

# Term 5 Newsletter 2018 – 2019



## Message from Michelle Reysenn – Headteacher

Dear families,

Term 5 has come and gone in a flash! Despite it being the shortest term of the school year, it has still been a very busy term.

And the chickens are back! We now have four chickens at Notton. The boys in the independent houses are taking responsibility for them, letting them out in the mornings, collecting eggs, checking their food and water, and ensuring they are locked away safely during the evening. Animal care is so valuable for the social and emotional development of young people. We also have tadpoles, and frogs in primary! Unfortunately, we have had to separate these as the tadpoles have been trying to eat the baby frogs!

It is lovely to see the sensory garden being used by the primary pupils, playing in the sand, and with the water feature. Plus, now we have sun shades, the boys and staff can sit out there and play in the hotter weather, some of which we have already experienced! Primary pupils have also been enjoying the scooters in the main playground. These have all been donated to the school from the local community.

The new American themed diner is almost complete with a few more murals to be spray painted during the half term break. Thank you to the student council who re-designed this space.

Pupils in middle and upper school have really appreciated having their own sensory room; a place to unwind, relax, and self-regulate. The walls are soft, the floor is carpeted and has a luxurious rug, there are 3 giant leather beanbags to chill out on, and we also now have two giant gym balls for sensory stimulation and regulation. The ceiling swing chair is soon to be fitted for an even more relaxing space!

Pupils have experienced trips out during the education day, as part of their learning, and also, during the residential evenings. Bowling, cinema, Freedog trampolining, The Bounce House, Bowood, Lacock Park... the list of places visited could go on and on... lucky boys! (And staff!) Outdoor education is such a crucial part of the curriculum, and from September, all pupils will have Outdoor Education as part of their timetable. Supporting the mental and physical well-being of our pupils is essential.

More bedroom furniture has arrived and has been built in the bedrooms, so that a modern, clean and welcoming feeling is across the school, in all areas. The lounges have all been updated this year with new sofas, cushions, curtains and rugs, and we are aiming to repaint all of these areas over the next few months. We have just had a delivery of new TVs and DVD players for bedrooms and lounges, as well as a couple of games consoles for social time in the evenings.

Finally, you may already be aware that we have an additional training day on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. This is for all staff to work together on the changes Ofsted are implementing, especially in regards to the curriculum.

We wish you all a lovely half term break, bank holiday weekend, and look forward to seeing pupils return on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Kind regards

Michelle



PSHE is so important to all of us. Personal Special and Health Education – We cover a range of topics each term to ensure we join in on national and international events, as well as covering key aspects of the PSHE programme.




### PSHE Themes Term 5 2018-19

St George's Day
World Shakespeare Day
Anzac Day
The Red Cross
International Nurses Day
Ramadan



### End of Term Asian Celebration – April 2019







Our end of term Asian Celebration Day was a massive success and it was great to see so many families here at Notton House enjoying the day with our young people. Taekwondo, Yoga, Henna tattoos, Batik Art and Indian cooking were just a few highlights of the day!

At Notton House we value everyone, and our staff are crucial to everything we are trying to achieve. This is why well-being is regarded so highly – we ended last term with an Easter Egg hunt after the boys went home! Yummy!

### Some Easter Fun! For Staff!







## Site Updates During The Easter Break



There has been so much happening during the Easter holidays to make the site safer, more exciting and appealing, and simply better for our staff and pupils.

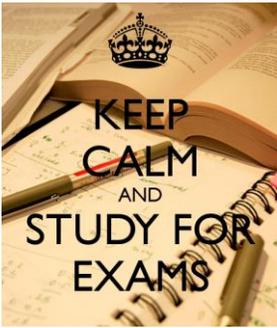
The sensory garden has had a few updates with some astro-turf and giant chalk boards, the ICT suite is now complete and ready to use, lots of areas have been re-painted, some lounges now have new curtains and furniture, the metal gates by lower school have been repainted creating a more welcoming entrance, the gate to the primary playground has been given a makeover with a softer look, the new meeting room for staff, visitors and families is now ready for use, some displays around the school have been updated... the list goes on and on and on...

We are looking forward to new pupils arriving in terms 5 and 6, and therefore, work has started on updating and preparing their classroom. The poly tunnel area has been cleared, ready for planting and the return of chickens!

The sports' hall roof has been fixed, and the damaged floor repaired. And upper school now have their own sensory room chill-out space!

But the main event has to be the work that has taken place in the dining room... a new floor and some fabulous American themed murals. Four have been completed and another four will be completed over the next few months. What a transformation! Take a look at the images below. Amazing!





## Exams

The exam period starts on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May with Entry Level English and runs for 4 weeks through to the final physics exam on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June. Some of the exams are over 2 hours in duration and require students to show incredible resilience to complete the challenging work over this time period. Best of luck to all students in years 10 and 11 during this time, but especially to the year 11s who have a significant number of exams spread over the 4 weeks.

## College / Next Steps

The end of the exam period signals a big transition for our year 11 students. We currently have two offers of college places for Public Services and Construction. At the end of term 6, one of our year 11s has also managed to secure a week long work experience with the Police Service. Work experiences and college visits and applications are still being organised for our remaining 3 year 11 boys.



## Term 5 Newsletter – 7/8N



In 7/8N during term 5 we have made progress with developing relationships in tutor time, as well as learning about New Zealand in SMSC. We've been playing some new and old games that we all enjoy, including; Uno, Payday and the new fan favourite, Shut The Box. In Outdoor Education we have enjoyed trips to the skate-park in Swindon and a rather chilly, but hugely enjoyable walk to Lacock, doing some wading and river dipping in the River Avon. We found lots of interesting river beasts and even a little fish with the nets that we borrowed. We gathered up a lovely collection of shells from our session.



In Maths we begin with our usual 5-a-day to warm the students' brains up before embarking on some interactive use of the PC's playing number sequence games, as well as practical sequence making of own using building blocks.

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} +2 & +2 & +2 & +2 & +2 & +2 \\ \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \\ 2, & 4, & 6, & 8, & 10, & 12, & 14 \end{array}$$

For Literacy this term, we are developing our writing skills by completing extended written tasks. We will practice purposeful writing including formal and informal letters etc.

## Speech writing Task - Kieran M (Year 11)

Game of Thrones is a show that many of us have watched and grown with over the last nine years. Many of us know the show heavily features big battles with twist endings. The biggest twist so far, however, is the dilemma of who will sit on the iron throne and the consequential effects on Westeros.

Potentially anyone could take the throne at this point. But we are not without our main candidates: Aegon Targaryen (aka Jon Snow), Daenerys Targaryen (aka a lot of things, but there's too many to fit on this page) and the slight possibility that the throne may remain in the hands of Cersei Lannister. There are also a lot of fan theories speculating that characters such as Jaime Lannister, Brienne of Tarth or even Podrick could take the throne in the season finale.

For now, let us focus on the main possibilities for characters to take the iron throne, these being Aegon, Daenerys and Cersei.

Each of these characters have a legitimate claim for the iron throne, which makes it a dilemma for all of them as none of them want to give it up, except of course Aegon who is refusing his claim to the throne, as he is in love with Daenerys, although he may not be given a choice in the future.

To make it simple, let's start with Cersei. Proud mother of four children, three of whom have perished in previous seasons; smug, evil tyrant with a habit for starting wars. The iron throne has been in her family since her marriage to King Robert Baratheon. King Robert's death laid the path for Cersei's sadistic son Joffrey to take the throne and rule with an iron fist, until his untimely demise, four seasons in, much to the amusement of the Game of Thrones fan base. Thus leaving the throne to her second son Tommen, an innocent and kind young man who strived to help Westeros for what little time he spent on the iron throne as he soon committed suicide after Cersei's murder of Lady Marjory, Tommen's girlfriend. Cersei's daughter was also murdered, by the sister of the Dornish Prince, after the death of Prince Oberon.

Ever since, she has been creating more and more enemies in a lot of lesser known characters in the show, as well as the other main candidates for the iron throne. Thus, putting herself in a difficult situation, even though she controls King's Landing and the entirety of Westeros. My personal opinion is that Cersei is going to end up as a pile of ashes in the next episode or two.

Moving on to both Daenerys and Aegon, the situation gets a bit trickier. Daenerys has spent years gathering her army and the wisdom of her advisors, before finally landing in Westeros and beginning to try and take what she believes is rightfully hers, due to her family member being the last person on the iron throne, before the great war against the Mad King, in which Robert Baratheon took the iron throne. However, it was discovered in the later seasons that Jon Snow is actually born of house Targaryen and is the rightful heir to the iron throne. Aegon has since sworn his allegiance to Daenerys and has promised not to tell anyone. But this has been broken. He does not want the iron throne. He might not get what he wants however, as word is already beginning to spread that he has a more legitimate claim than Daenerys. Even Drogon knows for God's sake.

My opinion on who will take the iron throne is that we will see Aegon take the throne, after Daenerys dies in the battle against Cersei Lannister and her armies.

## Pictures from PE and Outdoor Education



Kieran B completing his GCSE PE practical assessment on the trampoline



GCSE PE student Reagen trying out climbing



Lee S kicking the punch bag in the fitness suite and trying out Golf during Outdoor Education



Jesse on the ramp at the skate park



Joe C and Jack S braving the adverse weather conditions to get to the top of Westbury White Horse

## Food Technology

This term Primary have been making all sorts of delicious toasties adding spice and sauces to liven up the basic ingredients, they have also been making stir fried noodles and rice. Middle school have been making stir fried noodles and rice and pancakes. Upper school have been making pork chops and home-made French fries, sauté potatoes and Victoria sponge cake. This week all years will be making pasta and Mexican dishes, tacos, burritos and fajitas.

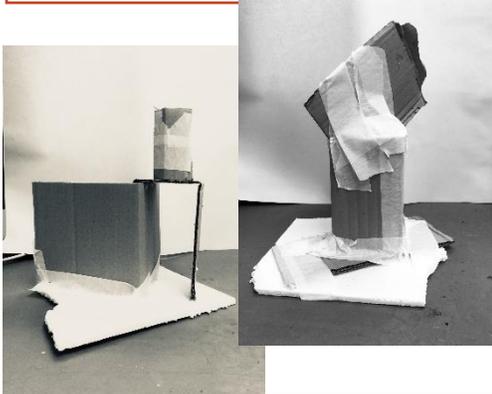
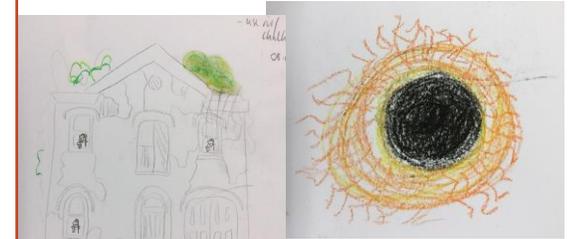
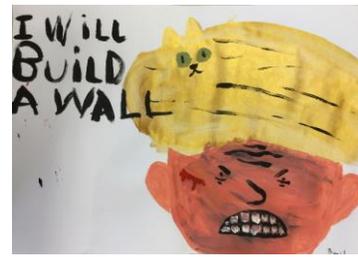


## Art Term 5

This term so far Primary have been drawing things that inspire them to create including USA politics and pictures of space, influenced by the recent photo of a black hole.

Middle and Upper school are doing European Art and so far have done an Anselm Kiefer, a 'Broken Buildings' drawing projects, researching Le Corbusier and making a 3D 'Le Corbusier' style house.

The rest of the term all years will be doing some photography in respect of their topics, hoping to take advantage of the lovely weather (hopefully), taking photo's around the site and local area



## Questions I wish my parents had asked me

YOUNGMINDS

#Take 20

Who are the people you feel safe with?

Is there anything you want to talk about?

When was the last time you were very happy?

What makes you feel calm?

If you could change anything in your life what would it be?

What difficulties are you facing now?

What can I do to help?

I can tell that you really like "insert video game/app/tv show/fossil collection", what about it do you love so much?

Where is a place you feel safe?

Do you have any worries about starting a new school?

What are you most looking forward to this week?

It's okay to keep stuff private, but did you want to tell me more about "insert subject"?

How are you coping since your dad died?

What are you worried about when you lie in bed and can't sleep?

What are you most dreading this week?

How do you feel about things changing?

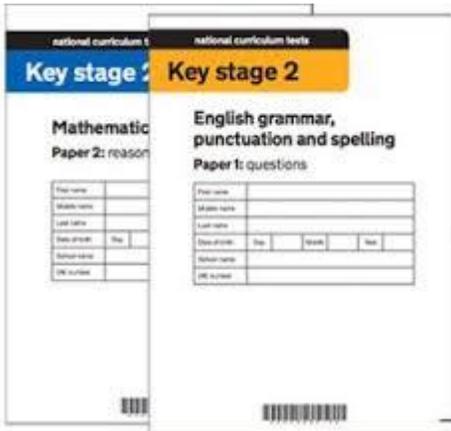
Is there a lot of picking on people at your school?

Is there anyone who is upsetting you?

How do you feel about growing up? What's exciting, what's scary?

# Year 6 SATs

What Are SATs (Statutory Assessment Tests)?



SATs are national tests that children take twice during their primary school life. Firstly, at the end of Key Stage 1 (KS1) in Year 2, and then secondly, at the end of Key Stage 2 (KS2) in Year 6. These standardized tests are actually known as End of Key Stage Tests and Assessments, but most people know them as SATs.

SATs are an indicator of the progress your child has made at school so far. They are not a measure of whether your child is passing or failing; they simply show what level your child is currently working to.

The SATs papers include:

- English reading comprehension
- Grammar and punctuation
- Spelling
- Maths arithmetic
- Maths reasoning x2



to our

Year 6 students:

**Maty, Rio, Junior, Dylan and Tom**

Who completed their SATs during May.

## **This Term's Green Token Winners**

Dylan – 8  
Junior – 5  
Reagen – 4  
Lee S – 4  
Connor W – 4

## **This Term's Attendance Winners**

<b>100%</b>	<b>95% or above</b>
Dylan	Reagen
Bennito	Haruun
Rio	Cody
Lee G	Nathan
Ben H	
Cayden	
Junior	
Tom	
Connor	

## Oak class newsletter

This term in Oak class we have been learning about staying healthy and the human body, we have had fun dissecting a pig's heart and finding out which drinks contain the most sugar during our science lessons.



We have been planting runner beans and peas to grow in our sensory garden.

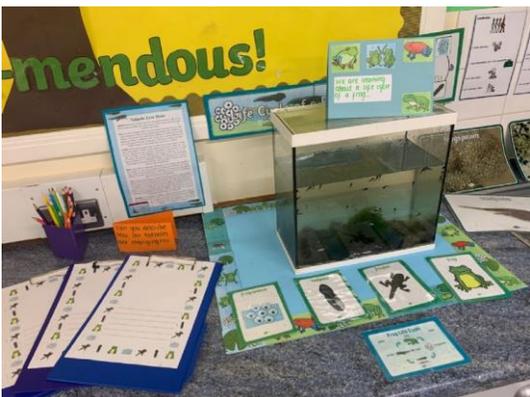
We have also had great fun with water too!!



In literacy we have been discovering the features of a newspaper and have been writing newspaper articles. We have been practising our skills ready for SATs and have concentrated on improving our spellings and grammar.



In numeracy we have learnt about co-ordinates, designed treasure maps and have practised our times tables every day. We have also enjoyed making playdough and gloop to use in our sensory breaks.



In our class we are looking after some tadpoles, they have just started to develop into frog lets. We have been looking at them each day to see how they change and can't wait to have some frogs!



### Near Fish Food By Rio

Yesterday, on Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup>, there was a terrible storm on the coast of Portsmouth.

The tiny fishing vessel Saucy Sal began to bob downwards.

The captain, 47 year old Toby Longport, sent out a huge distress signal.

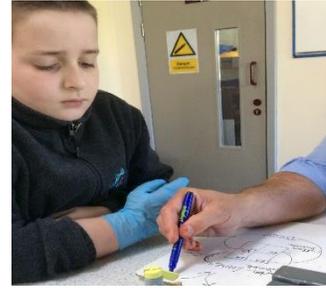
A lifeboat put out to the port and sped towards the Saucy Sal. The lifeguard team managed to save the frightened captain just before the old boat sunk.

Toby Longport jumped out the lifeboat and kissed the ground and said: " I'm very grateful to all the lifeguard team who saved my life."



## Primary - Maple Class

Our topic in **Science** this term has been *The Human Body*. Maple Class had an interesting lesson dissecting a pig's heart and learning about its anatomy.



In **Outdoor Education**, we have been on some lovely trips but our favourite was a visit to Cattle Country where we met some very friendly goats and a llama with character!



We encourage the boys to have strong values in **Maple Class**. All of them have been trying hard to improve their listening, manners, kindness and resilience, and each student has received an award for a particular value in which he had excelled.



Our new **ICT Suite** has been a real success. The boys have enjoyed planning their superhero stories in English and then turning them into newspaper articles on the computer.





# Bristol's only specialist residential school improves its care rating to 'good'

5th April 2019

Notton House Academy, Bristol's residential school for boys with complex social, emotional and mental health needs, has improved its care rating to 'good' for the first time in 14 years.

Ofsted inspected the school, based near Lacock in Wiltshire, in February and found it was 'good' across all measures relating to the care of students. It will be inspected separately for a review of its educational provision.

Highlights from the report include:

- All the young people at the school are really well known by teachers, care staff and school leaders. Staff are well-trained and form trusting and loving relationships. Parents and social workers report that they are confident that students are safe at Notton House.
  - Staff have high aspirations for all young people and have created a structured and supportive environment.
  - Newly-refurbished bedrooms and communal areas illustrate how school leaders drive change and advocate for positive developments; and
- Notton House Academy is one of the few residential boys-only schools funded by local authorities and mostly takes students from Bristol.

It currently has 52 boys on role aged between 8 and 19, with 40 children able to stay overnight during weeknights in term time. The school offers tailored timetables for very small groups with an emphasis on speech and language, a variety of additional support interventions and preparation for reintegration back to further education, apprenticeships or work. Some students benefit from moving back to mainstream school but most will stay at Notton to finish their education.

This was the second inspection since the school became an academy and joined Bristol-based multi-academy trust Learn@. Learn@ Multi Academy Trust runs two specialist schools and two alternative provisions (across six sites) in the West of England.





Michelle Reysenn was appointed head of school in November 2018. She commented, "I am delighted that inspectors could see how staff have worked so hard to make improvements to the school, to the care areas, in refining essential paperwork, and to ensure pupils feel welcomed, safe and that their voices are heard."

Alex\* joined Notton recently. His carers commented, "While it has been difficult for Alex to manage this transition to Notton we feel that his education is going

well and has been one of the most positive outcomes from the school.

"He always has positive things to say about you and is beginning to enjoy some of his lessons. It was evident in our parents' consultation that you had a good knowledge of his behaviours and have shown willing to learn more about him and are keen to keep progress going forward."

## In the paper... AGAIN!

### Gazette & Herald

A lovely article in the Wiltshire Gazette and Herald this week, highlighting the years of hard work and commitment staff, professionals, and academy councillors, have put in to make Notton House Academy such a safe and welcoming residential school for pupils and their families.



# and.....A letter from the House of Commons!

MICHELLE DONELAN MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Notton House Academy  
Lacock  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire  
SN15 2NF

Date: 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019

*Dear Mrs Reysern,*

I am writing to extend my congratulations for the recent improvement in your OFSTED rating. This is an excellent result for you all and you must be very proud of your hard work to achieve this. You do a fantastic job to support the complex needs to boys who would not get this support in mainstream schools.

Well done once again for this important work.

Very best wishes

Yours sincerely

*Michelle Donelan*

Michelle Donelan MP  
Member of Parliament for the Chippenham Constituency

## **Notton House Academy Residential Camp Information for Summer 2019**

Summer camp for KS2 to Brean 22/07/2019 – 24/07/2019

Holiday Resort Unity offer the best balance of family fun and relaxation. Nestled on the Somerset coast, the beach is on your doorstep, along with everything you could need to complete Camp; from Puxton Park to fish and chips or swimming to amusements there's something for all our boys to enjoy!



Summer camp for KS3 and KS4 to PGL Liddington 22/07/2019 – 24/07/2019

Liddington is one of PGL's biggest adventure centers so there's acres of space for your boys to enjoy and plenty of activities to inspire, motivate and challenge them. We have watersports lakes, sports pitches, quad biking, climbing, raft building and plenty more.



Summer camp for KS4 Independent Houses to Wales 22/07/2019 – 24/07/2019

This year's camp for independent living is based in Wales at Talybont-on-Usk in the Brecon Beacons, we are going to be doing a range of activities including camping, fishing in canals, mountain biking, mountain hikes

And finally paintballing something that the boys will remember for some time!



# Dates to remember

- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – End of Term 5
- Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Start of Term 6
- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June - Inset Day
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Inset Day



**Mobile Phone Use at Notton House Academy**

Mobile Phones do NOT keep you SAFE at school. → Staff keep you SAFE at school.

PLEASE keep yourself and others SAFE by handing in your phone to staff.

Lesson time is for LEARNING . . .

If you have your phone out in the school day, you are putting yourself and others at RISK.

You are stopping yourself from LEARNING.      You may be stopping others from LEARNING.

PLEASE KEEP YOURSELF AND OTHERS SAFE!

# Easy Fundraising

We've registered with easyfundraising and we need your help!

easyfundraising is a great website where you can help Learn@ MAT raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 3,300 big name retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S.

Every time you shop, we receive a small

donation to say 'thank you' and it's completely free too! We want raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/learnmat/>



**Raise free donations** for us every time you shop online with easyfundraising!

amazon.co.uk   John Lewis   ebay   M&S   Boden   GAP  
Argos   Booking.com   DEBENHAMS   next   SCREWFIX  
Sainsbury's   ASOS   viking   moonpig   JUST EAT

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/learnmat/>

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2018-2019



School Holiday



Bank Holiday



Pupil Day



Inset Day



Pupil Inductions/Annual

September 2018						
Mon		3	10	17	24	
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

October 2018						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

November 2018						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

December 2018						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

January 2019						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thu	3	10	17	24	31	
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

February 2019						
Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	19	26	
Wed		6	13	20	27	
Thu		7	14	21	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22		
Sat	2	9	16	23		
Sun	3	10	17	24		

March 2019						
Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	19	26	
Wed		6	13	20	27	
Thu		7	14	21	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	

April 2019						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24		
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

May 2019						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thu	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

June 2019						
Mon		3	10	17	24	
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

July 2019						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

August/September 2019						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	
Sun	4	11	18	25		