



Weekly Newsletter

Language Ambassador Visit

We recently welcomed Languages Ambassadors from Priestnall School to work with our Year 6 pupils. As our children have been learning Spanish since Year 3, the ambassadors delivered a French taster lesson, giving pupils the opportunity to experience a different language and to develop an understanding of what language learning at secondary school can be like. The session was highly interactive and centred around a range of games and practical activities, which kept pupils engaged throughout. The Priestnall students led the lesson with confidence and enthusiasm, creating a fun and supportive learning environment where everyone felt encouraged to take part. Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and it was wonderful to see them embracing the challenge of learning new words and phrases while gaining an insight into the exciting opportunities that await them as they move on to secondary education.

Teddy Bear's Picnic



Our Teddy Bear Picnics were a fantastic opportunity to welcome our new Reception children to Norris Bank. Working in smaller groups allowed the children to explore their new classroom and outdoor learning area, meet the staff who will be supporting them and begin to feel familiar with their new surroundings. Meanwhile, parents and carers had the chance to enjoy a coffee in The Hive and meet other families. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces, and we look forward to welcoming the children back in September to begin their Norris Bank journey.

MUSIC ASSEMBLY

Mr Collins recently led a music assembly which was a real highlight for the children. Pupils enjoyed listening to a range of live performances, including flute, clarinet and saxophone pieces, with a wide variety of musical genres shared. The quality of the performances was excellent and gave our pupils a real sense of what can be achieved with commitment and lots of practice. We also had the opportunity to hear from our brass players who performed under the guidance of Mr Haslam. This added another instrumental family to the assembly and helped children to experience the different sounds and possibilities that come with learning brass instruments. For our Year 2 to Year 4 pupils in particular, this was a valuable opportunity to begin thinking about which instrument they might like to learn in the future. It was great to see some of our own pupils take part, confidently showcasing how far they have come in mastering their instruments. Their performances were a great example of perseverance and progress over time, and provided real inspiration for others in the audience. We are also looking forward to welcoming Mr Fitchett for a drumming assembly before the end of term, which will provide another exciting opportunity for pupils to experience live music and further develop their interest in learning an instrument.



Book Recommendations to support Transition



Moving up a class can be a big deal for many children and transition days are a wonderful opportunity for teachers to break the ice and get to know a new class.

With moving class just around the corner, we've handpicked a list of picture book recommendations to share with children to prepare for a class transition – grouped into themes of being yourself, starting a new class, community, togetherness and friendship as well as books that provide inspiration for transition day art projects and icebreakers. Here is the link to review the suggested recommendations:

[The Best Children's books for transition](#)

Transition

Moving Up Day was an exciting milestone for all of our pupils as they spent time with their new teachers, visited their new classrooms and began to prepare for the year ahead. The children embraced the opportunity with enthusiasm and curiosity, enjoying a range of activities designed to help them feel confident and ready for September. It was wonderful to see so much excitement across the school as pupils started to build relationships with staff and become familiar with their new learning environments. Our Year 6 pupils also took part in transition days at Priestnall and their other secondary schools, spending a full day experiencing life as a high school student. These visits provided a valuable opportunity for them to meet new teachers, explore their new surroundings and begin preparing for the next stage of their educational journey. We are incredibly proud of how maturely and positively they approached this important step.

KS2 Sports Day Morning

It was wonderful to finally be able to hold our Key Stage 2 Sports Morning after it had unfortunately been postponed due to the wet weather earlier this half term. Thankfully, the conditions were much kinder this time and pupils were able to enjoy a fantastic morning of sporting activities and competition. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who came along to support the children and help create such a positive atmosphere. We would also like to extend our thanks to Mrs Buchanan and Mr Chilton for all of their hard work in organising the event and ensuring everything ran so smoothly. Most importantly, our pupils were a credit to the school throughout. They showed great determination, resilience and teamwork, while also demonstrating excellent sportsmanship by encouraging one another, celebrating success and showing respect both in victory and defeat. It was a fantastic morning and a wonderful opportunity to celebrate physical activity and our Norris Bank GROW values.

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
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

