



Newburgh Primary School

"A caring school where every child matters" (OFSTED)

Headteacher: Mr. A. Smith
B.Ed (Hons), NPQH,
PGCertSENCo

w/c: 5/3/2018

Tel: (01926) 775453

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What's on this week	Monday 5th March	Tuesday 6th March	Wednesday 7th March	Thursday 8th March	Friday 9th March
Before school 8am-8.55am			School Bank		
Activities during the school day	Violin (am)	Brass (am) Violin (pm) Woodwind (pm) Reception Pebble Assembly 2.30pm	Guitar (am/pm)	Reception Forest School: Group 2 - 8/3 - 29/3	Y5 swimming Y3 celebration assembly @ 9am
Lunchtime		Home learning Y5/6 Drama workshop	Y3,4 GIRLS cross-country trials 12pm & 12.15pm Y4,5 PAIS club		Home learning
After school (3.15-4.15pm unless otherwise stated)	Girls choir Y2 Football Reception multi-sports	Boys choir Football V St. Nick's, Kenilworth (a) PTA meeting 6.30pm	Y1 Tennis KS2 Football Y4,5,6 Gardening	Orchestra Art Club Netball V Barford (h)	Y1 Tag-rugby Y3&4 Netball

Dear parents,
Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term. What a cold week and shock to the system we have just experienced. I hope that this weather has killed off some of the really nasty bugs that have been going around the school - for children and adults alike.
Although this is a relatively short half term, there will still be plenty to do in and around school. May I draw your attention to the activities which we have encouraged children to become involved in for Easter this year. Details are on the reverse of this newsletter. We have received a few items so far and they look amazing. Ideally we would like to take receipt of any items during the week commencing 26th March, but if you have something at home which is complete, we will happily take it in whenever you would like to bring it.
Please keep an eye on the newsletter for different opportunities which come up each week in school. If you would like any further information about any of these, please don't hesitate to ask us.
Have a good week.
Kind regards, Mr. Smith

PARENTS EVENING:

Parents Evening appointments will take place on Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th March. As usual, appointments can ONLY be booked online via the eSchools app or desktop / tablet. Appointment bookings 'went live' to parents on Tuesday 27th February and will close on Thursday 8th March.
Please contact the school office immediately should you require a password reset.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME (UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS)

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of Platt v Isle of Wight Council which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Failure to make an application for leave in advance will result in the absence being recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority. Please consult the school office if you require a Leave of Absence form to be completed, returned and considered.



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Please remember our responsibilities to ourselves and our children when driving or parking around the school site. This is especially important where children and parents are crossing Kipling Avenue to enter school.

Please note that children should be arriving at school at 8.45am at the earliest.

GOVERNORS CORNER:

As the school continues to grow and the amount of pupils attending the school increases, the safeguarding of our children in and around the school is of paramount importance. During the day whilst the children are in school, the school take care of our children, however, as parents, we need to be responsible for the safety of our children at drop off and pick up times. In particular, I am thinking of the parking on Kipling Avenue and Tennyson Avenue and the congestion that occurs around the school gates. By parking too close to the school gates in the areas that are marked with white lines, causes a danger and I have a serious concern that this could lead to an accident occurring, particularly when the weather conditions are as poor as they are currently. I would strongly urge the parents that park in these areas to think about the consequences of this and to arrive at school a few minutes earlier to allow you time to park a little further away in a safe place. Many parents lead very busy lives and I appreciate that the school run can be a hectic affair, however what is important than the safety of our children?

Rob Hughes, Parent Governor

If you have an issue you would like governors to consider, please send an email to governors2325@welearn365.com

PTA NEWS:

The PTA will be holding our very popular cake sale on **Tuesday 13th March**, straight after school in the library from 3.15pm. This event runs through the evening until 7pm to coincide with Parents' Evening, and this year you will be able to purchase hot drinks while you wait to speak to the teachers too.

In order to hold this event, we ask if you can kindly donate some bought or home-made cakes on the morning of Tuesday 13th March to the trolleys outside the playgrounds. We can normally raise a great deal from this event so all help, donations and sales are hugely appreciated. If you think you could spare an hour volunteering on the stall, please sign up at the PTA social website, or contact us directly at newburghpta@gmail.com.

Lisa Hernandez, PTA Chairman.

FOREST SCHOOL:

Mrs. Franklin has asked for your help please. If you have any old or spare child-sized woolly hats or gloves that you are happy to donate to school please they would be gratefully received. These items of clothing would be put to good use making sure that children stay nice and warm when they are accessing the forest school. Since we use the forest school in all weathers (and with winter seemingly continuing) we want to make sure that children are kept as warm as possible. Any donations can be handed in to the main office please.



SCHOOL BANK:



The Bank will be open before school from 8.30am onwards on Wednesday 7th March. Once an account has been opened it can be serviced as you wish for one off deposits or for more frequent saving. If you would like any further information please come along to speak to the bank team on Wednesday morning. Any child can open an account once they have reached **seven years of age**.

YEAR 5 & 6 CROSS-COUNTRY COUNTY TRIALS:

The Year 5 & 6 county trials cross-country race will take place on Saturday 10th March. This race is being held at Hatton Country World with girls racing at 10.30am and boys at 11.00am. If you have been selected to compete in this event please make sure that a reply slip has been given to Mr Smith. There will be a lot of cars and athletes competing, so please arrive in good time for your race. Also, please wear suitably warm clothing before and after your race.

EASTER CREATIONS:

I hope that everyone has received a letter over the last week or so about changes we have made to the opportunities we are giving children at Easter this year. In previous years we have invited children to make Easter bonnets, gardens scenes etc. We will be changing this for Easter 2018 to something which we feel will have more of an impact for the whole school and the school site in particular. Activities which we are inviting children to complete this year are as follows:

Reception children are invited to decorate a wellington boot and plant some flowers in them.

Year 1 children are invited to find some flat stones and paint them brightly to make some garden bugs.

Year 2 children are invited to create some simple birdseed ornaments which can be hung from the trees on our school field.

Year 3 & 4 children are invited to decorate a plant pot in whatever way they see fit and to plant some flowers or bulbs in the pots so these can be enjoyed around the school site.

Year 5 & 6 children are invited to create a home for an animal. This may be a birdhouse or hedgehog house which we can then use around the site to encourage wildlife to live there.

There will be no judging of entries this year as we feel that this is something where everyone will be a 'winner' because the school site will look amazing as a result.

We would ask that any creations should be made **AT HOME** please (they will not be made in school) and brought into school during the final week of this term – the week commencing Monday 26th March 2018. This may seem like a long way off, but hopefully by sending this information out early it will give you chance to prepare some fantastic creations!

eSchools reminder - All communication is now being sent home via the eSchools platform. It is really important for parents to log in to eSchools and update their email address within the personal details tab to ensure that correspondence is being received. The only letters which will be sent home on paper will be those which require completion of a reply slip. Please let the school office know if you require help with log in or a password reset.