

# NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY

# -FEBRUARY-

## Half-term

NEWSLETTER 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

### Headteacher's Weekly Awards - WELL DONE TO OUR STARS OF THE WEEK

All the children get a special mention in the Achievement assembly on Friday and will bring home a certificate detailing the reason for their award.

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Isabel Lydia	George Neitus	Matilda Mason	Cassian Sienna	Mohammad Harvey	Alexis Kaidyn	Ezmae Noah	Joely Teddy

**Valentines disco:** It was wonderful to see the whole school enjoying their disco. DJ Steve had everyone dancing and playing fun games and when everyone was tired they had a break for a snack and drink. I was impressed with the dancing skills of the juniors, they were definitely throwing some shapes on the dancefloor to impress each other. Games were played and prizes given out and we even ended the night with a slow dance!

**School Meal special:** World Book Day Lunch – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025. We have a special menu for world book day. We hope you like it!

Main meal options: Salt n pepper chips & chicken strips & peas or Quorn nuggets, salt n pepper chips & peas

Dessert: Wonka's chocolate cake or Oompa Loompa Jelly

**World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March:** We are looking forward to seeing the children in their book character costumes on this day. The world book day free book vouchers have been sent home today so you can pick up your free book over the holidays.

### Roving Reporters

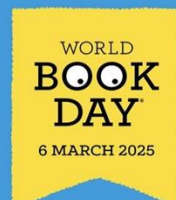
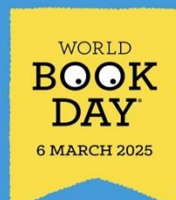
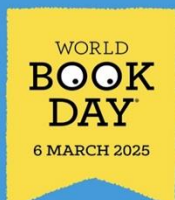
This week....

Y3 conducted an experiment with soil, made Valentines cards and created a presentation in Computing.

Y5 have been writing a journal about Pluto.

But the big news of the week was the Valentines disco.....

Every class enjoyed the disco with Nursery and Reception class partying through the afternoon in school, Year 1 and Year 2 disco dancing straight after school and the juniors later on in the evening, eating hotdogs, sweets, winning prizes and playing party games. A wonderful time was had by all.



**Tesco Groundworks Grant: WE NEED YOUR HELP!! PLEASE KEEP VOTING**



School has been successful in being eligible to win the Tesco Groundworks funding but we need your votes!!!!  
To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction and it's not necessary to purchase a carrier bag in order to receive a token.

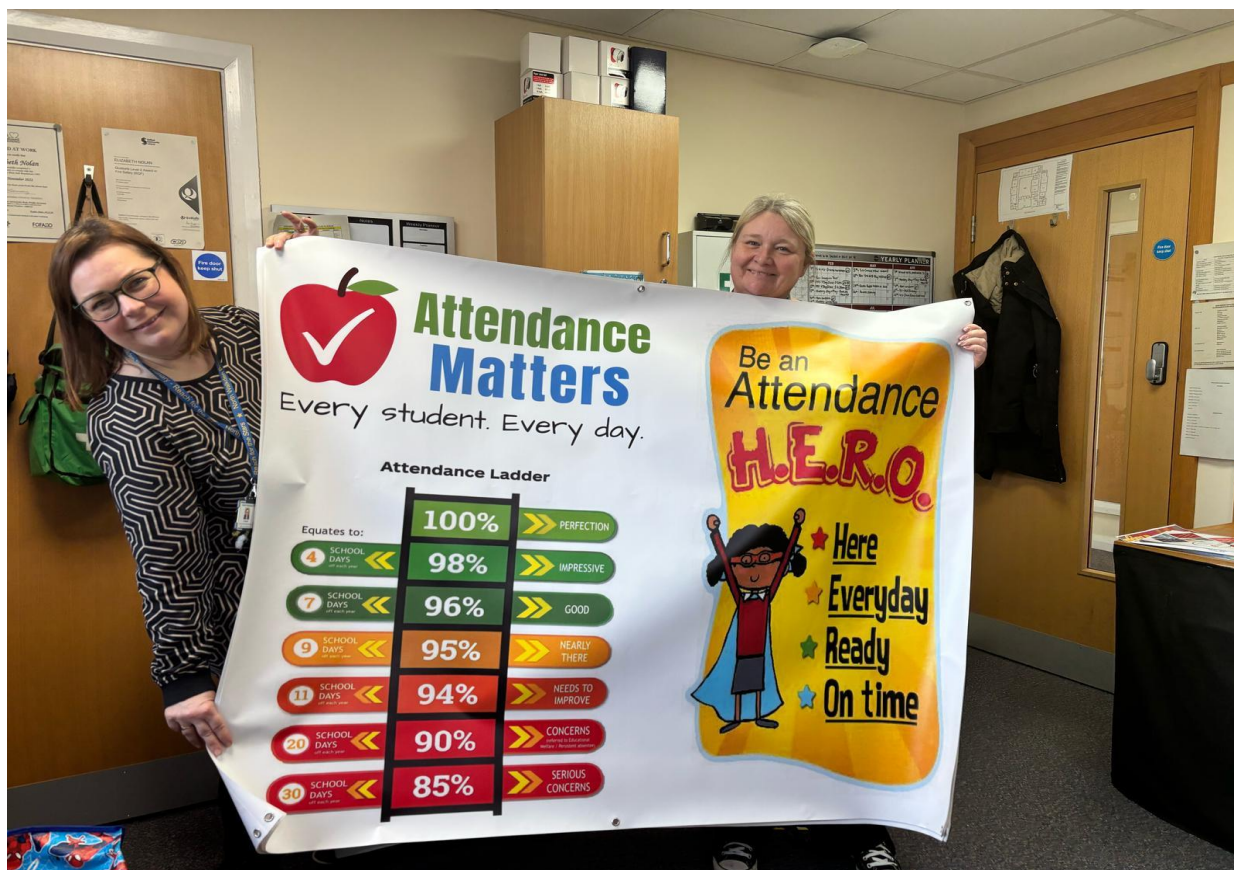
You can vote for us at these stores....  
2744 Irlam Extra M44 6BL  
4487 Partington Central Road Express M31 4EL  
6017 Walkden Extra M28 3BT  
6342 Liverpool Road Irlam Express M44 6FY

To check the location of any of the above stores, please go to the Tesco website here: <http://www.tesco.com/store-locator/uk>

Please spread the word and get everyone to vote. Let's see if we can win so we can continue to improve our outside spaces. THANK YOU

**Online Safety - support for parents and carers:** Please see the advice for parents regarding group chats on social media apps

**Attendance:** Watch out for our new banners and let's see who will be our attendance HERO's!



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# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GROUP CHATS

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Occurring through messaging apps, on social media and in online games, group chats are among the most popular ways that young people engage with their peers online. Involving, by definition, three or more individuals, these groups allow users to send messages, images and videos to everyone in one place. While they are useful for helping friends, people with shared interests or members of a club to communicate and coordinate activities, they can also leave young people feeling excluded and bullied – as well as providing opportunities for inappropriate content to be shared and viewed.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### BULLYING

Unkind comments or images which are purposely aimed at an individual can be shared freely in a group chat – allowing and often encouraging others to join in the bullying behaviour. If this content is shared in a group of their peers (especially a larger group), it serves to amplify the hurt, embarrassment, anxiety and isolation that the victim feels.

### SHARING GROUP CONTENT

It's important to remember that – while the content of the chat is private between those in the group – individual users can easily share a message, photo or video with others outside of the group or screenshot what's been posted. The risk of something your child intended as private becoming public (and potentially going viral) is higher if there are people they don't know well in the group.

### EXCLUSION AND ISOLATION

This common issue with group chats can happen in several ways: starting a new group, for instance, but deliberately excluding a certain child. Likewise, the chat may take place on an app which one child doesn't have access to, meaning they can't be involved. A child can also feel isolated when a group chat is used to discuss or share images from an event that everyone else but them attended.

### UNKNOWN MEMBERS

Within larger group chats, it's more likely your child will be communicating with people they don't really know. These strangers may be friends of the host, but not necessarily friendly toward your child. It's wise for young people not to share personal details and stay aware that they have no control over the messages and images they share after they've put them online.

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some discussions in group chats may include inappropriate words, swearing and unsuitable images or videos. These could be viewed by your child if they are part of that group, whether they actively engage in it or not. Some chat apps have a disappearing message function, so your child may be unable to report something they've seen because it can only be viewed once or for a short time.

### NOTIFICATIONS AND FOMO

A drawback of large group chats is the sheer number of notifications. Every time someone in the group messages, your child's device will be "pinged" with an alert; potentially, this could mean hundreds of notifications a day. Not only is this highly distracting, but young people's fear of missing out on the latest conversation results in increased screen time as they try to keep up with the chat.

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## Advice for Parents & Carers

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### CONSIDER OTHERS' FEELINGS

Group chats are often an arena for young people to gain social status. This could cause them to do or say things on impulse, which could upset others in the group. Encourage your child to consider how other people might feel if they engaged in this behaviour. If your child does upset a member of their group chat, support them to reach out, show empathy and apologise for their mistake.

### GIVE SUPPORT, NOT JUDGEMENT

Remind your child that they can confide in you if they feel bullied or excluded in a group chat, instead of responding to the person who's upset them. Validate their hurt feelings and help to put them back in control by discussing how they'd like to handle the situation. On a related note, you could also empower your child to speak up if they're in a chat where others are being picked on.

### BLOCK, REPORT AND LEAVE

If your child is in a chat where inappropriate content is being shared, advise them to block the users sending the material, report them to the host app or platform and exit the group. If any of this content could be putting a minor at risk, contact the police. Emphasise to your child that it's OK for them to simply leave any group chat that they don't feel comfortable being a part of.

### PRACTISE SAFE SHARING

In any online communication, it's vital for young people to be aware of what they're sharing and who might potentially see it. Discuss the importance of not revealing identifiable details like their address, their school or photos that they wouldn't like to be seen widely. Remind them that once something is shared in a group, they lose control of where it may end up and how it might be used.

### AVOID INVITING STRANGERS

Sadly, many individuals online hide their true identity to gain a child's trust – for example, to gather information on them, to exchange inappropriate content or to coax them into doing things they aren't comfortable with. Ensure your child understands why they shouldn't add people they don't know to a group chat – and, especially, to never accept a group chat invitation from a stranger.

### SILENCE NOTIFICATIONS

Having a phone or tablet bombarded with notifications from a group chat can be a massive irritation and distraction – especially if it's happening late in the evening. Explain to your child that they can still be part of the group chat, but that it would be healthier for them to turn off or mute the notifications and catch up with the conversation at a time which better suits them.

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.





**Children should be in school by 8.45am if you arrive after this time you are late!**

Well done to Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5 for achieving their attendance target - let's keep this up throughout the year! Our attendance policy is on our website here <https://www.northwalkdenprimaryschool.co.uk/page/policies/25098>

### Punctuality and Attendance

Please remember school starts at **8:45am** – Doors will be open from 8.35am. Children arriving after 8.55am must enter through the school office and be signed in.

**Last week's attendance – Our School target and individual pupil target is 96%**

	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
Class attendance award	95	90	<b>100 GOLD</b>	<b>100 GOLD</b>	<b>99 Silver</b>	<b>98 Silver</b>	92	95	<b>96</b>
Late arrivals	1	4	4	7					

**School communication:** Please ensure you are logged into your school spider app so that you receive all the important messages we send out. If you need to download the app again, its 'School Spider' and then you can simply go to the log in page and click forgot password to reset your log in details.

**Contacting School:** If you wish to contact school then you can email us on [NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk](mailto:NorthWalkdenPrimary.PupilContact@salford.gov.uk) and we will respond the same day or call 0161 921 2921.

**DIARY DATES:** Whilst we aim not to change dates once set sometimes circumstances mean we have to, please always check the dates each week and update your plans accordingly. Any changes will be highlighted.

DATE	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TIME	CLASS/STAFF
TUESDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	RECEPTION CLASS – TRIP TO IMAGINE THAT – letter emailed to parents 17.01.25 – Please pay your contribution on the Evolve Hub, thank you	9-3PM	RECEPTION CLASS
WEDNESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	RECEPTION VALENTINES WORKSHOP	9-9.45AM	RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	EYFS VALENTINES DISCO - Tickets are £2.50 and this includes a professional DJ, drink and a snack. Please pay on the Evolve Hub, payment is your consent for your child to attend. On the day, the children can come into school in their own clothes with a red theme.	2-3PM	EYFS CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	KEY STAGE 1 VALENTINES DISCO - Tickets are £2.50 and this includes a professional DJ, drink and a snack. Please pay on the Evolve Hub, payment is your consent for your child to attend. On the day, the children can come into school in their own clothes with a red theme.	3.30-4.30PM	YEARS 1 AND 2
WEDNESDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	KS2 VALENTINES DISCO - Tickets are £5.00 for a meal deal (Hotdog or Cheese sandwich – please select the correct one to order on the Evolve Hub – orders must be received by Friday	5-6.30PM	YEARS 3-6

	7 <sup>th</sup> February). Entrance only is £3.50, payment is your consent for your child to attend. Children are welcome to dress up in a Valentines theme for the disco. We will have a snack shop so they can also bring some spends if they wish to.		
THURSDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	NURSERY STAY AND PLAY - PARENTS WELCOME – BOOKING WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 13 <sup>TH</sup> JANUARY ON SCHOOL SPIDER - PLEASE BOOK YOUR SESSION	9AM OR 1PM	EYFS
FRIDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	NON UNIFORM DAY FOR £1 DONATION – contribution for the whole year can be made on the Evolve hub is you prefer	9-3	ALL CLASSES
FRIDAY 14 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR HALF TERM BREAK	3.15PM	ALL CLASSES
<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/EVENT</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>CLASS/STAFF</b>
MONDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY	SCHOOL RE OPENS	8.45AM	ALL CLASSES
MONDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> MARCH	PHONICS SCREENING CHECK - MEETING FOR PARENTS	3.20PM	YEAR ONE PARENTS
WEDNESDAY 5 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	YEAR 2 FAMILY TIME WORKSHOP	9-9.45	YEAR 2 PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 5 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	YEAR 6 CRUCIAL CREW VISIT	9-12	YEAR 6
THURSDAY 6 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	WORLD BOOK DAY- CHILDREN WELCOME TO DRESS UP AS ANY BOOK CHARACTER	ALL DAY	ALL CLASSES
THURSDAY 6 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	DRAMA WORKSHOPS ACROSS SCHOOL - £2 contribution requested – please pay on the Evolve Hub	ALL DAY	RECEPTION TO YEAR 6
FRIDAY 7 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	ZUMBA DAY – TASTER DAY – All children should come to school in their PE kit	ALL DAY	RECEPTION – YEAR 6
FRIDAY 7 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	CHOCOLATE/EASTER GOODIES DONATION IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAYTIME		ALL CLASSES
THURSDAY 13 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	YEAR 3 AND 4 EXTRA PE SESSION – CHILDREN TO WEAR THEIR PE KITS	1-3PM	YEAR 3 AND 4 CHILDREN
THURSDAY 20 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	YEAR 1 AND 2 EXTRA PE LESSONS – CHILDREN TO WEAR THEIR PE KITS	1-3PM	YEARS 1 AND 2
FRIDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH	RED NOSE DAY- DONATIONS FOR NON UNIFORM CAN BE MADE HERE <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd25-north-walkden-primary-school?utm_medium=FR&amp;utm_source=CL">https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rnd25-north-walkden-primary-school?utm_medium=FR&amp;utm_source=CL</a> If you would like a red nose you can buy them from here <a href="https://shop.comicrelief.com/collections/red-nose-day-2025">https://shop.comicrelief.com/collections/red-nose-day-2025</a>	ALL DAY	ALL CLASSES
MONDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS GO ON SALE	9AM	OPEN TO ALL PARENTS
WEDNESDAY 26 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	PARENTS EVENING – letter will be sent home wc 03.02.25	3.30-6.30PM	YEARS N - YEAR 6
THURSDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	YEAR 5 AND 6 EXTRA PE LESSONS – CHILDREN TO WEAR THEIR PE KITS	1-3PM	YEARS 5 AND 6
TUESDAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> APRIL	WIZARD OF OZ PRODUCTION - £2 contribution requested – please pay on the Evolve Hub	9.15AM	YEARS 1-6 CHILDREN
WEDNESDAY 2 <sup>ND</sup> APRIL	EYFS AND KEY STAGE 1 EASTER HAT COMPETITION		EYFS AND KEY STAGE 1 WELCOME TO BRING A HAT TO SCHOOL
THURSDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> APRIL	NURSERY STAY AND PLAY – BOOKING WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM 3 <sup>RD</sup> MARCH ON SCHOOL SPIDER - PLEASE BOOK YOUR SESSION	9AM OR 1PM	NURSERY

THURSDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> APRIL	KEY STAGE 2 EGG DISPLAY COMPETITION	BRING TO HALL AT 8.45AM	ALL KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN WELCOME TO JOIN
THURSDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> APRIL	YEAR 5 EASTER EXPERIENCE AT CHURCH	1-3PM	YEAR 5 – CHILDREN ONLY
THURSDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> APRIL	EASTER HAMPER RAFFLE DRAW	2PM	SCHOOL COUNCIL
FRIDAY 4 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL	NON UNIFORM DAY FOR £1 DONATION – contribution for the whole year can be made on the Evolve hub is you prefer	ALL DAY	ALL CLASSES
FRIDAY 4 <sup>TH</sup> APRIL	SCHOOL CLOSES FOR EASTER BREAK	<b>2PM</b>	ALL CLASSES

Kind regards, Mrs Warburton