



## **October Newsletter - Headteacher's Message**

Welcome back to our second half term of the year. I have been really impressed with our children across the school have very quickly settled and progressed. Their work is beautifully presented and immaculate! We have many festivities and points of reflection this coming half term which always reminds me of the need to spread love, kindness and compassion with all.

I would like to thank you for respecting our guidelines to keep our school community safe. As we enter into the second national lockdown, it is imperative that we all work together to stay safe by adhering to the national guidance to protect us all. My team are always available to support in any and whichever way, please do not hesitate to reach out and get in touch.

## **Dates for your Diary**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 2nd November	Return to School
Friday 6th November	Pupil Photographs
Monday 9th November	Flu Vaccinations
W/c Monday 9th November	Parents evening, details to follow
Friday 20th November	Scholastic Book Fair – provisional booked
Friday 27th November	Inset day-no School
Friday 18th December	End of Autumn Term

Remember:  
No School on  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup>  
November

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## **Reception Admissions 2021**

In choosing the right school for your child, it is vital for you to be able to come and see us. However, this year we are very sorry this will not be possible during this COVID-19. Instead we have uploaded videos, a virtual tour and our prospectus on our website, please visit:

<https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/npsw/page/?title=Admission+Enquiries&pid=356>

If your child is aged 4 between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, then they will be due to start school next year (September 2021). You can also follow us on facebook via

[www.facebook.com/nishkamprimarywolves](http://www.facebook.com/nishkamprimarywolves)



My uniform Hub is only taking online orders from now on due to the national lockdown. They will also suspend click and collect orders too. If you do require uniform please place your order online and select home delivery.

# Staff List 2020/2021

Senior Leadership Team	
Head Teacher	Mr H Dhanjal
Deputy Head Teacher	Mr J Gomersall
Assistant Head Teacher -Learning & Teaching	Mrs N Sangha
Teaching Staff	
Early Years Lead/Reception Teacher	Miss Z Tolley
Reception Teacher	Miss G Hollinshead
Year 1 Teacher	Miss P Badhan
Year 1 Teacher	Miss A Latif
KS1 Phase Leader/Year 2 Teacher	Mrs K Johal
Year 2 Teacher	Miss G Gull
Lower KS2 Phase Leader/Year 3 Teacher	Mr P Landers
Year 3 Teacher	Miss S Meras
English Lead/Year 4 Teacher	Miss C Holman
Year 4 Teacher	Miss H Dawar
Maths Lead/Year 5 Teacher	Mrs M Chahal
Year 5 Teacher	Miss K Kainth
Upper KS2 Phase Leader/Year 6 Teacher	Mr G Darby
Science Lead/Teacher	Mrs S Bing
Teacher	Mrs M Hicks
SENDCO	Mrs J Brettle
Associate Teachers	
Associate Teacher	Mrs C Bhambra
Associate Teacher	Mrs S Lear
Associate Teacher	Mrs S Panesar
Associate Teacher	Mrs D Uppal
Associate Teacher	Mrs M Koretaine
Associate Teacher	Miss J Johal
Associate Teacher	Mrs S Matharu
Associate Teacher	Mrs F Choudhury
SCHO (School Community Health Officer)/Associate Teacher	Mr C Halford
Office Staff	
Business Lead	Mrs J Bahia
Receptionist/Administrator	Mrs D Juman-Sygrove
Office and Finance Administrator	Mrs S Sandhu
Family Liaison Officer	Mrs S Latif
Lunchtime Staff	
Lunchtime Supervisor	Mrs R Johal
Lunchtime Supervisor	Mrs M Bahra
Lunchtime Supervisor	Miss M Ahmed
Lunchtime Supervisor	Mrs C Virdee
Lunchtime Supervisor	Mrs H Kaur
Lunchtime Supervisor	Miss T Hayre
Lunchtime Supervisor	Miss F Jabri
Site Maintenance	
Site Manager	Mr K Finch

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS



It has been a challenging half term for us all. Staff have worked extremely hard throughout the term, supporting and preparing pupils for the new academic year. It is pleasing to see pupils have adapted well to the range of protective measures put in place, they have comfortably settled into their new classroom and are now well on their way with their learning journey.

As echoed by the Government, it is vital all children attend school, as it is best for their health and mental wellbeing, wider development and their educational prospects. As you know, school attendance is now mandatory. This means that it is your legal duty as a parent/carer to send your child to school.

**Punctuality:** means pupils should be in their classrooms on time every day. We expect children to attend school at their allocated time. Arriving to school late means learning time lost. Pupils arriving to school after the close of registration will be marked in the register as 'late'. Please do support your child by planning your journey to school to ensure they arrive on time.

**Medical appointments:** If possible, any appointment should be made out of school hours. If this is not possible, your child should miss the minimum amount of school time necessary. If your child is well enough to return to school following the appointment they should do so. Please notify the school office in advance of any appointments.

**Absence from school:** If your child is absent for any reason you must telephone the school office on the first morning of their absence, you may leave a telephone message, please include your child's name and class, we will need to know the reason for their absence. If we do not hear from you by 9.15am then please expect a phone call from us.

**Coronavirus (Covid-19) procedures must be followed to ensure pupils, staff and our school community remain safe.**

If your child has any of the Covid-19 symptoms, they must **not** attend school, get a test booked as soon as possible. Stay at home until you get the results. Keep the school updated.

The school now operates an out of hours service to report your results, please telephone 01902 537970 to notify the school of any test results. The main symptoms of Covid-19 are:

**a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

**a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

**a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

**Tests for Covid-19 are now available without an appointment in Wolverhampton**

People with symptoms of Covid-19 should still try to book a test online by visiting [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or by calling 119 in the first instance. However, in the unlikely event that people cannot reserve a slot, you can attend The Faulkland Street test centre, open from 8am to 8pm. People are advised to attend as early as possible as a limit of 50 tests are available each day without an appointment and will be offered on a first come, first served basis. The city's 4 other test centres – a drive through centre at Aldersley Leisure Village and walk-through centres at Showell Road and Blakenhall Community Resource Centre in Wolverhampton and Mountford Lane in Bilston – remain appointment only. Before setting out please check availability, further information is available at <https://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/news/walk-covid-19-tests-available-without-appointment>

**Closing a bubble:** In line with public health guidelines, if at any time there does become a need to close a bubble, the school will act immediately, families will be contacted and asked to collect their child promptly. It is important our records remain updated, please ensure the school office is made aware of any changes to telephone numbers/family contacts.

**Holiday during term time:** As part of our ongoing drive to ensure children do not miss essential learning time, we expect parents/carers to plan their holiday within the school holiday period. Please avoid seeking permission to take your child out of school during term time. Children have already missed out on a lot of learning, now they have settled back in and are really enjoying coming into school please avoid disrupting their learning and routines. Also, bear in mind, taking your child out of school for a holiday may also mean they have to [self-isolate if returning from a trip overseas](#), missing even more learning time.

**Unauthorised absence:** The school continues to monitor the attendance of pupils, where there are unexplained absences or attendance concerns, there will be early intervention from the school and our Education Welfare Officer. Please note: Attendance at school is known to be a key protective factor in safeguarding children. Where there is concern and no contact from parents/carers, please do expect a home visit.

### Introducing our Attendance Clinic

When a child attends school on a regular basis, they take an important step towards reaching their full potential and are given the greatest opportunity to learn new things and develop their skills.

Children who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work. The more time a child spends around other children, the more chance they have of making friends and feeling included, boosting social skills, confidence and self-esteem.

While the parent/carer is primarily responsible for ensuring their child attends school regularly, where school attendance problems occur we believe the key to successfully resolving the issue is to engage/develop a collaborative partnership between the parent/carer and the school.

To support our families with attendance, we would like to introduce to you our Attendance Clinic, specifically designed to offer individual advice and support, this may be over the telephone or in person (in line with social distancing). Whether you have any anxieties, concerns, thinking about taking your child out of school during term time, or generally would like more information about your child's attendance. Please do call Mrs Latif, to book an appointment.

We endeavour to work closely with our families, and hope together we can ensure pupils have a good education, giving them opportunities to flourish in their learning safely. We look forward to your support. Warm Regards, Mrs Latif (Family Liaison Officer).



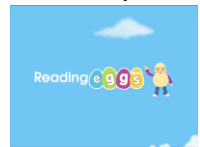
## Early Years (Reception)

A big shout out to Truth 1 and 2 for all your super hard work, during our bubble closure. We would like to thank all our wonderful families for the support they have given us. During these uncertain times, we need to pull together, adapting to the changes, that are out of our control. It's very much appreciated that you value your child's education as much as we do, and that you see the benefits of ensuring the learning continues at home.

Dojo worked wonderfully for us, it was lovely to see the children uploading their daily work and sharing their successes. It has been a valuable time for you as parents to get a deeper insight into EYFS, and for you to join us in the teaching of your little ones!

EYFS particularly enjoyed the 'Bubble Party' via Zoom, it was so good to see the excitement on their little faces! (We've missed them!)

The new trial of Reading Eggs has been a fantastic learning tool, we're happy that parents have registered and taken the time to use this fantastic, interactive resources, to support the development of early, Phonics, Reading and Maths.



Looking forward to continuing on with the hard work. Thank you :-)

## KSI (Years 1 & 2)

We have been very busy in year 1. We took part in activities that focus on mental health. We also spent time discussing who we can talk to about our thoughts and loved having 'snacks, drinks and a chat' with our teachers.



Furthermore, Miss Latif and Miss Badhan have been impressed with the amazing work that children have been doing. In English, children have been writing some fantastic sentences using 'Kung Fu' Punctuation and the sentence ladder. In Maths, we have enjoyed continuing learning about fact families, addition and subtraction.

We appreciate all the support you continue to give and can see this in the work that children produce.

We have had such an exciting time in Year 2. We have thoroughly enjoyed reading and writing about Pattan's Pumpkin and even creating our own pumpkin prints! We got very messy but had lots and lots of fun! In Maths we have begun to consolidate and deepen our understanding of addition and subtraction.

The children have continued to demonstrate their values at all times especially their determination and resilience. We could not be any prouder!



## Lower KS2 (Years 3 & 4)

Children in Year 3 had a Stone Age Day in school to consolidate their learning from their history topic this term. They participated in a number of activities which gave them an insight of what life may have been like for people living in the Stone Age. Activities included: Campfire cooking, making a model of Stonehenge using biscuits, foraging for food, a problem-solving activity linked to moving the blue stones which were used to create Stonehenge, cave painting and making tools.



Children also came dressed in Stone Age attire to further immerse themselves into the day. A great time was had by all!

Year 4 have had a busy month building up to the half term. We had our first bubble closure in Forgiveness 2 and all of the children adapted and adjusted very well. We'd like to thank the support we received from parents during that tricky time!

We have completed our learning on the Iron Man text and the children produced some really high quality poetry. The children are really getting competitive in 100 club now and we can see improvements in their timetables as well. Keep up the hard work 😊

## Upper KS2 (Years 5 & 6)

Children in Years 5 and 6 have taken part in activities focussing on Mental Health which included guest speakers who talked to our children in an online conference call. The children asked some very meaningful questions and enjoyed the sessions.



Year 6 have been completing science experiments involving circuits and electricity. Their most recent lesson involved them creating traffic lights whilst building their own switches and ensuring they work.



## Faith and Service

Our Faith and Values curriculum has continued as usual in school and we wanted to ensure the special meals that usually come alongside these events are continued. The details of the special meals this year are below:

Special Meal Date:	Event:	Special Meal:	Dessert:
Thursday, 12th Nov 20	Diwali	Vegetable Biryani (mixed rice) with Mini Pakoras or Cheesy Vegetable Pasta Cannelloni	Rice Pudding with Halwa
Monday, 30th Nov 20	Gurpurab of Guru Nanak Dev Ji	Cholay (chickpea curry) with Bhatoora (fluffy deep-fried leavened bread) or Cheesy Pasta	Jalebi or Chocolate Ice Cream
Wed, 16th Dec 20	Christmas	Christmas Parcels filled with Spinach and Cheese / Vegetables & Cheese, Roast Potatoes, Minted Sprouts, Parsnips, Carrots, served with Gravy or Cheesy Pasta	Christmas Chocolate Cake
Thursday, 4th Feb 20	Chinese New Year	Chinese Spring Rolls and Sweet and Sour Stirfry Vegetables	Coconut Rice Pudding
Thursday, 1st Apr 20	Vaisakhi	Cholay (chickpea curry) with Bhatoora (fluffy deep-fried leavened bread) or Cheesy Pasta Dessert	Halwa and Rice pudding
May 2020 (date to be set closer to the time)	Eid	Vegetable Biryani (mixed rice) with Mini Samosas or Cheesy Vegetable Pasta	Jalepi or Ice-cream

The class teacher will take a register in the morning to establish your child's meal choice therefore there is no need to inform the school, those KS2 families who pay for their meal, please make your payment on ParentPay prior to the day.

World Mental Health Day was held on Friday 10th October 2020. The day was dedicated to promoting the understanding of mental health education, awareness and advocacy. Parents and children came together to raise money on ParentPay and in total we raised £319.25 for the UK Mental Health Foundation.

The day was dedicated to looking after ourselves and each other focusing on positive mental health and well-being. Children were given the space to discuss their feelings with their peers, particularly considering any worries related to the current Coronavirus Pandemic, which of course is even more pertinent in regards to our mental health and well-being this year. Thank you for all those who donated to this worthy cause. If you would like to find out more information than please visit <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/your-mental-health/looking-after-your-mental-health>

'Sikh Your Mind' are a Mental health charity that helps the Sikh community to talk about mental health issues and general wellbeing. They also supported this event by holding Zoom meetings with KS2 children. They were founded in 2015 and have found many barriers for people when trying to access the right mental health support such as stigma and mental health being regarded as a taboo subject. They encourage all to discuss and vocalise these issues to ensure people can overcome their concerns and lead a happier, healthier life.

They work on the basis of set values such as Compassion, Strength, Equality, Trust and Togetherness. You can find out more at [www.sikhyourmind.com](http://www.sikhyourmind.com) where we have a contact form if you or someone you know needs to get in contact with our team. You can also email us: [info@sikhyourmind.com](mailto:info@sikhyourmind.com).



On Friday 13th November we will be celebrating Children in Need, this year the theme is on 'Five to Thrive'. After the stress and worry of the coronavirus pandemic, this year we are making children's mental wellbeing our number one priority – and we're bringing in some very special friends to help. Five to Thrive is a new unique programme of wellbeing activities inspired by the 5 ways to wellbeing, to help children feel happier and healthier this year. Led by Joe Wicks, Dr Radha and Blue Peter, we've got loads of fantastic content ready for our workshops next week.



We will be sending out a letter this week to tell you all about it!

## **Parent Notice Board**

### **Parking**

Please can we ensure care is taken when parking your vehicle, we are in a built up community and need to think of our neighbours. This is especially a problem on Upper Zoar Street when cars are parked on the pavements, families especially with prams or those on wheel chairs cannot get past. We would like to our parents to demonstrate the Nishkam Values to their children by having Courtesy and Respect for other road users.

### **Friday 6th November 2020 - School Photo's**

Children must be wearing their Nishkam school uniform, please note sibling photos will not be going ahead this year due to the tight restrictions on movement and mixing of bubbles. Those in Reception and Year 6 please take note of the below:

**Reception** – Please could children come to school in their uniform, no PE on this day due to the school photos being taken.

**Year 6** - Please could all children come to school wearing their school uniform and bring their PE kits in their bags. There has been steps taken to allow the children to change into their PE kits straight after the photo's to ensure they can continue on with the day as planned.

### **Monday 9th November 2020 – Flu Vaccinations**

Please could you complete and return your form by the end of the week. Information booklets were also sent to help parents make the decision on whether to consent or not. The NHS nurses request you complete the form with your decision to ensure they can update their records. If you fail to complete/return this to school they tend to telephone parents, however you can save their time by responding with the form in advance.

### **Poppy Appeal**

That time of the year has come back around and as usual the Nishkam family are happy to go that extra mile to serve others. This year, each class will have a box of Poppy Appeal Items and a money box. If you would like to support this worthy cause than please send your donation in with your child, they can then select their item in the classroom with their teacher. If you would like to know more about the Poppy Appeal please visit: <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/>

### **Dinner Money**

If your child is in KS2 and has a school meal (not eligible for FSM) than please ensure the weekly payment of £11.00 is made in advance of the meals taken. The school will not accept late payments.

### **Admissions – Facebook Campaign**

We would really like your help to spread the word and let other parents know that they have a chance to join our Nishkam family. As we are unable to have open events or distribute leaflets this year we will be show casing our wonderful school online and would really welcome your support to like and share our posts over the coming weeks on Facebook please go to <https://www.facebook.com/nishkamprimarywolves> We will be sending regular emails to ask for your support. Word of mouth is seen as one of the most powerful communication tools so please tell your friends and family about us. For any admission enquiries please contact 01902 537 970 option 3. Thank you

