Worstead CE VA Primary School
Honing Road
Worstead
North Walsham
Norfolk, NR28 9RQ
office@worstead.norfolk.sch.uk
01692 535309

North Star Federation
guiding your child to a brighter future

Monday 2nd November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to school after what I hope was a happy and healthy half term for you all.

Thank you to all parents who were able to make it to parents' evening appointments before half term. Thanks also to our dedicated teachers for their later evenings seeing you all. They are long evenings, but I used to enjoy them when I had my own class. It was always lovely to be able to share children's progress and successes with parents and to hear and learn more about the children, just to build stronger the bond between school and home for the benefit of the children.

The eagle-eyed among you will have noticed the class family cafés are now in the diary. These are not cafes in the traditional sense. We do lay on tea/coffee/biscuits for families (not for the children please!), but they are more of a help yourself canteen than a table service café. The main purpose of those afternoons is to get parents and families into class with the children, sharing in the learning, understanding a little more about what life is like in class, enjoying the experience with children and maybe even learning something themselves. We try to get parents in for a 2pm start and ask you to leave around 3pm, allowing the children time to tidy up, collect their belongings and meet you on the playground at 3.15pm.

If you *would* like to be served tea, coffee and cake by our children, make a note in your diary of the community café run by children of Kestrels class. This is a traditional café run in the village hall once a term. The children (under guidance), do all the baking, order taking, service, washing up etc etc. Even if your child is not part of the team this term, or not even in Kestrels, you are more than welcome. If they are making Mr Suckling's Malteser cake, get there early to avoid disappointment!

I have left a couple of notices about our open morning and school uniform below. Otherwise, I just have left to say a big thank you to you, your children and *all* our staff for the hard work and support last half term. We can't wait for more of the same!

Have a fantastic week.

With kind regards

Steven Boast
Executive Deputy Headteacher
North Star Federation

PE/Forest School this half term:

- Robins – forest school on Tuesday afternoons (see separate letter) and PE on Thursday afternoon
- Swifts – PE Monday and Tuesday afternoons
- Herons – forest school/PE alternating on Tuesday mornings (yr 3 forest school first) and PE Friday afternoon (all)
- Kestrels – PE on Wednesday afternoons (all afternoon – long session)

Forest School

Parents, we need your help at forest school. If you can spare an hour, a morning or afternoon on Tuesday to help at forest school, you will be most appreciated. The more adults we have supporting the sessions, the more fun things the children can do! It could be once a month or once a half term. Please contact the office to get a DBS check if you can help.

Pumkin Carving Winners

Well done to:

- Reception – Hattie
- Yr1 – Rosalie
- Yr2 – Chloe
- Yr3 – Josie
- Yr4 – Harry
- Yr5 – Isla Grace
- Yr6 – Emily

Clubs

Clubs will start next week. Details to follow.

Notices

- If you or someone you know has a child due to start reception next September, please come along to our **open morning** on **Friday 6th November at 11am** (flyer attached). You are welcome even if you already have a child in school. If you cannot make this date, contact the school office (office@worstead.norfolk.sch.uk) to book a tour on another day.
- I have had conversations with a few different parents about **uniform**. For the avoidance of any doubt, when we covert from an LA maintained school to a St Benet's academy, nothing will change about the uniform. In time, new items with the school logo will have a new school logo saying 'academy' rather than school, but the **colours will not change** and old uniform with the current school logo on will still be permitted in school.
- A message from the local **Mental Health Support Team:**

"Helping Your Child Manage Anxiety

It is normal for children to feel worried or anxious at times, especially when facing new experiences, changes, or challenges. Anxiety can show itself in different ways, such as difficulty sleeping, tummy aches, avoidance of activities, irritability, or needing extra reassurance.

As parents and carers, one of the most helpful things you can do is listen to your child, acknowledge their feelings, and encourage them to face worries in small, manageable steps. Building routines, celebrating successes, and modelling positive coping strategies can also help children feel more confident and resilient.

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) works with schools and families to promote emotional wellbeing and provide early support for children experiencing mild to moderate anxiety. If you have concerns about your child's worries or emotional wellbeing, please speak to your child's school for information about the support available.

Kind regards

Tania Dawe
Education Mental Health Pracitioner (EMHP)
Mental Health Support Team for Schools- Broadland & North Norfolk

- **The Big Future Survey** from the Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza. Follow the link for your child to take part: **childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture**

"For the first time, hundreds of thousands of children will be eligible to vote in the next general election at age 16, the biggest change to the franchise in half a century – yet just one in five children say politicians listen to them.

That's why I'm doing my final survey, The Big Future, to talk to a million children, to listen to them. And to find out about what it's like to be a child today.

I am asking children about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns, and their hopes for the future. More than anything, I want to know what they think a good childhood should look like, now and in the future."

Out of school success:



Congratulations to…

- Grace has passed her dance exam for Modern Theatre Dance with a merit, we're so proud of her, well done Grace!
- Eva represented Norwich City Girls U9 on Monday putting in a fantastic performance and scoring a brilliant goal against Norwich U10's! She also played against Ipswich U10's in a very evenly and competitive match, with Norwich narrowly missing out with a last-minute penalty given to Ipswich. Eva and Harper were also in action on Friday at The Nest for Norwich City internal fixtures. Both girls played some beautiful football, producing dominant performances for their teams. Eva's team progressed all the way to the final, where she scored twice to help her team lift the trophy!
- Autumn has had a fantastic half term representing Norwich U11 ADC. On Monday, she represented the team against Ipswich in a closely contested match, scoring the opening goal in a game that ended in a narrow defeat. On Friday, Autumn took part in Norwich's internal fixtures, where her team finished 3rd place. Autumn made a great contribution, scoring two goals and providing several assists.







Gold Book (16.10.26)

Kindness

Robins – Mabel, for always being kind to her friends and letting them play with her.
Swifts – Manny for always cheering his friends up with his funny jokes and cheeky smile.

Herons – Alex S, for very kindly offering to undertake a job in the classroom so that the class would be ready to move on with their next learning activity.
Kestrels – Hanah, nominated by Luca, for sharing her valuable resources (glue stick) in class over the last 10 days.

Compassion

Robins – Iris, for always thinking about her classmates feelings and trying to cheer them up if they are feeling sad.
Swifts – Finn for always being a compassion friend and for showing compassion when we were talking about climate change and David Attenborough.
Herons – Hugo, for showing compassion for our world and caring about all the wonderful things in it.
Kestrels – Autumn, for showing compassion for learning; being a real role model of the methods used in class.

Perfect Presentation

Robins – Hattie, for taking her time to create a lovely picture for Drawing Club and writing her codes on it too.
Swifts – Deyan for presenting his final piece of writing beautifully.
Herons – Pollyanna, for maintaining the quality of her handwriting throughout her descriptive paragraph.
Kestrels – Guinevere, for constantly form letter formations neatly and presenting work in a way that entices the audience.

Sports Star

Robins – Leon, for exploring different ways to move his body as the characters form the Gruffalo story.
Swifts – Avery for demonstrating excellent defence skills and ball control when playing a game.
Herons – Michael, nominated by Mrs Wootton, for giving his all when playing football during PE. Well done for remembering all your tactics to help your team gain possession.
Kestrels – All of Kestrels for representing the school brilliant at swimming, going above and beyond what was being ask of them. In fact, the head coach made a point of saying how well behaved and polite the children have been this half term.

Reading Prizes

Herons: Lily, Pollyanna, Michael, Ivy C, Mary-Ann

Tackling Tables

100%: Carter, Oscar B, Ebbie, Jack, Merlin, Josie, Monty, Bruce, Hannah F
Blue star: Hannah F

Forest School

Groot goes to Finn for being an excellent tree detective and remembering the names of the trees we have learnt and matching the leaves and seeds to the trees they belong to at Forest School.
Bowtruckle goes to Carter for her perseverance making her wooden car, well done for not giving up.
A **special mention** to Mabel for her helpfulness and kindness. 😊🤩

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER		
Monday 2nd Nov		Pupils return to school
Friday 6th Nov	11am	Open morning for Reception 2027
Monday 9th Nov		M & M Pantomime in school for all
Thursday 12th Nov	2-3pm	Herons' family café. (Please arrive for 1:50 for refreshments, ready to start for 2pm)
Friday 13th Nov		School photographer for all pupils
Thursday 19th November	2-3pm	Kestrels' family café. (Please arrive for 1:50 for refreshments, ready to start for 2pm)

Thursday 26th Nov		Community Café
Thursday 26th Nov	2-3pm	Robins' family café. (Please arrive for 1:50 for refreshments, ready to start for 2pm)
DECEMBER		
Thursday 3rd Dec	2-3pm	Swifts' family café. (Please arrive for 1:50 for refreshments, ready to start for 2pm)
Monday 7th December		Christmas performance (Time TBC)
Friday 11th December	5-7pm	FOW Disco at the village hall
Tuesday 15th December	2.00	Christingle service at the Church
Thursday 17th December		Christmas dinner
Friday 18th Dec		Last day of Autumn term
Tuesday 5th January		Pupils return to school