



Weekly Newsletter



School Games Mark Gold standard!!



We are delighted to announce that Norris Bank Primary has been awarded Gold status in the School Games Mark for the 2024/25 academic year. This is a fantastic achievement and recognises our continued commitment to promoting physical activity and wellbeing for all pupils. We were also proud to receive a congratulatory letter this week from Navendu Mishra MP, praising the school's achievement and the collective effort of our community:

'This award is a testament to your school's commitment to ensuring all children are supported to be physically active every day. I am delighted that the dedication and hard work of your leadership team, teachers and pupils have been recognised through this national accolade. My congratulations extend to everyone involved, both within the school and across the wider community, who have played. This recognition reflects the enthusiasm, teamwork and dedication shown by pupils and staff throughout the year, and we are incredibly proud of everyone involved.'

Book of the Week

Saving Sorya, Chang and the Sun Bear (2023) By Trang Nguyen and Jeet Zdung
Recommended reading age: 7-11



To mark Mother Earth Day on 22 April, we are pleased to recommend this beautifully illustrated graphic novel, based on the true story of Trang Nguyen, a Vietnamese conservationist dedicated to protecting wildlife. The story follows Chang as she begins the challenging task of rewilding Sorya, a young sun bear who was captured by poachers as a cub. The manga-influenced illustrations bring this heart-warming and inspiring tale to life, while the accessible writing style makes it suitable for a wide range of reading abilities. This is a powerful and engaging read that young wildlife enthusiasts will not want to miss.

Science Museum Visit - Year 1

This week, our Year 1 children enjoyed an exciting visit to the Museum of Science and Industry as part of their topic work on The History of Transport. During the visit, the children learned all about steam trains and had the opportunity to see and find out more about the famous steam locomotive Pender. They were particularly excited to watch a steam train in action and to explore a range of hands-on activities that brought their learning to life.

A highlight for many was dressing up in flat caps, helping the children imagine what travel by train might have been like in the past. In the workshop session, the children took part in a fun role-play activity where they packed their bags for a holiday by train, developing both their historical understanding and their imagination.

The children were a real credit to the school throughout the visit. Museum staff commented on how well behaved they were and how carefully they listened, which we were extremely proud to hear.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who volunteered their time to support the trip over the two days. Your help was invaluable and helped make this enriching experience possible for the children.



GROW STARS OF THE WEEK

Reception

Arthur & Alex

KS1

Year 1: Florence & Lucas

Year 2: Amelia & Ruby

KS2

Year 3: Wilf & Theo

Year 4: Harriet & Freddie

Year 5: Lucas & Harrison

Year 6: Violet & Eleanor

Year 6 Leavers - Virtual Mount Everest Challenge

The Everest Challenge has now come to an exciting end, and what a finish it was. Team Aspey were leading right up until the final day, when Team Doe made a tremendous last-minute effort and pipped them to the post in a thrilling finale.

Well done to all pupils who took part in the challenge. Everyone showed great determination and teamwork throughout. The money raised will go towards the Year 6 leavers' party, helping to make it a memorable celebration for the children.

If you have not yet made your contribution, the Year 6 parents have kindly asked that payment is made as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support.

PTA Annual General Meeting

We are pleased to invite you to attend the upcoming PTA Annual General Meeting.

Date: Friday 24th April 2026

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: TBC

This is a great opportunity to hear about the PTA's activities over the past year and see how the funds raised have made a positive impact on our school community. Further details will be shared at a later date.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The NBPTA Committee

DATES FOR THE DIARY

For a full list of dates for the 2025-26 academic year, please see our Annual Planner which can be accessed by clicking on this link.



Date	Event
May 4th	Bank Holiday: School Closed
11th	Year 6 SATS week
22nd	Last Day of term
June 8th	School reopens
9th	Year 6 trip to Quarry Bank Mill
12th	Dress down day for sweets for summer fair
15th-19th	Get Active Week
17th	Sports Day and Family Picnic
22nd	Reception Parents Meeting for September 2026 intake
26th	Dress down day for bottle tombola
July 1st	Reserve date for Sports Day
2nd	Transition day for Year 6
8th-10th	Year 4 residential to Northumberland
10th	Annual reports sent home
13th-15th	Year 5 residential to Anglesey
13th-16th	Book Share Week
14th	Year 6 production
17th	Reception graduation
24th	Leavers Assembly
	School closes for summer holidays

Branching Out Kids Club News

It's been a lovely week at Branching Out, full of celebration and sunshine. We marked St George's Day in style with a range of arts and crafts activities, followed by a very special afternoon tea, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Making the most of the good weather, we also spent time outdoors on the field, enjoying a variety of fun and active games.

There's plenty to look forward to next week too, so watch this space to find out more about our exciting new weekly Food Challenge.

For any general enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

kidsclub@norrisbank.org.uk.

We are also delighted to share that the Branching Out team will be partnering with our Eco Warriors to host a seasonal pre-loved uniform sale. This is a great opportunity to make sustainable choices while supporting our school community. If you have any questions or would like more information, please email us using the address above.

