



50th Anniversary 'Special Edition'

Dear Parents,

This year, we celebrate the 50th year foundation of Norfolk House School and a special week of activities and events was set aside to commemorate the date.

A Brief History.....

Some time in the early 1930s, a small school appeared at 20 Fountain Road, Edgbaston called **Garry House School**. Very soon, the school soon sought new, larger premises to match its great ambitions.



Christmas 1964 saw Garry House School in its new home. The new property at number 4, Norfolk Road, Edgbaston was built in the late 1860s as a magnificent home for the notable Birmingham banker William Goode, his family and servants. Next began the task of converting a 100-year-old property from a family home into a fully operational school was apparently accomplished with remarkable ease and speed.

Later, in 1967, Mr Gerald Challinor who had a daughter, Elizabeth, at the school, took on the venture and started the Norfolk House School which we know and love today.

Please come and see some of the photographs of Norfolk House School from its early days on display in the School Reception and in the corridor by the side gate and take a trip down memory lane.....

Commemorative Badge.....

We were pleased to award each pupil with a small token in memory of the special week; a badge showing Norfolk House School crest and marking 50 years of the school's foundation.

Themed Day.....

Tuesday, 19th June saw a themed day laid on for the pupils, with each year group focussing upon a different decade since the school began in 1967 through to the present day. Year 2 concentrated upon comparing and contrasting the school as it was then to what we enjoy now and were surprised to see glass bottles for milk at morning break being offered to the pupils all those years ago. Their research of the 1990s has seen them explore popular film, music and television as well as follow the timeline of toys across the decade. On a similar note, Year 3 pupils looked at different artefacts from the 1970s and made junk models of characters from Star Wars, still popular today, as well as Miss Piggy from The Muppets, space hoppers, Walkmans and roller skates. In Year 4, much of the themed day was given up in preparation for their fashion show on Fete Day; a culmination of their research project on the 1960s, its fashion, current affairs topics and famous people. As part of their preparation for the shows, they interviewed our Office Manager to ensure that all their organisation and planning would work efficiently on the day. Pupils in Reception created their own model of Norfolk House School, having first enjoyed taking photographs themselves of the different features of the school and looking at them in detail. Even French lessons became involved in the fun with Year 2 pupils learning vocabulary for celebration and birthdays and making their own cards for the school to celebrate the milestone.

Design A Lunch.....

On the 13th June, we celebrated our themed Anniversary day in school with a special lunch served to the pupils. As part of a whole school 'Design A Lunch' competition, pupils created and selected a favourite lunch which they would like to see being served on this special day and the winner for the main course was



Megan from Year 5, who impressed with her attention to detail and a highly popular choice of hot dogs, fries and tomato ketchup. For the dessert, the winning entry was from Arjan who selected a sophisticated mixture of chocolate brownie, strawberries, vanilla ice cream and chocolate sauce which drew gasps of delight from the pupils when it was announced in assembly.



With a chance to visit the kitchens during the morning to see their course being prepared, Megan and Arjan then helped to serve the pupils, overseen by the kitchen staff.

We are grateful to Mr Gould and the kitchen staff for their help with this exciting project and know that the pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to take part.

Whole School Photograph.....

The sun stayed out for us on Wednesday 20th July for our Whole School Photograph. The pupils wore school blazers to show off their distinctive and smart school uniform and the photographers were extremely impressed by the sensible and mature behaviour of the pupils on the day.

Anniversary Summer Fete.....

Then, at the end of the week, the celebrations ended with an Anniversary Summer Fete with stalls run by pupils in Years 3 to 6 for the enjoyment of families and our younger pupils. Year 3 pupils had delighted in collecting almost 100 bottles from parents and teachers for their raffle stall and enjoyed running the Lucky Dip. We were impressed with how they took pride in carefully setting up their activities on the day. Well done, Year 3!



Year 4 Fashion Show

The Year 4 Fashion Show was a considerable success as pupils paraded costumes from the 1960s designed by them as part of a homework project down a specially constructed runway in the Hall. Lois and Uthman impressed as comperes to the event and spoke of the inspiration for the costumes taken from the likes of artist, Piet Mondrian, or the music of John Lennon. Whilst the pupils were preparing for the second show of the afternoon, the remainder of Year 4 were running a particularly tricky 'Guess the Teacher' activity, asking families to identify a teacher from Norfolk House School from a baby photograph. I am delighted to say that Mrs Chacko was the winner of the challenge and managed to recognise 7 faces. A superb afternoon with good leadership skills on show from the Year 4 pupils!



Stalls.....

Year 5 were able to tempt us all with the delicious tarts, cakes and cookies provided by our Catering Team and Year 6 once again showed their creativity and keen business sense by designing their own business ideas as part of



their Enterprise Project. Each group set up their own stall, complete with posters and advertising after having presented their ideas to the whole school in assembly.

Congratulations to each of them for the superb and innovative ideas they created, from Minions Money Boxes and Confetti Baskets to Marvel Card Packs and Personalised Necklaces. They have shown enormous enthusiasm, dedication and leadership qualities throughout their project and we thank them for their excellent participation on the day.

We were pleased to raise over **£500.00** at the fete and, as shared with the pupils in assembly, we will be forwarding proceeds to the Independent Schools Association 'New School for Cambodia Project', who are overseeing the venture to provide the first school for primary pupils in a remote village in the area. It seemed only fitting that, as we celebrate our 50 years, we look to help others set up new schools to guide young learners to bright futures. Pupils were shown photographs of the progress being made towards the new school in assembly and the Independent Schools Association has promised to keep us up to date of how our donation has helped as the building work continues. Many thanks to all our families for their support on the day!

Happy Anniversary, Norfolk House School and may you continue to flourish and enjoy success over the next 50 years!

Mrs Sarah Morris
Headmistress

