



Newsberries

08.03.19

Headline News - Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

Big congratulations go to Year Three who came first in the Gymnastics Festival on Tuesday. They will now go through to the final. We were most impressed by the Year Two team who accompanied them and were so proud of Year Three's achievement! Well done also to Year Four who came third in the Golf competition.

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for Parents Consultations. It is always a pleasure meeting with you and sharing your child's successes and next steps. We hope you found the appointment useful. Please may we remind you that we do operate an 'Open Door' policy. If you have any questions, queries or concerns about your child please contact your child's class teacher. This can be a brief catch up after school or through an appointment booked with the School Office.

During Parent Consultations, a parent questionnaire was available. We have sent a copy of this home with Newsberries this evening in case you did not have chance to complete one. We would be grateful if you could return them by Friday 15th March. We thank you in advance for your time. Your views are extremely useful to us. If you have more than one child and your answers would differ depending on the individual, please feel free to complete additional questionnaires.

We enjoyed a fantastic World Book Day supported by an amazing author visit from Sue Hampton. Sue began the day with an assembly, sharing with pupils how personal circumstances in her life led her to start writing. Her story was inspirational. Throughout the day she worked with each class and delivered a workshop focusing on storytelling. Thank you once again to the PTA who funded this visit. Thank you also to all the children who came dressed as their favourite characters!

We have ended the week with Year Two's fantastic assembly on the importance of having a Growth Mindset. We are very proud of the work the class have been doing with the Year Two team to consider the power they have when facing new tasks and challenges. A skill for life!

Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

Red Nose Day

Friday 15th March 2019

Red Nose Day 2019 is just around the corner and we are keen, as always, to support this. To raise money, we are going to be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 15th March where children can wear any bright colours and bring a voluntary contribution of £1. The money we raise will be used to change countless lives, both here in the U.K. and worldwide.

We will also be using Red Nose Day as a learning opportunity to help our pupils explore the issues facing young people across the world and how the money we raise can help the work of Comic Relief. We really appreciate your support.

Mrs Baxter

Values Education

Values Education

As part of our work on curriculum design at Newberries Primary School, we are giving much attention to the development of values.

What are values?

Values are the principles, beliefs and standards that guide our feelings, thinking and behaviour. These values underpin the school curriculum, informing our sense of ourselves, our relationships and our society.

Why are we using values?

Our own set of values reflects and shapes our personal view of the world and how we interact with one another. By thinking about and discussing values we are helping our children to both develop their own views and opinions and respect those of others.

We want to continue to develop our happy and successful school. We believe that positive values should underpin our curriculum and all of school life.

We would appreciate your help and opinions in deciding which are the most important values for us as a school. We would be grateful if you could follow the link and select ten values from the list (shown when you access the link and below) that are important to you.

courage	happiness	kindness	responsibility
co-operation	helpfulness	perseverance	self-respect
compassion	honesty	politeness	teamwork
determination	independence	resilience	tolerance
equality	justice	respect	trust

We will analyse all your responses (together with responses collected from the children and staff) to find out which values people most agree on. This survey will close on Friday 15th March.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/XBMTB7F>

Mrs Culverhouse and Mrs Baxter

Attendance

We continue to monitor attendance on a half termly basis to ensure that we are meeting the national benchmark of 96% or above attendance across the school. During last half term our overall attendance rose slightly from 96.21% to 96.35%. We would like to thank all parents for their on-going support with this.

If your child's attendance is currently 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.

Letters will be sent out next week to parents whose child's attendance is below 95%. If there is any way as a school we can support you with improving your child's attendance please speak to your child's class teacher or contact the school office.

PTA

Gift List

A huge thank you to everyone who has already purchased from our **PTA Gift List**, which we have put together by working closely with the Newberries staff.

If you haven't had a look at it already, please click on the link below and see what's available.

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>

Diary Dates

11/3	Y5 school visit to Hazard Alley	Y5
15/3	Red Nose Day	All
22/3	PTA Mother's day sale	All
29/3	PTA Easter cake bake	All
2/4	Y3 and Y4 Play	
5/4	End of term	
23/4	Back to school for the start of the Summer Term.	

Please note: Tuesday 23rd April is St Johns School Inset day and there will be no Topkidz afterschool club on that day.

Letters / Emails Home

All Milk invoices

All Music tuition invoices

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/>

Pot of Gold Postcards

Congratulations to those children who have received a 'Pot of Gold' postcard home this week. If your child would like to have their postcard presented to them in Celebration Assembly then please send it back into school so that we can all congratulate them on their achievement!

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!
This Week



Reception	Tilly		
Y1	Florence	Y2	Kai
Y3	Alex	Y4	Oli
Y5	Jaego	Y6	Ben C