



Nerrols' Newsletter

6th September 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome to the 2024-25 academic year! I hope you all enjoyed a well-deserved break filled with rest, excitement and everything in between! It has been wonderful to welcome all of our children back to school this week and hear all about what they have been up to over the summer! It has also been great to meet our new children and families who are just starting their journey at Nerrols, and whether you are returning or just joining our community I wish you a long and successful association with us!

We aim to send out our Newsletter fortnightly on a Friday. Please make sure you take the time to read the Newsletter in order to celebrate our children's learning and achievements, as well as to stay up-to-date with what's happening. All of the Newsletters from the academic year are also available on our school website, which can be accessed here: [News - Nerrols Primary School](#).

Staff Update recap

We extend a warm welcome to the following staff who have joined our Nerrols Team this week!

Member of staff	Area of the School or Nursery
Joanne Taylor	Nursery Manager
Miss Hudson	Birch Class Teacher
Miss Wood	Rowan Class Teacher
Mr Templeton	PE and Sport Leader
Miss Chattell	Learning Support Assistant
Miss Miller	Learning Support Assistant

We wish all our new colleagues a long and successful association with us and I'm sure you are looking forward to getting to know them more over the coming weeks!

Quality Improvement Priorities 2024-2025

Every year, we identify two or three areas that we want to improve for our children and make sure as much time, energy and resource as possible is spent trying to make this happen. We are really proud of the progress we all made last year in developing our Arts Curriculum, which saw us implement new ways of teaching these subjects, lots of professional development for our staff and the introduction of opportunities such as termly music performances, an Art and Design Club, Choir and our first-ever Nerrols Arts Week! We are pleased to let you know the following three priorities for this year:

1. Improve the quality of children's play and outdoor learning (led by Mrs Marriott, Senior Teacher)
2. All children benefit from unwaveringly high-quality teaching that meets all their needs (led by Mrs Challis, SENDCo)
3. Improve every child's Writing skills in order that they achieve accelerated progress (led by Miss Rapsey, Writing Leader)

Start and end of the day

A reminder that all children must be on the school site and ready to enter their classroom **by 8:45am**. The morning register is taken at 8:50am and children who arrive after the register has closed at 9:00am will receive a mark of absence. You can view our new Attendance Policy, which outlines further expectations around attendance, here: [Nerrols-Primary-School-Attendance-Policy-2024.pdf \(nerrolsprimary.co.uk\)](https://nerrolsprimary.co.uk/2024.pdf)

Please make sure your child is ready to enter their class when the bell rings at 8:45am. Our school day ends at **3:15pm**

Curriculum Focus: What is my child learning about at school?

Following feedback from parents and carers through our Parents' Forum, you should have today received an 'Autumn Term 1 Overview' document that details what your child will be learning about across the curriculum, which we hope you find useful in supporting your child and talking to them about their education.



On the second page of the document, you should also find some ideas that you may wish to complete at home with your child to support them with their learning. We are aiming to develop a culture in which homework is viewed as an extension of our children's learning, which will also allow them opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge within different subjects and for parents and carers to be involved in promoting discussion around different topics.

To celebrate this extension of learning, we will hold a 'Fair' on the last Wednesday of each half-term. Parents will be invited to attend the Fair to celebrate and explore the range and depth of children's extended learning, which will encourage children's intrinsic motivation to extend their learning beyond the classroom. Homework will therefore not be rewarded in traditional methods (for example, by receiving house points) and it will not be 'marked' by class teachers. Our intention is to use this subject homework as discussion points, driven by the children's interests within a subject.

This half-term's Homework Fair will be held on **Wednesday 23rd October** at 15:00 with a focus on **Art**. Please can your child bring in their homework on the morning of **Wednesday 23rd October** to enable us to set up the fair during the day. We look forward to seeing you and your children there!

Class Expectations Meetings

We will once again be holding our 'Class Expectations Meetings' for parents and carers to find out more about our learning, attendance and communication expectations and even more ways in which you can support your child's learning journey with us. Please see our **Dates for the Diary** section at the bottom of this Newsletter for the date and time of your child's meeting, which we have tried to stagger as best as possible so that those of you with children in different year groups can hopefully attend all the meetings you need to! On the afternoon of your child's meeting, there will also be a creche facility available for Nerrols school-aged children only.

After School Clubs – from September 2024

We are delighted to be able to let you know about our plans to provide our children with opportunities to be physically active as part of our extra-curricular provision this year!

Day	After School Club (3:30pm-4:30pm)	Further Details
Mondays	Y1-Y4 Gymnastics (Premier Education)	Begins Monday 9 th September Booking: Nerrols Primary School – Premier Education (premier-education.com)
Tuesdays	Y2-Y6 Dodgeball (Premier Education)	Begins Tuesday 10 th September Booking: Nerrols Primary School – Premier Education (premier-education.com)
Wednesdays	Y1-2 Nerrols Multi-Sports (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Wednesday 25 th September Booking details coming soon!
Thursdays	Y3-4 Nerrols Multi-Sports (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Thursday 26 th September Booking details coming soon!
Fridays	Y5-6 Nerrols Multi-Sports (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Friday 27 th September Booking details coming soon!

Look out for information coming out next week about a new Science Club running after school on Mondays too!

Playtimes at Nerrols – remember your coat!

As part of our Quality Improvement Priority around improving children's playtimes, we aim to make sure our children experience the best playtimes possible! We have already begun speaking with the children about the benefits of play, as well as the risks, and have also explained that to enjoy their playtimes they need to be able to take part in all weathers. With that in mind, we ask all parents and carers to ensure their children always bring a coat with them if there is a chance of rain because we will be going outside – as these pictures from playtime this week show!

We are also asking for the support of our community in beginning to collect 'Loose Parts' for our children to be able to use, explore and play with this year. Loose parts are any materials that can be easily moved, combined, and incorporated into children's free play, and we are now looking for:

- **Pots, pans and wooden spoons**
- **Pallets (in good condition)**
- **Cable drums**
- **Ropes**

If you have any items to donate, please would you bring them to the Main Office. We politely ask that any donations are carefully checked for no sharp edges and that they are able to be safely used by our children before they are donated.



Health and Safety Update

For the past 18 months or so, we have been able to provide two parking spaces for drivers with disabilities within our premises to make the dropping off and collection of their children easier. However, after advice from our health and safety partners and careful consideration, we are unfortunately no longer going to be able to offer this facility. This is because there should not be any children in our car park at any point to help ensure their safety, and I am sure you will also have noticed the new fencing that had been installed nearby to help provide further safety. Furthermore, our school is growing, and we are therefore recruiting more and more staff and welcoming more and more visitors who we need to provide parking spaces for so that they can support our children. We know that the parents and carers who have made use of this facility have found it helpful, and we hope that they, along with our whole school community, are able to understand that the reasons we are needing to make these changes are to continue to best keep our children safe.

A further reminder that parents and carers are responsible for the safety and supervision of their children in all situations before 8:45am and after 3:15pm (the times of our school day), including if they allow their children to play. The School takes no responsibility for any injuries, accidents or incidents with other children that happen before or after such times when the children are in the care of their parents and carers. This applies to all children, including those who arrive at, or leave, school unsupervised, since such arrangements are decisions made by parents and carers and their permission has been granted. All children must be ready to enter the School when the bell rings at 8:45am.

Office Update

Thank you for your patience and understanding with the ordering of school lunches this week. We are aware that a few parents and carers felt as though they had ordered a school lunch for their child, and it is possible that there was a problem with our new system. This has now hopefully been resolved and things should be back to normal for next week. A reminder to please make sure you do book your child's meal before **our deadline**, and that the system may still allow you to order and pay for a school lunch, but this will not be included in our order if it is passed the deadline.

Dates for the diary

Monday 9 th September	Phonics Information Session (6:30pm-7:00pm) – Blossom Class only
Tuesday 10 th September	Phonics Information Session (3:30pm-4:00pm) – Blossom Class only
Thursday 12 th September	All children in Blossom Class attending school full-time
Tuesday 24 th September	Willow and Birch Class Expectations Meetings (Classrooms, 3:15pm-3:45pm)
Wednesday 25 th September	Maple and Rowan Class Expectations Meetings (Classrooms, 3:15pm-3:45pm)
Thursday 26 th September	Hazel and Oak Class Expectations Meetings (Classrooms, 3:15pm-3:45pm)
Wednesday 16 th October	Tempest Individual Photographs
Wednesday 23 rd October	Art Fair (School Hall, 3:00pm) – see above

Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing you next week!



Matt Kerton
Headteacher