



Norton Sub Hamdon Church School
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Stoke-Sub-Hamdon
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9th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to wish you a very warm welcome to the new school year of 2024-25! Everyone at school hopes that you have had a good summer and are ready and eager to be back. I appreciate that there will be a lot of information sent out over the first couple of weeks of school. Wishing to avoid an information overload, I aim to keep this welcome letter as succinct and as useful as possible.

Morning Routines

A reminder that the children line up on the playground in classes and enter the school at 8.50am. Please note that parents are responsible for children until this time. In the event of very wet weather, a member of staff will be on the playground to oversee the children inside.

For anyone requiring an early drop off there is our Breakfast club which is available from 7.45am with different options (with or without food). For more information, please contact the school office.

After School Clubs:

We are pleased to offer a range of clubs after school. Sign-up information will be shared this week. There will also be lunchtime clubs such as chess, football and running which children may take part in.

After school wraparound care until 5.00pm is available for all year groups on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Registration and payment is via the [pro-coaching website](#).

Safeguarding

The designated safeguarding lead is Mr Caswell and the deputy designated deputy safeguarding lead is Mrs Jaggard, who is also the SENDCO (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator). Senior Teacher Mrs Bryne is also a deputy designated safeguarding lead. If you have a concern, please speak with a member of the team.

Attendance

We know that there is a clear link between attendance and attainment. Please bring your child to school on time and avoid term time appointments, holidays and trips. For any absence, please inform the school office at the earliest opportunity on 01935 881815.

Our behaviour principles

We expect pupils to be Ready, Respectful and Safe. We firmly believe that a safe and respectful environment means that pupils are ready to learn. Please take every opportunity to support this message.

We have started work on implementing a new approach to behaviour this year. Children will start to talk about the different Zones of Regulation; blue, green, yellow and red. This provides an easy way to think and talk about how we feel on the inside and in turn better regulate behaviours.

Uniform

Please ensure children come to school in full school uniform including school PE kit on PE days. For further information, please see the [uniform page of our website](#). For pre-owned uniform, please contact our school office.

Uniform with the new logo is now available and please rest assured that the old uniform design is still able to be worn - we anticipate the full switch over taking well over a year.

Communications

The majority of our communications will be sent out by email. Each week there is a Parent Update which is also published on the [news page of our website](#). Permissions, payments, homework, sports fixtures, trips and school reports will usually be sent as paper copies.

We do have an Instagram account and Facebook page where we publicise our schools. These are accessible via the links on our [website](#).

Lastly, during the year, the pupils will publish their much anticipated school newspaper, The Hamdon Hoot. Please keep an eye out for this and we hope you enjoy reading it, as we are very proud of the work the children do in producing it.

Learning and Curriculum

At the beginning of each Term (September, January and April), teachers will send out a curriculum overview and class timetable/routines to communicate what your child will be learning.

Keeping you informed

Throughout the year, there will be information sessions for parents to attend including Phonics (for Year R and 1), Multiplication (for Year 3 and 4) and SATs (Standard Assessment Tests - for year 6).

There will also be parents' evenings, where you will meet and speak with your child's teacher in November and in March. In July, you will receive your child's school report for the year. For more information about how we support children needing additional support, please see information about [SEND on our website](#).

At any point, please know that you may contact the school office to provide feedback, make an enquiry or book an appointment. In most instances, if you have a concern, the first port of call is your child's class teacher.

Headteacher/parent coffee catch-ups

In addition, I will also be hosting coffee catch-ups. This year, these will explore different topics. A summary will be shared with all parents to help keep you informed. You may bring any issues to these events directly/indirectly. The aim is to provide a welcoming, enjoyable and a supportive forum for families at our school.

Celebrating success

Every week, we celebrate success in a Celebration Assembly. Once a half-term, we invite parents to join us to recognise achievements in our Awards Assembly.

FONS

The Friends of Norton School (FONS) parents association raise vital funds for trips, experiences and 'wow' items for the children. Importantly, their fundraising brings our school community together. They are always looking for new members and helpers, so please get in touch if you can lend a hand.

Competitions


Additionally, and prestigiously, there will be competitions to take part in throughout the year – with the aim of exploring and celebrating our school's vision and values (and to have a bit of fun!)

Dates

Finally, and what I suspect is the most anticipated part of my communications to you, the list of dates for the year ahead – please find them attached! Please be aware that dates may be subject to change and that more dates will be added throughout the year.

Wishing you all a successful week and happy start to the school year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'J' followed by the name 'Caswell' in a cursive script.

Mr J Caswell

Executive Headteacher