

**NEWSETTER No : 1**

**September 2023**

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back and a very warm welcome to all the new children and families who have joined us in September. I hope that you all had an amazing Summer break spending lots of quality time with your families and friends. I would also like to introduce Miss O Knapp who joins us as class teacher in Wren class.

I am really pleased to see how well the children have settled back into school life and into the routines of the new year. Positive relationships are being built with the adults in their new classes and also new friendships between children too. I have been especially enjoying talking to the children while I am on the gate in the morning and afternoon, and hearing all about the learning which has been taking place. The enthusiasm when the children talk and the knowledge which they have is what we are striving for and I have a really good feeling that this year is going to be another incredibly successful one. I cannot wait to see what we can all achieve together!

I am sure that by now you will have seen some (if not all) of the weekly 'Achieving Through Learning' assemblies, and hopefully you will have picked up on the rules that we have in school - That everyone should; feel '**Safe**' in school, be '**Respected**' in school and have the '**Right**' to learn/work in school. These rules are not just for the children but for all the adults too (staff, parents/carers and visitors) as we all need to role model these things to the children at all times. Your support with reinforcing these rules at all times would be greatly appreciated, and by school and home working together, we can make sure that every child who attends the school is 'Achieving Through Learning' and therefore achieving their very best.

We have had a very busy start to the school year already including 'Dot Day' on the 15th September, the Harvest Festival and food collection on 22nd September, our Macmillan Coffee Morning on 29th September and our 'British Big Beach Clean' at Hunstanton on 30th September. Please don't forget; Norfolk Open Studio on Friday 6th October 3.30pm-5.30pm and Saturday 7th October 10am-3pm, **Tuesday 10th Mental Health Day please wear something yellow to school (no money required)** and also the Friends Of Nelson discos on Friday 13th October. Thank you to everyone for the support and donations which you have given to our events so far. ☺ Please take the time to read all of the information to follow including lots of dates for your diary.

Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes - Mrs Sarah Wilson (Principal)

## **Activity Clubs**

All activity clubs for lunch time and after school will be added to Pupil Asset on the afternoon of Thursday 12th October by 1 member of the school office staff. If you are new to the school, email the office email address [office@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk](mailto:office@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk) for a sign up email for Pupil Asset.

**[www.secure.pupilasset.com](http://www.secure.pupilasset.com)**

These clubs will start after the October half term and they will run for the advised number of weeks. There will be various clubs for different age groups on different days, children will need to be collected from the front of the school after each club. The gates will be open.

**We would politely ask that you are mindful of others when booking places for your child/children. Suggesting that you book their first choice of club initially and then going back to the website a few days later to book any further choices. This will allow all parents/carers the opportunity to book places. Many thanks in advance.**

## Aspens Catering

Our school meals are now provided by **Aspens** and are cooked on site by the kitchen team. They are providing excellent quality meals in line with the Government's nutrient and nutritional values, and they are now serving over 200 hot meals everyday, numbers reaching over 250 on Fridays. The children are enjoying the different options and flavours with a choice of desserts every day.

Website link: <https://select.aspens-services.com> Nelson code is 236579

Menus change twice a year, so there is an Autumn/Winter menu which starts in September and a Spring/Summer menu which starts after February half-term. Meals are served on a three-week rotation. They will also be running a Wheel of Fortune Day with voted for meals by the children from each class.

Meals for all children up until the end of Year 2 are provided free as part of the Government's Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) programme. All meals for children in the KS2 are priced at £2.50 or means tested Free School Meals (FSM) which represents value for money. They are also providing all snacks and light meals for before and after school clubs. **Please remember to cancel the meal if your child is not in school.**

## Attendance

If your child is unwell and unable to come into school, there are 2 ways that you can report this.

1. You can fill out an absence form on the school website - [www.nelsonacademy.co.uk](http://www.nelsonacademy.co.uk)
2. You can call the absentee line on 01366 359 061. If you don't report the absence, the school will contact you to see why your child is off and if no contact is made, your child's absence will be marked as unauthorised.

The chart below identifies the possible amount of lost learning due to poor attendance.

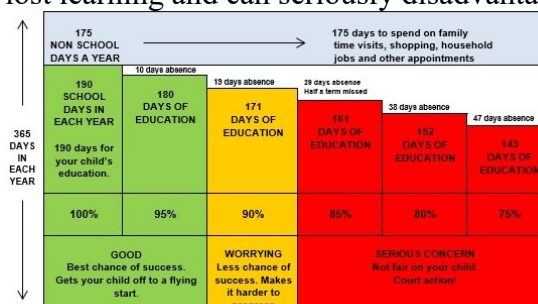
Attendance during the school year equals this number of days absent. Which is approx. this many weeks absent. Which means this number of lessons missed:

90% - 19 days - 4 weeks - 100

80% - 38 days - 8 weeks - 200

70% - 57 days - 11.5 weeks - 290

Frequent absence can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life.



## Congratulations and well done to the following multi talented children of Nelson Academy

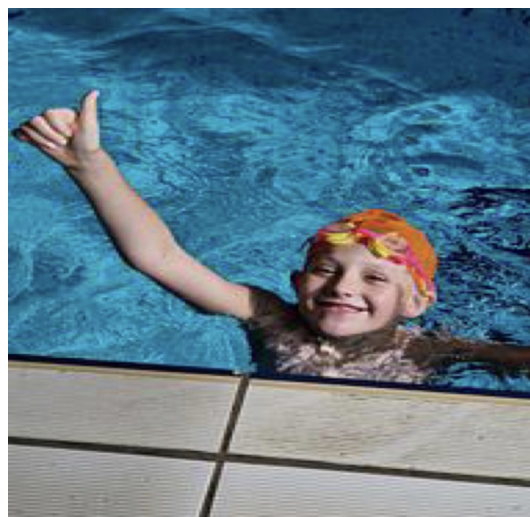


Sisters **Isla & Millie** have both qualified in RYA Sailing Level 1 and competed in their first regatta and Isla came third. Well done.

Well done **Ellie**, she has now gained her green tags in Taekwondo.



**Lillie-Rae** has been swimming over the summer holiday and raising money for 'the children of Helen & Douglas House'. She started off with the target of swimming 5K but actually swam 7.5K in total, raising a whopping £345 in total and being one of the top fundraisers. Amazing!



## Diary Dates

### October 2023

October is Black History Month

Friday 6th - Open Studios Light & Dark 3:30 to 5:00pm in school

Saturday 7th - Open Studios Light & Dark 10:00 to 3:00pm in school

Monday 9th Year Reception & Year 6 National Measure

Tuesday 10th Mental Health Day - Wear yellow to school (no money required)

Friday 13th FON Disco

Monday 16th 2nd Flu Immunisation Day

Friday 20th Nelson Day

Monday 23rd to Friday 27th Half Term

### November 2023

Tuesday 7th Year 6 trip to Kidzania

Monday 13th to Friday 17th Anti Bullying Week

Friday 17th Children in Need

Tuesday 21st Parent Evening by Telephone 3:30 to 6:00pm

Wednesday 22nd Parent Evening in School 3:30 to 6:00pm

### December 2023

Friday 8th Jack & the Beanstalk Panto Reception to Year 6

Thursday 14th Christmas Lunch

Friday 15th FON Christmas Fayre

Thursday 21st Christmas Holidays starts

### January 2024

Thursday 4th School Open for Spring Term





## Nelson Academy

Nursery Road  
Downham Market  
Norfolk  
PE38 9PF

Tel: 01366 383824

Email: [office@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk](mailto:office@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk)

Web: [www.nelsonacademy.co.uk](http://www.nelsonacademy.co.uk)

25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Parent Academy Committee (also known as Governors) Vacancy at Nelson Academy**

We are writing to let you know that we currently have a vacancy on our Local Academy Committee (also known as Governors) for a Parent Academy Committee member. We would really like to encourage you to think about whether this is something that you would like to be involved with. Could you help us to continue to develop and improve our school?

Parent Academy Committee members are crucial members of our Local Academy Committee. They bring a valuable viewpoint and along with the rest of the Academy Committee members, they contribute to the management and planning of the Academy, promoting high standards and ensuring best use of resources.

Parent Academy Committee members are elected from and by the parents or guardians of children attending the Academy. All parents or guardians of children attending the Academy are entitled to propose or second candidates and vote. If you are interested in this role and have any questions or would like to discuss further, please contact Sarah Wilson (Principal) [Sarah.Wilson@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk](mailto:Sarah.Wilson@nla.eastern-mat.co.uk) or Glen Gates (Chair of Academy Committee) [Glen.Gates@eastern-mat.co.uk](mailto:Glen.Gates@eastern-mat.co.uk) by:

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and we hope that you will consider joining us on our journey to 'Outstanding'.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Wilson

Glen Gates

Principal

Chair of Academy Committee



We're working  
towards Artsmark  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



# 2023-2024



**Eastern Multi-Academy Trust**  
Empower - Motivate - Aspire - Transform

September 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

March 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Key : White dates - schools open to pupils  
Yellow dates - pupil holiday  
Red dates - bank holiday

The five staff training days (highlighted in blue) are: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September, Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.