



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28th November 2025

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Our vision is for all our children to shine like STARS

"Those who are wise will shine like the sky and those who lead others to goodness will shine like the stars forever" *Daniel 12:3*

STRIVE - THINK - ACT - RESPECT



Weekly Newsletter – 28th November 2025

A message from Mrs Farren...

Yesterday, Norton school had a school review. This is a bit like a practice Ofsted. We asked for this inspection because the Ofsted framework has changed and want to be sure that we are doing our very best for our Norton children (based on research and experience). The inspector is an experienced lead Ofsted inspector.

We are delighted with his feedback. He praised highly the quality of teaching, the skills of the whole team and the school's curriculum. Of great strength was pupil behaviour, the pupils' enjoyment of learning and the school's offer of personal development.

I would like to thank Team Norton for welcoming an inspector into school (when this was not a requirement) and for their obvious skill and dedication. The children made us all proud!

Have a wonderful weekend
Mrs Farren and Team Norton





Class News – 28th November 2025

This week in **Little Learners** we have worked in small groups and as a whole class to create Christmas decorations for everyone in the community to enjoy, as they will be proudly placed on our School Christmas Tree that will be displayed at Norton Church Tree festival this weekend.

Little Learners have also enjoyed taking part in a music and movement session this week for PE. We moved like animals to music, became a long train, and to end our music and movement session, we were all shooting stars! Little Learners have also shared their knowledge of Pirates, and have created their own Treasure Maps! We even found hidden treasures in our sand tray!

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 had a fantastic time on their Christmas Multiskills trip!

The children all showed amazing behaviour throughout the afternoon, demonstrating great listening skills and plenty of enthusiasm.

They threw themselves into a wide variety of activities with energy and excitement, and even enjoyed a festive game of What's the Time, Rudolph?

Well done, infants—you made us very proud!

This week **Year 3** have been absolutely amazing! They delivered a wonderful clarinet concert, showcasing all their hard work and musical progress—they were fantastic. In Design and Technology, the children have been applying their knowledge of pneumatics to design their own pneumatic toys, which they will begin creating soon. Their creativity and problem-solving skills have been brilliant to see. We also completed the first drafts of our approaching threat narratives. The children will begin editing these next week before writing up their final versions in best. We can't wait to see the finished stories!

In **Year 4** this week we have planned and started to write our myth narrative based on Arthur and the Golden Rope. In science, we undertook a sound investigation to see which area of the school was the loudest and which was the quietest. We used a sound decibel meter app to record the sound levels.

This week, **Year 5** have tried their hand at embroidery. We have looked at how to thread a needle, tie knots, a straight stitch and a cross stitch. They were very patient and produced brilliant work.

This week in **Year 6** we have been looking at a new text called "Rose Blanche" set in WW2. We have been looking at the vocabulary and structure of some of the text in preparation for writing diary entries based on it. In Maths, we have been converting measurements and looking at the difference between metric and imperial measurements.

Important Information Pages

Hi everyone!

Just a quick reminder to keep an eye on our Important Information Pages. These pages include everything you need to know about what's happening in school — from deadlines and updates to details about companies we work with, like School Trends, catering, and music lessons.

Things can change week to week, so it's worth checking back regularly to stay up to date. Thanks for keeping in the loop!



UNIFORM



HELP!!! We're seeing a lot of unnamed school jumpers/cardigans being left around school.

Please ensure ALL uniform is named, especially jumpers/ cardigans!

Any **unnamed** lost property left on Friday 19th December will be donated to the PTA or disposed of.

SCHOOL TRENDS
GROWN OUT BEFORE WORN OUT

ABOUT US PRODUCT RANGE CONTACT US FAQ'S

SPECIAL OFFER

Christmas

Big Sale

15% OFF

Take advantage of a 15% discount until the year's end. Ensure you're one step ahead for the upcoming year!

USE CODE

ENDOFYEAR15

Ends 19th December 2025

 See our latest reviews and share your experience with us.

Pupil Health and Safety Information

Chicken pox

We have had a few more cases of chicken pox reported in school.

It is advised that pregnant women should advise the healthcare staff or doctor.

Is your child under the weather?

We value good attendance, and while illness can't always be avoided, please think carefully about whether your child is well enough to attend school before keeping them at home.

A quick reminder: if your child has been sick or had a vomiting bug, they need to stay off school for 48 hours after the final episode to help keep everyone healthy.





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What's Happening



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

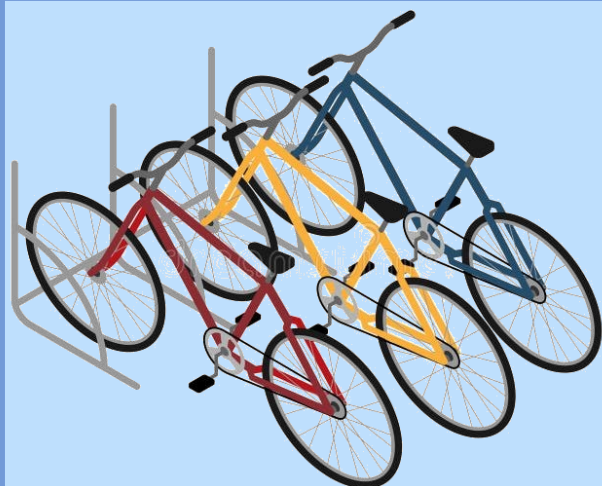
NORTON CHURCH
28-30 NOVEMBER

ON FRIDAY 28TH NORTON CHILDREN WILL
BE OPENING THE FESTIVAL WITH SINGING
AND DANCING AT 4PM

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND



All the decorations children made in class will be on display on our tree all weekend. Any artwork created for the competition will also be on display. There are also 15 other trees and festive creations to view—don't miss out on this magical Christmas event!



We have a bike rack!

If your child rides their bike or scooter to school they are welcome to bring it into the playground and head for the library, just as you reach the door closest to the library you'll find our bike rack so their transport can be safely stored till the end of the school day!



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MUSIC

Music lessons:

WOODWIND LESSONS

RECORDER
FROM RECEPTION
ONWARDS

**FLUTE
& CLARINET**
FROM YEAR 3 ONWARDS

SAXOPHONE
YEAR 6
ONLY

PHOEBE WILSON
PHOEBEWILSONFLUTE@OUTLOOK.COM
07568183036

Piano lessons:

ROSIE BLACKWOOD

www.mymusiclessons.co.uk



Please complete the booking form for before and after school club.

You are welcome to start sending in forms for next term if you know when you need it!

Due to the high number of children using this service we need to ensure we have the correct number of staff to cover it, so all children attending this club **must** have a form filled out.

NO FORM = NO CLUB!

We accept this form by handing in a physical copy or emailing it to admin@norton.gloucs.sch.uk

Many thanks.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB BOOKING FORM 25/26

Please indicate which session you would like to book from 6th January until 13th February 2026

Please indicate with a tick or with a child's name which before/after school club you would like to book

Term 3	Before	After			Before	After		
Times	8am - 8:45am	3:15pm - 5pm	3:15pm - 5:30pm		Times	8am - 8:45am	3:15pm - 5pm	3:15pm - 5:30pm
Mon 5th Jan	INSET				Mon 26th Jan			
Tue 6th Jan			Closed		Tue 27th Jan			Closed
Wed 7th Jan			Closed		Wed 28th Jan			Closed
Thur 8th Jan					Thur 29th Jan			
Fri 9th Jan		Closed			Fri 30th Jan		Closed	
Mon 12th Jan					Mon 2nd Feb			
Tue 13th Jan			Closed		Tue 3rd Feb			Closed
Wed 14th Jan			Closed		Wed 4th Feb			Closed
Thur 15th Jan					Thur 5th Feb			
Fri 16th Jan		Closed			Fri 6th Feb		Closed	
Mon 19th Jan					Mon 9th Feb			
Tue 20th Jan			Closed		Tue 10th Feb			Closed
Wed 21st Jan			Closed		Wed 11th Feb			Closed
Thur 22nd Jan					Thur 12th Feb			
Fri 23rd Jan		Closed			Fri 13th Feb		Closed	

Name of Child/ren: _____

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions on the website for the before and after school club.



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Dates for your diary for November/December:

- Saturday 29th November - PTA Christmas fair 1:30pm - 4pm *See page 13.*
- Christmas tree festival at Norton church. *See page 7*
- Sunday 30th November - Christmas tree festival *See page 7*
- Monday 1st December - Last week of teacher led clubs
- Wednesday 3rd December - Y4 Egyptian day
- Monday 8th December - Infant Nativity dress rehearsal
- Tuesday 9th December - Infant Nativity (10am)
- Wednesday 10th December - Christmas dinner day
- Infant girls football morning
- Thursday 11th December - Infant Nativity (2pm—being filmed)
- Friday 19th December - Finish for the Christmas holidays @1.30pm

New term starts: Tuesday 6th January 2026

Next week's diary - 1st December 2025:

Day:	The School Day:	After School clubs:	Lunch Menu (week 1)
Monday		Mindful colouring Dance club Junior football	Mild Mexican chilli with rice Vegan meatballs in tomato sauce with spaghetti Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna
Tuesday	Dance festival @ Ribston	Infant gymnastics cancelled	Sausage and mash with gravy Chefs special lentil curry with rice Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna Baguette & Ham/Cheese/Tuna
Wednesday	Y4 Egyptian day	Junior gymnastics Lego & K'nex Fitness	Roast chicken with roast potatoes Vegetable wellington with roast potatoes Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna
Thursday		Board games Colour & play Gardening	Spaghetti bolognese with garlic bread Roasted vegetable pizza with new potatoes Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna Baguette & Ham/Cheese/Tuna
Friday	2:45pm sharing assembly		Fish fingers with chips Red pepper frittata with chips Jacket potato & Beans/Cheese/Tuna



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PTA News

Thank you for supporting
Norton Headphone Dis-glo
We raised over
£620!

We have also been
successful in two
community grants and have
been awarded **£1975!**

£7000
Class
experiences
library books

£2800

Hot Chocolate
Fridays will
continue!
£70 raised so far



Non-uniform day Friday 21st November
Please bring a full bottle OR chocolates
for the Christmas tombola

Do you have any leftover crackers
unwanted gifts, or other Christmas items
you don't need? Please bring them in, we
can use them for the Christmas Fair



Upcoming Events

Dates for your diaries:

- Hot Chocolate Fridays (as it gets colder!)
- ~~Headphone disco - Wed 22nd Oct~~
- Non-uniform day (for bottle donations) - Fri 21st Nov
- Christmas Fair - Sat 29th Nov
- Raffle draw - Fri 12th Dec



Norton Christmas Fair

Saturday 29th November 2025
1:30-4pm
Norton Village Hall

- Norton PTA would like to invite local
businesses and crafters to join our
Christmas Fair.
- £10 per stall (plus a raffle prize donation)
 - Up to 2.5 hours for sales
 - Supporting fundraising for our school
 - Email: Norton.sch.pta@gmail.com



Having a party?

Try our reusable party kit,
rather than buying
disposable.

Help support our school's
sustainability efforts and
PTA fundraising too!

*collection from, and return to, Norton
Contact: Norton.sch.pta@gmail.com



£10 per hire*

30 place settings
5 Jugs
6 Serving Platters





CORNER

Uh oh... a blank page!

what have you been up to? Why not send us some pictures for the newsletter...

We love to celebrate **anything** you do at home...

You can email any photos and information to go on our page to Mrs Higgins: fhiggins@norton.gloucs.sch.uk with the subject line "newsletter".



OF THE WEEK

Our incredible Miss Middlecote is getting creative with displays... by next week in the junior corridor we will have a "sugar shockers" display, come and find out how much sugar is in your favourite snack...

Inspired by this new display, we have two challenges for you this weekend:

Sugar Cube Challenge

Pick a snack or drink at home and build a small tower of sugar cubes to match the amount of sugar it contains.

Great for visual learners — and very eye-opening!



How Much Sugar?! Taste Test

Pick one treat and compare it to a lower-sugar alternative.

Have a blind taste test to see which the family prefers — you might be surprised!

Discuss: Do sweeter foods always taste better?

How do healthier versions make you feel afterwards?





Healthy recipe of the week!



Have you tried swapping out sugar for an alternative.. here is one example!



Sugar-free victoria sponge

[Ailsa Brown](#)

+ Save recipe

Serves 8 - 10

Easy

Prep: 30 mins

Cook: 20 mins

plus cooling

★★★★★ 5 ratings [Rate](#) [4 comments](#)

A modern take on a timeless classic, this victoria sponge recipe has plenty of fruity flavour without

Ingredients

200g [unsalted butter](#)
softened, plus extra for the tins

200g [xylitol](#)

4 [eggs](#)
beaten

200g [self-raising flour](#)

For the filling

250g [fresh or frozen raspberries](#)
(defrosted if frozen)

1 tbs [xylitol](#)

150ml [double cream](#)
(optional)

Method

Step 1

Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Butter two round 18cm cake tins and line with baking parchment. Beat the butter and xylitol together in a large bowl using an electric whisk until light and creamy. Add the egg, a little at a time, beating well after each addition. Fold in the flour and a pinch of salt. Divide the batter evenly between the two tins and smooth the surfaces using a spatula. Bake for 15-20 mins until golden and a skewer inserted into the middles comes out clean. Leave to cool completely in the tins, set on a [wire rack](#).

Step 2

If using defrosted raspberries, first tip them into a sieve over the sink and use the back of a spoon to extract as much liquid as possible (frozen berries contain a lot of water, and you don't want the filling to be too wet). Put the raspberries in a small bowl and mash with the xylitol. Set aside.

Step 3

Lightly whip the double cream, if using, until just holding its shape. Remove the parchment from one of the sponges and put on a cake stand. Spoon over the crushed raspberries in an even layer. Sandwich with the second cake, then spread over the whipped cream in thick swirls. Chill until ready to serve.

EXTERNAL AGENCIES ADVERTISING PAGES

Disclaimer:

**Norton School accepts no responsibility for anything
advertised on the following pages.**

**Please assure yourselves of the safety, security and suitability
of any item contained on the red pages.**

Disclaimer:

Norton School accepts no responsibility for anything advertised on this page.
Please assure yourselves of the safety, security and suitability of any item
contained below.



SUN 11TH JANUARY
2026

DOORS OPEN
09:30AM

GLOUCESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS INDIVIDUAL TABLE TENNIS COMPETITION

EVENTS

U11 BOYS U11 GIRLS
U13 BOYS U13 GIRLS
U16 BOYS U16 GIRLS
U19 BOYS U19 GIRLS

ENTER NOW
SCAN QR CODE



YMCA SPORTS CENTRE, COLLEGE DRIVE, OFF ARLE ROAD,
CHELTENHAM GL51 8LE

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UltraStar
CHEERLEADING ACADEMY
With The Ball Sports Coaching

Confidence starts here — shine like a star

Recreational Cheerleading | Competition Cheerleading

Tumbling | Early Years Cheerleading | Workshops

Dream - Believe - Inspire

Performance opportunities | Holiday Camps | Parties

"My child's confidence continues to grow every session"

Book your **FREE** taster sessions here!



Hillview Primary School GL3 3LH | Finlay Community School GL4 6TR

| withtheball.co.uk | lauramason@withtheball.co.uk | 07842821013 |



ROTARY CLUB OF GLOUCESTER PRESENTS

GLOUCESTER
SANTA
FUN
RUN

13th December 2025

Run 5k or 1k

Around historic Gloucester dressed as santa, an elf or just join in the festive fun!

Tickets now on sale

www.GlosSantaFunRun.co.uk

ALL profits to charity

You can also register on the day from 9:30am at Kings Square

We are looking for elves to help run the event please go to our website if you would like to get involved



Rotary
Rotary Club of Gloucester

Cass Stephens
CHARTERED INSURANCE BROKERS

GLOUCESTER
BID

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JUNIOR TRAIL NEWS

GOT A TRAIL MAD YOUNGSTER?

GET **20% OFF GENERAL ADMISSION** AT FLYUP 417 BIKE PARK, WITCOMBE USING '417SCHOOL2025' UNTIL 19TH DECEMBER 2025.

If you want to up your downhill game while they're at school, or keep them busy on inset days, we're also offering **Buy One, Get One Half Price on uplift passes** on week days from 24th November 2025 until 19th December 2025. Just use the code '417BOGOHP'. If shredding trails isn't your thing, we've got a café serving hot drinks and food onsite.



GOT BIKEABILITY COMING UP?

BOOK A **FREE BIKE SAFETY CHECK** AT FLYUP BIKES WORKSHOP AT FLYUP 417 BIKE PARK, WITCOMBE.

Ahead of courses, Bikeability recommend you conduct a safety check of your child's bike, to include:

- Air – Have the tyres got enough air?
- Brakes – Do the front and back brakes work properly?
- Chain – Have you oiled it recently?
- Direction – Are the handlebars fixed on tight? Is the seat on tight and pointing forward?

If you need a hand checking the basics, we're happy to help. Give the workshop a call on 01452 864036 and select option 3. This free safety check is open to all, Bikeability participant or not.



MINI MANIA ON THE PUMP TRACK

Mini Shredders Pump Track sessions are back on Thursday mornings from 9:30-10:30, offering the perfect opportunity for pre-schoolers to burn some mid-week energy while sheltered from the rain. Just £6.99 gets your little one onto the hour-long session, or for £9.99 they can use one of our Strider balance bikes.

We are closed 24th, 25th and 26th December 2025 and 1st January 2026.

Downhill trails ♦ Pump Track ♦ Uplift service
www.417bikepark.co.uk



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CHRISTMAS 2025

TECH & STEM CAMP

WITH TAKE HOME INVENTIONS!

Activities: Inventions, Movie Making, Tech Fun, Robots, DIY STEM, Snow Science

Longlevens Junior School, GL2 0AL
AGES 5-11, 9 AM - 4 PM DAILY

www.nextthing.education

CHRISTMAS CAMPS 2025

What's on?

Different activity theme each day, please check website for your specific camps activities

Activities: Rocking Robots, Festive Filming, Magical MINECRAFT, 3D Baubles, Tech Fun

Take Home NEW STEM Inventions & Science Creations!

29TH - 31ST DECEMBER £39.99 PER DAY

WHAT TO EXPECT:
This Christmas, leap into a world of wonder — build robots, bring Lego creations to life with animation, craft decorations with 3D pens, film festive masterpieces, embark on epic Minecraft quests, and experiment with their own Christmas bath bombs and magical snow!

GET £5 OFF WITH CODE BELOW
SNOW5

LIMITED SPACES! BOOK NOW
www.nextthing.education

atlas
CAMPS GAMES SPORTS

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

Ofsted Registered Award-Winning Childcare

Activities: FOOTBALL, NERF WARS, ARTS & CRAFTS, GLITTER TATTOOS, SLIME MAKING, CAPTURE THE FLAG, FACE PAINTING, DODGEBALL, GYMNASTICS, WREATH MAKING, TALENT SHOWS, AND MANY MORE...

Scan the QR code for more info, or visit atlasacamps.co.uk

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At GHCT we are working on some new initiatives to support our local churches with the Nationally felt decline in church attendance. With this we are looking to encourage families and young people to get back into churches, to enjoy the heritage and beauty these buildings have to offer. I have attached a copy of our free printable Festive Scavenger Hunt, which is a completely free resource, that gives people the option of a free festive activity to do in their own time.

Link to Downloadable Resource: <https://ghct.org.uk/free-festive-church-scavenger-hunt>



Gloucestershire
Historic Churches Trust

Go to your local church and find all the things listed below!



Oak Tree



Star



Stained Glass



Cribb



Poinsettias



Angel



Bible



Wreath



Steeple



Bells



Nativity Scene



Candle



Gloucestershire
Historic Churches Trust