



Worstead CE VA Primary School

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Tuesday 16th December 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have made it to the final week of term. This week, we look forward to Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day on Wednesday and then our annual Christingle service on Thursday. I will doubtless repeat myself, but singing *Away in a Manger* by candlelight is one of my favourite times of the school year.

Thank you to all those who attended the Christmas performances yesterday. There's something quintessential about a primary school nativity. There's the story itself, of course, but the songs and the costumes will be so familiar to most of us. More than that, it gives our children an opportunity to be on stage and perform each year, whatever their role, and when the whole school are together, we can really see how much our children develop and grow while they are with us. Most important are the smiles on so many faces – that's the children on the stage every bit as much as the families in the audience.

Read on for logistical details of clubs and PE days next half term, as well as a few notices.

Have an absolutely fantastic Christmas break. I hope you all – children and families – enjoy the time together. We look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Tuesday 6th January 2026**.

With kind regards

Steven Boast

Executive Deputy Headteacher
North Star Federation

Mrs Potter

After Christmas, Mrs Potter will be stepping back from her classroom duties in Herons and Mrs Plane will be increasing her hours to be the classroom assistant full time. Mrs Potter has asked me to stress that this is *not* a retirement and that there should be no fuss. She will still be in school running cookery club each week and on hand to help us with school events and bits and pieces of cover. She has Herons class today.

Now for the part that she hasn't proof-read and will get me in trouble...

I have mentioned before in newsletters that all schools, but especially long-standing, community hubs like ours, are bigger than the individuals within them. They persist and succeed over time through a common purpose of doing the very best for the children under the roof at any particular time. I stand by that.

However, it is also true to say that in my nearly 10 years at Worstead, Mrs Potter has embodied that purpose in everything she has done. Every day, she puts the interests of the children at the front and centre of her work and goes the extra mile for them. She does so many things that are unseen by children, parents and many of the staff even – figurative glue to help hold us all together. I know from colleagues that this has been true since she first started at Worstead over 31 years ago. In years gone by, she has been my right arm in class, and we will be fortunate to continue to work alongside her next year, albeit in a reduced capacity.

I know that it is very much *not* a retirement, but I do think it right that I say, not just for myself, but on behalf of every member of the school community over the years, a very big thank you.



PE/Forest School After Christmas

Robins – PE on Wednesdays

Swifts – Mondays PE for all. Tuesdays – yr 1 forest school and yr 2 PE;

Hérons – PE on Wednesday and Thursday

Kestrels – forest school & PE on alternating Tuesdays (yr 5 forest school in week 1) and Fridays

Clubs After Christmas (from w/c 12th January)

Monday Arts & crafts club with Miss Coby – yr 5 & 6 (year 3 and 4 to follow after Feb half term)

Dodgeball club with Mrs Hart – yr 3-6

Tuesday Cookery club with Mrs Potter – yr 1 and 2

Music club with Mr Cecconi – all children

Running club with Mrs Andrews – 8-8.30am (£5)

Wednesday Football club with Mrs Hart – yr 3-6

Thursday Choir with Mrs Carruthers (year 2-6) – open to new members for the new term

Unless otherwise stated, clubs are 3.15-4.15pm and are charged at a subsidised rate of £10 per half term. Places are limited so if your child(ren) would like to take part in, please pay on Pupil Asset and email the office with your club choice, confirming payment. To make the payment on PA, please select 'afterschool activity club' (£10) or 'running club' (£5). You will be notified by text if your child is successful in gaining a place and refunded if your child is not. Clubs will be set up on Pupil Asset on Wednesday 17th December.

After school care remains available Monday to Thursday until 5.30pm.

Worstead Pre-School – Please see the attached information about Worstead Pre-School and its upcoming opening morning.

Honing Crib Service - Honing Crib Service including carols by candlelight - 5pm Christmas Eve 24 December in Honing church. All ages very welcome for our short (approx. 30-40 mins) Crib Service!

Christmas Event at North Walsham Football Club - Please see the attached flyer.

Out of school success

Congratulations to the following on their success outside of school:

- Willow B for earning her 15m swimming certificate.
- Coco for earning her Octopus Level 1 swimming certificate.
- Ebbie for earning his very first karate belt.

Well done to all of our children for all of their successes this term. I look forward to sharing more in the new year.



Gold Book Prize-Winners – 12.12.25

Ambition

Robins – Barney, for setting himself a challenge to add the correct amount of toys to the number cards up to 10.

Swifts – Coco for working hard in maths finding the difference between numbers.

Hérons – Isla, for making wonderful vocabulary choices in her Christmas-inspired sentences.

Kestrels – Autumn, for always using the class models, resources and her own knowledge to produce high quality work.

Perseverance

Robins – Finn, for persevering when trying to spell words in our phonics lessons and remembering to use his segmenting fingers to help him.

Swifts – Oscar for keeping going when writing the final draft of his formal invitation.

Hérons – Kyla, for working incredible hard all term; she has been focused and always tries her best no matter the subject or topic.

Kestrels – Riely, who is a bit of a dark horse, he works hard in the background constantly striving to improve.

Perfect Presentation

Robins – Grace, for taking her time to think about how she was going to draw her picture of Zebedee from the Magic Roundabout in Drawing Club, ensuring that it looked like him.

Swifts – Ava for joining her letters accurately and keeping them a consistent size.

Hérons – Henry, for being determined to maintain his best handwriting; we are proud of the resilience you have shown.

Kestrels – Jack, for producing a truly inspirational WWII speech in the role of Winston Churchill.

Well done to everyone for their contributions in the school nativity, you have all worked hard at learning your lines, song lyrics and stage positions.

Tackling Tables

100% - Alex S, Hartley

Reading Prizes

Hérons: Kyla, Eva

Diary dates

DECEMBER		
Friday 12 th December	5-7 pm	Friends of Worstead Disco
Monday 15 th December	2pm & 6pm	Christmas performances
Tuesday 16 th December		Hérons trip to Time and Tide Museum
Wednesday 17 th December		Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day
Thursday 18 th December	2pm	Christingle at the Church
Friday 19 th December		Last day of term
JANUARY		
Tuesday 6 th January 2026		Pupils return to school

Friday 16 th January		School photographer- class photos
Monday 26 th January	2-4pm	Football tournament at the Nest- Selected pupils
FEBRUARY		
Friday 13 th February		Last day of term