

Term 1 Newsletter 2018 - 2019



Message from Darren Ewings – Executive Principal

I would like to introduce myself to the community of Notton House Academy.

My name is Darren Ewings and I am the Executive Principal of Notton House and Knowle DGE Academy.

I have had the privilege of meeting some of you over the past few weeks and I look forward to seeing you at the up and coming events taking place in term 2.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to all the staff, pupils, parents and carers in making me feel welcome. The conversations I have had with you all have helped me understand how fantastic Notton House is and how much potential this community has to offer.

I look forward to working with you all and would welcome any feedback.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Best wishes



Darren Ewings
Executive Principal

Our Ethos; Our Values

Vision Statement for Learn@

- All different; All equal; All achieving together

Pillars of Learning for Learn@

- Advocacy: A powerful voice to represent all LEARNers
- Achievement: Expertise across the spectrum of SEND
- Opportunity: Increased opportunities for personal development for LEARNers, staff and partners

Notton House Core Values

- We keep everyone safe
- We respect each other
- We respect our environment

Ethos and Values

Learn@ Guiding Principles

- We will offer you the support you need to develop your resilience and aspirations
- We will provide you with a safe and stimulating environment with high of all
- We will encourage you to identify and communicate your needs and help you meet them
- We will support you in understanding how to communicate your thoughts and feelings appropriately
- We will celebrate and praise your individuality and achievements



Keeping our Pupils Safe

Phil and Emma from our Safeguarding Team have put together some useful links around E-Safety. In particular for this month there is a focus on the game Fortnite which is extremely popular at present.

Here are some useful links to support parents/carers around safeguarding young people.

Net aware provides information around the latest apps from social media to the current games that young people are playing that may also have a social media element to them. Games such as Fortnite.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

This Fortnite link provides useful information about the game and anything that parents/carers need to be mindful of.

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/fortnite-all-you-need-know/#>

The last link provides useful tips on icebreakers on how to talk about certain topics such as; sexting, cyberbullying and avoiding inappropriate content. NSPCC and o2 are working together to offer support and guidance to help parents and carers have conversations with their children about their online lives.

Parents and carers can sign up for free and receive weekly emails with useful information, advice and activities.

<https://nspcc.o2.co.uk/>



Safeguarding at Notton House!

- **Our Designated Safeguarding Lead Staff are;**
 - Darren Ewings, Executive Headteacher
 - Louise Gardiner, Head of Care
 - Phil De Scossa, Learning Mentor
 - Emma Kelleher, Learning Mentor
- **Safeguarding Councillor**
 - Trystan Williams, Chair of Academy Council



For further information, please refer to the Safeguarding Leaflet, the Academy Flowchart or the Safeguarding policy available on the website. Thank you.

School Library



Notton is currently developing a new school library.

All pupils are able to borrow a book.

We have ordered many new books with a variety of interest themes . . . so watch this space.

Each group also read a class book during tutor time.

We call this D.E.A.R time – Drop Everything And Read.

DEAR develops reading and literacy skills, exposes a wide range of language features and builds vocabulary. Reading stimulates imagination and encourages discussion.

It helps develop language and listening skills.

Books being read this term are:

Primary: FACE by Benjamin Zephaniah

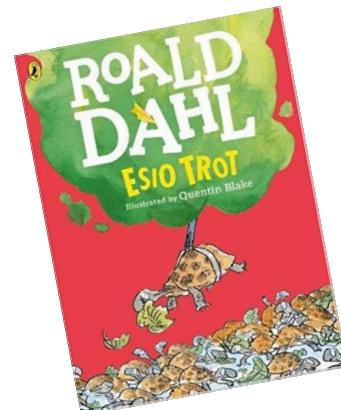
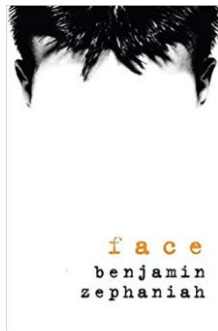
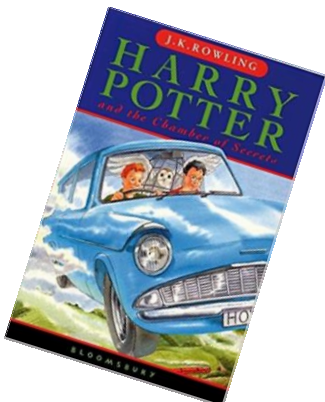
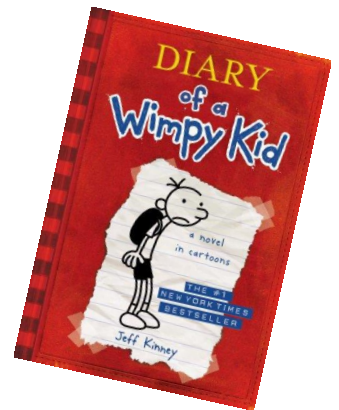
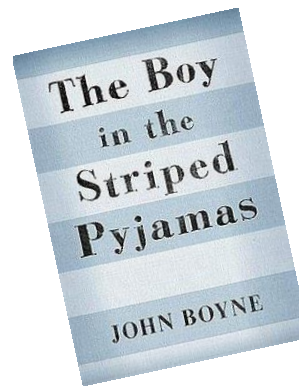
9N: Esio Trot by Roald Dahl

9H: Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

10/11N: Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets by JK Rowling

10/11H: The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas by John Boyne

10/11S: Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown



This Term's Winners

ENGLISH

- English – Lee S
- Maths – Kieran M
- Astronomy – Jack S
- Art – Harrison K
- Food – Kieran M

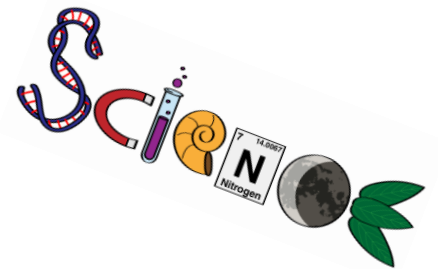
Maths

- GCSE PE – Kieran B

- Outdoor Education – Patrick A

- Primary 1 – Junior M
- Primary 2 – Reuben G

food tech



Results Time!

**EXAM
RESULTS**

**EXAM
RESULTS**

- A record breaking year for pupils at Notton House Academy! The largest number of qualifications was achieved this year compared to previous years.
- 7 pupils in year 11 sat exams which covered 9 subjects. 57% achieved a national qualification in English, maths and science, and one pupil achieved 7 qualifications, including 4 GCSEs.
- Well done to all pupils for their individual successes. We wish you the very best for your future!

Primary 1



Literacy this term:

All about Me

Fact Finding

Developing Sentences

Autobiography

Spelling, Handwriting, Class Story

Punctuation- capitals and full stops

NUMERACY this term:



Number

Place Value

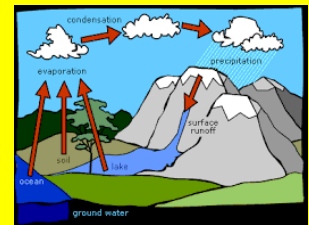
Rounding Numbers

Addition

Subtraction

Multiplication

Science this term - THE WATER CYCLE



Outdoor Learning



Getting to know each other - visits around the local area, parks, libraries, historic buildings

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Developing our techniques in the kitchen making a variety of sweet and savoury dishes



CPSHRE

CIRCLE TIME ACTIVITIES

Getting to know each other

BRAIN BREAKS - Fiddle Box - fine motor skills activities/ go noodle dance/yoga for kids/ Mindfulness/magic bubbles

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE – Face by Benjamin Zephaniah

SMSC this term

Where is Africa? Culture and Making Comparisons



Oak Class Newsletter

This term in Oak Class we have been having lots of fun learning new things.

In maths we have been learning about place value. We have worked with negative numbers and practiced adding and taking away using the column method.

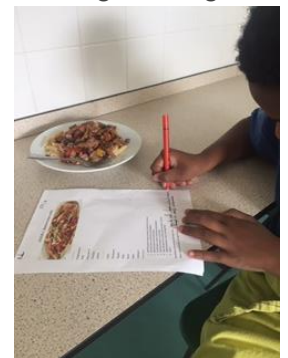


In literacy, we have been practicing our spellings and handwriting every day. We have improved our writing by remembering to use capital letters and full stops. We have made our sentences more exciting by thinking about how we can use verbs, nouns and adjectives.



On a Tuesday, we spend the afternoon learning outside of the classroom. This term one of the most exciting things we learnt was how to help a canal barge through a flight of locks, it was very hard work, but we all really enjoyed helping!

We also enjoy cooking every week. We have made jam tarts, flapjack, Mediterranean pasta and scones. We hope you have enjoyed eating them?



In science, we have been looking at gas, liquids and solids. We have had fun doing experiments. We have been learning about the water cycle too. We made models to help us remember each different part.



Written by Ruben, Harrison and Cameron.

Primary 2

We have had a great first term in lower school with lots of new starters. More pupils begin in term 2 so we have to move a few from Oak and Maple classes to be educated in the Middle school department. Each pupil will be told about these changes before the end of term and will start in their new classroom in term 2.

PCSO Visit

On Thursday 4th October, some of our year 10 and 11 students attended a talk by PCSO Alan Byrne. Alan explained about an exciting opportunity of a week's work experience with The Wiltshire Police Force at their Headquarters in Melksham to take place in July.



This was very well received with plenty of questions being asked and the students appreciating how beneficial this would be when thinking about future careers.

Well done to those of you who have begun the application process and recognise what a fantastic opportunity this is!



This term we are studying the continent of AFRICA for our **Social**, **Moral**, **Spiritual**, **Cultural**, lessons.

Each tutor group has chosen a country and are busy learning about the differences of each country and their people to ours - especially from a children's perspective.

The boys are as keen as ever to learn about the contrasts between British values and those of our neighbours from around the world.



Next term our continent will be THE MIDDLE EAST and we look forward to celebrating diversity and all we have learned with you at our Celebration Day at Christmas.



Hi, my name is Sharon and I am a teaching assistant here at Notton House Academy. This year I have done some specific additional training from Educational Psychologists, which has enabled me to become an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant). Examples of things covered in my training were social skills, emotions, bereavement, social and therapeutic stories, anger management and self-esteem.

Most ELSA programmes will last 6-12 weeks, and help the pupil to learn new skills or coping strategies and learn more about their emotions and how to understand them.

ELSA's cannot fix our boys needs and problems but I can help them understand what, why and how they are feeling. Our boys are helped by myself to find their own solutions and help them think about their behaviours, it is fun and that is what makes the difference.

Enterprise

During the last year an enterprise group has been created. It was set up to offer an alternative subject into which numeracy and literacy could be built in by collecting money and recording data on a spreadsheet.

The main focus has been attempting to keep the school vehicles a bit cleaner and tidier. Initially we were able to clean them on a fortnightly rotation and it seemed they were being treated a bit better because they were more up together and being looked after.

We also decided to offer staff the chance to have their car cleaned for £5. I would like to thank all the staff who contributed to this by allowing the students to wash their cars, and for the payment! I think a good job was done! In fact, several staff were happy to offer their car up on a regular basis to keep it looking in tiptop condition.

The monies we collect from this get put into an enterprise account. We take money out for car washing supplies, but we agreed that any profits left at the end of the year should be given to a charity, which is yet to be decided upon.

Lackham

Some of our students in Years 10 and 11 have chosen Land Based Studies as a course to study at Lackham College, which is just down the road from our school.



The focus of this course is agriculture, and the students get the chance to work with cows, pigs, sheep and chickens. This involves feeding and handling, weighing calves and learning how to check the animals are fit and healthy. They also learn how to put up fencing, how to clean out the animal houses, and are



allowed on occasions to get behind the wheel and drive some of the big tractors, under the supervision of the farmer of course!

There is also another course, which focuses on small animals such as rabbits, guinea pigs, chinchillas, rats, ferrets, meerkats and even reptiles. Here students learn how to care for these animals, how to handle them correctly and check their health. There are lots of other animals too, including a shelter for cats and dogs who cannot be cared for by their owners. There is also the opportunity to handle some pretty large snakes!

Coffee Morning

We have had two great coffee mornings this term, one at Notton and one at KnowleDGE with parents from both schools attending each coffee morning.

Our coffee morning raffles have raised another £80.00. This time we are spending the money on further education for parents who attend Rocksteady. There are a few more spaces available if you would like to join. Please call Suzie for further information.

We are pleased to announce that Vera and Kelly have been appointed parent Councilors at Notton House Academy.

Suzie spoke about recent staff training and cascaded this back to the parents. PREVENT and FGM - explaining the responsibilities that we all have to ensure our young people are safe and protected. Also covered and handouts given were **Learn@Mat 5 guiding principles** and the **Our Promise** We will statement.

Parents also spoke about techniques on how to manage our children's behaviours positively. One mum reported that she had implemented a suggestion of taking time off from consoles etc reporting that it was far less stressful and a more effective way of managing behaviours.

Feedback from parents is that they have really enjoyed getting to know parents from another school and that the coffee mornings have a real community feel where everyone is welcome.

Our next coffee Morning is at Knowle DGE 13th Nov 11-1pm everyone is welcome



Student Council

The Notton House Student Council consists of students and staff that meet every week to discuss a range of issues and ideas. We are very interested in listening to the boys' views on school life, education, likes and dislikes, fundraising and personal development. During our council meetings, we will also be developing an anti-bullying charter that will be implemented throughout the school.

Astronomy



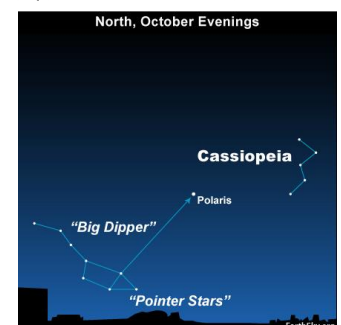
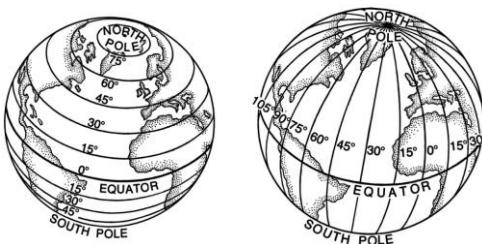
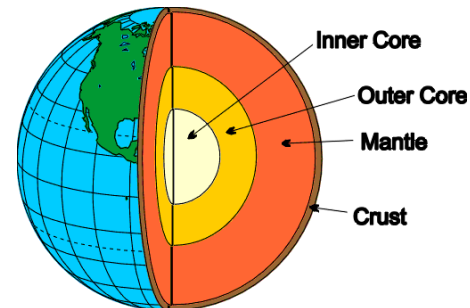
Constellation: a group of stars forming a recognizable pattern that is traditionally named after its apparent form or identified with a mythological figure.

An **oblate spheroid** is a famous shape. It is the shape of the Earth and some other planets. It is like a sphere squashed from the top so the diameter from pole to pole is less than the diameter from equator to equator.



What have we learnt this term

- The internal structure of the Earth
- The major divisions of the Earth's surface
- How lines of longitude can predict time differences
- The names and locations of some easy to recognise constellations
- The effects of the Earth's atmosphere on observation



GCSE PE

The boys have made an excellent start in term 1, with all boys showing an excellent attitude towards their learning. For Kevin and Ollie, it has been a genuine pleasure to teach them and we are delighted with the progress that they are already showing. The theory aspect of GCSE PE requires learning a great deal of new content and new learning for the boys and they have tackled it head on. Demonstrating leadership and resilience every lesson, it is brilliant to see them working hard and helping each other to learn. In a recent test, boys have scored between 60 and 80%, answering previous GCSE exam questions. Top work boys, we have set some high standards for you to work towards and you are proving to everyone just how you can reach them. 😊

We are currently studying the 'body systems' unit and the pictures below are good examples of some of the learning challenges we have created to help the boys remember the names and location of certain bones.



The practical side of GCSE PE has focused on badminton so far and the boys have taken to it really well. There have been a number of competitive matches played so far, with the pairing of Kieran and Reagen proving a tough opposition to overcome! Term 2 will see the boys continuing to develop their skills in badminton and we will begin to introduce indoor climbing. Both of these will eventually be activities in which they are assessed, so keep up the good work boys.

PIXL Term 1: 2018-19

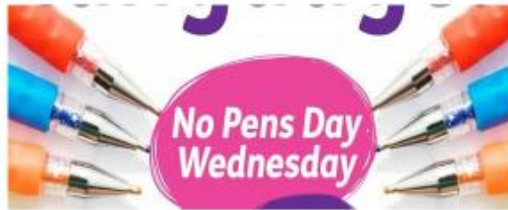


- PIXL stands for **Partners in Excellence**
- Our academy's values are centred around the 6 Pixl principles
 - Leadership
 - Organisation
 - Resilience
 - Initiative
 - Communication
- This academic year, all pupils in years 7-11 will achieve their **'Apprentice'** qualification



No PENS Day – Wednesday 3rd October 2018

- At Notton House, we are truly committed to developing our young people's vocabulary and communication skills.
- Therefore, we are saying **NO to PENS** on Wednesday 3rd October.
- Videos and images to follow!



The Communication Trust
Every child understood



No Pens Wednesday in Art!



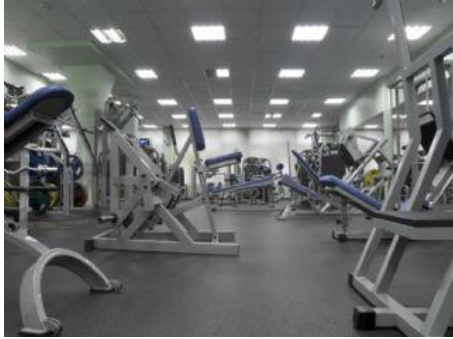
No Pens Wednesday in Science!



No Pens Wednesday in Food Technology!



Health & Care



COMING SOON!

State of the art Hydraulic Gym
Equipment and Fitness suite to be
installed very soon

Bedroom Refurbishments



Around 80% of bedrooms across
the Residential care area to be
revamped with Beds, Desks, new
Chairs, Pictures and bedside units
as well as fresh coats of Paint

Notton House Academy are aiming to help the boys feel more at home with other items such as choices of the pictures and bedding they would like and introduction of DVD TV's for bedrooms, making the environment a more relaxing and comforting place to stay.

Communication Friendly!

- **We are a communication friendly school!**
- Please turn your mobile phone off whilst on-site.

- Talk to our staff and pupils
- Listening to what we are saying
- Look at the great things happening



World Mental Health Day 2018



Wednesday 10th October was World Mental Health Day.

- 10 % of children and young adults aged 5-16 have a mental health issue.
- 50% of mental health issues are there from age 14
- Suicide is the most common cause of death for people aged 5-19
- Only 25% of young people with a mental health issue get the help they need

Notton Staff raised awareness of mental health by wearing an item of yellow!



Pupils spent time in PSHE reflecting on what good mental health means, what helps build a positive mind-set, and what we can all do to help others who may be struggling.

Signs to look for;

- ▶ Changes in appetite
- ▶ Alcohol/ drug misuse
- ▶ Sleep problems
- ▶ Silent or withdrawn
- ▶ Unable to concentrate
- ▶ Memory loss
- ▶ Tearful
- ▶ Poor attendance
- ▶ Disruptive
- ▶ Overworking
- ▶ Lack of hygiene

Ways to help ourselves;

- ▶ Nurture your physical health
- ▶ Have fun – do something you enjoy
- ▶ Talk to someone
- ▶ Avoid having too much caffeine
- ▶ Do not overwork – rest as well!
- ▶ Nobody is perfect – accept who you are!
- ▶ Reduce screen time



At Notton, we have an amazing staff team who can help all our young people: tutors, key workers, learning mentors, teachers, care staff, learning facilitators; plus, we are introducing more nurture time for any pupil who doesn't quite feel right or who isn't quite ready to start their day. We also have our new pastoral support room where pupils can go if they are struggling whilst in class.

For more information, please use the links below.

<https://mhfaengland.org/mhfa-centre/campaigns/world-mental-health-day-2018/>



Uniform:



School Uniform

A compulsory Notton House polo shirt (Royal Blue)

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

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 2018-2019



School Holiday



Bank Holiday



Pupil Day



Inset Day



Pupil Inductions/Annual

September 2018						
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	30	

October 2018						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

November 2018						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

December 2018						
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	

January 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		

February 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		
Sat	2	9	16	23		
Sun	3	10	17	24		

March 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	31	

April 2019						
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		

May 2019						
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		

June 2019						
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	30	

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

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