

Northam St George's Weekly News

Friday 3rd November 2023

www.northamfederation.devon.sch.uk/st-georges-infants

admin@st-georges-infants.devon.sch.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term and what a wind swept start it has been. It has been lovely to see the children returning to school and it is always a privilege to walk around the school and listen to the children's excitement during learning times.

I would like to extend my thanks to all of the parents and children who attended my commissioning service on Monday. It was lovely to see so many members of the local community welcome both Mr Malyn and myself as Headteachers of Northam schools.

You will notice that I have left the advert for a meal time assistant at St George's on the newsletter this week. We have recruited to one of our positions but we still require an additional person to support the children at lunchtimes. If you want the opportunity to join our team, please speak to one of our admin team at St George's to get an application form.

Finally, I want to thank those of you who submitted feedback about our newsletter. It is important that we have effective communication. We have started to print copies of the newsletter, which are now displayed on the classroom doors each week.



Have a restful weekend,

Phil Lewis (Headteacher)

School Diary Dates

Friday 3rd November	St George's Disco
Tuesday 7th November	Nasal Flu Vaccination Letter sent by email.
Monday 13th November	Odd Sock Day for Anti-Bullying Week
Thursday 30th November & Friday 1st December	2.30-4.30pm Toy Sale at St George's
Friday 15th December	Christingle Service St Margaret's Church

Autumn Term	6th Sept —15th Dec 2023
Non Pupil Day	20th Oct 2023
October Half Term	23rd —27th Oct 2023
Spring Term	2nd Jan—28th Mar 2024
February Half Term	12th—16th Feb 2024
Non Pupil Day	19th Feb 2024
Summer Term	15th Apr—23rd Jul 2024
May Half Term	27th —31st May 2024

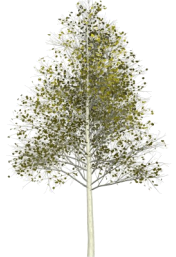
Around The Classes



The Woodlands (Aspen Class and Beech Class)



It has been lovely to welcome everyone back this week and hear about their half term adventures. The children have had a fun packed week. Our story this week was Pumpkin Soup and the children have enjoyed listening to the story and engaging in activities around the text. We have created some observational drawings of pumpkins and been learning how to mix red and yellow to make orange. Our maths has been based around number and we have been looking at 1-3 in more detail. Some of us have had a number hunt looking for 1-3 in the world around us, ie: 2 pencils, 3 leaves. Maybe you could try this at home. Our phonics graphemes this week are ff, ll, ss, j, It would be great if you could revise these with your child at home. Well done on a great week everyone!



Cherry Class

It has been lovely to welcome Cherry Class back this week. Everyone came back happy and smiling. In English we are learning about traditional tales - this week we have enjoyed reading and retelling 'The Three Little Pigs'. We will be sending some traditional tale books home for you to share with your child, please send them back to swap for another one once you have read it together. In Science this half term we will be looking at the weather and seasonal changes. We will begin to measure temperature and rainfall. Luckily, we didn't start measuring the rain until today otherwise our rain gauge may have already been full after Thursdays rain!



Sycamore Class

What a busy first week back it has been! We have started off with exploring the story of 'Augustus and his Smile' by Catherine Rayner. A story about a tiger who has lost something special to him. We began our English by writing our own stories about something we've lost. We had lots of creative ideas! In Maths, the children have been developing their understanding of how to use column addition. There has been lots of practical maths using different mathematical resources this week. Lastly, the children enjoyed a creative and busy DT session, where they designed and made their own moving picture strips with a sliding lever. Sycamore class were very excited to take their moving stories home!



Juniper Class

Well done everyone for a great week back! We kicked off the week by starting a new English text called 'Augustus and his Smile', where we have been memorising it and thinking about what makes a story. Moving on into Computing, we have begun to discuss how games are made using coding, as we got to look at some games made by the programme Scratch! Finally, in maths we have been adding two 2-digit numbers together, crossing tens. Can your child tell you what $17 + 26$ equals? Well done, Junipers, its been a great start to this half term!

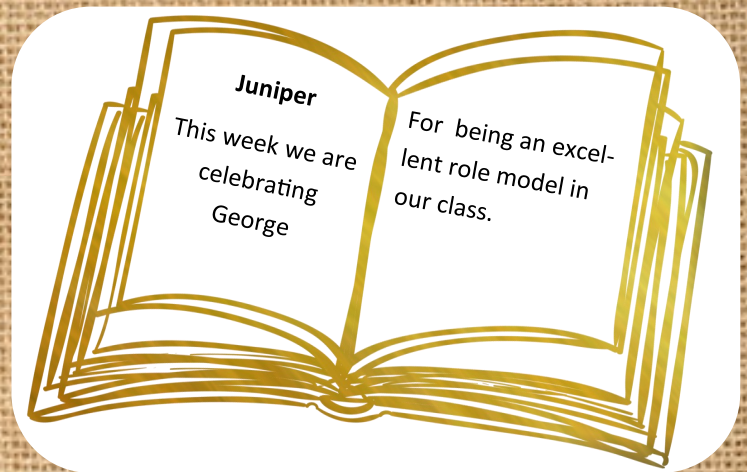
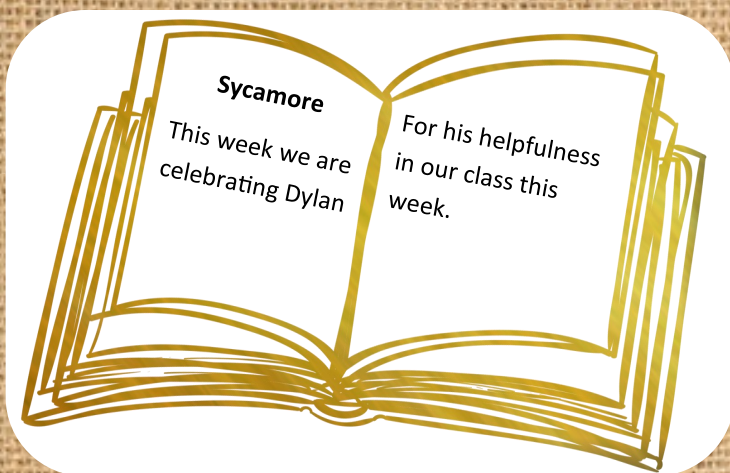
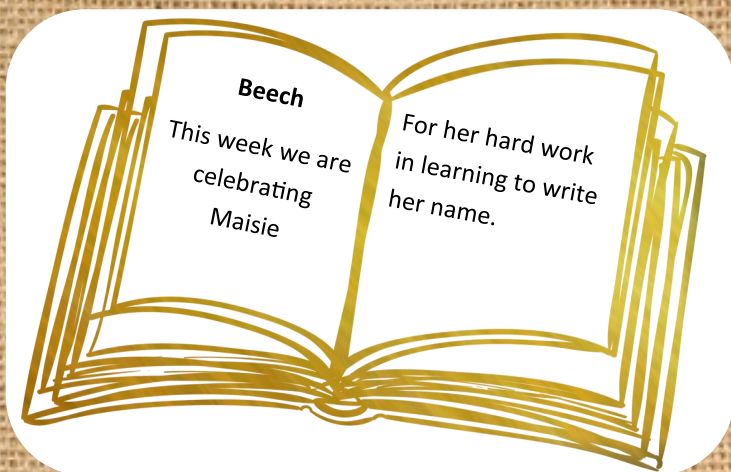


The Dunes Class

In the Dunes this week, we have done lots of investigating! We investigated whether different objects and materials change shape if we apply pressure. During our sensory time, we investigated with different colour mixing, working out what we need to make green, purple and orange. We have also been observing our worms in the wormery, looking at the tracks they make through the soil. We have tested our boats to see if they float and sink, and have thought about how to make them better next time.



Golden Book



Notice Board



Weekly Attendance

Being around teachers and friends in a school or college environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

That's why school attendance is so important and why the Government is committed to tackling the issues that might cause some children to miss school unnecessarily. *The Education Hub Blog 2023*

Our weekly class attendance below.

Aspen –95%

0 days of school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Beech - 93.6%

Cherry - 94.7%

Sycamore - 92.7%

Juniper - 95.8%

Commissioning Service



Side by Side Taw & Torridge is a parent led organisation that offers face to face support groups for parents and carers of children, young people and adults with additional needs.

If you are a parent or carer struggling to navigate the different services for health and education, then come and join one of our friendly support sessions and connect with other families living similar circumstances.

November Dates

Friday 10th – St John's Garden Centre Café, St John's Lane (Next to Tesco) from 11am. Any questions please contact Bonnie: **07377625276**

Tuesday 14th - Morrison's Supermarket Café, Bideford from 10:30am.

Any questions please contact Natalie: **07966910527**

Tuesday 21st – Lemon Tree Café, Holland Walk, Barnstaple from 10am

Any questions please contact Janice: **07869436621**

Thursday 30th – Online Specialist Education and EHCP support session from 7-9pm

Any questions and to book a place contact Tracey: **07921220840**

Email: sidebysidebarnstaple@outlook.com

Find us on [Facebook](#)

Meal Time Assistant Vacancy

We are seeking a caring and compassionate individual to join our team of dedicated meal time assistants. This vacancy is for 1 hour 30 minutes a day between 11.40 and 1.10.

If you enjoy playing with children, supporting their eating, helping children when they fall, we are looking for you!

This position is 38 weeks per year and the pay grade is A2 £10.60 per hour.

If you are interested in joining our team, please contact the school office to get an application form.