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Newsletter 15 July 2025

Term dates for the Autumn Term
Please note these are correct at the time of sending this newsletter, they are subject to change only if necessary
Please keep these dates safe!

Date	Infant School	Junior School
Wednesday 3rd September	All children in Years 1-6 return to school. Gates open at 8.40 am and close at 8.55 am	
Wednesday 3rd September	Reception parent consultations	
Thursday 4th September	Reception Group A 9.15 – 1.30	
Friday 5th September	Reception Group B 9.15 – 1.30	
Monday 8th September	All Reception children in full time	
Monday 8th September	1pm Live Music performance for children	2.15 Live Music performance for children
Monday 15th September		Year 6 national child measurement programme
Monday 15th September		Year 3 Egyptian Day Details to follow from Year 3
Friday 26th September	History of Our School Day We will be delving into the archives to look at the History of our school over time. Were you a pupil? Do you have any photos we could borrow? Let your child's teacher know.	
Monday 29th September	Phonics workshop for parents of children in Reception. Year 1 parents/carers also welcome if your child is still getting to grips with phonics. Come along and find out how we teach phonics and how you can help at home	
Monday 6th October 2.15 - 3		Accelerated Reader workshop for Junior Parents. What is it? How does it work? How can I help? Junior Hall
Tuesday 7th October		Year 3 individual photos Plus: Junior siblings and federation siblings Please send them in full uniform on this day, not in PE kits if it is their PE day

Date	Infant School	Junior School
Wednesday 8th October		Years 4,5,6 individual photos Please send them in full uniform on this day, not in PE kits if it is their PE day
Friday 10th October	World Mental Health Day (Hello yellow day) Add a splash of yellow to your uniform for the day – socks, t shirt, hair ribbon etc	
Tuesday 14th October	Reception Harvest Activity Morning 1 adult per child and no younger siblings please Join us for some Harvest learning and activities	
Friday 17th October 2pm	Years 1 – 6 Harvest activities for one adult per child. Please note we cannot have more than one adult per child due to space and we also cannot have younger siblings. If you have to bring a younger sibling, please book with the office and we will set something up in the library for you and your child.	
Wednesday 22nd October	Reception to Year 2 Individual Photos Plus Infant siblings and Junior 'mop up' Please send them in full uniform on this day, not in PE kits if it is their PE day	
Friday 24th October	School closes at 3.15 for Infants and 3.25 for Juniors for Half Term	
Monday 3rd November	School reopens for the new half term at 8.40 am	
Monday 3rd November	Parent consultation email invites sent Online booking opens at 4pm	
Week beginning 3rd November	Individual Education Plans to be shared with parents/carers of children who have an IEP	
Wednesday 5th November		Flu immunisations for Junior children Information will be sent prior to this
Monday 10th November		Year 4 Roman Day Year 4 teachers will send further information nearer the time
Monday 10th November	Anti-bullying week – wear odd socks to school	
Thursday 13th November	Online parent consultations 4-7 pm	
Friday 14th November	Children in Need – details will follow nearer the time	
Monday 17th November	Online parent consultations 4-7 pm	
Thursday 20th November	Tennis festival for selected children	
Friday 21st November		Year 5 Viking Day Year 5 teachers will send further information nearer the time
Monday 24th November	Pre school activity morning for children due to start school in September 2026. Little owls and William Cowper parents will be invited via the Nursery. If your child attends elsewhere and is eligible and you would like them to join, please contact the Infant office. This is a children only event.	
Wednesday 26th November		Flu immunisations for Junior children Information will be sent prior to this (New consents or mop ups)
Monday 1st December	Email and information to book a Christmas Lunch	
Thursday 4th December 9.30 am	* Dress rehearsal for Year 1 children Junior Hall	
Thursday 4th December 1.45 pm	*Dress rehearsal for Year 2 children Junior Hall	
Monday 8th December	Year 1 performance. 2 adults maximum per child. No younger children. Junior Hall	

Date	Infant School	Junior School
Monday 8th December 1.45		*Dress rehearsal for Year 3 children Junior Hall
Tuesday 9th December 9.15	Year 2 performance. 2 adults maximum per child. No younger children. Junior Hall	
Tuesday 9th December 1.45pm		*Dress rehearsal for Year 4 children Junior Hall
Wednesday 10th December 9.15		Year 3 performance. 2 adults maximum per child. No younger children. Junior Hall
Wednesday 10th December 1.45 pm		*Dress rehearsal for Year 5 children Junior Hall
Thursday 11th December 9.15		Year 4 performance. 2 adults maximum per child. No younger children. Junior Hall
Thursday 11th December 1.45 pm		*Dress rehearsal for Year 6 Junior Hall
Friday 12th December 9.15		Year 5 performance. 2 adults maximum per child. No younger children. Junior Hall
Monday 15th December 9.15		Year 6 performance. 2 adults maximum per child. No younger children. Junior Hall
Monday 15th December	Year 2 Christmas Party pm	Year 3 Christmas Party pm Year 6 Christmas Party pm
Tuesday 16th December	Year 1 Christmas Party pm	Year 4 Christmas Party pm Year 5 Christmas Party pm
Tuesday 16th December 9.15 pm	Reception Christmas Performance 2 adults maximum per child. No younger children. Infant Hall Reception Christmas Party	
Wednesday 17th December	Federation Christmas Lunch This must be booked in advance using the link sent	
Friday 19th December	Schools close at 3.15/3.25 for the Christmas Holiday	

Christmas performances

We know it seems like a long way off, but we want you to have plenty of time to make arrangements for the performances your children will be in, as we know people need to book time off work and book it in. There is only room for a MAXIMUM of two adults per child at each performance, so please do not come as a larger party than two as someone will be turned away disappointed.

We cannot have younger children at the performance due to lack of space and also this is the children's one performance and we do want them to be heard clearly.

If you cannot come as you have a younger child, then please take a note of the dress rehearsal date and time and you can come with them to that. Nearer the time, the office will send out a Microsoft forms survey for you to sign up if you are coming to the dress rehearsal. We hope that this way everyone can enjoy the children's hard work.

Babies!

We have some exciting Federation baby news!

Douglas Roy Harold Thompson was born on Friday 4th July weighing 7lb 10oz. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Thompson on becoming a family of four and to Hubert on becoming a big brother!

Tommy Rathi was born on Saturday 5th July weighing 7lb 10 oz. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Rathi on becoming a family of four and to Freddie on becoming a big brother.

We look forward to meeting them both.

MSAs

We are looking for an MSA at Infants two days per week starting in September, from 12-1.15 on both days. If you are interested, please contact the Infant office for details.

Top Class Supplement

The newspaper apologised for missing out GB6 from the newspaper, but said it should have been in the following week. All photos were sent but they said they had a downloading issue.

Lunches

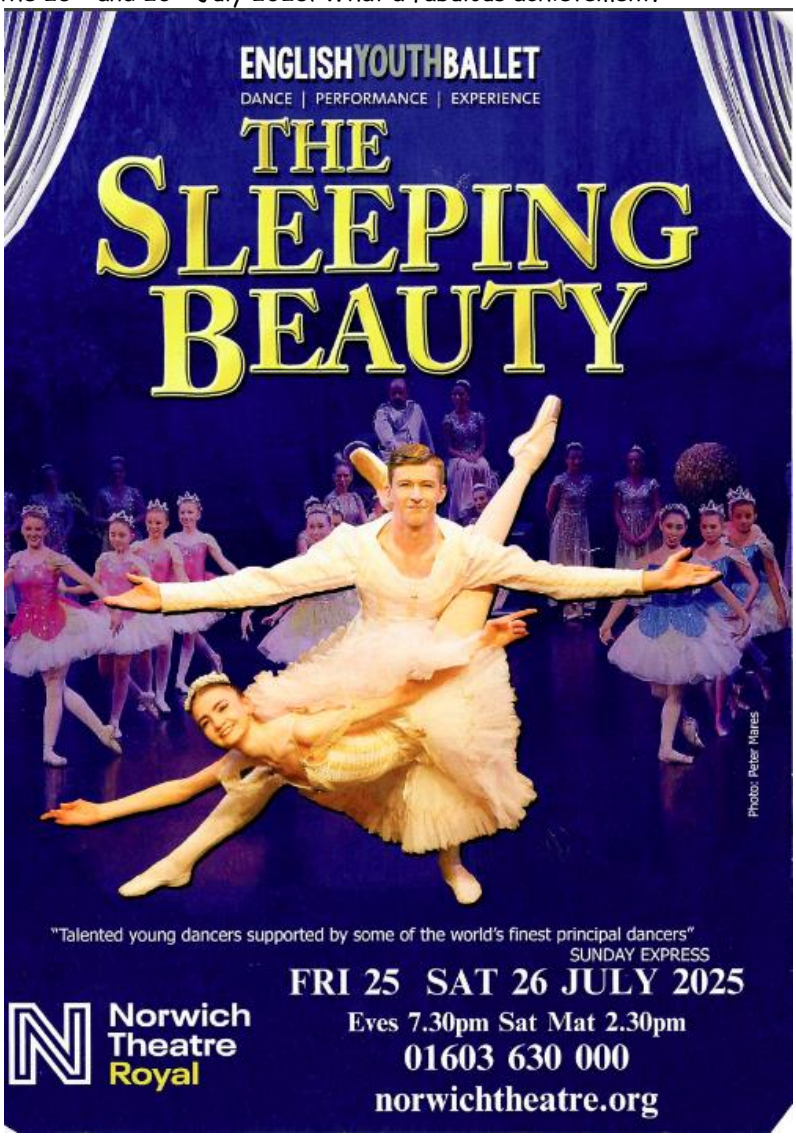
Can all **Junior parents** please ensure their school lunch accounts are paid off in full before the end of term. This money is due to be paid to the catering company by the end of term. You will have had daily reminders if your account needs to be settled.

Shoes for September

Can we please make a request that when buying shoes for September they do not have flashing lights or if they do you turn them off. This is because we have staff and children with epilepsy in the schools and this can trigger a seizure. Thankyou for your understanding.

Ballet Achievement

Congratulations to **Thandie** who has been awarded a role in the English Youth Ballet performance of Sleeping Beauty at the Theatre Royal Norwich on the 25th and 26th July 2025! What a fabulous achievement.



Accelerated Reader Word Millionaires

Congratulations to the children in Year 6 who have become Accelerated Reader Word Millionaires: Sophia, Jack, Charlie and William. Well done!

This Girl Can Festival

On Tuesday 8th July, 12 girls from Year 5 attended a sports event aimed at girls who don't do a lot of sport outside of school and who have low confidence surrounding sports. The girls absolutely loved the activities we did on the day as there were 7 different stations all tasters of different things they could choose to pick up if they decided they loved it enough to start a club! Their particular favourites were trampolining, karate and tennis! It was fantastic to see the girls enjoying themselves and putting in so much effort. They were so well behaved and did our school proud!

You can see photos here:

https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/pe-events/this-girl-can-festival-wndssp/

Tennis Festival

11 children from Reception attended the Tennis Festival held at Taverham High School.

They took part in 8 different activities including catching a ball between cones, throwing a ball over the tennis net and balancing a ball on a racket.

All of the children joined in fantastically, had fun and put lots of effort in!

Well done everyone!

You can see some photos here:

https://www.toftwoodfederation.co.uk/news/pe-events/tennis-festival/

History Competition

Congratulations to **Sara** in Year 5 who won our History competition, designed to inspire a love of History beyond the curriculum. The children were shown a genuine Victorian slate, in a wooden frame. They were challenged to think..."If this slate could talk, what stories would it tell?"

The children then had to research life I a Victorian classroom, building on their learning at the Infant School and our "History of our School Day", where they studied extracts from the school's genuine log books. The children were very creative in the way they demonstrated their work. Sara has won a ticket admitting 5 people to any of the Norfolk Museums, which we know she will thoroughly enjoy, with her family.

A very special thank you to the Norfolk Museums Service, for very kindly donating this generous gift.

Transition Week

The children were well prepared and looking forward to transition week that started on Wednesday. It has been lovely to see them all ready to move on with confidence, knowing they can do this. Everyone has looked settled and engaged in their new classrooms.

Goodbye and Good Luck!

We say see you later to Mrs Harvey as she heads off for her maternity leave. We look forward to hearing of baby Harvey's arrival. Keep a look on Twitter (x) for news of the new arrival.

Goodbye and Good Luck also to Miss Coombes as she heads off on the next adventure in her career.

Summer Holiday Support

We know some of you may face difficult times in the holidays so here are some numbers you can contact:

NIDAS for domestic abuse help https://nidasnorfolk.co.uk/ 0300 561 0555

SAMARITANS if you feel in crisis or need support Call 116 123

NORFOLK MENTAL HEALTH Dial 111 and ask for mental health support

NATIONAL DEBTLINE for support with financial worries

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY for support with financial worries

CITIZENS ADVICE for a range of issues, including being made homeless https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/

Thank you

As we head to the Summer break, a huge thankyou to all of the children, families, staff, Governors and volunteers who have been so supportive this year, as always. Thankyou for your very kind gifts and words of thanks, they are much appreciated.

We hope you have a relaxing summer break, and we look forward to seeing all the children in the new academic year. Our last day in school this term is Tuesday 22nd July.

Community News and Events

Thorpe Woodland Charity Day



Recipes from NORSE

Serves 12

norse group

Apple and Summer Berry Slice

This is a lovely summery dessert and has very little sugar in the recipe as there is natural sweetness in the fruit!



Ingredients list

- 225g Margarine
- 50g Brown Sugar
- 250g Self-Raising Flour
- 200g Mixed Summer Berries – fresh or frozen
- 450g Bramley Apples – peeled, cored and chopped



Method

1. Pre-heat the oven to gas mark 6 or 180°C.
2. Grease and line a 20cm x 30cm cake tin.
3. Prepare the apples and gently cook with the berries in a pan on a moderate heat until soft. Leave the fruit to cool.
4. Rub the flour and margarine together the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.
5. Add the sugar to the flour and margarine mixture.
6. Tip half of the mixture into the tin and press down. Then spread the cooked fruit over the base. Add the remaining crumb mix on top.
7. Bake in the oven for 30-35 minutes until golden brown and the base is cooked.
8. Portion up when cool and enjoy!

Serves 4

norse group

Cheesy Pasta

This is a staple dish on our school menu!
It's easy to make and a great meal option for all ages.



Ingredients list

75g Pasta Twists (we use a mix of normal and wholemeal)

- **Cheese Sauce:**
  - 95g Margarine
  - 95g Plain Flour
  - 1200ml Milk
  - 375g Grated Mature Cheese
- **Topping:**
  - 60g Grated Mature Cheese



Method

1. Cook the pasta in plenty of water for 8–10 minutes.
2. Drain and refresh the pasta with cold water.
3. To make the cheese sauce, melt the margarine in a pan.
4. Add the flour to the margarine to make a roux.
5. Add warm milk to the roux gradually, stirring all the time.
6. Whisk the sauce until smooth and remove from the heat.
7. Stir in the grated cheese and season to taste.
8. Add the sauce to the pasta and place it in an ovenproof dish.
9. Sprinkle the remaining cheese over the top and finish in the oven on Gas Mark 6 or 200°C for 20 minutes until golden brown.