



As we come to the end of another busy and exciting half term, we want to take a moment to reflect on the fantastic learning experiences our pupils have enjoyed. Our Storytelling Week was a true celebration of creativity, as pupils explored the magic of stories through reading, writing, and performing. It was wonderful to see their imaginations come to life and their confidence in storytelling grow. A highlight this term has been Matisse Class visiting Blenheim Palace each week, where pupils took part in a hands-on environmental project, helping with planting and rebuilding planters in the walled garden. It has been a fantastic experience that not only supported their learning about nature and sustainability but also gave them a real sense of achievement in making a positive contribution to such a historic site. We also marked Valentine's Day in a special way, celebrating friendship and kindness with a Friendship Disco. Pupils had a fantastic time dancing, laughing, and showing their appreciation for one another by making friendship bracelets—a lovely reminder of the strong sense of community we share at our school. It has been a half term full of fun, learning, and memorable moments, and I would like to thank our staff, pupils, and families for their continued support and enthusiasm. Wishing you all a wonderful and restful half-term break.

Mr Stevens and Mrs Holmes

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Friday 14th February INSET Day - School will be closed for students.
- Monday 24th February 2025 - Back to School
- Friday 21st March - School Council Trip
- Friday 4th April - End of Term Celebration Assembly (1PM Finish)
- Monday 7th April-Monday 21st April - EASTER BREAK.
- Tuesday 22nd April - Students back to school

SCHOOL DINNERS

We have a range of tasty hot meals, or school packed lunches available for students. Alternatively, students can bring their own packed lunches too. Here is a link to our menu for the Spring 2 Term:

WEEKLY MENU

SCHOOL COUNCIL TRIP - 21ST MARCH

We are thrilled to share that our School Council will be heading to London for an exciting educational visit! This trip will be a fantastic opportunity for our student representatives to explore democracy in action, develop their leadership skills, and experience some of the country's most significant landmarks.

Students will travel by train and visit key landmarks that reflect the role of their own School Council on a larger scale. They will also enjoy a ride on the London Eye and finish the day with a meal at a restaurant.

We look forward to sharing updates from their adventure! If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

PHOTO PERMISSIONS AND CONSENT FORMS

A massive thank you to parents for completing photo permissions and trip consent forms. We have a huge amount of wonderful trips and special events coming up for our students to enjoy so if you still haven't managed to get your forms in, then please try to find the time ASAP so your child can participate and you can see on instagram [@nha_oxford](https://www.instagram.com/nha_oxford)



STAFF SPOTLIGHT - SOPHIE HILL CLASS TEACHER - KAHLO

What does your day look like?

I spend my days teaching in Kahlo class and enjoy spending my time out of school with my family. What I enjoy the most about teaching is that no two days are the same, so although I am always in class, there is always something different going on.

Why do you enjoy working at NHA?

The children make working at NHA a very rewarding place to be. I enjoy the different questions and opinions they come up with, and the kindness they can show to both children and adults.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I enjoy running and swimming as well as rock climbing.

Student question s-

Arlo: What is your favourite food?

My favourite food is lemon drizzle cake.

Elloise: What is your favourite animal?

My favourite animal is a spotted eagle ray.



STORYTELLING WEEK

From the 3rd to the 7th of February, learners at Northern House Academy took part in an exciting week filled with storytelling and communication activities to mark National Storytelling Week and Time to Talk Day.

Throughout the week, learners explored stories in new and creative ways, including story yoga with Cosmic Kids and teachers swapping classes to read to children in different galleries. On Wednesday, learners shared their favorite stories with each other during a fun house activity and discussed what made those books special. Thursday featured an exciting visit from Amanda at Merry-go-Round Storytelling, who led interactive workshops where learners brought stories to life. Friday saw the entire school community cozy up in comfy pyjamas to share stories and guess the identity of the masked reader staff member. Mrs. Holmes and her fantastic PSW team ended the week with a joyful performance of Room on the Broom that had everyone in stitches. The week's story writing competition also showcased many talented entries, with the winning story to be featured on the school website. This week was all about igniting the joy of reading and celebrating the power of communication. It was inspiring to see every learner, no matter their challenges, dive in with such positivity and enthusiasm. A huge well done to everyone for making the week unforgettable!

Here is a link to our masked reader competition - [Masked Reader](#)

BLenheim PALACE

This last term has seen our children accessing an alternative and nurturing programme of sessions at Blenheim Palace, through assisting groundsman and gardeners in the upkeep and maintenance of their historic walled kitchen gardens. The sessions have been led by skilled tutors from 'Worthy Earth' who are well versed in eco education, sustainability and the natural world. The children have had opportunities to develop a number of skills, including their self-esteem, communication, self-management, and social interaction, as well as learning key aspects of our curriculum by engagement with the outdoors and by 'doing'.

Experiences to date include; safe use of tools, building new flower beds and borders, exploring the environment, celebrating their day's achievements with a hot beverage and communing over lunch. As the seasons change, there will be further opportunities for hunting mini-beasts, planting seeds and nurturing plants, as well as developing an awareness of their immediate environment and the wider world. Building on the natural instinct to learn, it will offer opportunities for the children to make choices, initiate learning, understand and manage risk, and encourage positive attitudes, behaviour and pride in achievement. We look forward to widening this opportunity to the whole school throughout the rest of the year and into the future.