



# Newsberries

30.11.18

## Headline News - Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

This week we are excited to welcome Mrs Jane Woods as our new School Business Leader. We are looking forward to working with Mrs Woods and are sure you will all get to meet her in due course.

With winter starting to finally make an appearance we would like to remind you all of our procedures in the event of a school closure. The most likely event for which we would close would be severe weather such as snow. Please could all parents, especially those new to the school, take the time to familiarise themselves with the procedures details below and ensure they are signed up to the Everbridge System.

Last week children in Reception participated in World Nursery Rhyme Week 2018 alongside 650,000+ children from 59 countries around the world.

*'Nursery rhymes play an important part in early childhood development and singing promotes language development, phonological awareness, vocabulary development and auditory memory' (The Speechies).*

Research shows that if children know eight nursery rhymes by the time they are four they will be confident readers and spellers (Fox, M. (2001). Reading Magic. San Diego, CA: Harcourt). Children focused on a different nursery rhyme each day including; Five Currant Buns, Humpty Dumpty, A Sailor went to Sea, I'm a Little Teapot and Round and Round the Garden. They participated in a range of different activities throughout the week and had great fun!

We had a thought provoking Anti-Bullying Worksop this week, funded by the PTA. The group spent the whole day in school working with all classes. They used role play to encourage pupils to consider scenarios and think through how they would respond in a similar situation. Work in this area is intended to raise awareness; if you have any concerns about your child please see your child's class teacher as soon as you are able to.

Thank you to Year 6 for their fabulous assembly this morning. We loved hearing about how much they had been learning about the Second and First World War.

*This Sunday is our Christmas Fair! We look forward to seeing you there!*

**Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon**

For Your Information...	Diary Dates		
<p><b>Poppy Appeal</b> Thank you those of you who supported our Poppy Appeal. The poppies sold in school have raised £157.40 for the Royal British Legion.</p> <p><b>Christmas Play</b> Please make sure you return your forms to the school office if you require tickets for the Christmas Play. This takes place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.</p> <p><b>Topkidz Breakfast Club (Reminder)</b> As there will be a Carol Service on <b>Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b> at Christchurch, Topkidz Breakfast Club will be closed.</p>	02/12	PTA Winter Fair	All
	03/12	Nasal Flu Vaccinations	YR-Y5
	03/12	Scholastic Book Fayre	
	05/12	RE Enrichment Day (PTA)	All
	11/12	Infant Play - 1:45pm	
	12/12	Infant Play - 7pm	
	13/12	Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party	Y3/4
	14/12	Christmas Jumper Day	All
	14/12	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party	Y5/6
	18/12	Infant Christmas Party	YR,1,2
	19/12	Carol Service - Christchurch	All
	20/12	Children's Christmas Dinner	All

School Closure Arrangements
<p><b>School Closure – Severe Weather</b> In case of severe weather it may be necessary to close the school. Most usually, this applies to snow. The school will close if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are not enough staff members able to travel safely to school to supervise pupils</li> <li>• The school site is not safe</li> <li>• Parents and pupils are not able to travel safely to school</li> </ul> <p>We will endeavour to open wherever possible, however the majority of our staff live a considerable distance from school and we need to take in weather conditions local to them. If we are able to open, we would always advise parents to assess the safety of their own journey. There may be times when we operate a partial or late opening / early closing approach. Parents will be kept fully informed of this.</p> <p>In order to ensure that parents are well informed, we will make decisions regarding closure as early as is possible. Sometimes this may not be until the day of the closure as conditions may change, particularly overnight. We would advise parents to be prepared with alternative arrangements if weather conditions look like a closure may be necessary.</p> <p><b>Everbridge Alert System</b></p> <p>In order to keep you well informed, we advise parents to sign up to the <b>Everbridge System</b>. This is the system we must use to ensure that County is aware of school closures. By signing up to this parents will get automatic alerts of school closures via their registered email or mobile numbers. Alongside this system we will also aim to use our own communication systems (School Gateway which allows email and text messaging) so that every parent has</p>

the best chance to gain access to the information. Apologies if you hear from us more than once!

Parents/ Carers are encouraged to sign up to ensure that they receive the vital correspondence if there is an emergency or should the school have to close in the event of severe weather.

The following link will direct you to the 'Sign Up' page for **Everbridge System**, where you can follow the instructions on screen to 'login' or 'create an account'. Please follow the instructions from there:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/emergency-school-closures/emergency-school-closures.aspx>

It should take no more than five minutes to register and you can edit your information at any time should you change mobile numbers or an email address. Each contact within the system can have two devices added for each communication type if you wish to – this means that in addition to adding your own mobile number and email address, you could include the mobile number and email address of a partner or a grandparent in your registration process. They too would then receive any messages in relation to the school's closure. Alternatively, interested parties could register themselves separately. If you have children at more than one school you can register for those schools too in a single registration process by selecting all schools you have children at. Once signed up you will receive messages relating to the status of your child's school.

School Gateway will also be used to send messages in the event of any school closure. However, these notifications will not be as immediate as using the **Everbridge System** and we therefore strongly recommend that you register via the above link.

We will endeavour to keep the school website updated with information also: -

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

**Thank you for your support in this matter.**

## Letters / Emails Home

**All**

Christmas Play Tickets Letter

**Choir**

Choir Letters

## PTA

### Christmas Fair – Sunday 2 December

We can't wait to see you all on Sunday at our fabulous Christmas Fair from 12-3pm! There will be lots of festive, family fun on offer from Christmas craft to our magical Santa's grotto. The children can even have their photo taken with Santa!

The children can have a go at classroom sumo, play lots of fun games and visit our secret room. Everyone can enjoy lots of yummy food and drink, while you pick up some lovely gifts

from our stalls. Check out our brochure for more details of what's on. Well done to Tilly in Year 6 for her winning artwork for the front cover!

Plus, if you haven't got yours already, our fantastic 'Newberries Tea Towels' and tickets for our amazing raffle will be available to buy on the door. You can win a range of great prizes including Amazon vouchers, personal training, beauty treats and much more (see our brochure for details)!

Plus, we will be screening the Arsenal v Spurs match!

A big thank you to the PTA, class reps and everyone who has been working so hard to arrange this wonderful community event.



**P.S. Thank you to everyone who has kindly donated jam jars for our jam jar dip stall.**

## Class Blogs

Class Blogs are updated each week and give a flavour of the things that have been happening across the school. Please take a look when you can! It can give you a valuable insight into work across the school as well as offer a good talking point if you would like to find out more about your child's learning each week.

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

## Stars of the Week

"Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Try to make sense of what you see and wonder about what makes the universe exist. Be curious. And however difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do and succeed at. It matters that you don't just give up."

**Professor Stephen Hawking**



**Congratulations to all our stars!**



<b>Reception</b>	<b>Anoushka</b>		
<b>Y1</b>	<b>Gracie L</b>	<b>Y2</b>	<b>Yanis</b>
<b>Y3</b>	<b>Lexie</b>	<b>Y4</b>	<b>Zachary H</b>
<b>Y5</b>	<b>James P</b>	<b>Y6</b>	<b>Alex</b>