

Weekly Newsletter – 31st January 2025

A message from Mrs Farren...

Less Screen Time- we love this!

Please keep sharing all of the wonderful activities you get up to at home (away from any technology or devices).

Josie and her brother have been making bird feeders (inspired by making them in class the week). They mixed lard, peanut butter, bird seed and some cheerios together before setting them in an old egg box. They then hang them around the garden for the birds to enjoy.



A reminder of using our school website

Our school website contains a lot of information. On there you will find school policies, detailed curriculum information, information about of Christian distinctiveness and vision as well as upcoming events.

Here is the summer term section of the yearly calendar:

Have a great weekend.
Mrs Farren and Team Norton

SPRING TERM

- 28th January - Christingle Service
- 13th February - Community open morning
- 14th February - PTA non-uniform
- 28th February - Digital Intelligence meeting for parents
- 6th March - World book day
- 18th March - Parent Consultation @ 3:45-6:30pm
- 20th March - Parent Consultation @ 3:45-6:30pm
- 21st March - Red Nose Day
- 9th April - Easter open afternoon
- 10th April - Celebration Assembly @ 2:30pm
- 11th April - Easter rolling
- 11th April - Finish for the Easter holiday @ 1:30pm

Class News – 31st January 2025

In **Little Leaners** we have been exploring the Lunar New Year. We have created slithering snakes through threading, cutting and painting. In their play, the children have enjoyed making patterned snakes with coloured blocks and stickers. We also got to try noodles and fortune cookies at snack time!

During phonics, we have been using our listening skills through musical instruments. The children loved making lots of noise. We learnt the names of the instruments and listened carefully to the sounds they make.



a dragon dance. The children have shown a great interest in learning about the New Year, they have very much enjoyed listening to stories and watching information clips about the celebration.

Reception

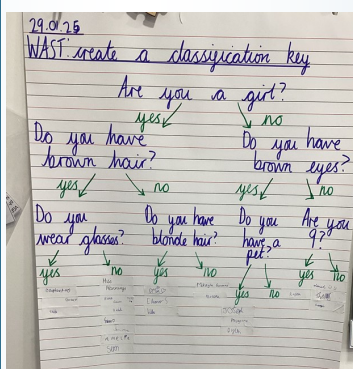
Class have had a fantastic week learning about the Lunar New Year. We have made fortune cookies, written wishes for friends and family, made dragon masks, swirly snakes; for the year of the snake and danced



Recently during Art lessons, the **Year 1** children have been making observations of Piet Mondrian's artwork. They started off by drawing their own version of one of his pieces and this week enjoyed practising the collaging technique on it. Next week we will be painting our own version of it and then comparing the two.

In **Year 2** we have begun to write our own version of 'Little Red Riding Hood'. In computing we have enjoyed taking a range of different types of photographs and sharing these with the class. In maths we have worked hard to count money in pounds and pence.

Year 3 have had a great week this week. We learnt about Haikus in English and the class have done a great job writing their own. In Maths, we have continued looking at measurement. We create our own Picasso inspired faces in our art lessons this week, and in Geography we have learnt about tectonic plates.



In **Year 4** this week we have decorated our own paper to use for our collages inspired by Beatriz Milhazes. In science, we started learning about classification keys and used yes or no questions to classify us! In English, we have finished writing our stories and used different skills to read back and edit our work.

This week **Year 5** have been exploring World War II poetry. They have learnt some challenging words such as: surly, delirious, untrespassed and sanctity. Also, they have done lots of considering alternate or hidden meaning behind the writers choice of language.

This week, within our My Happy Minds lesson, **Year 6** looked at goal setting and habit formation. We looked at how sometimes the habits that we create don't last longer than a week or so and how to combat this by setting specific times etc. We then looked into possible habits that we can start so that we are able to better ourselves.

Deadline for PGL payment is 5th April



Head teacher's worship challenge!



New Term = New challenge!!!

We would love you to create a new logo for our Christian value this term: **PEACE**

ANYONE CAN ENTER! Parents/Carers/Brothers/Sisters/Aunts/Uncles/Teachers... ETC...

Entry deadline is Wednesday 12th February

Please send/give any entries to Mrs Farren or Mrs Higgins.

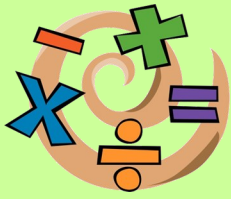
Please ensure your full name is on the back (so we can judge without names showing!)

The logos will be judged anonymously by the staff and a winner will be announced on Friday 14th February!

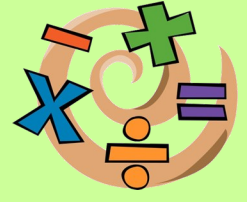
Templates are available under the office window in the junior corridor if you would like to use them!

You can see the previous two winners displayed on the office window.





Maths challenge of the week!



We loved the less screen time pictures sent to us for the newsletter this week, so we thought it would be perfect to continue with this for our challenges this week...

Step 1: Track Your Screen Time

On Saturday and Sunday, write down how much time you spend on:

-  Video games
-  TV or movies
-  Tablet or phone
-  Computer (not for homework!)

Fill in your times below:

Activity	Saturday	Sunday
Video Games 	___ h ___ min	___ h ___ min
TV/Movies 	___ h ___ min	___ h ___ min
Tablet/Phone 	___ h ___ min	___ h ___ min
Computer 	___ h ___ min	___ h ___ min

Now, add up your total screen time for each day!

Saturday Total: ___ hours ___ minutes

Sunday Total: ___ hours ___ minutes

Step 2: Weekend Maths Challenge!

- How much screen time did you have in total over the weekend?
- If the recommended screen time is 2 hours per day, how much extra (or less) did you spend?
- Convert your total screen time into minutes! (Hint: 1 hour = 60 minutes)
- If you swapped half of your screen time for outdoor play, how many hours would you be outside?

Challenge Time! - If you spent twice as much time reading as you did watching TV, how many hours would you read?

Step 3: Reflect!

- ~ Did your screen time surprise you?
- ~ What could you do instead of screen time next weekend?
- ~ Can you set a challenge to replace some screen time with other fun activities?

Great job! Now, challenge a friend or family member to track their screen time too! Who had the most? Who had the least?



Creative Writing Challenge!

1. Write a short story about your screen time adventure!

Imagine you are the main character inside your favorite game, TV show, or app.

What challenges do you face? What exciting things happen?

Describe what it's like inside the screen world!

2. Describe a day without screens!

What fun activities would you do instead?

How would your day be different?

Use adjectives and descriptive words to bring your day to life!

3. Screen Time Acrostic Poem!

Write a poem using the letters from "SCREEN" or "GAMING" to start each line.

Example:

S - Some time to play outside, so fun and bright!

C - Cartoons are cool, but books give me flight...

Reflect!

~ How did writing about screen time make you feel?

~ Did you enjoy imagining a world without screens?

~ Can you set a challenge to balance screen time with other fun activities?

Important reminders:

Snacks

A healthy diet is crucial for a healthy lifestyle. Only healthy snacks are allowed in school for break time. Healthy snacks include: fruit, veg, cheese, crackers, yoghurt, plain pop- corn



(NO NUTS - please check packaged food labels carefully, a lot of chocolate can be made using nuts!!!) NO sweets, crisps or chocolate!

Uniform

Please ensure that your child wears the correct uniform to school. Jewellery such as necklaces should not be worn in school. This is because they can be dangerous when the child is being active and also because there is a high risk they will be lost!



Please ensure your child's **NAME** is in all uniform, including hats and gloves etc!

Year 6 PGL

The deadline for PGL payment is 5th April.





Dates for your diary for spring term:

Tuesday 4th February

- Y4 parent art afternoon. 2-3pm

Friday 14th February

- last day before February half term. Finish at normal time.

Half term dates: Monday 17th - Friday 21st February

Friday 28th February

- **IMPORTANT** Parent/Carer information meeting for keeping children safe online - starting at 3:30. Please attend if you can.

Tuesday 18th March

- Parent Consultation - 3:45-6:30pm

Thursday 20th March

- Parent Consultation - 3:45-6:30pm

Friday 21st March

- Red Nose Day

Wednesday 9th April

- Easter open afternoon

Thursday 10th April

- Celebration Assembly - 2:30pm

Friday 11th April

- Easter rolling

- Finish for the Easter holiday @ 1:30pm

Easter holiday dates: Monday 14th - Monday 28th April - inset day.

Monday 28th April is an inset day. Children return to school Tuesday 29th April.

Next week's diary - 3rd February 2025:

Day:	The School Day:	After School:	Time:	Lunch Menu (week 3)
Monday	Mental health week assembly (children only)	Board games Cross country Infant football Dance	3:30 - 4:00 3:30 - 4:15 3:30 - 4:15 3:30 - 4:15	Macaroni cheese Vegan plant balls in tomato sauce Jacket potato + Beans /Cheese /Tuna
Tuesday	Look who's talking infant finals at Norton. Y4 parent art afternoon	Junior football	3:30 - 4:15	Cowboy casserole Cheese and tomato pizza Jacket potato + Beans /Cheese
Wednesday	Look who's talking juniors finals at Churchdown.	Lego Infant games with no names	3:30 - 4:00 3:30 - 4:15	Roast Turkey Vegan quorn Jacket potato + Beans /Cheese /Tuna
Thursday		Junior games with no names Arithmetic Craft and colouring Craft Gardening	3:30 - 4:15 3:30 - 4:00 3:30 - 4:00 3:30 - 4:15 3:30 - 4:15	Spaghetti bolognaise Chinese vegetable curry Jacket potato + Beans /Cheese /Tuna
Friday	Sharing assembly 2:45			Breaded fish Cheese and red pepper frittata Jacket potato + Beans /Cheese /Tuna



PTA NEWS



**Do you have unwanted
presents or Christmas
items that are no longer
needed?**

**Norton PTA are collecting for
Christmas 2025!**

**Please give to a teacher on the gate or a
member of the PTA.**

Happy New Year!!

NORTON PTA





Local benefice news



www.seventowers.org.uk

WORSHIP TOGETHER

Sandhurst Church, 11am

**First Sunday
of the month
for all ages**

Feb 2nd ~ Café Church

Coffee, cake, community

March 2nd ~ 'Explore'

Songs and creative activities

April 6th ~ Informal

Stories, inspiration & song

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.

Family Support Workshops



Supporting your child with emotions

Children often express their emotions in different ways. Would you like to gain some tips and advice on how you can support your children with their emotions? Join us at this workshop to get some tips and strategies to support your children with regulating their emotions

Friday 31st Jan
10am – 12pm

Oakwood Primary School,
Cotswold Road,
Cheltenham,
GL52 5EL

Routines

Does it feel like hard work getting out of the house in the morning? Is it a struggle to get the children to bed at night and have time to yourself? This workshop could be for you!

Join us to gain some tips and tricks for making family routines easier for you and your children to follow.

Thurs 27th Feb
10am – 12pm

Hester's Way Children & Family Centre
Dill Avenue,
Cheltenham,
GL51 0ES

Understanding your child's development

Have you ever wondered what developmental milestones your child should reach and when? Or what behaviour at their age might be expected and look like?

Come along to this workshop to find out what is age appropriate development/behaviour and when to seek additional support.

Tuesday 18th March
10am-12pm
0-4 years

Tues 25th March
12.30-2.30pm
5-11years

Gardner's Lane Children & Family Centre,
Gardners Lane,
Cheltenham,
GL51 9JW

Gardners Lane Children and Family Centre, Gardners Lane, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 9JW
T: 01242 252185 E: gardnerslane@aspirefoundation.org.uk W: aspirefoundation.org.uk

Company Reg. No: 08460624



Family Support Drop In Sessions



Parenting can be overwhelming at times.
Do you feel you need some support to help with Family Life?
Come along to meet with a member of our Family Support team who can help you with issues like:
Parenting, Managing behaviour, Finances, Routines, Ages and Stages of development, Healthy Relationships, How to get support through the graduated pathway and accessing other services

Thursday 16th Jan
10am -12pm

Noahs Ark Children & Family Centre,
York Road,
Tewkesbury,
GL20 5HU
01684 276361

Friday 7th Feb
12.30-2.30pm

Hester's Way Children & Family Centre
Dill Avenue,
Cheltenham,
GL51 0ES
01242 222490

Friday 25th Feb
10am –12pm

Brockworth Children and Family Centre,
Moorfield Road,
Brockworth
GL3
01452 863617

Wednesday 12th March
12.30-2.30pm

Oakwood Children and Family Centre,
Clyde Crescent,
Cheltenham,
GL52
01242 513010

Tuesday 8th April
10am-12pm

Noahs Ark Children & Family Centre,
York Road,
Tewkesbury,
GL20 5HU
01684 276361

Gardners Lane Children and Family Centre, Gardners Lane, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL51 9JW
T: 01242 252185 E: gardnerslane@aspirefoundation.org.uk W: aspirefoundation.org.uk

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Brockworth Children & Family Centre Timetable January – March 2025



Monday

Development Checks
(Appt Only)
8.30am—4.00pm

**CCP and Aspire
Stay & Play**
0-5yrs
10.00am—11.30am

Tuesday

**Speech & Language
Therapy appts**
(Appt Only)
8.30am—4.00pm

Targeted Family Time
(Invite Only)
10.00pm—11.30am

**Shine PND
Creative Therapy
Group**
(Invite only)
12.15pm—2.15pm

Wednesday

**Baby Hub Stay &
Weigh**
9am—11am

**Neuro Thrive
Parent Support Group**
8th Jan 25
5th Feb 25
5th March 25
10.00am—12.00pm

Weaning Hub
(Appt Only)
(1st Wednesday of the
month)
1.00pm—2.30pm

Thursday

Development Checks
(Appt Only)
8.30am—4.00pm

Mothers in Mind
(Invite Only)
10am—12pm

**Parent Carer Forum
Listen to me Sessions**
10.30—12.00pm
6th Feb 25

Friday

Midwives Clinic
(Appt Only)
8.30am—4.00pm

**Sunday
Dad Matters
Stay & Play (0-5yrs)**
(1st Sunday of Month)
10am—12pm

**Family Support
Drop In session**
28th Feb 10am—12pm
Come along and speak
to a family worker who
could help you with any
issues related to raising
your family

Brockworth Children and Family Centre, Moorfield Road, Brockworth, Gloucester, Gloucestershire GL3 4JL
T: 01452 863617 E: brockworth@aspirefoundation.org.uk W: aspirefoundation.org.uk
Company Reg. No: 08460624



CCP and Aspire Stay & Play

Stay and play sessions are for parents/carers and their children 0-5 yrs. Our groups will give you the chance to engage with your child through play with a range of activities that will promote your child's development. Staff will be on hand to give advice and support. Come along and meet new people and make friends.

Development Checks

Attend Health Visitor routine development checks by appointment here for your child at 9mths and 2yrs

Speech and Language Appointments

Attend your Speech and Language appointment here, which will help your child's speech and communication

NeuroThrive Parent Peer Support Group

Monthly Parent Peer support group for parents/carers of children with a Neurodiversity. Group offers you the chance to meet with other parents on a similar journey, gain professional advice and build connection and community

Bookings required
www.nuerothrive.org.uk



Targeted Family Time Aspire Foundation Invite Only

This session is aimed at parent/carers of children 0-5 yrs who need a smaller group to build confidence, get support and have the opportunity to play and interact with their children with a range of activities to meet their developmental needs. You may find other groups overwhelming or need more support this is the group for you
Please speak to any children centre staff regarding the referral form.

Shine PND creative Therapy groups Referral invite only

Our courses offer creative therapy, support and advice in a safe, child-free space for you to work through worries and concerns, while gently creating a piece of art that you can be proud of. Mothers spend time once a week, with other mothers in the same situation, going through the same things, creating, talking, sharing.
www.shine-support.org.uk



Parent Carer Forum 'Listen to Me Session' For Parent carers of children with SEND

Listen to Me sessions are an opportunity to join the Parent Carer Forum and parents to share stories, experiences and knowledge to gain support in your journey as a parent with a child with SEND. Under 5's welcome.



Mothers in Mind – Home Start Referral invite only

Mother's In Mind groups are for pregnant mums or mums with children under 2yrs and provide support with mental health challenges you maybe facing as a parent
A supportive group, where you can meet others with similar experiences and feel connected and play with your child.

www.homestartgloucestershire.org.uk



Midwife appointments

Attend your routine Midwife appointments here



Baby Hub Stay and Weigh 9am—11am

Aspire Foundation have partnered with Health Visiting Teams. Come and get your baby weighed, seek health advice and have the opportunity to stay to interact with other parents and engage in play activities with your child/ren. Community Family Workers will also be on hand to offer support and advice around parenting and raising your family.

Dad Matters — Stay & Play 10am—12pm 1st Sunday of the month

Stay & Play offers a great safe space for dads to bring their little ones 0-5yrs! Grab a tea or a coffee and have a good chat with other dads while the little ones play, with toys, crafts, and much more. Giving dads not only quality time to bond with their children but also to meet other dads in their area.

Booking required – <https://dadmatters.org.uk/gloucestershire>



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Noah's Ark Children & Family Centre Timetable January – March 2025



Monday

Development Checks

(Appt Only)

9.00am—3.00pm

Early Start Group

(Invite Only)

Fortnightly

9.30am—11am

Parenting with ADHD

Drop In

(1st Monday of Month)

9.30am—11.30am

Neuro Thrive

Parent Support Group

(4th Monday of month)

10.00am—12.00pm

Booking required

Targeted Family Time

(Invite Only)

1.00pm—2.30pm

Tuesday

Midwives Clinic

(Appt Only)

9.00am—4.00pm

Perinatal Pelvic Health Team

(Appt Only)

(Last Tuesday of
month)

12.30pm—4.30pm

Parent Carer Forum

Listen to me Session

9th January 2025

10.30am - 12.00pm

Wednesday

Development Checks

(Appt Only)

8.30am—4.00pm

Baby Stay & Weigh

10.00am—11.30am

Employability Drop In

(4th Wednesday of
Month)

1.30pm—3.30pm

COMING SOON!!!!

Tewkesbury Abbey & Aspire Stay & Play

(0-5yrs)

1pm—2.30pm

Follow us on facebook
to find out more and
when this is going to
start

Thursday

Midwives Clinic

(Appt Only)

9.00am—4.00pm

Weaning Hub

9am—11am

Baby Hub Stay & Weigh

Bishops Cleeve Library

12.30pm—2pm

Antenatal Group

(First four Thursdays of
each month)

3pm—4.30pm

Starting 6th March

Friday

Midwives Clinic

(Appt Only)

9.00am—4.00pm

Sunday

Toddle & Chat

Dad Matters

Northway Hub

10am—12pm

(2nd Sunday of Month)

Booking Required

Family Support

Drop In session

16th Jan 10am—12pm

8th April 10am—12pm

Come along and speak
to a family worker who
could help you with any
issues related to raising
your family

Noah's Ark Children and Family Centre, York Road, Priors Park, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire GL20 5HU

T: 01684 276361

E: noahsark@aspirefoundation.org.uk

W: aspirefoundation.org.uk

Company Reg. No: 08460624



Tewkesbury Abbey and Aspire Stay & Play



Stay and play sessions are for parents/
carers and their children 0-5 yrs.

Our groups will give you the chance to
engage with your child through play with a
range of activities that will promote your
child's development. Staff will be on hand
to give advice and support. Come along
and meet new people and make friends.

NeuroThrive Parent Peer Support Group



Monthly Parent Peer
support group for
parents/carers of children with a
Neurodiversity. Group offers you the
chance to meet with other parents on a
similar journey, gain professional advice
and build connection and
community

Bookings required

www.neurothrive.org.uk



Targeted Family Time Aspire Foundation Invite Only



This session is aimed at parent/carers of children 0-5 yrs
who need a smaller group to build confidence, get
support and have the opportunity to play and interact
with their children with a range of activities to meet their
developmental needs. You may find other groups
overwhelming or need more support this is the group for
you

Please speak to any children centre staff regarding
the referral form.

Parent Carer Forum 'Listen to Me Session' For Parent carers of children with SEND

Listen to Me sessions are an opportunity
to join the Parent Carer Forum and par-
ents to share stories, experiences and
knowledge to gain support in your jour-
ney as a parent with a child with SEND.
Under 5's welcome.



Perinatal Pelvic Health Team

Attend your appointment
with the Peri-natal health
team here.



Antenatal Pregnancy Group

Drop in to meet the teams that will support you
through your pregnancy and find out more
about the children Centres services



Sunday

Dad Matters Toddle and Chat 10am—12pm—Northway Hub

4th Sunday of the month
Stay & Play session for the whole family. A great
safe space for mums and dads to bring their little
ones 0-5yrs and take part in a range of ac-
tivities and outdoor space.

Booking required –
<https://dadmatters.org.uk/gloucestershire>



Step Into Work Drop In

Are you a parent/carer of
children 0-11 wanting to find
out about getting back into work? Join
the Job centre team to find out about the
range of support, training and job
opportunities that will help you step back
into work.



Early Start Groups Early Years Service Invite Only

These are targeted stay and play sessions for children with additional needs not attending
an setting and their parent/carer to attend.

The groups provide a gentle introduction to social interaction with peers, routines (e.g.
snack, group time) and different play experiences.

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/early-years-service



Baby Hub Stay & Weigh

Aspire Foundation have partnered with
Health Visiting Teams. Come and get your
baby weighed, seek health advice and
have the opportunity to stay to interact
with other parents and engage in play
activities with your child/ren. Community
Family Workers will also be on hand al-
ternate weeks to offer support and advice
around parenting and raising your family.



Development Checks

Attend Health Visitor
routine development



Midwife Appointments

Attend your
routine midwife
appointments

ADHD Parent Peer Support Group



If you are a parent with ADHD
(or not diagnosed) this group is for you! Join us to
share, learn and connect with other parents who
have similar experiences. Children welcome.

www.adhdhubglos.org