



Northlew & Ashbury C of E Primary School – Let Your Light Shine Matthew 5:16

15/12/2023

Notes from Lead Teacher

What a wonderful term this has been! We have been so impressed with the children's attitude to learning. You have all achieved so much this half term, well done! We would like to thank you all for your support over the past term and hope that you have a restful and peaceful Christmas. Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year on Wednesday 3rd January.

Super Learner

Jasmine - Jasmine has worked hard over the past few weeks to become more independent in her learning. She has started to attempt more work on her own or ask for help from a friend before asking an adult. It is great to see Jasmine increasing her self-confidence. Well done, Jasmine!

Jack– Jack has shown a fantastic attitude towards his learning recently. He has been listening intently and been contributing to class discussions with a much clearer voice. It was lovely to see you use this loud voice in the play. Well done, Jack!



School Value- Peace

Rowan – Rowan always brings a peaceful atmosphere to school and the classroom. He is a great friend to everyone and shows a caring attitude to all his peers. Well done, Rowan!

Ollie- Ollie has been very inclusive when visiting Boasley Cross. He has shown a really caring attitude and has endeavoured to make new friendships. This has helped create a calm and peaceful setting during the school pantomime trip.

Attendance

A slight drop in attendance – it's that time of year with bugs and colds lurking. But hopefully we can look forward to a healthy new year!

**Whole School
Attendance**

96.81%

Celebration Attendance Lunch

Mr Hill hosted a celebration lunch last week where children who have had improving attendance had their names put in a raffle. Well done to the following children who were chosen:

Zac D
Kason
Isabel
Charlotte



Reading playtimes

To promote reading throughout the school after the Christmas holidays', we will be holding an extra play session for the children who have read at least 5 times throughout the week. These reads will need to be recorded in your child's reading record with a comment from the parent or carer.

Reading Raffle

The PTFA have kindly continued to donate a book to each child in order for them to develop their love for reading and the choice of books within the library. The winner of the reading raffle on 15th December was Kason. **If your child has already received one of these books, and has already read it, please can this be returned ASAP to school to be checked in to the school library for other children to read.**

PTFA Christmas Hamper

Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket for our Christmas Hamper and for selling the tickets. The winner of the Christmas hamper was Winnie Davey. The second prize winner was Steve Hutton. Well done and we hope you enjoy your prizes!

Stay and Play

Our final 'Stay and Play' of the term was a huge success and it was lovely to see people returning for the session! The 'snow' tuff tray was a definite hit and left the hall (and children!) covered in flour. We will be planning more stay and plays for in the new year.

Pantomime

Class 1 had a great time at the Pantomime on Wednesday watching 'Dear Santa'. They even got to meet Santa at the end and receive a present from him!

Class 2 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to the theatre also. They spent the morning mixing with the children and developing their friendships, by sharing their learning from DT it was a brilliant environment. Well done everyone!





Christmas Dinner

The children had a wonderful time on Thursday, enjoying their delicious Christmas dinner. Thank you to the PTFA for the donation of Christmas crackers, it made for a very festive atmosphere with the Christmas music playing in the background. We also had a very special visit from Father Christmas who brought some amazing gifts for each child and even the staff!



Christmas Jumper Day

It was wonderful to see all

of the Children embracing the Christmas spirit and coming to school in their Christmas jumpers on Thursday.



Nativity



Thank you to everyone who came to watch our Nativity on Tuesday. The children performed brilliantly and definitely showcased how hard they have worked rehearsing. Thank you to parents/carers for your help with the children learning their lines and creating such amazing costumes! It was lovely to see how the children re-told the story of the Nativity in a traditional way.



Casper 500 Words Competition

You will remember that for home learning the children were asked to write and enter into the BBC 500-word competition. Casper received a notification that his story has been chosen to go through to the next round of the competition. Well done, Casper and good luck for the next round of judging!

Casper Christmas Card Competition

Casper's luck didn't stop there! Class 2 entered a Christmas card competition where they designed their own Christmas card for the Supply Register. Casper's design was selected from all the entries as the winner and the card has been sent to all the schools across the country that are registered with the agency. Casper was presented with a box of craft materials (and some chocolate!) from Jack and Roxanne from the Supply Register. Well done, Casper!



Carols at Lakeside

Some children went to the Residential Care home at Lakeside to sing some of the Christmas carols they have learnt this year. Thank you again to



Hayley and James Canham for transporting all the



children- we wouldn't be able to attend these events without your fantastic support. Mrs Ogborne commented on how amazing the singing was and that the residents enjoyed the singing and engaging with the children.

FOODBANKS AND FOOD HUBS

Devon County Council – free supermarket school meal vouchers for those eligible during school holidays.

Application online through Citizen's Portal or paper form can be sent out if you call the number here. Help is also available for people without recourse to public funds if their income is under £22,700 pa. For those eligible who have not yet received their vouchers, email freeschoolmeals@devon.gov.uk or call DCC's education helpline on 0345 155 1019. For those whose income has recently reduced or stopped, please apply via DCC's Devon Citizens Portal to check eligibility or ring 0345 155 1019.

North Tawton Merry Go Round Shop
Community fridge and larder; pre-loved children's clothing and more

Open to all. Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm Sat 10am – 1pm 01837 82521 Email: mgrcvic@gmail.com <https://www.merrygoroundonline.co.uk/>

Okehampton Foodbank offering food packs to local people in and around Okehampton. Food can only be accessed with a valid foodbank voucher issued by a local agency e.g. Citizens' Advice, DCC, social worker or health visitor.

Open 10 am – 12 noon Fridays. Email: contact@okehamptonfoodbank.co.uk <http://okehamptonfoodbank.co.uk> Facebook page 07483 877378 (monitored Wed – Fri)

Okehampton Community Fridge (in Ockment Community Centre foyer)

Self-service of food items including some fresh food. Please take what you can use. Available 9 am – 5 pm Monday – Friday.

Okehampton Community Kitchen (East Street, Okehampton) and **The Hidden Café** at Ecohub, 1 Courtenay Road, Okehampton

Okehampton Community Kitchen on Facebook Social space to sell, swap and share produce 07806 770926

Princetown Food Hub (run by Feeding Devon)

Fill a bag of food for £5 per week (or £10 for 2 bags for families) at Methodist Chapel Hall, Wednesdays 11am-12pm. All welcome, free hot drinks and snacks available. 07880 870 239 Email: princetownfeedingdevon@gmail.com. On Facebook.

A Message from Beverly Picket-Jones Moorland Hub SENCO

DCC Autism and Us parent support programme

Support for parents/carers of Devon's primary and secondary children who are either on the autism waiting list or who have received a diagnosis of autism.

Our free Autism and Us programme and themed workshops are for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post-diagnosis. We offer access for families of children and young people who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, as well as families of children and young people who have received an autism diagnosis.

Autism and Us parent programme (four week course)

Attending the Autism and Us parent programme gives you an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child's presenting needs.

The programme is made up of four weekly 'live online' sessions (each approximately two hours long) related to the following topics or themes:

Spring 2024 term	Programme 1 (mornings)	Programme 2 (late afternoon)
Autism overview	Tuesday 16 January, 10am to 12pm	Thursday 29 February, 4.30pm to 6.30pm
Communication	Tuesday 23 January, 10am to 12pm	Thursday 7 March, 4.30pm to 6.30pm
Understanding and supporting behaviour	Tuesday 30 January, 10am to 12pm	Thursday 14 March, 4.30pm to 6.30pm
Sensory	Tuesday 6 February, 10am to 12pm	Thursday 21 March, 4.30pm to 6.30pm

Spring term 2024 workshops

Date and time	Topic
Monday 5 February 2024 10am to 12pm	Introducing Devon Information Advice and Support and Parent Carer Forum Devon This workshop will introduce the Devon Information Advice and Support (DIAS): who we are and what we do. We will look at how you and your child or young person can engage with the decisions that impact you, including how to get best out of conversations and meetings about your child's support, how to share your views and those of your child, and understanding your options and legal rights. We will take you through our information and resources that may be relevant for you and your child or young person and talk through how and when it might be most helpful to link with our service. You will also be able to find out more about Parent Carer Forum Devon, how we work and how you can get involved.
Wednesday 7 February 9.30am to 12pm	Autism and girls This workshop seek to explore the background of the diagnosis of autism in girls and why historically the female / male ratio has been significantly lower. We explore the key characteristics of girls with autism including areas such as possible masking, communication, social understanding and associated vulnerability. Subsequently we seek to highlight key approaches / strategies which aim to help to support autistic girls within the home / family context.
Monday 26 February 10am to 12pm	Autism – communication (verbal – support strategies) This workshop explores communication strengths and differences and how these may impact on daily life for verbal children and young people and families. It will support in exploring strategies to support child and young people around the following areas: how adult use of language can support and provide structure, self-advocating through communication, how visuals can support communication and sharing communication needs with the wider family/support network.

Date and time	Topic
Wednesday 28 February 10am to 12pm	Autism and demand avoidance This workshop seeks to explore the key characteristics of the extreme demand avoidance profile while outlining the diagnostic background and how these fits into the strengths and needs of autistic children and young people. Subsequently it explores the characteristics of this profile and how it may manifest through a child's behaviour. A range of strategies / approaches are highlighted with the aim of supporting children and young people in the home with an emphasis on an individualised approach which allows for the prioritising of goals to support family life.
Tuesday 5 March 10am to 12pm	Autism – communication (pre or non-verbal – support strategies) This workshop will consider both language and communication and what is meant by a Total Communication approach. We will also consider practical strategies to support pre and non-verbal children and young people communicate through a focus on means, reasons and opportunity. Please note, this workshop is not appropriate for supporting children who are experiencing situational mutism.
Wednesday 13 March 10am to 12pm	Autism – vulnerability and online safety This workshop will explore some of the vulnerabilities that ALL children and young people may experience growing up. But this workshop will specifically shine a lens on how a child or young person with autism's profile may lead them to respond in different ways through their own developmental journeys. A range of approaches, strategies and supportive links will also be offered to support family life.
Monday 18 March 10am to 12pm	Autism – managing stress and anxiety This workshop will explore our understanding of anxiety and how autistic children and young people may experience and express their own anxiety. The workshop will also consider and provide how we can support and reduce their anxiety within the home / family context through a range of approaches and strategies.
Tuesday 26 March 09.30am to 12pm	Autism – sensory processing and integration This workshop will explore the 8 senses, sensory integration and how this may affect how autistic children and young people respond to the environment and sensations they are feeling. It aims to raise awareness of sensory processing differences that may impact on an autistic person's life and provide a range of approaches and strategies to support through sensory regulation approaches within the home / family context.

Booking a place on the Autism and Us parent support programme

To book your place on the programme or workshops, or to express your interest in future programmes, please send an email to educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk.

Week Beginning 8.1 .24	
Monday	Lunchtime Sewing Club Music Session
Tuesday	Okehampton College transition assembly for Year 5 and 6 Year 6 Lunchtime SATs Club
Wednesday	Lunchtime Gardening Club
Thursday	KS1 & KS2 PE lesson- Please come to school in your PE kit. Lunchtime Reading Club Martial Arts after school club 3.30-4.30pm
Friday	KS1 & KS2 PE lesson- Please come to school in your PE kit.

*Your child must be booked into after-school clubs via School Gateway in order to take part.

Mrs Lee – Lead Teacher slee@northlewprimary.org.uk 01409 221420