

# Newton Road School Newsletter

4th December 2018

Happy December everyone! Last week was extremely busy as the children across the school completed their termly assessments in reading, maths, spelling, grammar and punctuation. These assessments are completed to inform teachers so that future planning ensures we are supporting all of our children to fulfil their potential. The children coped brilliantly. Now they are done, the Christmas season is well and truly upon us. Year 1 are busy rehearsing for their nativity, our Foundation Stage are busy learning their Christmas songs and our choirs have been out performing in the community and we have other Christmas based events planned. Check out the calendar attached to the newsletter! We are already thinking about our new years resolution and with our new website [www.newtonroadschool.co.uk](http://www.newtonroadschool.co.uk) up and running we will posting all letters and communication on there as a point of reference for you. We have also been thinking about how we can be kinder to the environment so from January we have decided that we will be emailing letters and newsletters directly to you, if we have an email address on record. Paper copies will be provided for those without email or when a permission slip needs completion. This should also help to ensure that you are kept up to date with school life because it is important we all work together to ensure our children DREAM, BELIEVE, ACHIEVE!

## Attendance

Our current whole school attendance for week ending 30th November 2018 is **95.69%** and our target is 96.5% or higher at the end of the year. Last week's results are:

1<sup>st</sup> place - Hawks with 96.15%

2<sup>nd</sup> place - Badgers with 96.12%

3<sup>rd</sup> place - Owl with 95.93%

**As the winter weather hits we know children get ill. We have spoken to all of the children about the importance of washing their hands, using a tissue and putting it in a bin, and covering their mouths when they cough to help reduce the spread of germs. Our site team have also increased their cleaning regime and they come in during the day to clean down door handles and common surfaces to help keep us well.**

**As the cold weather has arrived, it is vitally important that the children wear a coat to school. We still have a number of pupils coming to school without one. Please can you ensure that your child has a coat in school everyday and ensure all items are named.**

## Foundation Stage

This week in Squirrels class we have been learning about 2D shapes. In our classroom, we created 2D shapes using lollypop sticks and described them by saying how many sides they have. In our outdoor area, we have been taking part in lots of active maths to help us name and describe shapes.

In our literacy we have been looking at the story 'Dear Zoo'. We have been labelling the different animals mentioned in the story and even have had a go at writing captions! We had our first parent reader this week. The children were so excited and really enjoyed the story! If you are interested in being our next parent secret reader, please contact either Miss Owens or Miss Webber to arrange a date and time that best suits you!

## Year 1/2

We as a phase have been working hard on our phonics, using 'Fred in our head' to help us blend words we may find tricky. This has helped us with our planning to create a fact file on buses. We have been looking at addition and subtraction in maths. In Science we are looking at recycling and how it impacts on us as a community but also in the wider world. One of our highlights every week is our 'Walk and Talk' which we hope gives the children the opportunity to talk about their day but also gives us another form of exercise to keep ourselves healthy. All in all a very busy week completed!!

## Year 3/4

We have been looking at friction in Science and how different materials can change how an object may move, due to the friction. For our Learning Journey topic, the children have been studying the artwork of Hokusai and how he used colour and design to depict a Tsumani. We have had some great examples and we love to share our work with others. Another great week! Well done!

### Year 5/6

This week we have been really impressed with the children's progress in their sketching skills. They have used the techniques they have learnt to draw a boat that they would use to visit an island, showing confidence at selecting pencils and drawing lots of detail. In Science the children have learnt about the phases of the moon and have shown this knowledge by creating excellent lift the flap books that they are really proud of.

### Parent News

We are now offering Parent Workshops sessions in our new family room at school. Our next Parent Workshop entitled '**Christmas on a Budget**' will begin on Thursday 29th November and will run each Thursday morning for 4 weeks from 9.30-11.30. Please sign up at the school office or speak to Lynn Butler on the playground. This is a fun practical session with ideas and crafts to make for Christmas. The session is for parents and carers only as there is no childcare provision. We are also taking bookings for our '**Healthy Lifestyles Parent Workshop**' running on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30th January 2019 from 9am-10am. This course will give interesting practical advice on meals, packed lunches and general healthy lifestyles.

### Sports Update

We would like to wish good luck to Mr Butler and the children who are taking part in the New Age Kurling competition at the Pemberton Centre on Wednesday 5th December.

### Choir News

Our Key Stage 1 choir along with 3 members of our Key Stage 2 choir sang some Christmas songs for the residents of Barwick House on Friday 30th November. Mrs Bates said the children sang beautifully and the residents were absolutely delighted that the children had took time out of their school day to sing to them. The afternoon was rounded off with the children and the residents enjoying a glass of squash and a biscuit together.

### Disco Arrangements

We will be holding a disco on **Thursday 6th December** for **Foundation Stage and Years One and Two**. The Disco will be **4:00-6:00 p.m.**

As before, we will not be issuing tickets in advance and you will be asked to pay on the door. Tickets will cost **£4.00 per child**. Please ensure your child has the correct change with them. The price includes a drink, a packet of crisps and a visit to Santa to pick up a present.

The arrangements for picking up from the disco to ensure the safety of pupils are as follows:

*Children need to be taken to the Year 5 & 6 entrance on the school playground where you will leave them with a member of staff after you have taken their coat from them. When you come to collect your child please go to the Year 5 & 6 entrance (remembering to bring their coats with you) and you will go into the hall where children will be lined up in class order ready to be collected and then you will leave via the main reception door.*

If your child is being picked up by someone other than a parent please notify the office on the day. Thank you for your support as this will ensure all our children are safe and enjoy themselves.

### Key Dates for Your Diary for Term 2 and 3

<b>Wednesday 19th December - School closes at 3:05pm</b>	<b>Wednesday 2nd January 2019- Training day for Staff</b>
<b>Thursday 3rd January 2019 - School re-opens to pupils</b>	<b>Friday 15th February 2019 - School closes at 3:05pm</b>
<b>Monday 25th February 2019-school re-opens to pupils</b>	<b>Friday 5th April - School closes to pupils</b>

## Christmas at Newton Road

Date	Event	Who is involved	What do I do?
<b>Thursday 6th December</b>	Foundation and KS1 Santa's Grotto and Disco 4-6pm	<b>All Foundation Stage and Year 1 and 2 children</b>	Bring your child at 4 pm with £4 for a ticket which includes Santa's Grotto
<b>Wednesday 12th December</b>	Christmas Dinner	<b>Whole School</b>	Order before midnight on Tuesday 4th December
<b>Thursday 13th December</b>	Christmas Jumper Day	<b>Whole School</b>	Wear school uniform with a Christmas jumper and bring in an item of chocolate for the tombola
<b>Thursday 13th December</b>	Christmas Sing a Long	<b>Foundation Children</b>	Come to the foundation brown doors at 2.15 pm
<b>Thursday 13th December</b>	KS2 Santa's Grotto and Disco 4-6 pm	<b>Years 3-6</b>	Bring your child at 4 pm with £4 for a ticket which includes Santa's Grotto
<b>Friday 14th December</b>	Christmas Carol Service in School from Park Road Baptist Church	<b>Whole school</b>	You don't need to do anything
<b>Friday 14th December</b>	Christmas Raffle Draw, Chocolate Tombola, Hot Chocolate and Mince Pies	<b>Parents and Children</b>	Under the shelter at 3.05pm, come with money and wrap up warm.
<b>Monday 17th December</b>	KS1 Christmas Performance 2 pm	<b>KS1</b>	Look out for the letter to order your tickets
<b>Tuesday 18th December</b>	KS1 Christmas Performance 9.15 am	<b>KS1</b>	Look out for the letter to order your tickets
<b>Tuesday 18th December</b>	Christmas Parties	<b>Whole School</b>	Look out for the letter to indicate what food items you need to send in

Each class are creating their own hamper for the raffle and we would appreciate any donations. The classes have each got their own colour scheme and donations should be in that colour. Colours are in the list below. Please can all donations be in by **Tuesday 11th December**

<b>Squirrels—White</b>	<b>Bees-Blue</b>	<b>Ants-Green</b>	<b>Dragonflies-Purple</b>
<b>Wolves-Yellow</b>	<b>Owls-Silver</b>	<b>Badgers-Red</b>	<b>Eagles-Gold</b>
<b>Red Kites-Black</b>	<b>Hawks-Orange</b>		