



Newsberries 26.04.2019

Headline News - Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

Please remember the school will be closed next Thursday 2nd May as we will be a Polling Station and then again on Friday 3rd May for our Occasional Day. We look forward to seeing the children return to school on Tuesday 7th May.

Welcome back! We hope you all had a good break.

This week's *Newsberries* has been sent home on paper as well as electronically to ensure that every parent accesses the newsletter this week. Please make reading *Newsberries* each week part of your Friday routine, if you do not do so already! At the beginning of each term we will be sending out a newsletter to give parents some general information.

Please remember:-

- We work hard to ensure that the newsletter has as much information as possible to best support parents, as well as celebrate our achievements. It remains our key source of information.
- If you do not usually receive our newsletter each Friday by email, please take this opportunity to check that the School Office has your most up to date contact details.
- We would also appreciate you checking that we have any updated information regarding addresses and contact details in case we need to get in touch with you urgently.
- The Newsletter is added to our website each Friday so that you can access it from there too.

Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

Please may we remind you that further details can also be found on the school's website at:

<https://newberries.herts.sch.uk/>

Open Door Policy

If you have any questions or queries relating to your child, we are always happy to speak with you. Please make contact with your child's Class Teacher about this. A quick word at the door is always available. If you feel you need more time, we would be grateful if you would make an appointment with the teacher directly or via the School Office.

Formal Parent Consultation Evenings are set up in the Autumn and Spring Term with a written summative report sent home in the Summer Term.

Pupil Wellbeing

The school's role in keeping your child both physically and emotional safe in school is paramount to us.

We work hard to promote positive interactions between pupils and support them in their developing social and emotional skills. There are strategies in place to support children who need to talk to someone during the day.

Please ensure that you regularly encourage your child to talk to an adult in school if anything is worrying them during the day, so that we can support them as quickly as possible.

School Gateway

School Gateway is a key way in which we are able to communicate with you from school. Downloading the app means that you are able to receive text messages from us (which do not incur us any costs) as well as allowing you easy access to pay for milk, dinner, school trips or any other payment you may need to make to the school. Please follow the link to find out more; log in or download the app.

<https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

School Lunches

School Meals

If you would like your child to have a school meal, please contact the School Office for further information. All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and 2 are currently able to have school meals free of charge. In Key Stage Two (Years 3-6) the cost is £2.60 a day. The menu is carefully balanced to offer a variety of choice with plenty of healthy options. The kitchen is also able to cater well for special dietary requirements and those pupils who have allergies.

Packed Lunch

If you prefer, your child may bring a packed lunch. Please may we remind you that we encourage you to send in a healthy packed lunch. Please make sure that you do not include items such as fizzy drinks or chocolate (confectionary) bars.

School Uniform

At Newberries we believe that wearing a uniform is an important part of school life. Children are expected to be neatly dressed for school at all times. As a school we feel that wearing a uniform should be clearly re-enforced and we count on your support in this. Our uniform is detailed below. Pupils may wear summer uniform this term if they prefer.

	Winter Uniform	Summer Uniform
GIRLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grey skirt, pinafore dress or tailored trousers.• White blouse and school tie• Red Newberries Jumper	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Red/white gingham dress• Red Newberries jumper
BOYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grey Trousers• White shirt and school tie• Red Newberries jumper	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Longer short grey trousers• White short sleeved shirt or• Red/white gingham short-sleeved shirt• Red Newberries jumper

PE Kits

For PE lessons pupils will need the following kit in a named bag - black shorts, red Newberries polo shirt (with school logo); plimsolls for indoor and trainers for outdoor lesson. Jogging bottoms may also be provided during colder weather for outdoor lessons.

Shoes

Indoor shoes should be black. Outdoor shoes should be appropriate for your child to wear at playtimes. Socks should be in keeping with our uniform (e.g. either grey or white).

Jewellery

Jewellery should not be worn, with the exception of small studded earrings. Nail varnish should not be worn.

Hairstyles

We expect all children to have sensible and appropriate hair styles for school – long hair should be tied back for health and safety reasons. Only small hair bands in a school colour should be worn.

Our uniform suppliers are MAPAC. Orders can be made online or by telephone.

<https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/newberriesprimaryWD7>

We also have 'nearly new' uniform available. Please contact the School Office if you would like more details of this.

We are planning to review our uniform in the coming months. We will be in contact to gain parental views on this in due course.

School Office

Office Opening Times

May we remind you that the School Office is open for parents from **8:50am to 9:30am** and again between **2:45pm and 3:45pm**.

We urge you to make visits to the office during these times, although understand that parents will be collecting children or returning from appointments throughout the day.

You may, of course, contact the office by telephone at any time if you have an urgent matter or request. Non urgent messages can be emailed to:

admin@newberries.herts.sch.uk

Parking

Parking Outside School

Once again we have had concerns raised by parents and neighbours about the way in which parents are both driving and parking outside school. Please:

- Use the one-way system and remind others who collect or drop off your child to do the same
- Park and drive responsibly

We want all of our children to feel safe when travelling to and from school!

School Governors

Please find below an overview of the team of Governors at Newberries Primary School.

Sarah Ginsberg	Chair of Governors, Safeguarding link governor
Gabi Panto	Vice Chair of Governors
Lucy Selby	Chair of Personnel Committee, PTA link governor and head of governor training and development
Martin Shields	Chair of Resources Committee
Neil Caplan	Chair of Curriculum Committee and DPO
Lewis Myers	Personnel and Finance Committees, SEN link governor and Health and Safety link governor
Richard Finer	Finance Committee and grants applications
Beverley Grant	Finance and Curriculum Committees
Rachel Wright	Curriculum Committee

Our role is:

- **Giving the school a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction**
- **Holding the Head Teachers to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils**
- **Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.**

This involves close working with the Head Teachers and Senior Leaders to set the vision of the school, whilst upholding the school's values and ethos. In order to ensure that we are working towards our aims, we work closely with Leaders to monitor both overall pupil performance as well as the school's budget.

We like to work closely with parents and staff to ensure Newberries continues to be a warm, inclusive, safe, supportive and ambitious environment for all pupils and staff. Part of this is by raising the profile of Governors to ensure we are known within our school community. We welcome communication from all parents and staff. If you have any questions or comments for us, please contact the school office or email directly to: gb@newberries.herts.sch.uk

Sarah Ginsberg (Chair of Governors)

Attendance

As a school we are expected to have an attendance figure of at least 96%. Last year our attendance figure for the whole school improved from 95% to 96%. We have continued to work closely with our Attendance Improvement Officer to improve attendance across the school.

This year we will continue to monitor attendance on a half termly basis. If your child's attendance now falls below 95% we will be writing to you to make you aware of this. Please remember that a day of absence from school counts as two sessions (morning and afternoon). Obviously, we understand there are reasons for individual children to be absent and at this point in the year this could be influenced by seasonal illness and/or religious observance. However, in order to maintain and improve upon our good attendance we are keen to keep parents informed. We thank you for your ongoing support with this. Letters will be sent out next week to parents whose child's attendance is below 95%.

PTA

Are you interested in taking a more active role in the PTA?

Our highly successful PTA work hard to provide us with the extra funds to help pay for much needed extras for the school. This varies from larger projects such as funding outdoor play equipment to finances to enhance our ICT. Regular funding also help us provide a wide range of enrichment activities and purchase individual items identified through the schools' Gift List. If you would like to get more involved please contact: ptanewberries@gmail.com

*****Gift List*****

The following link will take you to the Gift List.

As well as purchasing items from the list, there is also an option to make a one off donation or standing order to the school.

<https://newberriespta.org.uk>

School Clubs - Summer Term 2019

DAY	CLUB	TIME	SCHOOL YEAR'S	CONTACT	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Monday to Friday	Breakfast Club (Topkidz)	0745-0845hrs	All years	Dupe	dupebalogun@aol.co.uk
Monday	Helen O'Grady Musical Theatre	1630-1830hrs	All years	Amy Hill	cambs-herts@helenogrady.co.
Monday	Kids Yoga	1530-1630	Y1,2,3,4	Tasneem Alibhai	careyoga@mail.com
Tuesday	Netball	1530-1630	3-6 years	Hayley Nicholas-Jago	Hayley1@hotmail.co.uk
Tuesday	Excel Football Club	1530-1630hrs	All years	Marisa	marisa@excelsport.co.uk
Wednesday	Cricket Club	1530-1630	3-6 years	Marisa	marisa@excelsport.co.uk
Wednesday	Samurai Karate	1530-1630	All years	Doug Connell	doug.connell@shogunpractica
Thursday	Excel Dodgeball	1530-1630	2-6 years	Marisa	marisa@excelsport.co.uk
Friday	Fencing	1530-1630	3-6 years	Andy Dawson	ald@aldenham.com

Term Dates

Thursday 2nd May	INSET day
Friday 3rd May	Occasional day
Monday 27th to Friday 31st May	Half term holiday
Tuesday 23th July	End of Term
Wednesday 4th September	Children return to school – start of Autumn term.

Full list of dates and 2019/20 Academic Year will follow next week