

## The Value of the Month is Tolerance



# Newberries Primary School

Play Together, Learn Together, Achieve Together, Grow Together

Website: [www.newberries.herts.sch.uk](http://www.newberries.herts.sch.uk)

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# Newsberries

06.11.2020

## Headline News - Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

We hope you all managed to have a good half term break. It was lovely to see the children (and staff!) return so enthusiastically on Monday!

I am sure that you are as relieved as we are, that although we have now begun another national lockdown, schools have remained open. A big thank you to the increased number of parents who are now wearing masks at drop off and pick up; we also appreciate you redirecting your questions or queries to school staff via the school office. All these measures will continue to keep our school community safe .

Once again we would like to remind parents that any information regarding self isolation of families or confirmed cases will be referred to HCC Public Health as we have been directed to do so. They will then give us specific advice to follow. It is essential that we follow all guidance given to us and ensure that we also keep within the confines of confidentiality.

Latest Government Guidance arrived with us at school on Wednesday. There are a few minor changes that we have begun to implement. We will continue with our rigorous procedures to keep our school as safe as possible, reviewing these systems regularly. Alongside this we will continue with our usual school business as normally as currently possible, as well as looking towards the future and consider how we can further develop as a school.

We look forward to Parent Consultations which start for Key Stage 2 (Junior Classes) next week. We hope that you will find these helpful and a celebration of your child's return to school. If you have not yet booked an appointment or you are unable to access a digital meeting, please contact the school office so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Following today's closure, please take time to look at the information relating to Everbridge and School Gateway further on in Newberries. Have a good weekend!

**Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon** (Headteachers)

# 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>

These currently include:

- **A persistent cough**
- **A raised temperature**
- **Loss of smell or taste**

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 be closed, 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.

## Drop Off and Pick Up

Now that we have entered a second period of National lockdown please ensure that at drop off and pick up you:

- Remain socially distanced from other parents
- Wear a mask if you are able to
- Avoid talking to school staff
- Arrive at your child's designated time
- Leave the school ground promptly
- Please do not come up to the school in person to drop off forgotten items during the school day.

This week we have been trialling a different method of coming into school for our Junior pupils. This was planned to improve the speed of arrivals on rainy mornings. Once this system is working efficiently we have some future ideas to improve drop off. Thank you once again for your cooperation.

## Parent Consultation Meetings

Thank you to those parents who have already signed up for the digital Parent Consultation meetings. Key Stage Two will begin their meetings next week. Here are a few reminders to help you prepare for the meeting:

- *Please follow the link included in the email you will have received confirming your appointment slot.*
- *This will take you to the video conferencing platform, which links to our booking system.*
- *Please ensure you log on a few minutes before your allotted time.*
- *The teacher will join you as soon as your designated meeting time arrives.*
- *The system is set to end at the allotted time. This is to ensure that all parents receive an equal amount of the teacher's time.*
- *The session is planned to last ten minutes, as usual.*
- *The system will give a clear countdown as your time comes to an end so that you have a chance to finish your conversation.*
- *If for any reason we are unable to connect with you, your child's class teacher will call you on the main contact number we have for your family.*

**If you have not yet booked an appointment please contact the school office.**

## Individual School Photographs

During this new period of lock down updated operational guidance has been issued by the Department of Education regarding permitting visitors on site. In light of this new guidance we have taken the decision to postpone the school photographer's visit and will reschedule in the new year.

## Everbridge and School Gateway - Communicating school Closures -

### Everbridge Alert System

In order to keep you well informed about school closures, we advise parents to sign up to the Everbridge System. This is the system we must use to ensure that Hertfordshire 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 the best chance to gain access to the information.

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. If you have downloaded the app you will receive notification via this, non app users will receive a text message to the number provided to school. 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.

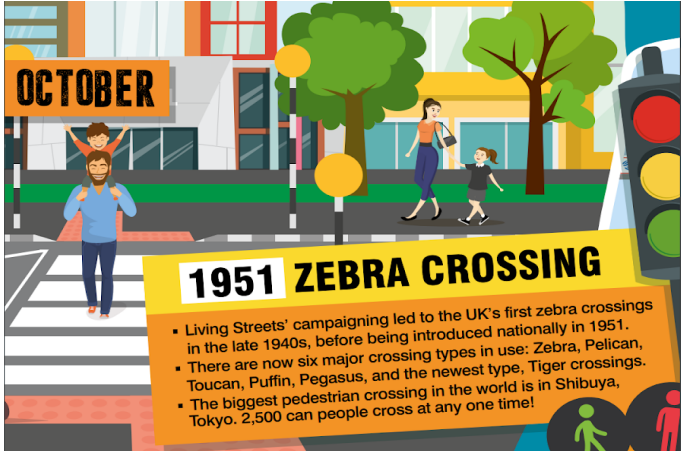
**Mrs Woods** ( School's Business Leader)

## Walk to School October Badge Awards

Congratulations to everyone who managed to walk, scoot, bike or park and stride to school at least once a week throughout October and therefore earned the October "Walk 2 School" celebratory badge. (Badges will be distributed the week beginning the 9th November.) Here are the statistics for the month of October.



Class	Number of Badges Awarded
Year 1	27
Year 2	17
Year 3	14
Year 4	25
Year 5	25
Year 6	28



Well done to everyone who earned their first Walk to School badge!

**Mrs Morris-Bowman** (Assistant Headteacher)

## November Enrichment

The month of November is a busy one, full of national days and celebrations. We have a number of events coming up and I know that our Subject Leaders are looking forward to sharing photos with you in future Newsberries.

### Remembrance

Remembrance Sunday is fast approaching and we want to support the British Legion more than ever. To do this, we will be completing Poppy Themed art projects and have poppies for sale within school. Feel free to send one coin as a donation into school for your child to buy a poppy (in a covid friendly way) from their class teacher!

**Donations are welcome into school for poppy buying only during the week beginning Monday 9th November.** \*Please note, no change will be given.

### Children In Need

Children In Need Week commences on **Monday 9th November**, ending on Friday 13th November. As a school we are joining in with 'Five to Thrive' where we will learn more about the 'Five Ways to Wellbeing', with exclusive podcasts presented and created by Joe Wicks, Dr Radha and Blue Peter.

### Anti-Bullying Week

Children will be looking at what bullying is and what to do if they are experiencing or are witnessing bullying. During this time, we will also be ensuring that children understand kindness and that we treat people how we would like to be treated. Our school actively promotes being tolerant, kind and respectful people who appreciate and value diversity. To help us promote this message we will encourage all members of our school community **to wear odd socks on Monday 16th November**. To end our awareness week, we will be participating in **Friendship Friday on Friday 20th November**.

**Mrs H Morris-Bowman** (Assistant Headteacher)

## Google Classroom

Thank you for taking the time to log into Google Classroom and take part in the optional Half Term Home Learning tasks (as well as today's Remote Learning!)

During the half term, we were pleased to see photos of your family game nights and interesting reading spots and are excited to turn them into a whole school display! This week, we continued to hand out a paper copy of Home Learning as well as upload tasks on to Google Classroom. As we have had a good amount of engagement with Google Classroom, there will be no more paper copies provided. If you are still yet to register for your child's Google Classroom account, please do so so that your child does not miss out on their Home Learning next week. If you need support in accessing Google Classroom, please do not hesitate to contact the school office so that we can assist you.

Please remember that Home Learning does not need to be printed and physically handed into school. Instead, simply take a photograph or video of your child's learning and submit it directly to your child's class teacher.

All children will receive verbal feedback from their teacher, once the Home Learning has been received, and be awarded a Home Learning Award Sticker.

### \*\*\*For Your Information\*\*\*

Home Learning and Remote Learning are different. Home Learning is weekly Homework whereas Remote Learning is available for individual children, who are well enough to be in school but unable to be in school due to isolating or quantininung, or for children to access learning due to a bubble or school closure.

To confirm, both Home Learning and Remote Learning will be accessible via Google Classroom.

**Mrs Morris-Bowman** (Assistant Headteacher)

# Friends of Newberries

## Land's End to John 'O' Groats challenge

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for the challenge. We have now covered all the miles from Land's End to John 'O' Groats challenge. Please email [ptanewberries@gmail.com](mailto:ptanewberries@gmail.com) by 30 November to confirm when you or your children have completed your sponsored miles.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO MR. MELLOR FOR RUNNING A HALF MARATHON ROUND THE SCHOOL GROUNDS BEFORE HALF TERM IN SUPPORT OF OUR CHALLENGE....HE HAS RAISED OVER £400 IN DONATIONS!! THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SPONSORED HIM.

## Winter 2020

We are organising a range of different seasonal events and activities to take place throughout December including Zoom parties, seasonal cards and gifts and hamper sales, competitions plus a visit from Santa! Please take a look at the information below to find out how you can join in.

### Seasonal cards and gifts

Looking for gifts for the family this festive season? We have just the thing! Your child should have come home today with a sample seasonal card. These can be ordered as packs of 12 for just £6.50 (including envelopes). You can also choose to have the same design made into gift tags, mugs, tea towels and even tote bags. Please print out the order form and return, as per the instructions, by Wednesday 18 November.

### Hampers

In need of additional gift ideas or a treat for over the festive period? We have two great hampers on sale. To order hampers, please email [ptanewberries@gmail.com](mailto:ptanewberries@gmail.com).

- Hamper A (£12): 4 mince pies; 4 clementine shortbread; 8 Christmas pudding truffles; made by Danielle Mitchell.
- Hamper B (£6): Christmas Eve cone sets: including one reindeer food cone, one hot chocolate reindeer cone, and one sweet cone; made by Dandy Candy.

### Zoom parties

As we can't have any discos this term, we thought the children would like a Zoom party instead. We've arranged an Infant Zoom Party with Pickamix Parties for music, dancing and games on Saturday 5 December at 3.30pm for 40 minutes. We've also booked a Junior Zoom Party with Skittleman for magic, comedy and games on Sunday 6 December at 5pm for 40 minutes. Pre-booking is essential for both parties. To book your tickets (priced at £6 each) please email [ptanewberries@gmail.com](mailto:ptanewberries@gmail.com).



## Santa visit

Can't get to a grotto this year? Then let Santa come to you! We are organising a socially distanced driveway visit from Santa on the weekend of 12 and 13 December. Visits cost £5 including a gift for one child. £3 for each additional gift; official photo £2. Pre-booking is essential. Please see the attached booking form for details.

## Art competition

Need something to keep the children busy over the next few weekends? Ask them to draw a Christmas/seasonal/winter picture – it can be anything. Submit a photo of the drawing to [ptanewberries@gmail.com](mailto:ptanewberries@gmail.com) by Friday 4 December. There will be a prize for infant and junior winners and runners up. These will be announced in Newsberries on Friday 11 December. There is NO entry charge!

## FNS Diary Dates

18th November	Deadline to order your seasonal cards and gifts
4th Dec	Art competition deadline
5 Dec	Infant Zoom party
6 Dec	Junior Zoom party
12/13	Visit from Santa

## Diary Dates - Coming Up!

### Diary Dates

<b>9/11</b>	Be Bright Be Seen Day	All
<b>9/11</b>	Parent Consultations begin (over two weeks)	All
<b>9/11</b>	Individual Child Photographs - <b>rescheduled</b>	All
<b>9/11</b>	Poppy Buying	All
<b>11/11</b>	Remembrance Day	All
<b>13/11</b>	Children In Need Day	All
<b>16/11</b>	Odd Socks Day (Anti Bullying Alliance)	All
<b>16/11</b>	Flu vaccines	All

<b>16/11</b>	Anti Bullying Week	All
<b>20/11</b>	Friendship Friday	All
<b>7 &amp; 8/12</b>	Remote Panto Workshop	All
<b>11/12</b>	Christmas Jumper Day / Festive Packed Lunch	All
<b>18/12</b>	<b>End of Autumn Term - Early finish*</b>	<b>All</b>

*\*Staggered finishing times to follow*

## Emails Home

All	Newsberrries Extra - Covid Update (Monday)
All	Dinner bills
All	Christmas lunch
All	Newsberrries Extra - School Closure (Friday)

## 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! ✧

<b>Reception</b>	<b>Minnie</b>
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<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Poppy</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Anoushka</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Joshua</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Finley</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Alex</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Sophie</b>

## 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 on - [admin@newberries.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newberries.herts.sch.uk)**