

Term 1 Newsletter 2019 – 2020



Message from Michelle Reysenn – Headteacher

Firstly, welcome back to all our young people, and their families. Although we are at the end of the first term, it is the start of another exciting school year. We welcome new staff, Ron and Linda, and new pupils, Jack, Tyler, Denis, and Joshua, who joined Notton in September.

I really do love reading this newsletter and it shows how much we all care and respect each other, and our young people. The summer brought us some site updates with renovation work of windows and doors, new spray paintings, new carpets, freshly painted walls, some outdoor seating, and a new library. Developing our indoor and outdoor spaces is always a heart of what we do and the contributed to so many of will ever get the swimming pool

The school day and evenings activities, from theatre trips, rabbit, trips to Swindon Oasis, school. You will also notice in from the summer term, both camps. Both events were

Our new well-being addition to the school day, for day starts off with 40 minutes play a board game, some go the poly-tunnel or sensory choose to run a daily mile! music therapy sessions to feelings. We now have two day, as well as lunch time. our top priority!



continue to be full of engaging making a home for a class and home baking in lower this newsletter some photos sports' day and the residential fantastic for all involved.

curriculum has been a great both staff and pupils. Every of well-being: some choose to to the fitness suite, others to garden, and some even Primary are also having some help with their expression of breaks times during the school Staff and student well-being is

Finally, at the end of last year, the student council reviewed the academy core values, points and rewards system. They all agreed that staff and students should always try to;

Be SAFE, Be KIND, Be RESPECTFUL.

It is these values that are crucial in life. Our young people are rewarded for showing these throughout the day and evening. The feedback this term, is that this system is much fairer. Pupils still receive points, but these are totaled for end of term vouchers.

I hope you have a lovely (and spooky) half term break, and we look forward to seeing pupils return on Monday 4th November. Our end of term Asian celebration day will take place on Friday 20th December. We look forward to welcoming as many families as possible!

Kind regards, Michelle.



New staff



I am really excited to be joining the team at Notton, and the wider Learn@Mat team. It has been good to start meeting families and work with your amazing young people. I trained at UWE in Bristol and have been teaching for 25 years, with most of that time being in mainstream primary schools both in the UK, and New Zealand where I was the school SENDCo. Since returning to the UK in 2017 I have worked in a SEND school for pupils with a diagnosis on the Autistic Spectrum. As a mum to 2 teenagers myself, I am very aware of how important it is for young people to feel safe and build good relationships with adults that work with them. It is early days still but I am enjoying getting to know the young people here at Notton and hope I can continue to build strong relationships that help them to have the skills and strategies they need for their futures. I look forward to meeting more families at our school open days, pupil annual reviews and other school events.

Linda Hawkey
SENDCo



I am delighted to be given the opportunity to work at Notton House with the boys as their Creative Lead and hope to give the boys many experiences as I can enrich their appreciation of the Arts and Crafts. Out of school I enjoy doing lots of different things keeping animals, motor cycling, music and the odd festival. My family are very important to me, I have four children varying from 21 to 10 all of whom have a passion for the arts whether music, design or performance and my wife teaches Performing Arts.

I am really looking forward to developing a curriculum for the boys to give them the best I can and I'm already looking into how we can bring in more Artists to help us.

Ron
Creative Arts Teacher

WINNERS

Attendance 100%

Maty O	Dylan C
Rio E	Tyler N
Leo D	Haruun M
Thomas P	Connor W
Cayden M	Drew T-W
Kaydon M	JK H
Brandon L-E	Jack J
Ben H	Josh I-F

Attendance 95%

Ruben G	Reagen M
Caleb S	Junior M
Jack S	



The Top Point Scorers

Josh I-F – Primary 1
Rio E – Primary 2
Jack J – Primary 2
Harry W – 10N
Reagen M – 11N
Ben H – 11N
Haruun M – 11N
Ruben G – 10H

Green Token Winners

Connor W
JK H
Cayden M
Tyler N
Leo D



Primary - Maple Class

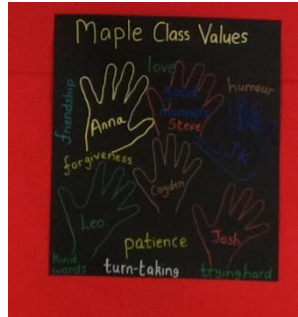
The students in **Maple Class** have had a positive start to the academic year. We have made a colourful *Class Values* hands poster, which displays all the values we would like to develop this year.

Forgiveness

Humour

Patience

Turn-taking



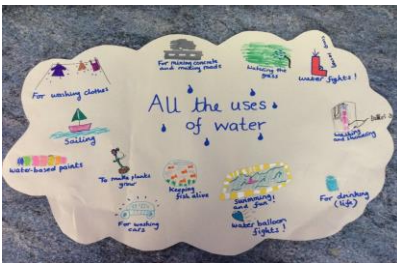
friendship

kind words

trying hard

good manners

In **Science**, we are learning about states of matter and the water cycle. The boys contributed good ideas to our *All the uses of water* poster, and they ALL enjoyed the melting chocolate experiment!



At home, you might like to help your son find examples of **solids**, **liquids** and **gases**, and talk about **melting**, **freezing**, **condensation** and **evaporation**.

This term, we have already had a lovely trip to the Bath Theatre Royal to see *Billionaire Boy* by David Walliams. The boys were very well-behaved in the theatre and really enjoyed the show. In **English**, they are now writing about how they would spend £1,000,000,000. Expensive Italian cars such as Lamborghinis and Ferraris seem to be a popular choice!



In **Maths**, we have been working on a range of topics and skills such as factors and multiples, place value, the four operations and sequencing. The students worked very well as a team to sequence a large range of numbers on the carpet.



Anna and **Steve** are very pleased with the boys' efforts so far and are certain the class will go from strength to strength. Well done!

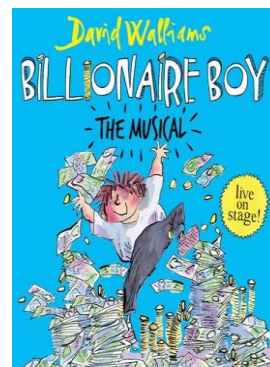
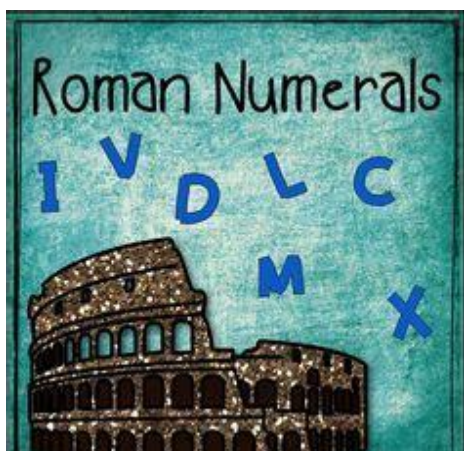
Oak Class Newsletter

This term in Oak Class we have welcomed two new boys and have spent time getting to know each other by playing games, sharing and enjoying outdoor learning opportunities.



Rio has spent time each week helping Caroline tend to her animals on the farm. He enjoys being outdoors and spending time with the animals.

In maths we have been learning about Numbers. We have worked with Roman Numerals and practised adding and taking away using the column method.



During our literacy lessons we have improved our skills by practising our spellings and handwriting every day.

We have also all enjoyed a trip to the Theatre in Bath to watch 'Billionaire Boy', which has inspired us to write our own funny stories.



We have been taking part in music therapy sessions. This has improved our emotional wellbeing and our communication skills. We have engaged with live music and have been brave enough to sing on a microphone and perform to our class

By Oak Class

Class 7/8N

This term our class have been settling into their new surroundings in middle school and the school as a whole for our new boys.

We have been focusing on phonics in Literacy to find the correct level of learning for each individual student.

The same can be said for Maths as we have been challenging our class with some tests to discover where we need to pitch the learning for the rest of the year, as well as a little bit of class bingo with some prizes for the winners.

In Outdoor Education we have ventured to Round way Hill to start on another round of the John Muir award, exploring, discovering and conserving a wild place to achieve a qualification that our class can take home.



Science

This week in science learners were working on the difference between physical changes and chemical reactions.

Additionally, class 7/8 have successfully completed their science lab induction and will be receiving their lab safety certificate.

Congratulations!



British Esports Season 3 is about to start

After a great introduction to Esports last year, we are back and enrolled into the season 3 Rocket League tournament. The fixture list will be generated on 14th October and our first match will be Wednesday 16th October. Fixtures will take place between 3pm and 4pm on Wednesdays unless previously re-arranged with the other school. We are in the mainstream tournament and will have fixtures against other schools and colleges. The start of the season will see the boys competing in a pool of 5-7 teams. Each fixture will consist of a best of 5 series of matches. Then there will then be a playoff single fixture best of 7. Finally, the last two weeks of season 3 will be a quarter final and semi-final, leading to the final taking place just before the Christmas break.



After having the loan of three PCs to taken the step of investing in our own PC a significant discount to provide 'build boys had to unpack and meticulously delays with RAM configuration and functioning systems. The boys have intensify as they approach the first fixtures.



compete last year for Fierce PC, we have setups this year. Scan UK have given us your own' setups. At the start of term the construct the four PCs. After some initial driver installations, we had a set of spent the last week training and this will

Once the season is underway, we want to run an Intra-school Rocket League tournament with the younger boys in school to develop their teamwork, experience of Esports and to spot and nurture future talent.

We have a new library

Our library is now complete at the heart of the school, with refitted windows, skimmed and painted walls, a polished stone floor, round window, and comfy furniture. All we need now is a couple of rugs, some wall features, and of course, for the books to arrive!



WE ARE IN THE PAPER!

School literacy levels at Notton House get a boost with new library

By [John Baker](#) Reporter



STUDENTS at Notton House Academy, Bristol's only residential school for boys with complex social, emotional and mental health needs have this week welcomed the opening of a new library.

Children and Families Minister Michelle Donelan, the MP for Chippenham, opened the new library in a Facetime call - a first for her - after she was recalled back to Parliament.

Funded by the Foyle Foundation, the £5,000 investment gives the school near Lacock its first dedicated space for books in the heart of the Grade 2-listed building.

Most boys joining Notton House Academy, part of the Learn@ Multi-Academy Trust, are behind their peers for reading and writing, which can be due to undiagnosed communication needs.

At Notton pupils make progress with a combination of one-to-one speech and language therapy; additional teaching support for literacy; personalised learning with a tailored curriculum; a weekly communication-focussed lesson 'Drop Everything and Read', and a selection of reading materials in residential areas.

The combined approach achieves a marked improvement in results for students who are able to leave school with improved literacy required for college or work. Over a 12-month period, the average increase in literacy for every student was two years.

Miss Donelan said: "I was very privileged to be asked to open the new library at Notton House Academy which has been facilitated by a generous donation from The Foyle Foundation.

"Due to being called back to Westminster, I was so disappointed that I couldn't do it in person but I am never deterred from being there for my constituents so I Face Timed in to address the boys and the staff and have a good look at the new library.

"The library is a wonderful space - reading is not just about learning but also escapism and feeding the imagination. I hope the boys enjoy many adventures via their new books and library."

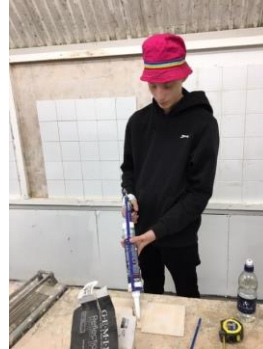
Notton House Academy is one of the few residential boys-only schools funded by local authorities and mostly takes students from Bristol. It has 52 boys aged between eight and 19, with 40 children able to stay overnight during the week in term time.



Rocksteady Superstars



Six boys in year 10 and 11 attend Rocksteady Construction in Bristol every Wednesday to learn new skills and gain a level 1 qualification. This week, they tried tiling!



Happy Birthday to YOU

We value our staff at Notton House, and Sarah on reception, is now 50! Many happy returns!



Roald Dahl Day

Staff are having great fun today dressing up for Roald Dahl day. We have Violet Beauregard, Mike Teavee, Mr Wonka, The Witches, Charlie Bucket, and Matilda!



Well-being on the farm

A number of pupils spend time with Caroline, one of our well-being curriculum mentors, at her very own farm, tending to animals, and maintaining the land.



Well-being Curriculum

Every morning we start the day with our well-being curriculum. Some pupils play cards, or a board game, others go in the fitness suite, some may choose to paint or read, whilst some even go running... in the rain!



Staff Well-Being



Staff at Notton House joined other schools within the Learn@ MAT group at Bath Racecourse, for a day of training focusing on staff mental health and well-being. We even took part in a human horse race and we won! Go Team Notton!



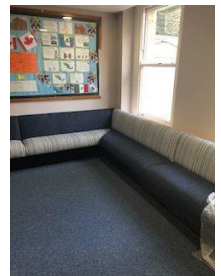
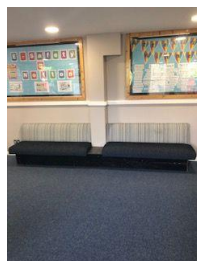
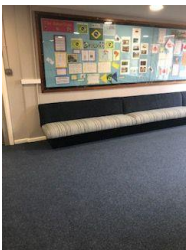
Amazing Spray Painting

Thanks to Ollie @Gage Graphics for his amazing work in the entrance to the dining room, and on the outside of the bike containers. Hope the staff and pupils love these works of art as much as I do!



New Carpet and Seating

The common room is almost unrecognisable with new carpet, new seating, a fresh coat of paint, and a new prize display. This is now a warm welcoming area for pupils to arrive and settle on a Monday, as well as, to celebrate our winners of the week during our weekly assembly.



Coffee Morning

Another great coffee morning took place at Notton House on Wednesday 2nd October. Lots of parents joined us this month for a chat and a catch up. One of our ex pupil's mum, Kelly, came along and gave a talk on the benefits of Notton House and the residential provision that it provides.

Informing parents that had it not been for Notton, her son would not have achieved the grades, which has gained him a placement at college. He is also working, has made new friends, and enjoys meeting up with them socially.

Our raffle and the sale of hand knitted poppies, made £30.00 and some of the money will be used for the boys' activities; the rest will go to the British Red Cross. Our next coffee morning is 27th Nov 11-1pm.



Sumdog Superstar

Well done to all pupils who took part in this national mathematics competition. But a HUGE congratulations to Rio who came 3rd out of 268 pupils! Amazing! Well done Rio!

Notton House came 6th overall. Take a look at the scores below.

83

Classes entered

12

Classes qualified

268

Students played

83,360

Questions answered

71,148

Correct answers



Superb Sports' Day

What a great day we all had today. Sports, celebrations, quizzes, and ICE CREAM! Well done to all pupils! And thank you to all staff and families!



Theatre Trip for Primary Pupils

Pupils in Maple and Oak Class enjoyed going to the Theatre Royal in Bath to watch David Walliams' Billionaire Boy.



Music Therapy at Notton



Pupils in lower school enjoyed their first session of music therapy this week along with their teachers and our therapist Matthew. Tyler was amazing on the harmonica!

Amazing Art Work

Pupils have been producing amazing art work in their lessons with Ron, our new Creative Arts Teacher. Leo has painted a wonderful piece inspired by the works of Sonia Delauney.



A lovely home for a Class Rabbit



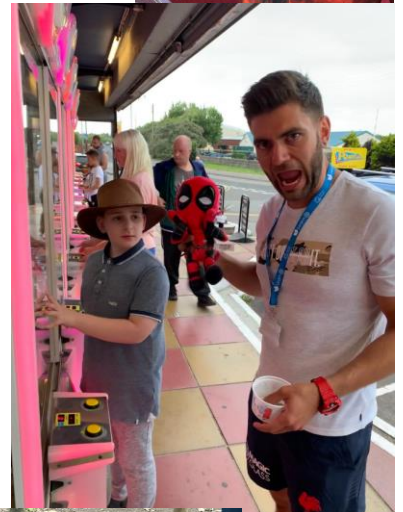
Tyler, in Oak Class, used resilience and determination, to create a lovely home for Thunder, who has been popping in to Notton, along with our farm mentor Caroline, to meet the boys and have some quiet, caring time.

Summer Camp

Summer camps 2019 went very well this year with boys participating in a variety of different activities many of which were outside of their comfort zones.



The camps ranged from mountain camping, adrenalin filled activity camps and seaside breaks all of which were enjoyed by all of the boys that attended.



Please can I remind all families of the uniform policy:-



Uniform:

School Uniform

A compulsory Notton House polo shirt (Royal Blue)

A compulsory Notton House sweatshirt (no hood) or grey fleece



Black or Grey Trousers (No tracksuit bottoms allowed except for P.E. lessons)

Black Shoes (no other colours permitted)

P.E. Kit

Students are permitted to wear their own PE kit but this must not include items with large logos.

Trainers (no black soles are permitted for indoor P.E. lessons)

Trousers can be purchased from supermarkets such as ASDA or Tesco.

School polo shirts, sweatshirts and fleeces are available for purchase directly from school. All the garments offer excellent value for money and are made from hard wearing, machine washable fabrics, embroidered with our logo.

Price List

Item	Size	Cost
Polo Shirt	9/10, 11/12	£6.50
Polo Shirt	S/M/L	£8.50
Sweatshirt	12/13	£7.00
Sweatshirt	S/M/L/XL	£8.50
Fleece	Youth L/XL	£11.00
Fleece	S/M/L/XL	£13.70

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2019-2020



School Holiday



Bank Holiday



Pupil Day



Inset Day



Pupil Inductions/Annual

September 2019						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thu		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

October 2019						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thu	3	10	17	24	31	
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

November 2019						
Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	19	26	
Wed		6	13	20	27	
Thu		7	14	21	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	
Sun	3	10	17	24		

December 2019						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thu		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

January 2020						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thu	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

February 2020						
Mon		3	10	17	24	
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23		

March 2020						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thu		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

April 2020						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thu	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24		
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

May 2020						
Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	19	26	
Wed		6	13	20	27	
Thu		7	14	21	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	

June 2020						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24		
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

July 2020						
Mon		6	13	20	27	
Tue		7	14	21	28	
Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thu	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	5	12	19	26		

August 2020						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	