

Learning together, valuing all, enjoying and achieving

Monday 5th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin week 6, I wanted to reflect on some of the events that have been happening across school recently.

Last Tuesday's curriculum evening was wonderful. Our children were fantastic ambassadors for the school, and it was lovely to see so many of you there. The choir sounded brilliant, and a special mention to Dionne for baking her famous shortbread and brownies – they were delicious! Across the school, there was a fabulous flavour of what our children learn through our curriculum, and I hope you all gained a real sense of the breadth and depth of learning happening here at North Lakes.

I'd also like to extend our thanks to NISCU and Church in the Barn for delivering such engaging assemblies to our children last week. These partnerships really enrich our school community.

On a celebratory note, well done to all of our Year 4 children on completing your swimming sessions. We are really proud of the wonderful attitude and behaviour you've shown during these lessons – it's been a pleasure to see you progress and enjoy the water whilst learning key water-safety skills.

A big thank you too to everyone who purchased books from our Scholastic Book Fair last week. The giving back scheme means we've been able to add some exciting new titles to our library, which will benefit all our pupils.

As we move forward, please remember that **parent evenings** are coming up. Year 3 and Year 4, appointments are available on Tuesday 13th and 20th October. Year 5 and Year 6 parent evenings will be Tuesday 13th October and Thursday 22nd October. Please book your slot via your Arbour account.

We'd love to see you at our **Harvest Festival this Wednesday morning at 9:00am in our school hall**. The children will be taking the lead, and we're collecting donations for the Salvation Army Food Bank. They've kindly shared a list of items they need, and every donation is greatly appreciated.

Canned Veg, Canned Meats, Canned Rice Pudding, Jam, Chick peas, kidney beans etc, Washing Up Liquid, Shampoo and Conditioner and Deodrant

Finally, don't forget to save the date for our Sparkle and Spooks disco on Thursday 15th October from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Tickets will be available to purchase via your Arbour account.

Save the date!

- Harvest Festival – 9:00am Wednesday 7th October 2026
- Sparkle and Spooks Disco Thursday 15th October 2026 3:30pm – 4:30pm
- Year 3 and 4 Parents' Evenings: Tuesday 13th October and Tuesday 20th October.
- Year 5 and 6 Parents' Evenings: Tuesday 13th October and Thursday 22nd October.

Have a wonderful weekend, we look forward to welcoming you back this morning!

Nicole Spibey

Headteacher

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Attendance Matters…

Every single day a child spends in the classroom directly fuels their academic success, confidence, and long-term future. We are incredibly ambitious for our students at North Lakes School, and because every lesson counts, we want every child here, every day, to ensure they don't miss out on vital learning opportunities. Missing just a few days of school can quickly add up—for instance, **90% attendance means a child misses 20 full days of instruction**, which is an entire month of learning lost in a single year.

By working together to build a strong habit of positive attendance, we can unlock your child's full potential and ensure they are set up to achieve their absolute best.

Attendance Percentage	Days Missed Per Year	Lessons Lost Per Year	Equivalent Time Out of School
95%	10 days	50 lessons	2 full weeks of school
90% *(Persistent Absenteeism)*	20 days	100 lessons	4 full weeks (1 month) of learning
85%	30 days	150 lessons	6 full weeks of learning
80% *(Severe Impact)*	38 days	200 lessons	**1 full school term** (or 1 full year of education lost over 5 years)

