

# Term 1 Newsletter 2023 – 2024



## *Message from Michelle Reysenn – Headteacher*

Dear Families,

It is already the end of term 1; the sun is slowly fading, and the clouds are surfacing more often than we would wish for. And with the clouds come darker days, and colder nights. Yet, here we all are, together, staying safe, being kind, and always trying our best to be respectful to others. It has been a wonderful first term of 2023-24, with so much to be grateful for and to celebrate!

First of all, we must say goodbye to all of our pupils who have moved on to new beginnings, either to a new school, or to college, or who are now successfully employed. Best wishes for the future to: Caleb, Harley, Drew, Connor, Reagan, Tyler, Callum, Leo, Leo, Owen, Jayden, and Anthony!

We also welcome our new pupils who have started with us, some during terms 5 and 6, and some this term. Welcome to: Dylan, Tommy, Kory, Reece, Elliot, Chester, Blake, Blakey, Shawn, Kaiden, Kayden, Oakley, Lance, Kobe, Riley, and William F. We hope all new pupils have settled in well!

New beginnings is certainly the theme of this term, as we welcome a number of new staff: Megan, Alex, Lauren, Glen, Laura, Shaz, and Joanne!

The final new beginning comes from a wider remit, as Notton House Academy, is now part of Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership, a multi academy trust of 33 schools, including primaries, secondaries, and specialist schools. It is great to be part of a larger trust, and to network with, and learn from, colleagues across a number of settings.

So for now, I will leave you to read the news stories inside, from all classes, as well as from residential care. Enjoy!

Have a wonderful half term break, and we look forward to seeing pupils return on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October, as Monday 30<sup>th</sup> is a Staff Development Day.

Michelle.



# Term 1 WINNERS!

## Green Token Winners

Jack J  
Blake E  
Kaiden F  
Josh IF  
Chester W



## Attendance: 95% & Above

Reece F  
Joey G  
Kacper K  
Tom P

## 100% Attendance

William B	Bennito D	Kaiden F	Robert L	Kobie P	Chester W
Theo B	Rio E	Josh IF	Connor M	Charlie S	Patrik W
Elliot C	William F	Jack J	Junior M	Lance T	



## Subject Winners

Reading	Kobie P, Bobby L
Spelling	Shawn B
Numeracy	Blakey
Phonics	Elliot
Maths	Reece, Bobby L, Rio, Jacob
Sports	Patrik
PSHE	Patrik
Outdoor Ed	Tom Price
Science	Tom Price
English	Kayden C



A new term, new academic year and a new member of staff as we welcomed Jo Blakey to the team! It was a hot start to the year so we took advantage and the boys loved making use of the slip and slide.



We also sadly said good bye to Joey and welcomed Blake E. Despite lots of change the boys have settled well and are making new friendships, developing existing friendships and progressing with their learning.



## Science

In science we have been learning about famous scientists and inventors, including Alexander Graham Bell and Albert Einstein.



The boys enjoyed investigating gravitational pull and designed an experiment using paper clips.



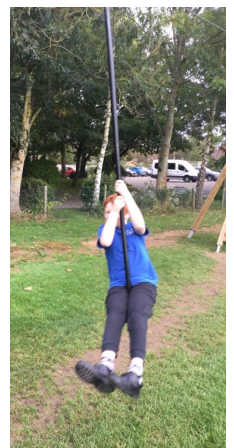
They also investigated how sound travels - building on their learning about Alexander Bell who invented the telephone.

An experiment involving bread and 'dirty versus clean' hands was undertaken to investigate germs and bacteria and the importance of good hygiene.

## Outdoor Education

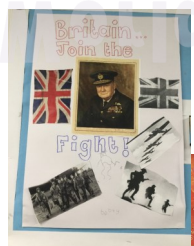
The focus this term has been on observing the changes that take place during Autumn. We

have visited parks and local woodlands and the boys really enjoyed the zip wire at Yatton Keynell park.



## World War II

The theme in History this term has been World War II. The boys have found it interesting to learn about the events that led up to World War II, what soldiers wore, rationing and the entertainment that people enjoyed to help them through difficult times.



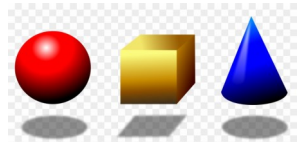
Our art work and cookery classes linked to the World War II theme. In art the boys painted some fantastic scenes from the blitz.

In cooking the boys followed some war time recipes (based around rationing) to create some delicious shortbread and gingerbread.

In English the boys wrote a short report on the holocaust.

## Maths

The topic this term has been focused on shape and exploring symmetry. The boys have used mirrors to help them decide if a shape is symmetrical.



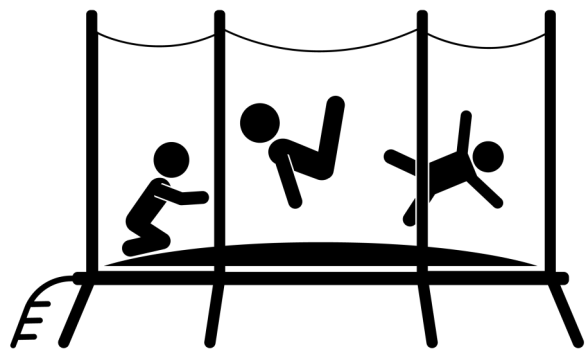
# PEWSEY

## Physical Education



Swimming lessons at Bradford on Avon pool have resumed and all of the boys have gained confidence and made amazing progress.

The boys have also enjoyed trampolining this term and focused on controlling their movements.





# DEVIZES

Term 1

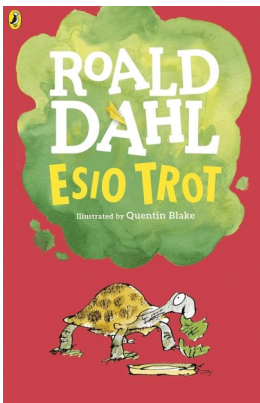
Emma K, Amy and Emma A



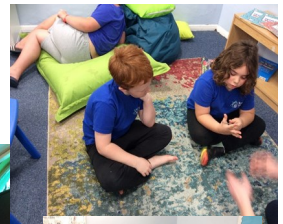
We have been searching for pine cones, conkers, different coloured leaves as Autumn is upon us. We have been learning the months of the year, seasons and the days of the week.



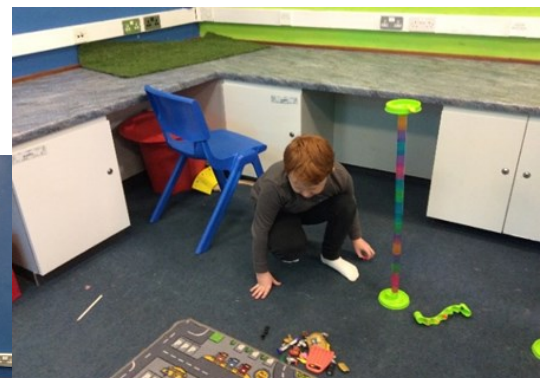
Our class story is Esio Trot by Roald Dahl. We have been talking about tortoises and how long they can live. We have made a giant tortoise in art and made a huge collage of green for the shell.



Wednesday afternoons have been music and magic tricks with Matthew. The children have really enjoyed learning magic tricks and joining in on our music group. Trying new instruments and sounds. We have had lots of fun. Kaiden has been beatboxing, Chester and Jonah have enjoyed playing the harmonica, Kai has been singing his own pizza hut solo song.



**The children have been working as a team to build a giant marble run.**

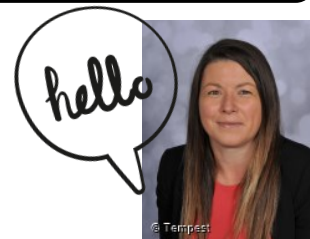


# SILBURY



Term 1  
Nathan, Shazz and Tiff

We have had a great start for the new class, Silbury. We welcomed Reece, Elliot, Tommy and Dylan who all started this term and our new Learning Facilitator Sharon, known as Shazz. The boys have been enjoying getting to know one another and learning all about Notton.

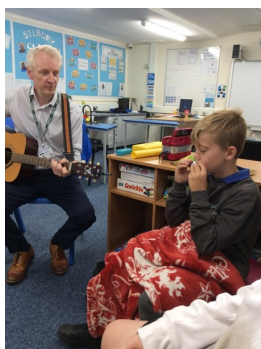


In outdoor education we have had trips to Roundway Hill, Corsham Park, and Box Woods.

In Art the boys enjoyed painting a jungle arch to hang in our classroom and now looking at making a mask.



Matthew visited our class to do some music therapy, which the boys engaged really well with.



The boys have been swimming every week this term at Corsham Pool, and enjoyed playing volleyball with the staff and using the floats.



# New Additions

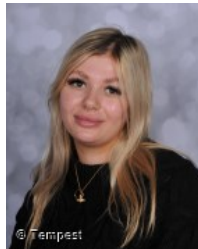
## Learning Facilitators



**Sharon**



**Megan**



**Lauren**



**Jo**



**Alex**

## Residential Child Care Officers



**Laura**



**Glenn**



**Dan (joining us next term)**

## Welcome our new Educational Psychologist Cat!



Cat works for Bristol Local Authority.

An Educational Psychologist helps children, parents/ carers and teachers with any problems they may have. An EP uses psychology to help with learning and behaviour and to try and make things better for people in school.

Welcome to Notton Cat!



Congratulations to Nathan Dunford on the birth of his daughter

**Bella Audrey Dunford**





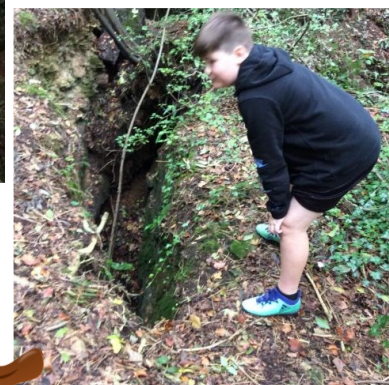
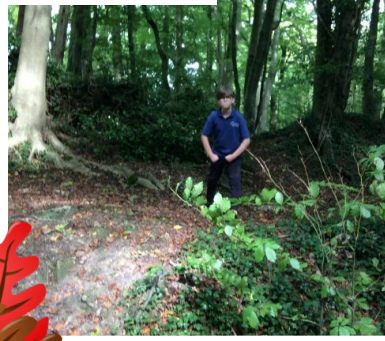
# Music with Matthew!

Lower School continue to enjoy their weekly music time with Matthew. Just look at these happy faces!





# Silbury Class go to Box Woods!



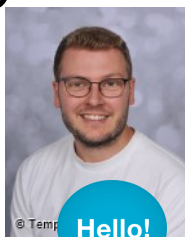


# BROAD TOWN



Term 1

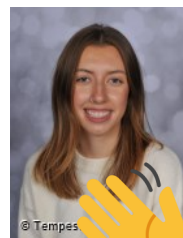
With Helen, Nat, Megan and Chantal



Hello!

Hi!

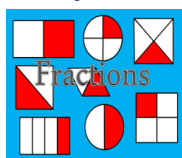
Welcome to your first news letter from the Broad Town class. Each term we share with you our wonderful learning and what we have been up to. As a whole new class, we have started to settle into Notton life, build relationships and start our learning journey together. We also welcome our new Learning Facilitator's Megan and Alex.



## NUMERACY

We started the term completing our baseline assessment so that our teachers know what we need to learn next.

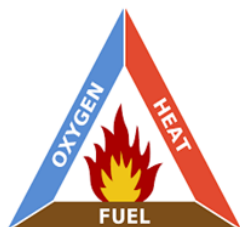
We have completed activities to develop our understanding of fractions and have completed lots of numeracy games including guess my number, bingo, place value of number and many more.



## LITERACY

We practise our targeted spelling words several times a week as well as developing our understanding of punctuation and grammar.

We have enjoyed playing games to learn about nouns and verbs. We have been developing our use of adjectives to describe objects and pictures.



In outdoor education we have been learning the components needed to build a good fire. We have built our own fires and roasted marshmallows to make s'mores we also cooked sausages and we enjoyed making our hot dogs!

In PE this term we have been learning about the importance of a warm-up and stretching before exercising. We have been playing lots of football matches and practising our long range shots with a game of ends.

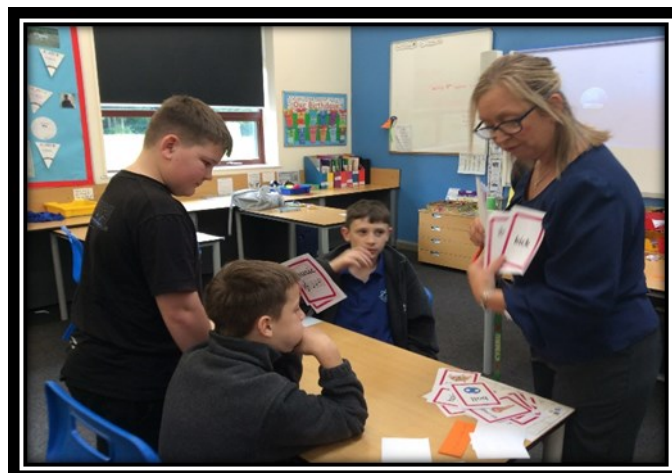


In science we have been learning about space. We have completed experiments to demonstrate how the speed, size and distance of a meteor would affect the damage it causes when colliding. We have done many other activities including virtual reality and methane bubbles.

IN SMSC this term we have learnt about Peru. We have made comparisons to the UK and completed researching activities.



# BROAD TOWN





# Care Time this term ....



**SOMETHING FISHY!!**



**BONFIRE PRACTICE**

## Halloween Best Dressed

### Spooky bucket prize!

Prize to be given for the best dressed and scariest outfit worn residentially during an activity

WOOOOOOOOHHHHHH!!!



### *This month's Spooky, Cinema Activity*

The Exorcist: Believer

The Creator

The Great Escaper

A Haunting in Venice

The Equalizer 3



# MARLBOROUGH

## Term 1 with Ben, Becky and Mollie

For SMSC this term we have been looking at Argentina, we have learnt about their culture, religion and child rights. The boys have enjoyed learning about Argentina's national sport Pato, which is very similar to Polo. Also, that their seasons are opposite to ours so they have summer over Christmas.

In Outdoor Education the boys have enjoyed going for walks through local woodland areas, some walks we have managed to stay clean but others have been extremely muddy and slippery which was fun.

Junior has been taking part, alongside some of the boys from other classes, in an offsite tennis programme.



Over the summer our class size grew massively. When we left before the summer we had 2 stick insects and upon return we now have approximately 60!

Just a little reminder, even though the boys are now in year 11 they do need to still wear their school uniform.



A little note from Becky:

"It has been my absolute honour to travel along the Notton road with Marlborough boys the past few years. Sometimes off-road & bumpy with no idea where we were going to end up & sometimes smooth & easy. But never dull-the learning, laughter & love has always been so strong. I will miss all the young people dreadfully as I move on to pastures new at the end of term & I will pop back in to nag/check up on them before they themselves leave.

Best wishes

Becky"



# HACKPEN

Term 1

With Ant, Chloe and Ollie

Good grief, one term down already, where did that time go?!

Hackpen class has had a decent term by all accounts, getting back into life at Notton and the new work and expectations that come with it.

Towards the end of the term Hackpen has greeted its newest member to the class, Lance, who has settled in nicely and seems a great fit. Lance has a love for Motocross and is happy to share his knowledge about the sport with the class, meaning that wellbeing time has been spent mainly watching videos of races.

Hello!

Hi!

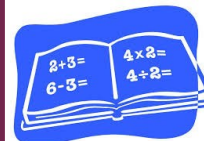
Josh has been a mainstay within the class achieving 100% attendance during term 1, well done Josh, a great effort!



Cameron continues to excel in football and has engaged well on a Tuesday with Joe from In2Sport, helping mentor lower school classes with their P.E lessons.



Good progress has been made academically especially in maths and I.T and engagement in English has been promising.



During outdoor education the class have been out and about seeing the sites of Wiltshire and have also spent time in the Outdoor area making fires and cooking on the heat.

This terms S.M.S.C has focussed on countries from South America, we have been learning about Suriname which has thrown up many an interesting fact such as it being the most carbon negative country on the planet! (mainly due to the epic forestry coverage).



We hope all the students have a wonderful half term and we look forward to welcoming them back after a week and a half refreshed.



# ALTON BARNES

Term 1

With Ron, Steve and Anzhelika



**We missed Taylon at the beginning of term and met him at Page Park in Bristol**

**Lots of learning has been going on**



Alton Barnes class like Outdoor Education lessons. We are having a good time. Look at these happy faces.

In our free time, we train and exercise to keep fit.





# CHERRHILL

Term 1

With Andy, Karen, Pete and Lauren

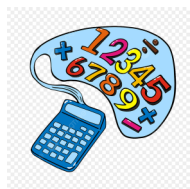
It's been a very good start back to School for our new group – Connor, Tom, Jacob, Rio and Owen. We have a new Learning Facilitator, Lauren, in our Class too. Welcome to Notton!



## **So, what have the Class been up to since the start of September?**

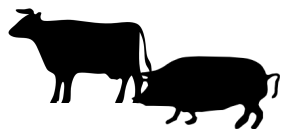
There has been a lot of good learning going on in both English and Maths. Most of the group are going to be working towards a GCSE Qualification in both subjects which is great news – but obviously means that there is a lot of work to get through over the coming months.

**In English the students have been working on the first GCSE Exam Paper, Section B, which is about Creative Writing techniques. Getting to terms with this early on will help to ensure a smooth ride later on as we get closer to the Exam.**



**In Maths there has been work on Prime Numbers, Factors and Multiples, Roman Numerals and Negative Numbers. There has also been work on Trigonometry, Surds and Rationalising Denominators!!**

**Jacob and Connor have made a good start on their Agricultural Engineering Course at Lackham College and are both keen to be working on engines. They also got to ride on some very expensive tractors, which they will hopefully get to drive in the not too distant future.**



Tom is back at Lackham College to complete the second year of his Animal Care/Horticulture Course and is getting good feedback from the Tutors.

**Rio is once again attending The Wheels Project in Bristol on a Friday morning where he is working on car maintenance. He has changed tyres, removed and replaced shock absorbers and brake pads not to mention a drive-shaft. Occasionally the tutor has asked him to repeat a task he has already done, which he has managed to do quite independently.**



In Outdoor Education it has been decided to visit all the local "White Horse" Monuments. So far they have visited Hackpen and Devizes and they will continue with this after half term.

Good progress has been made in the various option subjects such as Science and Food Technology, and Connor has also been assisting the Site Team around School with odd jobs.

**In SMSC we have been studying the country of Chile, learning about the rights of children there compared to our own country. We have looked at the capital of Chile, Santiago, and have learnt about what Chile is well-known for and the food eaten there.**



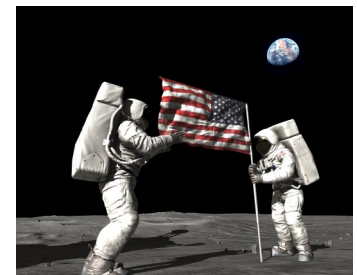
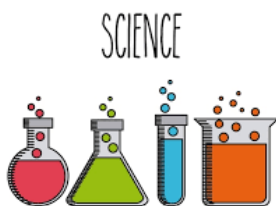
Have a great half term break! Enjoy!



***And just like that it's half term, where has the time gone? Westbury has gone through a lot of changes since last term, new pupils and a new LF, that being me, Sharon. Our small class consists of Leo, Kayden, and Oakley, and we have had a few ups and downs, but have started to really gel as a team.***



*Anton is not only our tutor extraordinaire, but also our maths and science teacher, in Science we have been discussing and learning about the moon landings and finding out facts to see if indeed it happened or that it was indeed made in a basement of Hollywood studio....*



*In English, Andy is our teacher and we have had lots of fun discussing how to survive a Zombie apocalypse, we think Kayden would be the strongest survivor and we will all follow his lead when Zombies attack.*



*SMSC this term has been the continent of South America, Bolivia has been our chosen country.*



*This term has flown by and the next time I write a newsletter it will be wishing you all a Merry Christmas but for now, I'll wish you a safe and happy half term and hopefully a great second term with the wonderful Westbury class.*

# NHA Site Updates

Our site team have been busy as ever.

Summer Holiday works completed

- 3 new bedrooms created, 1 with en-suite
- 5 bedrooms redecorated
- 4 stairwells redecorated
- 7 classrooms redecorated



## October Half-Term works



- Full site fire door survey



- New door being replaced to front of Education block



- New covered area being installed in forest school (Sails)



- New carpet being installed in the music room



- Sound proofing being installed in the music room



- Full site electrical safety survey

## Newsletter / Website Announcement

### ParentPay - our new online payment service

We are pleased to announce that we will shortly be accepting payments online for items such as dinner money, school trips and uniform. Using a secure website called ParentPay you will be able to pay online using your credit / debit card or continue to make cash payments at PayPoint stores. ParentPay will be our preferred method of making payments to school.

#### What are the benefits to parents & pupils?

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely - offering you peace of mind
- Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint
- Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

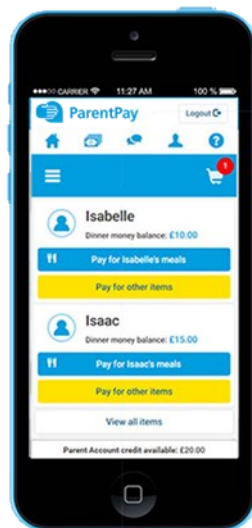
#### What are the benefits to our school?

- You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services
- Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school
- Improves school security
- Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises
- The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.

### How to get started with ParentPay?

We will send you your account activation details. Once you receive these:

- Visit [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)
- Enter your Activation username and password in the Account Login section of the homepage  
NB. These are for one-time use only, please choose your own username and password for future access during the activation process
- Provide all the necessary information and choose your new username and password for your account - registering your email address will enable us to send you receipts and reminders
- Once activation is complete you can go straight to Items for payment, select which item(s) you want to add to your basket and proceed to complete your payment



If you have any questions, please contact the school finance office. For more information, visit [www.parentpay.com/parents/](http://www.parentpay.com/parents/)



## **Notton House Academy** **Facilities Available to Hire**

**Sports Hall**



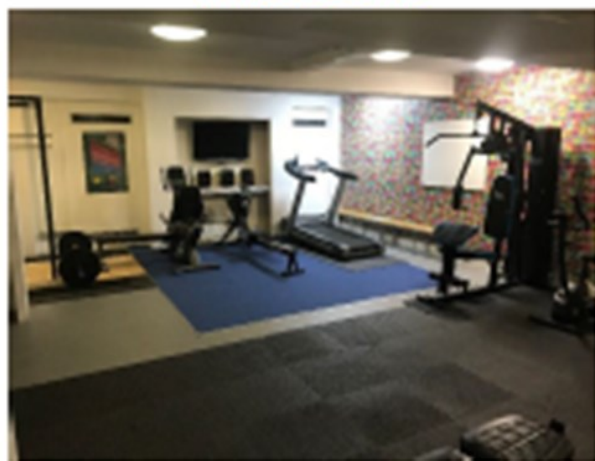
**Astro Pitch**



**Football Pitch**



**Fitness suite**



**Various Classrooms**



**Outdoor classroom (Forest school)**



All facilities available for £25 per hour (30-minute bookings also available)  
To make a booking please visit [www.Schoolhire.co.uk](http://www.Schoolhire.co.uk)



## **Please can I remind all families of the Uniform Policy:-**



### **School Uniform**

A compulsory Notton House polo shirt (Royal Blue)

A compulsory Notton House sweatshirt (no hood) or grey fleece

Black or Grey Trousers (No tracksuit bottoms allowed except for P.E. lessons)

Black Shoes (no other colours permitted)



### **P.E. Kit**

Students are permitted to wear their own PE kit but this must not include items with large logos.

Trainers (no black soles are permitted for indoor P.E. lessons)

Trousers can be purchased from supermarkets such as ASDA or Tesco.

School polo shirts, sweatshirts and fleeces are available for purchase directly from school. All the garments offer excellent value for money and are made from hard wearing, machine washable fabrics, embroidered with our logo.

### **Price List**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Polo Shirt	9/10, 11/12	£6.50
Polo Shirt	S/M/L	£8.50
Sweatshirt	12/13	£7.00
Sweatshirt	S/M/L/XL	£8.50
Fleece	Youth L/XL	£11.00
Fleece	S/M/L/XL	£13.70



# ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2023-2024



School Holiday



Bank Holiday



Pupil Day



Inset Day



Pupil Inductions/Annual Reviews

September 2023						
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		

October 2023						
Mon	2	9	16	23	30	
Tue	3	10	17	24	31	
Wed	4	11	18	25		
Thu	5	12	19	26		
Fri	6	13	20	27		
Sat	7	14	21	28		
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

November 2023						
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		
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

December 2023						
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	

January 2024						
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		

February 2024						
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		
Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

March 2024						
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 2024						
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 2024						
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 2024						
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 2024						
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 2024						
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		

NHA INSET Days: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023; 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023; January 4<sup>th</sup> 2024; January 5<sup>th</sup> 2024

Trust INSET day: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023