

A Message from Mrs Beach, Executive Head Teacher



As we end this school year I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued and unrelenting support. This last school year has been an exceptionally challenging one for everybody associated with the school community, but we have all worked tirelessly together to ensure that we could continue to provide the highest level of education, as well as personal support for all of our students and families.

Personally, I am so thankful for the hard work, determination and resilience that the students and staff have shown this year despite all the unprecedented challenges we have faced, of which there have been many. The children have been a true credit to all parents, carers and the community. I am so proud of the Northwood family and how we continued to work together to get through the ups and downs of this global pandemic. I would like to pay tribute to the way that the children, parents and staff have coped with the situation. It is impossible to have imagined us having to work in such circumstances, and I am enormously grateful for your understanding, positivity and generosity. We have all needed to make significant compromises in terms of the way in which we have functioned and lived our lives. The messages of support and positive feedback that you have given to us have been appreciated more than we can say. I wish you all a very happy and relaxing summer and can't wait to see all of our children back at school, refreshed and ready to start learning again, on Friday 3rd September. Year 6's I wish you every success in secondary-go and show them what you can do and shine brightly like the super stars you are-believe in yourselves and remember the world is your oyster.

A Message from Mrs Wassell, Head of School

What a year it has been at Northwood! Not only have we negotiated our way through a pandemic but we have also had plenty of changes within school too. As I moved into the position of Head of School from Deputy Head in January, I had no idea my second day of the job would be asking all but key worker children to stay at home. The support we received as a school from you all was amazing and the feedback we received helped us to make sure our offer to children was of the highest quality. I really can't thank you and your wonderful children enough.



We are always looking for 'Covid positives' in school to help us keep motivated and appreciate the little magic moments that happen. One of these magic moments this term was our picnic on the field as part of National Picnic Month and our transition arrangements. To have the whole school together for the first time in 18 months and see the joy on everyone's face was priceless, and something we are planning to do again next year. Another 'Covid positive' for me has been our Virtual Celebration Assembly on a Friday, where the whole school gets a chance to listen to what has been going on across the week and celebrate children who have earned certificates. Being together virtually has helped us all keep connected when we can't be together physically, and I think we can all relate to the importance of that.

Staffing Changes



Over this half term we have had two long-standing cleaners leave Northwood – Mr Baines and Mrs Haw. They have been valued members of our school and have done an amazing job at keeping our school clean and hygienic every day. We wish them both well in their new jobs and thank them for their time at Northwood.

Mr Melia has been working with our Reception children over this last term and we are pleased to say he will continue to work at Northwood on a Thursday and Friday in September. He has been a brilliant addition to the Northwood family.

In September, we will be welcoming Mrs Park back to Northwood after her maternity leave. She will be teaching in Class 2 in September. I know she can't wait to be back and meet our youngest learners as they start their Northwood journey.

Over the Summer, Miss Wake, who has been teaching Class 1 since January, is getting married! When she returns in September, she will be called Mrs Harrington and will be teaching in Class 9. We send her our best wishes and congratulations.

School Opening Plans

You will have received a copy of the school opening plans for September through email or a printed copy if we don't have your email address. Please take the time to read this through so you are clear on school routines for September. As I say in the letter, the plan for September has been written in case there is a change in the pandemic status over the Summer so there are some things which will be in place that you may wonder why. The plan will be evaluated over the first half-term and I will inform you if anything changes. If you haven't received a copy of the letter then please contact the school office.

Facebook



Another 'Covid positive' has been the increasing number of parents who have liked our Facebook page. It enables us to share with you the things that are going on across school and also important messages and reminders.

If you haven't already, please take a minute to like our Facebook page via the following link: www.facebook.com/northwoodprimary. If you do not have a Facebook account, and don't want to have one, then you can check our school website which has the Facebook feed that you can see: <https://www.northwoodprimary.org.uk/>.

Dates for your Diary

- **Wednesday 1st September and Thursday 2nd September: Teacher training days** - You may see lots of cars in the car park and staff coming in and out of school but the children do not return on these days. Some staff will be in school training over these two days and making sure school is ready for the children's return.
- **Friday 3rd September: Children return to school** - It is vital that all children attend school for the first day. We have a whole school transition day prepared, as we haven't been able to complete our normal transition activities.
- **Monday 13th September: Roald Dahl Dress Up Day** - Children can dress up as story book character or wear fancy dress to school.
- **Friday 17th September: Jeans for Genes Day** – Children can wear jeans or own clothes to school.
- **Week beginning 27th September: Bike/Scooter/ Walk to school week** – Children will be encouraged to travel to school under their own steam.
- **Thursday 21st October: Harvest Festival** - Non-uniform day for children.
- **Friday 22nd October: School Photograph Day** – More details will follow next academic year.

And Finally...

From everyone at Northwood I would like to wish all of our Year 6 children the best of luck for the future. We send them onto the next stage of their life with our love and best wishes. They will always be a part of Northwood and we hope they look back at their time with us fondly and remember how proud we are of them. We hope they continue to aim for the stars and reach their goals and dreams. With the Year 6s leaving, we will also be saying goodbye to their families, some of which have been with us for a long time. We wish you well and thank you for choosing our school to share your child's school journey so far with us.



On behalf of the whole Northwood team, I would like to wish you a happy and safe Summer break. We can't wait to see you all on **Friday 3rd September**.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'S. Wassell'.

Mrs Wassell
Head of School