

## News and events from Northwold Primary School



**Season's greetings from all our staff and pupils and best wishes for the holidays and an amazing 2016.**

Thank you so much for all the cards, presents and seasonal good wishes we have received from you this week.

### **Return to School – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

We look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 8.55am for what we are sure will be an fun and exciting Spring Term. (In fact it looks like Spring has already arrived in some parks and gardens – daffodils in December!)

### **Welcome and Farewell**

We welcome Mr Richard back to Jamaica class after his absence and say a massive thank you to Mr Mounser who has so ably taught Jamaica class during Mr Richard's absence. We also thank Mr James who has taught Turkey class since half-term and welcome Ms Oyeti to Northwold as Turkey's new class teacher. Sadly we must say thank you and farewell to Ms Rodriguez as Pakistan's class teacher. Mr James will be returning to Northwold in the New Year as Pakistan's class teacher.

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### **Nativity – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**



Parents, teachers and pupils alike were treated to a spectacular show this week by all those who took part in the nativity. The children had been working very hard these last few weeks to get the show perfect and it was great to see all of their hard work come to fruition. The musical performances were brilliant and the characters portrayed beautifully, while audience members found it 'amazing', 'fun' and the 'the best show ever!'

The play was accompanied by freshly made mince pies and a cup of mulled apple juice, which made the night all the better. There's an endless list of staff, pupils and parents to thank, but all that needs to be said is that a lot of time and effort went into the nativity and it was all worth it to have such a grand ending to the term. A big thank you to all those involved.

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## Music Recital – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December



On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>, there was a recital by many of our music students in the Top Hall. The audience was treated to some fabulous performances by the choir, saxophones, drummers and the steel pans. It was a really impressive show. Watch for the clips on the school's YouTube account. Many thanks to all the parents who came to support their children. It makes a big difference and there was a great turn out.

## Aladdin - Panto



On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> the whole school was treated to a surprise pantomime, performed by the Northwold Players Teachers. The belly-dancers were dazzling and mysterious, the genies ingenious and the singing X-factor-abulous. "It was so funny when we were booing the baddy." – Amanda (Year 3). "I liked it when the genies were fighting." – Tayon (Year 2). "It was like a weird dream. It was really funny too." – Sapphire (Year 1). Everyone had great fun. You can see for yourself on the school's YouTube channel in the next few days. A run in the West End can't be far away!

## Incubus – Year 4 Enterprise



Get in touch

Tel: 020 8806 6352 | Fax: 020 8806 6315 | email: [office@northwold.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:office@northwold.hackney.sch.uk)

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On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December, Jamaica class visited the IncuBus, a double decker bus that you may have seen parked in our playground. "It looked amazing and inside it on the top were some fluffy things like clouds and on top were some shiny lights. When we went up the stairs there were some colourful things wrapped on to the handles and upstairs at the back were some red pretty presents and in the middle of the presents was a post box. Hanging down from the roof were some small beautiful gifts. So we met all these people [from IncuBus] and they told us that we had to write to Santa and what we had to write was about a business that we could do. When we finished writing the letters to Santa we had to put the letters in the post box. When we got out of the bus the people gave us a book or a colouring book. The workshop was great and everyone enjoyed it." – Hiba

## Year 6 Booster sessions

In the New Year, Year 6 pupils will be having booster sessions, from 3.00-4.00pm every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, to help them prepare for SATs next May. Year 6 parents should have a letter providing more details. A big thank you to the staff

who are being so supportive to the help our pupils be the best they can be.

## Parent Governor Election

The Parent Governor elections will be held in the week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016. There will be one vote per family and the vote will close on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016. Ballot papers will be sent out in the first week back.

## Wear the Northwold PE Kit – Win a bike!

We have linked up with our local Halfords to offer two children a fantastic prize. We are very proud of our fantastic PE Kit – black joggers (£4.00), black hoodie (£5.00) and House Colour T-Shirt (£4.00). As you can see, they are also incredible value for money. Starting in the first week back, all children who wear the correct full PE kit – joggers, T-Shirt, hoodie and trainers/plimsolls – will be logged by their teacher. Any child who wears the correct PE Kit all the way through the year will have their name put into a draw. Out of all those children, at the end of the summer term, a boy and a girl will be picked out of the hat to receive a brand new bicycle. A big thank you to Halfords for helping make this generous prize possible. If you need to, please ask in the Office to get your child's correct PE kit.

## Mindfulness Course for Parents – Jan 2016

Mindfulness means knowing directly what is going on inside and outside ourselves, moment by moment. It can be easy to rush through life without stopping to notice much. Paying more attention to the present moment – to your own thoughts and feelings, and to the world around you – can improve your mental wellbeing. The practice of mindfulness aims to do this. Since May, we have been very fortunate to have Srivati from the London Buddhist Centre working with teachers and students. This term she has worked in class, helping students develop their mindfulness practice. Now it's your turn. In January, Srivati will be leading a course for parents. It will be every Thursday from 2.00-3.30pm for 8-9 weeks. To get the full benefit, you have to be able to commit to attending all the sessions. It is very much worth the effort – ask your children or our staff. Places are limited. If you are interested, leave your name in

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the Office. Click [here](#) to read more about mindfulness.

## Anna Fiorentini School – Scholarship Auditions – Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> January

Is your child a talented performer? The Anna Fiorentini School are holding auditions for children aged 7-18, who either live or attend school in Hackney. The audition will be to recruit new students to the Hackney branch of this award winning theatre and film school. It takes place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 at Clapton Girls' Academy. There will be several scholarships / subsidised places on offer to children once they have attended the audition. For full details, click on the following link – <http://tinyurl.com/pjsv38j> .

## After School Clubs

We hope your children have enjoyed the After School Clubs this term. There will be a couple of new clubs in the New Year. We will send out letters for them in the first week back after the holidays.

## e-Safety – Christmas Presents



For those of you planning to give your children presents, such as games consoles, tablets or laptops, remember to set up the device with the appropriate parental controls. Review your rules on device and internet use with your child and then apply it to the new device. Make sure you set up the appropriate controls – for example to blocking access to websites, preventing in-app purchases or locking TV channels. For more information, visit [Vodafone's Digital Parenting Website](#) .

If there are any areas of e-Safety you want to know more about, please feel free to discuss it with Mr Braune, your child's teacher or one of the school's leaders.

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## Next Week's Menu

Week 1

Monday	Fish Fingers	Bean Stew
	Peas, Chips and Salads	
Tuesday	Cheese Whirls	Baked Pepper & Spicy Rice
	Baked Beans and Salads	
Wednesday	Tuna & Pasta Twist	Spinach Pie
	Salads	
Thursday	Black Bean Chilli	Vegetable Pastry
	Doritos, Guacamole, Soured Cream & Tomato Salsa	
Friday	Vegetable Biryani	Crusty Pasta Bake
	Salads	

Remember! If you don't like the food that's on offer we also do jacket potatoes with fillings every day.

Every day, for dessert, there is fruit and yoghurt.

## Term Dates for 2015-16

There are still 2 ½ INSET days to be allocated.

Autumn Term 2015			
First Day	Half Term	Finish	Number of Days
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2015	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2015	70 days (35 first half-term, 35 second half-term)

Spring Term 2016			
First Day	Half Term	Finish	Number of Days
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2016	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	54 (30 first half term, 24 second half term)

Summer Term 2016			
First Day	Half Term	Finish	Number of Days
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2016	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2016	69 (34 first half term, 35 second half term)

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