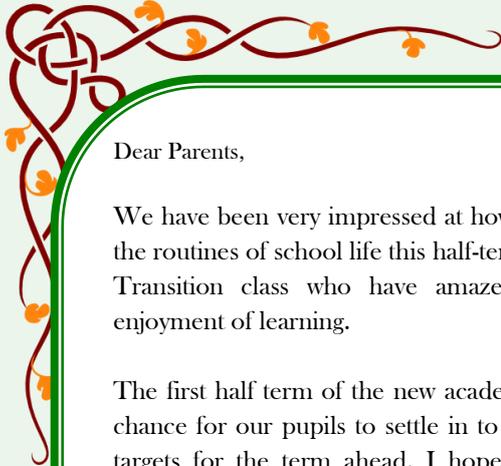




Norfolk House School

# NEWSLETTER

## AUTUMN HALF TERM 2017



20th October 2017

Dear Parents,

We have been very impressed at how well our pupils have settled back into the routines of school life this half-term and this is especially true of our new Transition class who have amazed us all with their confidence and enjoyment of learning.

The first half term of the new academic year is always an important one; a chance for our pupils to settle in to new expectations and routines and set targets for the term ahead. I hope that you found the Parents' Evening meetings valuable and thank you for the positive feedback which has been passed to me.

The newsletter will give you a flavour of all the exciting activities and events which the pupils have been enjoying so far this term and offer insight as to those to follow in the coming weeks.

May I wish you all a wonderful and relaxing half-term break,

Mrs Sarah Morris

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Attachment:  
On-line Safety Guide

### **Online Safety Guide for Parents**

Online spaces, games and media form a large part of life for young people growing up today and offer a platform to connect with others and to learn. However, there are risks associated with going online, like all aspects of life, and the SWGfI has teamed up with the UK Safer Internet Centre to produce the attached guidance for parents which we hope will prove useful.



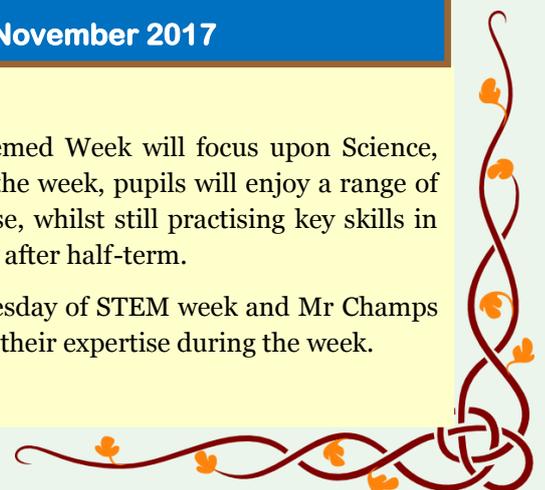
### **Curriculum Themed Week**

**30th October—3rd November 2017**

This year, for the week beginning 30th October, our Curriculum Themed Week will focus upon Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics as its centrepiece. During the week, pupils will enjoy a range of themed lessons and activities to enrich and broaden their learning base, whilst still practising key skills in English and mathematics on a daily basis. More information will follow after half-term.

For Years 3-6, a visit to the 'Think Tank' has been organised for Wednesday of STEM week and Mr Champs was delighted with the response from so many parents offering to share their expertise during the week.

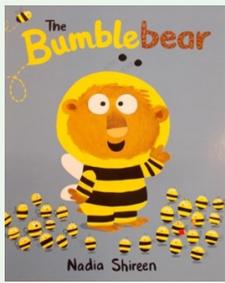
Thank You!



## 'Time to Read' by the BookTrust Charity

The Reception class are very excited to have received their BookTrust delivery!

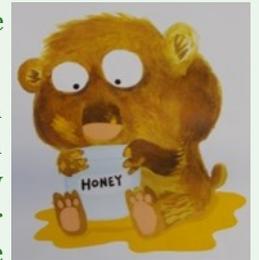
Each year the independent Booktrust charity provides each child in the Reception class with a 'Time to Read' pack containing a colourful reading book, fun activities and information to help support reading at school and at home.



The charity works to transform lives through inspiring a love of reading.

At Norfolk House School we believe that being able to read is one of the most important skills children will learn during their early schooling having far-reaching implications for lifelong confidence and well-being. We are so passionate about reading that I took part in the research about this reading project undertaken by the National Foundation for Educational Research through Queen's University, Belfast. The findings confirmed that the programme is respected and valued in schools and has a very positive impact on children's enjoyment of shared reading at home. This year's book title is The Bumblebear published by Penguin.

The Bumblebear written by Nadia Shireen is a bright and colourful storybook about a hilarious tale of a honey-loving bear called Norman who disguises himself as a bee to get easier access to the sweet sticky stuff so, obviously, he makes himself a bee costume and enrolls in Bee School. The little bees grow to love their unusually large bee friend – until clever Amelia bee discovers the truth. Luckily, Norman can save the day!



With its bold illustrations and witty humour, this is a book that parents and teachers will relish reading aloud time and time again. The Bumblebear story book can be used to help children in their own reading which is also intended to inspire children to discover new books and extend their reading choices. Funny books like The Bumblebear are fantastic for sharing together – your books don't always have to be calming bedtime reads. Sharing jokes or laughing at funny pictures and expressions in a story is a great way of bonding with your child.



We have enjoyed reading the book at school empowering the children through reading and writing and as they are sent home we hope that parents will agree that 'Time to Read' is a wonderful opportunity to engage in reading with their children. You can sign up to the family newsletter and hear about events, book news and fabulous competitions at [booktrust.org.uk/newsletter](http://booktrust.org.uk/newsletter)

Remember, at Norfolk House School we are ensuring that children progress confidently from **learning to read to reading to learn**.

**Reporter:** Mrs. R. Hifle



At our Awards Assembly each half-term, we look to celebrate the successes of those pupils who have impressed their teachers in each year group from Reception upwards. May

I offer my thanks and congratulations to the following pupils for their valuable contributions to the school :-

Reception	D'Marco Hughes
Year 1	Shay Bailey
Year 2	Evangeline Ernest
Year 3	Ashleigh Telphia-Jones
Year 4	Devina Tanday
Year 5	Lois Morgan
Year 6	Isabella Brighton

## Open Morning

At the end of our Curriculum Themed Week, we will be holding an Open Morning on **Saturday 4th November 2017** between 10.00am–1.00pm. Once again, this year, we will be opening up a variety of workshops run by the Norfolk House teaching staff to pupils in Years 3 to 5 with drinks and snacks offered during the morning. We hope that many Yrs 3-5 pupils will be able to join us for these exciting activities based upon Christmas Craft Design and History Artefact Workshops which are aimed at complementing and extending school-based learning. In addition, we look forward to our pupils in Year 6 attending this important event to act as guides and key ambassadors for visiting families. Letters have been issued so we look forward to receiving your replies.

# ISA Midlands Art Competition

Our sincere congratulations to Aisha Afroz in Year 6 and Saanvi Duggal in Year 4 who were both awarded a prize of 'Highly Commended' for their art work in the ISA Midlands Art competition in October. Out of 20 schools participating and over 180 designs, they should be truly proud of the recognition they have received. In addition to a first and second prize, the Highly Commended award was only issued to one entry in each category. Our congratulations also to the other 16 Norfolk House School pupils whose work was displayed in the competition and our thanks to Mrs Stone for organising the school's entries to this prestigious competition.



Saanvi Duggal—Year 4



Aisha Afroz—Year 6



## Transition Pupils enjoying their new facilities



# At the Zoo



The children in Transitions class were surprised a few weeks ago to discover a large parcel in the classroom. Upon further inspection, we discovered that there was a giraffe inside! This sparked great discussion regarding where the giraffe may have come from. While some felt that he must have come from the post office (as he was 'all wrapped up!') others thought that he might have come from a farm or a safari park. After much debate, we concluded that our new friend (Gerald) must have come from the zoo.

Since then, we have been sharing popular animal themed stories such as 'Elmer the Elephant', 'Dear Zoo' and 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea'. We have created a beautiful Elmer display as a whole class, using bright colours and a range of collage materials. We have been using our imagination in P.E. sessions to slither like snakes, 'swing' like monkeys and stomp like elephants. In phonics we have been learning to identify loud and quiet sounds, with the help of our 'loud lion' and 'quiet panda' puppets. This week we are planning a tea party for a tiger, who has recently taken up residence in our home corner! The children will be using their mathematical skills to count buttons onto biscuits, and to set the table with the correct number of plates, knives and forks for the tiger and his guests.

We would especially like to thank our special visitor this week (Ben's Mummy) for coming into school to talk to the children about her experiences of working at the safari park as a vet. The children were amazed to find out that Mrs Roach had helped to look after poorly giraffes, and had even cleaned a tiger's teeth! The children thoroughly enjoyed Mrs Roach's visit. They listened attentively and were able to share their own experiences of a zoo or safari park.

We have had a thoroughly enjoyable few weeks exploring this topic. The children have had a brilliant start to school life, and it is wonderful to see their confidence developing and to watch them form what I'm sure will be lasting friendships with the other children in Transition class.

**Reporter: Mrs Brookes**



**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**



On Friday 29th September, we held our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning (except that this coffee morning was held in the afternoon). Mr Gould and the kitchen staff baked a marvellous variety of cakes and biscuits for the delectation of our guests and the Year 6s took on organisational and hosting duties for the afternoon. It was

wonderful to see so many parents coming to support the event and donate so generously to Macmillan, raising just under £170.00. We were very proud of the way our pupils collected donations, took orders, served food and socialised with parents. In true Norfolk House School tradition, a good time was had by all.

**Reporter: Mr Morgans**



## HARVEST FESTIVAL—13TH OCTOBER 2017

Mr Morgans and I were once again overwhelmed by the generosity of our parents and pupils for the Food Bank collection at the Harvest Festival assembly. Reverend Tomlinson spoke to the school about where food comes from, how it grows and shared a little secret about how to plant a potato in the soil in the spring and watch for a new potato plant emerge from it, which drew gasps from the younger pupils listening. Year 6 supervised the loading of the food donations on to the Trussell Food Trust van. Thank you very much for your support to this worthwhile charity. The Foodbank have confirmed that you donated 204.50kg of food which will provide 487 meals for local families and individuals.



One individual story particularly stood out on the day. Jaden, one of our youngest pupils, and his mother told me how he had been helping her around the house in order to save some money and together they had visited the supermarket to choose food items for those who have less than we do. It was wonderful to hear of this act of kindness.

Thank you, Jaden!



## SCHOOL COUNCIL

The School Council is a vital part of school life at Norfolk House School and provides a vehicle for pupils to have a voice in their school and contribute their ideas for the benefit of all.

Over the past two weeks, pupils have taken part in elections to recruit our new School Council for 2017-2018. Following speeches shared by the pupils in their classes and voted upon, Miss Huckerby is looking forward to working with the new team of councillors on some exciting new projects.



<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Arjun Bhogal &amp; Lara-Ann Authi</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Cole Gabriel &amp; Ava Fisher</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Ashleigh Telphia-Jones &amp; Aiden Bailey</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Teylaa Harding-Smith &amp; Arjan Lall</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Uthman Ahmed &amp; Munat Purewal</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Tomiwa Odusami &amp; Khepri Sewell</b>

A special mention goes to Aisha Afroz in Year 6 who will be acting in the role of Chair of the School Council for the year ahead.

**Congratulations to our new School Council and thank you to Miss Huckerby for leading and guiding the pupils.**

# Music Clubs

Lunchtime music clubs are now well under way and have been met with wonderful enthusiasm by the pupils. Choir rehearsals on Tuesday lunchtimes have seen the Library filled with keen singers from Years 3 to 6, including Mrs Platts.

Pupils from Years 5 and 6 have been trying out the new instruments in our Brazilian Samba Group on Wednesdays, learning to recreate sounds of the Rio Carnival. They can't wait to show off what they have learnt to the rest of the school on the last Wednesday before the half term break.

Orchestra, which rehearses on Thursdays, has also had a wonderful start with 17 members learning to play 'Ode To Joy' on a range of instruments in preparation for the Carol Service at the end of term. I have been thrilled by the talent, enthusiasm and commitment of so many children, and look forward to showcasing their skills over the coming academic year.



Reporter: Mrs Brockman

## Music exam successes

**GRADE 1—GUITAR—DISTINCTION**  
Krishna Ankolekar—Year 4  
Shaun Chacko—Year 5

**GRADE 1—GUITAR—MERIT**  
Isabella Brighton—Year 6  
Oscar Fisher - Year 5

*Mr Fekete sends his warm wishes in celebration of the pupils' successes.*

## Congratulations to our Year 6 Prefects!



Our first Prefects have been appointed today and we very much look forward to working with Aisha, Amaiya, Yuvraj and Jamal in their new leadership roles. As part of their responsibilities, they will meet regularly with Mr Morgans and get involved in whole school event planning and running as well as helping pupils at break time and with supervision as they move around the school. As part of the leadership programme in Year 6, we will be looking to add to the Prefect appointments as the year develops further.

## Appointment of House Captains

Many congratulations also to our new House Captains and we look forward to sharing their ideas in the months ahead :

**Kenilworth** - Christopher Nyangoni

**Ludlow** - Benjamin Little

**Warwick** - Isabella Brighton





## HEADMISTRESS' SEND-UPS

### TRANSITION

Jaden Xiao

*For his kindness at Harvest Festival*

### YEAR 1

Arjun Bhogal

Ajay Chana

Jovan Rakar

*For their excellent creative writing*

### YEAR 5

Uthman Ahmed

Oscar Fisher

Mufaddal Kaderbhai

*For their excellent creative writing*

## P.E. KIT

Thank you for naming your child's P.E. Kit, it really does make getting any lost items back to you as easy as possible.

If your child is one of our rapidly growing and maturing Years 4-6 pupils, it would be much appreciated if they could take their P.E. Kit home regularly for a wash to ensure that it is clean and ready for its next use. As always, we really appreciate your support.

## CAR PARK

For Health & Safety reasons, once your child has been collected, could you please ensure they do not run around the front of the building, in between parked cars or on the wall/garden area.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

# Key Dates

- 30.10.17 School returns after Half-Term break  
Curriculum Themed Week—STEM
- 01.11.17 ‘Think Tank’ Visit—Years 3 –6 (all day)
- 2.11.17 Swimming sessions re-start - Yrs 4 - 6
- 4.11.17 **OPEN MORNING**—10am to 1:00pm  
(Christmas Craft Design & History Artefact Workshops)
- 6.11.17 House General Knowledge Competition (8.45am)
- 10.11.17 House Football and Netball—Yrs 5 and 6 (2:15pm)
- 13.11.17 Primary Mathematics Challenge Years 5 and 6  
Vision Screening—Reception pupils (1.45pm)
- 17.11.17 House Football and Netball— Yrs 3 and 4 (2:15pm)
- 20.11.17 House Public Speaking Semi-Finals for pupils in Years 1—6
- 24.11.17 House Public Speaking Final (2:30pm) Hall—details to follow
- 4.12.17 Travelling Book Fair—details to follow  
Christmas Post begins
- 6.12.17 Carol Service Rehearsal at St. Augustine’s Church—Reception to Year 6 (10.00am)
- 11.12.17 Transition and Reception Reports issued to parents
- 12.12.17 Years 1-6 Target Card Reports issued to parents
- 14.12.17 Transition Christmas Assembly (9:30am)—Hall  
Christmas Lunch and Party Day  
Transition pupils break up at the end of the school day  
Years 4-6 Swimming lessons end for the term  
Clubs and Activities end
- 15.12.17 Carol Service at St. Augustine’s Church (9:30-10:30am) - details to follow  
**Term ends after the Carol Service, no After School Club runs on this day**