



I cannot believe that we are half way through the spring term already and that we break up on Friday!

The children have already participated in so many exciting maths-themed events and workshops this half term, including dressing up as a number for Number Day, working collaboratively to unlock hidden clues in Escape Rooms maths workshops and welcoming you all into the classroom to have a go at maths problem solving – it was lovely to see so many of you.

I would like to share some heart-warming news with you all – Mrs Castledine has begun her phased return to school. It is anticipated that she will be in school for part of each week. During this period of transition, we will continue to work closely together in order to keep the school running smoothly. Mrs Castledine would like to thank the governors, staff and parents/carers for their support during this difficult time.

Newlands wouldn't be the same if it wasn't for us all working together!
(Karen Elliott, Acting Head Teacher)

We are here to support our pupils as well as their families, so if you have any concerns, please speak initially with your child's class teacher. Mrs Underwood and Mrs Whitham, our fabulous office staff, are also available to help with any concerns, particularly those relating to Eduspot.

here to help

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We are delighted to announce that Miss Peck is expecting a baby and will be commencing her maternity leave after Easter. Mrs Blockley has kindly agreed to provide cover whilst Miss Peck is off.



I am sure you will join with us in congratulating Miss Peck on her wonderful news!



JOHN T RICE

Unfortunately, we have again been made aware by Mrs Bennett that there have been more incidents of poor behaviour by our pupils on the pavement outside John T Rice Infant School. Children wearing Newland's uniform are gathering on the pavement and blocking the footpath. There have also been reports of children messing around and running into the busy road. We will be monitoring who these children are and if this continues to be a problem, in order to ensure your children are safe, we will be contacting you and asking that you collect your child from school.

If your child meets you there at the end of the day, please could you ask them to wait sensibly or if possible, tell them they must stand with you, thank you.



BIKES AND SCOOTERS



It is lovely to see so many of our children leading an active lifestyle by making their way to Newlands either by walking or riding their bikes and scooters to school and we would always encourage them to do so.

However, once they enter school grounds, it is important that bikes and scooters are pushed down the path to the bike/scooter park, rather than riding them, to ensure those walking down the path don't get injured. Please remind your children to do this.

Could I also take this opportunity to remind you that electric scooters are not allowed on school grounds.

ATTENDANCE

It is vitally important that children attend school regularly. During the last half term, the majority of children have arrived at school before the start of the school day, ready to learn.

The number of children who have been late this half term has dropped significantly. There are 24 children who have been late a total of 78 times, missing a massive 22 hours and 53 minutes of learning! Please let us know if there is anything we can do to support you to get your child into school on time.

As a school, we set an attendance target of over 96%. We are getting closer to our target, as this half term our attendance is 95.5%.

Please continue to work closely with us to improve this figure over next half term, thank you.

Y6 SATs AFTER SCHOOL BOOSTERS

We will be commencing our after-school booster sessions as soon as we return to school after February half term. These will be held every Wednesday 3:05 – 4:05pm.

All Y6 children are expected to attend as this is an opportunity for them to receive additional, targeted support in the run up to them sitting their end of KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests in May:

Tuesday 9th May – Grammar and Spelling Papers

Wednesday 10th May – Reading Paper

Thursday 11th May – Maths Paper 1 & Maths Paper 2

Friday 12th May – Maths Paper 3

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher.

PE days for after half term are:

Year 3 Wednesday and Thursday
Year 4 Monday and Friday
Year 5 Tuesday and Thursday
Year 6 Monday and Friday

You will be informed by text/Marvellous Me if there are any changes.

Snacks

At Newlands, we work hard to improve the fitness levels of all the children in a number of ways:

- Providing them with 30 active minutes every day
- Educating the children on the health benefits of exercise
- Educating the children how their bodies use the food they eat
- How to eat healthily including teaching them to cook a variety of nutritional meals
- Encouraging them to bring healthy snacks to eat at break times

Recently, we have noticed that there are increasing amounts of children who are bringing snacks, which as a school, we feel are not appropriate for them to be eating, including full tubes of Pringles, large grab bags of crisps and family sharing bags of sweets. This term we have decided to re-introduce our 'Eat the Rainbow' Challenge – more information to follow over the next couple of weeks. Let's work together to encourage our children to follow a healthy lifestyle.



Diary dates – for the rest of the spring term



Date	Event
10.02.2023	Last day of school – break up for half term holidays
HALF TERM HOLIDAYS	
Week beginning: 20.02.2023	
20.02.2023	INSET DAY – School closed to all children
22.02.2023	Y6 SATs Boosters start for all Y6 children after school this week – more details to follow
Week beginning: 27.02.2023	
27.02.2023	PARENTS EVENING (2pm – 6pm) letters will be sent out on 21.02.23
28.02.2023	Y6 The Great Project – for more information go to: https://equation.org.uk/the-great-project/
2.03.2023	World Book Day – more details to follow Y6 Height and weight check
Week beginning: 6.03.2023	
7.03.2023	Y6 The Great Project
Week beginning: 13.03.2023 - Science week	
13.03.2023	Y5 & Y6 Wonderdome – this is an inflatable dome and the children will have a space show
13.03.2023	Y3 PrepareRobo - Robotics workshop which covers the Y3 coding computing curriculum
14.03.2023	Y6 The Great Project
17.03.2023	Y4 PrepareRobo - Robotics workshop which covers the Y4 coding computing curriculum
17.03.2023	Comic Relief Day in school – more details to follow
Week beginning: 20.03.2023	
20.03.2023	Y3 grandparents/parents Easter craft's workshop – come and join your child making a selection of Easter crafts and stay after to socialise with a hot cross bun and a hot drink. (9am – 11am).
20.03.2023	Whole School Science Week Assembly - parents/carers are invited to come and hear about what the children have learnt during science week (2:30pm)
21.03.2023	Y4 grandparents/parents Easter craft's workshop – come and join your child making a selection of Easter crafts and stay after to socialise with a hot cross bun and a hot drink. (9am – 11am).
21.03.2023	Y6 The Great Project
22.03.2023	Y5 grandparents/parents Easter craft's workshop – come and join your child making a selection of Easter crafts and stay after to socialise with a hot cross bun and a hot drink. (9am – 11am).
23.03.2023	Y6 grandparents/parents Easter craft's workshop – come and join your child making a selection of Easter crafts and stay after to socialise with a hot cross bun and a hot drink. (9am – 11am).
23.03.2023	Y5 Methodist Easter Workshop
24.03.2023	9am Sponsored Egg and Spoon Race – more details to follow
Week beginning: 27.03.2023 World Autism Acceptance Week	
27.03.2023	Y3 Egyptian Day (Partake) more details to follow
28.03.2023	Y6 Methodist Easter Workshop
29.03.2023	Y5 trip to London to see the sights as well as going to the theatre to see The Lion King – letters have already been sent out and payment details are on Eduspot.
30.03.2023	Whole School Easter service in school – this is for the children only , due to limited seating.
31.03.2023	Superstars, attendance and Easter competition assembly – parents/carers etc of those children who have been chosen to receive a superstars award and those who have won the Easter competition will be invited to this assembly.
31.03.2023	FINAL DAY OF THE TERM Children return to school on Monday 17th April 2023

