



# Easter Newsletter





I am so proud of the wonderful hard work of all students and their class teams this term. I regularly visit classes and it is a delight to see pupils having fun in lessons and being around their friends.

I would like to send my thanks and gratitude for the support from all of our families. I wish you a wonderful Easter break and look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

Kind regards  
Shauna Johnson





**NORTH RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL  
CALENDAR FOR 2025-2026**

**Autumn Term**

School opens Wednesday 3rd September 2025  
School closes Friday 24th October 2025  
School opens Monday 3rd November 2025  
School closes Friday 19th December 2025

**Spring Term**

School opens Monday 5th January 2026  
School closes Friday 13th February 2026  
School opens Monday 23rd February 2026  
School closes Thursday 2nd April 2026

**Summer Term**

School opens Monday 20th April 2026  
School closes Monday 4th May 2026 - Bank Holiday  
School opens Tuesday 5th May 2026  
School closes Friday 22nd May 2026  
School opens Tuesday 2nd June 2026  
School closes Friday 17th July 2026

**5 INSET DAYS**

1st and 2nd September 2025  
1st June 2026  
20th and 21st July 2026

# Key information for families

Our full attendance policy is available on our school website: <https://northridge.manchester.sch.uk>

At North Ridge, we believe that pupils need to attend school on time every day to learn, develop and thrive. As a school, we want to work together with you to ensure that your child is happy, enjoys coming to school and accesses learning that enables them to develop new skills and socialise with their peers.

## What school will do to support your child's attendance:

- We will celebrate good attendance
- We will work together with pupils and their families
- We will keep you informed about your child's attendance and punctuality
- We will conduct home visits to discuss your child's absence
- We will invite you to meetings to discuss attendance concerns and work together to put plans in place and set targets.

## How parents can support their child's attendance:

- Talk to your child about their school day and celebrate their achievements
- Remind your child that their attendance is important, and it is not OK to miss school
- Avoid unnecessary absence such as making medical appointments outside of school hours and not going on holiday in school time

# Did you know?

Attendance percentage	Number of absences within the academic year
100% attendance	0 days absence
99% attendance	1 day absence
98% attendance	3 days absence
97% attendance	1 week absence
95% attendance	2 weeks absence
92% attendance	3 weeks absence
90% attendance	3.5 weeks absence

Arriving to school late will also affect overall attendance.

## Top Tips ...



Help your child pack their school bag the night before.



Help your child put out their school uniform the night before.



Put your child to bed at a reasonable time to help them have a good night's sleep.



Set your child's alarm early enough to allow enough time for them to get ready.



Give your child a time-scale to get ready in. This could be done as a fun game. A visual timer would be useful for this.

## It is your legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school

If your child has unauthorised absences from school, you may be at risk of a penalty notice fine or a referral being submitted to the Local Authority for prosecution.

Penalty notices incur a **fine between £80-£160 per child, per parent**. Failure to pay this fine may result in legal action.

**Please note, there have been recent changes to fixed penalty notices / legal action from the Manchester Attendance Team.**

### Did you know?

We will request medical evidence if your child is unwell and their attendance is concerning us.

Leave of absence in term time will not be authorised and you may receive a penalty notice

Pupils whose attendance is below 90% is considered by the DFE as a "persistent absentee"

#### Percentages Matters...

If your child's attendance is 90% by the end of the academic year, they have missed 19 days of learning!

#### Punctuality Matters...

If your child is late by 10 minutes each day, by the end of the week they have missed nearly an hour of learning!

**Remember: Every child has a right to an education!**

### Absence Procedures

If your child is going to be absent from school, you must ring and inform school **before 9:00am** on each day of absence by calling: **0161 553 0200**

This is part of our **safeguarding procedure** to ensure we know where all our pupils are if they are not in school.


If contact is not received, we will send text messages and ring home, including emergency contacts.

If **no contact is made** our school staff **may visit you at home** to ensure you and your children are well and to discuss reasons for absence.

We may request other professional services to support us with home visits too.

Attendance Lead: Mr Fraser





# Family Support

**As we come to the end of another term, we hope all our families have a wonderful Easter break.**

**When we return we will continue to support Families and we will be hosting more parent groups. Keep an eye out for information from school with topics, dates and times of the groups.**

**Below is a link to Local offers and activities for our young people during the Easter Break**

[SEND News from Manchester Local Offer - March 25th 2026](#)

# Class Ben Nevis

This term in maths, Ben Nevis have been looking at shapes, measure and length. We have used multi-link cubes and rulers to measure a range of 2D shapes. We have enjoyed the practical element to our maths lessons this term!



In science, we have been looking at changes of state from solids, liquids and gases. We again have enjoyed being very hands on and practical within our science lessons to complete experiments using a range of resources.

# Class Crossfell



This term in English we have been reading the story Handa's surprise. Pupils have enjoyed exploring the different animals and their sounds.



In theme we have been exploring the topic 'food glorious food'. Pupils have enjoyed role playing and visiting our class shop.

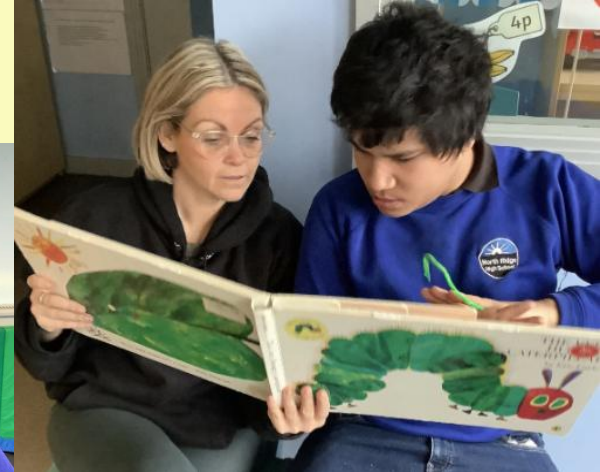


In maths we have been learning about shape. Pupils have enjoyed identifying shapes and creating different shapes with their bodies.

# Class Denali



In English we have explored the books: "The very hungry caterpillar" and "You can't take an elephant on the bus."



In Maths we engaged with numbers and capacity.



We have identified core communication words and our feelings. Had fun role playing 'shop.' Gained ball and target skills.

...as well as having lots of creative fun together!



# Class Eiger

In English we have responded to the sensory stimuli of the story 'You Can't Take an Elephant on a Bus.'



In maths we engaged in number songs and practiced counting routine



We communicated our preference for animals and vehicles



We built our independence skills to follow a shopping routine and exchange money for an item  
We went on a weekly trip to Cup and Cake café!



# Class Etna



In Maths we have looked at money and time. We have been comparing sizes and quantities. We enjoy our play-based learning environment.

In English we have studied the books 'Handa's Surprise' and 'Car, Car, Truck, Jeep'. We have looked at the characters and sequenced the stories.



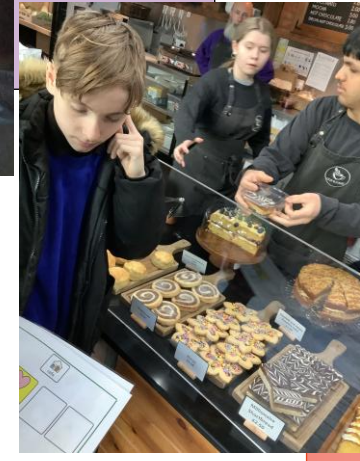
In Communication, we have visited the school library and read books that include our core word of the week.



We went on a class trip to the HUB. We bought cakes in the café and paid with money. We also visited the shop.



In Independence we have been learning about shopping. We have baked cookies and sold them in our own tuck shop.



# Class Everest

This term Class Everest have been learning how to cook and bake various dishes from around the world. We were able to follow a simple recipe and develop our chopping and rolling skills.



Class Everest have also been exploring different visual Artists as part of our Arts Award Accreditation. We have been learning about a range of styles of Art including Graffiti and collage and producing our own self-portraits in the style of Andy Warhol versions.

# Class Fuji

In maths we have been learning about shapes. We have been looking at the properties of 2D and 3D shapes.



We have also been completing Work-Related Learning. We have visited Tesco and looked at the jobs that people have there!



In PE we have been learning about tennis. We have been using the forehand and backhand shot to send a ball to our friends!



In DT we have been learning about different types of puppets. We used a range of materials to create our own.

# Class Grasmoor

In geography we have been learning about maps. Grasmoor have enjoyed finding places on the globe and world map.

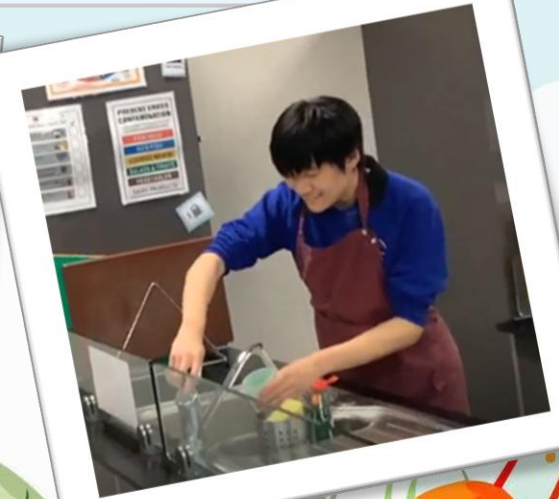


# Class Hunter



In PE this term we have been learning to play a range of target games including: boccia, skittles and curling. We have also completed circuits in the soft play room to hit various targets on the wall.

In cooking we have been developing our independence skills by learning how to transition safely from the classroom to the cooking room. We have been using our visual schedules to follow a sequence of steps to wash our hands and put our aprons on.





# Class Matterhorn



In maths we have been looking at 2D shapes. We matched shapes in soft play and then looked for shapes around school.



In PE we have been practising our target skills and working hard in the gym.



# Class Mont Blanc



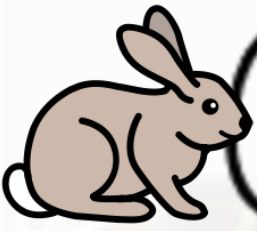
In Maths, Class Mont Blanc have been exploring shapes. We have found, named, made and measured a range of 2D and 3D shapes.



In PE, Class Mont Blanc have been developing our target skills and group work. We have explored basketball, golf, curling and boccia.



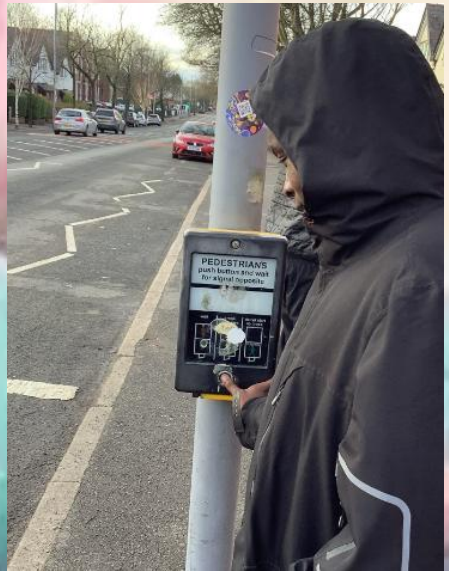
In English, we have been exploring 2 texts. "Mr Wolf's Pancakes" and "You can't take an elephant on the bus". We have particularly enjoyed acting out the story!



# CLASS OLYMPUS



This term in class Olympus we have been learning about our community! We have visited various places in our community and used different skills such as money skills, communication skills and practising our road safety skills.



We have enjoyed visiting various places such as the Cup and Cake Café and finding different shops and restaurants in the Trafford Centre!

# CLASS RAINIER

## **Theme - On the Move**

Pupils explored movement, journeys, and transport through hands-on, sensory activities. They learned about past and present vehicles while developing communication, interaction, and understanding of the world around them.

## **English - You Can't Take an Elephant on the Bus**

We had lots of fun reading the story and exploring animals and different types of transport. Pupils enjoyed joining in with the characters, actions, and all the playful travel chaos in the book.

## **Maths - Shapes**

This half term, pupils explored 2D shapes and began recognising their features through practical activities. Some children also began investigating simple 3D shapes as their understanding grew.



In English this half term, class Scafell have been exploring our sensory story 'You can't take an Elephant on the bus

## Class Scafell

In maths we have explored shapes. We have taken part in a shape hunt, explored using the light box, and experienced Long and Not Long



# Class Snowdon

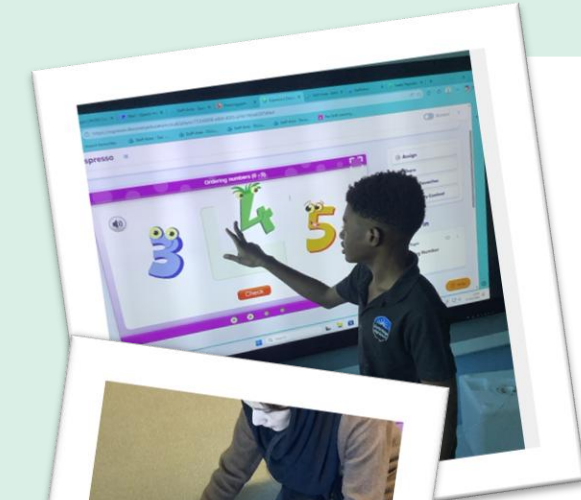
**Maths** - this term we have been exploring numbers through nursery rhymes. While looking at 'Once I Caught a Fish Alive', pupils counted up to 5 using fish in a pond and even went 'fishing'!

**English** - this term we have been exploring the themes of the book 'You Can't Fit an Elephant on the Bus'. Pupils have made their own animal prints and learned about the animals in the book and what sounds they make!

**Independence** - in Independence, pupils have learned about money and taken trips to the local supermarket to do their own shopping. Pupils have worked really hard getting used to the busy environment of a supermarket and even scanned items themselves at the self-scanning area!

The pupils and staff in Class Snowdon hope you have a

*Happy Easter!*



# Class Vesuvius



In Maths we have been learning about *shape and measure*. We have enjoyed exploring different ways to measure **length, weight and capacity**.



In English we have been reading '*Mr Wolf's Pancakes*' and learning how to write and follow written **instructions** using **time connectives**



This half terms theme has been '*On the move*' and we have enjoyed exploring different **modes of transport** and the science behind **how objects move**



GROW - IT

In Grow - it, we have been learning about sustainable farming practices. We have also been planting flowers, ready for the allotment!

# CLASS DISCOVERY



PSD

In our Personal and Social Development class, we have been learning about healthy living. We've had fun doing lots of exercise.



LIFE SKILLS

In our Life Skills lesson, we have been learning about leisure time. We have enjoyed our visits to the Cup & Cake café.

In our Cook - it lessons, we have enjoyed making our own mini pizzas and customising them with the toppings of our choice.



COOK - IT

# Class Endeavour



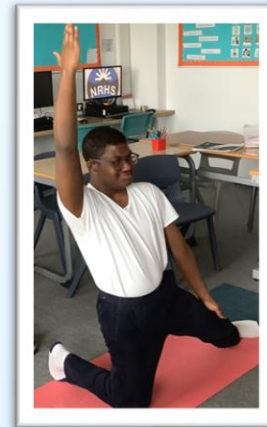
*In Grow It we have been making bird feeders as part of our Bio-Diversity project*



*As part of our Independent Living topic in English, we have been following symbol and audio instructions to complete domestic tasks.*



*In maths we have been creating and blending different water colours to develop our measuring skills.*



*In Health and Wellbeing, we have been practicing our yoga moves.*





**Maths**  
In maths, we have been practicing our weighing skills, we used this to make some yummy flapjacks!



**Manufacturing**  
In Manufacturing, we have been busy preparing Easter cards and gifts ready for a sale.

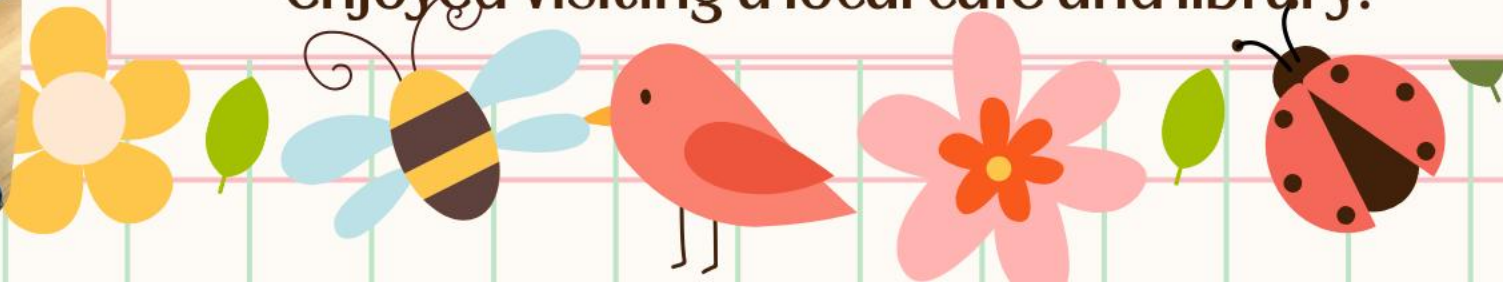


SPRING

# Class Enterprise



**Life skills**  
In life skills, we have been learning about local leisure facilities we can use. We have really enjoyed visiting a local cafe and library.



# CLASS NIGHTINGALE



**In English learners have been writing instructions to help people to fill in application forms. We used these instructions to create our own podcast episode**



**In Maths lessons Nightingale learners have been investigating time management. They have developed their core skills in class and then applied their skills to their work placements.**



**Nightingale students have been working hard at North Manchester General Hospital and are looking forward to starting their new placements after the holidays.**

**We hope that you all have a lovely break!**



# Spring Newsletter



Our sixth-form student run enterprises 2nd Handmade and The Hive have been buzzing with activity! Students have been learning valuable life skills, including laundering clothing, communicating with customers, and quality checking donations.

A highlight this term has been the creation of Eid gifts and Easter hampers, which have been a big success. Students have taken great pride in their work and have enjoyed seeing their products being purchased by customers.

This term we have been inundated with donations from parents, carers and staff. Thank you so much for all your support. We hope you can come to visit us soon.



HAPPY  
EASTER

From everyone at 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Hand Made and The Hive



# Spring



# Newsletter



We have been learning about different dietary requirements, including vegetarian, Halal, and vegan.

We explored ingredients and made our own meals, thinking about different dietary needs. The best part was tasting our creations!

This project has helped us learn new skills, try different foods, and understand how to make meals for everyone.



We would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Easter holiday!



This half term, our topic has been 'Sustainability' We have been thinking about small changes that we can make to help protect our planet.

At Cup & Cake we use special packaging for all our take-away food. It is made from plant based biodegradable products. This means the packaging breaks down easily and can be turned into compost!





# plot to plate

## Bespoke Catering Class - Newsletter

This term in our Bespoke Catering class we have been learning about different herbs and what they look like.

We looked at herbs such as basil, mint, and coriander. We learned how to recognise them by their leaves and their smell. We also talked about how herbs grow and how people use them in cooking to add flavour to food.

We had the chance to look closely at the herbs and smell them. Some herbs smelled strong and others had a softer smell.

We have also been busy creating new products for our sister company, The Cup and Cake Café. We worked together to think of new ideas and flavors that could be sold in the café. Some of the things we made included spring biscuits, lemon drizzle cake, chocolate, and beetroot cake, as well as quiches and pies.

In catering we have also added some new main meals to our weekly menu. These include halal chicken pie with chips and peas, quiche with spring salad and new potatoes, and a halal roast chicken dinner.

We have really enjoyed learning new skills, cooking different foods, and working together this term.

We wish you all a happy Easter!



This spring Sixth Form have been investigating sustainability in our manufacturing lessons.

We have been reviewing our production processes to make meaningful changes that help our environment and support our school businesses by reducing our waste. We have discussed how to reduce, reuse, and recycle our paper, clay, and wax into beautiful new gifts.

Check out our [Etsy page](#) to find unique gifts, all handmade by our wonderful students!

[NorthRidgeGiftCo - Etsy UK](#)



**Admin**



**We would like to say thank you  
for another lovely term and  
your support from all staff,  
students, and families.**

**We hope everyone has a lovely  
break and we look forward to  
seeing you all on Monday 20th  
April 2026.**