



North Marston Church of England School

Shining our Light to be our Best Selves!



The autumn term is whizzing by and the children continue to work hard. We have our first trips booked in and plans for Christmas are being put together. So much has already happened this year and we have plenty more coming up so please take some time to read the newsletter and have a look at the calendar. A big thanks to all who donated to the Macmillan Coffee Morning. Together we raised £226.30 for this very worthy cause.

Have a great weekend everyone, Sarah x

Attendance Update

A big thank you to all those who have taken on board our messages regarding the importance of children being in school every day that they are well enough to be here.

Through our joint efforts, we managed to improve whole school attendance last year to 96.7%, up from 93.2% in the previous year. There is still more work to do in our endeavour to ensure that children and families understand that every second counts and the negative impact of missing school on our children.

Please find below links to some important documents which might be of interest to you.

[Is my child too ill for School?](#)

[Everything you need to know about School Attendance](#)

[School Attendance and Absence](#)

Greet your Child with a Smile – Not a Screen

Another plea to all parents and carers to please not use mobile phones out on the playground – no texting, calling or gaming!

This is primarily so we can continue to work together in keeping our children safe but, it is also much more pleasant for the children to see you looking for them at the end of the day and ready to engage in a conversation, rather than looking at your screen.

Please share this important message with anyone else who collects your child.

Kindness Week

During the week beginning 13th October, our School Council are inviting everyone at North Marston C of E School to take part in a Kindness Challenge. The week will begin with a special whole-school assembly, led by the School Council, to explain what the challenge is all about.

Over the past few days, the children have been thinking about different ways they can show kindness – to

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

Telephone: 01296 670 286

Email: office@northmarston.bucks.sch.uk



North Marston Church of England School

Shining our Light to be our Best Selves!

others, to themselves, and to the environment and nature. They have come up with lots of exciting ideas, and some acts of kindness will even be carried out in secret!

As this is one of our School Values, we are really excited to see how our school community spreads kindness in lots of different ways and we would love for you to join us in supporting the children during this challenge. Please encourage your child to take part at home as well as in school, and help us to make kindness something we all share and celebrate together. We would love to hear about anything the children do at home. A small act of kindness can make a big difference!

Reception 2026 Intake

It only seems like 5 minutes since we welcomed our current Reception children and yet it is time to start thinking about next year's cohort already!

We are running 4 Open Events to give prospective parents the opportunity to have a look around and find out what is so special about North Marston C of E School.

Please share the attached flyer with friends and family and on your social media to promote these events.

PTA

Another big thank you to our fabulous PTA and to all of you who have supported them in their events over the past year.

PTA fundraising has already contributed to:

A school trip for every class

The whole school Felt Workshop

New equipment for Reception outdoor area

Furniture for the Reading Shed

Training for Amy and support staff

The PTA have also agreed to fund:

New curtains for the school hall

A mural for the wall in the playground

A contribution towards a theatre company to perform Treasure Island to the whole school (March 2026)

A Whole School dance workshop (date TBC)

A whole School wellbeing and resilience workshop (January 2026)

These amazing opportunities which benefit all our North Marston Gems just wouldn't be possible without the outstanding efforts of our PTA and the wonderful support you all offer. Please continue to do what you can to make the PTA events coming up this year just as successful.

Following the PTA AGM last week, I am delighted to announce our committee for the coming year:

Chair: Liz Hale

Vice Chair: Anneka Boyt

Treasurer: Hayley Henderson

Secretary: Saskia Miklas

Hot of the press! Please see the leaflet attached with details of the fabulous **Wreath Making Workshop** taking place in November. Book your place with your class PTA rep ASAP as spaces are limited!

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

Telephone: 01296 670 286

Email: office@northmarston.bucks.sch.uk



Parent Information Evening

Thank you to all those who came to the meeting last night when Karen shared the school's approach to teaching RE and why Collective Worship is such an important part of the school day.

The PowerPoint will be available on the School website early next week and if you have any further questions, please email the office who will pass it on to Karen or me.

Our Autumn 2 Parent Information Evening will focus on our approach to Maths – please look out for the questionnaire at Parent's Evening so we can get feedback on the most appropriate times to run parent sessions in the future.

BBC 500 Words

"Write a story you would love to read."

The BBC's 500 Words competition is now open and we have been encouraging the children to plan and write their own stories. 50 finalists will be invited to go to a grand final at Buckingham Palace next year, where the bronze, silver and gold winners in each category will have their stories read out by celebrities. There are also lots of other prizes to be won - each winner will take home a bundle of books and the gold winners also win 500 books for their school library.

Children can only submit one story each and the story must:

- Be 500 words or less (title is not included in the number)
- Be written by an individual and not a group
- Be a child's own original idea
- Be prose, not rap or poem

Stories must not:

- Give any personal details of the child, including their name
- Recount an historical event (but they can use a real person or historical character as a source of inspiration)
- Be created, written or developed by AI

All stories will be judged on the following criteria:

- Characterisation
- Plot
- Originality
- Language
- Enjoyment

Submit before the competition closes at 9pm on Friday 7th November 2025. You can do this via the BBC website.

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

Telephone: 01296 670 286

Email: office@northmarston.bucks.sch.uk



North Marston Church of England School

Shining our Light to be our Best Selves!

Autumn Term 2025 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>6th October</u>	<u>7th October</u> Ruby class phonics for parents	<u>8th October</u>	<u>9th October</u> Diamonds Trip to Milton Keynes Discovery Centre	<u>10th October</u> 9am celebration assembly
<u>13th October</u>	<u>14th October</u> 10am Open Event for Reception September 2026	<u>15th October</u> 2pm Harvest Festival	<u>16th October</u>	<u>17th October</u> 9am celebration assembly
<u>20th October</u> NO CLUBS THIS WEEK	<u>21st October</u> Parents' Evening	<u>22nd October</u>	<u>23rd October</u> Parents' Evening	<u>24th October</u> 9am celebration assembly 3:10pm finish for half term
Half Term				
<u>3rd November</u> 8:40am gates open for return to school CLUBS RESUME	<u>4th November</u> Individual photos Y6 Height & Weight check	<u>5th November</u> Pete York – Visit School Remembrance Assembly	<u>6th November</u> 6pm Open Event for Reception September 2026	<u>7th November</u> 9am celebration assembly PTA DISCO
<u>10th November</u>	<u>11th November</u>	<u>12th November</u>	<u>13th November</u> Prayer Space – Values (details to follow)	<u>14th November</u> 9am celebration assembly
<u>17th November</u>	<u>18th November</u>	<u>19th November</u> 2pm Open Event for Reception September 2026	<u>20th November</u>	<u>21st November</u> 9am celebration assembly

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

Telephone: 01296 670 286

Email: office@northmarston.bucks.sch.uk



North Marston Church of England School

Shining our Light to be our Best Selves!

<u>24th November</u> 10am Open Event for Reception September 2026	<u>25th November</u> Flu Vaccination YR-YR6	<u>26th November</u> 7:30 PTA Wreath Making	<u>27th November</u>	<u>28th November</u> 9am celebration assembly
<u>1st December</u> Mufti Day for tombola donations	<u>2nd December</u>	<u>3rd December</u>	<u>4th December</u> PTA CHRISTMAS BAZAAR	<u>5th December</u> 9am celebration assembly
<u>8th December</u>	<u>9th December</u>	<u>10th December</u>	<u>11th December</u>	<u>12th December</u> 9am celebration assembly
<u>15th December</u>	<u>16th December</u>	<u>17th December</u> Christmas Jumper Day Children's Christmas Lunch	<u>18th December</u> 2pm Christmas Church Service Break Up for Christmas Holidays	<u>19th December</u> <u>INSET DAY – children do not attend</u>

Term Dates 2025/2026

Term	Start at 8:40 on:	Finish at 3:10 on:
Autumn 1	Thursday 4 th September	Friday 24 th October
Autumn 2	Monday 3 rd November	Thursday 18 th December
Spring 1	Monday 5 th January 2026	Thursday 12 th February 2026
Spring 2	Monday 23 rd February 2026	Friday 27 th March 2026
Summer 1	Monday 13 th April 2026	Friday 22 nd May 2026
Summer 2	Tuesday 2 nd June 2026	Tuesday 21 st July 2026

INSET days (for staff only): Wednesday 3rd September; Friday 19th December; Friday 13th February; Monday 1st June; Wednesday 22nd July

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Brew

Telephone: 01296 670 286
Email: office@northmarston.bucks.sch.uk