

The Nethersole CofE Academy Friday
5th June

Headteacher Welcome



Dear Parents and Carers,

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to what is always one of the most vibrant and rewarding terms of the school year. The summer term is a time of growth, reflection and celebration, and there is already a real sense of excitement as we look ahead to the many opportunities it brings.

As we move through this final term of the academic year, our school value of **thankfulness** sits at the heart of all we do. It encourages us to pause, reflect and recognise the many things we are grateful for — from the progress our children have made, to the support of our families and the dedication of our staff. It is a wonderful opportunity for us all to celebrate how far we have come together this year.

This term includes a number of important milestones for our pupils. Our Year 1 children will be completing the **Phonics Screening Check**, and Year 4 will take part in the **Multiplication Tables Check**. Both are valuable opportunities for children to demonstrate the knowledge and confidence they have been building throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and thank you, as always, for your continued encouragement at home.

Our Year 6 pupils have an especially memorable term ahead. Their **residential visit** promises to be a highlight, offering opportunities for independence, teamwork and unforgettable experiences with their peers. Alongside this, preparations are underway for the **Year 6 production**, which always showcases the creativity, confidence and talent of our oldest pupils. We are also mindful that, for Year 6, this is a time of reflection as they prepare to move on to the next stage of their journey, and we will ensure that their final weeks are filled with moments to celebrate and cherish.

Across the school, the term will culminate in a series of **end-of-year celebrations**. These occasions allow us to recognise the achievements, effort and resilience shown by all of our children. Whether through performances, collective worship, or special events, these moments are a chance for us to come together as a community and appreciate everything that has been accomplished.

As we reflect on the year so far, there is so much to be thankful for — the kindness shown by our pupils, the strong partnerships with our families, and the shared commitment to ensuring every child achieves, belongs and thrives. Thankfulness reminds us not only to celebrate successes, but also to appreciate the everyday moments that make our school such a special place.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I look forward to sharing a wonderful summer term with you all.

Warm regards

Mrs Goode

Shine and Star Awards

Shine Worship - Friday 15th May

Shine Award -

Anning – Archie W

Bond – Charlie P

Milne – Norah

Jemison – Sophia G

Attenborough – Charlie B

Simmonds – Evelyn D

Rosen – Charlie-Rose

Zephaniah – Imogen

Star Award

Anning – Hadiva

Bond - Jack

Milne - Ivy

Jemison - Max

Attenborough - Isla

Simmonds – Lucas C

Rosen – George C

Zephaniah - Jenson

Shine Worship - Friday 5th June

Shine Award -

Anning – Archie G

Bond – Charlie-Jack

Milne – Dominic

Jemison – Oscar

Attenborough – Sarah

Simmonds – Evie C

Rosen – Liam

Zephaniah – Jamie

Star Award

Anning – Hollie H

Bond - Maria

Milne – Frankie

Jemison - Max

Attenborough - Vinnie

Simmonds – Hattie

Rosen – Lyra

Zephaniah – Violette

Smart Phones and Social Media

As a reminder about the use of social media and smart phones, I have included the letter sent out to all parents / carers from the CEO of the BDMAT.

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that SMART phones remain banned in school. If children have the use of a non-smart phone on their way to and from school, this must be handed in to the school office at the start of the school day; it will be returned at the end of the school day.

We would appreciate your continued support with this as we all want to protect the well being of the children in our care.

Thank You

Mrs Goode

Dear parents,

Social Media and Smart Phones

Social Media

Helping children be safe online, to report issues and to behave kindly online is a joint responsibility between parents and school. Supervising this outside of school hours is a parental responsibility. We will not deal with behaviour issues that arise between pupils on apps such as WhatsApp and Snapchat where parents have chosen to ignore the age ratings and allow their children to access them. Parents need to deal with these issues themselves.

Any issues between parents that are brought into school will be managed by The Parent Code of Conduct. Issues that begin on social media must not be allowed to spread into school and cause issues between children and/or parents/carers.

We will continue to support children who have been affected by something they have seen online. Your children's welfare and mental wellbeing will always be a priority to us and their individual needs will always be supported.

Smartphones

To safeguard our pupils BDMAT schools will be banning Smart phones in all our primary schools from September 2025. Children will still be able to bring in a dumb phone / non smart phone that allows texting and calls if parents are concerned about them travelling to

and from school unaccompanied. However, in line with moves nationally and internationally we want to help you as parents and carers to protect our children from some of the growing harm that the digital world is bringing to childhood.

Your sincerely

Mr T Boyes

CEO BDMAT

A Healthy Reminder: Water Only in Drinks Bottles



Dear Parents and Carers,

At school, we are committed to supporting every child's health, wellbeing, and ability to learn. To help us do this, we are kindly asking for your support in ensuring that **children bring only water in their drinks bottles**, rather than squash or other flavoured drinks.

Why Water? The Department for Education's expectations for nutrition in the Early Years Foundation Stage highlight the importance of promoting healthy hydration habits and reducing children's exposure to unnecessary sugars. Water is the healthiest choice for young children and helps them to stay alert, focused, and ready to learn throughout the school day.

Why Not Squash? Although squash can seem like a simple treat, even "no added sugar" varieties can contain sweeteners and acids that are not recommended for daily consumption in school.

Sugary drinks can:

Increase the risk of dental decay.

Cause energy spikes and dips.

Make it harder for children to concentrate.

Create inequalities between pupils when some have "treat drinks" and others do not.

By ensuring that all children bring water only, we create a fair, healthy, and consistent approach across the school.

The Benefits for All Children

When every child drinks water, we see:

Better hydration.

Improved concentration and learning.

Healthier teeth.

A calmer, more settled classroom environment.

This small, simple change makes a big difference to the school day.

Thank You for Your Support.

We truly appreciate your continued help in promoting healthy habits. If you have any questions or need support around this, please do not hesitate to speak to us. Together, we can ensure that every child has the best possible start to their learning.

Warm regards,

Mrs S Goode

[Early Adopter Free Breakfast Club](#)

We are continuing to offer our 'FREE' Breakfast Club this term. We hope the children will join us for fresh bagels, crumpets, toast, fresh fruit and fruit juice every morning. We also

hope to continue to enjoy spending time outside playing football, using the gym equipment and getting lots of fresh air!

The Early Adopter Free Breakfast Club -

What this means -

1. A free breakfast for all children if families want to access it.
2. 30 minutes of free childcare for all children if families want to access it.
3. Breakfast Club starts at 8.10am and runs until 8.40am Monday to Friday.
4. Booking sessions in advance so that we know how many children to expect. You can book for the whole half term or each week.

Our current Wraparound provision is still be available from 7.40am Monday to Friday, but families accessing this will only be charged for 30 minutes; the second 30 minutes will be free!

Please encourage your children to come along and join us for breakfast.

Booking is now open.

Class Updates - Carle and Donaldson



Carle

We have had a brilliant first week back in Carle class! The children have continued their focus on the book, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. They have been extremely busy and have really immersed themselves in the text! During the week, they have been on bear hunts, made their own binoculars, had a teddy bears picnic and have enjoyed the sensory experience of stepping in different textures linked to the book. The children have also enjoyed exploring the outdoor area and the resources available. They enjoyed observing the changes in the nursery garden.

Donaldson

It is hard to believe that we have just started the final half-term of the year! The children have loved their new book this week; 'The Train Ride'. They have made their own train in the classroom and have enjoyed using this as part of their role play. The children have also used the book to share their own experiences of travelling on a train. They have found out about how trains have changed over the years and have looked at a range of modern trains. They have also used images of transport to create their own drawings and paintings. In the outdoor area, the children have been excited to see how their plants have grown and to see some of the fruit and vegetables now growing.

What a great first week back nursery! Well done everyone!

Mrs Satchell and the Nursery Team











Class Updates - Anning

We have started a new topic this week in Reception called Blue Planet. The children have loved learning all about the different types of sea creatures that live in our seas and oceans. We have read the story 'Commotion in the Ocean' by Giles Anrae and have written some dictated sentences in our literacy session based on the animals in the story. The children have been busy creating their own 'Caribbean Oceans' and 'rock pools' using the small world figures and construction resources as well as making jellyfish in our creative area. In Mastering Number, the children have been revisiting number patterns within 10 such as identifying doubles and odd and even numbers. We have started our Phase 4 phonics this half term which revisits previously taught sounds but focuses on blending practice with longer words and applying phonics knowledge to read cvcc words.

Miss Millington





Class Updates - Bond

Bond class began the half term with Values Day, exploring our new value - Thankfulness. The children enjoyed reading *People Need People* by Benjamin Zephaniah and had thoughtful discussions about what they are grateful for. They then created beautiful portraits of people they are thankful for and explained their choices. In English, we introduced our new class text, *The Boy Who Sailed the World*. The children started by making predictions and shared some fantastic ideas. As we began reading, we explored how the main character might be

feeling at different points in the story. In Maths, we have been learning about length. The children have been using vocabulary such as longer and shorter to compare objects. They measured items around the classroom using non-standard units and are now beginning to use rulers to measure more accurately. In DT, we started an exciting new unit on mechanisms. This week, the children designed and created their own sliding mechanisms, which they thoroughly enjoyed. In Geography, we have been learning about the seven continents. The children have been practising locating them on a map and have enjoyed learning a song to help remember them. In Science, we are exploring what plants need to grow. The children have planted their own seeds and are looking forward to observing and recording how they develop over the coming weeks. Well done, Bond Class, on a fantastic start to the new half term!

Mrs Tweed and Mrs Wallace









Class Updates - Milne

It has been a very busy and exciting week in Milne Class!

We began the week by exploring our school value of thankfulness. The children listened to and discussed the story "People Need People" by Benjamin Zephaniah. This sparked lots of thoughtful conversations about how we support one another, and the children completed a range of activities to reflect on the importance of being thankful and appreciating others.

In Design and Technology, we have started our new topic on mechanisms. The children were introduced to sliders and had great fun designing and making their own. It was wonderful to see their creativity and problem-solving skills in action.

During PE, we have been focusing on athletics. The children have been practising different running activities and building their stamina and confidence. They have shown great enthusiasm and determination throughout the sessions.

In Maths, we have been learning about money. The children have begun counting the value of different sets of coins and are developing their understanding of how money works in real-life situations.

Well done to everyone for such a fantastic week of learning!

Miss Ennis





Bronze Class

This week in Bronze Class, we have been exploring the story *Jack and the Beanstalk*. The children have enjoyed writing about the story and developing their storytelling skills. We have also begun growing our own beans. In addition, we have had a strong focus on recognising and talking about our feelings.

In Maths, we have been learning about money, with a particular focus on recognising and understanding the value of 2p and 10p coins.

Well done Bronze Class!

Class Updates - Simmonds

Hi all, we hope you had a lovely break and enjoyed some good weather! This week back has gone very quickly in Simmonds! We spent Monday learning about our new value Thankfulness, we then spent the day working on different activities to learn more about it, the things we are thankful for and how we might show it. From Tuesday, we were back to our usual lessons. We are lucky enough to have Miss McManus with us during English, where we are learning our new book, *Charlotte's web*. The children are excited to read more and our writing will be focused on this! In maths, we have been working hard and the year 4's who work with Miss Sinclair have been doing so well in fractions! We have also started our new Geography, DT and Science topics, and we have lots of practical activities in store for the children. Aside from learning, it has been amazing to see how much the children have remembered over the time off, and oh my goodness the improvement in handwriting too is phenomenal! As we enter the last half term, I am looking forward to enjoying the last few weeks with our class and seeing what else we will learn! From Miss Sinclair 😊

Miss Sinclair

Class Updates - Attenborough

Attenborough class have been super busy this week!

We have celebrated our values day for our very last value of this half term focussing on Thankfulness. We spoke about what thankfulness means to us and reflected on all of the things we have to be thankful for!

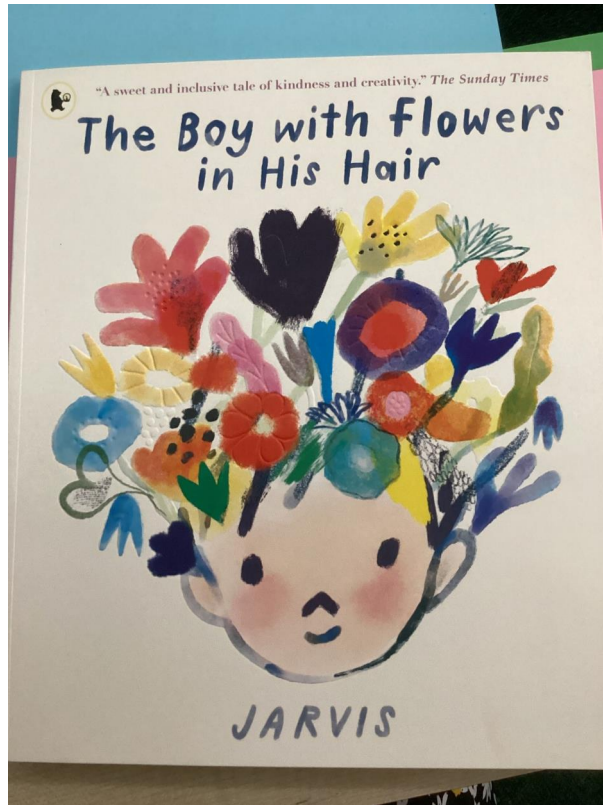
In English, we have started our new book called 'Charlotte's Web.' The children have shown a great interest in this book when making predictions, answering retrieval questions and using a dictionary to develop our vocabulary. We have started collecting adjectives and expanded noun phrases to support us when writing a character description.

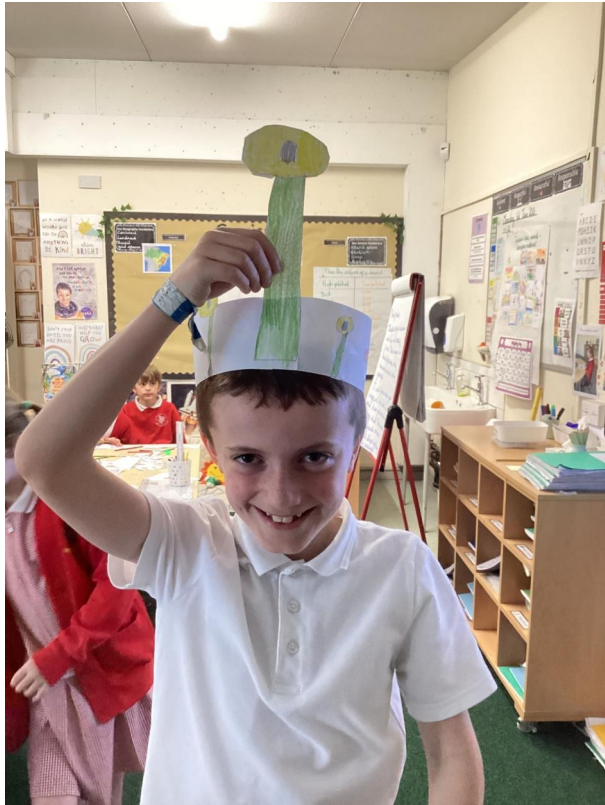
In maths, we have been continuing our work of fractions. We have been using numicon to convert mixed number fractions into improper fractions, the children have worked so hard and listened carefully to their jobs!

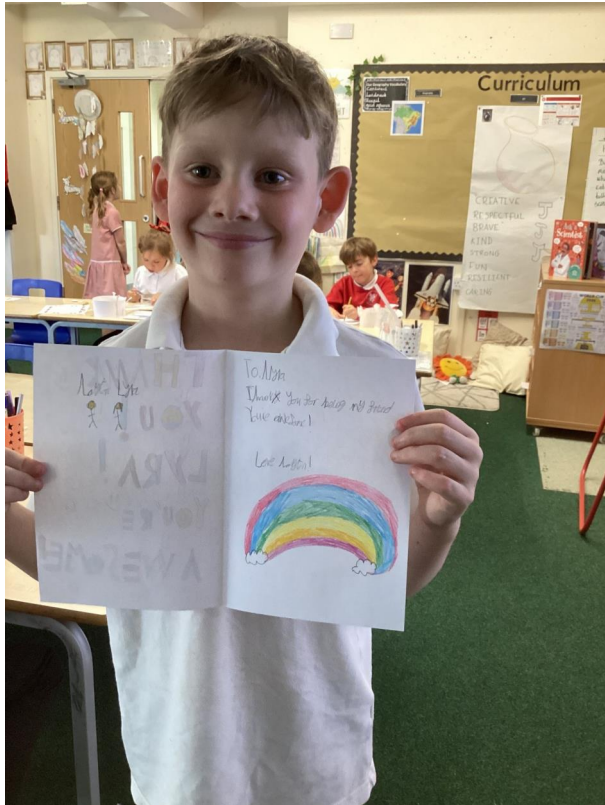
In Geography, we have began our work on Brazil by looking at grid reference points and identifying different landmarks on a map using a key. This was super tricky but the children really persevered. In RE, we have been discussing hard things and why people would choose to do hard things. The children had some lovely ideas about what the impact is when they do hard things.

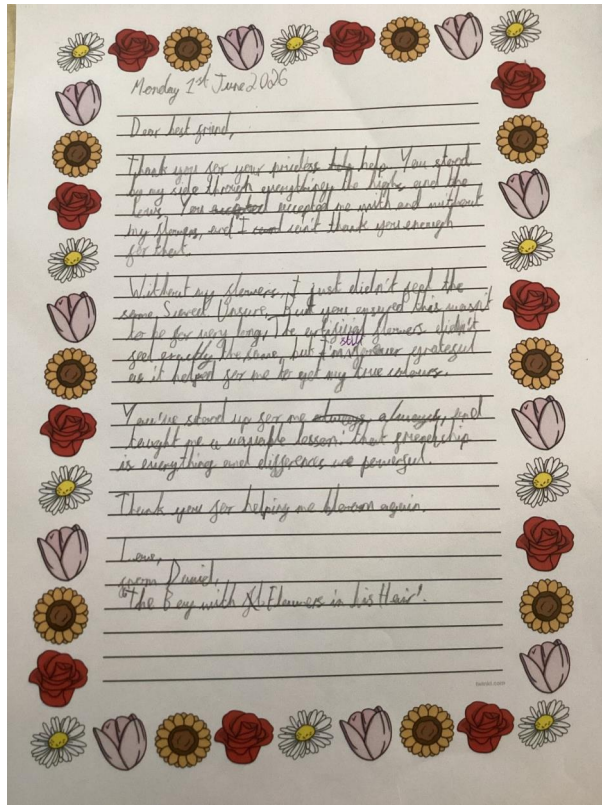
Well done Attenborough Class!

Miss Bennett





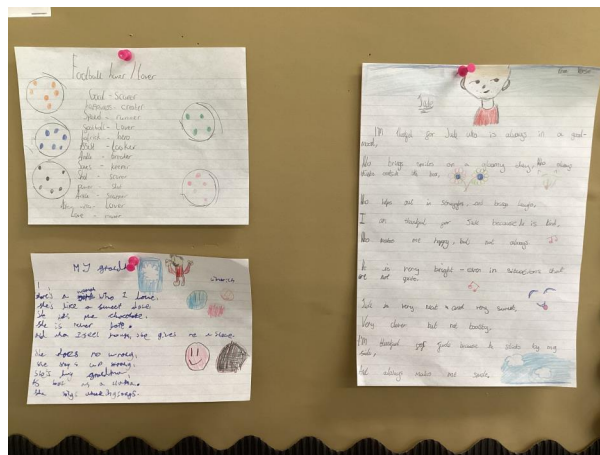




Zephaniah

We've had a lovely start to this half term in Zephaniah. We started back with our Values Day, focusing on the book 'Thanks a Million' to link to our value of 'thankfulness'. The book contains lots of poems about thankfulness, which inspired us to write our own thankfulness poems. We have carried on working hard as well! In Maths, we have continued looking at fractions. In English, we have been looking at a short film called 'The Present', which is about a boy who receives a three-legged puppy; we have been writing a retell of the story from the perspective of the boy. We have started a new topic in Geography looking at the similarities and differences between European countries - this week, we have been looking at the human and physical features of Polesworth. In RE, we have started our topic looking at the question 'What might it mean to live well?' and thought about what 'embodiment' means in different worldviews. In PSHE, we have started a topic called 'Changing Me' and began our lessons by looking at self-image and how to turn negative words about ourselves into positive ideas. In PE, Zephaniah have been doing athletics with Miss McManus and their first lesson focused on running and how to run effectively. In addition, we have had another visit to the school library. Year 6 have started practising for their leavers' production and also had a visit from the 'Healthy Futures' team, as well as Mr Rosten to talk about high school. It's been a busy start, but we are looking forward to lots of learning and activities for our final half term of 2025/26!

Miss Hale

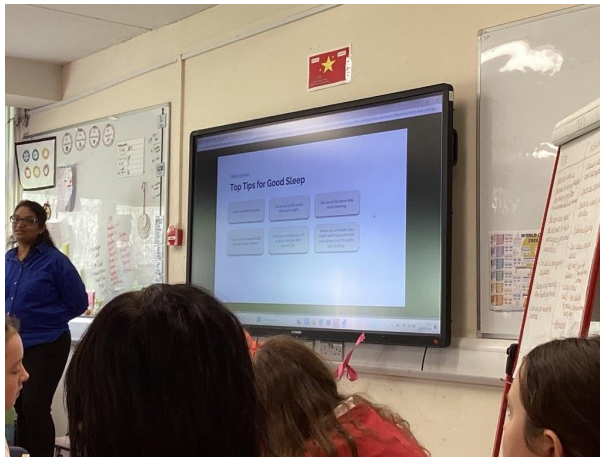




Rosen

We have had a great first week back in Rosen. We began the half term with Values Day on Monday. Our new value is Thankfulness so we completed some activities around this and read some poems from the book 'Thanks a Million'. We then used these as inspiration for our own poems about the things and people we are thankful for. We chose between kenning, acrostic, haiku, limerick and free verse poems. Later in the day, we completed some work on e-safety and wrote a balanced argument on the topic of bringing mobile phones into school. We also role-played some cyberbullying scenarios and spoke about how we can resolve these situations. In English, we have been watching the short clip 'The Present' and have begun to write a retell about it. In Maths, Year 6 have been working on their algebra skills in preparation for secondary school and Year 5 have continued their work on fractions. In RE we looked at the question 'what does 'embodied' mean in worldviews?' and we discussed how we may embody our own worldviews. In PE, we have enjoyed some athletics and dodgeball. We look forward to beginning lots of new and exciting topics in other areas of the curriculum! In addition to this, Year 6 enjoyed some sessions from the Healthy Futures team focused around sleep and social media, and have begun rehearsing their end of year production! Lots of exciting things going on! Well done Rosen 😊





School Uniform and PE Uniform

PE Reminder

Please make sure children come prepared with the correct PE kit:

T-shirts: Red or white with or without the school badge (**no logos**)

Bottoms: Black shorts, joggers, or leggings (**no logos**)

Jackets: Plain black (**no logos**)

Safety Reminder

Earrings and necklaces must be removed before PE.

Hair should be tied up securely.

As the winter months approach, we'll continue to get outside as much as possible. To keep warm and comfortable, children may also bring: rain coats / gloves.

Children may want to bring a change of shoes and socks too.

Thank you for your support with this.

Miss McManus.

School Council - Attendance, Punctuality and Absence

As we continue this half term, we would like to take a moment to emphasise the importance of regular and consistent school attendance. Research shows a clear link between good attendance and strong progress at school; children who attend every day are more able to keep up with their learning, build confidence, develop friendships, and make the most of the opportunities school offers.

To help encourage excellent attendance—and to celebrate the children for their efforts—we are excited to introduce **two weekly attendance rewards**:

The Nethersole Attendance Bear

Each week during our Shine Worship, the class with the highest attendance will be awarded **the Nethersole Attendance Bear**. The bear will spend the week in their classroom as a symbol of the children's commitment to being in school and ready to learn. We hope this friendly competition creates a sense of pride and teamwork across all classes.

Weekly 100% Attendance Raffle Tickets

We recognise that achieving 100% attendance across a whole half term can be challenging, especially when children may occasionally be unwell. To make our attendance rewards fair and achievable for everyone, **every child who attends school 100% in a given week will receive a raffle ticket**.

At the end of the half term, we will draw a selection of tickets from the jar and award prizes to the lucky winners.

This means **every week is a fresh opportunity**, and all children have the chance to succeed and be recognised.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. By working together to promote good attendance, we can ensure every child has the best possible start to their learning this year.