

Start of Term 6 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Summer Term at Northbourne. As we approach the end of another successful academic year, we have an **exciting and action-packed few weeks** ahead, full of opportunities for our children to learn, grow and flourish.



At Northbourne, our vision of **Nurturing Excellence** is at the heart of everything we do. Throughout the term, children will continue to demonstrate our core values of **Courage, Compassion and Community** as they embrace new challenges and experiences.

There are many highlights to look forward to. Year 1 children will complete their **Phonics Screening Check**, while Year 4 pupils take part in the **Multiplication Tables Check**, celebrating the progress they have made this year. Year 6 will be preparing for the **transition to secondary school**, including participation in the Step Forward programme and the IMPS safety and first aid workshops, helping them develop the confidence, resilience and life skills needed for the future.



Beyond the classroom, our choir will perform at the **Festival of Voices**, Year 1 and 2 will visit the wonderful **Story Museum** in Oxford, and children across the school will enjoy **Sports Day**, transition activities, the popular **PTA Superheroes Shop** and School Council **Break the Rules Day**.

We look forward to finishing the year together at our Awards and Presentation Evening, a wonderful opportunity to recognise and celebrate the many successes of our children.



Here is to a great summer term!

Andrew Denham
Headteacher



Key Dates and Updates for the Summer Term

Year 1 and some Year 2 Children/Phonics Screening Check: Monday 8th to 12th June

The Phonics Screening Check is a short assessment taken by children in Year 1 to assess their ability to decode words using phonics. It helps teachers identify how well each child is progressing with their phonics skills and whether they may need extra support. The check includes both real and made-up words, allowing children to demonstrate their understanding of letter-sound correspondence. The check takes 5-10 minutes.

Year 4 Children/Multiplication Tables Check: Monday 8th to 12th June.

The Multiplication Tables Check is a short, online assessment taken by children in Year 4 to assess their knowledge of times tables up to 12 × 12. It helps ensure children have a strong foundation in mental maths, which is essential for more advanced maths work. The check consists of 25 questions and is designed to be quick and simple, with just 6 seconds to answer each question.

Year 6/ Step Forward: Tuesday 9th June

This is a prayer and reflection space put on by Didcot Baptist Church designed to engage with a range of experiences, emotions, and questions, which students may have as they prepare to move to secondary school. As well as times all together, there'll be the opportunity for students to move around, explore, and participate in, a series of creative and interactive prayer and reflection stations on the Year 6-7 transition theme.

Year 6/ The Injury Minimisation Programme for Schools (I.M.P.S.): Wednesday 10th & 17th June

IMPS is an educational programme for Year 6 pupils that teaches children how to recognise risks, stay safe, prevent accidents, and respond effectively in an emergency. The programme combines interactive learning about personal safety, first aid, and emergency life support skills, helping children develop the confidence to make safer decisions and assist others when needed. Topics include home, road and leisure safety, basic first aid, CPR awareness, and how to contact emergency services.

New Reception Children/Induction Meeting: Wednesday 10th June, 6.00-6.45pm

We will be holding an informal welcome in the school hall for parents who have children starting in Reception in September 2026. It's an opportunity to meet key members of staff and to find out more about the routines and arrangements of Northbourne school.

School Choir Y3-6/Festival of Voices: Monday 15th June

A coach will be taking the children from school in the afternoon (after lunchtime) to Dorchester Abbey for rehearsals before the event. The children will need to bring a picnic tea that they will eat before the concert starts at 6.30pm. We are expecting the performance to finish around 8.00pm and children must be collected from Dorchester Abbey.

Year 4/5/6/Swimming Gala: Thursday 18th June TO BE CONFIRMED

We are hoping to take part in this Oxfordshire swimming gala. Updates will follow.

Whole School/PTA Superheroes Day: Thursday 18th June (for Reception, Year 1&2) and Friday 19th June (for Year 3-6)

Following the success of our 'Mothers and Others Pop-Up Shop' earlier this year, the PTA are excited to announce a special Superheroes Pop-Up Shop just in time for Father's Day! The children will have the opportunity to leave class briefly and visit the PTA shop to choose a special gift for the male superheroes in their lives! Whether that's dads, stepdads, grandads, uncles, brothers, carers, or family friends. Each gift will be thoughtfully wrapped in a paper gift bag and sent home with your child, ready to be gifted on Father's Day - Sunday 21st June.

There will be a variety of fun and thoughtful gifts to choose from, ensuring there is something for everyone. Gift tickets are £3.50 each and can be purchased via MCAS. You are welcome to purchase more than one if your child



would like to buy multiple gifts. All ticket purchases must be made by Thursday 11th June. Let's help the children celebrate the amazing men in their lives!

Year 1&2/Trip to Oxford Story Museum: Friday 19th June

The trip will take place during normal school hours. This will take them into a journey of awe and wonder, where settings from many of our favourite books are brought to life alongside storytellers who will share some well-loved stories and characters. This will also link to the work we have been doing in English and storytelling this year.

To cover the cost of the trip, we are requesting a contribution of £22 per child; this includes the cost of the coach (£8), admission to the museum, and the workshops the children will be doing which are detailed below (£14). If you need to spread the cost over two payments (£11 by 22nd May and £11 by 8th June) or have any financial constraints, please let us know and we will see how we can support.

Parents of Children with Special Educational Needs/SEND Review Meetings: Week beginning 22nd June.

This will be an opportunity for parents of children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to be able to meet with their class teacher and discuss how their child has progressed during the Summer Term, and suggest targets for the Autumn Term. Teachers will arrange appointments directly with parents.

Whole School /Break the Rules Day: Friday 3rd July

A list of rules will be sent home with children nearer the day! Each rule broken will cost 50p.

All Children/Transition Mornings: Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th July

Reception to Year 5 children will get to spend the mornings with their new class teachers for next year. Year 6 children transitioning to Aureus, St Birinus School or Didcot Girls' School will spend these days in their new schools.

Nursery to Y6 Children/Sports Day: Monday 6th July

The Nursery and Reception children will race in the morning, followed by a picnic. The rest of the school will race in the afternoon. The 'Back Up Day' (in case of bad weather) will be on Friday 10th July.

All Children/Transition Days/Morning: Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th July

Year 6 children transitioning to Aureus, St Birinus School or Didcot Girls' School will spend these days in their new schools. Reception to Year 5 children will get to spend one of the mornings with their new class teachers for next year.

All Children/School Reports will be sent home: Friday 10th July

Y6/Leavers Play & Evening Event: Monday 13th July

The Y6 Performance will start at 6pm and be followed by an event on the school field

Y6/Leavers Service & Pool Party: Tuesday 16th July

The Leavers Service will be at St Peters Church at 10am, followed by the Pool Party at 11am.

Whole School: Awards & Presentation Evening: Wednesday 15th July, 5.30-8.00pm

On the penultimate evening of term, we will be having a whole school community event on the field, with all the children performing and individual awards given out for achievements throughout the year. The whole event will have 'festival like' vibe with the PTA running a BBQ and Bar with some disco music to follow.

YR-Y6 /Last Day: Thursday 16th July, finish at 1.30pm.

