



NEWBRIDGE NEWS

www.newbridge.bathnes.sch.uk
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Issue 2.01
9.11.2018

Tuesday 13/11/18

- Prospective Open Afternoon: 1.30pm

Friday 16/11/18

- Bags 2 School

Tuesday 20/11/18

- Y5 Kilve Court Meeting: 5.30pm

Thursday 29/11/18

School Photo Day

Friday 30/11/18

- Mufti Day

Saturday 1/12/18

- School Christmas Fair

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 Tea: 2pm

Wednesday 19/12/18

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

Thursday 20th December

- Upper school concert: 9.30am

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to Term 2. We have had an extremely busy week already and have a lot of news to share.

Interesting meeting in Westminster: During half term Mrs Hansard and I accepted an invitation to attend a meeting to discuss school funding with Lord Agnew and Wera Hobhouse MP at Westminster. We were very grateful to Wera Hobhouse who had secured this meeting for us, having posed a question about school funding in parliament a number of weeks ago.

Governors Sarah Evans and Caroline Pix had invited Wera Hobhouse to look around our school site during the summer holidays to explain the issues we face. During this visit she was surprised at the extent of the school site and could clearly understand the pressures we face in maintaining and improving such a site with many buildings.

The points I posed to Lord Agnew, who is the Under Secretary of State for Schools, were that large school sites, with aging buildings and amalgamated sites should receive additional funding to support their maintenance. Currently, there are no factors in any school funding allocations that take account of the size of a school site, the age of the buildings or an amalgamated school as in our case, for example having two boiler rooms and two alarm systems. After the meeting Wera very kindly gave us a tour of the Westminster estate, including attending the House of Commons to hear the responses to the recently announced budget. It was a fascinating experience and I was grateful for the opportunity to be able to present our views. I hope for change to the current funding system, so that we can provide our children with the very best education.

Year 4 'homeless' for a day: The Year 4 children were left feeling tired and challenged at the end of Monday. To immerse them in their new enquiry 'What makes a home?' the children were not allowed to be in their classroom and had to carry out all of their learning in different parts of the school, throughout the day. The children were often told to 'move on' by members of staff. Initially the children weren't told why their classroom was out of bounds, but certainly by the end of the day they had developed some understanding and empathy in how it must feel to not have a sense of belonging and to have nowhere to call 'home'. Through this activity, the children were developing key skills from our Newbridge Journey Curriculum – our school curriculum, which is all about preparing the children for their next steps and being responsible citizens in the wider world.

Exciting news -the library launch: After a considerable amount of hard work and commitment by key volunteers, staff and children our library has been revamped and is again now ready to be used by the children during the day, at lunchtimes and by families after school. Mrs Mallinson, a parent volunteer has been an absolute stalwart in making this happen. She has spent hours and hours tidying and organising the books and systems so that it is all accessible - we cannot thank her enough. As a very small gesture, Mrs Mallinson was invited to the library launch on Wednesday and to a special thank you assembly. Alongside Mrs Mallinson, many older children have acted as librarians, including some who left Year 6 last year, and again have given hours after school to organising the books. Thank you also to Mrs Etheridge, who leads Reading in the school, for organising everyone. However, the library would not be up and running without the support of the NPSA who purchased the new lending system for us – this has made all of the difference and again we are very thankful for their support.

CHOIR: Help please

Please could parents help and encourage children in choir to access the school website and practise the choir songs. The first few are available and more will be added soon. Go to:

[Newbridge school website < parents/carers < music](#)

Please do let me know if you have a problem. Many thanks, Lesley Houston

Library help needed

Can you give 15 min – 30 min a week to make the difference in the lives of children, please? We are looking for volunteers to read with children in the mornings between 8:45-9:15. If you're interested, please contact Mrs Etheridge or contact the office today.

All volunteers must hold a Newbridge Primary DBS certificate.



The library will be open for families to use after school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. To find the library, please enter the front door of the upper school and go through the Blue Room - the library is at the end.

School Ambassadors: This week our Class Ambassadors and House Captains were in action and took their roles very sensibly. Each class has two ambassadors and they were very busy on Tuesday afternoon at our prospective parents' open afternoon. They politely greeted the parents as they entered the classrooms and informed the visitors all about the learning that was taking place. Meanwhile, our House Captains had the responsibility of speaking in the presentation to the parents, telling them all about school life. As there were so many visiting parents, every member of Year 6 led a tour with parents and with confidence and pride informed the parents about our school. Many, many parents commented on how wonderful the children had been; they are our best advert. Thank you also to Sarah Stacey, who as Vice Chair of the NPSA, told the parents about the NPSA's work and the strength of Newbridge school community – she was also a great advocate for all that we aim to achieve for our children and families.

Starting term with a bang – the NPSA Fireworks: Thank you so much to the volunteers and organisers, and to everyone who attended the display on Tuesday evening. The Newbridge community spirit shone through yet again and it was lovely to see all ages enjoying the fun and fireworks together. As always, there are key people who make such events happen; my sincere thanks extends to Amy, Sarah, Katherine, JP, Vic, Katy, Fiona, Mim, Nick, Steph, Ellie, Georgie, Vicky, Kersti, Kristin, Caroline, Jo, Alice, Rich, Kate, Becky, Lorna, Catrin, Humphrey O, Noah S, Max C and Sophie A.

Remembrance Assembly: As the children were not in school today, we held our Remembrance assembly yesterday. During the assembly we reflected on the loss of life during the First World War and in commemorating the centenary of its end, all of the children made and brought a poppy to the hall to form a large 100. The Year Six children read war poetry they had so empathetically written. All of the children were able to reflect on the content we shared and all participated in a two minute silence.

Today's inset day: One of my aims is to build and strengthen links with local schools, with a view to sharing good practice and school improvement work. Therefore, this morning, all of the teaching staff including myself and Mrs Hansard visited schools. The remit was to look at practice that would support our own school development work and to look at the use of school grounds and the learning environment. In the afternoon session the teachers presented what they had seen and we discussed aspects that we would consider introducing at Newbridge. We are very grateful to Oldfield Park Infant School, Oldfield Park Junior School, Twerton Infant School, Farmborough Primary School, Peasedown St John Primary School, Hayesfield Secondary School, Redfield Edge Primary School, Blagdon Primary School and St John's RC Primary School for hosting us.

Booking Breakfast Club and After School Club: Please can I remind all parents that children must be booked in these clubs, prior to arrival. We are unable to provide the correct staffing ratios and keep children safe, unless this is the case. All bookings need to be made online via [Libacura](#)

I wish you a good weekend.

With kind regards

Gill Kennaugh



NPSA Fireworks !



Remembrance Assembly



The Newbridge library is now open!

Our library will be open to children in Year 3 to 6 during lunchtime. During lunch it will be run by Year 6 Junior Librarians who will be supervised by staff. It will be open after school until 4pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and after school it will be staffed by parent volunteers. Children should be accompanied in the library after school by their parent or carer.

Children will be visiting the library at least once every two weeks either as a whole class or in small groups. We are looking for parent volunteers to take groups of children to the library to check out books during the school day. If you are interested in helping with library checkout, please contact your child's teacher or the school office; we would be most grateful for your help.

Adult Choir For Christmas

Spaces are still available for anyone who would like to sing at the School Christmas Concert on at 7.30pm on 19th December.

Rehearsals will be in the Music Room 7.30pm-9.0pm the 12th and 26th November and 10th and 17th December Please let Mrs Houston know if you are interested.

Yr 2 Rainbows

William R 2G



Sophie G 2EO

Meet the School Councillors



The School Councillors met before half term and discussed our local, national and international charities. We also had a discussion about well-being and what it meant to children of their age and how we can promote it in school.

The School Councillors have already fed back to their classes about who they can speak to in school if they are worried about something. They have also compiled a list of some strategies we could use in school to help children to relax more.

The meeting was minuted by Clem in Year 5.