

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to those of you who came in this week to watch the concerts and musicals we put on. Our musicians and choir performed beautifully on Thursday at the 'Carols Around the Christmas Tree' Concert. Our newly formed Y5 boys' choir performed a version of The Little Drummer Boy— a first of many performances, I am sure. Y4 treated us to their micro-musical telling the history of the Vikings. They sang and performed beautifully!

Term dates for 2026-2027 have been published today in the newsletter. Please have a look carefully at the designated holiday dates for next year. We ask that you plan your travel dates accordingly as we will not be able to authorise term time absence from school for holidays or travel during the school term.

On Monday, our nursery children will be showcasing their nativity at 11am. We look forward to seeing our parents there. And on Tuesday, our reception children will be performing their Christmas Story – parents are welcome to join us for the show at 9:30am.

Next week on the 18<sup>th</sup>, the classes will have their class parties in the afternoon. Children may wear non-uniform on that day – please bring in a small contribution for the party.

We close on Friday 19th December at 2pm. We ask that you please collect your children promptly.

Finally, clubs will be running until Thursday next week – there are no clubs running on Friday. Clubs will resume in the first week back after the holidays. If you are interested in joining a club, we will send out letters where clubs have spaces. Please respond promptly to avoid disappointment as places are awarded on a first come first served basis.

Have a good week end,

Kind regards

Bronwen Chalmers



### Diary Dates

#### December

- 15th Report Cards out
- 15th Nursery Nativity - 11-11:30am
- 16th Reception Christmas Story - 9:30am
- 17th Y2 Micro-musical
- 17th Lunch for class with highest attendance
- 18th Class Parties
- 19th Last day of term—2pm.

#### January

- 5th INSET day
- 6th Children return from 8:40am
- 16th E-safety coffee morning
- 20th Young Voices Concert at the O2
- 23rd Nursery Parents Coffee Morning
- 30th Literacy Coffee Morning
- 30th Interschool Choir competition

**Please check the calendar on our website**

<https://www.northwoldschool.com/>

### **RECEPTION PLACES 2026 - 2027**

Nursery parents, please be reminded to make a reception class application for September 2026 by **Thursday 15 January 2026**. Parents and carers with children in nursery class born between **1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022** must submit their reception class application by **Thursday 15 January 2026**.

If you do not apply before the deadline, your child's application will be late and will be considered after all the 'on time' applications have been dealt with. Late applicants are also less likely to get a place at their preferred school.

If you would like support with this, please contact the school office, who will be happy to help you.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the most recent Parent Teacher Council meeting, I wanted to share a brief update on what we observed. It was a fantastic opportunity to see the teaching methodology in action and to witness the day-to-day energy of the classrooms.

Initially we had a leaf through the curriculum for all year groups and a discussion about the in-depth plans that have been laid out for all ages. We then spent time watching the year 1 students working on digraphs with year 3 and 4 working through their reading and comprehension. All of which happened as a collaborative process that focussed not just on the learning at hand, but secondary skills of communication, examination, and public speaking. Across the board the teaching was energetic and engaging and the students were lively, interactive, and clearly enjoying their education.

We also had the pleasure of talking to the Student Council. They were confident and eager to talk us through about the books they have read this term. They also eloquently explained the process of how they are learning Maths, giving us a clear view of their learning journey. It was interesting to hear them discuss how they use self-assessment and peer-assessment to review their own progress, and the green pen method!


Finally, we looked through workbooks covering a range of abilities across all year groups. The quality of work by all the students was consistently impressive, showing clear progress and care. It is always a pleasure to have the opportunity to see how the school operates and this visit further boosted my confidence in the school and the methodology being used. It is wonderful to see such a supportive, vibrant, and effective environment for our children.

A huge thank you to all the staff at Northwold for the work they do to create a thriving culture, and I look forward to seeing all the progress the students will have made by the next meeting.

Dominic Noble

## MEASLES

The school Nursing Team has been informed that there has been a rise in cases of measles in Hackney. Please see below the information for schools regarding measles. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>



### Measles

Measles is a serious disease caused by a very infectious virus. It can be dangerous, especially for babies, young children and pregnant women.

#### Catching measles

Measles spreads easily when an infected person breathes, coughs or sneezes.

The virus can stay in the air and on surfaces for up to 2 hours. You can catch measles just by being in a room where an infected person has been, even up to 2 hours after they have left.

A person with measles can spread the infection in the 4 days before they get the rash until 4 days after the rash appears.

#### Symptoms of measles

rash

fever

loss of appetite

sore, red eyes

cough

Other early symptoms include sneezing and a runny or blocked nose. A person with measles will feel very unwell. They will have to spend about five days in bed and will be off school or work for around 2 weeks. There is no treatment or cure for measles.

If you think you might have measles, it's important to call your GP surgery. You will need to stay away from other people to avoid spreading the disease.

#### Possible complications

hearing loss

blindness

pneumonia

encephalitis

brain damage

death

If you get measles when you're pregnant, it could harm your baby. It can cause miscarriage or stillbirth, premature birth, or your baby having a low birthweight.

The measles virus also attacks your immune system, destroying the special white blood cells that react quickly to fight infections you have already had. This means that people who have had measles are more likely to catch other diseases, even ones they have had before. This effect can last up to 3 years after recovering from measles.

#### Measles in numbers

9 out of 10 unvaccinated people will catch measles if they come into contact with an infected person.

1 in 5 people with measles will be admitted to hospital.

1 in 15 children with measles will get one or more complications.

1 in 5,000 people with measles is likely to die.

#### Preventing measles

MMR vaccination is the only way to prevent measles.

Everyone needs two doses, ideally given at 1 year old and at 3 years 4 months old. The MMR vaccine also protects against mumps and rubella.

The MMR vaccine works very well. After 2 doses, 99% of people will be protected against measles.

The vaccine is free for everyone. If you or your child missed a dose, contact your GP surgery to catch up. You are never too old to have the vaccine.


##### 1st dose age 1

✓

##### 2nd dose age 3 years and 4 months


✓

##### More about measles




(nhs.uk)

##### More about the MMR vaccine



(nhs.uk)

##### Measles case numbers



(gov.uk)

This is not a diagnostic tool. If you think your child might have measles, call your GP surgery or 111 right away.  
Developed by NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board.

## **School Term dates 2026 -2027**

### **Autumn Term: (73 days)**

- Wednesday 2nd September 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026 INSET day
- Thursday 3rd September 2026 INSET day
- Friday 23rd October 2026 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 26th October 2026 to Friday 30th October 2026
- Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027

### **Spring Term: (54 days)**

- Monday 4th January 2027 to Thursday 25th March 2027.
- Monday 4th January 2027 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 15th February 2027 to Friday 19th February 2027.
- Easter holiday Friday 26th March 2027 to Friday 9th April 2027.

### **Summer Term: (68 days)**

- Monday 12th April 2027 to Thursday 22nd July 2027
- Monday 12th April 2027 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 31st May 2027 to Friday 4th June 2027
- Summer holiday Friday 23rd July

### **Public holidays**

- Friday 25th December 2026 (Christmas Day)
- Monday 28th December 2026 (Boxing Day)
- Friday 1st January 2027 (New Year's Day)
- Friday 26th March 2027 (Good Friday)
- Monday 29th March 2027 (Easter Monday)
- Monday 3rd May 2027
- Monday 31st May 2027
- Monday 30th August 2027

## Nursery Spaces Available

### Apply Now!

We still have spaces in Nursery for 2 and 3 - year old children. Part time or full-time applications are welcomed. Please contact the school office or email [office@northwold.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:office@northwold.hackney.sch.uk) for further information.

## CHRISTMAS EVENTS

15th Nursery Nativity - 11-11:30am

16th Reception Christmas Story - 9:30am

18th Class Christmas Parties



### Inter-School Football Competition.

Last Friday some of our footballers took part in an inter-school competition against the schools across the trust. The competition was tough and our players played well.

Our children came third in the Year 3 & 4 category and fourth in the Year 5 & 6 Category. Well done to Davies Lane for winning the Year 3 & 4 category and to Selwyn who won the Year 5 & 6 category this time.



### Arbor Choir

Arbor Choir drew a huge crowd when they sang at the Winter Fayre at St Mary's Church, Walthamstow last Saturday.

The choir sang a short programme of songs including 'Carol of the Bells'. The duet rendition of 'O Holy Night' in harmony was very impressive. The choir also had the opportunity to make a guest appearance with 'On That Note' acapella group for 'Silent Night'. The children took the lead on the last verse - some were moved to tears by their soulful singing.

We will be holding another audition session on 8th January for pupils in Y3 - Y6 who are interested in joining the choir. Rehearsals take place at Northwold Primary School every Thursday 4:30pm - 5:30pm.'





### Class Attendance W/E 5/12/2025

Well done to **Year 4 Hawthorne** with the highest attendance last week. They had **100%** attendance.

Class	Attendance %
2 Year Old's	73.33%
N Elm 2	70.45%
RC Ash	94.00%
RC Sycamore	77.95%
Y1 Redwood	90.49%
Y2 Pine	94.52%
Y3 Elder	95.88%
Y3 Teak	89.55%
Y4 Cedar	98.42%
Y4 Hawthorn	100.00%
Y5 Beech	90.67%
Y5 Hazel	94.48%
Y6 Juniper	97.39%
Y6 Maple	94.17%
Grand Total	<b>91.68%</b>

**The class with the highest attendance in a term wins a lunch.**

### Sign of the Week

Learning a new sign each week helps everyone in our setting become more confident in using Makaton, making our environment more inclusive and supportive for all children.

You are welcome to practise the sign at home too! We will share the sign each week so you can join in.

If you need anymore information, please feel free to contact Miss Nicola.



Thank You



Thank You

### School Term dates 2025 -2026

#### **Autumn Term: (75 days)**

- Christmas Holiday Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025

#### **Spring Term: (55 days)**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2026 to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026.
- Easter holiday Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2026 to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

#### **Summer Term: (65 days)**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 to Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026
- Summer holiday Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

#### **Public holidays**

- Thursday 25 December 2025 (Christmas Day)
- Friday 26 December 2025 (Boxing Day)
- Thursday 1 January 2026 (New Year's Day)
- Friday 3 April 2026 (Good Friday)
- Monday 6 April 2026 (Easter Monday)
- Monday 4 May 2026
- Monday 25 May 2026
- Monday 31 August 2026

School finishes at 2:00pm on Friday 19th December. Please ensure your children are collected on time.

Children return on Tuesday 6th January.

## **ACT Early and be vigilant when buying new devices for children this Christmas**

We know many parents and carers will be buying new phones and devices for their children in the run up to Christmas, which is why we're calling on parents to be vigilant about your child's online activity.

This message follows a 38% increase in referrals of children to the Prevent scheme last year in London, which helps stop people becoming radicalised. It's vital that parents are setting appropriate controls to ensure their children are kept safe on their devices. We'd also urge parents and carers to take an active interest in their children's digital lives to try and ensure they don't become drawn towards extremist content that could lead them down a path to radicalisation.

There is information on the ACT Early website (<https://actearly.uk>) which has tips on warning signs to look out for, as well as advice on having conversations with your child, and information on what to do and who to contact if you do have any concerns.

## **Year 4 Micro-Musical**

The Year 4 children were magnificent in their performance of The Vikings. They entertained the audience with fascinating facts and insights from their learning this year, especially through their wonderful songs .



### Caught Being Kind

Please find below the names of the children in each year group who are recognised for their kindness this week.

Nursery	(Elm 1) Shaquarn	(Elm 2) Oliver
Reception	(Sycamore) Ayomide	(Ash) Logan
Year 1	(Redwood) Qasim	
Year 2	(Pine) Rashid	
Year 3	(Elder) Sophia	(Teak) Israel
Year 4	(Cedar) Adriel	(Hawthorn) Musa
Year 5	(Beech) Ismaeel	(Hazel) Hussein
Year 6	(Juniper) Brandon	(Maple) Michelle

### What is on the menu next week?

#### Northwold Primary School Menu – Week 3

	Monday <b>MEAT FREE MONDAY</b>	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Meat Choice</b>	Vegetable Chow Mein (E)	Chicken Pie (G)	Lamb Meatballs with Spaghetti (G, MU, SO)	Tandoori Chicken (MU)	Cod Fish Fingers (F, G)
<b>Vegetarian Choice</b>	Peri-peri rice with Vegetables (V)	Vegetable Lasagne (G, V, MK)	Vegetable Sausage Roll (V, G)	Vegetarian Moussaka (F, MK, G)	Jacket Potato with Cheese & Tuna (MK, F)
<b>Alternative Choice</b>	Cheese Roll with salad (MK, G)	Cheese & Tuna Sandwich with salad (E, F, MK)	Spinach & Ricotta Tortellini (MK, G, V)	Chickpea & Vegetable Stew (V)	Vegetable Samosa (V)
<b>Sides</b>	Coleslaw Bread (G, MK, E)	Bread Garlic bread (G, MK, E)	Homemade Bread Spaghetti (G, MK, E, MU, SO)	Bread Brown Rice (G, MK, E)	Homemade Bread Oven Baked Chips (G, MK, E)
<b>Vegetables</b>	Mixed Vegetables Cauliflower	Sliced Carrot Broccoli	Sweetcorn Peas	Julienne Carrots Green Beans	Baked Beans
<b>Dessert Choice</b>	Fruit Jelly Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (MK)	Chocolate Cake with Custard Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (MK, G)	Fresh Fruit Salad Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (MK)	Cheese & Crackers Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (G, MK)	Ice Cream Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (MK)
<b>Dietary Information</b>	<b>Fresh salad served daily - All our meat is Halal</b> V - Vegetarian CE - contains Celery G - contains Gluten F - contains Fish E - Egg SO - contains Soya MK - contains Milk SU - contains Sulphur Dioxide MU - contains Mustard				



**Rock Steady Concert Photos**  
**Wonderful performance from our Rock Steady stars!**

