



Midsomer Norton Primary School

Head teacher: Mr Alun Randell

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have finally reached the end of the school year - a year like no one has ever experienced before! Never in a million years could I have imagined that this was what headship would be like. There are always challenges running a school, but the number of plans we have had to make and then rip up and start again as we responded to changing circumstances is almost beyond belief. However, I expected to be here late Friday afternoon sitting here in my office, completely spent and drained - instead I find myself sat here with a smile on my face as I think back with pride of how this school community has pulled together to cope with the biggest challenge of a generation. Children and their families, and the staff of the school have worked tirelessly, doing the best they can to look after our children and each other. I would like to thank everybody for the role they have played in making a difference. I would like to particularly thank the staff - who have given their all throughout the pandemic. They are, frankly, exhausted, but I know that they will recharge their batteries and return in September (probably having given up large parts of their holiday to come into school and prepare) with the same determination, positivity and dedication to our children and our school. They are quite simply amazing and I could not work with a better team!

How can I get my child ready for school?

It would be very normal for children who have not been in school for an extended period to feel some anxiety as they begin back. We are modifying our timetable and curriculum to enable us to support the children's physical and mental health as well as their academic progress. A number of parents and carers have asked how they can help prepare their child for school in September. Our top tips are:

- Talk to your child about how they are feeling.
- Focus on the positives but don't dismiss any worries. Discuss them in a matter of fact manner, explaining what the school will be doing and how it will help. See last week's [letter](#) for details to share with your child.
- Respond (if you haven't already done so) to our [questionnaire](#) so that teachers have an insight into how our children are feeling before they return.
- Email the school if you have any particular questions. Although the school office is closed, the email inbox will be being checked periodically.
- Continue to encourage your child to read aloud for a few minutes each day and to practice their number facts and times tables.
- Have fun, relax and enjoy the (hopefully) glorious weather.

Further questions?

Our Risk Assessment for September is available on our website at:

<https://www.midsomernortonschoolpartnership.com/uploads/files/covid-risk-assessment-september.pdf>

INSET Days

The first two days of term are INSET days. Children start back at school on Thursday 3rd September. Term dates and INSET dates are available on our school [website](#).

Library

Thank you to our families for their incredibly generous support buying books for our school library via our Amazon wish list. We have completely overhauled it and it looks amazing. We are sure our children will love it. A huge thank you to our staff for giving their time to this mammoth task!



Social Distancing

Please continue to use the play ground markings to enable social distancing when you are dropping off/ collecting your child.

Attendance

Attendance from September is compulsory. Please contact us if there are any issues about your child returning to school in September

School Dinners

Please book school dinners on ParentPay, they need to be booked one week in advance

Online Book Shop

Visit our [scholastic book shop](#) to buy books to shop and the school receives 25p for every £1 spent! All funds raised will be spent on books for our library

Healthy packed lunches

Please ensure that your child's lunchbox is healthy and **DOES NOT CONTAIN ITEMS THAT CONTAIN NUTS AS WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL AND WE HAVE BOTH CHILDREN AND STAFF WITH SEVERE NUT ALLERGIES. FOODS CONTAINING NUTS WILL HAVE TO BE REMOVED FROM CHILDRENS LUNCH BOXES.** No fizzy drinks are allowed in school. Drinks bottles that children have in the class should only contain water.

PTA

Thank you also to our wonderful Parent Teachers Association (PTA) for all of their help and support this year. Although fundraising activities have been drastically curtailed in the second half of the year, they continue to play a key role including through managing school uniform orders. Led ably, enthusiastically and with great energy by Jo Guy and Jodie Plummer, the PTA's fundraising earlier in the year meant that we were able to spend £1000 on our new PSHE scheme and another £1,300 on classroom and curriculum resources. Thank you!!

George's Garden

A big shout out and a huge thank you to George's Garden in Gurney Slade and their fantastic staff who last weekend donated a car boot full of plants to our school. In the holidays, Tommy and Kerry at the centre, have offered to come into the school to give us advice on how we could make it greener!

Check out their Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/georgesgardengurneyslade/?ti=as>

N'fest - a message from the organisers

"Dear Parent / Carer, whether your child has been to N'Fest every year or this would be their first time - they are in for an extra special NFest Holiday Club this summer as the event moves to YouTube at 10:00 a.m. each morning from Mon 24 - 28th August. The team from Welton Baptist Church will be bringing the usual amazing mix of drama, games, crafts, singing, stories...and pies! Sign up soon as we will be delivering parcels containing T-Shirts, crafts, games and goodies to the first 250 children to register...and it's still all FREE! Check out the promo video via this link

<https://www.facebook.com/711563672228034/videos/3282025371848505/> and

Register here www.weltonchurch.org.uk"

Summer Reading Challenge

Sign-up to the Bathnes Libraries Summer Reading Challenge for free here:

www.sillysquad.org.uk . There are lots of resources online for both home and school learning: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>

We wish all our families a lovely summer. We look forward to seeing our children on Thursday 3rd September.

Best wishes to all,

Mr Randell
Headteacher



News

Can we help?

Midsomer Norton Primary School holds Foodbank Vouchers. Please speak in confidence to reception who will be able to give you further information.



Don't forget that you can catch up with what's going on in school on our twitter feed:

<https://twitter.com/MSNPrimary>



Like us on our Facebook page! Search for Midsomer Norton Primary School and Nursery

All letters are uploaded to the school website.

