

Dear Parents, Guardians, Carers, Staff & Governors

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Welcome back to a brand-new academic year at The Norwood School! It has been a happy and energetic return, filled with smiling faces, pristine uniforms, and a genuine buzz of enthusiasm across the site. We hope you all had a restful summer break and are as excited as we are for the year ahead.

Over the summer, we celebrated some fantastic exam results, which reflect the hard work, resilience, and dedication of our students and staff. We are delighted that so many of our Year 11 students achieved brilliant results and have chosen to stay with us, taking their next steps into The Norwood Sixth Form. Our outgoing Year 13s have moved on to some terrific university courses and competitive apprenticeship places. We wish all of our leavers the very best as they embark on these new chapters, and we look forward to hearing about all their future adventures!

It has been a pleasure welcoming our new Year 7 students into the Norwood family. They have made a positive first impression - arriving punctually, looking smart, and settling into secondary school life with real confidence. It was particularly heartening to see how seamlessly they integrated with the rest of the school during our recent House Day. The sense of community, teamwork, and house spirit on display was a fantastic way to kick off the new term!

We have also had a busy start to the term hosting our Open Mornings, welcoming scores of prospective families to see Norwood in action. Visitors were deeply impressed by the calm, focused learning environment across all classrooms. A special mention must go to our Student Ambassadors, who were nothing short of exceptional. They put our visitors instantly at ease, answered questions with warmth and maturity, and showed off their school with tremendous pride.

Thank you for your continued support as we begin another exciting year together. Enjoy the weekend ahead!

Niki Clemenger & Richard Cole
Co-Headteachers



Highlights of the Week

Last Friday we all enjoyed what has now become the annual tradition of House Day.

Across the school, students also took part in tug of war, benchball, escape rooms and the rock-paper-scissors championships, as well as many more activities. Phoenix house celebrated their victory at the end of last academic year with a House trip to the ice rink to cool off! A big thank you goes to the staff for all of their energy and enthusiasm - it meant the day was participated in by all and contained just the right amount of healthy competition and mutual respect!

One of the highlights of the day was seeing house members collectively clapping the new Year 7 students into their different house assemblies - the welcome was warm and genuine. Already Year 7 are racking up house points.

So now - let the battle of the houses commence!

Important Dates

- **School Early Closure** (Open Evening preparation) – 24/09 – from 12:40pm
- **Open Evening** - 24/09 - 5-8pm
- **Y7 & Y12 Meet the Tutor Evening** – 06/10 – 5:00–7:00pm
- **INSET Day** (school closed) – 09 /10
- **Sixth Form Open Evening** – 13/10 - 5:00–7:00pm
- **October Half-Term Holiday** – 22/10-31/10

Hot Chocolate with the Heads

Every week a child from each year group is nominated to a break time hot chocolate with the Headteachers. This is in recognition of good work, commitment and/or demonstration of our school values. We will always publish the names of those children weekly here - to make sure they get the recognition they deserve. This will begin next week, so look out for them!



FONS Notices

Friends of The Norwood School - Hello from FONS

Welcome back! We're **Friends of The Norwood School (FONS)** — your school PTA.

We organise and support school events, raise funds for equipment and opportunities across the school, run the second-hand uniform shed and help bring parents, carers and the school community together.

If you have a child at The Norwood School, **you're already part of FONS** — and there are lots of ways to get involved, from helping at one event to joining the committee.

Come to our AGM - Monday 19 October | 8.00–9.00pm | Online

Our AGM is open to **all parents and carers**. Come along to hear what we've been doing, what we're supporting this year and what's coming up.

At the AGM, the committee stands down and roles are open for election or re-election. Some current volunteers may stand again, but we'd really love **new people to join us too**.

It's genuinely a great way to meet other parents, get to know the school better and be part of some very fun events.

Next week: more on the AGM, the roles available and how you can get involved.



Can you bak

On **Thursday 24 September**, FONS will be running a **Coffee & Cake Fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support** at the school Open Evening.

The fundraiser starts at **5pm** and we need lots of cakes, cookies, brownies and flapjacks to sell.

Please send donations into school in the morning, or drop them off by **4.45pm**.

Please clearly list allergens and label any containers you would like returned.

All money raised goes to Macmillan Cancer Support.



FONS Notices

Second-hand uniform shed

Our second-hand uniform shed is now stocked and available for families to use. The **key can be collected from Reception during Reception opening hours**. Please make sure you lock the shed afterwards and return the key to Reception. Donation information is available inside the shed — you can donate by bank transfer or QR code.

A quick note about lost property - The second-hand shed is not the lost property store. Lost property should go to Prisca on Reception. If an item is clearly named, the school will try to return it through the pupil's form tutor.

The second-hand shed is stocked through:

- parent donations
- regular clear-outs of unnamed or unclearly named lost property

So please do check Reception first if you're looking for something your child has lost.



Could you help us make Comedy Night 2027 fantastic?

Our FONS **Comedy Night** has been one of our most popular events, but the brilliant team who have run it previously are now moving on. We'd love to put together a **new small team** to take it forward — and we're particularly interested in hearing from parents who have connections with **comedians, comedy clubs, promoters or the entertainment industry**.

The idea is to partner with some new comedians and build another brilliant night for parents and the school community.

You absolutely don't need to run the whole vent - we're looking for a few people who could work together. Interested? friendsofthenorwoodschool@gmail.com

Coming next week...

We'll share more about:

The AGM • Committee elections • Volunteer roles • Helping at events

There are big roles, small roles and one-off jobs. We have a lot of fun, meet other parents, get to know the school better — and together we're able to fund and support a huge amount for students.