

Newtown Church of England Primary School



**Growing together
in strength, love and wisdom,
we shine.**

**Newsletter
Friday 25th October 2024**

Message from the Head

As we come to the end of this very busy – and long – half term, it was fantastic to share our first ever Newhampton Journey Day this week as we welcomed children and staff from Welshampton. The children enjoyed a carousel of activities throughout the day which centred on one of our core values, ‘strength’.

The day began with Rev Clayton sharing the bible story of David and Goliath before both pupil and staff tug-of-war action! The children, in mixed groups, then moved through the school in activities which included the bleep test, singing, self-reflection and an escape room activity.

Following a picnic lunch on the running track we all then came together to be joined by local Paralympic Table Tennis star via Zoom who offered inspiration, experience and advice to all our children. However, the highlight of the day was how all of the children behaved and integrated with each other throughout the day. As a whole Federation staff, we were all very proud of the children. Well done all.

Thank you for the positive feedback following the day and we look forward to our termly Journey Days moving forwards.



Executive Headteacher: Mr Ben Crompton

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Recycle A Book Day

This week we were busy recycling your books from home. It was fantastic to see children so enthused about choosing new books – for free!

Thank you to all of you who brought in books from home and recycled and also to Jacob for suggesting and then Olivia for helping, as they ran the stall for the past three days with great success. What a start to their career as Environmental Ministers!

Kestrel Class Ironworks Visit



Kestrel visited The British Ironworks to see some real-life iron sculptures after reading The Iron Man in Literacy. They had a wonderful time and were even given free passes to return with their families.



Sunset Clubs Next Half Term

Monday	Craft or Netball & Basketball
Tuesday	Choir or Hockey
Wednesday	Cooking
Thursday	Football (KS2)
Friday	Quiz Night

Shoebox Appeal

This morning, during Celebration Worship, we talked to the children about the Teams4U campaign and how Newtown is joining with lots of schools nationwide to provide Christmas gifts to vulnerable children and families. This year, the shoeboxes will be heading to Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania.

All children should have brought home a leaflet which included the following information on how to fill your shoebox.



1. Find an empty shoebox – preferably medium size. Wrap the lid and the box separately in Christmas paper.
2. Boy, girl or home? Choose who you'd like your box to go to and fill out the label. Please stick to the front of your shoebox lid. Additional labels can be downloaded from the 'Teams4U' website if needed.
3. Personalise your shoebox- Take a look at the list of gift ideas in the leaflet. More ideas are also available online. Please DO NOT include: Food (only exception is sweets), medicines, military themed items (such as toy soldiers/tanks/guns), aerosols or anything highly flammable, sharp items, novels.
4. Make your donation- Please complete the attached form at the bottom of this page and enclose it in the envelope, provided along with the recommended donation of £3.00 and place inside your shoebox.
5. Drop off your shoebox- Please close your box with an elastic band and bring into school by Wednesday 13th November. A member of staff will then take it to our nearest collection point.

Of course, this is all voluntary and there is no expectations for families to take part but it would be nice if we could put together a number of shoeboxes to support those in places of need.

House Colour Day

Our Charity Ministers, Zavier and Summer, want to inform you that on November 14th, children will be invited to come into school dressed in a certain colour as part of Anti-Bullying week!

What this colour will be, is to be decided on Monday 4th November with a House vote during Worship!

Further information will be sent out when we return from half term.

School Meal Debts

We fully understand and greatly appreciate that many parents keep a close eye on their School Money balance and make regular, timely payments.

The school wishes to avoid a situation which allows parents to accrue large amounts of debt for school meals which they may then find difficult to clear. It is very time consuming for the school's office staff to chase parents for payment by phone call, text message or in person.

Ultimately, school is no different to any other café/restaurant and meals taken must be paid for. All payments are made online through Eduspot/Schoolmoney. Meals may be paid for on a daily, weekly, half termly or termly basis. The minimum payment accepted for meals is £2.50. Children will not be provided with a school meal unless it is paid for, except those that are entitled to universal or free school meals. If a parent/carer genuinely forgets to pay in advance, the school may grant a debt allowance of up to £5.00 per child. However, this debt must be paid immediately on request before any further meals are provided.

If debts are incurred, then the school budget has to pay for them. This means that money which should be spent on the children's education is used to pay for debts incurred by parents/carers. Every parent/carer will agree that this is unacceptable, and we request you give this your full support.

The Free School Meals (FSM) system is there for parents of children of all ages (even KS1 children who are entitled to UIFSM) to claim if they are in receipt of certain benefits. Parents can apply for FSM using a secure, confidential online form at www.shropshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals

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Pupil Premium Funding

Pupil Premium funding is available for eligible families, which provides additional support for children in our school. This funding can be crucial in enhancing educational opportunities and resources for your child.

The Pupil Premium is available to families who receive certain benefits. The eligibility criteria include the following:

1. **Income Support** - If your family is in receipt of Income Support.
2. **Income-Based Job Seekers Allowance** - If you are receiving this allowance.
3. **Child Tax Credit** - If your family earns less than £16,190 per annum and is not receiving Working Tax Credit.
4. **Universal Credit** - If your household's taxable earnings are less than £7,400 per annum.
5. **The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit** - If your family qualifies under this criterion.
6. **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999** - If applicable.

If you believe that you meet any of the above criteria, I encourage you to apply for Pupil Premium funding. To apply, you can complete the form attached to this email or alternatively, please contact our school office, and we would be happy to assist you.

We encourage all eligible families to apply for this funding, as it directly benefits your child and helps our school provide additional resources to enhance their learning experience.

Attendance This week

- Owl Class 94% ★
- Hawk Class 96% ★★
- Kestrel Class 93%
- Osprey Class 98% ★★★
- Falcon Class 85%

Weekly average: 93.4%

Our whole target is 97%

Shining Stars of the Week

Owl, Hawk and Falcon Class

Elexus, Taylor and Jamie who are all leaving us today as they move house. Thank you all for the joy you have brought us at Newtown and enjoy your new adventures with your baby sister!

Kestrel Class

Amelia for showing strength by always doing the right thing in class and always with a smile on her face!

Osprey Class

Jacob for having the strength of character to suggest recycling books and the running such a successful recycling service!

Outside Achievements

Tommy for gaining his Level 1 swimming certificate!



Amelia for achieving an award for her fantastic gymnastics!



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Emma for achieving two swimming certificates from her swimming coach, 'Curly.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Your sincerely,
Mr Crompton.

Key School Dates

November

14th November House Colour Day

December

12th December Christmas Jumper Day
20th December Christmas Church Service
2:00pm – Parents Welcome

January

6th – 8th January Year 5 & 6 Residential Trip
Robinwood

March

13th – 14th March Year 3 & 4 Residential Trip
Condoover

May

12th – 15th May Year 6 SATs Week

June

8th – 13th June Phonics Screening Check
Year 4 Multiplication Check

**NEWTOWN CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

NURSERY SPACES AVAILABLE

from 3 years old 8:45am to 3:15pm

We are dedicated to providing a nurturing and stimulating environment where your child will grow, learn and develop.

www.newtowncofeprimary.co.uk
admin@newtown.shropshire.sch.uk
Newtown C of E Primary School

Messy Play
Art and Crafts
Forest School
Music and Movement

To arrange a visit, call 01939 233 353

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