



North Marston Church of England School

Shining our Light to be our Best Selves!

11th September 2026



It really is great to be back!

A big, warm welcome to our first Newsletter of the year to all our families, whether new or returning. Our fortnightly Newsletter is a great way to keep up-to-date both with what has been happening in school as well as what is yet to come, so please take the time to read through it when it comes out.

The children are all hard at work already and their new topics are well underway so please ask them what they've been learning.

As you can see, the diary for this term is beginning to fill up so please make a note of the important dates below.

Have a great weekend everyone, Sarah x

Staff updates

Our new teachers, Clare Tillcock (Ruby), Lisa Forsythe (Opal) and Marianna Joseph (Diamond) and our new TAs Rachael Stepney-Hogg (Ruby) and Jen Biggerstaff (Sapphire) have all made a fabulous start to the new school year and are settling nearly as well as our new children!

Unfortunately, Mariana Daviu has not returned to school as she is pursuing exciting new opportunities away from education. We will miss Mariana's artistic talents and would like to thank her for all the work she did during her time at NMS, particularly the Art & DT she did with the children, and the amazing displays and scenery she produced both around the school and for many productions.

Due to Mr A retiring, we needed another Additional Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), and I am delighted to inform you that Bessie Hockaday has completed her training and has now taken on the role. Also, a reminder that Rachel Wilson has taken on the SENCO role left vacant by Mr A too.

We are still looking to recruit a TA and some Midday Supervisors, so please contact Laura if you are interested.

Pupil Leadership Team

Our new Head Pupils (Barnaby, Yvie, James and Eve) have made a start on their leadership journey by helping around school and with leading assembly.

We are now in the process of undertaking the electoral process for choosing Year 6 House Captains, who will be leading house assemblies as well as preparations for Church Services through Prayer Space activities. We will also be selecting school-council and eco-council representatives from other classes. Please encourage your child to think about if they would like to be considered for one of these positions.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We would like to invite parents and carers, and any additional guests you wish to bring, to join us on the morning of Friday 25th September for our MacMillan Coffee Morning. If you would like to donate a cake, please do so on either Thursday 24th or bring it along on the morning of Friday 25th. We would really appreciate it if you could provide a list of ingredients with any homemade cakes so that other guests can check for allergens. Tea and coffee will be provided, and donations are at your discretion.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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PE Days

Mark Lambert will be returning to continue teaching PE to each class on a Monday.

Each class will also have a second PE lesson, taught by their class teacher as follows:

Ruby: Thursday

Opal: Friday

Diamond: Friday

Sapphire: Friday

Children should come to school in their PE kit on PE days. Please make sure that hair is tied back securely and that earrings and watches are left at home on PE days to avoid issues with these items becoming lost.

Reading with Rubies and Opals

After the success of our 'Reading with Rubies' sessions last year, we have decided to not only continue with the initiative, but to extend it to include Opal class as well!

Parents and carers are invited to come in and share some special reading time with their children in their classroom. This is an opportunity to show our children how much pleasure we get from sharing reading time together. The invitation is open to any adult member of your family, or a friend, with whom your child would be happy to sit and share a book.

The first session will be on Wednesday 7th October at 2:40pm.

Mobile Phones

Children should not bring a mobile phone to school with them, nor should they bring any other smart technology with similar functionality to mobile phones, for example, the ability to send and/or receive notifications or messages via mobile phone networks or the ability to record audio and/or video.

Also, a reminder that our playground is a mobile free zone so please finish phone calls before coming onto the playground and wait until you leave to send any messages. While this is an important part of our safeguarding procedures, we also think it's much nicer for the children to be greeted with a smile rather than your phone!

You are welcome to use the camera on your phone to take pictures or videos in celebration assembly or at end of term productions, but please only take pictures and videos of your own child and please avoid posting these on any social media.

Birthday Celebrations

We love to celebrate children's special day with them so please encourage your child to wear their own clothes (school suitable!) on their birthday. If their birthday falls at the weekend or in a holiday, then a day either side can be chosen, but please avoid the last day of every term as there will be a church service to attend and it's lovely to have all the children in their smart uniform. On arrival at school, the children are also invited to come to the office to borrow a pair of birthday glasses and a badge!

If you would like to send in treats for your child to share with their classmates, then please be reminded that we are a **No Nuts** school.

PTA

Our PTA AGM is taking place on Thursday 17th September at 7:30pm. If you are able to come along, it would be great to see you. If you think you can spare some time to support the PTA they would love to have you on board – even a couple of hours here and there is a great help and spreads the load to enable us to provide all the fabulous activities that our children love.

If you are interested to find out more about becoming a strategic part of the PTA, then please come along to the AGM as that is when the official positions of Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected.

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Guitar Lessons

If you would like your child to learn to play the guitar, we have a peripatetic teacher who visits once a week to deliver tuition. Lessons start next week, so please see the attached information if you are interested.

Clubs

Before School Club

We still have spaces at our Before School Club. Children can be booked in to arrive from 7:45am and, although we don't provide breakfast, should they wish to bring an on-the-go breakfast with them, we can ensure they get to eat it!

Each session is £3.50 and can be booked by emailing Katie on office@northmarston.bucks.sch.uk

Wrap Around After School Club

This is now provided by S4A Monday – Thursday, and attendance has grown throughout this first week, with initial feedback from the children being very positive. Children can bring an after-school snack, or order food to be provided and there is a huge range of activities for them to take part in, including arts and crafts, outdoor games and board games. There are a range of session lengths available so you don't have to pay for a full session if you just want your child to attend the after-school club session, however childcare is available until 6pm should you need it. Please visit this link to find out more and book your child's space.

<https://parents.s4aclub.co.uk/school/northmarston/wrap-around>

Enrichment Clubs

These will still be run by school staff, but will take place before school, at 8am, or lunchtimes, at 12:30pm so as not to become confused with our new S4A provision. More details will be sent out next week so children in Y1 - 6 can sign up for their enrichment club options. Reception children will be invited to enrichment clubs from the spring term when they have had a chance to settle in properly and get used to school routines.

ClassDojo

Here is the ClassDojo link for your child's class so you can sign up if you haven't already.

We will use ClassDojo from time to time to share updates and messages and let you know what's been happening in your child's class.

[ClassDojo Link - Diamonds](#)

[ClassDojo Link - Rubies](#)

[ClassDojo Link - Opals](#)

[ClassDojo Link - Sapphires](#)

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Autumn Term 2026 Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>14th September</u>	<u>15th September</u>	<u>16th September</u>	<u>17th September</u> 7:30pm PTA AGM	<u>18th September</u> 9am – Celebration Assembly
<u>21st September</u>	<u>22nd September</u>	<u>23rd September</u>	<u>24th September</u>	<u>25th September</u> MacMillan Coffee Morning – no celebration assembly!
<u>28th September</u>	<u>29th September</u>	<u>30th September</u>	<u>1st October</u>	<u>2nd October</u>
<u>5th October</u>	<u>6th October</u>	<u>7th October</u> 2:40 Reading with Rubies and Opals	<u>8th October</u>	<u>9th October</u> 11+ Results
<u>12th October</u>	<u>13th October</u>	<u>14th October</u>	<u>15th October</u>	<u>16th October</u>
<u>19th October</u>	<u>20th October</u> Parents Evening – 3.30pm - 6pm	<u>21st October</u>	<u>22nd October</u> Parents Evening – 3.30pm - 7pm	<u>23rd October</u> 2.15pm – Harvest Festival Church CHILDREN BREAK UP – Half Term
<u>26th October</u> HALF TERM	<u>27th October</u> HALF TERM	<u>28th October</u> HALF TERM	<u>29th October</u> HALF TERM	<u>30th October</u> HALF TERM

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<u>2ND November</u> INSET DAY – children do not attend	<u>3rd November</u>	<u>4th November</u> Sapphire Bikeability – more info to follow	<u>5th November</u> Sapphire Bikeability – more info to follow	<u>6th November</u> Diamond Bikeability (am) <u>8th November</u> Remembrance Sunday
<u>9th November</u> 10am – Reception Parents 2027 Open Event	<u>10th November</u> 9am: Rubies parents invited to see Phonics	<u>11th November</u>	<u>12th November</u> Diamonds Forest School	<u>13th November</u>
<u>16th November</u>	<u>17th November</u>	<u>18th November</u>	<u>19th November</u> Flu Vaccination – Whole School 7pm – Reception Parents 2027 Open Event	<u>20th November</u>
<u>23rd November</u>	<u>24th November</u> 2pm - Reception Parents 2027 Open Event	<u>25th November</u>	<u>26th November</u> Sapphire Forest School	<u>27th November</u> Mufti Day for Christmas Fair donations
<u>30th November</u>	<u>1st December</u>	<u>2nd December</u>	<u>3rd December</u> 3.30pm – Christmas Fair (TBC)	<u>4th December</u>
<u>7th December</u>	<u>8th December</u>	<u>9th December</u> 9.30 – Ruby & Opal Christmas Play	<u>10th December</u> 2pm – Ruby & Opal Christmas Play	<u>11th December</u>
<u>14th December</u>	<u>15th December</u> 2.15pm – Parent Showcase -more info to follow	<u>16th December</u> Christmas Jumper Day (TBC) Christmas Lunch Day (TBC) 2pm – Thank you, celebration Helpers	<u>17th December</u>	<u>18th December</u> 2pm – Christmas Service in the Church CHILDREN BREAK UP – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

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Term Dates 2026/2027

Term	Start at 8:40 on:	Finish at 3:10 on:
Autumn 1	Thursday 3 rd September	Friday 23 rd October
Autumn 2	Tuesday 3 rd November	Friday 18 th December
Spring 1	Tuesday 5 th January 2027	Friday 12 th February 2027
Spring 2	Monday 22 nd February 2027	Thursday 25 th March 2027
Summer 1	Monday 12 th April 2027	Friday 28 th May 2027
Summer 2	Tuesday 8 th June 2027	Wednesday 21 st July 2027

INSET days (for staff only): Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September; Monday 2nd November; Monday 4th January; Monday 7th June

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