

January 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope you had a joyful and restful Christmas break. We're so excited to welcome the children back for another term of fun-filled learning and personal growth here at Northern House Academy. This half term, our topic is 'Rockin' Rocks!' – a thrilling theme that will take us on a creative and scientific journey through the world of geology, natural disasters and ancient landscapes.

Our English focus will be on Instructional Writing, where children will create their own Safety Guides linked to natural disasters like earthquakes and volcanoes. This will not only develop their writing and sequencing skills but also build their understanding of how to communicate clearly and with purpose. In maths, we will continue to develop our understanding of number operations, alongside practical work on weight and money – including real-life problem-solving activities. Our Science lessons will be all about Rocks! Pupils will explore how rocks are formed, their properties, and their uses in everyday life.

In art lessons we will be getting creative with clay and rock painting, where children will turn natural materials into unique pieces of artwork. Inspired by the textures and colours of the Earth, this will be a perfect outlet for self-expression. In geography sessions we will delve into the powerful forces that shape our planet – earthquakes, mountains, and volcanoes. Children will explore how these phenomena occur, where in the world they happen, and how people adapt to living near them.

In computing we will explore E-Safety, learning how to stay safe online – including recognising safe websites, using secure passwords, and being respectful in digital spaces. Our PSHE theme is Keeping Safe, linking closely with our computing and English learning. We'll discuss how to stay safe at home, in the community, and online, helping children build confidence and self-awareness.

Dali will have **Parkour** on **Tuesday**. Please can you send in a change of clothes for the children on that day for example: t-shirt, trainers and tracksuit bottoms/shorts. Alternatively, Pupils can come to school in comfortable clothes suitable for physical activity – e.g. a t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms and trainers.

This term, we will be focusing on our school value of **Nurture** and we will continue to encourage all children to express themselves and help them to develop their social skills and emotional regulation and celebrate when aspects of this value is demonstrated in their own behaviour.

If your child brings in a toy or electronic device for the taxi journey, please remind them that they will need to hand it to a member of their class team in the morning, to be locked in the safe during the day. Children will only be getting their device or toy back at the end of the day when it is time to go home.

As partners in your child's education, we value your support and involvement in their learning journey. We encourage open communication and collaboration to ensure that each child receives the support and guidance they need to thrive academically and personally. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions by contacting the school office,

email rkingston@northernhouseacademy.co.uk. Your communication with us is invaluable, and we are here to support you every step of the way.

Enclosed is a copy of our weekly timetable for the term.

All the best,

Dali Class Team

Robyn Kingston, Henry Moreira, Selene Jacobs, Britney Mearns