

UPDATE

Northwick Park Primary Academy

April 2026

NURSERY

In nursery this term, we have been enjoying reading traditional stories. We read Jack and the Beanstalk acting out the story and reciting the words of the giant in our loud, deep voices. We planted beans and have been taking good care of them, giving them water, and watching them grow. We are excited to see how tall they grow! We also talked about life cycles and how a bean plant grows. We read The Three Little Pigs and explored forces and blowing down the houses made from straw, stick and bricks and then helped the pigs and rebuild them a house and chose our own materials. When reading the Gingerbread Man we baked our own gingerbread men biscuits, they were delicious and we were careful not to let them run out of the door! We are enjoying continuing with My Happy Mind, currently talking about being grateful and showing thankfulness to places and those around us.

RECEPTION

Reception have enjoyed learning about 'People who help us', they particularly enjoyed making their own Paw Patrol badges out of tissue paper and glitter. They have also enjoyed dressing up and talking about what they would like to be when they grow up. You will be pleased to know we have many aspiring doctors, vets and teachers!

We were excited to welcome our new class pets - the Caterpillars! We have watched them grow into 'big fat caterpillars' and are eagerly waiting for them to emerge from their chrysalis'.

We all took part in Hadleigh Cycles 'Learn to Ride' programme. On the day, each child got to pick a bike and helmet and progress from using no pedals to two pedals. We are pleased to say that most children were successfully able to ride a bike!

In 'My Happy Mind', we have learnt about our brain, how to make it grow and what we use it for. We have learnt about our brain's "Super powers" and different ways we can use them. In particular, the children have really loved listening to the songs and meeting the characters from the programme. We have met Bertie, Betty and Charlie so far and we also know all about 'Team H-A-P'.

BUTTERFLY ROOM

This term our current theme is exploring mini beasts, we have enjoyed sensory activities around this theme, hunting for bugs in the "mud" (coco powder and crushed up cereals) and leaping frogs in a "pond" (peas) and making beautiful butterfly's in art.

In PE, we brought our learning to life by pretending to be caterpillars, crawling through tunnels then stretching out and transforming into butterflies.

In forest school, we continued our mini beast theme by looking for bugs using the magnifying glasses, we enjoyed mud painting on a huge hanging shower curtain and made marks on material using stones and leaves.

YEAR 1

The children enjoyed a visit from Eden Oasis to start off our new topic, Minibeasts. They learnt all about different minibeasts and got to hold some too, they were all very brave! In English, the children have been learning about poetry and rhyming words and have written our own poems about minibeast. The children all enjoyed forest school, they searched for minibeasts and built minibeast hotels. The children have also learnt about Judaism in RE and made their very own Star of David suncatchers.

YEAR 2

Year 2 have started learning about farms in our 'Let's Get Muddy' topic. The children have learnt about the way in which most of the food we eat comes from farms and we discussed the different types of food that we can get from the animals on a farm. In our history lesson, we looked at how farming has changed over the last century and specifically looked at how machinery has helped farms to become more efficient.

In science, we have been learning about living things and their habitats. The children have been researching the different habitats that you can find across the world. They used iPads to find out which animals live in particular habitats and what they need to survive there.

In PE, we have been busy completing the 'Mini London Marathon'. The children had the option of walking, jogging, or running the 2 miles. All children involved showed incredible determination and willingness to complete their challenge.

YEAR 3

Year 3 have settled back into school brilliantly after the Easter break and have been working incredibly hard this term.

In geography, we have started our exciting new topic on rivers, using atlases and the four main compass points to locate rivers across the UK.

In science, we have begun learning about the different parts and features of plants, while in art we are studying the work of Claude Monet and have enjoyed experimenting with watercolours to create our own versions of his famous lily pad paintings.

We have also been working hard to practise for the picnic dance and have been so impressed with how quickly the children are learning the moves. We cannot wait for the big day, when they can perform and show their loved ones all their hard work!

YEAR 4

Year 4 have started this half term with a BANG! Children have begun their swimming lessons at Waterside and are enjoying their newfound water confidence. They have been walking sensibly to the lessons, and we are very impressed with their efforts so far.

In PE, the children have started to learn their dance steps for our World Cup themed picnic. They are super excited and are really enjoying learning their new routines.

During our topic lessons, children have been using atlases and the internet to research information about climate zones and biomes in each of the continents. We have also learnt about the countries in Europe and researched facts relating to them.

After half term, Year 4 are looking forward to our forest school sessions with our grown-ups and hope that they love forest school as much as we do.

YEAR 5

Year 5 have been very busy exploring the topic of Africa. They have created some beautiful African artwork. They explored the style of Edward Saidi Tingatinga and recreated one of his wonderful masterpieces. They have continued their art skills by making a 3D model of an animal that is native to Africa.

In science, they have been learning about the lifecycles of plants. They studied the different parts of a plant by dissecting tulips and using scientific vocabulary to label their parts and functions.

As part of our music curriculum, Year 5 were invited to a performance at the Palace Theatre by saxophonist Jess Gillam and her ensemble. The children thoroughly enjoyed their musical experience and joined in by singing With A Little Help From My Friends by The Beatles.

The children have been enthusiastic while learning the outdoor assembly dance - we hope you enjoy their African-inspired dancing! They are looking forward to next month for their sports taster day and their trip to Colchester Zoo!

YEAR 6

Since returning from the Easter break, Year Six have been enjoying extending their writing through the medium of Harry Potter. In Design and Technology, the children have designed and are looking forward to constructing their own wands with variety of materials.

We are investigating electrical circuits in science, ready to begin building our own circuits controlled by switches.

In the coming weeks, we will be busy collaborating as a year group to choreograph our 'Top Secret' Picnic Dance ready for our annual outdoor assembly.

Children have displayed resilience and determination during our final run-up to SATs week. Please remember that children will be invited to join us for breakfast every morning during SATs week (11th May-15th May) from 8am to enjoy socialisation with their peers and smooth their transition into school each morning.

We are all very proud of their start to the summer term and are looking forward to seeing you at the outdoor assembly.

ATTENDANCE

Please see class attendance for Half Term. Well done 5HM who were the half termly winners.

12L – 94.1%	4HW – 97.1%
1K – 95.6%	4W – 93.0%
2L – 96.8%	5BC – 94.0%
2S – 95.5%	5D – 93.7%
3A – 94.6%	5HM – 97.6%
3GD – 92.1%	6C – 95.2%
3K – 94.7%	6SA – 94.7%
4G – 95.0%	6VC – 96.1%

Class attendance for Spring Term.

12L – 93.6%	4HW – 95.6%
1K – 92.0%	4W – 91.3%
2L – 94.8%	5BC – 93.9%
2S – 94.3%	5D – 89.9%
3A – 91.7%	5HM – 95.3%
3GD – 91.3%	6C – 95.3%
3K – 94.0%	6SA – 94.3%
4G – 94.1%	6VC – 96.3%

Well done 6VC the Spring term winners.

Whole school attendance for the spring term was 94.4% this is just below the national figure of 94.82%.

Bronze

Congratulations to the 63 children who achieved Bronze Award for 98% Attendance in Spring Term 2026

<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
Skylar-Mae B	Thomas A	Sobur G
Evelyn C	Reggie A-S	Ava L-W
Oliver G	Rafe C	Jasmine S
Danny G	Serena D S	Lennie T
Teddy-Jay L	Sophie G	
Lewis M	Noah K	
Teddy O	Harley K	
Leilah-Rose S	Ella P	
	Efrem P	
	Joey U	
	Amaya Y	

<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
Alfie B	Charlie C	Isabella A
Lilly B	Lillie D	Gracie-Lou B
Ella-Mae C	Junior F	Harley B
Scarlett C	Sophie G	Logan C
Silva D	Erin H	Dakota C
Finley-James D	Abel W	Nevaeh D
Summer-Rose E	Freddie W	Myiesha D
Logan G		Peter E N
Quinn H		Jamal G
Logan J		Inaaya I
Ronnie L		Evelyn M
Ace L		Sophie N
Danny M		Ava S
Hannah M		Lexi S
Pearl P		Emmie T
Penny P		Mason Y
Johnnie R		

Silver

Congratulations to the 13 children who achieved Silver Award for 99% Autumn in Spring Term 2026

<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
	Frankie O	
	Brody S	

<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Year 6</u>
Jude L	Dolton B	Stanley S
Bobbie-Leigh S	Arthur C	Iyla S
Elijah S	Esme H-J	Honey T
	Callie-Mae N	
	Arlo S	

Gold

Congratulations to the 113 children who achieved Gold Award for 100% Attendance in Spring Term 2026

<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
Rosie A	Luke C	Skyla B
Ella-Antonia B	Jack C	Harvey B
Andreea B	Grace D	Florence C
Ivy B	Rupert D	Reuben C
Clark C	Ethan D	Leo C-L
Charlie D	James-Junior F	Lily-Rose C
George F-B	Betsie H	Hunter E
Isla J	Reece J	Sophie F
Poppy P	Darby K	Jamie F
Poppy S	Crixus K	Aria M
Aubrie S	Matilda M	Ariana M
Arthur T	Esme M	Sienna N
Junior W	Rupert N	Kiki O
	Bobby O	Isla-Rose P
	Nancy S	Renly P
	Hallie T	Kinsley P
	Teddie W	Louie R
		Caitlyn S
		Emily S
		Nathan W
		Aliza W-D

HALF TERMLY AWARD WINNERS

Butterfly	-	Thomas A
Nursery	-	Ivy HW
Reception	-	Roman W
Year 1	-	Teddy O
Year 2	-	James F
Year 3	-	Evie BG
Year 4	-	Seb G
Year 5	-	Harper S
Year 6	-	Jamal G

They have all been presented with a book . Congratulations to all of them.

KS1 ACTIVE AWARDS

All three schools in the Trust (Northwick Park, Leigh Beck and William Read), have achieved the KS1 Physical Education, Sport and Activity Mark and attended the Active Essex KS1 Awards in Chelmsford. This was a celebration of physical activity and achievement.

Well done to Hallie T, Noah K, Isla C and Sam S for representing Year 2 so well. They had a fantastic day receiving the KS1 Physical Sports and Education Mark. The children took part in a 'Staying Healthy' market where they learnt how to look after their teeth, tasted a variety of fruits, and decorated their own healthy crowns. They also enjoyed participating in a range of fun cricket activities. Everyone had a great day and showed excellent enthusiasm throughout.

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT VISIT

On Monday 27th April, 12 Year 6 children were chosen to participate in a visit to the Houses of Parliament as part of their Parliament in School programme. They had a brilliant day which included a tour around the House of Lords and the House of Commons. They participated in a workshop about how laws are made. The highlight of the visit was during a very busy day in the House of Commons, Rebecca Harris found time to sneak out and spend time with our children. She was very impressed with the maturity of their questions and very complementary about Northwick Park, to anyone who would listen!

YEAR 1, 2 AND 3 PARENT/CARER RSE SESSIONS

Thank you for all of the parents/carers who were able to attend one of the sessions on Zoom I hope you found them informative.

PANATHLON

Eight of our children participated in a Panathlon competition at Deanes. They all had a great time experiencing lots of different events and finished the day in second place, winning a silver medal. Well done to all of them.

RECEPTION CLUBS

Our reception children have started attending school clubs this week. They can now start collecting Children's University hours and work towards their first Graduation.

YOUNG CARERS

At Northwick Park Academy, we are committed to ensuring that all students who are young carers are identified and supported effectively. If you think your child might be a young carer, please contact our Young Carers Operational Lead, Mrs L Cooper, by email at LCooper@northwickpark.essex.sch.uk.

Any information given to her will be treated sensitively and no information will be shared without your knowledge.

DIARY DATES

Mon 4 May	School closed – Bank holiday
Tue 5 May	Y2 to Boydells Farm
Tue 5 May	Y4 RSE parent/carer sessions on Zoom
Wed 6 May	Y2 Forest School
Wed 6 May	YR Clubs
Wed 6 May	ACL Course
Thur 7 May	Polling Day – School closed except for Y6
Fri 8 May	Y2 Trust Sports am
Fri 8 May	SSP Youth Board at Cornelius – selected children
Mon 11 May	Y6 SATs Week
Mon 11 May	Y4 Swimming
Wed 13 May	YR Clubs
Wed 13 May	YR Forest School
Fri 15 May	Class photos
Mon 18 May	Y4 Swimming
Mon 18 May	Y5 Sports Taster Day
Tue 19 May	Y5 to Colchester Zoo
Wed 20 May	Rounders competition – selected children
Wed 20 May	YR Forest School
Wed 20 May	Y6 Knife Crime sessions
Wed 20 May	Cliffs rehearsal at Winter Gardens
Thur 21 May	Butterfly Room summer picnic
Thur 21 May	Special lunch
Fri 22 May	Outside assembly and picnic
Mon 1 June	Y4 Swimming
Mon 1 June	MTC check all week
Tue 2 June	9:30 Y3 Sports
Tue 2 June	9:15 + 5:00 Y6 RSE parent/carer sessions on Zoom
Tue 2 June	1:30 Y2 Sports
Tue 2 June	Y6 Bar 'n' Bus
Wed 3 June	YR Call of the Wild
Wed 3 June	Y3 Forest School
Wed 3 June	Butterfly play bus visit
Thur 4 June	Y6 p/c Forest School sessions
Thur 4 June	1:30 Y1 Sports
Fri 5 June	9:30 Y4 Sports
Fri 5 June	Rock Band recording
Fri 5 June	Y3 Beach Trip
Mon 8 June	Y2 Cricket Festival – selected children
Mon 8 June	Y4 Swimming
Mon 8 June	Rock Band recording
Mon 8 June	1K to Belfairs
Mon 8 June	Phonics check all week
Tue 9 June	9:30 Y5 Sports
Tue 9 June	Choir Cliffs concert
Tue 9 June	1L + 1R to Belfairs
Wed 10 June	Girls cricket competition – selected children
Wed 10 June	Y3 p/c Forest School
Thur 11 June	1:30 YR Sports
Fri 12 June	9:30 Y6 Sports

Mon 15 June Boys cricket competition – selected children
 Mon 15 June Y4 Swimming
 Mon 15 June 2:30 RMA summer concert
 Tue 16 June Y2 + Y6 summer concert
 Wed 17 June Y4 Forest School
 Wed 17 June 2:30 RCP summer concert
 Wed 17 June Summer Fair
 Thur 18 June 2:30 Mrs Rowsell's Reception summer concert
 Thur 18 June Y6 Sports Challenge reward
 Mon 22 June Training Day Y6 School Journey - Trip 1
 Mon 22 June Y6 School Journey – Trip 1
 Tue 23 June Y6 School Journey – Trip 1
 Tue 23 June 5:00 Y3, 4 + 5 summer concert
 Wed 24 June 2S + Mrs Lockwood's Year 2 summer games at Deanes
 Wed 24 June Y6 School Journey
 Wed 24 June 2:30 1L + Mrs Rowsell's Year 1 summer concert
 Wed 24 June Y4 p/c Forest School
 Thur 25 June 2:30 1K summer concert
 Thur 25 June Canvey Cricket Festival – selected children
 Thur 25 June YR Intake meeting and Nursery parent consultations
 Fri 26 June Castle View and Cornelius Y6 Transition Day
 Fri 26 June Visit new classes am
 Mon 29 June Open evening and Take One Picture Exhibition
 Tue 30 June Canvey Sports – selected children
 Tue 30 June CU Graduation at Cornelius
 Wed 1 July Swimming Gala – selected children
 Thur 2 July Y6 Careers Fair
 Thur 2 July 9:00 Nursery Intake meeting
 Mon 6 July Canvey Awards – selected children
 Mon 6 July Young Carers summer treat
 Mon 6 July Pre-school p/c meetings
 Wed 8 July Y1 Transport Day at LB
 Wed 8 July Y6 afternoon Performance
 Thur 9 July Y6 evening Performance
 Fri 10 July Y6 Water fight
 Mon 13 July School Journey – Trip 2
 Tue 14 July School Journey – Trip 2
 Tue 14 July 1:30 Butterfly Sports and Forest School session
 Wed 15 July Nursery Graden Parties
 Wed 15 July School Journey – Trip 2
 Thur 16 July Nursery closes
 Thur 16 July Leavers BBQ and disco
 Thur 16 July 100% Attendance McDonalds Lunch
 Fri 17 July Leavers assembly
 Mon 20 July Training Day

Training Days Monday 22nd June
 Monday 20th July

Busy Bears Open 7:15am – 6:00pm please book in with Bev Thompson 01268 511863
bthompson@northwickpark.essex.sch.uk