Norman Gate School Newsletter

Spring Term Issue 2 — Friday 31st January 2026

Diary Dates 2026

Year 6 Swimming Starts

W/C 2nd February
Parent Engagement Week

W/C 9th February
Children's Mental Health Week

Thursday 26th February
M&M Productions in School– The Wizard of Oz

Monday 2nd March
World Book Week

Tuesday 17th March
Farm Visit

Friday 20th March
Red Nose Day

Thursday 26th March
RE Day

Wednesday 22nd April
Parents Evening

Parent Engagement Week

Butterfly - **3rd February**
Cub - **4th February**
Otter **4th February**
Otter **4th February**
Caterpillar - **5th February**
Hoglet - **5th February**
Kit - **10th February**
Badger **10th February**
Fox - **11th February**
(swimming at leisure centre)
Hedgehog - **11th February**
Nursery - **12th February**

Mental Health Support

We are pleased to share that we are working with the Mental Health Support Team (MHST), which is part of CAMHS, to further strengthen the support we offer around wellbeing for our school community. This is a support that has been available to mainstream schools, and they are extending into SEND schools.
As part of this work, you will soon receive a survey inviting you to share your views. Your voice is important to us. The feedback you provide will help us identify the most effective ways to support our pupils moving forward.

Wet Weather Clothing

With outdoor learning continuing in all weathers, we kindly ask that pupils bring a named waterproof coat, trousers and wellies to school, so they can stay comfortable and enjoy their time outside whatever the weather. Thank you to everyone who has already sent in additional waterproof clothing.

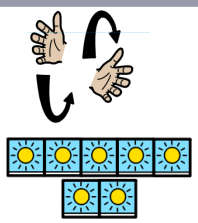
Financial Support

If you are experiencing financial pressures, support may be available. Please contact the school using family.support@normangate.hants.sch.uk in confidence, if you would like support or help accessing available services.
Hampshire County Council and local services can also offer advice at - Money and debt | Community and living | Hampshire County Council

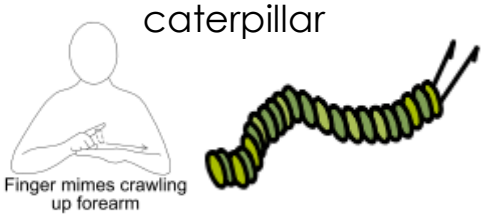
Parent Engagement

We very much look forward to seeing everyone at our Parent Engagement sessions over the next couple of weeks. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.

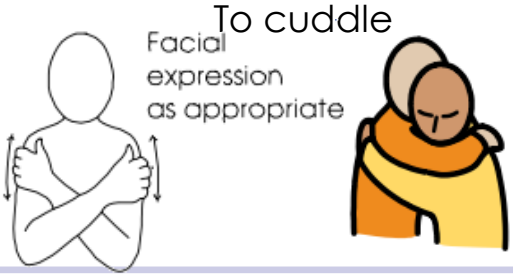
Signs of the Week



caterpillar



To cuddle



Cub Class

This term, Cub Class have been enjoying learning about lots of different stories. Our favourite so far has been "The Naughty Bus". The children have been enjoying using small world play to retell the story, made their own busses and got involved in lots of sensory play relating to the story.

In Maths we have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes, exploring the properties and using shapes to make pictures and models. We have been practicing our number skills, counting and exploring numbers to find different parts of a whole.

Cub class have also enjoyed exploring puppets and are looking forward to making their own puppets using their plans. They have been practicing their cutting, sewing and sticking skills to help them make their puppet. Well done Cub Class!

SEND Early Bird Access

Wed 18th Feb - Wed 18th Feb 2026

Enjoy early bird access to wander around our award-winning farm and adventure park at your own pace.
There's so much to see and do ... don't forget to pre-book to avoid disappointment!

- Learning through discovery, fun and adventure
- Enjoy early bird access from 9 am (an hour before opening time)
- Wander around the farm at your own pace
- Discover the Play Barn's array of soft-play areas
- Explore the acres of outside adventure
- Join everyone for a fun range of seasonal, hands-on animal activities

Finkley Down farm

Next SEND Days

- Wednesday 18th February
- Wednesday 8th April
- Wednesday 29th July
- Wednesday 19th August
- Wednesday 28th October

Fox Class

Fox Class have been going swimming!

Swimming lessons offer children vital water safety skills and a fun, full-body workout that builds strength, coordination, and endurance, while also boosting confidence, focus, and resilience that benefits them in school and life. Beyond physical fitness, learning to swim enhances emotional well-being, improves concentration, and teaches goal setting, creating a foundation for a healthy, active lifestyle. Children are developing their confidence and independence managing changing their clothes and getting themselves dry and dressed afterwards, with support where needed. In addition, the children are walking from school to the leisure centre, developing their road safety skills.

We have been really proud of how the children have behaved and responded to the challenge of swimming each week and look forward to seeing their progress over the coming weeks!

Norman Gate School

DSL Staff

(Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Lisa Collins
Headteacher

Sophie Durbajlo
Deputy Headteacher

Lindsay Symmonds
Teacher

Kay Barnikel
Home/School Co-Ordinator