

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Parents and Friends,

Finally, we are starting to see some sunshine! The promise of lighter and longer days and summer holidays certainly seems to have brought the best out in the children, and I can safely say that everyone has really knuckled down this term and worked hard to gain some fantastic amounts of progress. It was great to see so many parents attending our parent consultation evenings, and your discussions combined with your child's mid-term report should have given you a clear indication as to how well your child is doing in school. Of course, there are always areas to improve, and we hope that parents will continue their hard work and keep supporting children's learning at home.

This term we have taken part in lots of exciting activities in school. The whole of KS2 enjoyed an in school performance of 'Oliver Twist' – the children in Year 6 went on to take part in a workshop learning about how performances such as that are staged and produced. The Year 3 children represented NCS at the dance festival at the Winding Wheel, and did a great job of making us all very proud, as well as enjoying a number of Bikeability sessions! The first responders have been in school on a couple of occasions, training our very own CPR students – a skill that is definitely lifesaving. The chicks in EYFS caused a real stir across school, as has the introduction of our new 'wellbeing Wednesday' sessions. Finally, Year 4 and 5 enjoyed their sessions from the mountain rescue team. A very busy term!

### Homework

Following our review of the school homework policy, all classes were set a homework project based on their topic themes this term. I have to say we have all been extremely impressed by the effort put into the projects by the children. Thank you to the many parents who took time to visit our homework display sessions – I am sure you will agree it was clear to see how much the children had benefitted from undertaking this work, and how much their understanding had developed. Also, whilst the project work needs to be the children's own work, it was great to see that so many children had been supported by family to produce something of which they were obviously very proud. Look out for our new topic projects on the curriculum letters at the start of next term.

### Attendance

As you are aware, we have been working hard to improve the attendance rates of the children at Newbold Church School. Today's 100% attendance award was won by Charlie Hill in Year 3, who has come to school every session during this half term. (108 children in total were submitted to the prize draw) The end of term 'traffic light' letters you have received today (via email) will give you an indication as to how your child's attendance is looking so far this year. Since September 2015 the Department for Education class any child who has an attendance rate of lower than 90% as a 'persistent absence' and as such could be visited by our school EWO to offer help and support in ensuring children are in school.

### Diary Dates

24 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer term begins.	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Sports Day
1 <sup>st</sup> May	School closed for May Day	25 <sup>th</sup> May	Spring Fling Disco
WC 1 <sup>st</sup> May	After school clubs start	26 <sup>th</sup> May	End of Term
WC 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATS tests	5 <sup>th</sup> June	School Closed for INSET day
WC 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	British Values Week	6 <sup>th</sup> June	School opens for Summer Term 2.

## Head lice

We are currently experiencing a head lice infestation in school (as is the case in most primary schools, I would like to add!). Please do not be offended if you receive a call from school asking you to treat your child – we are all aware of how easily head lice spread, and how important it is that ALL parents take action. Read carefully the advice below - this holiday is an ideal opportunity to ensure your family are clear from head lice. Please ensure you check and treat, so that we can begin our next term as a head lice free zone!

### How to Find and Treat Head Lice

- **Head lice are tiny brown insects (1-2mm long) which often cause the scalp to itch.**
- **Nits are head lice eggs. They are hard to spot because they are very small and brown/hair-coloured.**
- **White eggs/nits attached to the hair are dead empty egg shells, and are harmless.**
- **Check all family members regularly, e.g. with a 'nit' comb when conditioner (any conditioner will do) is on hair.**
- **Use a head lice treatment only if LIVE LICE are found (do NOT treat if only nits or eggs are found).**
- **Always keep a bottle of head lice treatment at home ready. As soon as lice are found they can be treated that evening so your child need not miss any school.**
- **It is important to not be tempted to send a child with lice to school.**

As you already know, my door is always open and should you have any worries or queries (or even just nice things to say!) please do not hesitate to contact me. I try my hardest to stand by the school gate most mornings, so if you want to keep things informal, just grab me for a 'chat' then.



Mrs K Marsh  
Headteacher