



# JANUARY 2025 - SPRING 1 NEWSLETTER

## Northenden Community School

Determination Ambition Equality

### WHOLE SCHOOL WRITING PROJECT



The Whole School has started the New Year and New Term with an exciting writing project.

We are all exploring the beautiful book, 'The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse' by Charlie Mackesy. This will culminate in a celebration of the children's writing after school on Friday 17th January. All parents and carers are invited to come and see the work the children have produced in the hall after school.

We will also be using this book to support the development of our new Behaviour Policy.

### CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This year's Children's Mental Health Week theme is 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'. We want to encourage embracing self-awareness to build resilience, grow and develop. You will find lots of useful advice to help support your child in the 'Tips for Families' from Place2Be shared with this newsletter. To celebrate individuality, we are having a 'Dress to express day' on Friday 7th February.



### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who donated to Children in Need. Together, the school raised a fantastic £392.



#### Concert Success



It was wonderful to see so many supporters at our Christmas concerts in December! The children performed with enthusiasm and confidence. I hope they are all proud of themselves. Thank you to all those who donated to support our PTA. We raised £329.05

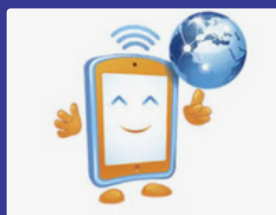
#### PTA

The PTA Quiz, raised a superb £350. Asda cash pots raised £138 and the Christmas cards raised £203. That's a brilliant £1,083 this Autumn Term! All of the money raised will make such a difference to our school. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our next PTA event which will be the Spring Disco.

### SAFER INTERNET DAY

Safer Internet Day 2025 takes place on Tuesday 11th February and is our chance to focus on the online safety and wellbeing of children and young people. The theme this year is 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. Here is some great advice for parents and carers. [Link to advice](#)



### VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Do you have a coaching qualification you would like to use to develop our sports teams? Maybe you are keen to develop our younger reader's fluency? Do you have a specialist skill you would like to share like playing an instrument or gardening? Are you a photographer, who we could use to develop our school website? If so, we want to hear from you. For more information visit <https://www.northendenprimary.co.uk/parents/volunteers>



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

**Friday 17th January** - Writing Project Celebration - 3.05pm in the school hall, all parents and carers are invited.

**3rd to 9th February** - Children's Mental Health Week & National Story Telling Week (See more info in Newsletter)

**Friday 7th February** - Children are invited to 'dress to express' to support Place2Be. [Place2Be Justgiving Donation Page](#)

**Tuesday 11th February** - Safer Internet Day

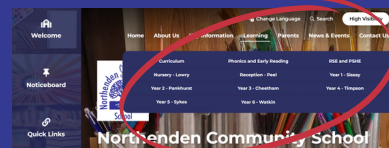
**Friday 14th February** - School closes for Half Term

**Monday 24th February** - School reopens for Spring Term 2



## CURRICULUM UPDATES

As of this half term, all information relating to the curriculum being taught in your child's class can be found on the class page of the school website. [Link to class pages on the website](#)



## COMMUNICATION



We know that effective communication is incredibly important to forge positive relationships between home and school. Therefore, we are pleased to be launching 'Reach More Parents' - a new digital communication tool specifically designed for parent and School communications.

In the coming weeks, you will be receiving a message, with instructions about how to set up the reach more parents app and both priority one and two contacts with parental responsibility will be provided with an enrolment code.

In the meantime, you can get prepared by downloading the **Reach More Parents** app onto your smart phone or tablet.

<https://app.weduc.co.uk/>



## ATTENDANCE

Our Whole School target is 96%

Our Whole School Attendance from September is 94.6%



Well done to Year 2, who achieved the highest attendance last half term with 96.7%

Statistics show a direct link between under-achievement and absence below 95%.

Regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically. Regular attenders find school routines, school work and friendships easier to cope with.

### After School Sports Clubs

Don't forget, if you haven't already had chance to book your child onto this half term's after school sports clubs. Please navigate to Parent Pay to sign up. [Clubs letter spring term](#)

## NATIONAL STORY TELLING WEEK

This fantastic event is a celebration of the power of sharing stories. Stories teach us about the world; they allow us to step into someone else's shoes and feel empathy; they help us to relax and escape and they can help develop essential literacy skills.

During this week, we are asking parents/ carers to join in the sharing by becoming a 'Secret Reader' and reading to their child's class. This means arriving at school 20 minutes before home time to share a story with the class. We want the 'Secret Reader' to be a surprise so please do not let the children know if you have signed up! If you would like to be a 'Secret Reader', email [admin@northenden.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northenden.manchester.sch.uk) and the class teacher will confirm a date and time with you.



The next chance to be a 'Secret Reader' will be the week of World Book Day in March.