

The Value of the Month is Perseverance



Newberries Primary School

Play Together, Learn Together, Achieve Together, Grow Together

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Newsberries

09.10.2020

Headline News - Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon

This week we have included some key dates for the rest of this term. This is not an exhaustive list but it is intended to give you an overview of some of the important times in the school calendar.

In the same way as we have needed to review many established practices regarding the day to day running of the school, it is necessary for us to do this with each upcoming event. As you can imagine, every event we have previously held needs to be re-evaluated to ensure that it will comply with the strict Covid Guidelines which are in place. This is taking an immense amount of time from all school staff, but we are committed to doing this in order to retain as many experiences we can for pupils, whilst at the same time keep the community as safe as possible.

Please note that Parent Consultations are scheduled for after half term. Further details on how these will operate will be shared with parents shortly.

Thank you if you are a regular Newsberries reader! We are aware that there is a huge amount of information being shared at the moment. Our weekly newsletter remains the best source for information regarding the work of the school. Please encourage others to tune in each Friday too!

Ms Peters & Mrs Traxon (Headteachers)

****NEWS FLASH****

Year 6 Maths Challenge

Well done to the Year 6 pupils who competed in the final of the Maths Challenge today. As a school, our team reached the finals prior to lockdown. A virtual final has been held today. Our team came 7th out of 220 schools!

Congratulations Team!

HANDS

FACE

SPACE

Weekly Home Learning

During these unprecedented times, all at Newberries Primary School are proud of the fact that we continue to meet the Covid-19 Government Guidelines to ensure that all of our children are happy, settled and safe within our school environment, even though our school life is very different from the “normal” that we had been so used to.

The Government guidelines, which ensure that schools remain open and that children and staff are safe, is to prevent the spread of Covid-19 by a variety of methods. One of these methods includes limiting the amount of items moving between school and home as well as resources moving between classroom bubbles.

For this reason, we are unable to offer Home Learning via a Home Learning Book and have adapted our pre-Covid Home Learning policy to cater for this. The adaptations ensure that we are covering the most important aspects of Home Learning; which we deem are Reading, Spellings, Maths (times tables and number facts) as well as free choice activities to provide opportunities for children to understand that learning is everywhere and not just within our school classrooms and within our bubbles. In order to deliver this, we are now utilising more websites and Apps to enrich weekly Home Learning.

Our priority remains to ensure that our children receive a broad and balanced curriculum within school and have the option to complete Home Learning tasks at home to aid their understanding within the classroom. As we also strive for positive mental health for our children we decided to re-introduce Home Learning in a phased approach starting the week beginning 28th September (just 4 weeks after the whole school reopened for the first time since March 2020). The structure of which has been shared in previous Newsberries Newsletters but below is a summary for your convenience.

Moving Forward

We have standardised our approach to Home Learning across the school to make it easier for parents to navigate and have added the element of ‘optional Home Learning’ in response to our most recent survey. The password overview sheet that you have received is to enable you to have all passwords on one page. It is not to suggest that you have to access all websites on a daily/weekly basis.

- Spelling lists and free choice activities will be given to your child every **Monday**.

- Access to Times Table Rock Stars and Numbots will be available for your children to use throughout this academic year.
- Bugclub and Serial Mash is also available freely with new books and chapters being allocated by teachers each **Monday**.

By using these online learning platforms, teachers receive comprehensive analysis of a child's Home Learning throughout the week. Verbal feedback will be given to children by their class teacher throughout the week so that your child knows that their hard work is being monitored and also have an opportunity to share their learning with others. Once Home Learning has been logged, children will also receive a Home Learning Award sticker.

	Reading	Spellings	Times Tables	Free Choice
	Recommended			Optional
	Whole School	Years 1-6	Years 1-6	Years 1-6
Tasks Set	Each week, children will have access to two books via Bug Club or a few chapters of a book (Years 5 & 6).	Spelling lists will be given for children to practice independently each Monday. They will be tested on the following Monday in class.	When using Times Table Rockstars and Numbots, children will be able to play games and compete against individual peers, staff members and bubbles. Tasks are not set.	A more creative Maths, English and Topic activity will be provided to choose from. Children will be encouraged to talk about their learning/project in class.
Starting	W/B 28th September	Monday 5th October		Monday 12th October

Google Classroom Update

It is our hope, in the near future, that we can use Google Classroom to set spellings and our free choice options and give parents an overview of the tasks set and recommended time spans to use each website/app. We also hope that pupils will be able to submit work to their teacher through Google Classroom, such as photographic and/or video evidence of their optional activity.

Sadly, we are unable to do this just yet as there have been technical faults with Google Classroom that are beyond our control. Rather than waiting for Google

Classroom to become active, we decided to send paper copies of the spellings and passwords home, which you received last week. This will continue until Google Classroom is up and running and we therefore thank you for your patience. We will inform parents/carers as soon as Google Classroom is active.

Mrs Morris-Bowman (Assistant Headteacher)

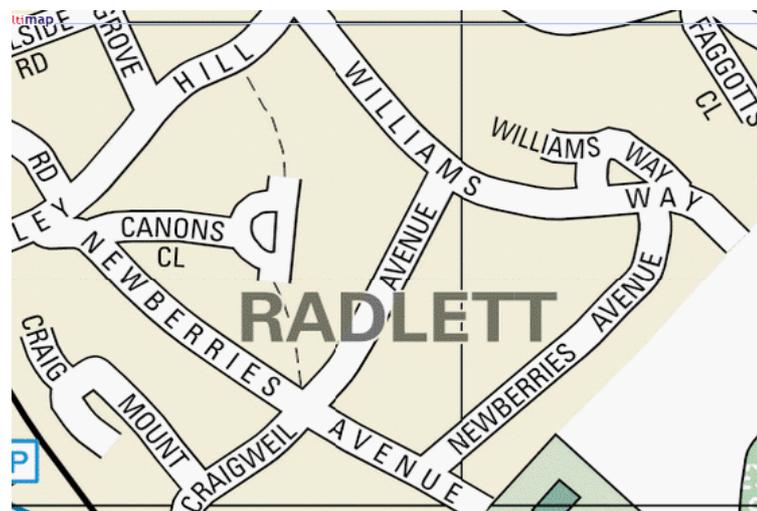
Black History Month

The month of October is Black History Month. As always, the children of Newberries' school will be celebrating and learning about the history of black people in this country and around the world, to raise their awareness of what has happened in the past. Children will be focusing on significant individuals such as Martin Luther King Jr. and Mary Seacole to gain a greater appreciation of the achievements of these individuals through adversity. I look forward to sharing our finished pieces in a future Newsberries Newsletter.

Mr Costi (History Subject Lead)

Drop-Off /Pick-Up Arrangements One Way System

A number of parents have contacted us with concerns regarding the roads nearest to the school and the number of people not adhering to the one way system.



Please remember to use the one-way system when driving to school for drop off or pick up. Even though this is a voluntary system, this has been in operation for many years to support the intense volume of traffic near the school.

Always park further away and walk if you can. If you are driving closer,

please ensure that you approach the school from the Williams Way end of Newberries Avenue. This makes it far more manageable for all drivers and safer for families. If someone else is coming to the school, please ensure they are aware of this system. **Thank you!**

Friends of Newberries

Land's End to John 'O' Groats Challenge

We are nearly halfway there with the sponsored miles for our "Newberries Primary School Walks/Runs/Cycles/Scoots from **Land's End to John 'O' Groats Challenge**". Please do enter if you haven't signed up yet so we can complete the journey – we need to cover 874 miles in total! Remember there is no longer a suggested amount per mile so you can pick your miles and get sponsored any amount. To sign up, please complete the attached entry form and return to ptanewberries@gmail.com.

Spooky Trick or Treat Trail – 16 October

A huge thank you to Griggs for sponsoring the **spooky trick or treat trail** taking place next week. Please make donations, if you haven't already, via PayPal: paypal.me/2020donations. If you don't have PayPal please email ptanewberries@gmail.com for BACS details. Suggested donation of £5.

Amazon Smile

Did you know that every time you shop on Amazon you can donate to Newberries? Simply shop at smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1047300-0 or with Amazon Smile ON in the Amazon shopping app, and select 'Friends of Newberries School' as your chosen charity. Amazon then donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to Friends of Newberries School. If you ever needed justification for a shopping spree then surely it's that – 13-14 October is Amazon Prime Day!

FNS Diary Dates

16/10	Spooky Trick or Treat Trail at school in class bubbles
Nov/Dec	Design your own seasonal cards
Dec	Something seasonal for December

Term Dates

Academic Year 2020-21

Event	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
Start/End	7th September 2020 - 18th December 2020	5th January 2021 to 26th March 2021	12th April 2021 to 21st July 2021
School Holidays Half Term	26th October 2020 to 30th October 2020	15th February 2021 to 19th February 2021	31st May 2021 to 4th June 2021
School Holiday End of Term Break	21st December 2020 to 1st January 2021	29th March 2021 to 9th April 2021	21st July 2021 to TBC September 2021
INSET Days	2nd, 3rd and 4th September 2020	4th January 2021	6th May 2021 (Polling Day)
Occasional Day			22nd July 2021

Diary Dates

Oct	Black History Month	All
19/10	Parent Consultation booking opens	All
26/10	Half Term Begins	All
2/11	Return to school	All
9/11	Parent Consultations begin	All
9/11	Individual Child Photographs	All
11/11	Remembrance Day	All
13/11	Children In Need	All
16/11	Flu vaccines	All
16/11	Anti Bullying Week	All
7 & 8/12	Remote Panto Workshop	All
11/12	Christmas Jumper Day	All
18/12	End of Autumn Term - Early finish*	All

**Staggered finishing times to follow*

Emails Home

All

Password reminders - home learning resources.

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/>

You will also find 'Meet the Teacher' information here!

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

Eden Z

Year 1	Filip	Year 2	Belle
Year 3	Izzy	Year 4	Aydin
Year 5	Jake G	Year 6	Skye

After School @ Newberries

It is with much excitement that we have launched our own after school club! With Covid restrictions meaning that our pupils could no longer attend Top Kidz hosted at St John's Infant School, we have been committed to helping our parents with wrap around care.

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

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

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