Weekly News

Issue No.5

THE NORWOOD SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

Guardians, Carers, Staff & Governors

As we approach the end of the first half term, it is a good moment to reflect on what helps young people feel that they truly belong in a school.

Achievement is clearly part of that story, but belonging is also built through relationships: being known by the adults around you, feeling that there is somewhere to go when things are difficult, being noticed when you succeed and knowing that the people in your school genuinely want you to do well.

We have seen some lovely examples of this across Norwood recently. Our Year 7 and Year 12 Meet the Tutor evenings gave families the opportunity to strengthen those relationships with the school, while our SEN provision is helping some of our younger students find their feet and feel increasingly comfortable in their new surroundings. We often get hugely positive comments about the warmth of our school and this comes from the positive relationships within it.

The same principle can be seen in the classroom. Good teaching is not simply about what is being taught, but about creating the conditions in which young people feel confident enough to think, question, participate and sometimes get things wrong. We have spoke to visitors recently about just how much our staff care. They want to see children succeed and know that comes from a combination of high expectations, positivity and support.

And, of course, belonging also comes from representing something bigger than yourself. Our cross-country team did that brilliantly this week, competing for Norwood with determination and achieving some outstanding results - many of them achieved top 10 positions and some podium places! We are so proud of them and they should be very proud of themselves. We reinforce constantly that community is important to us. It gives us strength and a sense of being part of something special.

A special well done also goes to all our new Year 7s who are showing their ability to adapt to a new school and new ways of working. And to the wider school for welcoming them into the Norwood community with kindness and inclusivity - two of our core values.

With the ever growing numbers of families attending our open sessions - both for Year 7 and 6th form entry - it has reinforced to us that Norwood is special. And that there is place for everyone to belong.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support. We work best when we work together.

Niki Clemenger & Richard Cole
Co-Headteachers

Weekly News

15th October 2026

Highlights of the Week

It has been another busy and positive week across Norwood.

We recently completed another hugely successful Open Season, welcoming hundreds of prospective students and families through our doors. The events were extremely well attended and generated a great deal of positive feedback about the school. A huge thank you goes to everyone involved, particularly our student ambassadors, who once again represented Norwood brilliantly.

It was also wonderful to welcome so many families to our Year 7 and Year 12 Meet the Tutor evenings. These events are an important opportunity for families and tutors to get to know one another early in the year and build the relationships that help students thrive.







It has been lovely to see some of our new Year 7 students making use of our transition club. The club provides a welcoming and supportive space where students can meet others, build friendships and grow in confidence as they settle into life at Norwood. It has been great to see students becoming more comfortable in their new surroundings and beginning to feel increasingly at home within the wider school community.



Important Dates

- Monday 19 October – Flu vaccinations
- Tuesday 20 – Wednesday 21 October – French Speaking Mock Examinations
- Wednesday 21 October – Last day of school before half term
- Thursday 22 October – Half-term holiday begins
- Monday 2nd November - Return to school for all students

Weekly News

15th October 2026

Learning Around Norwood

A visit to Humanities this week provided a snapshot of the breadth of learning taking place across the school.

Year 13 students were completing a timed essay examining whether the process for nominating US presidents is fit for purpose, while Year 11 students explored tribunals and ombudsman alongside issues surrounding tropical rainforests.

Further down the school, Year 8 were learning about Aztec religion and human sacrifice as well as the biomes and resources of Africa, while Year 7 students explored Roman society and everyday life.

Across the lessons there was plenty of questioning, reading, discussion and positive reinforcement – alongside a clear focus on students being READY to learn.







Thank you to Dr O'Brien for the training he delivered on the new Ofsted framework - a well planned and thought out presentation which has given us a clear idea of what an inspection will be like when it comes.



Lambeth Cross Country

- A huge congratulations to the Norwood cross-country team following a fantastic performance at the Lambeth Cross Country Championships.
- Marie S won gold in the Under-15 event, while Rafael DO secured a bronze medal with an excellent third-place finish.
- There were also top-ten finishes for Bettine Y, Edith F, Estella F, Ella F, Sofia C, Leon M, Gray NH and Ralph C.
- A brilliant set of performances and a fantastic representation of Norwood – well done to the whole team.







Latest News

Issue No.5

FONS Notices

A quick update from FONS this week — including a lovely donation to the school and, importantly, a **big call-out for parents and carers to join us at next week's AGM**.

Thank you Wickes!

We'd like to say a huge thank you to **Wickes Anerley** for generously donating materials to help develop the new pond at The Norwood School. Their support is helping create a valuable outdoor space where students can enjoy, explore and learn more about nature and biodiversity. Donations like this help our PTA fundraising go further and allow us to support even more opportunities for students

📣 FONS PTA AGM - Friends of the Norwood School – Next Monday evening

Monday 19 October | 8.00–9.00pm | Online

Meeting link: Meeting link:
https://teams.live.com/meet/9386209737398?p=GYrUvgZOTFCmJqC7dh

All parents and carers are welcome — even if you're just curious!

We still need help with Communications, Estate Agent Boards, Second-hand Uniform and Funding & Partnerships. Roles can be shared, and helping at just one or two events is hugely appreciated.

Just coming along helps support the committee and keep FONS going strong. We'd love to see you there!

All parents and carers are invited - The AGM is your chance to hear what FONS has been doing, what we're supporting this year and, most importantly, help us build the team that will take FONS forward. You don't need any previous PTA experience. FONS is a great way to get to know other parents, teachers and the school better, have some fun at events and help raise money that directly benefits students.

We really do need more people - At the AGM, the whole committee formally stands down. Some existing members may choose to stand again, but all roles are open and we would really love some new parents and carers to join us, especially as children of the current committee have already left! It's looking really positive already — we've had expressions of interest for Chair, a Co-Treasurer role, Bar Team Lead and Bar Stock & Purchasing Manager.

We'd still really love to hear from parents interested in the other roles, particularly **Communications, Estate Agent Boards, Second-hand Uniform and our Funding & Partnerships Team**. Some roles can be shared and several are very manageable alongside work and family life. Even if a formal role isn't for you, helping at **one or two events a year** makes a real difference and is a lovely way to get to know other parents and the school.

How does the election work? - If you're interested in a role, you can let us know in advance by emailing friendsofthenorwoodschool@gmail.com, or simply put your name forward at the AGM. We'll go through each role at the meeting, confirm any nominations received in advance and invite any further nominations. Where required, roles will then be agreed by a vote of members attending the AGM.

Even if you're just curious, please come along. You don't have to volunteer for anything on the night — but the more parents we have involved, the more we can do for the school and the more supported the current committee feel!





THE NORWOOD SCHOOL

THE NORWOOD SCHOOL FRIENDS

Latest News

Issue No.5

THE NORWOOD SCHOOL

FONS Notices

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff,

REMINDER and TEAMS DETAILS

You're invited to the FONS Annual General Meeting!
Monday 19 October | 8.00–9.00pm | Online - Teams

PTA AGM - Friends of the Norwood School
Monday, 19 October 2026
Meeting link: PTA AGM - Friends of the Norwood School | Microsoft Teams | Meet-up-Join

Join us for the FONS AGM
We'd love you to join us for the Friends of The Norwood School (FONS) Annual General Meeting.
Come along to meet the team, hear what FONS has been doing, what your support has helped provide for the school, and our plans for the year ahead.
It's also when we **elect our committee and build the wider FONS team for the coming year**.

A new committee for the year ahead
At the AGM, the current elected committee will stand down and the Executive Committee roles will be open for election. Existing committee members may stand for re-election, and we would really welcome **new parents and carers** putting themselves forward too.

Interested in an Executive role?
If you'd like to stand for an Executive Committee role, or would like to see the full role description before deciding, please email: friendsofthenorwoodschool@gmail.com by the end of Thursday 15 October. Please include:

- Your name and child's name/year group
- The role you're interested in and a sentence or two about why you'd like to get involved

Other ways to get involved
We also have a number of non-executive roles, focusing on specific areas such as events, fundraising, communications and uniform. These are not elected officer positions and many can be shared as part of a team. No previous PTA experience is needed — we want to spread the work so that volunteering stays manageable, sociable and enjoyable.

Just want to come along? Absolutely - You don't need to take on a role to be involved. We'd love as many parents and carers as possible to join us, hear what FONS is doing, share ideas and be part of the wider team supporting the school. Having a good turnout really helps build momentum and shows the team that the wider school community is behind what we're doing.

THE NORWOOD SCHOOL FRIENDS

Latest News

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FONS Notices

Executive Committee Roles - These are the formal committee roles responsible for the overall running and governance of FONS. All Executive roles can be shared, so you can be part of a team and split the responsibilities.

	Chair	**Treasurer**	**Secretary**
ROLE	Helps lead FONS and work with the school and committee on priorities.	Oversees FONS finances and accounts.	Keeps FONS organised and maintains key records**.**
ACTIVITIES	• Chairing meetings • Liaising with the school and FONS team • Keeping an overview of activity	• Managing income, spending and banking • Keeping financial records • Supporting budgets and annual accounts	• Agendas and brief meeting minutes • AGM and committee records • Tracking actions and key dates
TIME	Around 4 hours a month, more around larger events.	Around 2 hours a month, with busier periods at year-end, December and July.	Around 1–2 hours per meeting, plus occasional admin

Non-Executive Roles – These roles focus on specific areas of FONS activity and help keep things running smoothly. They can be shared too, so you can get involved as part of a team without taking on overall committee responsibility

	Bar Team Lead	**Stock & Purchasing Manager**	**Communications Coordinator**
ROLE	Coordinates the FONS bar team and makes sure each event is covered.	Keeps the FONS bar stocked and organised.	Helps keep parents informed about FONS.
ACTIVITIES	• Organising bar volunteers • Ensuring a lead is in place for each event • Supporting set-up and close-down	• Checking and ordering stock • Keeping storage organised • Planning ahead for events	• Preparing FONS messages • Promoting events and volunteering • Sharing fundraising news
TIME	Mainly event evenings; around 4 events per term, shared across the team**.**	Around 2 hours a month, with busier periods at year-end, December and July.	Around 1–2 hours per meeting, plus occasional admin
	Second-hand Uniform Co-ordinator	**Estate Agent Boards Co-ordinator**	**Funding & Partnerships Team**
ROLE	Coordinates the uniform shed and volunteer team.	Coordinates the twice-yearly board fundraiser.	A team of people finding funding, partnerships, raffle prizes & donations.
ACTIVITIES	• Coordinating team to wash & restock uniform • Checking the shed each half term • Organising one annual uniform event	• Recruiting participating families • Keeping the address list • Liaising with the estate agent	• Agreeing priorities each term • Sharing opportunities across the team • Following up independently
TIME	Around 1 hour each half term, plus the annual event in July	Around 3-4 hours, twice a year.	Around 1 hour together each term, plus flexible follow-up.

Friends of Norwood School

FONS PTA AGM

All parents and carers are welcome – even if you're just curious!

Monday, 19 October 2026
20:00 – 21:00 (GMT)
(Meeting link in caption)

Stronger Together



We still need help with:

- **Communications**
- **Estate Agent Boards**
- **Second-hand Uniform**
- **Funding & Partnerships**

Roles can be shared, and helping at just one or two events is hugely appreciated.

Just attending the AGM helps support the committee and keep FONS going strong.

SUPPORT
VOLUNTEER
BUILD COMMUNITY
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We'd love to see you there!