

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers, Staff & Governors

.....
Second week of term - and we are already in mid January! Christmas may be a bit of a distant memory but hopefully our resolutions are still intact?

We begin this term with a reminder of another of the school's values - resilience. It is an important life skill and not always easy for young people to develop - because it takes time and patience.

Dr O'Brien-Coker has been having assemblies with every year group to explain the importance of resilience in school and in our wider lives. Though something may be tough at first continuing to try is important. The urge to give up is sometimes great. But greater still are the rewards for those who persist and keep going. As he says in the assembly - the key word is 'yet'. I cannot do it 'yet' but having a belief that one day you will be able to do it will get you there. So maybe keep on persevering with those resolutions...

Demonstrating their resilience: Well done to all of those in years 7, 8, 9 and 10 who have been busily completing their assessments this week and last. We know assessments maybe a source of worry, but they are important stepping stones which allow teachers to make professional decisions and identify next steps for their students. Continuing with the focus on resilience - your child may not be exactly where they want to be 'yet'. However, working hard and with their teachers advice in mind will help. Do reinforce such ideas with your child.

While Years 7-10 were in assessments we had a look around Humanities lessons for Yr 11 and 6th form. There was an array of subjects being taught from natural disasters and the rise of the Nazis to media based stereotypes and an exploration of personality types in Psychology. It was fascinating to see and students were well engaged in their learning. In other news we await the upcoming comedy night: tickets go on sale this week! If previous years are anything to go by it is the place to be on a chilly January evening. We are ever thankful to FONs for all the background work it takes to bring such events to fruition. We hope it is an opportunity to have a few laughs whilst also supporting the school.

Niki Clemenger & Richard Cole
Co-Headteachers



Highlights of the Week

Mr Pierson led the Year 7 and 8 girls to beat BTG (again) 3-2 on Wednesday. They have an excellent record in girls football against BTG in recent years and he says it's great to see the new generation carrying on this fine tradition. There were some excellent performances across the team, capped by 2 goals from Khaira and one for Nilou. It's pleasing to see the girls growing with every game as they gain more experience and earn their rewards for the commitment to improving. Well done girls!

We also had an update from the SEND department showing us what break and lunchtime looks like with some of the students who spend lots of time in their faculty area. Lots of creative work happening!

Ms Remaud's 6th form class had a lovely time on Monday with 6th form as it was Epiphany. In France, this means eating la galette des rois (King's Cake). Adèle, in Year 12, brought a galette from France, and they followed the tradition: the youngest goes under the table (that was Diana) and decides who gets each slice as it's cut.

Important Dates

- Y7-10 Assessment Week 06/01-16/01
- Y12/13 Parents' Evening 20/01 - 16:30-19:00
- FONs Comedy Night 29/01 -19:00-21:00
- Steel Pans Ball 05/02 - 18:00-20:00
- Y11/13 Mocks Week 1 - 09/02
- Yr 10 Parents' Evening 10/02 16:30-19:00
- Feb Half Term 16/02-20/02

Hot Chocolate with the Heads this week

Congratulations to:

- Evelyn Chapman (7JUC)
- Shyla-Mae Wight-Scott (8JUG)
- Keira Johnson Davis (9IKA)
- Ephraim Ssenyonga (11WMA)
- Kiyanna-Reese Moore (12GA)
- Michaela Lindie (13SDO)



Supporting our school

As you may be aware, schools across the country are experiencing significant budget pressures due to rising costs and reduced funding.

To help us continue providing the best possible learning experiences for our children, we are inviting voluntary donations from parents and carers.

All funds received will go directly towards curriculum resources and materials that enhance teaching and learning across the school.

If you would like to make a contribution, please log in to your ParentPay account where you will see an item labelled "Parent Donation."

There is no obligation to contribute, but every donation, large or small, makes a real difference and is greatly appreciated.

Please note that this fundraising stream is separate from our Friends of Norwood fundraising and is not attached to the QR code that is regularly shared on the FONS page of our weekly newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.



FONS Notices

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year from all of us on the PTA Committee! We heard over the holidays that we had raised a further **£140** with the sale of trees and wreaths via Rambling Rose which is great news, thanks to everyone who purchased through them this Christmas. We have two big events coming up to raise more funds for the PTA. The **Comedy Night** is our biggest event of the year. As always, huge thanks to Kerry Godliman for hosting and arranging the talent; **SIX** amazing acts on stage, the **BIGGEST** bar effort of the year and **RAFFLE** so please dig deep to buy your tickets for our **FIFTH (!) Comedy Night on Thursday 29th January 2026!**

*****Tickets go live on the school website on Thursday 15th January at 1pm*****

COMEDY NIGHT DRINK & SNACK PRE-ORDERS

As per last year, once you have purchased your tickets for the event, we will be doing pre-orders for collection in the Study Hub so you can avoid bar queues on the night. We will be circulating details for how you arrange your pre-orders in the next week via email and WhatsApp groups.

Then keeping the winter blues away, we have the **Steel Pans Valentine's Ball** on the **5th Feb** to look forward to, another excellent evening of entertainment from the music department. Looking forward to seeing everyone soon!

Ailsa, Alex & Miranda

Advertiser:

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COMEDY NIGHT
A FUNDRAISER FOR
THE NORWOOD SCHOOL
THURSDAY 29 JANUARY 2026
DOORS OPEN 6.00PM, SHOW STARTS 7.30PM

KERRY GODLIMAN | ESTHER MANITO | ROSIE JONES
CHARLIE BAKER | CHANTEL NASH | IVO GRAHAM

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