

The Value of the Month is Perseverance



Newberries Primary School

Play Together, Learn Together, Achieve Together, Grow Together

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Newsberries

27.11.2020

Headline News - Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

Another busy week in school as we approach the final days of November. The children are working hard in their classes and producing some fabulous work, which the Senior Leadership Team has seen when looking at books this week.

As we head towards the end of the Autumn Term, staff have been thinking carefully about how we can maintain some of our typical end of term activities and traditions. We have been lucky enough to keep some of our annual traditions in place, like the Christmas Pantomime, with adaptations made for our current Covid times. We look forward to engaging in some of these activities with pupils over the coming weeks.

Following yesterday's announcement regarding the tier status of our area following the second lockdown, we do not anticipate any changes to our current procedures. However, we will continue reviewing our practice following the government guidance and hope, as you do, that this will not be forever.

Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon (Headteachers)

Note from Governors

As we continue into our second half term in these strange times, the school has been following all of the Covid-19 guidance carefully to ensure the children and staff, as well as all the Newberries families, remain safe.

The school has made all the decisions on how to do this, taking into consideration our particular building and resources, and with our own pupils, families and staff in mind. It is hard to gauge what 'normal' practice is, as what is right for one school is not necessarily right for another. Please know that every decision has been carefully considered and scrutinised, keeping the safety of everyone at the forefront of all decision-making and minimising potential risks. The school is continually reviewing, risk assessing and amending all processes to make things as practical and safe as possible. This entails a huge amount of work for all staff, which is in addition to their

usual responsibilities, to plan the protocols and ensure they work logistically.

The governing body would like to thank all staff for their on-going care, commitment and hard work to ensure the school can remain open safely. Thank you to all our families for your support and understanding of our new protocols. Please be sure to read all school communication to look out for any changes made.

Sarah Ginsberg (Chair of Governors)

Support for Families

Please find below some links to websites and organisations which may be of use to you and your family. The school has a range of strategies in place to support any pupil who needs help at this time. Remember that as a school, our children are regularly encouraged to speak about their emotions and to facilitate these conversations we use Zones of Regulation. For more information on this, please visit our school website. <https://newberries.herts.sch.uk/parents/helping-your-child/> As always, we remain committed to supporting the families of our school community.

Winston's Wish

www.winstonswish.org

Free National Helpline - 08088 020 021

Child Bereavement Network

www.childhoodbereavementnetwork.org.uk

Grief Encounter

www.griefencounter.org.uk

Helpline - 0808 802 0111



HANDS

FACE

SPACE

Covid-19

Please remain alert for the symptoms of Covid-19.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19>

If anyone in your household is experiencing any of these symptoms you must not enter the school site and need to ensure that your entire household isolates at once. You will also be required to inform the school and update us of the outcome of any subsequent Covid tests, so that we can follow the relevant advice.

Class bubbles will close if we are advised to do so or if we do not have enough staff to keep the bubble open. We are working hard to avoid this. Please help us by continuing to keep us informed and follow the latest health guidance for you and your family.

Reading Books

As parents are more than aware, the school has been required to take a large number of protective measures in response to the continual advice from the government regarding Covid-19. One expectation is that schools limit the exchange of items between home and school as much as possible.

As a staff we have taken the difficult decision to continue using the online learning resources of 'Bug Club' to support reading at home. This subscription gives children access to a range of texts, at the same time limiting the transfer of items between home and school.

We are aware that schools are adopting different approaches regarding the management of such situations. This decision has been taken after careful consideration and includes factors such as:

- the number of reading book resources we have available to operate rolling quarantine system
- Staff availability to support this process

It is our intention to return to the system of sending 'real' books home as soon as we feel that the situation is safe to do so. Keeping our staff and families safe remains paramount.

In the meantime we would like to reassure you that children have access to books within their class bubbles and are enjoying being read to by their teachers regularly. Books are also used to support daily guided reading activities. Parents always have a key role in supporting a love of reading. Thank you for continuing to use the books you have at home.

Diary Dates - Coming Up!

Diary Dates

7 & 8/12	Remote Panto Workshop	All
11/12	Christmas Jumper Day	All
11/12	Christmas Lunch	All
14/12 wb	Class Christmas Parties	All
18/12	End of Autumn Term - Early finish*	All
4/1/2021	Inset day - Staff training	
5/1/2021	Children back to school - start of Spring Term	All

**Staggered finishing times to follow*

Emails Home

All	Macpac uniform supplier
Focus Families	Dinner money debt letters
Focus Families	Information regarding free school meal - winter grant

Friends of Newberries

Extended deadline for completion of Land's End to John O'Groats Challenge

Please email ptanewberries@gmail.com by **7 December** to let us know when you have completed your miles. It's looking really good so far. Thank you. The prize winners will be announced in Newsberries on 11 December.

For a full list of our Virtual Winter Fair activities, please see the attachment.

FNS Diary Dates

4 Dec	Art competition deadline
5 Dec	Infant Zoom Party
6 Dec	Junior Zoom Party
7 Dec	New deadline for completion of Land's End to John O'Groats Challenge
8 Dec	Deadline to order hampers
12/13 & 19 Dec	Visit from Santa (now fully booked)

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 this week! ✧

Reception

Parker

Year 1	Leo	Year 2	Isabelle
Year 3	Jethro	Year 4	Emilia
Year 5	Oliver	Year 6	River

After School @ Newberries - Extra Berries

Do you need some additional childcare straight after school?

We are now running our own after school club!

The club runs in our hall straight after school until 5:30pm from Monday through to Thursday. This club is run by Mrs Allen, supported by Mr Rafiq and Miss Emmanuel.

We still have some places available. If you are interested, please contact

Mrs Woods - admin@newberries.herts.sch.uk