

Newtown Church of England Primary School



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

**Newsletter
Friday 7th February 2025**

Message from the Head

It is with great pride that I am able to share with you the published Ofsted report following our recent inspection at Newtown. The inspectors were present for two full days, an in-depth process that was preceded by comprehensive discussions between the inspection team and our school leadership.

I am delighted to inform you that the school has been graded as 'Good' in all areas, an achievement that reflects the dedication and hard work of our staff team, with the invaluable support from parents, to ensure that every child who attends Newtown feels valued and receives an excellent start in life.

Since our last inspection in 2013, over eleven years ago, education has undergone substantial changes, as have the Ofsted inspection frameworks and the internal developments here at Newtown. The recent report provides an up-to-date and accurate judgement of our school, reinforcing the confidence we have in the significant renewal and refreshment of our curriculum offer alongside the significant investment in the school environment over recent years.

A huge thank you goes to the parents who took the time to complete the online questionnaire and spoke with the inspectors. Your positivity and engagement about our school truly shone through.

I am especially grateful to our children, who spoke with such enthusiasm and genuine affection for their school. They reflected a culture of high standards, clear expectations, and a real sense of pride.

The staff and governors at Newtown remain enthused and dedicated to further enhancing the quality of education for every child in our care. We are committed to creating an environment that nurtures

curiosity, creativity, and academic achievement, ensuring that all children are well-prepared for their future after enjoying a primary education rooted in the cultivation of a love of learning and life itself.

Sunrise Breakfast Club

This week we have introduced a new system in Sunrise Breakfast Club to promote and cultivate independence amongst our children.

On arrival, the children should be left at the EYFS gate where either Mrs Hordern or Mrs Braithwaite will greet them with a menu. The children will then select what they want for breakfast and come into the Creative Studio independently – putting their bags etc in the appropriate place.

After half term, Sunrise Breakfast Club provision is being extended so it is available from 7:30am.

Costs will be as follows:

- 7:30am – 8:45am (£5)
- 7:45am – 8:45am (£4)

Please be advised that children arriving after 8:20am will not be entitled to breakfast due to the limited timeframe before the start of the school day.

Morning Drop Off

As part of our promotion of children's independence, please make every effort to say goodbye to children at the front door and allow them to enter the school on their own – even if they would prefer to be accompanied. There are staff in classrooms to assist with any bags and coats and it generally makes the start of the day a lot smoother and safeguards our children.

Road Safety Visit

A big thank you to Julia Goode, school neighbour and Parish Councillor, for coming into school and delivering an assembly on Road Safety. As part of her visit she gave all the children a reflective 'slapband' to help keep our children safe during winter.

Large Drainpipe Arrival

Thank you to Mrs Hitchen for sourcing and delivering a large drainpipe to the school last week! Watch this space as we use it to further enhance our outdoor provision... we just need to wait for some dryer weather to let the school field dry out to allow access!

Executive Headteacher: Mr Ben Crompton

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Darts Club Launch

It was good to start our first Darts Lunch Club today!

Hot on the heels of 17-year-old Luke Littler's success at the World Darts Championship, here at Newtown we are looking to inspire the next generation of darting heroes.



Accelerated Reader Impact

As you are aware we introduced the Accelerated Reader programme to Newtown children before Christmas. I am pleased to report that it is already having a positive impact and children are making good progress.

This shows how important it is for children to be reading at a level they can access rather than trying to read books which overstretch them.

Reading really does underpin a child's learning and understanding so please keep reading with your children at home.

School Trip, Visit and Activity Payments

At Newtown we aim to broaden the horizons of the children and try and plan the most inspirational and educational experiences we can for the children. As always, there is a cost of these experiences, and they are subsidised by the main school budget. As you are no doubt aware, school budgets are extremely stretched and we are always exploring different ways to find money to support the children's education.

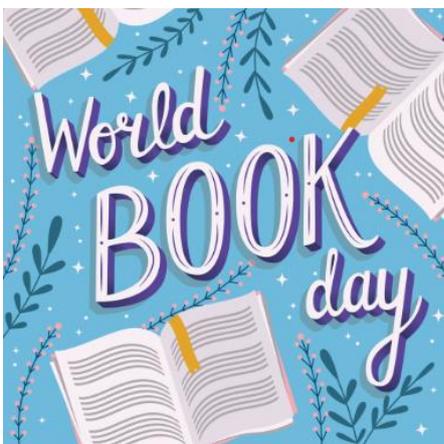
To enable this, we often ask for parental contributions for those experiences which are beyond the standard school curriculum offer - school trips, visits and activities. To make these experiences possible, we request a 'voluntary contribution' from parents. However, whilst indeed being 'voluntary' unless we receive enough contributions, in the future we will no longer be able to run them.

The school is losing a substantial amount of money, beyond the amount which is put aside to subsidise such activities, and the reality is that it is not sustainable in the long term.

Therefore, we request that if at all possible, you support school with these contributions – even if payments are made in part - they genuinely make them possible.

We also understand that finances are really tight for a lot of families and therefore if you would ever like to discuss this further, please feel free to make an appointment with myself.

World Book Day



We will be celebrating World Book Day this year on Thursday 67th March and children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite character.

More details to follow...

School Closed 1st May

School will be closed on Thursday 1st May 2025 due to the school being used as a polling station for the local elections.

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Mental Health Week

This week has been Mental Health Week and Miss Morris has led the school in a number of activities which help the children reflect on their own mental health and the importance of looking after themselves.

Increasingly within society, mental health is becoming a greater focus and for good reason. If we, as educators and families, can increase children's awareness of their own mental health, it will have a beneficial effect, not only during their school years, but far into the future.

2025/2026 School Dates

Autumn Term 1

3rd September – Friday 24th October

Autumn Term 2

Tuesday 4th November – Friday 19th December

Spring Term 1

Tuesday 6th January – Friday 13th February

Spring Term 2

Monday 23rd February – Friday 27th March

Summer Term 1

Monday 13th April – Friday 22nd May

Summer Term 2

Monday 1st June – Friday 17th July

PD Days – Children Not In

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Monday 3rd November

Monday 5th January

Monday 20th July

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Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow...

Owl - 100% ★★★★★

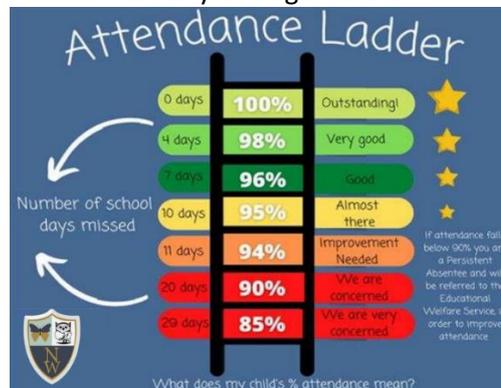
Hawk - 98% ★★★★★

Kestrel - 93% ★★★★★

Osprey - 100% ★★★★★

Falcon – 97% ★★★★★

Weekly average: 97.5%



Shining of the Week

Owl Class

Evie for demonstrating great understanding of our school rules and growing in independence.

Hawk Class

Ethan for making a huge effort during classroom discussions.

Kestrel Class

Freddie for his amazing work in times tables.

Osprey Class

Teddy for working so hard in his science.

Falcon Class

Hayley for demonstrating great progress in maths.

Class Dojo Champions

Owl Class

Jude, Darcie and Edward

Hawk Class

Alex, Theo and Tilly

Kestrel Class

Freddie, Levi and Rowan

Osprey Class

Emma, Lincoln and Percy

Falcon Class

Summer, Jack and Lucas

Outside Achievements

Congratulations to Harriet for being named as 'Girl of the Match' for her work ethic and scoring two goals in her most recent football match.



Have a wonderful weekend,

Yours sincerely,
Mr Crompton.

Key School Dates

March

6th March World Book Day
13th – 14th March Year 3 & 4 Residential Trip
Condover

April

2nd April Year 6 London Trip

May

1st May School Closed – Local Election
12th – 15th May Year 6 SATs Week
16th May Summer Camp Out

June

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

20th June Summer Ball



4TH-5TH
JULY 2025

alderFest

HOSTED BY
AJ & CURTIS
PRITCHARD

ELLA HENDERSON
PIXIE LOTT | VENGABOYS
TOPLoader | **DAVE PEARCE** | ARTFUL DODGER
ULTRABEAT | **PINK-ISH** | THE BRIGHTSIDE KILLERS | **BLOZONE** | **ELECTRIC REFLEX**

USE CODE: SCHOOL20

ON THE EDGE MOTORBIKES | LOCO LEO CIRCUS | AQUAPARK | PADDLESPOrts | FUNFAIR
DOODLE ALLEY | JUNK JODIE STORYTELLING | PLUS MUCH MORE TO COME

Safer Internet Day

Online safety training for parents and guardians by West Mercia Police

Learn more about the dangers of kids being online and how you can help to keep them safe.

Join our free one-hour online parent awareness session to give yourself a head start in an ever-changing digital world.

Date: Tuesday 11 Feb 2025
Time: 12pm
Location: Microsoft Teams via Eventbrite

Sign up to the Eventbrite session by clicking on the following link:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-safety-child-exploitation-session-for-parents-and-guardians-tickets-1223190588979?aff=oddttdtcreator>



Protect our children!

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**Health
for Kids!**

NHS
Shropshire
Community Health
NHS Trust

School Nursing

The School Nursing Team provide health and wellbeing information, advice, support and guidance to children and young people, teachers, families and carers across Shropshire. We are part of the 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service which contains Specialist Nurses (School Nurses and Health Visitors), Registered Nurses, Healthy Child Practitioners and Support Workers.

Every Local Authority funded school in Shropshire has a named School Nurse. We offer lots of different services, workshops and events enabling schools to contribute to PSHE outcomes, as well as targeted one to one support for children and their families.

Your child might come across a School Nurse in school in an education session or health related workshop, but we will not see your child alone without your consent. Sometimes, children ask us for individual advice and we will always feed this back confidentially to parents and carers.



Cheshire **KIDS** FUN DUATHLON

SAT 10TH MAY 2025

- RUN, BIKE, RUN FUN EVENT FOR 5-16 YEAR OLDS
- ALL ABILITIES WELCOME, ENTRY FROM £18
- CYCLE & RUN COURSES ALL ON GRASS
- LARGEST KIDS DUATHLON IN THE UK
- FANTASTIC KIDS FINISHERS MEDAL

Alderford **KIDS** FUN TRIATHLON

SAT 14TH JUNE 2025

- SWIM, BIKE, RUN FUN EVENT FOR 7-16 YEAR OLDS
- ALL ABILITIES WELCOME
- FRESHWATER LAKE SWIM
- ALL WITHIN THE GROUNDS OF ALDERFORD LAKE
- FANTASTIC KIDS FINISHERS MEDAL

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE TODAY AT
UKTRIATHLON.CO.UK



February Half Term Activity

Bubbles & Balloons

Make balloon animals, experiment with static electricity and a hovercraft.

Make small and big bubbles with things you can find around your home and try to make a double bubble!

£4.50 per child

Must be accompanied by an adult

Booking essential,
book online.

Mon 17th to
Fri 21st February
1pm - 2.30pm



Shropshire Hills
Discovery Centre
the home of Grow Cook Learn

www.shropshirehillsdiscoverycentre.co.uk

01588 676 060

School Road, Craven Arms SY7 9RS.
Grow Cook Learn, a registered charity: 1158795

love
oswestry

Follow us on social
media to find out more
f @LoveOswestryCC
@LoveOswestry

WINTER FESTIVAL OF ARTS & CULTURE

17-22 FEBRUARY 2025

ARTS | EXHIBITIONS | TOURS | WORKSHOPS | THEATRE



A CELEBRATION OF OSWESTRY
ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

SCAN TO SEE OUR
EVENT PROGRAMME



Funded by
UK Government

INVEST
SHROPSHIRE

Shropshire
Council

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