



Newburgh Primary School

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

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

w/c: 11/9/2017

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W: www.newburghprimaryschool.co.uk

What's on this week	Monday 11th September	Tuesday 12th September	Wednesday 13th September	Thursday 14th September	Friday 15th September
Before school 8am-8.55am				School bank 8.30am	
Activities during the school day	Violin (am)	Violin (pm) Brass (am)	Guitar (am/pm) House captain election 2.45pm Y2 visit to Warwick Castle	Forest School (Y3)	Celebration Assembly Y3 @ 9am
Lunchtime		Home learning			Home learning
After school (3.15-4.15pm unless otherwise stated)	Girls choir	Boys choir	PTA AGM	KS2 Football (Mr. Smith & Mr. Brandrick) ~ ONE OFF SESSION ON A THURSDAY	

Dear parents,
Welcome back to a new school year at Newburgh Primary School. I hope that you all had a good summer break and enjoyed yourselves.

I would like to wish a particular welcome to all of our new families and members of staff who are joining Newburgh this term. As a school we are still growing and now have 438 children on roll. This will mean that some of the activities which we have undertaken as a whole school will continue to be split into Key Stages or phases. Whenever this will occur parents will, of course, be informed in advance.

Prices for school meals are increasing to £2.10 per day for children in Years 3-6. Children in Years 2 and below are still eligible for a free meal daily under the universal offer from Central Government. However, if you think that you may qualify for free meals in any age group, please come and discuss this with the office staff and they will be able to guide you in applying. ALL PAYMENTS FOR SCHOOL MEALS SHOULD NOW BE MADE VIA PARENTPAY PLEASE.

There are lots of exciting activities planned for this term, both during the school day and after 3.15pm. I hope that children are able to find something in these activities which they would like to participate in. Have a good week. Many thanks, Mr. Smith

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 please.

GOVERNORS CORNER:

On behalf of Newburgh's Governors, a very warm welcome back to all parents and children for the new school year. And a special welcome to all our new children and parents, especially those joining our Reception Class. When I pay my first visit to our newcomers each year, it's always a joy to look at the sea of shiny new faces, curious to find out what this school business is all about. I spend some time each week with the reception children, and I'm looking forward to getting to know our new intake. At the other end of the school, our Year 6 children are embarking on the final leg of their primary school journey. This is an important year for them as they take their final lap culminating in SATs in the third term. We wish them all the very best of luck.

One of the most important jobs for governors this term is to approve the school's **Learning Improvement Plan**. This is a document that sets out in detail what the school's main priorities are for the year, and the governors' job is then to hold the school to account for delivering the expected outcomes as the year progresses. All parents will receive a summary of this document. In November we will have our annual **Governors' Day**, when governors spend a whole day in school, taking part in lessons, talking to children, and getting a real feel for what a typical school day really is. Have a wonderful term everybody!

Ron Binnie, Chair of Governors

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

PTA NEWS:

Welcome back everyone. I hope you've all managed to have a relaxing few weeks and are ready to jump back into busy school life. I would also like to give a warm welcome to all the new families joining the school this September.

Firstly I'd like to remind you that the **AGM** will be held on **Wednesday 13th September at 6.30pm in the Music Room**. Anyone wishing to nominate themselves for any positions on the PTA can email newburghpta@gmail.com for further information. Everyone is very welcome, and this meeting will outline some of the future events we plan to hold this academic year.

The PTA has been busy spending our hard earned donations over the summers on some fantastic new projects. Hopefully you have noticed the new scooter pods at the entrances to the infant and junior playgrounds. The PTA donated over **£1300** to buy these pods to create less clutter in the bike sheds and encourage families to use their bikes or scooters to travel to school.

We have also donated over **£5200** towards new dining tables in the school hall for lunch times. These tables are aimed at giving the children a much better dining experience by seating more children per table, and allows the dining hall to be set up much quicker and easier. We have lots of exciting ideas for this year and some big projects we would like to start raising money for. If you would like to know more about these projects then please contact us by email, or come along to our next meeting on Wednesday. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. *Lisa Hernandez, PTA Chairman*

SCHOOL UNIFORM & DRESS POLICY:

Please note that there is an updated version of the school uniform and dress policy on the school website. This version contains additional information regarding jewellery and non-uniform days.

Please note that, although not in the policy, we have noticed that more and more children are wearing 'Fitbit' style devices. These are worn at children's own risk as we are aware of how expensive they are. As a wearer myself, I know how often mine gets knocked and I would not want to see someone else's get broken at school. Parents and children should decide, please, if school is the best place for them to be worn.

CYCLING & SCOOTING TO SCHOOL:

We have a growing number of children who are either cycling or scooting to school, which is fantastic. However, not all of these children are wearing a helmet to help protect them in the event of an accident occurring. Please wear a helmet if you are choosing to cycle or scoot to school. I was informed of a very serious incident involving a 12-year-old boy who was cycling on a lane just before the summer break ~ he was not wearing a helmet sadly. We do not want any accidents to happen to our cyclists or scooter users on their journeys to and from school. Please wear a helmet if this is your preferred method of transport.



Thanks to your generosity we collected over 31,000 Sainsbury's vouchers this year. Our new PE and cookery equipment should be with us early in the Autumn Term.

SCHOOL SWIMMING 2017-2018:

From September 2017 we will be returning to the St. Nicholas Park pool for swimming lessons. These lessons will take place, as before, on a Friday afternoon as follows. Year 6 will go during the Autumn Term until Christmas. Year 5 will go during the Spring Term until Easter. Year 4 will go during the Summer Term until the summer break 2018. Specific dates and organisation for individual classes will be sent out via individual letters.

Reminder - Instrument lessons will begin week commencing 11th September (except Woodwind). All payments for the Autumn Term **must** be received before lessons can be taken up. Payment should be made on ParentPay.

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.

A reminder that children in Years 3-6 are able to purchase 'tuck' from the serving hatch in the main hall every break time. Children wanting to buy something from the hatch should take themselves and their money to the main hall at the start of break time. Items cost no more than 50 pence.

