



Autumn 2 Newsletter 2025

Hello from Mrs Trew

We've had an incredibly busy and enjoyable half term, filled with special events such as our fantastic Infant Music Festival and the celebrations at the end of term. As you'll see throughout this newsletter, there's been plenty of fun along the way!

The children have worked hard across all subjects and made great progress in their learning. We are especially proud of the progress that all our children have made in their learning.

Several exciting trips have also taken place, which you can read more about on our class pages. These experiences have been hugely beneficial for the children and added so much to their learning.

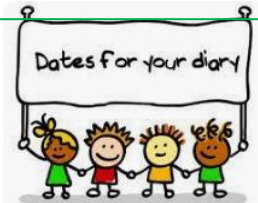
A big thank you to everyone for the wonderful assemblies and performances—your hard work has truly paid off, and I'm sure you'll agree they were memorable moments for us all.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing staff and families for your support, it has been a privilege to work alongside you.

Wishing you all a joyful and restful break. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2026!

Highlights for families this half term:

- Rock Steady Music launches
- Drumming workshop
- Anti Bullying Week
- Infant Music Festival
- Parent Consultations for families
- Phonics Workshop for Families
- Children in Need
- Trips to the Church
- Winter Fair
- Christmas Lunch



UPCOMING DATES

January Dates:

Monday 5th January	Inset Day
Tuesday 6th January	Start of the Spring Term /Children back to school PDC visiting Blanche Nevile School
Monday 12th January	Year 5 Trip to Warner Bros Studios – Harry Potter World
Thursday 15th January	Mercury 6 Trip to The Linnean Society of London
Friday 16th January	Orion 3 Class assembly Fire Service visiting Early Years
Tuesday 20th January	Comet 6 Trip to The Linnean Society of London
Friday 23rd January	Saturn 2 Class Assembly

February Dates:

Monday 2nd February

PDC Poetry & Writing Workshop

Wednesday 11th February

Year 1 Trip to The British Museum

Mon 16th – 20th February

Half Term Holiday

Tuesday 24th February

Year 5 Creative Writing Workshop

School Councillors

This term, the School Councillors were lucky enough to meet our Local MP for Finchley and Golders Green, Sarah Sackman. They prepared questions to find out more about Sarah's job and what she does to help our local community.



She also asked the children some questions, about what they do as School Councillors and what they know about politics in this country. She was very impressed!



Nursery

We have been very busy this half term learning about special celebrations and preparing for Christmas! We have had fun exploring the new climbing apparatus and outdoor toys and learning to sign and sing songs for the Christmas show. High-lights include meeting the hearing dog and going to the Arts Depot for the 'Tiger Who Came to Tea' show. Merry Christmas to all!



Reception

In Reception, we've been exploring the theme of celebrations! We created our very own art gallery to showcase and celebrate our amazing achievements. We learned all about weddings and even held a fun scarecrow wedding right in our classroom! We also shared stories about our own birthday celebrations and threw a special birthday party for Elmer. To add to the excitement, we retold the classic tale of *The Gingerbread Man* and baked delicious gingerbread biscuits to bring the story to life.



Year 1

In English we focused on writing sentences using where words. To help us with our sentence ideas, we were given special passports, and our classroom was turned into Summerside Airlines!



We loved meeting Maxine and her hearing dog, Walter! We learnt about how he keeps her safe when she cannot hear an alarm and even got to stroke him!

We had so much fun on our trip to Moss Hall School for the Barnet Infant Music festival!



In DT we have been making umbrellas! We tested different materials to see which ones are waterproof.



Year 2

This term we performed a Nativity and really enjoyed singing the songs and acting out the story together.



In Science, we have been looking at Everyday materials. We compared the different types of materials and even got to make our own playhouse!

In Geography, we have been learning all about Europe! We got to taste some delicious snacks from all across Europe.



Year 3

This term in English and History we have been learning about the Stone Age. We have had so much fun exploring how the world has changed over time! We really enjoyed our topic day, where we got to do art, drama and got to use the iPads to research!

In Science, we liked learning all about rocks and how they are formed. We got to carry out experiments using different types of rocks such as marble and limestone. It was so much fun!

We also got to go on a really exciting trip to the October gallery for Art. We had an amazing day looking at sculptures and creating our own art.



Year 4



This term in English and Topic, Year 4 have been learning about mountains. We explored the famous climb of Mount Everest by Hillary and Tenzing and practised reading contour lines to understand maps. For Poetry Week, we studied a fun poem about *Peas*, performed it, and created our own versions with matching artwork.



In Science, we have been learning all about sound – how it's made and how it's measured. We have experimented with different instruments and decibel readers, and our trip to the Twist Museum taught us how illusions can affect both what we see and hear.



In RE, we learned what the Nativity means to Christians and visited Christ Church to meet characters from the story and bring it to life.

We also had a great time learning how to hand jive during our music lessons on rock-and-roll.



Year 5

In Year 5, we have had a fantastic term learning all about the Tudors.

Our trip to the Tower of London really brought our learning to life and we loved getting to see some of the buildings we have learnt about in class.

On topic day, we learnt all about Sir Francis Drake and Tudor exploration. We even made biscuits from a Tudor recipe!



In DT, we designed and made marble runs! First, we looked at the work of George Rhoads' ball machine sculptures. We then went to Year 3 to do some market research to decide what themes we should use.

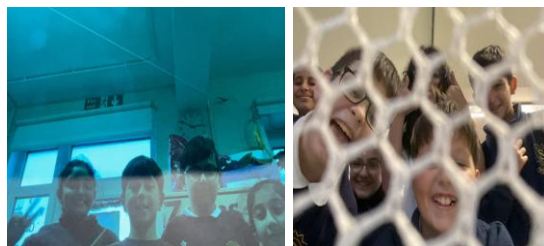
Year 6

What a jam-packed half term it has been!

In Geography, we have been learning about climate change and the effect on people and animals and producing ways to reduce our carbon footprint. In English, we wrote letters to our MP, persuading them to take action.

In Science, we have been learning all about the circulatory system and healthy eating. We were lucky enough to visit Compton School to participate in a dissection of a heart; we were able to identify all the different sections!

We were so lucky to participate in an online opera lesson from The Royal Opera House: we learnt about the staging process, pyrotechnics, costumes, music and even got to create our own opera scene in our classroom!



In Art, inspired by Annie Leibovitz, we took emotive, photographic portraits and improved our photo editing skills.

We really enjoyed coming up with ideas for our Winter Fair stalls: we organised prizes, posters and set-up, then really enjoyed seeing everyone have fun playing the games!



Music at Summerside

ROCK STEADY

In November, Rock Steady visited us to do a launch assembly for our new exciting music opportunity here at Summerside. Rocky Steady provide music lessons through creating bands, with different children learning the drums, keyboard, guitar, bass guitar and even vocals! It has already proven extremely popular and the children who have been signed up are loving it!



Infant Music Festival

Children in Year 1 and 2 visited Moss Hall Infants School for the Barnet Infant Music Festival. We sang a range of different songs alongside other Barnet schools, as well as performing 'True Colours' with BSL signing! Well done to all the Year 1 and 2s for representing Summerside so brilliantly!



Piano Fun Club offer music lessons for our children. Children can learn to play the piano or guitar and have their music lessons at school. Find out more information by visiting www.pianofunclub.co.uk

Christmas at Summerside

Christmas Dinner

Once again, our fabulous kitchen team cooked up a storm for our Christmas Dinner! The children enjoyed, turkey, stuffing and Christmas pudding amongst other things. Some of our braver children even enjoyed their brussels sprouts! As always, the crackers proved a highlight and a lot of terrible jokes were exchanged in the lunch hall. Thank you to Gerry, Denise, Mona and Mandy for a delicious lunch!



Talent Show

Summerside's Winter Talent Show returned in the last week of term, and once again children and staff were amazed by the wonderful array of talent amongst our KS2 children. This year we were treated to some piano acts, a whole band in Pluto 3 (who gave a truly artistic performance), singing, skipping and, in a first for Summerside, someone paying the pianica! Well done to all the acts for your bravery when performing in front of the whole school. In the end we had 4 joint winners, which shows how high the quality of acts was this year. We are a very talented school!



Christmas Shows!

In the last two weeks of term, our children were busy performing their Christmas shows! Year 1 and 2 produced a spectacular annual nativity, KS2 wowed us all with their very popular Christmas Concert and EYFS brought a smile to everyone's faces with their beautiful Winter Songs. Well done to all the adults and children!



Winter Fair

In recent years, the Winter Fair has become an unmissable event on the Summerside calendar, and this year was no different!

The day got off to an exciting start, with the children visiting Santa's Grotto for a Christmas story, games and presents with Santa Claus. The Grotto looked magical, and the children enjoyed relaxing in the cosy space.



The Arts and Crafts room proved popular once again, with biscuit decorating, threading, elf-making and more on offer!



Children and families also enjoyed the cake sale, café selling hot dogs and hot chocolate, inflatables (bouncy castle, slide and axe throwing), teddy tombola, bottle and jar raffle and name the dogs – whose winner's got announced in assembly this Monday!

The Year 6 games were fantastic this year! There were so many to choose from, including pick the jellybeans out from the baked beans (yuck!), lucky dip, human fruit machine, snowball scoop, wheel of fortune and many more. Well done Year 6, everybody who visited your classrooms had so much fun!



In total, we raised a staggering **£2,850!** Thank you for all your wonderful support and incredibly generous donations.

Provision for Deaf Children

This half term saw the return visit of two old friends, theatre fun and getting in the festive mood.

The half term started with Maxine and her hearing dog Walter, coming back for another visit. We learnt how Walter helps Maxine and Maxine looks after Walter. We got to stroke Walter, feed him a treat and learnt how to pick up dog poo!



We went to Chickenshed Theatre to see their annual Christmas show. This year's show was 'Red' a magical twist on the story of Little Red Riding Hood. We took a picture with the friendly wolf!



We continued our tradition of decorating the Christmas tree in the PDC.



Lovely Jo came in to bake with us. We made reindeer cupcakes. They were delicious!



SEN Coffee Morning

On 20th November Summerside hosted an ADHD coffee morning. The morning was attended by many parents who wanted to find out more about ADHD and how best to support children who may have it.

Lucy Baker from the Inclusion Advisory Team in Barnet came to speak to the parents. There were lots of really powerful discussions on how ADHD can affect the family and the children. We cannot thank Lucy enough for her time and we were so grateful for the number of parents that attended as well.



Develop a trusting relationship

Understand feelings- find a toolbox of strategies

Communication is the key. Be clear and direct

Predictability – establish a routine

Take a moment for yourself. Remember your well being is vital.

Implement clear and consistent boundaries

Notice and rejoice in small steps

Look for the positives: Reward, reward, reward

Time for calm. Build in quiet time

Burn some energy. NHS recommend 180 minutes a day of physical exercise

Positive Relationships: Top Ten Tips!

Poetry Week

Across the week of 24th November, the whole school took part in Poetry Week. Rather than doing a day we took the opportunity for each year group to learn a poem that they were able to add drama and performance to. After learning so much about their poems the children then got the opportunity to perform their poems for the rest of the school in our first poetry recital. Well done to all the children that took part and thank you to the teachers for planning such a fun and interesting week.



Summerside's Sports Page

Year 5 & 6 Boys Football Tournament



Summerside Football Team

Summerside 9
Tudor 0

Summerside stormed to an emphatic victory against Tudor, to put us straight into the ¼ finals against Holly Park in the new year.

Boys from Year 5 & 6 took part in the Barnet Borough football tournament and made a huge impression. They went all the way to the final, only losing out in a penalty shootout. Well done to our silver medallists.



Virtual Skipping Challenge

The Virtual Skipping Challenge tests how many forward skips children can do in 45 seconds. Noora, Sasha, Lianna stunned Barnet with their astronomical scores.

Lianna – 240 skips
Sasha – 239 skips
Noora – 217 skips

(Previous Summerside record holder was Dino, Year 6 - 2022), with 111 skips)

Summerside sit at the top of the leader board. Well done girls!



Barnet Bar No One

Students in Years 2, 3 & 4 took a trip to Hendon Leisure Centre, to take part in a festival full of lots of different fun sports activities (basketball, parachute games, cup stacks, indoor rowing and plenty more).



Lateness

Well done to all our children who arrive at 8.45 so that they can get started on their learning.

Please can I ask that **ALL** children ensure that they arrive no later than 8.55 so that our lessons can begin at 9am. We currently have too many children who are not coming to school on time and we will be asking families of persistent latecomers to meet with us in the new year.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be below Summerside's expectations (96%). Poor attendance at Summerside will be challenged as it causes pupils to fall behind with their learning. Holidays during term time will not be authorized and may lead to a fine on your return.

Year Group	Attendance
Reception	88%
Year 1	87%
Year 2	96%
Year 3	96%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	97%
Year 6	94%

Children in Need

We asked all the children to dress up in their own clothes for Children in Need.

We raised £220 - well done everyone!

Parking

We remind all our families to be respectful of our neighbours by parking responsibly and **not over people's driveways or on the double yellow lines**. Your support is appreciated.

Contact Us

Website:

www.summersideprimaryacademy.co.uk

Call us: 020 8445 1192

Email us:

admin@summersideprimary.co.uk

Instagram

Want to see what the children and staff at Summerside have been up to? Be sure to check our Instagram for regular updates about all the exciting happenings going on here at school!

[@summersideprimaryacademy](https://www.instagram.com/summersideprimaryacademy)

