

Newtown Linford Primary School



October Newsletter

Inspiring Individuality, Excellence and Adventures

Dear parents,

We have made it to half term with no bubble closures!

We think it is important to celebrate every success and believe the above is certainly something to be pleased about. We still cannot guarantee this may not happen in the future and we have robust plans in place if a bubble closure was needed. We want to thank everyone who has made this possible; the wonderful staff team who have so diligently maintained a clean and safe environment whilst teaching, you as parents who have been cautious and had your children tested where necessary and BEP who have supported us each step of the way.

"Resilience: The ability to become strong, healthy, or successful again after something bad happens."

We still remain in a global pandemic and yet we are finding ways as a community to laugh and be happy. Newtown Linford is thriving and staff have found a way to deliver an excellent education in this new format. It is wonderful to see children being so successful after missing such a long time of school and they should be extremely proud of themselves for the resilience they have demonstrated.

We may need to dig deeper in the months to come but the good news is you all have a 100% success rate of parenting through a pandemic. You most likely achieved parenting goals you had no intention of ever aiming for, entertaining your children indoors for months on end with no clubs, playcentres or playdates. Take the time to reward yourself for what you have achieved so far, it has been no mean feat. A winter of quiet weekends, watching movies, wrapped up walks and Sunday lunch at home might be what we all need anyway!

Ms Brooks and Mrs Kennedy

School Values

- ♦ Individuality
- ♦ Excellence
- ♦ Adventures

Next term our focus will be **Individuality.**

British Values



- Democracy
- The rule of law
- Individual Liberty
- Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Next term our focus will be **Democracy.**

Halloween

The PTA, along with ourselves, are aware that so many things are being cancelled for children this year and how disappointing this must be for them. Halloween is something many children look forward to and we wanted to think of a way for those who wanted to, to celebrate this in school.



On **Friday 30th October** children can come to school in fancy dress and will be receiving a treat from the PTA. If your child would rather not partake please do let us know in advance and we can modify.

Bradgate Education Partnership

We have both found being part of the Trust extremely refreshing after both previously working in Local Authorities. The support in place during this unique time in education has been invaluable. The Trust is always looking for ways to raise the profile of teaching and learning within its schools and it is definitely exciting to have joined them.

Attached is a letter to families and we encourage you to complete their questionnaire to share your views on how Newtown Linford Primary School is doing in a range of areas. Particularly as you have new Heads.

<https://bepschools.com/survey>





Attendance



1st Place - Tyburn 98.32% (they win an additional break time)

3rd Place - Bradgate 98.15% **2nd Place** - Old John 98.23% **4th Place** - Linford 97.71

Well done Newtown Linford, attendance above National for this term!

Bradgate

Bradgate class have been talking about the bucket book, such as what fills their bucket and making sure one another's buckets are always full. This means there are regular acts of kindness happening all the time in the classroom and playground. If you want the book it is— Have you filled a bucket today? A guide to daily happiness by Carol McCloud.

In mathematics children have been working on place value and trialling new ways of representing numbers.



This half term has been a history focus, we have talked about seashores in the past and present, Florence Nightingale and their favourite summer holiday.



Linford Class Update

Mrs Hamm is so pleased with Linford Class. Year 1 have been working extremely hard and producing some fantastic sentences about The Three Billy Goats Gruff.



There have been nature hunts, sorting in mathematics too, as well as being led by the children's interests.

We know children are definitely ready for a rest in Linford but they have still made it in, even when tired, with a superb attendance of 97.71%. Keep it up next half term!



Newtown Linford Primary School PTA

We really enjoyed meeting members of the PTA this half term and seeing their enthusiasm for all things NLPS!

We have plenty of ideas for raising funds that are Covid friendly which you will hear more of in due course. For now we are focusing on Christmas Cards and Halloween.

PTA generously agreed to fulfil teacher wishlists which has meant additional resources for your children in school, such as audiobooks and play equipment. This included a headteacher wish list too, so a big thank you!

If you are interested in becoming more active in the PTA please email PTA@newtown.bepschools.org. It really does help make our school extra special and as we all know, many hands makes light work...

School Council



Elections for school councillors, one per year group, will be held the week after half term. If your child would like to put their name on the ballot, children will be required to make a speech about what they would like to do in the role, how they would help their classmates and community and any changes they would like to see. They can read from notes or memorise, whichever they would feel most comfortable with. They will make their speech to their class and then an anonymous vote will be held.

Here is a link to one of the most famous speeches of all to inspire them, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KyI1LMmV3V0&safe=true>

(Old John have already elected their councillors)

Wet and Windy Weather

Please remember to make sure your child has a coat and outdoor shoes every day, even if it starts out dry.



Individuality

As one of our core values we have speaking about individuality in our assemblies. Here are some of the quotes we have used to guide our thinking. It might be a good idea to ask your children what these words mean to them and how they can do these in their everyday lives. Today we talked about what makes you, you.

"It is easy to stand with the crowd but it takes courage to stand alone." Mahatma Ghandi

"To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Children in Need 9th-15th November

We will be celebrating Children in Need in a number of ways this year.



There will be a box to donate to a local foodbank available by the office daily. Food poverty is still a reality for many people and this is a real way children



can support their wider community.



Non-uniform day on **Friday 13th November** for a £1.00 donation to Children in Need.

Families can sponsor a duck that will be in the live duck race they will be holding on the Friday, we will be watching in school! A poster with more info is attached to this Weduc.



- ◇ We have been reading Mouse Bird Snake Wolf. From this we worked on descriptive and creative writing and used natural materials to make our own magical creatures.
- ◇ In History we have made Egyptian jewellery, researched the pharaohs, made God fact files, mummified tomatoes and learned to write using hieroglyphics
- ◇ In Maths we have developed our knowledge of place value using 3 and 4 digit numbers.

We do not know about you but I would quite fancy being in Tyburn Class, it sounds so much fun!

Tyburn

My goodness Tyburn Class have been busy this term!

Here is some of the learning they have been up to...

◇ We started the term by testing simple machines that children had made during lockdown.

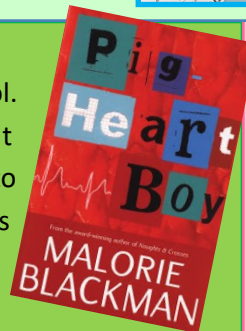
◇ We have been making musical instruments to learn about sound in Science.



Old John Class

We have already settled in nicely to the 'new normal' in school. We have sketched deer at Bradgate Park; created poetry about our identities; using place value to solve problems and getting to grips with the human heart, you may have heard the Luminaries science cover blaring out into the playground at the end of the day. We are reading Malorie Blackman's Pig Heart Boy - we are engrossed. I think I can say on behalf of the children and myself, we are back where we belong!

Mr Wright



Flu Vaccinations

Flu vaccinations will be held in school on **Wednesday 28th October**.

You must complete the Weduc link whether you do or do not consent to your child having the vaccination.

Class Dojos

We have just announced our thresholds for the new Bronze, Silver and Gold star pins we have in school.

Bronze = 50 Dojos

Silver = 100 Dojos

Gold = 200 Dojos

We are aware we have raised the game, however not only do we want the pins to reflect the high standards we have for behaviour at Newtown Linford, these pins will move through school with children. A gold pin will be a real badge of honour and something to be extremely proud of.



Ralph

The children have absolutely adored having Ralph in school on a Tuesday. Ralph has really enjoyed it too, although admittedly is quite tired from hearing readers and meeting everyone at playtime. Here he is with his head in a book and having a wander at break.

He has actually told Miss Brooks he is ready for the half term break!



Child protection and Safeguarding

internet
matters.org

In partnership with



Protecting Your Children Online

As we move into half term it may become even more challenging to manage your child's use of technology. We think this website has brilliant support for parents on protecting your children from inappropriate content, advice by age and setting controls on devices. As leaders we have often been surprised by how confidently children have told us they have created private groups or had an app their parents did not know about it. As adults it is your responsibility to become informed on these issues and keep your child safe.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Our advice is stay true to your gut instincts as parents, you do not have to allow them to use any app/game they ask to, even if they tell you everyone else in the class has it (they most likely do not!).

Families Under Pressure

Parenting in lockdown, whichever tier you are in is not always easy. In addition to this when children are feeling anxious they often challenge the people they love the most and those they feel most comfortable



around. This resources was prepared by colleagues of my husband (Mrs Kennedy) at King's College London and has some excellent and very watchable videos on a range of parenting tools and strategies. I really recommend you give them a watch.

<https://maudsleycharity.org/familiesunderpressure/>

Childline

If there was ever a time to promote conversation with children about mental health and wellbeing it would be now. There are some fantastic resources to support you in having these talks, here are a few links below.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-health-development/promoting-mental-health-wellbeing>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/kids/>

Pantosaurus

It is so important that our children are empowered and know that their body is their own and they have their own private areas. However, we know that this is a conversation parents may worry about having and so avoid the topic. Pantosaurus makes this an easy, fun chat with a simple clear message. It will also get stuck in your head! We will be sharing this video with children after half term. Empowering children helps to stop abuse sooner. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>



Dates for the diary

October

Mon 22nd—Fri 26th Oct—Half Term

Weds 28th Oct—Flu Vaccinations

Fri 30th Oct—Dress up day

November

9th –15th November—Children in Need

Fri 13th Nov—Own clothes for Children in Need (£1 donation)

December

Fri 18th Dec—Last day of term

INSET Days

Monday 4th January

Monday 12th July

Tues 13th July

Newtown Linford Primary School Website

Our new website has taken us slightly longer than expected and we appreciate your patience in this. When it does go 'live' there may still be gaps and we will endeavour to populate these as soon as possible. We will send a Weduc out when it is ready.

Uniform

We have noticed that several children are not consistently in the correct school uniform. This is most noticeably the case with school shoes and particularly in the upper school.

Our uniform policy refers to black shoes, however we ask for these to be smart black shoes. These should not be trainers, any laces should be black. If children wear boots these should be smart, black ankle boots. If you have any queries about what is correct uniform or affordability concerns please do email us and this information will be treated with the strictest of confidence.