Norman Gate School Newsletter

Spring Term Issue 5 — Friday 20th March 2026

Diary Dates 2026

Thursday 26th March
RE Day

13th & 14th April
Bikeability

Wednesday 22nd April
Parents Evening

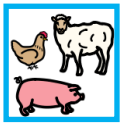
Friday 11th June
Messy Art Day

Friday 19th June
Activities Afternoon
NG Sports Day

Friday 26th June
Panto

Inset Days 2025-2026

27th March 2026
5th May 2026



Farm Fun!
The visit from Mill Farm was a fantastic experience for all involved. The children thoroughly enjoyed meeting the animals and learning more about life on a farm. It was a great opportunity to bring learning to life and spark curiosity across the school.

Residential trip
We are also looking ahead to the upcoming Year 5 and 6 residential trip to Runway's End next week. This is an exciting and enriching experience for the children. A big thank you to all the staff who have volunteered to go, it would not be possible without them.

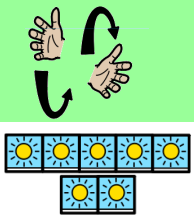
Toys in school
Please also remind children not to bring toys into school, as they can easily become lost or cause upset. We are unable to take responsibility for toys that children bring from home.
We have recently invested in a lot of new toys for classes to enhance opportunities for learning through play at school.

Term time holidays
Parents must inform the school in advance of any planned term time absence. Requests for leave must be submitted to the Headteacher. Absence request forms can be requested from the admin office. In line with national attendance guidance, term time holidays cannot be authorised except in exceptional circumstances.

Inset Day
School will be closed on Friday 27th March due to a staff training (INSET) day.
On the Inset day, staff will be receiving training from Dr Joanna Grace on understand sensory-driven behaviour and how to develop practical strategies and approaches to support pupils.

Parents' Evening
Please remember to book your appointment via the Arbor app if you have not already done so. This is an important opportunity to discuss your child's progress.
If you need any help booking this or using Arbor, please contact the admin office.

Signs of the Week



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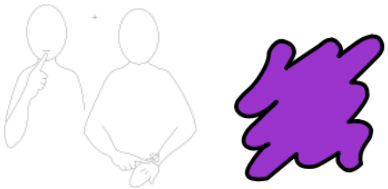

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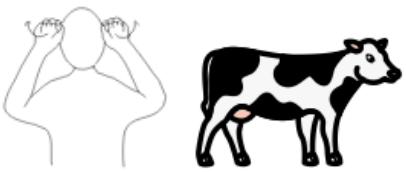

Butterfly Class

Butterfly Class have had another super term!

The year 6 children have been working hard developing their swimming during their weekly lessons. They have been working hard on their floating enjoying doing so on their front, back and on mats. They have also enjoyed going under the water, splashing adults and playing with the pool toys. They have also been learning how to swim and strengthening their kicking when doing so using pool noodles and floating boards. It has been lovely to take the children swimming and seeing them having fun and enjoying the experience!

The children have also enjoyed World Book Day this term and enjoyed sharing books and stories with their adults.

The children have also been enjoying singing and playing instruments both in their music lesson and during music club and music assembly. They have loved learning the words and signs to different pop songs and it has been lovely to see their confidence grow through doing so.

In Writing, the children have loved exploring our class story 'Ugly Five'. They enjoyed listening to and retelling the story and talking about the animals that were in it. They enjoyed making a handprint giraffe and paper plate lion when first exploring the book and singing the lovely five song.

In PSED the children have been exploring and identifying the concepts of trust. They have been exploring what trust is and which adults they can and can't trust. They have also been exploring the concept of personal and private, identifying which information should be shared and which information should be kept private.

Don't Forget

Friday 27th is an Inset Day

School **CLOSED** for children

Caterpillar Class

In Caterpillar class this term, we have been exploring wild animals, farm animals and pets through our topic 'Meet the Animals'. Stories we have explored include 'Walking through the Jungle' and 'Oh Dear'; the 'Animal Boogie song' was also a firm favourite!

Through our choosing time, the children have really enjoyed engaging with different animals through small world play and looking after them in our vet themed role play area. They also used their creative skills to help create our themed door for World Book Day, of course involving animals! We have been lucky this term to have a visit from the farm animals, which was a lovely treat. We also visited Pets at Home last week to visit more animals, where the children enjoyed looking at different pets, as well as exploring the shop. Many especially loved looking at the colourful fish in the fish tanks. An opportunity to go on the school minibus was also a highlight of the trip!

Nursery

The children are now over halfway through the academic year. The nursery children have come on so much and are continuing to grow in confidence and independence. They have loved exploring everything that is on offer both inside and out. They are becoming more resilient and friendships are starting to be formed.

This term has been packed with exploring animals of all kinds. Wild animals, farm animals and pets. Many of the children have enjoyed the small world animals, using construction to build the zoo, safari and farm. We have had plenty of opportunities for imaginative play and looking at animals patterns and sizes. The children helped us decorate our door for World book day linking creative techniques with our book, Noisy Farm. The weather has been changeable, the sunshine has been welcomed, and we have enjoyed spending more time playing outside. We are looking forward to seeing what the next few weeks bring.

Norman Gate School

DSL Staff

(Designated Safeguarding Lead)