



North Kidlington Primary School Newsletter

Nurturing Potential, Growing Success

Key Dates

December

12th KS1 Nativity (1:30 & 6pm)
12th LKS2 Art Gallery
13th Christmas lunch and jumper
14th KS2 Carols by Candlelight (6:30pm)
15th Christmas Fayre
18th Church Service
20th 1:30 Finish
21st Christmas Holidays

January

8th INSET
9th Back to School
9th Science Week
23rd—Online Safety workshop
(online session for parents)
29th—Movie Night

February

5th Yr 5/6 Nat. History Museum
7th Vision Screening (Reception)
9th Yr 6 Junior Citizens
9th Last day of half term (3:15 finish)
12th Half Term
19th Back to school
27th LKS2 Trip to Steam



The Burrow

Calm, caring and fun before
and after school provision.



Autumn Term: # 5

Dear families,

Christmas season is definitely upon us. Apple class did a super job with their Christmas play this year. I was particularly impressed as so many of them have summer birthdays this year and are not even nearly 5!



Carols by Candlelight

Next Thursday at 6:30pm we will be holding our KS2 Carols by Candlelight. This is a relaxed and fun event where the children entertain us with some Christmas songs. Miss Claxton has even hinted to me that there may be some Christmassy recorder action too.

Mrs Müldür and I will be serving our usual mince pies and mulled wine to help get the Christmas cheer going.

Families from all year groups are welcome to attend.



We think getting the experience of performing in a play is a vital part of education. Children at North Kidlington have an opportunity to perform on stage every year they are with us. We also provide additional opportunities for performance through the choir, recorder and the dance festival we take part in every 2 years.

Spending time, learning lines, getting your performance right and then having the courage to get up in front of everyone are all amazing life lessons that help us even if we do not end up on the stage...if you have ever had to give a presentation at work, you will know what I am talking about.

Books for Christmas

Alongside our thorough phonics programme, we spend a lot of our day celebrating reading and sharing books with the children at NKS. Children here seem to really enjoy reading and it is fabulous when they get this enthusiasm at home too. I found these great book gift ideas sheets from Books for Topics, a site we use a lot in school. These age ranges are based on interest but we know every child is different so you may find books of interest in both younger and older age pages. These are links:

[Books for ages 3-5](#)

[Books for ages 5-7](#)

[Books for ages 7-9](#)

[Books for ages 9-11](#)



What time does school finish for the holidays?

Parents often ask the finish time before half terms and holidays and I realised I have never explained the pattern. We finish at 1:30 before the long holidays: Christmas, Easter & Summer. This is so staff have time to prepare the classrooms for deep cleaning and for final end-of-term meetings. Breaks for half-term are our normal 3:15 finish. I hope that helps.

Sporting Superstars

Year 5/6 Footballers

After being rained off earlier in the term, we finally got to take a group of Year 5/6 footballers to West Kidlington school for a partnership competition. It was a very close call but we managed to take first place against the other schools. It was great to receive some praise from adults in another team on our children's behaviour and how well they encouraged each other at the event. Being Kind to Others is a very important part of sport at NKS. Well done to Toby, Ben C, Benjamin, Thomas U, Jacob, Felix, Cody, Megan, Milana, Maria, Maisy, Teddy, Thomas T, Charlie, Stanley, Tymek, Vann, Ayla, Safi, Hannah, Eva

Cross Country

Well done to our Cross Country team, who competed at the county finals on a freezing cold day at Sibford School. Ms Dallimore-Gray told me she was very proud of all the children who ran really well in very tough conditions. Well done to Ayla I., Ruby W., Milana D., Emily D., Florence W., Lucas L., Thomas U., Theo H., Rohan D., Felix M., & Ethan H and Tayo O.



WOW North Kidlington!

We raised **£2,359.75** for Children in Need.

Thank you so much



Let's keep kids safe online



The online world is an important part of kids' lives nowadays. It's an exciting place for them to explore, with all sorts of fun and educational stuff to discover, but there can be some risks too.



'Keeping children safe online' will teach you how to help kids explore their favourite apps, games and sites safely. Our workshop will:

- help you understand how children experience the online world
- show you resources and tools that could help keep them safe
- empower you to guide them on their journey.

Online workshop just for NKS

Tuesday 23rd Jan, 6pm

We will send out a link closer to the time

NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

©NSPCC 2021. National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Registered charity England and Wales 214702. Scotland SC237757. Photography by Tom Hall. The child pictured is a model. J20201000.



NKS Choir

Well done to our amazing Choir who sang so well at the Kidlington lights switch on.

The choir also spread the Christmas joy to our local care homes over Christmas: A group sang to the residents at Moorcroft on Monday and another group will be heading over to Lincroft Meadow next week.

We are very grateful to Miss Claxton for all her hard work in making the choir so successful and also to Mrs Hunt and Beks Reip for helping her.



Have a super weekend everyone,

Emilie Fidler

08/12/23



Using a knife and fork

I have noticed that many children are struggling to use a knife and fork correctly when I am in the lunch hall. I know in our busy lives the tradition of families sitting down to dinner together is harder to achieve and these life skills can easily slip through the net.

In my last two assemblies I have been showing children how to use their knife and fork and it has been brilliant to see that many of them are giving it a good go at lunchtime. I use the stab, slide, saw technique: **Stab** the fork into the food; **Slide** the knife down the fork; **Saw** with the knife.

I also found this really helpful video which shows how you can help your child at home with the skill: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TIEA3uYu74Y&t=13s>.

For reception aged children, this video is very sweet and they can watch it while practising themselves at home. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cau5cevlG2U>.

Christmas Lunch

Several parents have not yet told us if their child is having Christmas lunch or bringing a packed lunch next Wednesday. You cannot book on the day as you would with our normal lunches. This is a massive job for the kitchen staff and they need to order food in advance and start prepping this week. If you have not filled in the form please do so TODAY. Thank you.

Church Service

Our other annual Christmas event is our trip to the church on Monday 18th December. This event is for Years 1 through to 6. We all walk down to the church and have our more traditional service to celebrate Christmas. Although this is a church service, we welcome all faiths to the event - we are incredibly proud of our multicultural school.

Families are welcome to join us at the church from 1:30pm.

LKS2 Trip to Science Oxford

Years 3 and 4 had a wonderful trip to Science Oxford on Wednesday. The children I spoke to afterwards were buzzing about the day (my terrible pun as they were learning about circuits).

We are very lucky to have Science Oxford so close to us and so if your child enjoyed the day, you might be interested to know that they hold family events there on Saturdays. [Click here](#) for more information.

