### Northam St George's Weekly News

#### Friday 8th September 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 start of the Autumn Term. I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer and made the most of the infrequent sunny days. Speaking of the sun, we have had an extremely warm week which looks set to continue into the weekend. A mindful reminder of the importance of having a water bottle and hat in school.

Some parents have made comments this week about the brambles growing along the Burrows Way path (The path between the school and neighbouring bungalows). Last term, I attempted to contact Devon Highways to see if they would trim these bushes. They were not able to do this. Whilst I investigate alternative options for making this pathway clearer, I am relaxing the one way dropping off system. Please feel free to walk around the outside of the school in either direction. Obviously you can continue to use the Burrows Way path but please be careful.

The children have only been back for three days but I have been really impressed with how well they settled back into the school routine. Remember that your child's class teacher is on hand to address any concerns you have at this early stage of the year.

Have a restful weekend,



Phil Lewis (Headteacher)

### **School Diary Dates**

Thursday 28th September	School Photos

1	
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

## Notice Board

Prizes to be won

BIDDYJNRFIXSEC@GMAIL.COM

CONTACT LUCY FLOOD











You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in education 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 DfE has been helping education settings and responsible bodies (such as local authorities and multi-academy trusts) to identify and manage the potential risks of RAAC since 2018. You can find more in the Education Hub article published by DfE.

We appreciate the concern this may raise, and we will always prioritise the safety of your children and our staff.

We do not have any confirmed RAAC in our buildings and have not been asked to close any areas. However, we want to take care and to be sure, and are currently working with the DfE to actively check whether RAAC has been used in the construction of any part of our buildings. If RAAC is identified, we will let you know straight away.

The change in guidance is precautionary in nature, and only affects education premises where the presence of RAAC has been confirmed. DfE is offering us access to surveyors who are helping us do these checks quickly.

If we need to put them in place, contingency plans will prioritise the continuation of education and ensure that, if RAAC is identified, any impact on students is kept to an absolute minimum. Rest assured that the safety of students and staff is of paramount importance to all concerned.

## Notice Board



**NORTHAM** LIBRARY

## Libraries Unlimited



## POETRY CHALLENGE

## AT NORTHAM LIBRARY



Entries welcome for ages 7 - 14

Write a poem for our challenge! Any theme!

### **PRIZES**

1st prize - £50 book token Runner-up prizes of £10 and £5 book tokens

Enter now! Closing date: Friday 29th September 2023





# Notice Board



Entry	form
Northam Library's	Poetry Challenge

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Library card no. \_\_\_\_\_

Age:\_\_\_\_\_



