

New Horizons LEARNING CENTRE

Unlocking Potential
through Learning



Dates to remember

19th Dec: Last Day
of term 12:30 finish

5th Jan: Inset Day

6th Jan: First day of
Term 3

12th Jan: CRC
Swimming lessons start

13th Feb: Last day of
Term 3

23rd Feb: First day
of Term 4

Headteacher comments:

As we finish the term, I want to celebrate the hard work of all our students. They have shown wonderful commitment and have earned their reward points by living our school values of honesty, kindness, perseverance, and respect. We are very proud of them.

A huge thank-you to all our staff for their dedication and care throughout the year. Their efforts make our school the supportive and inspiring place it is.

I wish all our families a restful Christmas break and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. 🌲

Dear Staff, Pupils, and Families of New Horizons Learning Centre,

As we reach the end of another year, I want to take a moment—on behalf of the entire Governing Body—to express my deepest gratitude and admiration for our wonderful school community.

To our incredible staff: thank you for your dedication, compassion and unwavering commitment to our pupils. Your hard work shines through in every lesson taught, every challenge overcome and every moment of support you offer. You shape lives every single day and we are immensely grateful.

To our pupils: we are so proud of everything you have achieved this year. Your resilience, enthusiasm and willingness to keep learning, growing and trying your best is inspiring. You bring energy and joy to our school and you remind us what New Horizons is all about.

To our families: your support, understanding and partnership make all the difference. Thank you for working with us, standing by us and championing your children through the ups and downs. We truly value the trust you place in New Horizons.

This festive season is a time to pause, reflect and appreciate the strength of our community. Whether you celebrate Christmas or simply enjoy a well-deserved break, I hope this holiday period brings you peace, warmth and moments of joy with the people who matter most.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a happy, and healthy New Year.

With warmest wishes,

Andrew McLean – Chair of Governors



OPERATION CHRISTMAS! AKA The Christmas Hampers!

**They are being delivered on Monday 15th
December. They will be sent home with your
child in their taxis between Monday &
Wednesday.**

If you would like collect then please let us know.

Welcome Operation Community Hamper.

Operation Community Hamper (OCH) now operates on the back of recommendations from professional establishments, such as schools, health professionals, nurseries, and social services.



Formally known as Operation Christmas Hamper, the name changed in July 2024 when they became a registered charity, as organisers realised that they were offering support throughout the year, not only at Christmas.



twinkl.com



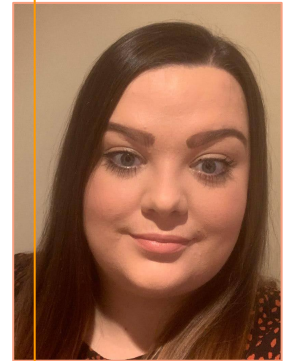
Get to know the staff

A random selection of staff & governors are selected to answer the below questions.

1. Where you were born & grew up
2. Favourite film
3. Favourite music/band/artist - whichever
4. Favourite animal
5. Favourite colour
6. How long you've worked for NHLC
7. Your dream dinner guests (living or dead) x 3
8. What do you do outside of NHLC, e.g. hobbies, family etc

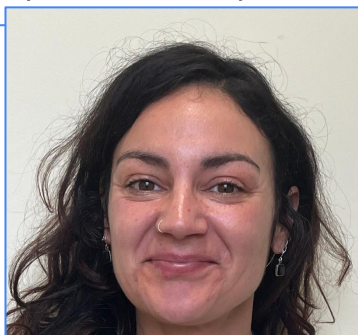
Emma Knight

1. I was born in Cardiff, grew up there and moved to Bristol in 2020 when I joined NHLC.
2. Far too many but I do love Pitch Perfect.
3. I think I have quite eclectic music taste but if I have to pick 1 it would be P!nk.
4. My new Bernese Mountain Dog puppy Finn.
5. Red
6. 5.5 years I joined in April 2020.
7. Jamie Roberts (Welsh Rugby), Rebel Wilson (funny) & My Bumpy.
8. Bake, read, watch rugby (not Wales at the moment!) & walk the dog. I do love playing netball but due to injury I can't play for a while.



Maria Jimenez-Reyes

1. Cordoba (Spain).
2. The Adams Family, The Truman Show, City of God.
3. Electronic, rock, rumba.
4. Wolf.
5. Red.
6. 1 year and 3 months
7. Jane Goodall, Nikola Tesla, Paracelsus.
8. Music, reading, going out and going to Spain on holidays



Hannah O'Farrell

1. Bristol
2. Up
3. The Script
4. Highland Cow
5. Pink
6. Since September.
7. My dad, Robin Williams, Adele
8. Outside of NHLC most of my time is spent with my family - I have a seven and two year old, so there is never a dull, or quiet moment! In any spare time I do have, I love to do my nails or bake.





Get to know the staff

Ross Green

1. I was born and raised in the South East- between Surrey and West London.
2. Right now my favourite film is Home Alone- for the other 11 months of the year... Total Recall.
3. My favourite band is either Metallica, Radiohead or Blur depending on my mood.
4. I am obsessed with Octopuses and would like to get a tattoo of one crawling over my shoulder one day.
5. Blue is my favourite colour.
6. This is my third year working at NHLC.
7. My dream dinner guests are my wife and children of course- no need to get dressed up and my kids can clear away the mess!
8. Outside of being a teacher at NHLC: I keep fit, play with Lego, watch NFL and tidy up.



Milo Shackelford

1. I was born in Aberdeen, but moved to Dorset when I was 8
2. My favourite movie is The Wild Robot, I cried twice when I first watched it
3. My favourite band is either Pendulum or The Prodigy, but Pendulum probably just edge it.
4. My favourite animal are otters, I have a tattoo of one wearing a t-shirt and cap on my arm
5. My favourite colour is green, but also a big fan of purple
6. I have been here 5 years (and it's flown by!)
7. Bob Mortimer for comedy, Stacey Dooley for her stories and Derren Brown for his magic.
8. Play 5-a-side football, go to the gym, spend time with mates/family, and run children's parties for an events company called Sharky & George.

Swimming is back

We are pleased to confirm that swimming will once again be part of the NHLC primary schools program in the new year. The pool is scheduled to be installed during the first week back, ready for students to begin their swimming lessons from 12 January 2026 through to 6 February 2026.

This program provides students with a valuable opportunity to build confidence in the water, develop essential swimming skills, and enjoy regular physical activity as part of their school routine. Further details regarding schedules, required equipment, and class arrangements will be shared closer to the start date.

We look forward to another successful and enjoyable swimming season for all students.



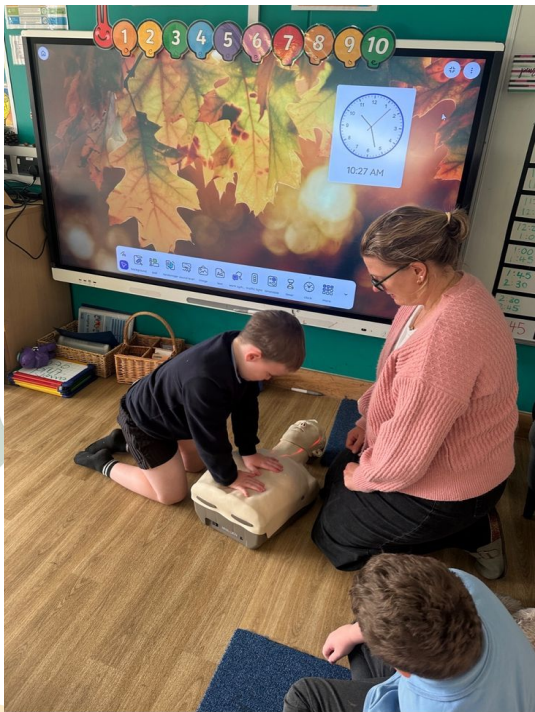
Spot light on Little Acorns

This term Little Acorns have been learning about people Who help Us. We have had some fantastic visitors. Dr Thea came to talk to us about her job and showed us how to do CPR.

Nurse Mike told us all about his job and showed us how to put on bandages.

We were learning about Postal workers and went to send some 'happy post' to our friends and family at Kingswood Post Office.

We also had a visit from our PCSO Kay who showed us her Police car.



Spot light on Year 3

Year 3 have had a great to the school year. In our 'Our World' topic we have been learning about some countries in Europe. We have also been making some food from these countries. Here are some photos of us making French and Spanish food.



Bence in year 3 has been learning to play the guitar. He brought in his electric guitar and amp, acoustic guitar and ukulele. He let his friends in his class have a go and he explained how each one is played and how each one makes a different sound.



Spot light on Year 6

We have had a successful start to year 6! We welcomed a new class member in September and have settled into a good rhythm working together in the classroom. This term our topic has been, "Our World" with a focus on South America and Africa. We have explored the Amazon rainforest, discussed globalisation and even made jungle creatures from clay. We have enjoyed reading *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell and writing our own rainforest survival story. We are looking forward to next term where we will be learning about Crime and Punishment through the centuries.



Cinema Trip

All of the students at CRC went to the cinema on 12.11 to watch *IF*, and the trip turned out to be a wonderful experience for everyone. The excitement started from the moment we arrived, and it only grew as the film began. Throughout the entire visit, every student showed impressive maturity, being sensible, respectful, and considerate of others in the cinema. We all had a fantastic time!



Messages

On Wednesday 14 January 2026 we start a new online Cygnet parent support programme course in Bradley Stoke and Friday 16 January 2026 in -person in Bradley Stoke. Specifically, for parents and carers of autistic children and young people, it will run each week for 7 weeks and there is no charge.

The Bradley Stoke course will begin at 10am in the Baileys Court Activity Centre. The online course will take place in the evening at 7pm on Zoom.

Parents of autistic children face the usual positive and difficult challenges of parenting and quite a few more. Attending Cygnet gives parents and carers an opportunity to develop their understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to support their child.

It also provides the opportunity to meet other people in a similar position and hear about their experiences in an informal, but supportive, atmosphere.

There are some criteria to attend;

The child must be aged 5-18;

They must have a formal diagnosis of Autism from a professional;

They must live in South Gloucestershire and not attended a Cygnet course previously.

There isn't a waiting list. Parents and carers can book directly using EEQU

<https://eequ.org/cygnetautismsupportforparents>

For more information please visit our web page:

<https://www.turtlecyp.co.uk/welcome-to-turtle-cyp/cygnet/>



Holiday Clubs

South Gloucestershire's Holiday Activities and Food programme is open for bookings for this winter for children and young people aged 5 to 16.

There are lots of fun clubs and activities to choose from generally between Monday 22 December 2025 and Friday 2 January 2026, although some providers may offer different dates. Places are fully funded for children and young people who receive benefits-related free school meals. Eligible pupils can be booked on up to 4 days of activities. See all the activities available and book at

www.southglos.gov.uk/HAF



Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Gloucester City Council
Transforming Your City

Wiltshire Council

www.yourholidayhubbristol.co.uk/

www.livewell.bathnes.gov.uk/children-and-families/family-support-services-and-organisations/social-leisure-and-community-0

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/

<https://rightchoice.wiltshire.gov.uk/Page/31835>

South Glos. Messages



Cygnnet Autism Support Courses start January 2026



- ✓ Free for parents or carers in South Gloucestershire
- ✓ whose children are aged 5-18
- ✓ and have a formal autism diagnosis from a professional

- Develop your understanding of autism.
- Look at practical solutions to support your child
- Meet other parents in a similar position.
- In a supportive atmosphere.

- 7 week course at either:
- Baileys Court Activity Centre starts 16 Jan 10am OR
- Online course starts 14 January 7pm.

Book now on EEQU -

<https://eequ.org/cygnetautismsupportforparents>

For more information visit

www.turtlecyp.co.uk/welcome-to-turtle-cyp/cygnnet



Funded by
South
Gloucestershire
Council



Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.



Turtle CYP is a registered charity, number 1104540

School information

SCHOOL HOURS

Mon Tues, Thurs and Fri:

09:00am - 14:45pm

Wed: 09:00am - 12:30pm

CRC 01454 532235

MDC 01454 532255

REPORT AN ABSENCE

To report an absence -

- please phone

CRC - 01454 532235

MDC - 01454 532255

and press 1 for student absence.

- Send us an email admin@nhlc.org.uk
- If your child has an upcoming appointment please take a picture of your appointment letter and email it to us on the email above.

CURRICULUM

Information on our curriculum
can be found here: [NHLC
Curriculum](#)

PLEASE REMEMBER

WE ARE A NUT
FREE SCHOOL



Uniform Reminder

CRC - Black or navy
shorts/trousers along with a
blue polo or round neck
t-shirt.

MDC - No set uniform.
However, no hoodies, no
denim, no crocs/sliders &
no offensive logos.



Can we ask a favour? We're trying to raise money for our school. It's not always easy to ask for donations these days, so we've started using easyfundraising! - simply shop with any of over 8,000 online retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S, and when you make a purchase, the brand will send us a free donation at no extra cost you. It's as simple as that

School Messages



Do you want to make a difference our school?

Being a school governor is a brilliant way of giving back to your community through supporting the pupils, staff and leaders of our school. It can also help you develop transferable skills which can be used in your own work place.

Please contact clerktogovernors@nhlc.org.uk



On 19th December school finishes at 12:30 for students.

It is very important we hold up to date details for yourself and your child.

If you wish to change any of the contact details we hold for your child

please email
admin@nhlc.org.uk

Christmas Jumper day is Thursday 11th December – children can then wear Christmas jumpers until the end of term on 19th December.



Warm packs

For extra help to keep warm during cold weather you can pick up a warm pack at our [One Stop Shops](#) and [children's centres](#).

The packs are for adults and families who may struggle to keep their homes at a comfortable temperature due to high energy costs.

Each warm pack includes:

- a hat
- socks
- gloves
- gel hand warmers
- a blanket
- a hot water bottle
- an insulated travel mug
- soup

Additional hats, gloves and socks for children will be available in the family packs.

You will also find advice on staying warm, how to make food go further and information on services which may be helpful.

Eat and Heat advice roadshows

We are partnering with charities Age UK South Gloucestershire and Severn Wye for a series of advice roadshows to help you prepare for the winter months. You can get information on:

- getting enough to eat
- cooking smarter and making food go further
- low-cost or free activities
- financial support
- energy saving tips and advice
- eligibility for Severn Wye's sustainable improvement scheme
- eligibility for benefits such as Pension Credit and the Winter Fuel Payment

The drop-in sessions are at:

Resound Church, Emersons Green

Friday 12 December, 10am to midday

Brook Way Activity Centre, Bradley Stoke

Friday 12 December, 2pm to 4pm

Elm Park Leisure Centre, Filton

Wednesday 7 January, 11.30am to 1.30pm

Kingsmeadow at Made Forever, Kingswood

Thursday 29 January, midday to 2pm

Low-cost winter activities

Keeping the family entertained this winter doesn't have to cost much. Make the most of the season with these fun, low-cost activities.

Stargazing

The darker evenings provide a great opportunity to stargaze. Choose a clear night and sit out with some blankets and a hot chocolate to watch the night sky. To learn more about what you're looking at, there are plenty of stargazing apps available.

Winter photo challenge

Give everyone a phone or camera (or take turns with one) and have a contest to capture the coolest winter-themed photo.

Library fun

Libraries are great places to visit all year round. Curl up with a couple of books, take part in a free activity or attend a story time session. Follow the [libraries Facebook page](#) for the latest news and events.

Family game night

Sometimes you can't beat a classic family game night. Grab some snacks, get cosy and enjoy some of your favourite board games, mixed in with a few new ones.

Indoor camping

Transform your living room into a campsite by building a blanket fort or setting up a tent indoors. Switch off the lights, use torches and share stories together. You can even toast marshmallows for that real camping feel.

Winter nature walks

Bundle up and explore a local park or trail. Look for animal tracks, icicles, or unique winter plants. Create a checklist of things to spot and tick them off as you go.

family Holiday Ideas

25 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

simple family activity ideas

- Decorate the Christmas tree
- Set out snacks for delivery workers
- Pick out a new ornament
- Write a letter to Santa
- Christmas music dance party
- Picnic dinner by the Christmas tree
- Family game night
- Hot cocoa bar
- Watch Home Alone with popcorn
- Watch a Christmas movie
- Read your favorite Christmas book
- Drive around to look at Christmas lights
- Go ice skating
- Shop for your sibling's present
- Shop for your adopt-a-family
- Bake cookies
- Deliver cookies to a neighbor
- Visit/volunteer at a pet shelter
- Look at last year's Christmas cards
- Wear matching pjs and take a family picture by the tree
- Have a Teddy Bear Tea at home
- Put on Christmas clothes and go out to brunch
- Decorate a gingerbread house
- Put on pjs and walk around the neighborhood looking at lights
- Make dinner together as a family
- Donate old clothes
- Learn about how a different culture celebrates the holidays
- Make and deliver thank you notes to your fire and/or police department
- Write a letter to a family member you won't see on Christmas
- Do a Christmas craft
- Donate a new toy

Websites for more ideas

<https://visitbristol.co.uk/things-to-do/free/>

<https://visitbristol.co.uk/whats-on/family-events/>

Kids go free on West buses -

<https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/news/kids-go-free-on-the-wests-buses/>

<https://bristolfamilyblog.com/bristol-summer-guide/>

South Gloucestershire's libraries have a fun-filled programme of festive activities for children and families this December. All activities are free and new faces are always very welcome (all children must bring a grown-up with them).

Find your nearest library at

... www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries



Merry Christmas



The winner of the
christmas selfie is
Year 10



Merry Christmas



The
winner of
the
christmas
selfie is
MDC
Admin





Stop norovirus spreading

Norovirus, also known as the 'winter vomiting bug', is the most common stomach bug in the UK. It can spread easily through close contact, or by contaminated surfaces, food or water.

The main symptoms of norovirus include a sudden onset of nausea, followed by projectile vomiting and diarrhoea, usually 1 to 2 days after becoming infected. Other common symptoms include a high fever, a headache and aching arms and legs.

Good hand hygiene is important to stop norovirus spreading.

To stop norovirus spreading, you should:

- wash your hands thoroughly using soap and warm water after using the toilet or contact with a sick individual and before preparing and eating food.
- stay off school or work until you have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least two days
- not rely on alcohol gels instead of washing your hands, as these do not kill the virus
- wash any contaminated clothing or bedding using detergent at 60°C using disposable gloves to handle any items
- use bleach-based cleaners to disinfect surfaces

If you catch it, stay home for 48 hours after your symptoms clear

DO



Wash clothes and bedding at 60°C



Wash hands with soap, clean surfaces with bleach-based disinfectants



DON'T



Go to work or school, visit care homes or hospitals



Prepare food for others



Most people will make a full recovery in 2-3 days without needing any medicine. It is important to keep hydrated – especially children and the elderly.

Try not to visit A&E or GP surgeries if you have symptoms of norovirus unless advised to do so by a healthcare professional, as this may spread the bug to others. Call ahead to a GP or ring NHS 111 if you are worried about your symptoms.

Further information is available at NHS 111 or NHS.uk (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/norovirus/>)