



## Newlands Junior School Newsletter October 2023



I would like to thank all parents and carers for the efforts made to send their child to school in the correct uniform/PE kit and with their reading diaries/homework. Please remember, it is a plain navy or black tracksuit. Ties must be worn every day and reading books/diaries need to be in school every day.



We still have many children who are not reading at home. This is a vital life skill and no child should leave school with poor literacy skills. As children missed so much schooling due to Covid, it is vital they are given the support needed in order to catch up. Please put 5 – 10 minutes aside each evening to practice this vital skill and enjoy spending some valuable time together sharing quality texts with your child.

Our girls and boys football teams have proved very popular this year. We have a full season of fixtures planned. If you are able, we would greatly appreciate help with transporting pupils to away matches. Without your help, we can only take 8 pupils to matches, which would be a shame. Please let the office or Mr Freeman know if you are able to help.



We have received concerns regarding pupils playing on the game Roblox. There is some very graphic content and also pupils are talking to strangers online. If your child plays on this game, please check the content. In school we are very vigilant with our filters, ensuring children are not exposed to anything which is not age appropriate or suitable. Anything that is reported to us is blocked immediately and a log is kept.



We hope to see lots of you joining us for our Harvest Festival on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of October at 9.30 for years 3 and 4 and 10.30 for years 5 and 6. This will be held at All Saints Church. Donations of tins and packets can be brought into school on the day and will be donated to a local food bank. We also support a foodbank each month collecting a different food. October is RICE PUDDING. Please send in a tin anytime in October.

As Halloween falls in half term this year, we will instead be holding a sparkle disco. This will be on Monday 6th November. Due to high numbers we will be doing this over two sessions:

Year 3 & Year 4's disco will be at 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Year 5 & Year 6's disco will be at 3:30pm – 5:00pm (children will stay in school until their disco starts)



On the day, children will be allowed to wear non uniform/something sparkly all day. Tickets will be on sale next week during break times and cost £2. Normal going home arrangements will be applied, unless you inform school any different.

We have had a difficult start to the year with our attendance due to illness and holidays. Please ensure children do not miss further days from school unless essential. Whole school attendance currently stands at 95.2% and our leading class is Class 2 with 96.9%. We are aiming for at least 96%.



Which class will be at the top of the leader board next week?

Tuesday is national Hello Yellow day where pupils will learn about mental health. They will understand that they are not alone if ever they are dealing with overwhelming feelings and that also there are many things they can do to cope with this. It is a topic we regularly discuss in school. If you feel you or your child need support, please contact Ms Elliott or Mrs Smith who may be able to put actions in place in school or signpost you to various agencies. Pupils will be able to wear something yellow if they wish e.g. a sock, bobble, t-shirt. School uniform does not have to be worn.



We have our first parents/carers evening on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Please ensure you sign up for an appointment to see your child's class Teacher.

As always, our calendar is full of exciting activities. Please read your diary dates, check the calendar on the school website and read your texts so you don't miss anything.



Thank you for your support and partnership Mrs Castledine