



A Message from Mrs Harvey, Head Teacher

What a busy half term! We really do work hard and play hard here at Netherton.

I regularly walk around school and visit lessons to see the learning taking place in the classrooms, and many pupils bring work to show me. Whenever I ask them about it, they are always able to talk about, not only their piece of work, but their learning that lesson, and as part of the topic. Our teachers work hard to plan lessons that are fun and engaging as you will see in the newsletter photos.

This half term we have had two reviews from our school improvement team so I will share with you their findings in the next newsletter. It is always good to welcome new professionals to walk round our wonderful school and give us feedback.

Thank you for your attendance at the first parents evening this year - it was great to see so many of you. We look forward to welcoming Reception parents to your first phonics workshop this term. Do keep an eye on Dojo for future dates of workshops coming up.

In addition to these things, we work hard to offer the pupils as many opportunities as we can, so yet again we have competed in various sporting competitions; the pupil leadership teams have greeted visitors, been to meetings, led collective worship, organised fundraising and theme days; and as always, there have been a number of free after school clubs on offer.

There are so many things that I am proud of as the Head teacher of Netherton C of E, and I thank you for your continued support.

Mrs K. Harvey

Reporting Absence

Please may we remind you that **all absence must be reported**. You can do this via the school's absence line or absence email. Failure to report an absence will result in school having to phone or email you and should there be no response to this, school will have to make a home visit. Unexplained absence will also be coded as unauthorised and this could contribute to a referral to ESS.

Autumn 2 Term

Mon 3rd Nov - Fri 19th Dec

Christmas Holidays

Mon 22nd Dec - Fri 2nd Jan

November 25 Dates

Weds 5th Nov – 2:30 – 3.15pm

Y6 Parents' SATs Workshop

Weds 5th Nov

EYFS Bedtime Stories

Y1-6 Festival of Lights Disco

Tues 11th Nov – Wear Red for Remembrance (whole school)

8:55—9:15am Y6 Assembly in school hall

Weds 12th Nov – 9 - 10 am

Reception Parents' Workshop

Friday 28th Nov – 9 -10am

Parents' Inspire Maths Event

Tuesday 2nd Dec– 9– 10.m

SEN Workshop

Friday 12th Dec – From 1.30pm

Christmas Fayre including Carols

Monday 15th Dec – Christmas

Lunch

Mon 29th & Tues 30th Dec –

School Open for HAF Programme

2025-26

Spring term 1

Tues 6th Jan - Fri 13th Feb 2026

INSET Days

Mon 5th January 2026

Mon 1st June 2026

Mon 20th July 2026

Parents & School working together

Home & school working together has a big impact on pupil success. With that in mind, we are always looking for ways to communicate with you, invite you into school, and work with you as much as possible.

Class Dojo

This half term, we are delighted that so many classes have at least one parent / guardian signed up to Class Dojo. This is really useful for the class teacher to be able to share reminders about things like PE kit, Forest School; but also share information and photos of the many brilliant and varied things their classes get up to each day.



If you haven't joined Class Dojo, please do so as this is our main way of communicating.

Parents Meetings/Evenings

Parents have had the opportunity to meet their child's class teacher twice this half term; firstly on the first day of term, when you were invited to meet the teacher; and during the last week of half term, when we invited you to the Autumn parents evening. It was wonderful to see so many of you.

Teachers are usually available to speak with you informally, at the end of the day, or will arrange a time should you need to meet.

Whole School Learning ...

... about other faiths

As well as learning about the Christian faith and values during assembly, our pupils sometimes learn about other faiths.

Recently, they have learnt that **Jews celebrate a festival called Sukkot** - a time when Jews remember the Israelites' 40 years in the desert after escaping slavery. They made Sukahs (a temporary hut or shelter) from lolly sticks.



They also learnt about **Diwali—the Hindu festival of lights, with variations celebrated in other Indian religions such as Sikhism and Jainism**. It symbolises the spiritual victory of Dharma over Adharma, light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance. The pupils made Diwa lamps (paper lanterns) the light of which symbolises purity, knowledge and the removal of negative energies, bringing a fresh start to the year ahead.



...about mental health and well-being

Thursday 10th October was **Hello Yellow Day**, the whole school was asked to wear yellow to raise money for the mental health charity, Young Minds.

The children also took part in a well-being workshop led by staff from Reflexions, where they explored the 5 ways to well-being and took part in a 5 minute workout.



...about keeping safe

Years 5 and 6 have taken part in a workshop led by West Midlands Police. The focus was all about 'Darker Nights', discussing how to stay safe on Halloween and Bonfire Night.



Lots of learning, every day

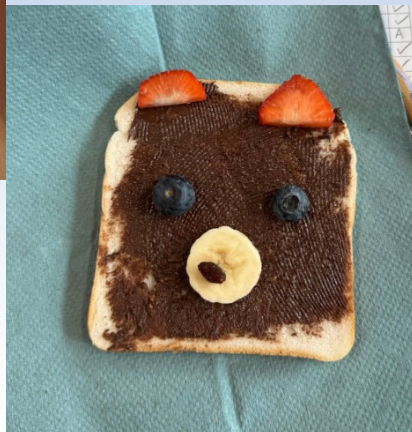
The children have been incredibly busy this half term. Here is a taste of what's been going on...



Reception

Our Reception children have settled into school very well. Each week they have focused on a different story and completed activities based on it.

They produced some fabulous paintings of the characters from 'Goldilocks & the 3 Bears' and made some delicious 'Bear Bread'.



Year 1 - History

Year 1 were very excited to go and watch the Punch and Judy puppet show in the hall. This links to the learning they have been focusing on in their History lessons.

It was a very interactive experience, the children were joining in, laughing and fully enjoying the opportunity!

We learnt that Victorian children, over 100 years ago (beyond living memory) would visit the seaside and watch a show similar to this whilst sitting on the beach.



Year 2 - Visit to The Black Country Museum

Our Y2 pupils visited the Black Country Museum (free of charge thanks to our school's involvement with a history project).

Our little historians explored every nook and cranny of the museum - their eyes lit up with wonder at every turn. They soaked up history like tiny sponges and brought positive energy to every exhibit.

Year 2 were absolutely outstanding, with their amazing behaviour and infectious enthusiasm! The tour guide was blown away (her exact words!) by our amazing bunch - apparently, we're setting new standards for awesome school visits!



Year 3 - Art

In Art, the children have been working hard to create their final art project - these cushions— using running stitch and back-stitch.

Year 4 - Music

In one of their music lessons, Year 4 built on what they had previously learnt about the waltz rhythm to compose an accompaniment using complementary notes.





Year 5 - Stone Age Day

On the 8th October, the Y5 pupils took part in a History and Art curriculum day.

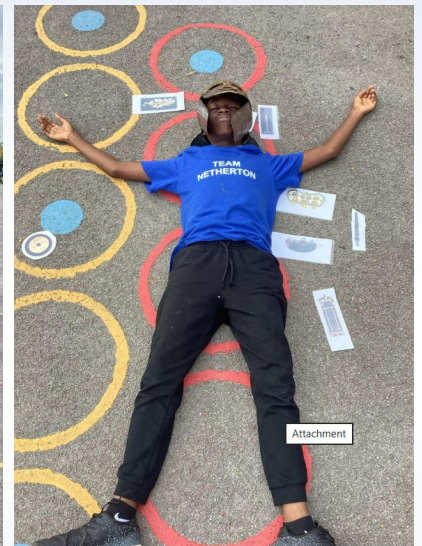
They took part in a Stone Age Forest School session with Mr Hamblett; a History activity based on cave paintings and primary sources; and an Art activity creating a Stone Age themed textile design.



Year 6 - History

Year 6 are learning about the Saxons. They measured the ship that was found at Sutton Hoo - 27m long! They then placed the artefacts around the person in the ship.

In a subsequent lesson, they found out who the mystery man was - King Redwald.



The Hive - Cookery

Look at the concentration!!

On 9th October, some of the children in The Hive made Banoffee Pie - doesn't it look delicious!



Safeguarding Spotlight

Ensuring the safety and well-being of our pupils is our first priority and naturally, this extends to their families. Part of this role is to share the latest information on issues that may affect our young people; share guidance; and signpost support. There is a wealth of information on our website under Key Information ~ Safeguarding.

<https://www.netherton.dudley.sch.uk/key-information/safeguarding>

Each month we focus on a different aspect of safeguarding in our Newsletter.

Partnership for Neurodiversity in Schools

We have been asked to bring to your attention a highly relevant, free resource for families and carers across the Black Country.

Autism Central is a peer education programme commissioned by NHS England that provides free, high-quality, and accessible support for families, carers, and personal assistants of autistic people of all ages.

This resource is particularly valuable to our collective goals within the Partnerships for Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) framework, as its main focus is on empowering families to advocate and secure necessary adjustments across services, including education, health, and social care.

Key Components of the Autism Central Programme:

- **Goals:** To build knowledge and understanding of autism, and to empower families and carers in their advocacy efforts.
- **Delivery Model:** Services are delivered via Regional Hubs (led by partners including the National Autistic Society and, from October 2025, Anna Freud).
- **Peer Support:** Peer Educators—who are parents or carers of autistic people—are trained to share lived experience and knowledge through group sessions (workshops, drop-ins, virtual meet-ups) and one-to-one chats.
- **Online Resources:** A dedicated website offers comprehensive, high-quality online learning materials on vital topics like diagnosis, employment, mental health, and navigating education and support. The website and its accompanying online resources launched on October 1st and appear to be an amazing, cohesive resource for parents and carers.

[Resources | Autism Central](#)

<https://www.autismcentral.org.uk/resources>

Online Safety

Keeping our children safe in a world of technology continues to be a priority.

Look out each Wednesday, on Dojo, as we will be sharing **#Wake Up Wednesday** from The National College.

This is a weekly guide which focuses on an aspect of technology; the risks and tips to keep your child safe. The guides are in an easy-to-follow format.

A new one will be published each Wednesday on Dojo.





Netherton C E Primary

Festival of Lights Disco

WEDNESDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

*£3.00 per ticket.
Money to be given to class
teacher*

*4.30-5.30pm - Years 1,2
and 3*

*5.45-6.45pm - Years 4,5
and 6*



EYFS

BEDTIME STORIES

Wednesday 5th November 2025

4.30pm-5.30pm

Come in your pyjamas

£3 per ticket.

Money to be given to class teacher

