



NEWBRIDGE News

www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk
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Issue 1.01
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Tuesday 11/9/18

- Y3 Back to School Meetings: 2.20pm
- Y6 Back to School Meetings: 2.45pm

Wednesday 12/9/18

- Y1 Back to School Meetings: 2.20pm
- Y4 Back to School Meetings: 2..45pm

Thursday 13/9/18

- Y2 Back to School Meetings: 2.20pm
- Y5 Back to School Meetings: 2.45pm
- NPSA Meeting: 7pm

Monday 17/9/18

- Clubs start

Wednesday 26/9/18

- Y6 Residential Meeting: 6.30pm
- Meeting for Parents :7.00pm

Saturday 29/9/18

- International Dot Day

Thursday 11/10/18

- NPSA meeting: 7.30pm

Tuesday 16/10/18

- Parents' Evening

Thursday 25/10/18

- Parents' Evening

Tuesday 6/11/18

- Prospective Parents Open Afternoon: 1.30pm
- NPSA fireworks

Thursday 8/11/18

- NPSA Meeting: 7.30pm

Friday 9/11/18

- Inset Day

Tuesday 13/11/18

- Prospective Parents Open Afternoon: 1.30pm

Tuesday 20/11/18

- Y5 Kilve Court Meeting: 5.30pm

Friday 30/11/18

- Mufti Day

Saturday 1/12/18

- School ChristmasFair

Wednesday 5/12/18

- Discos Y3/4: 4.15pm – 5.15pm
- Discos 5/6/7: 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Thursday 6/12/18

- NPSA Meeting: 7.30pm

Monday 17/12/18

- Volunteers' Thank You: 2pm

Wednesday 19/12/18

- Christmas lunch
- Lower school in church: 9.30am
- Upper school concert: 7.00pm

Thursday 20/12/18

- Upper school concert: 9.30am

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to a brand new academic year and I offer a very special welcome to all of our new children and families who have joined Ladybird and Bee Class this week – venturing to school for the very first time. I also want to welcome two new teachers to our school community; Miss Gatton who is teaching in Year 2 and Miss Keane who is teaching in Early Years. I know both of our newly qualified teachers are going to be an asset to our school and I wish them so much luck as they start their careers.

On Wednesday there was such an air of excitement; the whole school was buzzing – new classrooms, new teachers, new shoes, new haircuts, big smiles, news to share...it was so lovely and has set the tone for a positive term and school year. We were so impressed with how calmly and confidently our early years children came to school – they were and looked fantastic. I really love how each year group moves on and rises to the challenges presented to them. Our Year 6 children, now the oldest year group, looked perfect sitting on the benches in assembly – all of the younger children look up to them and I know they are going to be super role models. The Year 2 children from last year have moved to the upper school building, which we recognise as a big step, but again they took this in their stride and demonstrated that they too are ready for more independence and new challenges. Well done to all of the year groups – this is the best start to school I could I have hoped for and thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring the children were ready, prepared and looking so smart.

Contacting teachers: I recognise that some children may be feeling anxious about the start of term, or circumstances may have changed for families over the summer, so please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if there is a concern you would like to share. For lower school classes, please talk to your child's teacher to arrange a time to meet as you will see them regularly at drop-off and pick-up. Upper school teachers bring their classes out at the end of the school, so again, please see teachers at this time to make an appointment. Alternatively, if you are not around at these times, please contact the school office via email, and the office staff will arrange an appointment for you.

Premises updates: A good deal of activity took place over the holiday to support premises improvement. Those who use the top gate will know that the pathway is now open due to the wall repair and those who use the bottom entrance will see that the wall on the driveway has been demolished and is ready for the next steps of fencing. Some tree work was also carried out. Works took place in the school kitchen to support the new catering service and a full electrical test was completed. To improve internal areas, parents have yet again been very generous with their time and support. The 'Happy Room' in the lower school was lovingly decorated to make it a very special and calm space. Thank you sincerely to Emma Puzey and Katy Hancock who gave up their holiday to do this – it is beautiful. If you get a chance, please visit the upper school and look at the incredible vinyl stickers that have been placed on the stairs. Very generously, Marks and Spencer at Weston Lock donated £500 for resources and so we purchased times tables on vinyl to place here. Again Katy Hancock organised this design and spent hours putting them in place. Designed in the colours of the school values they certainly brighten up the stairwells and support the children's learning and recall of the number facts they need. More vinyls are due to arrive and be placed next week – so keep a look out. Katy also organised very impressive school banners, which took pride of place in our whole school assembly on Wednesday. They detail the school values and school contact details and can travel with us for any external events. Thank you to Bradley Bailey at Freestyle Designs for his skill in designing these.

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Newbridge School Catering Service: This was launched on Wednesday and I am truly delighted with all that has happened so far. Our catering team, led by our Catering Manager Jayne Robbins, along with Anne Hankins, Michaela Hankins and Jan Foster have worked so hard to make this happen. There have been many changes now that we are conducting our own service – we are no longer following B&NES menus, but Jayne, with the support of Stu Rostance from WASPS, has created appealing recipes and has planned new menus with food, wherever possible, that is fresh and locally sourced. There was so much positive feedback from the children on how tasty and delicious the meals were – ‘the best food ever’, I was told! You will know that the children can choose their meals daily and can even opt to have packed lunch on days they wish to – the children need to inform their teacher of this each morning at registration and you should have received a paper copy of the menu this week to support choosing.

All of our catering staff, including our school meal supervisory assistants have new, smart uniforms and look great. The next step is to decorate the school hall to improve the environment and plans are being put in place with the hope of this happening at half term. This is exciting and we will build on all that we have started – it’s another aspect of school life that we are proud of.

Please remember, that if your child is having school meals, to make payment electronically via the School Gateway app, even if it is just for one day as the system now accepts a minimum payment of £2.60.

Inset Days for staff: We had two very full days of training on Monday and Tuesday this week. We looked at what went well last year and all that we want to achieve this year, completed safeguarding updates and training, reviewed the Anti-Bullying and Behaviour Policy, worked on our school vision and aims, looked at interventions and impact for pupils, developed our focus on the science curriculum and assessment, looked at data, and planned the school curriculum for the coming year. By the end we felt very well prepared for the year. The next Inset day is Friday 9th November.

Reading Logs and Home-Learning: These will come home on Monday 10th September. There have been some amendments to the home-learning, with the point system being removed – the details of the changes are written on the sheets to be provided. Through the parent questionnaire from last term we are aware that some parents would like additional maths homework and soon we will be launching a new scheme for this, which will stand alone from the home-learning grids. At a meeting for parents on Wednesday 26th September, we will provide some information about this to parents and Mrs Bartlett will follow this up with another detailed meeting the following week.

Volunteers in school: We always welcome volunteers into school as your support is invaluable. All volunteers, in whatever capacity they support, will need to have a DBS check, to support safeguarding throughout the school. If you would like to volunteer or think you may at some point this year, please see Mrs Hill in the school office for further details of completing this check.

‘Back to school’ meetings: We will hold meetings for Year 1 to Year 6 parents next week to explain procedures and expectations for the year. The dates and times of these meetings are:

Tuesday 11th September: Year 3 at 2.20pm and Year 6 at 2:45pm.

Wednesday 12th September: Year 1 at 2.20pm and Year 4 at 2:45pm.

Thursday 13th September: Year 2 at 2.20pm and Year 5 at 2:45pm

Meeting for parents: I will hold a meeting for all parents on Wednesday 26th September at 7pm, to reflect on our results and achievements in 2017 – 2018 and to present our plans for this year. This meeting replaces the short meetings that have been held in the past, after the ‘Back to school’ meetings.

Parking: Please can I ask that all parents who have to drive to school and park on neighbouring roads, show consideration for everyone’s safety. This includes not parking or waiting on the road at the school gates. Please can I also remind you that there is an unofficial one way system at busy times which helps the traffic to run more smoothly - this means coming up Charmouth Road and down Lyme Road and Lyme Gardens. Thank you for your help and assistance in this matter.

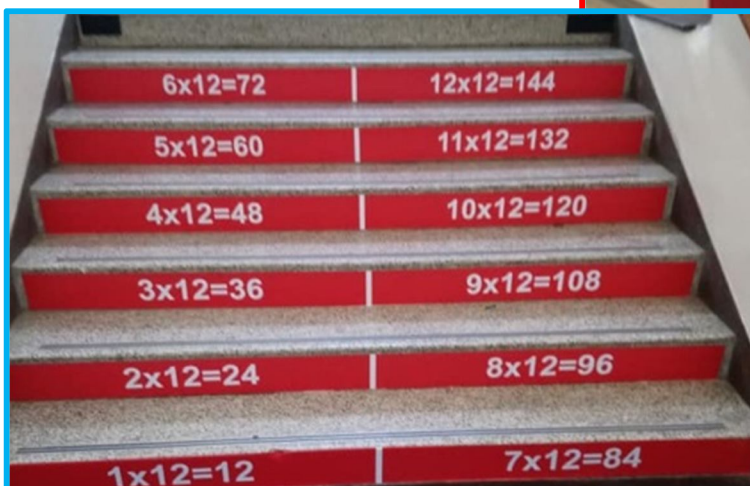
Naming property: Finally, please, please can I request that all uniform and bags are named – this will ensure that all property can be returned as quickly as possible and there is not a mountain of belongings left at the end of term.

Have a lovely weekend; I expect a rest is needed already.

With kind regards

Gill Kennaugh

Thank you to Marks & Spencer for the generous donation of £500 for the fabulous stickers and banners, and thank you to Katy Hancock for organising the design and putting them in place.



DINNER MONEY

As you may be aware dinners can now be taken on a daily basis. The cost of a school meal remains at £2.60 and should be paid in advance of any meals taken. You can prepay as much dinner money as you would like either electronically via the School Gateway app or by cash/cheque via the office.

Activating your School Gateway account is quick and easy. If you have a smartphone, simply download **School Gateway** from your app store (Android and iPhone). All you need is the email address and mobile number that the school holds on record for you.

Please note, when paying online you do not get an automatic reminder, so please remember to top up your dinner money account prior to meals being taken. Any amount you pay should be divisible by £2.60.

Many Thanks

READING HERO

Well done to Spike in Year 1 who over the summer won a fantastic reading prize.

Spike won £50 of reading vouchers for himself, and £100 of reading vouchers for our school.

Thank You Spike!

YEARS 3-6

MATILDA THE MUSICAL

Letters have been sent out via schoolcoms providing details of our trip to see Matilda at the Bristol Hippodrome next May. We would really love ALL children in Years 3-6 to attend, so please look out for the letter.

Slips are due in by Friday 28th September.

Do contact Mrs Houston if you need further information.

VACANCY

A Catering Assistant is required for our school kitchen – would you like to apply?

Hours: 10 per week

Time: 11:30am to 1:30pm

Days: 5 days per week

Weeks: Term Time only – paid 44.2 weeks per year

Rate: £8.19 per hour

Contract Type: Permanent

Start date: ASAP

We are looking to employ a positive, warm and friendly person to be part of our school catering team and who will enjoy supporting our fantastic children. You will play a valued role in our large school community. A good sense of humour and the ability to be adaptable is a must.

You will assist in the kitchen and dining room as required in the production of meals, food service, dish and utensil washing, general cleaning and other tasks associated with catering. No experience is required and full training will be provided.

If you are interested in this post and require more details, please contact Gill Kennaugh or Cherry Hill.