

# NORTH WALKDEN PRIMARY

## NEWSLETTER – 21<sup>ST</sup> June 2024

### 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
Leah Mya-Mai	Freya Rafael	Lu'ay Amelia	Anirlan Mohammed	Aliza Ivy	Byron Moses	Joely Vivian	Eva Toby

**Summer Fair: The fair starts at 11am tomorrow, please join us for lots of fun – full details on our Facebook page.**

**Reading Award:** On Wednesday, Gabriel was awarded with the Nell Jones Reading Award 2024. This was in recognition of huge progress and achievement in reading this past year. He was treated to lunch at the Marriott Hotel in Manchester and was given a selection of brand new books to take home. Well done Gabriel - we are very proud of you!

**Staffing:** I am pleased to inform you that, from September, Miss Briggs will be taking on the role as Assistant Headteacher, leading EYFS and key stage 1. Miss Briggs will be teaching in the Reception class and I know she is thoroughly looking forward to her new position.

I am also in a position to advise you that we have successfully appointed a new SENDCo, Mrs Thomas, who will be joining us in September working 3 days per week. Mrs Thomas is a very experienced SENDCo and has undertaken this role in Salford LA for over 15 years. Mrs Thomas is looking forward to joining the North Walkden team and meeting all the children and parents. She will introduce herself in due course and get to know you all!

**Warm weather:** We are finally due some sunshine!! Please ensure children have sun cream on and bring hats to wear. Infants have water provided in school. Please make sure juniors bring their water bottle every day.



**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 5 and Year 6 who all achieved the attendance target last week!**

### 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	<b>100 gold</b>	<b>98 silver</b>	<b>98 silver</b>	<b>96 bronze</b>	92	95	<b>97 silver</b>	<b>97 silver</b>	<b>97</b>

Late arrivals	2	1	3	2	3	1	2	2	16
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**Online Safety:** We have some helpful advice below about online safety and we will share different supportive advice each week in the newsletter.



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about TWITTER



Twitter is a social media network which allows users to post short messages (tweets) of up to 280 characters. Tweets can consist of text, photos, videos, audio, links, polls and GIFs – often linked by hashtags if they share a common theme or message. Hashtags receiving high levels of interest are said to be ‘trending’. Twitter users can engage with other people’s posts by liking, retweeting (sharing) or tweeting back (commenting on). Since the entrepreneur Elon Musk acquired Twitter in October 2022 for \$44 billion, he has implemented several major changes to the platform.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INTERACTION WITH STRANGERS

Tweets are public by default, meaning that anyone can view and interact with posts, follow someone and send direct messages. The concern here is that young people may therefore connect and communicate with strangers. Some individuals may follow a young person’s Twitter account simply because they have similar interests; however, others may turn out to have more sinister intentions.

### FIXATION ON VIEW COUNT

Twitter has recently introduced a ‘view count’ feature – telling users how many people have seen their tweet (even if they haven’t reacted to it). Previous research has found that unfavourable comparisons with other social media users can cause young people to experience feelings of insecurity, jealousy and low self-esteem – leading to an obsession with increasing their numbers.

### TROLLS AND BULLYING

The anonymity offered by fake profiles encourages some users to send tweets designed to provoke a reaction; to disrupt conversations; to spark an argument; or to harass the recipient. Such trolling and bullying can impact the mental wellbeing of both the target and anyone who witnesses it. Encourage your child to come to you if they experience such behaviour on Twitter, or if they see it taking place.

### PAID-FOR VERIFICATION

Previously, if a Twitter profile displayed a blue tick icon, it meant that the owner – usually a celebrity or a major organisation – had been verified as genuine. Now, however, anyone can pay for a Twitter Blue subscription to receive the tick, with the platform carrying out limited checks on the account’s authenticity. This could easily lead to more fake accounts impersonating real people or companies.

### CONTENT MODERATION CHANGES

In late 2022, Twitter stated that their ‘policy enforcement will rely more heavily on de-amplification of violative content: freedom of speech, but not freedom of reach’. No policies have changed yet, but this wording suggests they may limit who can see posts rather than removing them. While supporting free speech, this could encourage an environment where some toxic content remains online.

### HIJACKED HASHTAGS

The hashtag (#) is one of Twitter’s most recognisable facets, allowing users to find specific trends or topics. But the sheer volume of tweets each hour can rapidly distort a hashtag’s meaning: an initially innocent search term can quickly end up returning inappropriate results. This is common with ‘trending’ hashtags, as people know that using them will get their tweet seen by a larger audience.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SET ACCOUNTS TO PRIVATE

To reduce some of the fear of your child’s tweets being seen and shared by anyone, you can always make their account protected. This means that your child has to give approval for another user to view their posts. You can change Twitter’s privacy settings so that your child can’t be messaged directly by other people on the platform and their geographical location won’t be shared.

### FOSTER CRITICAL THINKING

It can be difficult for anyone to ascertain if something online is real or false, but particularly for young people. Encourage your child to check several reputable sources to determine if a story they’ve seen is true; remind them to watch out for acronyms and think about the message’s possible motive. Emphasise that it’s not a good idea to retweet something if they aren’t sure it’s correct.

### ENGAGE SAFETY MODE

When Safety Mode is activated, Twitter checks for abusive or spammy behaviour such as hurtful language or repeated negative replies. The platform then flags these suspect accounts and blocks them from responding to your child’s tweets. The autoblock function then prevents these accounts from interacting with your child’s again for seven days.

### EXPLORE THE NEW SETTINGS

Previously, any user could reply to anyone else’s tweets. However, the new conversation settings let your child determine who can reply to their posts – either by selecting everyone (the default option), people they follow or only people they mention (using the @ symbol). This improvement has given users extra control, providing them with more protection from trolls and online abuse.

### PAUSE BEFORE POSTING

It’s important that young people think about what they’re about to post and whether they might regret it later. Twitter has developed ‘nudges’: little prompts which appear if someone is about to tweet using harmful or offensive language. These nudges promote more positive online behaviour by giving users an opportunity to pause and consider their words before they post something.

### BLOCK, REPORT OR MUTE

If someone is upsetting your child on Twitter, you can block and report them. Blocking stops them from messaging or following your child, while reporting an account alerts Twitter to investigate possible misuse. The ‘mute’ feature, meanwhile, keeps tweets from a specific account (or which include certain words) out of your child’s timeline. The other user won’t know that they’ve been muted.

## 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.



### BE CAREFUL WHO TO FOLLOW

As accounts are no longer being as rigorously verified under the ‘blue tick’ system, it’s essential that young Twitter users understand what this means, in terms of people not necessarily being who they claim. Anyone who your child only knows online is still a stranger, regardless of how long they’ve been communicating for. Remind your child never to disclose personal information on social media.

Source: <https://blog.twitter.com/common-thread/en/topics/stories/2022/how-twitter-is-nudging-users-healthier-conversations> | [https://blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/product/2022/twitter-blue-update) | [https://blog.twitter.com/en\\_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-our-continued-commitment-to-the-public-conversation](https://blog.twitter.com/en_us/topics/company/2022/twitter-2-0-our-continued-commitment-to-the-public-conversation) | <https://scholarworks.lib.csusb.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2131&context=std>



**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
WEEK BEGINNING 17 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	POLLINATOR WEEK LED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL	ALL WEEK	DETAILS TO FOLLOW
WEEK BEGINNING 17 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	WHOLE SCHOOL ASSESSMENT WEEK	ALL WEEK	YEARS 1-5
FRIDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> JUNE	Y5 WATERSPORTS – SALFORD WATERSPORT CENTRE	ALL DAY	YEAR 5
FRIDAY 21 <sup>ST</sup> JUNE	NON UNIFORM DAY - CHOCOLATE DONATION FOR SUMMER FAIR	PM	ALL
<b>SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE</b>	<b>SUMMER FAIR – please bring along friends and family</b>	<b>11-1</b>	<b>EVERYBODY WELCOME</b>
MONDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	NEW NURSERY PARENTS MEETING	5PM	NEW NURSERY PARENTS
TUESDAY 25 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	NEW RECEPTION PARENTS MEETING	5PM	NEW RECEPTION PARENTS
WEDNESDAY 26 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	FRONT ROW CONCERT – children who have guitar lessons at lunch will perform for the whole school and parents of those performing	2.45pm	Whole school and parents of those performing
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 27 <sup>TH</sup> AND 28 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE	YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAYS TO HIGH SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOLS TO ARRANGE	YEAR 6 CHILDREN
MONDAY 1 <sup>ST</sup> JULY	NEW TO NURSERY PHONECALLS TO PARENTS	TIME TBC	NEW NURSERY PARENTS
TUESDAY 2 <sup>ND</sup> JULY	NEW TO NURSERY PHONE CALLS TO PARENTS CONTINUED	TIME TBC	NEW NURSERY PARENTS
<del>WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY</del>	<del>RECEPTION-CLASS-ASSEMBLY- RE-ARRANGED TO WEDNESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JULY</del>	<del>9AM</del>	<del>RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME</del>
WEDNESDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> JULY	RECEPTION TRIP TO BLACKPOOL ZOO – letter to be sent after May half term	8.30 – 3.15PM	RECEPTION
WEDNESDAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> JULY	YEAR 1 TRIP TO BLACKPOOL AND THE CIRCUS - letter to be sent after May half term	8.30 – 3.15PM	YEAR 1
FRIDAY 5 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	SUMMER HAMPER DONATION IN EXCHANGE FOR EXTRA PLAY	EXTRA PLAY	WHOLE SCHOOL
MONDAY 8 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	SUMMER HAMPER TICKETS GO ON SALE	9AM	ON SALE TO ALL FAMILIES
MONDAY 8 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	NEW NURSERY CHILDREN TO VISIT NURSERY WITH PARENTS	9.15- 10.15AM	NEW NURSERY CHILDREN – DETAILS TO FOLLOW
TUESDAY 9 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	NEW NURSERY CHILDREN TO VISIT NURSERY WITH PARENTS	9.15- 10.15AM	NEW NURSERY CHILDREN – DETAILS TO FOLLOW
TUESDAY 9 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	NEW TO RECEPTION CHILDREN PHONECALLS	TIME TBC	PARENTS OF NEW TO RECEPTION CLASS

WEDNESDAY 10 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	RECEPTION CLASS ASSEMBLY	9AM	RECEPTION PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 10 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	NURSERY TRIP TO SMITHILS FARM – letter to be sent after May half term	9.00 – 2.30PM	NURSERY
THURSDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	NEW TO RECEPTION CHILDREN VISIT DAY	9.15 – 11.15	CHILDREN ONLY
THURSDAY 11 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	YEAR 6 CHURCH VISIT	1.30PM	YEAR 6 CLASS
FRIDAY 12 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	SCHOOL REPORTS ISSUED TO PARENTS	3.30PM	WHOLE SCHOOL
WEEK BEGINNING 15 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	OLYMPICS WEEK	ALL WEEK DETAILS TO FOLLOW	WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
MONDAY 15 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	MEETINGS WITH CLASS TEACHERS REGARDING REPORTS IF REQUESTED	ALL WEEK	OPEN TO ALL PARENTS
MONDAY 15 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	YEAR 6 SUMMER SHOW- DRESS REHEARSAL FOR SCHOOL	10AM	WHOLE SCHOOL TO WATCH
TUESDAY 16 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	YEAR 6 SUMMER SHOW FOR PARENTS	2PM	YEAR 6 PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 17 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	KEY STAGE 1 BUMP AND BOUNCE FUN TIME	ALL DAY IN GROUPS	KEY STAGE 1`
WEDNESDAY 17 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	KEY STAGE 2 SPORTS AFTERNOON - moved from Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	1.30PM TO 3PM	KEY STAGE 2 CHILDREN – PARENTS WELCOME TO WATCH
WEDNESDAY 17 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	YEAR 6 SUMMER SHOW FOR PARENTS	5.30PM	YEAR 6 PARENTS
THURSDAY 18 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	KEY STAGE 1 SPORTS MORNING	9.15AM- 10.30 APPROX	KEY STAGE ONE CHILDREN – PARENTS INVITED TO WATCH
THURSDAY 18 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	KEY STAGE 2 WATER PLAY FUN	1.30-3PM	KEY STAGE 2
FRIDAY 19 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	EYFS SPORTS MORNING	9.15AM- 10.15 APPROX	EYFS CHILDREN – PARENTS WELCOME TO WATCH
FRIDAY 19 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	YEAR 4 – TRIP TO BROCKHOLES NATURE RESERVE – PRESTON – letter to be sent after May half term	9.00 – 3.00PM	YEAR 4
MONDAY 22 <sup>ND</sup> JULY	CHILDREN MOVE UPTO NEW CLASSES	9.15- 10.30AM	YEARS N TO YEAR 5
MONDAY 22 <sup>ND</sup> JULY	KEY STAGE 2 TALENT SHOW	1.30PM	OPEN TO ALL KEY STAGE 2 WHO WISH TO SHOWCASE A TALENT!
MONDAY 22 <sup>ND</sup> JULY	YEAR 6 LEAVERS MEAL	5PM- RESTAUR ANT TBC	YEAR 6 CHILDREN
TUESDAY 23 <sup>RD</sup> JULY	YEAR 2 TRIP TO MANCHESTER RUNWAY VISIOTR CENTRE	9.30 – 2.30PM	YEAR 2
TUESDAY 23 <sup>RD</sup> JULY	SUMMER HAMPER DRAW	2PM	
TUESDAY 23 <sup>RD</sup> JULY	SPONSORED COLOUR RUN EVENT	1PM	WHOLE SCHOOL- DETAILS TO FOLLOW

		DETAILS TO FOLLOW	
WEDNESDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	LEAVERS ASSEMBLY	9AM	YEAR 6 PARENTS WELCOME
WEDNESDAY 24 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR SUMMER	2PM	WHOLE SCHOOL

More dates may be added so please keep your eye on the diary dates each week.

Kind regards, Mrs Warburton