

# ORTHUMBERLAND HEATH PRIM SCHOOL

"Minds are like parachules, they only function when they are open." - James Dewar

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a wonderful week so far.

It has been a very busy and exciting week here at NHP!

On Tuesday, we were delighted to share the fantastic news that we have been recognised as an Apple Distinguished School (ADS). This recognition is given to schools that are centres of innovation, leadership, and educational excellence, and it reflects the creative ways we use technology to enhance learning across the curriculum. Being named an Apple Distinguished School is a wonderful recognition of the hard work of our staff and pupils, and we are excited to continue using technology to inspire, engage, and empower our learners.

On Wednesday, our Ofsted report was released, and we are incredibly proud of the progress we have made over the past two years. The report highlights just how far the school has come, and it is a testament to the dedication of our staff, pupils, and wider community. While we are delighted with the recognition of our achievements, we remain focused on addressing the areas for improvement identified, ensuring that every child continues to receive the highest quality of education and the very best opportunities for their future.

This week also saw the excitement of Coding Week! Children across the school had the opportunity to explore coding through fun, hands-on activities, problem-solving challenges, and creative projects. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and curiosity as pupils discovered how coding is used in everyday life, and many showed real talent in logical thinking and digital creativity. Coding Week has certainly inspired a new generation of problem-solvers and innovators here at NHP!

On Thursday morning, we celebrated our weekly achievements with Star of the Week and Attendance awards. A big well done to all of the children recognised for their hard work, resilience, and positive attitude to learning, as well as to the classes with excellent attendance. We are so proud of our pupils and the example they set for others—keep up the brilliant effort!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend and we look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday morning.

Ms D Indresano and the NHP Team!



## We are an Apple Distinguished School

This is a really special achievement as it celebrates schools that use technology in innovative and creative ways to support children's learning. Being chosen means that our school is seen as a place of excellence, where technology is used not just for learning, but to inspire children, spark their imagination, and help

#### FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2025



Early Years



This week Reception have been continuing to settle into reception life well. We have been focusing on out topic all about me and encouraging the children to talk about what makes them super. They have enjoyed learning how to form there letters and number correctly. They have also been learning how to hold their pen correctly. We can't wait to see what the next week brings

This week in Science, Year 1 have been busy exploring and sorting real-life objects from nature. The children worked in groups using leaves, sticks, pine cones and acorns, then thought carefully about how to sort them. Some chose to group the objects by size, others by shape or texture, and some even sorted them by colour. To make their learning even more exciting, the children used their iPads to take photographs of their groupings. They then recorded a voice note to explain the reasons behind their sorting choices. This helped them to practise using scientific language while showing their understanding in a creative way.

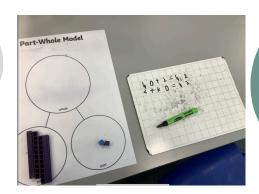
language while showing their understanding in a creative way.

The children really enjoyed working like scientists – observing, comparing and explaining. We are so proud of their curiosity and teamwork, and we can't wait to see where their scientific investigations take them next!



Year One

Year Two



In Year 2 this week, the children have been exploring numbers up to 100. They used dienes to represent tens and ones, carefully building numbers in a part-whole model. Once their models were complete, the children challenged themselves to write number sentences to represent their work. This hands-on approach really helped them to see how numbers are made and strengthened their understanding of place value.

This week is Coding Week, and to celebrate, Year 3 have been exploring Sphero robots—small, programmable devices that can be coded to move in different ways. The children learned how to program them to travel short distances and developed their problemsolving skills by debugging whenever something didn't go as planned.



Year Three

Year Four



In Year 4 Spruce Class, we have been exploring place value in maths through practical activities.

The children used place value counters to represent numbers, then captured their learning by taking photos and uploading them to Showbie.

This helps them really see how numbers work and makes their learning more memorable.







This week, Year 5 have been voting in their JLT (Junior Leadership Team) candidates. The children had to give a speech as to why they would be the best person, and then the class voted. It was close at times, but finally Scarlett was voted in as the Pine class representative.

Year 6 have worked really hard on their maths this week, with looking at numbers up to 10 million! They also were introduced to their new book, "The Highway Man" by discovering a murder scene in the school and solving the clues to find out who it was.





### ATTENDANCE

Take a look at this week's attendance. Please remember to inform us if your child is absent by calling 01322 334638 and speaking to the school office.
Alternatively you can nhpoffice@watschools.org.uk

Registration Form	Present R/C: Marks (%)
N Bluebells	97.8%
R Catkin	98.9%
R Saplings	95.3%
1 Aspen	97.5%
1 Hawthorn	97.5%
2 Elm	95.4%
2 Nettle	99.3%
3 Mountain Ash	97.2%
3 Silver Birch	91.4%
4 Maple	90.9%
4 Spruce	97.6%
4 Whitebeam	89.5%
5 Beech	94.5%
5 Linden	95.2%
5 Pine	94.8%
6 Cedar	96.2%
6 Elder	94.3%
6 Oak	93.5%

### STAR OF THE

### WEEK



Friday 19th Sept	Star of the Week
Bluebells AM	Borys
Bluebells PM	Ollie
Saplings	Aalayah
Catkin	Arlo
Aspen	Jacob
Hawthorn	Peace
Nettle	Ronnie B
Elm	Grace
Silver Birch	George
Mountain Ash	Harriet
Spruce	Cody
Maple	Semra
Whitebeam	Ava
Beech	Michael
Pine	Paul
Linden	Teddy
Oak	Leah
Cedar	Emily
Elder	Rodiyah



# HAPPY September<sub>B</sub>

George, Seren, Ryan, Yuvaan, Sukhmani, Ruby, Providence, Edona, Darcey-Mai.

> Feedback Friday SHARING THE FEEDBACK FROM OUR COMMUNITY

'The support staff here work really hard, they are a great reflection of the school" -Parent

Wow, Big Bang Day in reception was amazing! I really enjoyed that, and so did my son."

-Parent

#### **Gymnastics in School**

We are excited to let you know that gymnastics will be introduced into our PE curriculum this year!

Thanks to our qualified PE coach, we are now able to safely use the gymnastics bars and other specialist equipment in the school hall. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience a new and exciting area of physical education.

For health and safety reasons, all children will be required to take part barefoot during gymnastics sessions. This is standard practice in gymnastics for the following reasons:

- It provides better grip and reduces the risk of slipping
- It helps protect both the children and the equipment
- It aligns with how gymnastics is safely practised at all levels

We understand that some parents may have concerns about hygiene. Please be assured that the floors are cleaned regularly to maintain a safe and hygienic environment for all pupils.

We're thrilled to be offering this opportunity and look forward to seeing the children enjoy and grow in confidence with gymnastics.

If you have any concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

#### Please check back each week for updates. Also look on our social media pages & Arbor app.



