with the scrap shed and can select equipment from tyres to lengths of wood, to crates and tarpaulins. On Fridays, we have run things like hockey, dodgeball, parachute games and more. In Friday assemblies, we give a mention to children who have done well in our activities, and we post their names on the Sports Board (outside the computer suite). We are enjoying playing a part in helping everyone be active at Norton. Wilf, Ciara, Noah, Noah, Emmie & Declan



Stars



Welcome back to Star Class children and parents! We hope you have had a fun filled Christmas and wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Our topic this half term is 'Toys!' This will include looking at old and new toys and discussing why we think a toy is old or new. The children will then look at a range of toys and decide what materials have been used to make the toy. We shall then have fun planning and carrying out simple experiments as we see how far a toy car can travel. If you have any toys or experiences related to toys or games that you or perhaps an older family member would like to share with us please let us know.

Afternoons will focus on **physical development, expressive arts and design or understanding the world**. We are going to be planning and making our favourite toys from recycled materials and inventing new toys too! If you have any boxes, pots or recyclable materials please send them in. A range of shapes and sizes really helps our models look great too! Our **PE** days will now be Monday and Wednesday. Mr Cole will continue to inspire us with his **music** lessons on a Monday.

We will continue with our 'Read, Write, Inc' sessions developing phonic skills and reading, as well as comprehension and fluency. We will also begin to look at writing for a purpose



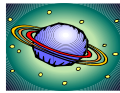
and how to construct a sentence. We are starting to learn the set 2 sounds like 'ay', 'ee' and 'igh'.

In **RE** the children will be discussing how they can help others and how God and Christians help others too.

In **maths** we will be looking at addition, subtraction and sharing in practical, real life ways. We will also be learning to use money in our role play toy shop.

We will endeavour to keep up with Tapestry and enjoy sharing your children's experiences and achievements from home. Finally, please send children with a bottle of fresh water each day and PLEASE make sure that all items of uniform (& shoes) are labelled clearly. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any concerns or questions. Thank you Mrs Bouttell and Mrs Cole

Galaxies



Welcome back, we hope you had a wonderful Christmas holiday with your family! Our new history topic this half term will be looking at the life of a significant person: 'Florence Nightingale'. We will be researching when she lived, what she did, how she became famous and how she improved nursing practises not only in the past but also revolutionised nursing today.

In **English** we will start the term with our new book 'Amara and the Bats' as a stimulus for factual information writing. We will continue to ensure we are always using the correct punctuation in sentences and develop our writing by using the conjunctions 'and' or 'because' alongside adding in some interesting adjectives. We will still be using

Planets



Welcome back everyone, I hope you all had a lovely Christmas break! This half term we will begin our whole class guided reading; this helps to continue the development of our fluency by developing key skills needed to answer different types of comprehensive questions about a text.

In **English**, we will study a variety of text types and will be retelling the story 'The Queens Hat', we will then use the story structure to create our own versions using our local area to help us with our planning and ideas. We will be linking our history work with English, by researching 'The Great Fire of London' and writing a recount of the events. We will also be learning about Samuel Pepys and use this as inspiration for our own diary writing. This half term we will

Comets



Happy New Year! We hope you had a lovely Christmas with your families and are ready for a new term of learning. This half term we will be beginning our new topic 'Tomb Raiders'. We will be exploring this topic in our History, English and Art lessons.

In **History** we will be learning about the Ancient Egyptians. We will be learning about their lives, beliefs and Pharaohs. We will be thinking back to our work on Prehistoric Britain and making comparisons.

In **English**, we will be reading two Egyptian stories, Egyptian Cinderella and The Scarab's Secret. The children will be writing character descriptions and their own version of the story respectively.

In **Art**, we will be investigating printing techniques to using Egyptian hieroglyphs and creating our own cartouches. Also in **DT**, we

'Read Write Inc' to help us with our phonics in preparation for the phonics screening; don't forget to read the RWI book at home with your child over the weekend. Your child will be familiar with the stories as we will have read the book several times in small groups in school. At home the focus should be on performing the stories to you, remembering to use lots of expression.

Please remember to record any reading you do at home in the reading log. We will look to see that your child has read their reading book twice before changing it.

Reading books can be changed on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Our **Maths** focus this half term will be on place value to 20 as we learn to understand how these numbers are made and how to write them. We will then move on to addition and subtraction up to 20. We

begin to focus on the children reading their writing back to check for key punctuation in each sentence, learning to edit and improve their writing.

In **Maths** we will start to learn about multiplication and division. We will look at arrays, grouping and sharing as ways of helping us with multiplication and division number sentences as well as looking at odds and evens, doubling and halving, and using the 2, 5 and 10 x tables. We will then begin our learning about money. We will be learning to count money in pence, pounds and notes and calculate with money.

Our **History** topic for this half term is 'The Great Fire of London'. We will be making some comparisons between London in the 17th century and today. We will also be investigating how the fire started and how it spread through London.

will be using sewing techniques to design and create our own Egyptian collars. Our homework tasks this half term are based on our Egyptian history topic. We have suggested activities that the children may wish to complete, however there may also be other areas of the topic they are inspired by and want to explore further. We would love to see any activities the children have done outside school to further their learning in History. Please bring your homework to school on Monday 31st March, you can always send us pictures on Class Dojo during the term to show us what you are working on. send us pictures of what you are working on via Class Dojo! Our **RE** lessons will be focusing on Islam this half term with a particular focus on willing obedience and submission.

will be learning new ways to solve these calculations, using tens frames, part, part whole models and number lines. In **Science**, we will be looking at 'Animals inc Humans', learning about different parts of the body and senses. We will also be learning about how to scientifically group and identify animals. We have booked a trip to Banham Zoo for the end of March, linked to this topic. Keep your eyes open for details coming soon. In **PSHE** we will thinking about our Dreams and Goals, setting ourselves targets and thinking about how to achieve them. We look forward to another exciting term working with your children. If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to come and see us or send us a message via Dojo.

Thank you, Mrs Harris & Mrs Rossiter

In **Science** this half term we begin our 'Animals including humans' unit of study. Pupils will find out about the life cycle of animals and humans and consider how they change as they grow into adults. They will learn about the basic needs of humans and animals. Our **RE** this half term is an Islam based topic with the key question: 'How do some Muslims show Allah is com-passionate and merciful?' We will be looking at some Islamic stories to help us investigate this question.

In **Art** we will have an artist focus on Henry Matisse, looking to develop our collage and 3D art skills.

If you have any questions please do ask; as always, thank you so much for your continued support. Mrs Diggins

In **Science**, we will finish our unit on Nutrition and Skeleton, learning more about how our skeleton compares to the skeletons of other animals. Then we will move onto a new unit on Light, exploring how we see and how shadows are made.

Our **PE** sessions on Tuesday mornings will focus on dance during which we will practise and perform movements in unison and contact with a partner. On Thursday afternoons, we will be learning how to travel, roll and balance in gymnastics.

If you have any questions or concerns; feel free to catch one of us after school or contact us via Class Dojo. Thank you. Mrs Herbert and Mrs Flintoft.



Rockets



Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas with your families and are ready for another term of learning.

Our topic is **Ruthless Romans**. In this exciting topic, we will begin by exploring the location of Rome and its empire, as well as modern Rome and its many tourist attractions from ancient ruins. We will also explore Roman invasions undertaken by the mighty Roman army. Roman roads, the climate and physical Geography of Rome and the Romanisation of Britain will also be taught.

Our **English** lessons will be centered around the book *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo. This will lead to work on informal letter writing, character descriptions and researching a tropical ani-

Meteors

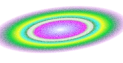


Happy New Year! We commence our new term with a DT week, investigating the principles of bridge-building.

As **Historians**, we will find about the ancient civilisation of the Mesoamerican Maya, including the singular customs and beliefs and the social structures of these fascinating people. We will study the rise and fall of their great culture.

In **English**, we will write a persuasive text encouraging tourists to visit the impressive Maya remains at Chichen Itza, one of the seven wonders of the modern world; then, we will move on to writing a report about the Maya ballgame, Pok-a-tok. We will also take inspiration from our class reader to write an exciting narrative set in the Amazon rainforest. We are reading

Supernovas



I hope that you had a great Christmas,

This half term, many of our lessons make cross-curricular links to Charles Darwin and the theory of evolution.

As **mathematicians**, we continue our studies with units of learning on ratios, percentages, algebra and the conversion of measures. This will be supported by weekly arithmetic practice as well as ensuring that there are opportunities each day to develop our reasoning and problem-solving skills.

As **writers**, we will be producing persuasive tourism leaflets for the Galapagos Islands, working on some historical fiction based on Charles Darwin's research voyage aboard HMS Beagle, and exploring the use of extended metaphors in Poetry. Our class reader will be Darwin's *Dragons* by Lindsay Galvin.

As **scientists**, we will be investigating the

mal to produce a fact file. We shall also be writing newspaper reports, instructions on how to survive on a desert island and a comparison between fiction and non-fiction texts.

In **Maths**, we will be using our knowledge of number facts to work towards multiplying and dividing 3-digit by 1-digit numbers. We will continue to develop our times table fluency. Do continue to use TT Rockstars daily to speed up recall and confidence. Remember children can earn themselves a Dojo for every day they have used the site for a minimum of 10 minutes.

In **Science**, we will finish our work on classification keys and local habitats before moving on to a new unit on States of Matter. We will learn to identify solids, liquids and gases and describe

'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell together in class, a modern take on the classic survival story! In our Guided Reading sessions, we will tackle texts which support our history learning as well as exploring the skills of retrieval, inference, prediction and summary.

As **mathematicians**, we practise arithmetic and multiplication facts daily, as well as revisiting key skills as part of our 'flashbacks' to keep our learning fresh in our minds. Topics this term in lessons include 'Multiplication and Division', 'Fractions', and 'Decimals and Percentages'. A 'small steps' approach each day helps to cement our skills and understanding in maths.

As **Scientists**, we will describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. We will

concepts of evolution and inheritance, and how natural variation in inherited characteristics leads to variation within a species. We discover how species have evolved over time, and the evidence for this; we also look at how adaptations in living things are crucial to their survival in a changing world. We learn how natural selection leads to evolution and find out about the works of Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace, whose pioneering studies rocked Victorian Britain.

As geographers, we will be exploring the concept of globalisation, and the extent to which our modern world has become increasingly connected. We look at the concepts of trade and communication, with particular focus on the global food and fashion industries. We look at where our household products originate and how they reach our homes, with an emphasis on the social,

the properties of each.

PE lessons will focus on Dance on a Tuesday afternoon and ball skills on a Friday afternoon. Clean PE kits must still be in school every day.

Mighty Maths will continue this term with the **Bronze** tests, which include the 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- and 10-times tables. We will do this in class every other Friday. Remember, you are aiming first to achieve full marks within three minutes, and after that you will be trying to beat your time.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to send us a message on Class Dojo or catch us after school. Please be aware that Miss Miles will teach from Monday to Wednesday lunch time, and Mrs Gibbs will teach the rest of the week.

also explore the life process of reproduction in plants and animals, understanding the difference between sexual and asexual reproduction.

As **artists**, we will be exploring the pointillist paintings of George Seurat, and experimenting with his trademark colours and techniques.

Mr Kershaw continues to work in Music lessons on our listening and appraisal skills, and our singing and performing, as our mastery of the clarinet improves each week!

In **RE** Mrs Sturman will be helping us to explore Hinduism, specifically the spiritual pathways to Moksha that are written about in Hindu scriptures. The children have all hit the ground running after the Christmas break and it promises to be another great half term!

Mr Mabbitt

economic and environmental issues which they bring with them.

Mr Cole will be exploring music notation this half term, helping children understand how notes and chords are recorded on staves. The children will then write their own musical compositions.

PSHE: Dreams and Goals

We will explore the idea of designing personal learning goals and identifying the steps to success that will enable us to achieve these.

This half term's other Foundation Subjects:

Art with Mrs Sturman: Printing with reduction blocks

RE with Mrs Sturman: Hinduism - Yoga/Moksha

Computing: Blogging

PE (Tuesday) Contemporary Dance

PE (Friday) Gymnastics

Wishing you a happy and healthy new year, Mr Kerry.



Diary Dates: Please see website for more information

Thursday 16 January Whole School Pantomime
Monday 20 January Year 4 Residential Parent Information Evening @3.30pm
Friday 31 January PE Enrichment Whole School - Circus Skills Week beginning 3 February Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 7 February Year 2 History Off The Page 'Great Fire of London'
Tuesday 11 February Internet Safety Day
Wednesday 12 February Saltmine Theatre Company performance to Whole School
Friday 14 February Last Day of Half Term
Monday 24 February—Return to school
Wednesday 5 March Year 4 Class Assembly @9am
Thursday 6 March World Book Day (Details to follow)
Wednesday 12 March Year 6 Class Assembly @9am
Wednesday 19 March Year 3 Assembly
Wednesday 19 March Homework Exhibition
Week beginning 24 March Experiencing Easter
Tuesday 25 March PE Enrichment Whole School Orienteering
Tuesday 25 March Parents Evening 5.15—7.30pm
Thursday 27 March Parents Evening 3.30—5.45pm
Friday 28 March Year 2 School Trip to the Farm
Friday 28 March Year 1 School Trip to Banham Zoo
Monday 31 March Easter Service
Week beginning 31 March Arts Week (Details to follow)
Friday 4 April Last day of term
Monday 7 April—Monday 21 April Easter Holiday
Tuesday 22 April PD Day
Wednesday 23 April Children return to school

Term Dates for the rest of the Academic Year

Summer Term 2025

Begins Tuesday 22 April 2025 Ends Tuesday 22 July 2025

PD Days Tuesday 22 April, Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 July 2025

Summer Half Term

Monday 26 May - Friday 30 May 2025



Norton School Library

At Norton School, reading is at the heart of everything we do. One of the key drivers for our curriculum is that, by the end of their time here, all children should leave us as really avid readers. We are very lucky to have a well-stocked and very well-supported school library. In the last year, a massive 56% percent of our pupils have accessed this great resource. We have many sets of books by classic authors such as JK Rowling, Michael Morpurgo, Roald Dahl and Malorie Blackman, as well as contemporary writers such as Katherine Rundell, Rick Riordan, David Baddiel and Onjali Rauf. We have got an extensive range of picture books for our younger readers (and pre-school siblings!) which are available to borrow. In addition, we are lucky to offer a huge range of non-fiction books that can be borrowed and read for pleasure or to support topics in school. On top of that we have a wide range of atlases, encyclopaedias and general information books that children are welcome to take home. The library is open every afternoon after school. Mrs Mabbitt or I am usually there to welcome borrowers, although our pupil librarians Wilf and James will often take charge. All children have an allocated library bar code: we use the 'Reading Cloud' platform to manage loans. We give out points cards to each borrower, who receive a stamp with every visit to take out a book. Completed points cards are handed back to us and there is a draw in assembly each term in which these select few have a chance of winning a prize. Well done to Olivia and Harry (again!) whose names were drawn out by Mrs Sparkes in assembly just before Christmas, who won some tasty treats and festive crafts.

If you haven't visited our library, do please pop in and see us. We can help your child to find books that will really spark their curiosity. If your child catches the school bus or attends after school club so is unable to visit the library, please send me a message via the office and I can contact you to make alternative arrangements.



Children Achievements

Every half term we like to celebrate the children's achievements for the activities they do outside of school. During the term, if your child passes an exam or is part of an event then please let the school office know and we will aim to include it in the next newsletter.

Congratulations!

Well done Isla-Rose on achieving your Silver Award at Rainbows. A whopping total of 32 badges collected!

Congratulations!

Well done Betty Stocking for achieving her Level one Acro Dance at the Winter Presentation Day, and performing her individual routine brilliantly.

Congratulations!

Oscar & Arty Edwards who both completed their 1st 5K Park Run.

Congratulations!

Annabelle Hadley-Brown for winning a bronze medal in the Bury Spectrum Gymnastics Club Trampoline Competition.

Congratulations!

Imogen Crowe participated as part of the Cathedral Choir in St Edmundsbury Cathedral's production of Benjamin Britten's opera *Noye's Fludde* over three performances in front of sell out audiences.

Congratulations!

Ciara Widdicks for qualifying for the Suffolk County Championships for 200m backstroke. She competed in the Club Championships in December when she gained her qualification time and numerous pbs.

Congratulations!

Grace and Charlotte Mould who both appeared live on a Welsh Radio on Christmas Eve to Wish Everyone a Happy Christmas.

Congratulations!

Charlotte Crawford-Ley in Planet Class who has moved up to Level 3 swimming, showing real courage as her lessons are now in the deep end

Congratulations!

Isabelle Whight has successfully completed Learn to Swim Stage 3 just before Christmas and is now onto Stage 4.

Congratulations!

Niamh Widdicks who competed in her first ever swimming gala in December racing in the 50m backstroke and 50m breaststroke, she came second in her backstroke.