

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to meet with the parent council yesterday—we looked at standards in reading, writing and maths. Parents had the opportunity to visit classes and to look at pupils workbooks. They also met the learning council. Our choir visited the local residential home yesterday and treated the residents to a carol concert—the residents thoroughly enjoyed the performance and our choir did us proud! Well done.

Some of our athletes went out with Mr Frimpong, the trust PE lead, to a dodgeball competition and had a great time. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and did the school proud. Well done to our footballers, who took part in the interschool football competition in Chingford today, we are proud of your commitment both on and off the field.

This week the children took part in the finals of the interschool Spelling Bee competition. Our termly Spelling Bee competition allows for class competitions and inter-class competitions before the final team takes part against the schools across the trust.

Thank you to everyone who supported the non-uniform day today by bringing in a bottle for our Christmas Fayre. Thank you to our parent group 'Friends of Northwold' who helped us to put on a successful Christmas Fayre! We really could not do this without you. All funds raised from the fayre go towards enriching the experiences of the children here at Northwold.

Have a lovely week end,

Kind regards  
Bronwen Chalmers  
Headteacher



## Diary Dates

### December

- 10th Y4 Micro Musical - 9.30am
- 11th Christmas Jumper Day
- 11th Carols around the Christmas Tree - 4pm
- 11th Rock Steady Concert—9:30am
- 12th Pantomime 1—3pm
- 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/>

**Please be reminded that parents, carers or anyone picking up children in the playground after school, should not approach other children at all.**  
**If you have a query or a concern please speak to one of the members of staff, who will be more than happy to assist you.**

# Toy safety

*“I would hate for any other child to go through what Becca suffered because of buying dangerous toys via online marketplaces.”*

Mum of two-year-old Becca who swallowed magnets from a toy

**Toys from reputable brands are made to be safe. But if they've come from an unknown seller on an online marketplace, a market or small discount store, they could be dangerous.**

## Buying safely

- ✎ Buy toys from brand names you know. If you've never heard of the seller or the brand and price is really tempting, it could be dangerous
- ✎ Watch out for cheap copies of popular toys. They may not be made to UK safety standards.
- ✎ Check if the toy has been removed from sale because it's unsafe. Visit [gov.uk](http://gov.uk) and search 'product recalls'
- ✎ If you buy something that looks unsafe, trust your instincts and send it back.



## Under 3s most at risk

Babies and toddlers are curious and naturally put everything in their mouths. So dangerous toys can pose the biggest risk to small children. Be especially careful when buying for under 3s.

Watch out for missing or contradictory age warnings. If a toy is pictured with a toddler but marketed as unsuitable for young children, pick something else.

## Which toys are most dangerous?

- ✎ Toys with:
  - accessible button batteries that can burn through your child's food pipe
  - super strong magnets that can rip through your child's belly
  - long cords that can strangle your child
  - small parts that can choke your small child
- ✎ Water beads that can block your child's bowel if swallowed
- ✎ Electrical toys with exposed wires or chargers that can catch fire.

## Checking toys

If you're unsure about the safety of a toy, here are some checks you can do:

- ✎ Check battery compartments for accessible button batteries or loose spares in the box
- ✎ Check for any loose small magnets
- ✎ Give the parts on the toy a quick tug and check for small parts that come off
- ✎ Look for long cords or access to stuffing
- ✎ Check if there are any age restrictions or safety warnings on the product.

## Report dangerous toys

If you spot or buy a toy you're concerned about:

- ✎ Citizens Advice consumer helpline: 0808 223 1133
- ✎ Citizens Advice consumer helpline (Welsh-speaking adviser): 0808 223 1144
- ✎ Advice Direct Scotland helpline: 0808 164 6000
- ✎ Northern Ireland Consumerline: 0300 123 6262

 [capt.org.uk](http://capt.org.uk)


 [@ChildAccidentPreventionTrust](https://www.facebook.com/ChildAccidentPreventionTrust)

 [@capt\\_charity](https://twitter.com/capt_charity)

child accident  
prevention trust 

## 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



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




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.

## Attendance

We track the school attendance each week. Our aim is that we achieve a 98% attendance rate. We do however, expect your child to be in school each and every day that they are well and we kindly ask that you book medical appointments outside school times where possible. This will ensure that your child's attendance is not affected by absence and your child benefits from all school has to offer.

We monitor the attendance of individual pupils regularly. If your child's attendance falls below 92%, they are at risk of persistent absence and we will get in touch with you to discuss how we can support you to ensure your child regularly attends school. Once your child's attendance falls to 90% or below, they are considered to be persistently absent. 90% attendance equates to your child missing a day of school every fortnight or one month of the school year. At this point we will arrange to meet with you to discuss ways to improve attendance. Attending school is compulsory and failure to do so may lead to further sanctions.

We understand that at times, your child may be unwell and not be fit enough to attend school. On these occasions, please do contact the school office to let us know; we will then be able to authorise their absence. We will contact you if we do not hear from you on the first day of absence.

Please see the advice from the NHS in the link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



## Nursery 2 Parents

### APPLY FOR A RECEPTION SCHOOL PLACE 2026

#### **WHO?**

Apply if your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022

#### **WHEN?**

Apply before 15 January 2026  
Offer day is 16 April 2026

#### **HOW?**

Apply online at [eadmissions.org.uk](http://eadmissions.org.uk)  
Follow the step-by-step instructions in this guide

### 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**



4th Choir Community Carol singing.

5th Christmas Fayre - 3.30pm-5.30pm

11th Christmas Jumper Day - £1 for Save the Children

11th Christmas Lunch

11th Carols around the Christmas Tree - 4pm

12th Pantomime 1-3pm

15th Report Cards out

15th Nursery Nativity - 11-11:30am

16th Reception Christmas Story - 9:30am

18th Class Christmas Parties



### Choir Trip

The school choir visited the local retirement home and put on a Christmas performance for the residents. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the performance and the choir members did themselves proud!



### Class Attendance W/E 28/11/2025

Well done to **Year 3 Elder** with the highest attendance last week. They had 97.06% attendance.

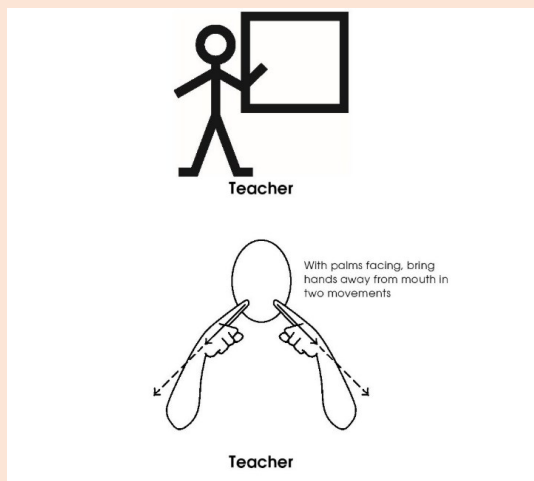
Class	Attendance %
2 Year Old's	66.67%
N Elm 2	75.75%
RC Ash	94.00%
RC Sycamore	89.47%
Y1 Redwood	94.33%
Y2 Pine	92.90%
Y3 Elder	97.06%
Y3 Teak	92.27%
Y4 Cedar	93.68%
Y4 Hawthorn	84.71%
Y5 Beech	91.72%
Y5 Hazel	88.28%
Y6 Juniper	78.70%
Y6 Maple	92.61%
Grand Total	<b>89.84%</b>

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.



### School Term dates 2025 -2026

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

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025 INSET day
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 INSET day
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2025 to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025
- 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)

## 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.

## Hackney Dodgeball Competition

This week, we took **8 KS2 pupils** to represent the school at the Hackney Primary Dodgeball event.

Pupils began the day by rotating through **three skill-based stations** designed to develop **agility, reactions, speed, teamwork, and throwing & catching skills**.

After the skill stations, they took part in a **round-robin competition** against **five other schools**, showcasing brilliant determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout.

It was a **fantastic day**, and our pupils represented the school with pride — well done to everyone involved!





### 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) Bilal	(Elm 2) Keyan
Reception	(Sycamore) Inaayah	(Ash) -Phonenix
Year 1	(Redwood) Kiyah	
Year 2	(Pine) Riley	
Year 3	(Elder) Amelia	(Teak) Amira
Year 4	(Cedar) Sema	(Hawthorn) Inaaya-rae
Year 5	(Beech) Le'sane	(Hazel) Frankie
Year 6	(Maple) Deniz	(Juniper) Hunairai

### What is on the menu next week

#### Northwold Primary School Menu – Week 2

	Monday <b>MEAT FREE MONDAY</b>	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Meat Choice</b>	Macaroni & Cheese (G, MK)	Chicken Burger with Salad (G, M)	Spaghetti Bolognese (G, MU, SO)	Peri-Peri Chicken (MU)	Cod Fish Fingers Battered Fish (F, G)
<b>Vegetarian Choice</b>	Vegetable Burger (G, V)	Cheese & Onion Pastry (G, V, MK)	Vegetable Curry (V)	Cheese & Egg Flan (G, E, MK)	Jacket Potato with Cheese & Tuna (MK, F)
<b>Alternative Choice</b>	Vegetable Goulash (V)	Fish Curry with Brown Rice (V, F)	Egg Curry (F, G)	Vegetable Biryani with Rice (V)	Mexican Wrap (G, MU)
<b>Sides</b>	Bread Diced Potatoes (G, MK)	Bread New Potatoes (MK, E)	Homemade Bread Brown Rice (G, MK, E)	Bread Potato Wedges (G, MK, E)	Homemade Bread Oven Baked Chips (G, MK, E)
<b>Vegetables</b>	Mixed Vegetables Cauliflower	Sliced Carrots Broccoli	Sweetcorn Garden Peas	Diced Carrots Green Beans	Baked Beans
<b>Dessert Choice</b>	Fruit Jelly Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (MK)	Caramel Tart with Custard Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (MK, G)	Fresh Fruit Salad Fruit Yogurt Fresh Fruit (MK)	Cheese & Biscuits 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				