

Newton Road School Newsletter

19th October 2018

What a busy term!

The school has been a hive of activity this term and the children continue to relish the opportunities we offer. We are incredibly proud of our achievements in being awarded the silver games mark for PE. On top of this, the school has also become a Music Mark member, in recognition of the music provision we offer. Due to the work of Mrs Radd, the school has also become an Arts Award Centre, which is a fantastic opportunity and allows us to deliver the Trinity College Arts Award Programme. After half term Mrs Radd will be running an arts award club, where children will explore the world of the arts and work towards their explorer award. The children's learning continues to progress well we look forward to welcoming you to our Parent Consultation Evening to discuss your child's learning with their class teacher. Have a brilliant half term and we look forward to seeing all the children back, showing PRIDE and looking smart on Tuesday 30th October.

Miss Mills

Governor News

We have had our first governors' meeting of the year and at that meeting we welcomed two new governors, Jo Goddard and Matt Coleman. Both have fantastic skills sets which compliment the skills sets already within our governing body and further strengthen our team. As this is our first entry of the year in the newsletter, we wanted to explain our role in supporting your child's educational achievement.

Local governing bodies, like us, support and oversee the day to day aspects of running the school, holding leaders to account for performance, progress and attainment. The governing body would like to say well done to all of the Year 6 pupils, who performed well in their end of Key Stage Assessment.

The overall attainment results for the pupils indicated a 3 year improvement trend in all areas tested. The progress rates also demonstrate a 3 year improvement trend. Furthermore, there was a greater percentage of pupils who achieved the higher standard in all subjects compared to previous years. We should be proud of this improvement trend, and the governing body know the school staff and leadership team are continuing to work tirelessly to improve opportunities and outcomes for the pupils in our school and wish to thank them for all that they do.

Attendance

Our current whole school attendance for week ending 19th October 2018 is **95.77%** and our target is 96.5% or higher at the end of the year. Last week's results are:

1st place - Red Kites with 100.00%

2nd place - Badgers with 97.86%

3rd place - Wolves with 97.78%

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.

Harvest Festival

Year 3 and 4 have been looking into the meaning of harvest and why each year we have our very own harvest festival. We looked at local food banks and their importance in our community. As a phase the children decided they wanted to help and sent a letter to our parents to get as many donations to our local food bank as we could. We received an amazing amount of donations and we would like to thank everyone who sent items in. These will be collected by Park Road Baptist Church and given to their food bank. To raise awareness year 3 and 4 put on a harvest festival assembly at school and invited their parents and carers along to watch.

Foundation Stage

Well done Squirrels Class for a fantastic first half term at Newton Road School! The children have worked extremely hard on learning school routines, learning to read sounds, writing their names, writing and representing numbers. This week we have been to our first Phase 1 assembly where the children celebrated achievements and learnt about Harvest Festival. We also had a very exciting visit from Professor Potts who came to collect our dinosaur eggs. We asked some very interesting questions and listened carefully to the information that Professor Potts told us. We would like to thank parents for your continued support, please check letters and our noticeboard for upcoming dates for stay and play sessions. Enjoy your half term.

Year 1/2

This week we have been writing a letter to Beegu using some fantastic language. During maths we have been looking at creating number bonds with year 1. We have shown them lots of different ways to do this. Year 2 have been continuing with place value and have used lots of different number lines to show their understanding. The children have been creating some amazing art work based on Lowry. It has taken them lots of lessons to build up their pictures and they look great.

Year 3/4

Year 3/4 have had a busy week practising for our Harvest Festival assembly. The children were really excited about performing and worked really hard to perfect their roles. The harvest festival assembly performance was inspiring and full of smiles, and we were very proud of all the children! A big thank you to those that were able to attend the performances.

In our Stone Age topic, the children have been planning to write their own story and are looking forward to showcasing their wonderful grammar skills. We have been using different resources to model our addition and subtraction skills and are developing these to use to solve various problems. The children have relished learning about Stonehenge and expertly answered a class quiz based on the monument. The children all looked fabulous in their stone age costumes and it was obvious to see a lot of effort had been put in, well done! We hope you have an amazing break and return with the wonderful enthusiasm to learn that you have shown in Term 1.

Year 5/6

Year 5 and 6 have had an action packed couple of weeks which all began with everyone making their own shelters. It was fascinating to see the creativity that was expressed and the skills of tying knots being deployed. As part of Black History Week, the children were learning about Walter Tull and the connections he has to Rushden. Please ask the children to tell you more about who he was and what makes him a significant figure. Finally, we ended last week with a theatrical extravaganza when we were visited by a local drama teacher, who specialises in Shakespeare. The children had a fantastic workshop in which they were fully immersed in a range of activities. Have a superb half term!

Sporting Update

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Silver Mark Award for the 2017/18 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of PE provision and competition across their school and into the community. We are delighted to have been recognised for our success. With a total of 85 young people competing in local inter-school competitions last year and every child representing their forest at least once a term in an intra-house sport competition, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions and events possible.

This is a great achievement for the school to be recognised for our PE provision, now we look to 2018/19 and aim for gold!

Safeguarding

CALLING ALL LITTLE MONSTERS, VAMPIRES AND THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT... ARE YOU A SAFE TRICK OR TREATER?

How to enjoy but stay safe this Halloween

- Don't knock on doors where you see 'No Trick or Treat' sign
- Always go trick or treating with an adult
- Don't talk to strangers
- Don't enter any house— stay on the doorstep
- Be visible—stay in areas that are well lit with street lamps
- Although Halloween is supposed to be spooky, be careful not to frighten elderly people

Macmillan Coffee Morning Success

Once again our Macmillan Coffee Morning was a huge success and the variety of cakes 'fake' and 'baked' was fantastic, a big thank you to you all! Your wonderful efforts made a total of **£280.11!**
Thank you once again!

Key Dates for Your Diary for Term 2

Friday 19th October - Last day of term

Tuesday 30th October - School Re-opens