



Friday 16th October 2020

Dear All,

It has been a very long week in school and I think everyone is looking forward to a much needed rest! The resilience and enthusiasm of the children has been fantastic this term and we are so proud of how well they have adapted to being back in school. I am also incredibly grateful to all of our staff who have worked tirelessly to make sure that everyone has been as happy and safe as possible.

Guidance on the Covid-19 pandemic continues to be updated regularly and, at the moment, it isn't impossible that we will be required to have a 'circuit break' when children learn at home. We will have to be guided completely by the government on this but please do take the time to complete our accessibility survey so that we can support you as much as possible should that time come. Thank you to everyone who has done so already. The link is... <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WJJN9BY>

This is our last newsletter before half-term so I would like to wish you a peaceful and relaxing break. I hope you all get time to recharge batteries and catch-up on rest before the new term begins.

Happy Friday!

Mrs L Watts – Executive Headteacher

This week in class...

Pre-school: The children have been designing some interesting ball runs this week and enjoyed finding out how many things they can get to travel down the tubes. We have also had numbers in the sand which has helped the children start to recognise numerals and practice counting. Preschool would also like to say a big thank you to Claire and tell her good luck as she leaves us for her new job on Friday. We will all miss you Claire.

Acorn: Acorn class have been learning about the festival of Harvest and why Christians celebrate it. The new phonics sounds are ck, e and u. Children have been finding words that include these sounds and blending sounds together to make words. In maths, we have been finding the odd one out in a group of objects and explaining the reasoning behind the choice. The older children have been exploring the relationship between addition and subtraction by making fact families.

Oak: This week in Topic, Oak class have been looking at the similarities between Holi and Easter and the children have been learning how these are celebrated in different countries around the world. In Art the children created their own Jackson Pollock inspired splatter paintings using what they learnt in a previous colour mixing lesson. In Maths we have been looking at multiplication facts and negative numbers.





Goodbye Claire!

Today we have had to say a very sad goodbye to Claire Buxton who has been working in our preschool for over 10 years. She is a much loved member of the team – our own personal Tigger! Claire's enthusiasm for her work with children is never-ending and we will all miss her very much. We wish her all the very best for her new role and we know she will continue to be completely amazing!

World Mental Health Day

Thank you so much to everyone who wore something **YELLOW** on Monday and donated money to Young Minds. We raised £80 across the federation for this important charity – well done!!

Friends of Northrepps Primary

At this time of year, we need to hold the AGM for our Friends group. In normal times the Friends have worked incredibly hard to raise money for the little extras which make children's special memories of school. Anyone with a child in the school is automatically a member so why not come along and hear how the year has gone. There is no obligation to volunteer – although we certainly won't say no! Our meeting will take place on **Tuesday 10th of November at 9am**. It will be a socially distanced meeting outside, weather permitting. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Harvest Festival

Whilst we can't hold our harvest festival all together this year, we will be celebrating in each class. We would love to be able to make a really big donation to the food bank this year to support families in the local area at this difficult time. Any donations of tinned/packaged food items or toiletries/cleaning products would be greatly appreciated. Please send in donations before half-term. **Thank you!**

School breaks up for the half-term holidays on Thursday 22nd of October. We are open on the 22nd but closed on the 23rd. We look forward to seeing everyone back safe and sound on **Monday 2nd of November**. Happy holidays!

Kindness

The children in Oak class have been really thinking about kindness this week. We have talked about how kindness can affect our own mental health as well as other people's and we have thought about different ways to be kind. After half-term we will be searching for our first Kindness Champions who will be helping to make our school a happier place. Children will also be able to earn their very own kindness award – we look forward to sharing the children's successes soon!

