

Newnham Junior School



26th January 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope you are well.

It has been another fabulous week at the school. The children continue to show outstanding behaviour and incredible learning attitudes, leading to progress in all subjects. Alongside this, over 80% of the children in the school either attend an extra-curricular club or have attended one. Close to 90% of the children in Year 6 have represented the school in some manner and we continue to enter a wide variety of events and competitions. Last week the children in Year 6 attended the Young Voices concert at the O2 arena and a group of Year 5 and Year 6 children played in a chess tournament.

Young Voices at the O2 - Last Friday, 50 children from Year 6 took part in this annual event. Newnham has been going to the YV concerts since 2013 and each year, the numbers creep up. The children practised weekly from September, learning pages and pages of words as well as actions to accompany the songs. After an adventurous journey involving a walk, a tube and then (unexpectedly) two buses, we arrived at the O2 ninety minutes late, a little hungry but full of anticipation. After a quick picnic in our seats, Newnham was fully fuelled and ready to join in with the rehearsal alongside 8000 other children. The concert itself started at 7pm with a moving piece, *This is the Moment*. Our singing was interspersed with acts from MC Grammar (rap), Nandi Bushell (drums), Natalie Williams (singer) and Anna Phoebe (violin), all under the watchful eye of our conductor David Lawrence. At one point, we could see our Newnham fans giving it their all during the 90s disco medley! A massive well done to our children who represented Newnham in an impeccable way. It was a treat to take them out.

Chess Competition – Well done to all of the children who attended this competition and a big thank you to all of the parents who took their children to Uxbridge on a Sunday afternoon. During the 4 hour session, each child played 6 games against other children with a wide variety of chess experience. The matches were won, lost and drawn and the scores were compiled, with Newnham coming 4th in the Borough. This is the first time we have entered this competition and we are so proud of all of those who represented the school so well.

Open Evenings – Details of how to sign up for these were emailed to you earlier this week and please contact the School Office on office@mail.newnhamjun.org.uk or telephone 020 3745 6216 if you require any assistance.

Parent's Questionnaire – To help us improve the school, we will be asking all parents to complete a questionnaire. To save money, paper and the environment we are asking you to complete it online and your child's teacher will present you with the QR code linking to the questionnaire after your open evening meeting. If you are unable to attend the open evenings or want to get ahead of the game, please use the QR code to the right. It only takes 3 to 5 minutes to complete.



Support Plan Meetings - If your child has a Support Plan, appointment times were emailed to you at the start of the week. Please confirm your attendance to the School Office by Friday 2nd February. If you are unable to attend your allocated timeslot and do not wish to rearrange the meeting, you are welcome to meet your child's teacher at Open Evening and then comment on the Support Plan via Provision Map after Monday 19th February. Please let the office know if this is your intention so we can update our records. Thank you.

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Thursday 8th February - Science Club and Drawing Club cancelled. As these clubs are run by members of staff who will be taking part in Open Evening, these clubs have been cancelled. As Science Club has been paid for, arrangements will be made for the missing session to be run during the school day.

Newnham's Got Talent - We are now a few weeks away from our Newnham's Got Talent final which this year is being hosted by our House Captains on Friday 9th February. The playground has been very busy with children practicing their dances and sketches. Some children have also said they have been practicing at home. Please note that children only audition for the final if they want to and there is no pressure on them to take part. Auditions for the final will start next week. One act from each class will be chosen to represent their class in the final where our Head Boys and Girls and Deputies will have the very difficult decision on deciding on a winner. **Unfortunately we cannot accommodate parents/carers at the final.** Newnham's Got Talent is a celebration of Children's Mental Health Week which also takes place the same week. This year's theme being Express Yourself. Although there are winners the emphasis will be on expression, community, connection, having fun and being resilient. Alongside the competition, children will be taking part in activities during the day along with a supporting assembly. Finally, the House Captains have also organised an Art/Craft project that children can get involved in at home if they wish (see attached for full details).

NSPCC Rocks - Number Day - Friday 2nd February 2024 - We are taking part in a friendly competition involving schools in the United Kingdom for NSPCC Number Day. The competition runs from 7:30am to 7:30pm on Friday 2nd February. It's all done online via Times Tables Rock Stars (play.ttrockstars.com). Children can play in any gamemode with every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, earning themselves, their class and the school a point. To support player well-being, there is a daily time limit of 60 minutes per player. Once the player goes beyond 60 minutes of play on that day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition. Some children will be able to take part at school if they have an ICT/chromebook slot that day. Everyone else can take part at home if they want to - it is not compulsory. **Unlike the Infants this is a normal school uniform day in the Juniors and if you wish to make a donation to the NSPCC you can do so using this link:**
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/ways-to-give/donate/>

Food Waste Update - Please remember to only book a lunch if your child is going to eat it and to cancel the meal if your child is off school. You can cancel at The Pantry up to 9.00am each morning.

Eco-Team Food Waste Update	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
Junior meals ordered but not served	51	38

Term Dates - As previously advised, these are shown below and further details will follow in due course.

DATE	YEAR/ CLASS/ GROUP	DETAILS	TIME
JANUARY			
Monday 29th	6	Open Evening (at school)	3.30 – 6pm
Tuesday 30 th	3 6	Visit to the Science Museum (back at 4.15pm) Open Evening (at school)	All day 4.30 – 7pm
Wednesday 31 st	6 All	School Journey 3 rd payment due Parent/carer coffee morning – metacognition	9am
FEBRUARY			
Thursday 1 st	All	FONJSA Krispy Kreme deadline to order	
Tuesday 6 th	3,4 & 5	Open Evening (at school)	3.30 – 6pm

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Thursday 8 th	Midnight & Storm teams 3,4 & 5 3 & 4	Aspire Netball Rally Open Evening (at school) Science Club & Drawing Club cancelled	1pm – 4.pm 4.30 – 7pm 3.15pm
Friday 9 th	All	Newnham's Got Talent School finishes for the half-term holiday FONJSA Krispy Kremes given out	3.15pm 3.15pm
12 th - 16 th	All	Half-term holiday	
12 th - 15 th	6	Bikeability	
Sunday 18 th	All	Deadline to pay for FONJSA Race Night	
Monday 19 th	All	School restarts	8.45am
Friday 23 rd	All	FONJSA Race Night & Kids Raffle	6.30 - 8.30pm
Monday 26 th	6	Support Plan meetings	All day
Tuesday 27 th	3	Support Plan meetings	All day
Wednesday 28 th	4 & 5BC	Support Plan meetings	All day
Thursday 29 th	5CU & 5N 6	Support Plan meetings School Journey 4 th payment due	All day
MARCH			
Friday 1 st	6	Secondary Transfer Offer Day	
Monday 4 th	Silver team	Borough Netball Tournament	1 – 4.30pm
Thursday 7 th	All	World Book Day	
11 th – 15 th	All	The big plastic count week	
Monday 11 th	6	Junior Citizens event at Brunel University	PM
Tuesday 12 th	All	2 Johns - Safeguarding event	All day
	All	2 Johns Parent/Carers E-safety session - online	8pm
Thursday 14 th	All	Science Fair in hall	3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 15 th	All 3 & 4	Comic Relief Red Nose Day Final Dodgeball Club for the term	All day 3.15 - 4.15pm
Sunday 17 th	All	Deadline to pay for FONJSA Easter Disco	
18 th - 22 nd	All	Big Walk & Wheel Event	
Wednesday 20 th	Silver & Burgundy teams	District netball tournament	1 – 4.30pm
Thursday 21st	5CU	Class Assembly (parents/carers welcome)	9 – 9.30am
Friday 22 nd	3 & 4 5 & 6	FONJSA Easter Disco	3.30 - 5pm 5.30 - 7pm
Monday 25 th	Burgundy, Midnight & Storm teams 5N	B Team netball tournament Class Assembly (parents/carers welcome)	1 – 4.30pm 9 – 9.30am
Tuesday 26 th	5 & 6	Sing 24! At the Beck Theatre (selected pupils) Sing 24! Concert	9am – 3.15pm 6.15 – 7.45pm
Wednesday 27 th	4 5BC 6 All	Visit to Frameless, Marble Arch Class Assembly (parents/carers welcome) Maths Challenge Deadline to pay for FONJSA Break the rules day	All day 9 – 9.30am 3.45 – 5.15pm
Thursday 28 th	All All	FONJSA Break the rules day Last day of term	1.30pm
Sunday 31 st	6	School Journey 5 th payment due	
APRIL			
Monday 15 th	All	School restarts for the Summer Term	8.45am

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School Nurses – Spring newsletter attached.

FONJSA news – FONJSA will be selling original glazed Krispy Kreme's on Friday 9th February. £1.50 each or £12.50 for a dozen. Payment should be made via the Gateway by Thursday 1st February if you would like any.

Community events – Full details on our website

- Evolution Netball Club – February half term
- PSD Fun weeks – February half term
- Swim school courses at Highgrove swimming pool

Uxbridge Library Rock Show - At Uxbridge Library during February, children and families can enjoy a FREE, open to all geology exhibition. Highlights include hands-on rocks and fossils, glow-in-the-dark minerals, displays about the rock cycle, volcanoes, the Jurassic Coast, and much more (see our website: <https://hhgs.org.uk/RockShowOnline.html>). ***Geology underpins our understanding of evolution, inorganic chemistry, physics, climate change, and much more. We tailor school-time talks for local primary schools and our knowledgeable stewards will also be available throughout half-term to chat and answer questions.*** The Rock Show is open from 5th – 22nd February supporting KS2 Science and GCSE and A-level Geography. Uxbridge Library is open 7 days per week (check times), is very close to Metropolitan and Piccadilly Lines and is fully wheelchair accessible.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Wilkey
Headteacher

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