

# Newington CE Primary School



Welcoming Forgiven Generous Flourishing

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Dear Parents and Carers

What a year! Who could have predicted this is how we would be ending the year when I wrote my first letter to you back in September?

That is exactly how I started my last 'end of year' newsletter in July 2020 and the sentiment still holds true. Term 1 lulled us all into a false sense of security as we quickly got back into the routine of learning before local conditions in term 2 meant some classes had to learn at home and some in-school activities stopped. Term 3 and most of term 4 we were all at home and term 5 and 6 have been packed solid, trying to fit in everything we've missed. What a rollercoaster this year has been!

As the academic year comes to an end, there is much to celebrate as you can see from the class stories on Dojo that have been posted by each teacher.

The children have embraced every experience provided for them. Sports Day was a joyous occasion with the children so happy to be 'together' in their bubbles, they made up for the lack of parents with VERY loud cheering. Outdoor cooking was a delicious way to end the term and will certainly become a fixture on our school calendar.

I am very proud of the team and their sterling efforts to maximise every moment of learning this year; going above and beyond, delivering resources, buddy bears, laptops and doing whatever was needed to make things work. Yet another reason why the team Newington is so special.

As it stands September will look mostly 'normal' but I've set out a few control measures we will still have in place later in this letter.

All that is left is for me to wish you a wonderful summer and to say that we look forward to seeing all of you on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

Kind regards

Tara Deevoy  
(Executive Headteacher)



**KINDNESS**

**PERSEVERENCE**

**RESPECT**

**HONESTY**

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## NOTE FROM CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

On behalf of the governors, I would like to say thank you to all the staff and senior leaders and thank you to all the parents who have supported at home at various points throughout the year. I would like to particularly highlight the efforts of the staff in providing good quality online learning when we were in lockdown. This was really challenging but I have received very positive feedback from the local authority regarding our online offer and the way the school made sure everyone was able to access this.



I look forward to welcoming you back to school in September. I know that things may still be a little different but in essence it will be 'business as usual' and we will continue to get on with the business of learning.

Have an enjoyable break and stay safe and well.

Peter Marshall

## STAFFING

Goodbye

With the abundance of babies this year we have said goodbye to Mrs Brincat, Miss Blackbourn, Mrs Baptie and Mrs Spencer! Ben Gillies our reading tutor has also left us to begin his teacher training at a secondary school in Rainham and we wish him all the best. However, the good news is that Mrs Blackbourn will be returning part-time in September and Mr Lloyd will be coming across from Lower Halstow to join the team and has already met his class on transition day. Miss Hendry will formally join the teaching team in September with her own class in Y3 and we will also be welcoming a couple of new faces as we expand the team in order to support children with additional needs. Mrs Reynolds and Miss Mishali will join the team in September working with a range of pupils across the school. We will also be welcoming Mrs Jacobs who will be working in Y5 alongside Mrs Calder.

Hello!  
😊

## PARENT AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION (PFA)

Yet again our PFA heroes have done a stellar job, raising money for the school. Lockdown hasn't knocked their commitment to raising funds and the recent Bubble disco was a great success. This raised a whopping £402. I'm sure you will all join me in thanking them for their ongoing efforts and please do volunteer to help out at an event if you can.

## SPORTS DAY WINNERS

On sports day Chichester triumphed with a great performance. However, this year there are no overall house winners as we have focused on value awards in class. As we return to collective worship in September we look forward to the house points being hotly contested and a great source of pride for each house.

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Due to the popularity of this task during previous holidays, your child will be sent home with a reading bingo sheet which challenges them to read different types of texts during the summer holidays. There is a space on the sheet for you to add the title and date of all texts your child reads. Children should hand their sheet to their teacher in September. Please remember that reading helps in all areas of the curriculum (even maths as there is lots of problem solving in the new curriculum) and reading fluency can only be achieved by practicing regularly.

All children will receive a certificate for participating and all completed sheets will go into a lucky dip draw for the chance to win a book voucher and a range of small prizes provided by Morrisons Distribution Centre. The draw will take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September and winners will be announced in assembly the following day.

## SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB



We are running a summer holiday club again this year, based at Lower Halstow and will be providing extended hours for those families who need longer childcare alongside the standard 9am – 3pm offer. Please see the information that has been sent out on School Ping for details of the MFSE sports club and Tetita partnership.

## SEPTEMBER INFORMATION

### ONGOING CONTROL MEASURES



Additional handwashing and cleaning will continue and the bubble/staggered start/drop off system will be ready to be reinstated as per our outbreak management plan if we are instructed to do so by Public Health England. We will continually review our arrangements in line with the latest government advice.

### BREAKFAST AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Tetita will be running the breakfast 7:30 – 8:30 and afterschool 3:10 – 6pm club at Lower Halstow with Newington pick-ups and drop offs as usual in September. For more information and contact details please go to [www.tetitachildcare.uk](http://www.tetitachildcare.uk)



We will also continue to run our own morning club from 8am to supervise early arrivals. This will begin the first full week back on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Please pre-book this as we need to know numbers to ensure there are sufficient staff. The cost will remain at £1 per session payable in advance or on the day.

Extra-curricular after school clubs will be running from the second week of term - 13<sup>th</sup> September.

## ENTRY TO SCHOOL

Classrooms will open at **8.30am** and pupils need to be in school by 8.50am at the latest.

Everyone in Y1 – Y6 should use the wooden gate by the main office. Only the new reception class will be using the wooden pedestrian gate.

## PICK UP FROM SCHOOL

Finish **3.10** – We are going to continue to keep the playground clear at the end of the day so have spread out pick up points for ease of dismissal.

- Reception should pick up from the pedestrian gate.
- Y1,4,5 should pick up from the wooden gate by the main office.
- Y2,3,6 should pick up from the metal gate off main playground

## NO VEHICLES ONSITE

From September, the school site will be pedestrian only between 8:30 – 9am & 3 – 3:30pm. This includes taxis, blue badge holders and those who need temporary access. Staff will be on the gate in the drop off area to oversee children coming onto the school site. We have had to review our vehicle access risk assessment and this change is to ensure the increased safety of the children as they arrive and leave the school site.

## SNACKS

Tuck shop will be restarting for KS2 pupils run by Y6. Everything is 20p. Details of what is on offer will be in a ping at the start of term as this is dependent on what the PTA can obtain from the wholesalers. Please provide a suitable break time snack for the first day back – fruit, savoury crackers, breadsticks etc. EYFS & KS1 are provided with fruit by the school, so no breaktime snack is needed.

## PACKED LUNCHES

**Please save the chocolate and sweets for home.** These will be removed from packed lunches as they adversely affect afternoon learning, so please do not put them in lunchboxes as this causes unnecessary upset. Please use common sense, for example, cereal bars containing a few chocolate drops & fruit winders are fine, but snacks such as chocolate covered raisins are not as these melt and cause a mess. Plain raisins are just as sweet.

## BAGS

**Book bags & drawstring bags only.** If you bring a large rucksack the contents will be emptied into a named carrier bag and the rucksack sent to the office to be collected by parents. As the school population has grown we are really pushed for corridor hanging space and this measure has helped keep corridors safe and clear for everyone. Thank you for continuing to help with this.

## WATER BOTTLES

Pupils should continue to bring in a named water bottle to school. This should only contain water and any juice will be emptied. Juice boxes etc. can be included with packed lunches if you wish.

## UNIFORM REMINDERS

Our uniform is a white polo shirt, grey trousers/skirt, royal blue jumper, cardigan or fleece. School shoes should be plain black and **suitable for running around on the playground**. Plain black trainer style shoes or ankle boots are also acceptable, but no heels, logos, fur or coloured stripes. Please only buy laced shoes if your child can tie their own laces.

Please remember that only small **stud** earrings are allowed in school and pupils must be able to remove these themselves for PE. If your child arrives at school with hooped earrings, they will be asked to remove them.

Don't forget Forsters in Sittingbourne also stock our uniform along with our online suppliers, so you can pop in there for last minute purchases or to try on jumpers etc.

If you don't wish to buy logoed items, then most supermarkets stock our **royal blue** school colour.

Our forest school area is well used so everyone will eventually need wellies but not in the first week back. Please send in a named carrier bag as these will hang on pegs until our welly boot holders arrive. Please also ensure your child has coat, hat, sunscreen as appropriate for the weather as we will continue to use the school grounds for outdoor learning and the British weather is notoriously changeable.

## PE KIT

In September pupils should continue to **wear their PE kit to school with their school jumper or fleece on PE days**. We will be being strict with PE kit so please DO NOT wear random sports attire.

Our PE kit is a plain white T-shirt, blue/black shorts, white socks, black plimsolls or trainers & a school jumper. Black/blue/grey jogging bottoms or leggings can be worn when it is cold.

For after school sports clubs children can bring in their own sportswear of any colour in a drawstring bag. These are no longer to be worn into school on the day.



**Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you all on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**