



# Nerrols' Newsletter

18<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It was lovely to see so many of you in attendance at Parents' Evening this week to hear all about how the children have settled into their new class and to share their achievements so far! We are extremely proud of how hard the children have worked during the first half of the autumn term, and it is very encouraging to see so many of you taking great interest in the children's learning and working so closely with us! As the nights draw in, and as we move into the time of year with events such as Halloween and Bonfire Night, please do make sure you take the time to talk to your children about keeping themselves safe.

There is still one week of school left to go – and it is another busy one with our Curriculum Fair on Wednesday and the FON Halloween Discos on Thursday – but since this will be the last Newsletter of the half-term I would like to take the opportunity to wish you and your family a wonderful break. I hope it is a chance for you to rest, relax and enjoy some time together! A reminder that the School will be closed to the children on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November for an INSET Day, with the first day back being Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November. I look forward to seeing you then!

## Starting School

If you have a child due to start primary school in September 2025, we would love to welcome you for a tour of our school and to discuss admission arrangements at one of our Open Mornings being held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> or Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November (both beginning at 9:30am). To book a place please email [office@nr.huish.education](mailto:office@nr.huish.education) or call 01823 792655.



## Parent and Carer Survey

At Nerrols, we are always looking for ways to celebrate our successes and in which we can improve. Recently, we've asked for your views on the last school year and communication as part of our Parents' Forum and have already started to put things in place based on your feedback. An example of this is the new Curriculum Overviews that we now produce each half-term in order to keep parents and carers updated about what their children are learning.

We're now asking for just a few minutes of your time to complete a survey by clicking the link below, which covers a range of topics on school life. We really value and appreciate the views of our parents and carers and will always act upon them to provide the best possible experiences for our children. The survey will close on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

To complete the survey, please click here:

<https://www.qdpsurvey.co.uk/OnlineQuestionnaire?code=11273-64679-33091494>

Many thanks for your continued support.

## Quality Improvement Priority: Improving our children's writing

This week, the children have embraced our recent focus on handwriting! Energy levels and enthusiasm were in abundance in our Whole School Assembly on Monday, which concentrated on raising expectations around neat presentation and handwriting. We held our first House Handwriting Competition which saw volunteers for every class demonstrate their brilliant joins and letter formation. The House Captains were fantastic in supporting the younger members of the School and Mrs Gavins was responsible for judging the efforts! It was a very close competition, but Montacute House were overall deemed the Handwriting Champions! To support the children even further, every class has been having a daily session to improve their handwriting. Willow and Birch are focusing on forming their letters correctly and finger spaces, whilst Maple, Rowan, Hazel and Oak classes are focusing on accurate letter formation, consistent sizing and correct joins!

## Bursts

We are excited to announce the re-introduction of BURSTS for our children in Key Stage One! BURSTS is a fun and simple to use Physical Education app that offers exciting, meaningful, personalised physical activities for your child to improve their physical literacy through play.



Mr Templeton will be overseeing the BURSTS programme and will be promoting it in his physical education lessons in order to get as many children as possible using the app to enjoy BURSTS of physical activity. How many minutes can you achieve?

Please take a look at the attached letter and then an invitation via email to download and begin using the BURSTS app.

## Remembrance

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November, our Key Stage 2 children (Maple, Rowan, Hazel and Oak Classes) have been invited to attend a Remembrance Service at Somerset Wood (within Maidenbrook Country Park) at 2:00pm.



You may have noticed that we also have poppies and a number of other Remembrance resources for sale in the foyer of our Main Entrance. If you would like to help us raise money for the Royal British Legion, please do pop in before or after school with your child and take a look.

## Children in Need 2024

We are excited to once again be taking part in Children in Need, which this year will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Children across the UK are facing greater challenges than ever, with mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression rising, high levels of poverty leading to inequality and lack of opportunity. Many children are simply carrying a load that's too heavy to manage alone, so this year, we are asking you to help make life lighter for children. As a play on the word 'light', we are inviting the children to come to school and nursery wearing light colours instead of their normal school uniform in exchange for a suggested donation of £1. If your child would rather only wear an accessory that is light in colour, such as socks or a hairband, or not take part at all, that is absolutely fine and they should wear their school uniform as usual.



## Christmas Pantomime Visit

We have once again arranged for our whole school to visit The Tacchi Morris Arts Centre to watch a pantomime performance of Cinderella on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December during the school day. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of the ticket and transport in order for the children to attend, which we will send out more information soon.

## Harvest Assembly

Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend our Harvest Assembly on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 10:45am in the School Hall. Due to the availability of our Reverend, we have moved this assembly to later in the term and apologise for any inconvenience caused. We kindly ask that the children bring in any non-perishable food (or household) items on the morning of Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October, which will be donated to our local food bank. Such items may include cereal, tinned fruit or vegetables, squash, tea, sugar or pasta. Your support with this is, as ever, very much appreciated.

## Office Update

We are pleased to enclose some additional information regarding our Cool Milk scheme which offers daily milk to the children at Nerrols. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, you are still able to opt-in and pay for your child if you would like them to continue to receive milk at school. Children who are entitled to Free School Meals will be offered milk free of charge while in school, regardless of their age. Please see the attached leaflet for further information.

## Dates for the diary

Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	New Date: Harvest Festival Assembly (10:45am)
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Art Fair (School Hall, 3:00pm)
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Class Music Performances
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	FON Halloween Discos
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Last day of Autumn 1
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day – School closed to children
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	First day of Autumn 2
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Community Coffee Morning (8:45am, School Hall)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Service at Somerset Wood (2:00pm)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception Class 2025 Open Morning (9:30am)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need 2024!
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Reception Class 2025 Open Morning (9:30am)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	FON Christmas Fayre (3:15pm)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Blossom Class Nativity performances (10:00am and 5:30pm)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Willow & Birch Class Nativity performances (10:00am and 5:30pm)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Maple & Rowan Class Christmas Carol Concert (5:30pm)
Week Commencing	Nursery Christmas Craft Open Mornings (9:30am-11:00am)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Hazel & Oak Class Christmas Carol Concert (5:30pm)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Pantomime Trip (Tacchi Morris)

Have a great half-term and I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November!



Matt Kerton  
Headteacher