

Nerrols' Newsletter

5th September 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the 2025-2026 school year! I would like to start our first Newsletter by saying that I hope you and your family enjoyed a restful and relaxing summer break filled with lots of enjoyment in between.

It was great to be able to welcome so many families back to school earlier this week and find out more about what the children have been up to during their time away from school. It has also been great to meet our new children and families who are just starting their journey at Nerrols as we continue to grow by welcoming two Reception-aged Classes for the first time this year, and whether you are returning or just joining our community I wish you a long and successful association with us. During our whole school assembly on Wednesday, I spoke to the children about one of our key values here at Nerrols – kindness. I urged our children to make sure they are always kind to themselves, to others and to our school and how kindness has a ripple effect. A kind word, helping somebody out when they are having difficulties, or noticing when somebody else is struggling can all help make somebody else's day better. And when they have a better day, they are more likely themselves to offer a kind word to somebody else in turn. By this method, the wave of positivity ripples out across our school community – and beyond!

Be kind

We aim to send out our Nerrols Newsletter every fortnight on a Friday, and hope that you enjoy reading it in order to find out more about what is happening at our school and celebrating our children's learning and achievements! If you think you have missed a Newsletter, do not worry because they can also be accessed via our school website: [News - Nerrols Primary School](#).

Finally, to mark this week's childcare expansion milestone, we have been asked by the Department for Education to share a letter written to parents and carers by Prime Minister Keir Starmer reaffirming his promise to give children the best possible start. You can read the Prime Minister's letter here: [Prime Minister's letter to parents and carers on Best Start in Life – The Education Hub](#)

Staff Update

We extend a warm welcome to Mrs Mitton, who has joined us as our Year 3 teacher in Maple Class, and to Miss Baker, who has joined our Learning Support Assistant (LSA) team. Both of our new colleagues have settled into life well at Nerrols and we are excited to see how they can further enhance what we already do.

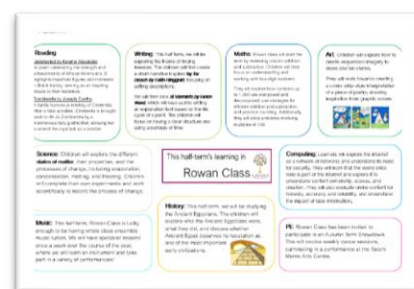
Celebrating Children's Birthdays!

From the start of this academic year, we're excited to introduce a new school tradition: we are inviting the children to come to school wearing non-school uniform on their birthday! We believe this small change will help make each child's special day feel even more memorable and joyful and is also a great opportunity for our staff to get to know our children even better as part of our relational approach. We also hope that this small gesture will help to foster a stronger sense of belonging and wellbeing as each child feels recognised and celebrated within our Nerrols community. If a child's birthday falls over a weekend, during a half-term or other break from school, we ask that they wear their non-school uniform on the closest day **before** their birthday so that we can wish them a happy birthday before their special day. Finally, this idea is invitational, and the children do not have to wear non-school uniform on, or near, their birthday if they do not want to.

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

To help parents and carers understand more about what their child will be learning about across the curriculum and to support conversations about the children's school day, we will once again be sending home Curriculum Overview documents.

On the second page of these half-termly documents, you should also find some ideas that you may wish to complete at home with your child to support them with their learning. We aim to foster 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 hold a 'Curriculum 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 Curriculum Fair will be held on **Wednesday 22nd October** at 3:15pm in our School Hall. Please can your child bring in their homework on the morning of **Wednesday 22nd 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! We have also taken the decision to combine these meetings this year, so the Willow and Birch Meeting will be held together (Tuesday 23rd September), as will the Maple and Rowan Meeting (Wednesday 24th September) and finally the Hazel and Oak Meeting (Thursday 25th September). On the afternoon of your child's meeting, there will also be a creche facility available for Nerrols school-aged children only.

Nerrols Holiday Club

Throughout the summer holiday, we were proud to be able to support our community by running our **Nerrols Holiday Club!** Across the four weeks that this provision was available, we were able to fill over 120 Holiday Club places for children from Nerrols, helping to keep them active, healthy and allowing parents and carers to also fulfil other commitments.



We are pleased to announce that our Nerrols Holiday Club will once again be running during the October half-term, and will release bookings via MCAS very soon!

After School Clubs

Don't forget to take advantage of our fantastic after school clubs being run this term by Mr Templeton by booking your child's place on MCAS:

Day	After School Club (3:30pm-4:30pm)	Further Details
Wednesdays	Y3-6 Nerrols Boys and Girls Football Club	Begins Wednesday 10 th September Book now on MCAS!
Thursdays	Y1-2 Nerrols Multi-Skills Club*	Begins Thursday 11 th September Book now on MCAS!
Fridays	Y3-6 Nerrols Boys and Girls T1 Rugby Club	Begins Friday 12 th September Book now on MCAS!

*Please note that this Club will not be running on Thursday 18th September due to a festival taking place at Nerrols. We will be including our new Reception-aged children in our After School Club offer after the autumn half-term.

Applying for Secondary School

Although the children have only just started in their new year group at school, we want to remind parents and carers of children in Oak Class (Year 6) that they need to apply for their child's secondary school place **by 31st October 2025**. You can find out more about applying for a place at a Somerset Secondary School by reading this guide: [Secondary admissions guide \(somerset.gov.uk\)](https://www.somerset.gov.uk/secondary-admissions-guide/). The online application form for secondary applications goes live on Monday 15th September 2025.

Please do be aware that places in Taunton are expected to be limited due to a high birth rate affecting this cohort of children. It is really important that you apply on time (by **31st October 2025**) and choose 3 preferences of school. It is also **strongly recommended** by the Local Authority that you include your catchment school as one of your preferences. If you do not include your catchment school among your preferences and are refused your preferred schools, the Local Authority cannot guarantee your child a place in the local area. Your child may then be offered a place at a school further away with no entitlement to travel assistance.

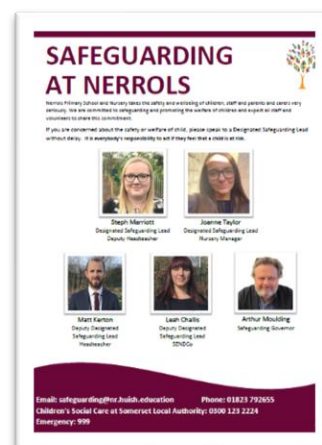
We encourage parents, carers and children in Year 6 to visit as many secondary schools as possible in order to make the most informed decision about the next stage of their learning. **Please do remember to let our Office Team know if you and your child do decide to visit a secondary school during the school day so we know where they are and do not need to worry or contact you.**

Staying Safe at Nerrols

A 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 on any of our playground equipment. 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.

For parents and carers in Apple Blossom and Cherry Blossom Classes, we kindly ask for your support in making sure that the children do not play with the resources or on the equipment in their outdoor area before or after school. This is because this outdoor area is an extension of the children's classroom, which has been purposefully set up for them to benefit from during the school day.

If any of our families need any safeguarding support please do not hesitate to talk to a member of our Safeguarding Team, to email safeguarding@nr.huish.education or to contact Children's Social Care through Somerset Direct by calling 0300 123 2224.



Office Update

As our school continues to grow, we are making some changes to how our office operates. In order to support the increasing demands of a larger school community, we will now have set times during the day when the office is closed. This will allow our Administration Team time to carry out essential behind-the-scenes work that keeps our school running smoothly. We are sure that parents and carers will be in agreement that allowing our Administration Team the time to undertake important tasks, such as making sure the children are safely registered each morning and afternoon, that their school meal is ordered with our kitchen and suppliers in time and that important resources are ordered to help them learn, are all imperative in giving the children the school experience we would all wish for. We do understand that many families are used to being able to drop in or call at any time, but with growing numbers this will not always be possible. We appreciate your understanding and support as we adapt to meet the needs of a larger school whilst also wanting to maintain the high standards we all value here at Nerrols.

From September, our new office opening hours will be:
8:15am-9:15am and 12:15pm-3:45pm (Monday-Friday)

Dates for the diary

Wednesday 10 th September	All children in Apple and Cherry Blossom Classes attending school full-time (8:45am-3:15pm)
Tuesday 23 rd September	Willow and Birch Class Expectations Meetings (Classroom, 3:15pm-3:45pm)
Wednesday 24 th September	Maple and Rowan Class Expectations Meetings (Classroom, 3:15pm-3:45pm)
Thursday 25 th September	Hazel and Oak Class Expectations Meetings (Classroom, 3:15pm-3:45pm)
Wednesday 15 th October	Tempest Individual and Sibling Photographs
Wednesday 22 nd October	Curriculum Fair (School Hall, 3:15pm)
Friday 24 th October	Last Day of Autumn 1
Wednesday 29 th October	Nerrols Holiday Club (9:00am-3:00pm)
Thursday 30 th October	Nerrols Holiday Club (9:00am-3:00pm)
Friday 31 st October	Nerrols Holiday Club (9:00am-3:00pm)
Tuesday 4 th November	INSET Day – School Closed to children
Wednesday 5 th November	First day of Autumn 2

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



Matt Kerton
Headteacher