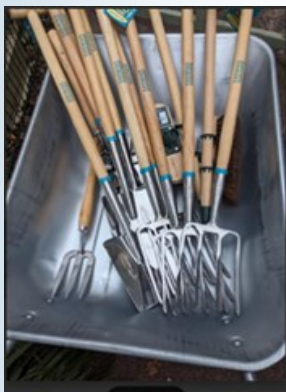


## Weekly Newsletter – 20th December 2024

### *A message from Mrs Farren...*

What a fantastic end to a fantastic term! We hope you enjoyed the carol service on Wednesday. The children sang and played beautifully and we are all incredibly proud of them. Also, on Wednesday, dance club performed at Ribston High School and they were fantastic! Thank you to Mrs Cooper for her brilliant choreography and to Mrs Cooper and Mrs Higgins for accompanying Norton dancers.

We like to take this time of year as an opportunity to reflect all that we have achieved together as a school community and, in particular, to reflect on all those who go the extra mile to make sure our children get the very best. Thank you to all of you for your support and for having the world's very best children! They bring us joy every day.



We would like to thank George (Y1) and family for donating these wonderful gardening tools. Gardening helps children learn appreciation and understand the beauty and importance of the world around them away from screens. Screens, and social media in particular, can change young people's perception of reality because everything is immediate and often presented as 'perfect'.

This can create false expectation. Being outside and growing helps children understand the beautiful reality of life.



Here are some sweet peas grown by our Norton gardeners. Whilst they are not ready to bloom yet, we know they will be worth the wait.

We would also like to thank the strong team of governors for their commitment to school improvement, the PTA for their incredible money raising, Team Norton for working so incredibly hard and to Norton parents and children for being wonderful!

Have the best Christmas ever!

Mrs Farren and Team Norton

Wow! What a brilliant term the **Little Learners** have had! We are very proud of the progress they've made, across all areas of learning and development. This week we have had lots of festive fun, including a Christmas stay and play plus the Christmas concert. The children were outstanding as they performed their Christmas songs for everyone.

This has been a week full of sparkles, crafts, treats and Christmas songs. What a great way to end a fabulous term! **Reception** class have had the best first term in school and we look forward to working with them in the Spring term and watching them continue to thrive in all areas of learning. We've got an exciting journey ahead of us up until Easter. Thank you for all your continued support and have a lovely Christmas.



The week has been full of Christmas fun. From salt dough decorations to Baube bauble making, the children have had a wonderful time. Merry Christmas from us all in **Year 1!**



**Year 2** have had a fun last week of term! They have written their own Christmas quiz questions and riddles about nativity characters. They have enjoyed lots of festive singing in our carol concert and in class music lessons. They have enjoyed being very creative when designing and making a Christmas outfit for a teddy.

This week in **Year 3**, we have been writing up an account of the nativity in R.E. We have had some Christmas themed maths this week based on the 12 days of Christmas. We had a great time on Tuesday with some Christmas glockenspiel music followed by some Christmas themed animation fun! We also had a fantastic time at the carol concert on Wednesday.



In **Year 4** this week we have carried out our science experiment based on our enquiry question: Does distance have an effect on the volume of sound? We used a decibel meter app to measure the volume of the sound and meter sticks to measure the distance away from the sound source.



This week the **Year 5** children designed an experiment to test surface area and water resistance.

**Year 6** have finished their TinkerCad designs this week. They have made picture frames to the correct scale and have made them aesthetically pleasing by including chamfers and additional decorations.

## Fantastically festive dance festival!

Dance Club had the pleasure of being invited to take part in the Gloucester Schools Dance Festival which took place at Ribston Hall High School on Wednesday evening.

Dance Club choreographed and performed a Christmas dance to the song "You're Christmas to Me" by Sam Ryder.



The children were an absolute delight to take. They were exceptionally well behaved (as always!) and made everybody proud with their infectious smiles and great enthusiasm!

Thank you to parents for helping with transport and supporting this event.





# Head teacher's worship challenge!



Thank you to everyone who entered the design competition for our new friendship logo - we had so many more entries compared to last term - it was brilliant to look at them all and even harder to judge!

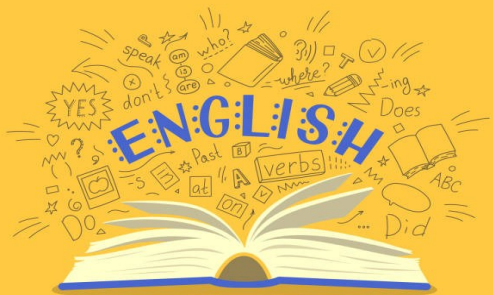
Our new friendship logo is:



Designed by Arty in year 3!

We especially love how he's used the school house colours to decorate his design. Well done Arty!

*If you'd like to get a head start on the logo competition for next term over the Christmas holidays, the Christian value is going to be:*



## CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK!



# Christmas Wordsearch



Can you find the Christmas words in the wordsearch?

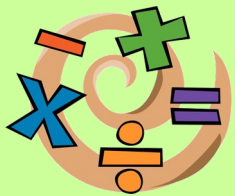


christmas  
december  
elf  
holly  
northpole  
presents

reindeer  
santa  
snow  
stocking  
tree

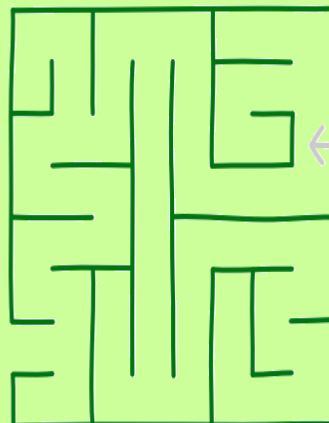
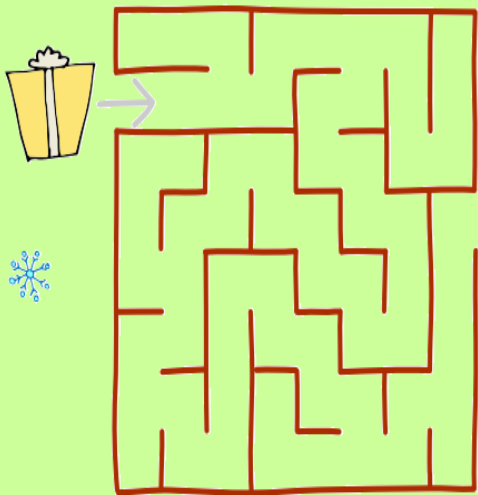
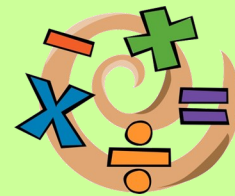


c f a s h v u d k d c q e k s  
r z b e a l v f s a o q w t s  
e p d m y m s y l l o h n q t  
e g q d h a t u p w v e l j o  
r q e m n c c s c c s k f g c  
t e p t f u q h i e w a i k k  
z l a a z s q v r r u o y g i  
e o f f r w e p z b h h n k n  
z p d e c e m b e r h c h s g  
s h o h x w i e o f g t x e f  
t t s y s a n n l n c u x x s  
y r r c w s b e d b w d v a o  
u o x s v b c i o e h d g w m  
x n l e z y t h u g e r y r j  
k c v l t g s z z f b r l g w



## Maths challenge of the week!

Can you help to deliver the presents to the Christmas trees?





## 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 - please check packaged food labels carefully).

**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!

### Parent pay

Please check parent pay and settle any outstanding dinner accounts.

Reminder: School dinners can only be paid for through parent pay.

### Before and after school club

Please fill out before and after school club forms for term 3 and term 4 and return to the office.

Forms can be found on the website. **NO FORM = NO CLUB!**



Strive

Think

Act

Respect

## Dates for your diary for term 3:

Monday 6th January - first day back after Christmas holidays

Monday 13th January - PTA meeting - 8pm.

Monday 20th January - new teacher led clubs starting

*- club forms will go out in the first week of January. We will let you know as soon as they are uploaded to dojo/the website.*

Tuesday 28th January - school Christingle service with Reverend Joe

Thursday 13th February - community open morning

Friday 14th February - last day before February half term. Finish at normal time.

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

## Next week's diary:

| 6th January 2025 | The School Day        | After School | Lunch Menu (week 2)                                                                                               |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday           |                       |              | Cheese and tomato pizza<br>Caribbean stew with rice<br>Jacket potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna                   |
| Tuesday          |                       |              | Meatballs in tomato sauce with rice<br>Cheesy pasta with garlic bread<br>Jacket potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna |
| Wednesday        |                       |              | Roast gammon<br>Vegan sausage<br>Jacket potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna                                         |
| Thursday         |                       |              | Chicken tikka masala with rice<br>Mild Mexican chilli with rice<br>Jacket potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna       |
| Friday           | Sharing assembly 2:45 |              | Fish fingers<br>Cheese and tomato quiche<br>Jacket potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna                              |



# PTA NEWS



PTA pages on school website

[Norton.sch.pta@gmail.com](mailto:Norton.sch.pta@gmail.com)

[Nortonsecondhanduniform@gmail.com](mailto:Nortonsecondhanduniform@gmail.com)



Find us on facebook: [Norton PTA](#)

Christmas Fayre  
and Raffle raised  
a whopping

£1580!



Next PTA meeting  
13/01/25  
All welcome!  
Email for details

Christmas Cards- £124

Uniform sales- £190

Your School Lottery - £238 (so far)

Thank you to  
all our  
supporters from  
Norton PTA

£6000

£5000

£4000

£3000

£2000

£3250

ipads &  
Musical Instruments



New year  
PTA  
meeting

Monday  
13th  
January

email PTA  
for more  
details

8pm





# Local benefice news



## Worship in the benefice this December:

### December 22<sup>nd</sup>      4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

- 9.00 am            Holy Communion, Sandhurst Church
- 4.00 pm            Christmas For You, Down Hatherley Church
- 6.00 pm            Carols for Christmas, Norton Church

### December 24<sup>th</sup>      Christmas Eve

- 3.00 pm            Family Crib & Christingle, Sandhurst Church
- 6.00 pm            Carols for Christmas, The Leigh Church
- 11.00 pm          Midnight Mass, Boddington Church

### Christmas Day

- 9.30 am            Christmas Family Communion, Sandhurst Church

### December 26<sup>th</sup>

- 4.00 pm            Carols and Readings, Boddington Church

### December 29<sup>th</sup>      1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

- 10.00 am          Benefice Holy Communion, Norton Church

*Morning Prayer will be said at 9 am each Tuesday in December in The Rectory.*

## 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.

A festive poster for a winter camp. The background is dark with falling snowflakes. At the top left, the text 'Progressive Active Camps' is written in a stylized font. The main title 'Winter Active Holiday Camp!' is in large, bold, green-outlined letters. Below the title are three small photos: a group of children in a hall, children playing with colorful lights, and a group of children sitting on a large rainbow parachute. The location 'ST JAMES C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL, GLOUCESTER, GL1 4JU' and dates 'THURSDAY 2ND AND FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY 2025' are listed. The time '8.30am until 3.30pm' is also shown. A white button with the text 'CLICK HERE TO BOOK ONLINE NOW!' is present. Below it, the text 'HAF SPACES ALSO AVAILABLE!' is written in large pink letters. A green button with the text 'CLICK HERE TO BOOK YOUR FREE HAF SPACE!' is also included. At the bottom, the text 'EMAIL US ON' is followed by the email address 'NORTHGLOS@PROGRESSIVE-SPORTS.CO.UK'. The bottom of the poster is decorated with golden pine branches and silver and white Christmas ornaments.