



# Nerrols' Newsletter

21<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It's seemed as though Spring has arrived over the last couple of weeks with the weather improving and our children having more opportunities to get outside, including continuing to enjoy playtimes and the introduction of our Intra School Sports Competition which you can read more about below! The lighter mornings and evenings, as well as the sunnier and warmer weather, can help us all to feel healthier, rejuvenated and refreshed as we welcome the pleasant changes this time of year brings and I do encourage you all to spend more time outside breathing in the fresh air whenever you can! We've also been busy celebrating Red Nose Day's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary today, and at the time of writing have raised £86. It's been great to see so many children wearing something **red** to get behind such a worthy cause and join in with games and challenges, and if you've not yet been able to make your £1 donation please do so as soon as possible via MCAS.



A reminder that the final day of the Spring Term for school-aged children is Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, and that the School will then be closed until the start of the Summer Term on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Our Nursery will be closed on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April for staff training, but reopens again on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

## Staff Update

Many of you will already know that Mrs Perry, who teaches in Willow Class, will soon be leaving us temporarily as she begins her maternity leave. We would like to wish Mrs Perry and her family the very best of luck in anticipation of the birth of their second child and look forward to sharing some more news soon! We are also able to let everybody know that we have appointed Mrs Atterton to replace Mrs Perry in Willow Class as she brings her knowledge and experience to us from Milverton Primary School. We are excited to begin working with Mrs Atterton when she joins us after the Easter break.

Sadly, Ms Granger has decided to leave her position as a Learning Support Assistant (LSA) here at Nerrols, and her last working day with us will be Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. We are also sad to say 'Goodbye' to Leigh, who has provided a fantastic level of care and education to our youngest children in Nerrols Nursery, and who will also be leaving us soon. We would like to thank both Ms Granger and Leigh for their huge contributions that they have made to the children, families and staff at Nerrols and wish them the very best of luck for the future!

We are delighted to be able to let you know that we have appointed Miss Abigail Pitts to our team of LSAs following a competitive recruitment process at the end of last week. Miss Pitts has been working as an LSA at another local primary school for a couple of years and is also studying to become a primary school teacher in the near future. We are looking forward to supporting Miss Pitts in her career development and seeing how she can enhance what we already do here at Nerrols even further when she join us after the Easter holidays!

## Staff Wellbeing Day

I wrote to you recently to explain that our School and Nursery would be closed on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March for our first-ever Nerrols Staff Wellbeing Day. We know that we can improve things like staff recruitment and retention, increased commitment and productivity and reduce absenteeism to create a more resilient workforce by adopting a proactive approach to wellbeing, which simultaneously will only benefit our children! During this day, Nerrols staff visited Stoke Wood to feed, walk and learn all about alpacas before sharing lunch back at school and taking part in a quiz! The feedback received so far by colleagues across all areas of our School and Nursery has been extremely positive, and we appreciate your support and understanding with such initiatives.



## Assessment Update

During the past few days at school and into next week, our children have been working hard and completing some assessments in order to provide their teachers with even more feedback on the effectiveness of our teaching and learning approaches and what areas of the curriculum we need to support our children with the most next term.

We will be sending the assessment papers that the children have completed home before the end of term so that parents and carers can see how their children have been getting on with their learning. If you see that your child has answered some of the questions in a different colour, this is because they ran out of the recommended time to complete the paper. We think it is important to see what our children can do with and without a time limit, so that we can identify more closely how best to support them. If you would like to discuss these assessments, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

## Curriculum Update: PE and Sport

We have had a busy last few weeks at Nerrols with the introduction of our Intra-School Sports Competition and leadership development opportunities for children in Oak Class.

Our oldest children led some activities for Birch Class recently, and the feedback was fantastic. Our children in Birch Class loved the games, and our Oak Class Leaders very much enjoyed developing their leadership and communication skills. Well done to both classes!

We held our first Intra-School Sports Competition, which was in archery and the winners of this first competition were **Dillington House** – a huge well done to them! Our next Intra-School Sports Competition will be with Maple Class!



Both Oak and Maple Classes have had the chance to use the Arrows Archery equipment over the last few weeks and the feedback has also been very positive. The children enjoyed it so much that we are going to introduce archery in our After-School Club offer for children in Years 3-6, which you can find out more about below!

Finally, BURSTS has also been going from strength to strength at Nerrols. The KS1 app now has 30 active children across Willow and Birch classes, which is fantastic! The number of minutes accumulated puts us top in both Somerset schools and schools across the whole south west, and in second place nationally! Let's see if we can hit top spot in the next month. We are planning to send invites out to children in Blossom class this week so please do keep an eye on your emails!

## After School Clubs – Summer Term 1

We are excited to be able to let you know about our After-School Clubs for when we come back after the Easter break!



Day	After School Club (3:30pm-4:30pm)	Further Details
Wednesdays	Y3-6 Nerrols Introduction to Quidditch (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April Book now on MCAS!
Thursdays	YR-2 Nerrols Multi-Sports (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April Book now on MCAS!
Fridays	Y3-6 Nerrols Archery (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> April Book now on MCAS!

## Nerrols Holiday Clubs are coming!

We are excited to be able to let you all know of an extra provision that we are planning to launch for the first time during the May half-term break, **Nerrols Holiday Clubs**! These will be led by our PE and Sport Leader Mr Templeton and will aim to provide a range of healthy activities and exercise for Nerrols-only children as well as supporting working parents during the time off from school. We will be letting our community know more details about this provision in the coming weeks, including how to book, prices and future dates throughout the summer holidays.

## The Pupil Premium Grant

You may be aware that the government currently allocates additional funding to schools in the form of 'The Pupil Premium Grant' in order to help children do their very best. The purpose of Pupil Premium Funding is to raise achievement and improve outcomes for eligible children (those children who are registered as eligible for free school meals and children of service personnel).

At Nerrols Primary School, the additional funding is used to provide children with a wide range of extra educational, social and emotional support. In common with most schools, it is likely that a number of parents and carers whose children attend Nerrols do not claim free school meals, even though they are entitled to them. If you think that you may be eligible to apply for free school meals for your child, you can do so using this link <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/school-life/free-school-meals/>, alternatively contact the school office for more information. The process for applying is confidential. Even if you are not sure it would still be worth asking.

**If your application to receive free school meals is approved, you could also take advantage of a £100 subsidy that we make available in order to further promote the best educational outcomes and experiences for your children. If you would like to discuss this confidential matter further, please do not hesitate to get in touch.**

## Office Update

I would like to kindly remind parents and carers about the importance of booking and paying for our WrapAround Club, both before and after school. Booking your child into WrapAround as soon as you know that you need it is essential, even if this means calling us on the day. This ensures that we can properly plan and allocate our staff to provide the best possible experiences for our children and allows us to adhere to relevant ratio and health and safety expectations. We politely ask that parents and carers do not send their children to WrapAround Club without booking them in via MCAS or a telephone call first, and that all bookings and payments are completed as soon as possible and by any specified deadlines in order to prevent us regrettably needing to remove this provision from any family.

Please would all parents and carers also ensure that their child's school uniform, coat, hat or any item that is needed in school is clearly labelled with their name so that it can be returned to them if it is misplaced. We seem to be experiencing an increase in our lost property collection, and some of our community are also losing items that are named. With this in mind, we ask parents and carers to routinely check that their children have not brought home any items that do not belong to them by mistake.

We thank you for your understanding and co-operation with both matters and in making things run as smoothly as possible for everyone.

## Dates for the diary

Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Deadline for ordering school meals
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Science Curriculum Fair (3:15pm)
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Last day of Spring 2
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	INSET Day – School and Nursery closed to children
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Good Friday Bank Holiday – Nursery closed
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Easter Monday Bank Holiday – Nursery closed
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	First day of Summer 1
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday – School and Nursery closed

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



Matt Kerton  
Headteacher