



Neston Primary School

Church Rise
Neston, Corsham
Wiltshire
SN13 9SX

☎: 01225 810478

e.mail: admin@neston.wilts.sch.uk

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

Where Learning Adventures Begin...

NESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

27th February 2023

Issue N^o 14

Dear Parents / Carers

A warm welcome to Ms Sims who returns to Maple Class after her sabbatical in Canada. I know that we are delighted to see her back and of course take up her leadership role on the Senior Leadership Team with responsibility for P.E, key stage 2 English and Curriculum design.

Some of you may have noticed the heras fencing which is sectioning off some of the school grounds. Our neighbours are having some extensive work done and the fencing has enabled this to happen whilst still ensuring that our children are safe and cannot access the works area. Risk assessments are in place and we are working closely with the site managers to ensure that the work is completed smoothly and without disrupting the day to day running of the school.

Strike Action

Please keep an eye on your emails relating to the planned NEU strike action on Thursday March 2nd. We will be confirming whether this will impact on Neston as soon as possible so that you can make alternative plans should it be necessary to close the school.

With warmest wishes

P. Evans



Neston Primary School is committed to safeguarding all children



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.



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 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



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY – 2022-2023

MARCH 2023	
DATE	EVENT
Friday 3 rd	World Book Day
Monday 6 th	Silver Birch Workshare 2.45pm
Tuesday 7 th	Chestnut Workshare 2.45pm
Wednesday 8 th	Oak Workshare 8.50am
Wednesday 8 th	Beech Workshare 2.45pm
Thursday 9 th	Hazel Workshare 8.50am
Thursday 9 th	Willow Workshare 2.45pm
Friday 10 th	Maple Workshare 2.45pm
Tues 21 st	Beech Stackpole Residential
Friday 31 st	Reports

APRIL 2023	
DATE	EVENT
Monday 3 rd	Easter Break
Monday 17 th	Term 5 Starts

May 2023	
DATE	EVENT
Monday 1 st	Bank Holiday
Friday 5 th	Class Photos / Year 6 Leavers
W/C 8 th	KS2 SATs
Monday 8 th	Bank Holiday–His Majesty’s Coronation
Friday 26 th	School Games Day
Monday 29 th	Half Term

JUNE 2023	
DATE	EVENT
Monday 5 th	Term 6 Starts
Monday 12 th	Oak Workshare 2.45pm
Tuesday 13 th	Chestnut Workshare 2.45pm
Wednesday 14 th	Beech Workshare 8.50am
Wednesday 14 th	Silver Birch Workshare 2.45pm
Wednesday 14 th	Chestnut Braeside Residential
Thursday 15 th	Hazel Workshare 8.50am
Thursday 15 th	Willow Workshare 2.45pm
Friday 16 th	Maple Workshare 8.50am
Thursday 22 nd	Parents’ Evening
Tuesday 27 th	Parents’ Evening

JULY 2023	
DATE	EVENT
W/C 10 th TBC	Meet The Teacher Sessions
Tuesday 11 th	New Class Changeover
W/C 17 th TBC	Meet The Teacher Sessions
Tuesday 18 th	Beech Leavers Assembly
Monday 24 th	TD Day – School closed
Tuesday 25 th	TD Day – School closed
Wednesday 26 th	Summer Break

New Dates Will Be Added In Red



September 2022							October 2022							November 2022						
M		5	12	19	26		M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28	
Tu		6	13	20	27		Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu	1	8	15	22	29	
W		7	14	21	28		W		5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30	
Th	1	8	15	22	29		Th		6	13	20	27		Th	3	10	17	24		
F	2	9	16	23	30		F		7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25		
Sa	3	10	17	24			Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa	5	12	19	26		
Su	4	11	18	25			Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su	6	13	20	27		

December 2022							January 2023							February 2023						
M		5	12	19	26		M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27	
Tu		6	13	20	27		Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28	
W		7	14	21	28		W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22		
Th	1	8	15	22	29		Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23		
F	2	9	16	23	30		F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24		
Sa	3	10	17	24	31		Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa	4	11	18	25		
Su	4	11	18	25			Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su	5	12	19	26		

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

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

Bank and Public Holidays 2022/2023

Queen's State Funeral	19 th September 2022
Boxing Day Holiday	26 th December 2022
Christmas Day Holiday	27 th December 2022
New Years Holiday	2 nd January 2023
Good Friday	7 th April 2023
Easter Monday	10 th April 2023
May Day Holiday	1 st May 2023
His Majesty's Coronation	8 th May 2023
Spring Bank Holiday	29 th May 2023
Summer Bank Holiday	28 th August 2023

Term dates summary:

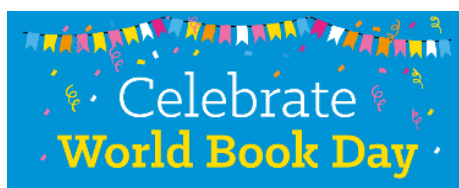
Term 1	35 days
Term 2	35 days
Term 3	29 days
Term 4	30 days
Term 5	29 days
Term 6	37 days
TOTAL	195 Days

KEY:

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

Staff Inset Days (SCHOOL CLOSED):

Term 1	1 st & 2 nd September 2022
Term 3	3 rd January 2023
Term 6	24 th & 25 th July 2023



We will be celebrating **World Book Day** at Neston School **on Friday 3rd March!** We all love reading, so let's celebrate stories by:

1. Using your WBD £1 token to get a new reading book for free!

Visit <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/> for a sneak peek of each title in this year's fantastic line up. Your tokens are valid from Thursday 16 February until Sunday 26 March 2023 and will be distributed next week.

Find your nearest participating bookseller here:
<https://www.worldbookday.com/participating-retailers/>

2. Bringing your favourite book to school.

You are also welcome to dress up* as your favourite character; come to school in your pjs or, if your favourite book is non-fiction, come ready to share some of your favourite facts.

Whichever choice you prefer, we'll have an opportunity to recommend or share our favourite books in class

3. Bringing one of your own pre-loved books for a whole-school book swap.

We'll collect in the book swap books on World Book Day but do the swap in the following week.

4. Enjoying free WBD audio books at home.

Audiobooks are a brilliant way of enjoying stories, whether reading together with your family, or listening in your own time. Check out World Book Day's brand-new set of brilliant audiobooks for all readers. <https://www.worldbookday.com/world-of-stories/>

5. Discovering more great reads.

Visit <https://www.worldbookday.com/reading-recommendations/>

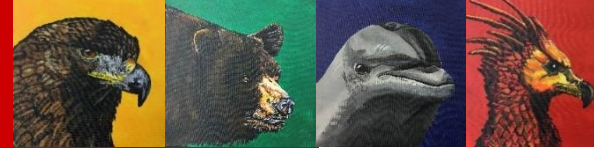
6. Travelling Book Fair

We are delighted to also have the book fair back at Neston from 9th March – further details will follow.

Yours in joyful reading
The Neston Teachers



**As always, dressing up is an optional activity and you are welcome to come in school uniform as usual if this makes you feel more comfortable – just remember to bring your favourite book, if you have a copy of it!*



23rd February 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

Industrial Action

As you will be aware from the national media, one of the teachers' union, NEU (National Education Union) is taking part in a regional programme of action in their ongoing dispute with the Government. I am writing to let you know that the planned dates for this strike action are as follows:

- Thursday 2nd March 2023
- Wednesday 15th March 2023
- Thursday 16th March 2023

I'm getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning may be disrupted on these dates.

I will aim to let you know the impact of any action at Neston as soon as possible in order to give you the maximum possible notice should it be necessary to close the school. The decision around whether to keep the school open will be made after carefully considering the safety of staff and children. As some disruption is likely, we recommend that you start to consider making alternative childcare arrangements on the dates above.

We appreciate that this situation may be frustrating and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. We are working closely with representatives from the NEU to keep up to date with the situation, and I will inform you of the final arrangements as soon as possible.

With warmest wishes

Pam Evans
Head Teacher



Safer Internet Day at Neston!



On Tuesday the 7th February, we celebrated Safer Internet Day. Classes across the school took part in lots of activities to get them talking about what they do online. This year's theme was 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online.'

KS1 and KS2 attended special assemblies that highlighted the importance of talking about what is good about spending time online but also that it is important to reach out to trusted adults if spending time online upsets or worries them for any reason no matter how small it seems.

Willow class played a board game about what they would say or do in different scenarios both online and offline.

Oak class read a story called 'Hanni and the Magic Window' and played a game of 'This or that' about whether they prefer online activities or offline.

Hazel class played a game of 'How well do you know me' and discussed what they should do if something upsets or worries them online.

Chestnut class created an A-Z list of activities they like to do online and plotted out milestones of the first time they took part in different online activities.





SAVE THE DATE

9th – 11th June 2023

Guided Walks

Children's Treasure Hunt

Mystery Walk

Booking from 3 April 2023 at

www.corshamwalkingfestival.org.uk



Photo courtesy of Julian Carosi

Supported by

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters






Corsham
TOWN COUNCIL



FAMILY HELP SURVEY



-  Are you a parent or parent to be?
-  Are you a young person who needs help and advice?
-  Do you know how you can find out information on help available for you and your family?



We want to hear your views on family services and how you'd best like to access them. Please take this short survey and help us shape services for the future.

Web link:

survey.wiltshire.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=167422754798

Wiltshire Council



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.



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.



Wiltshire Council



Family and Community Learning

Helping My Child To Learn Phonics Online

Starting Tuesday 28 February

10:00-12:00

5 x 2hr Sessions



Discover how phonics is taught in schools today

**Help your children to develop phonic
awareness**

**Explore games and activities to support phonics
learning at home**

Call: 01225 770478 to book a place

EMAIL: FAMILYANDCOMMUNITYLEARNING@WILTSHIRE.GOV.UK

WEBSITE: WORKWILTSHIRE.CO.UK/FAMILY-AND-COMMUNITY-LEARNING/

CALL: 01225 770478

Courses are funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. Learners must be 19+, have been resident in the UK/EU for three+ years, a service family member, have less than 5 GCSEs A - C and/or be in receipt of benefits or be unemployed. If you do not feel you fit within the criteria, we may still be able to help so please call if you have any questions.



Work towards your *dream*



Working in Schools

Discover a new career and find out how rewarding it is to work in a school supporting teaching and learning.

Next five-week course...

Fridays, 10am-12 noon
starting 3 March 2023

online course
Apply by 22 February 2023

Online induction session Monday
27 February 2023 10-11am

Our courses are free, if you are over 19 years old, a resident in UK/EU for over three years, live in Wiltshire and meet any of the following criteria:

- less than five GCSEs grades A-C
- in receipt of benefits
- a military family
- a family with SEN child / children
- are unemployed and seeking employment

To find out more
about this or
our other
courses across
Wiltshire visit



Wiltshire Council



Family and Community Learning Course List Spring (2) 2023

Skills for adults

Customer Service	Mondays and Fridays 20 February 24 February 27 March 3 March	10-12	4 sessions	Online
Grow Your Community	Wednesdays Starting 22 February	9:30-11:30	10 sessions	Marden Vale School
Higher ESOL	Thursdays Starting 23 February	10-12	5 sessions	Online
Positive Futures	Fridays Starting 3 March	10-12	5 sessions	Online
Enhance Your English	Wednesdays Starting 31 March	10-12	10 sessions	Online
Working in Schools	Fridays Starting 3 March	10-12	5 sessions	Online

Family skills

Phonics Games	Tuesday 21 February	10-12	1 session	Online
Helping My Child with Phonics	Tuesdays Starting 28 February	10-12	5 sessions	Online
Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry	Mondays Starting 27 March	10-12	1 session	Online

Please note that that new learners need to attend an online induction session to introduce them to Family and Community Learning, keeping safe online and the itslearning platform.

Attendance at an induction session should be at least ten days before a course starts.

Induction dates:

06/02/2023	Monday	ESOL	10:00-11:00
08/02/2023	Wednesday	General	10:00-11:00
13/02/2023	Monday	General and Customer Services	10:00-11:00
15/02/2023	Wednesday	General and Customer Services	10:00-11:00
17/02/2023	Friday	Customer Services	10:00-11:00
20/02/2023	Monday	General	10:00-11:00
22/02/2023	Wednesday	Working in Schools	10:00-11:00
23/02/2023	Thursday	General	10:00-11:00

Contact us for more information or to sign up: 01225 770478 Email -

familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk

<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/find-me-a-course/>



Family and Community Learning

Who are we and what do we do?

Family and Community Learning (FaCL) offer adults a range of single-session and short courses taught online or at venues across Wiltshire.

Our courses are designed to enable adults to build confidence, gain new skills, reconnect with learning and take their next steps to further learning, volunteering or employment

Our courses cover a variety of topics including:

- Wellbeing and confidence building
- Skills for adults - English, ESOL, maths, IT, work-related skills
- Family skills - helping your child with learning and emotional wellbeing
- Independent living skills for adults with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Information about our courses can be found here: What's On? - Work Wiltshire

Who do we work with?

Our courses are funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Courses are no cost to learners who are 19+ and resident in UK/EU for 3+years* and live in Wiltshire, and if they can tick any one of these criteria:

- less than 5 GCSEs grades A-C
- in receipt of benefits
- military family
- family with SEN child
- are unemployed and seeking employment

*Adults with certain types of immigration status and their family members are also eligible to join our courses.

If you are unsure about eligibility, or if the person you are referring has any questions, please contact us for more information and support:

Call us: 01225 770478

Email: familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk

Website: <https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Wiltsfamilylearning/



FoNS events 2022-2023

GET IN TOUCH WITH
HARRIET@FRIENDSOFNESTONSCHOOL.ORG.UK
TO GET INVOLVED. WE NEED YOU!



Date	Event
9th December	Christmas Disco in conjunction with Neston preschool
12th December	Last date for donations for Christmas hampers. Raffle will be drawn on 15th December
8th February to 22nd February	The fRUNdraiser. Get your trainers on and walk/run some miles for your House.
End of March	Easter trail around the school grounds
23rd April	FoNS provide marshals for Corsham 10km
7th May	Groundforce day - let's get those flowers planted!
26th May	Cakes and drinks for supporters at Sports Day



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.



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.



Please see details below of when each class has their PE days.

Children should come to school in their PE kit.

Willow – Tuesday
Oak – Monday & Wednesday
Silver Birch – Wednesday & Friday
Hazel – Monday & Thursday
Chestnut – Monday & Thursday
Maple – Tuesday & Friday
Beech – Tuesday & Friday



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>





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



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.