



I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas with your wonderful children and that they are all feeling refreshed and ready for the term ahead. I know this is a year where our Newlands community will continue to grow and prosper.

We have so many exciting events and workshops planned for this coming term and we can't wait to welcome you all in for these. We sent out diary dates to everyone before Christmas, however if you didn't receive these for any reason, please let the office know. For some of our planned events, it was stated that there would be further information sent out closer to the date – please keep an eye out for emails dropping into your inboxes as well as information posted on our closed Facebook group about these.

Thank you all for your continued support – Newlands wouldn't be the school it is if it wasn't for you all!

(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

here  
to  
help

We are delighted to announce that Miss Coupe gave birth to a beautiful baby daughter on 29<sup>th</sup> November. Mrs Scott has also given birth to an adorable baby boy on 10<sup>th</sup> December. All are doing well and I hope you will join with me to wish Miss Coupe, Mrs Scott and their families all the very best for the future!



### MOBILE PHONES

We understand the need for some of our children, particularly those who walk home, to bring their mobile phone to school so that you can contact them once they leave school. However, we have recently had a number of children who have been found to be using their phones inappropriately and should this continue, we will have no choice but to ban phones from school premises. I must stress that this would be a very last resort and a decision that we do not wish to make.

Children are aware that they MUST hand their mobile phone in, to their teacher, as they enter the classroom. Phones MUST NOT be left in children's bags during the school day because if they get lost or damaged, school will not take responsibility for this. No mobile phones are allowed to be used on the school premises, including before the school day starts. Any children found to be using their phone in this way will have their phone confiscated and a phone call home will be made asking for an adult to collect it from the school office.

**Could I please ask that only those children who need to bring a mobile phone for safety reasons bring them?**

**Thank you for your continued support with this.**

### ATTENDANCE

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

**Unfortunately, 32 children have been late a total of 177 times, missing a massive 61 hours and 41 minutes of learning! Additionally, a number of children were taken out of school to go on holiday during term time.**

**As a school, we set an attendance target of over 96%. Sadly, last term we didn't achieve this and our attendance was only 94%.**

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

All communication this year will continue to be via text to parents and e-mail. Newsletters will be sent electronically so please look out for these as they contain all the latest up to date information for things happening in school. Reminders will be on our Facebook page and copies of any letters can be found on our website. Teachers will also communicate via Marvellous Me so please ensure that you are signed up.

**School Website:** [www.newlandsjunior.co.uk](http://www.newlandsjunior.co.uk)

**Facebook Page:** Newlands Junior School

**Closed Facebook group:** Newlands Junior School Parents/Carers

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU INFORM SCHOOL IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MOBILE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS**

**PE days for this half term are:**

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

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.



### Dates for your diary. These can also be found on our school website

<b>Week beginning: 23.01.2023</b>	
23.01.2023	Y6 Maths Problem Solving Workshop - <b>parents/carers/grandparents</b> are invited to come in and have a go at solving a variety of maths problems with the children. (9 – 9:45am)
24.01.2023	Y5 Maths Problem Solving Workshop - <b>parents/carers/grandparents</b> are invited to come in and have a go at solving a variety of maths problems with the children. (9 – 9:45am)
25.01.2023	Y4 Maths Problem Solving Workshop - <b>parents/carers/grandparents</b> are invited to come in and have a go at solving a variety of maths problems with the children. (9 – 9:45am)
26.01.2023	Y3 Maths Problem Solving Workshop - <b>parents/carers/grandparents</b> are invited to come in and have a go at solving a variety of maths problems with the children. (9 – 9:45am)
26.01.2023	Y6 National Dental Epidemiology – <a href="#">more details to follow</a>
27.01.2023	Y5 Maya Day with Partake History Company
<b>Week beginning: 30.01.2023</b>	
30.01.2023	Y6 Mock SATs week
2.02.2023	Time to Talk Day – run by Mind and Rethink Mental Illness. Children will do learning with a focus on promoting conversations about mental health. For more information go to: <a href="https://timetotalkday.co.uk/">https://timetotalkday.co.uk/</a>
3.02.2023	Whole school Maths Number Day – <a href="#">more details to follow</a>



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