



NEWSLETTER - Issue Nº 1

8th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome back and a warm welcome to all our new children too! I hope you have had a wonderful break and have managed to avoid the August showers! Willow class home visits for our new intake will start on the 18th September and we look forward to meeting you all.

RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete)

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result, areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

The Department for Education (DfE) has engaged with all school responsible bodies on the issues of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). They have asked all responsible bodies (Local Authorities for maintained schools, Academy Trusts, and the relevant Diocese for VA schools) to assess their schools for the presence of RAAC. The Council has therefore assessed maintained school buildings and has found no RAAC present.

Wiltshire schools do not have any confirmed RAAC in their maintained school buildings and therefore have not been asked to close any areas or schools. The change in DfE guidance is precautionary in nature, and only affects education premises where the presence of RAAC has been confirmed.

Settling back in.

This week, the children will be reminded of the school rules and routines and will be supported to settle back into school life. It is not unusual for children to feel a little anxious at this time; a new teacher, new expectations etc. We will do everything we can to ensure that transition from home to school is a happy and a smooth one. If you have any concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher; they are only too happy to help.

Big Neston Bike Ride

Finally, just a quick reminder that the Big Neston Bike Ride will be taking place at the Castle Combe race track this Friday 8th September. The event starts at 6pm and it is a fantastic event. Please come along. Stabilisers very welcome!

Thank you for your continued support.

With warmest wishes

Pam Evans
Head Teacher



Neston Primary School is committed to safeguarding all children

Church Rise, Neston, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 9SX

☎: 01225 810478

✉: admin@neston.wilts.sch.uk

🌐: <http://nestonprimary.co.uk/>

Headteacher: Mrs Pam Evans B.A. (Hons) PGCE



REPORTING ABSENCE

Please could we remind parents of the following procedures for reporting your child absent:-

- If your child is absent from school, please call 01225 810478 and leave a brief explanation on the absence answerphone before 9.10am –**Please phone for every day of absence**
- If you need to notify us that your child will be absent due to an appointment please email the office admin@neston.wilts.sch.uk
- If you wish to request a leave of absence, please complete and return the relevant form (which can be obtained from the school office or online via <http://nestonprimary.co.uk/useful-links-forms>) which will then be passed to Mrs Evans for consideration.

As part of our Safeguarding procedures, we will contact parents of those children who are not present for registration.

Good attendance means...

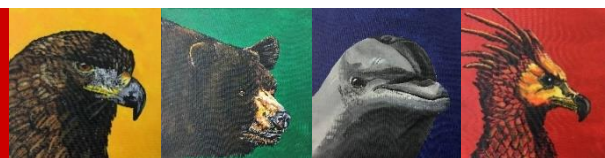
Being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days

365 days in a calendar year

175 days not in school!



Percentage attendance	What this means for your child
98%	Excellent attendance that will contribute towards excellent learning and progress.
96-97%	Good attendance that will contribute towards good learning and progress.
93-95%	Average attendance & monitored closely
80-92%	Below average attendance that may begin to have an adverse effect on learning and progress. The school will closely monitor the absences and reasons for them. The Educational Welfare Officer may become involved and a school attendance meeting may take place.
Less than 80%	Very poor attendance that will have a negative effect on learning and progress. The Educational Welfare Officer will become involved in supporting the family to improve attendance.



School Dinners



Please can we remind you that meals need to be ordered at least one week in advance.

The **booking deadline is midnight on a Wednesday** and a text is sent out at 6pm on Wednesday every week.

If you miss the midnight deadline, ParentPay will not allow you to book meals for the following week. You will still be able to order for subsequent weeks, with the option to book for the whole term, if you wish.

If you do miss the booking deadline, you will need to provide a home packed lunch for the whole of the following week.

Our kitchen orders the food and prepares the meals based on the number of dinners booked on a Wednesday. This helps to reduce food wastage and keeps costs down, which is especially important with the current economic climate.

We thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE PACKED LUNCH OPTIONS ARE FOR CHILDREN
IN KS2 ONLY (YEARS 3 TO 6)**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2023-2024

September 2023	
DATE	EVENT
Friday 1 st	TD Day – School Closed
Monday 4 th	TD Day – School Closed
Tuesday 5 th	Start of Term 1

December 2023	
DATE	EVENT
Monday 4 th	Yr R – 6 Nasal Flu Vaccinations Further details to follow

New Dates Will Be Added In Red

Additional dates will be added to next week's Newsletter.



TERM DATES 2023-2024

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023						
M		4	11	18	25		M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	
Tu		5	12	19	26		Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28	
W		6	13	20	27		W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29	
Th		7	14	21	28		Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23	30	
F	1	8	15	22	29		F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24		
Sa	2	9	16	23	30		Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25		
Su	3	10	17	24			Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26		

December 2023						January 2024						February 2024					
M		4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26
Tu		5	12	19	26	Tu	2	9	16	23	30	Tu		6	13	20	27
W		6	13	20	27	W	3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28
Th		7	14	21	28	Th	4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29
F	1	8	15	22	29	F	5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	
Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa	6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24	
Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su	7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25	

March 2024						April 2024						May 2024					
M		4	11	18	25	M	1	8	15	22	29	M		6	13	20	27
Tu		5	12	19	26	Tu	2	9	16	23	30	Tu		7	14	21	28
W		6	13	20	27	W	3	10	17	24		W	1	8	15	22	29
Th		7	14	21	28	Th	4	11	18	25		Th	2	9	16	23	30
F	1	8	15	22	29	F	5	12	19	26		F	3	10	17	24	31
Sa	2	9	16	23	30	Sa	6	13	20	27		Sa	4	11	18	25	
Su	3	10	17	24	31	Su	7	14	21	28		Su	5	12	19	26	

June 2024						July 2024						August 2024					
M		3	10	17	24	M	1	8	15	22	29	M		5	12	19	26
Tu		4	11	18	25	Tu	2	9	16	23	30	Tu		6	13	20	27
W		5	12	19	26	W	3	10	17	24	31	W		7	14	21	28
Th		6	13	20	27	Th	4	11	18	25		Th	1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28	F	5	12	19	26		F	2	9	16	23	30
Sa	1	8	15	22	29	Sa	6	13	20	27		Sa	3	10	17	24	31
Su	2	9	16	23	30	Su	7	14	21	28		Su	4	11	18	25	

Bank and Public Holidays 2023/2024

Christmas Day Holiday	25 th December 2023
Boxing Day Holiday	26 th December 2023
New Year's Holiday	1 st January 2024
Good Friday	29 th March 2024
Easter Monday	1 st April 2024
May Day Holiday	6 th May 2024
Spring Bank Holiday	27 th May 2024
Summer Bank Holiday	26 th August 2024

Term dates summary:

Term 1	34 days
Term 2	38 days
Term 3	27 days
Term 4	29 days
Term 5	29 days
Term 6	38 days
TOTAL	195 Days

KEY:

	School Holidays
	Bank & Public Holidays
	Inset Days (SCHOOL CLOSED)
	SATS week – Year 6 – TBC

Staff Inset Days (SCHOOL CLOSED):

Term 1	September 1 st and 4 th 2023
Term	TBC
Term	TBC



SCHOOL VACANCY

Dear Parents / Carers

We are looking to recruit an MDSA (mid-day supervisory assistant) to be part of our dedicated and committed team and support the children during lunch. Alongside the MDSA role there will be opportunity, for the right candidate, for casual TA (teaching assistant) hours across the school as required. A job share would also be considered for the right candidate/s.

You will need to be enthusiastic, supportive and flexible. You will need to be able to demonstrate you can work under pressure, maintaining a calm and patient approach. A good, general education and previous experience of working with children are desirable.

You will be required to:

- Encourage positive play and activities
- Support the children in the dinner hall
- Communicate with the Teacher and Classroom based staff on issues arising during lunchtime

Continued professional development is supported at Neston - we all consider ourselves as learners and strive to be the best that we can be.

Hours of work: 5 hours per week as an MDSA, 38 weeks/year (term time only, excl. TD days) plus Casual TA hours as required.

Please visit our website for further details and the job application form <http://nestonprimary.co.uk/job-vacancies>



FoNS will be holding a “Nearly New” uniform sale in the school carpark on Tuesday 12th September.



Neston Primary School
Community, Creativity, Courage



The BIG Neston bike ride is back



Save the date
September 8th 6pm



Past, present and future pupils welcome.
Castle Combe race track
More details to follow



SEPTEMBER 8TH

Church Rise, Neston, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 9SX

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The Great Big Neston Ride – Friday 8th September 2023 – 6pm - 7.30pm

For one evening only, Neston School has the famous race track to itself and we need as many people as possible to come and help us fill it and make it a great evening of cycling, scooting, blading and socialising!

There is a 1.78 mile race track for the confident cyclers, and there is a great home straight for learners to enjoy practicing on too - so it really is a family event for all ages. Please join us and help make Neston School's 5th Big Ride the best yet! All money raised goes to the school.

To help ensure everyone has a great time and that the event runs smoothly we ask that you read the rules below and ensure that your family and friends taking part are aware of them. There will be snacks available for sale, but please feel free to bring a picnic!

Tickets will be available for sale before and after school and on the gate at Castle Combe track on Friday: £5.00 adults and £2.50 children.

Event Rules

- **Helmets must be worn** at all times by all participants when riding on the track
- All bikes, scooters, roller blades must be in roadworthy condition
- **No e-bikes, e-scooters or motorised vehicles** are allowed on track
- Adults are responsible for the behaviour and safety of any children they accompany to the event
- Children leaving the track into the car park area must be accompanied by an adult
- All participants must travel in a clockwise direction around the track
- Learners and less confident riders will be using the home straight, so when entering the home straight riders completing laps must keep to the right of the track.
- An area for learners/less confident/younger riders will be coned off on the left-hand side of the home straight
- Ensure you take care when crossing the track
- Please ensure all litter is put in the bins provided or taken away with you These rules are for all our safety and enjoyment.

Further Information about the event:

The Great Big Neston Ride starts at 6pm on Friday 8th September at Castle Combe Circuit, **SN14 7EY**

It takes approximately 20 minutes from Neston to Castle Combe Please don't arrive before 5.55 as the track is in use and needs to be cleared. We cannot start using it until 6pm.

There are several entrances into the circuit from the B4039. You need to take the **COMPETITORS ENTRANCE**, which is clearly sign posted.

All parking is in the Paddock, where there is plenty of space. The toilets are located into Paddock too. Please ensure children are accompanied from the track to the toilet in case of cars moving.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday!



Children often have a dip in their reading over the summer, the Summer Reading Challenge, produced by the Reading Agency and delivered by libraries, has been proven to stop this as well as changing children's attitudes in a positive way towards reading and libraries. The challenge is for 4-11 year olds to read 6 library books over 8 weeks of the summer in return for various fun prizes, including a medal and certificate on completion.

This year the challenge runs from Saturday 15 July to Saturday 9 September. There will be an initial registration period in the first two weeks of the challenge, where children will receive a collector's folder, then after this period (from 31 July) they are invited to return to talk about the books they have read and start collecting their stickers. Children can also continue to register throughout the summer.

It's free to join the challenge and to take out a library membership, visit: [Join the library - Wiltshire Council](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/libraries) and library staff will be on hand to support reading choices. Children can also take part in the challenge online via the website: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> where they can rate and review books, download activities, and access video content, games and quizzes.



Summer at Corsham Library

Come and join the free fun!

Summer Reading Challenge – Ready, Set, Read (4-11yrs)

15 July – 9 September

Register for the challenge between 15-29th July and then come back to review your 6 books over the holidays to get your certificate and medal.

Activity sheets also available in the children's library.

Summer Reading Challenge 2023

**Ready,
Set,
Read!**

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

Mini Ready, Set, Read Challenges (all ages) from 24 July

Try a different mini challenge in the library every week from hula-hooping to skipping to bean bag tossing and add your name to our leader board.

Lego Club (5-11yrs) - Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 24 July

Come and join us for Lego Club – create mini masterpieces! Duplo also available. Spaces are limited so please book ahead.

Tuesday 10.30-12

Thursday 2.30-4

Saturday 2.30-3.30



Rhyme times on Wednesday (11am) and Friday (10 and 11am)

run throughout the Holidays!

All children under 8 must be supervised whilst in the library.





Neston Primary School
Community, Creativity, Courage



CORSHAM RFC



**Please come along to the start of our season on,
3rd September 2023.**

**We have a full section of minis, midis and juniors so can cover all
ages from under 6 to under 16.**

If you are unsure of what age group to be in, here is the guide:

Under 6 is year 1
Under 7 is year 2
Under 8 is year 3

Under 9 is year 4
Under 10 is year 5
Under 11 is year 6
Under 12 is year 7

Under 13 is year 8
Under 14 is year 9
Under 15 is year 10
Under 16 is year 11

**We have fantastic coaches who would love to teach your children
how to play rugby, become a team player, make lifelong bonds with
team mates and also learn social skills that come from rugby:
Discipline, respect and integrity.**

**It's also very social for the parents with many ways to volunteer from
group admin all the way up to coaching if they want to!
Or just relax and watch your kids play rugby**

**To find out more about timings, kit, what to do etc then email:
Corshamrfcjuniorchairman@gmail.com**

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Corsham
Climate Action
for a greener future



REPAIR CAFE

Arts
Pound

Dates for 2023

10.30AM - 12.30PM

Pound Arts Centre, Pound Pill,
Corsham

27th May

24th June

22nd July

23rd Sept

28th Oct

25th Nov

Mechanical

Electronics

Electrical

Sewing

General



@ShareRepairBath

Email: hello@shareandrepair.org.uk

#MendItDontEndIt

Charity Number 1189015



MEND IT

DON'T

END IT

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.SHAREANDREPAIR.ORG.UK

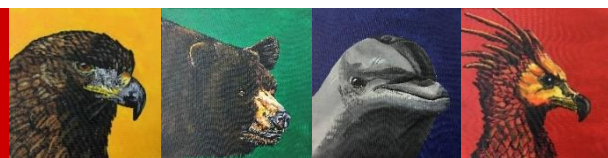
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Please visit our website to view all the before and after school clubs that are on offer

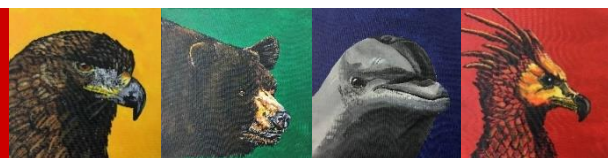
<http://nestonprimary.co.uk/school-clubs>

Please note, in line with our [Safeguarding](#) and [Child Protection](#) policies, parents cannot remain on site during their child's club.



At Neston school we are committed to keeping our young people safe online. We teach online safety as part of our computing curriculum and support our children to learn how to stay safe from different risks online and where they can go to get help and advice.

We want all the children at Neston school to feel confident that they can stay safe online. If you need any further support with issues relating to online safety then please speak to a member of staff. You can also check out our online safety page on the school website <http://nestonprimary.co.uk/e-safety> which contains up to date information and links to further online safety resources.



FoNS – Who We Are

Friends of Neston School (FoNS) formed in 1998 and registered as a charity in 2001 with the purpose to advance the education of the pupils at Neston School with two main aims:

- Developing effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school
- Engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the School and advance the education of the pupils

We are always seeking ways to improve and evolve as your children progress through the school. We welcome any new ideas and suggestions for events. To be a part of this great team please contact FoNS Chair, Harriet Thaneja

harriet@friendsofnestonschool.org.uk

facebook

Did you know that FoNS have their own Facebook page?

<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Neston-School-711133625923126/>

Follow us for our school fundraising activities!

Dates and events will be added to the Newsletter once a they have been finalised.



MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Please can we remind parents that if your child requires medication during school hours, that a form is completed and returned to the school office, along with any medicines that are clearly named.

Children should not have medicine in their school bags and self-administer. This can include creams, calpol, ibuprofen, hayfever tablets etc.

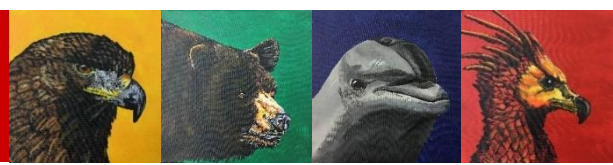
If you need to complete a form, these can be collected from the school office or downloaded from our website via - <http://nestonprimary.co.uk/useful-links-forms>

If you have any queries regarding the above, please contact the school office on admin@neston.wilts.sch.uk

We thank you for your support in this matter.



Please can we remind parents that dogs are not allowed on the school premises. We'd be grateful if they could be kept back from the school gate too. Thank you



MUSIC LESSONS

Did you know we have some amazing music teachers who offer private music tuition in piano, guitar and drumming?

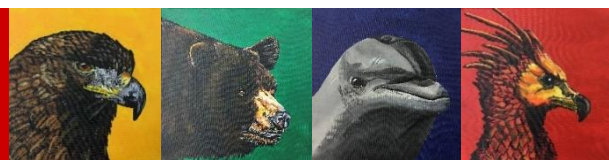
Please visit our webpage for further details

<http://nestonprimary.co.uk/parents>



© dak





Please can we ask that you are considerate of our neighbours and cautious where you park at drop off and pick up times. This includes leaving the bus stop free for the school bus and not blocking the entrance to the school car park, as this is required at all times. Please also be mindful that cars leaving the car park cannot always see out onto the road clearly.

We have had complaints by local residents of driveways being blocked.

We thank you for your continued support in this matter.



FROM SEPTEMBER 2023 THESE WILL BE THE CLASS PE DAYS:-

Children should come to school in their PE kit.

Willow – Tuesday – TO START AFTER HALF TERM

Oak – Monday & Thursday

Silver Birch – Wednesday & Friday

Hazel – Monday & Wednesday

Chestnut – Wednesday & Thursday

Maple – Tuesday & Friday

Beech – Tuesday & Friday

Maple and Beech classes should wear their school uniform on the days they have swimming



OUR SCHOOL DAY



8.30am	School Office Opens
8.45am	School Gates Unlocked
8.50am	Our school day starts. Children will be welcomed into class where an activity will be waiting for them.
9.00am	Registration
9.10am	Registration Closes / School Gates Locked
10.15am	KS1 Break / Snack Time
10.30am	KS2 Break / Snack Time
12.15 – 1.15pm	Lunchtime
3.15pm	School Gates Unlocked
3.15pm	Home Time
3.30pm	School Gates Locked & School Office Closes