

Newton Road School Newsletter

5th November 2018

It's been a whirlwind at Newton Road since we came back in September! So many exciting opportunities...so much amazing learning...all for our awesome children! As a staff group here at Newton Road, we all focus relentlessly on giving all children 'equal' chances to succeed here. No child is more or less deserving. Every child, as an individual, is given every opportunity based on what is going to work for them, in order to be successful. Last week we were visited by Chris Hill (CEO of The Nene Education Trust) who was looking at how improvements to the school have been progressing. It was a very positive visit and the children were a credit to the school with their enthusiasm for learning and good behaviour. We very much look forward to seeing parents and carers at our Parent Consultation Evenings this week. The children have been working hard in class and it is always valuable to share how your child's learning is progressing. We also look forward to sharing the development work on the school building with you. We are delighted with our new ICT room, library and parent room. The hall has also had a makeover, making the school a much more vibrant place to learn. Today in assembly we discussed what it means to be part of our community and as citizens of our community how we can look after it and make the most of every opportunity it provides. This term will definitely provide even more opportunity for our pupils and we will keep you posted through our newsletter.

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance for week ending 2nd November 2018 is **95.89%** and our target is 96.5% or higher at the end of the year. Last week's results are:

1st place - Owls with 100.00%

2nd place - Dragonflies with 99.52%

3rd place - Badgers with 99.07%

A reminder to parents/carers that you must contact school on the first day of absence and leave a voicemail message if your child is absent and explain the reason for their absence. If you are having any issues regarding punctuality and attendance please contact our Parent Support Advisor.

Forest Points

On Friday in assembly we had lots of children receiving their house point badges, the children receive the following:

30 points - Children receive a certificate in their forest colour to be awarded in their phase assembly

60 points - Children receive a badge in their forest colour to be awarded in our whole school assembly

90 points - Children receive a gold badge in our whole school assembly and parents are sent a letter of congratulations. Forest points are given out for a range of reasons including use of manners, positive behaviour choices and learning behaviour choices. Well done to all the children who received their awards on Friday. This will be a regular part of our celebration assembly so for those children who did not receive one, there is still plenty of time this term.

Foundation Stage

We had all sorts of heroes in Squirrels' class on Tuesday! It was great to see the children dressed as people who help us in the community and to listen to how they help. We have a new role play area in our classroom and the children have enjoyed using the doctor's equipment and learning what the equipment is used for. The children enjoyed our maths stay and play afternoon. Thank you to all the adults that attended. Please look out for further dates for stay and play sessions.

Year 1/2

Year 1 and 2 have been busy this week finding out about newspaper reports. We have looked at the story of the Naughty Bus and have created catchy headlines to go with it. In maths we have been adding numbers together to make single and double digit answers as well as practising counting on, on a number line. The afternoons are a hive of creativity as the children are busy preparing their art work for the Remembrance Gallery on Friday. We do hope you can join us on Friday to see all that we have created.

Year 3/4

What a first week back! Year 3/4 have been working their socks off getting to grips with our new topic 'Natural Disasters'. We have explored the effects of flooding, whilst studying our new key text 'Flood' and we have been working hard to create a news report. It is safe to say we have some future journalists in the making! Also, we have learnt a little about the impact of earthquakes and the importance of having an emergency kit available. The children loved reacting to the earthquake siren and completed 'drop, cover and hold' to see how people should respond when experiencing a real earthquake. We can't wait to explore our topic further over the next few weeks.

Year 5/6

This week, we have been exploring all about space, within science, and have discovered that we already know a few fascinating facts. We are looking forward to uncovering many more in the next few weeks. We have been overwhelmed with all of the amazing projects which the children have brought in. There were a superb range of shelters, creative map making skills, fantastic presentations and many more amazing pieces of work. Well done for all the hard work that the children have done.

Uniform Expectations

The start of term is a great opportunity to remind the school community of our uniform expectations.

Boys:

- Navy blue round neck sweatshirt (with or without school logo)
- Grey tailored trousers/shorts
- White Shirt, white logo polo shirt or plain white non logo polo shirt
- Plain white or black socks
- Plain black shoes or pure black trainers without markings
- House colour forest t-shirt
- Black PE shorts
- Suitable trainers for PE

Girls:

- Navy blue round neck sweatshirt or navy blue cardigan (with or without school logo)
- Grey trousers/shorts/skirt/pinafore dress – **NB** tights must not be worn with shorts
- Blue and white gingham dress
- Plain white blouse, white logo polo shirt or plain non logo polo shirt
- Plain white or black socks or black tights
- Plain black shoes or pure black trainers without markings
- Black low heeled boots are permitted in the winter but not in the summer term
- House colour forest t-shirt
- Black PE shorts
- Suitable trainers for PE

Jewellery is not part of the school uniform but children may wear simple stud earrings. Children may also wear simple analogue or digital watches but not devices that have phone or internet. Leggings or jeans are not part of our uniform code and must not be worn at any time. If there is a compelling reason as to why your child cannot be in correct school uniform for that day you will need to inform us by letter. We only expect this to be short term and normal school uniform should be worn after this time. Pupils will also need a full PE kit in school daily. If your child does not have kit in school you will receive a letter to notify you of this. Participation in PE lessons is statutory and it is important that pupils have the correct uniform to enable them to engage fully.

Sports Update

Our sports clubs are still proving popular and it has been a pleasure to see the positivity, respect and determination being demonstrated throughout all of the club sessions. We are incredibly lucky to have welcomed Matthew Peleszok into school to work with our Year 3 and 4 children this half term. Matthew is an athletics coach, working with school staff, developing our children's physical fitness and indoor athletics skills. Mrs Sanders continues to work with the Year 3/4 girls before school and their skipping skills are continually developing and the buzz and enthusiasm from them is great. Mrs Sanders also works with our Year 5/6 pupils on developing their leadership skills in PE. Our Year 6 children continue to go swimming, working towards the aim of swimming 25 metres. Each child is making progress and this is extremely positive. They also demonstrate the school values whilst at the pool. Well done Year 6.

The Whole Child

By Keiran, Jessika, Frank, Arianna and Mia

On Friday 2nd November we were incredibly proud to be chosen to represent our school as part of a Trust wide drama project. We will become part of a touring drama show, which will perform in all of the Trust schools. We worked with Leigh Wolmarans and John Bickerdike throughout the day at Manor School. Rehearsals were fantastic and we had the opportunity to learn lots of drama skills but the most important message that we learnt on the day was:

"You are you! It doesn't matter what anybody else thinks about you! Be proud of who you are".

Snack Expectations

The school works hard to encourage all pupils to adapt a healthy lifestyle. Pupils are welcome to bring in fruit (berries, apples, oranges, tomatoes, raisins, bananas) or raw vegetable (carrot, pepper, snap peas) or rice cakes to school to eat at playtime. Pupils should not bring other snacks and we would encourage you to support our healthy eating at lunchtimes too please.

Before and After school

Over the last week we have noticed a growing number of children climbing the railings outside the front of school and climbing and jumping on and around the steps up to the school office, whilst waiting for the school gates to open or at the end of the school day. We politely ask that you encourage your children to refrain from doing this as there is a risk of your child getting hurt and it can make it more difficult for other parents and visitors to get into the school office. We would also ask that you support us in encouraging the children to walk up or down any steps on the playground rather than run, before and after school in order to prevent any accidents. We thank you for your support.

Flu Immunisations

The school nurses will be in school on **Wednesday 7th November** to administer the Flu Vaccine to children in Foundation to Year 5. It's not too late to send in your completed consent forms if you would like your child to receive the vaccine. These **MUST** be in school by the end of the school day on Tuesday 6th November. More forms are available from the office.

Key Dates for Your Diary for Term 2

Tuesday 6th November - Parents Evening	Wednesday 7th November - Parents Evening
Wednesday 7th November - Years 3/4 at 'Then and Now Exhibition'	Wednesday 7th November - Flu Immunisations Foundation-Year 5
Thursday 8th November - Foundation Junk Modelling with parents	Thursday 8th November - Years 5/6 at 'Then and Now Exhibition'
Friday 9th November - Newton Road Remembrance Gallery- Please join us at 3pm	Friday 16th November - Children In Need (Details to follow)
Monday 19th November - Individual School Photos	Thursday 22nd November - KS2 choir performing at Castle Theatre
Wednesday 19th December - Last day of term	Thursday 3rd January - School Re-Opens