

Newnham Junior School



22nd March 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope you are well.

Netball – It's been another busy week for the netball squad. On Wednesday the Silvers and Burgundies attended the District Netball Tournament. The Burgundies won every single game apart from one (they lost to the Silvers) and finished in 2nd place. The Silvers won every game, scoring 32 goals and conceding only 5, meaning they retained the district trophy for the 9th year in a row.

Due to their success throughout the season, the Silvers represented Hillingdon in The London School Games Finals at Redbridge Sports Centre which is contested by the best team from each of the 32 London Boroughs. Just to attend the tournament is an achievement, but the team excelled, even after losing the very first game. They recovered from this positively to win their next 3 matches to qualify for the championship group stage. The Silvers played 5 more games, coming top and progressed to the semi-final which they lost by 1 goal, finishing in an impressive 3rd place out of London. This is an incredible achievement.

My personal proudest moment occurred on the way home. The winning team happened to be in the same train carriage as Newnham and got off at a few stops before us. As they left the carriage all of the Newnham girls gave them a round of applause and amazingly, the rest of the carriage joined in. This sporting behaviour encapsulates all of the values we promote at the school.

Clubs Working Party – On Tuesday morning the group met for the 1st time to discuss improving ways in which parents apply for clubs. Mrs Beavis explained that the office can only choose a day for clubs to go live on the Gateway and not a time and therefore they go live as soon as the time passes midnight on the day that has been set. As a school we feel setting the live date at a weekend and giving families prior notice is fairer as it does not penalise any of our families who may or may not work. After much discussion, the group agreed that whatever time is set there will always be someone who is unhappy so the school should keep it as it is. We also discussed the demand for clubs which are oversubscribed and therefore a link has been sent for parents/carers to fill in to indicate the clubs which they did not get in to. It is really important that this is done as it may be possible to get an extra sports coach in if the demand is high enough. After Easter, we will be discussing how we increase the variety of clubs for children in the next academic year.

Spring term clubs finish today. The Summer term clubs list was emailed out yesterday and all clubs go live on Saturday 23rd March. Once again it would be appreciated that you complete the google form if your club application is not successful.

Comic Relief : Red Nose Day - We raised £511.71 and thank you for your generosity.

Leading Parent Partnership Award - We are working towards the leading Parent Partnership Award in order to keep improving our work with families. Thank you to everyone who has attended recent events such as the talk on Metacognition, the 2 Johns and the Science fair. Thank you also to everyone who completed the parent survey last term. We will be adding more dates for parent/carer events in the summer term shortly and will try to vary times/format to make them accessible for as many parents and carers as possible, as reflected in the parent survey.

Breakfast Club – the deadline to book for the Summer term has now passed. If you still require a place please return the form by Monday 25th March to guarantee a place. The form is on the website.

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Smartphone free childhood – The scientific research detailing the dangers of smartphones to children’s mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding is snowballing at the moment. Please check out this page to see the reasons why you should delay the age of giving your child a smartphone due to the dangers of social media. <https://rb.gy/3tfdto>

E Safety Sessions from the 2 Johns - As previously advised, this link is available until the 9th April: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/eri4nYfONzpQNUVaP50Rg3v4gQhdHRJ7WYbhAeXe-7wx5ZI-q6_-kugNJErkFYxF.m5RkoTRiJshNnL0Z

Eco Update - What an exciting term we’ve had! Thank you to everyone who has been consciously thinking about how we can help our planet. From national eco campaigns such as The Big Plastic Count and Big Walk to School to recycling pens and planting trees at school– everyone has played their part! It’s been lovely hearing from so many of you how as a family you have started to make small changes. Remember, every little helps! It’s that time again to announce the class who has collected the most pens! Newnham, you’ve collected a record of 1025 pens! Well done to 4UW for being this term’s winners!

YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
3H – 69	4S – 38	5CU – 45	6R – 29
3K – 60	4UW – 227	5BC - 159	6KN - 49
3LM - 45	4CH - 66	5N - 92	6S - 146
TOTAL = 174	TOTAL = 331	TOTAL = 296	TOTAL = 224

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	42	52

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

DATE	YEAR/ CLASS/ GROUP	DETAILS	TIME
MARCH			
Monday 25 th	5N Burgundy & Storm teams	Class assembly (parents/carers welcome) B Team netball tournament	9 – 9.30am 1 – 4.30pm
Tuesday 26 th	5 & 6 5CU	Sing 24! At the Beck Theatre (selected pupils) Sing 24! Concert Last swimming lesson	9am – 3.15pm 6.15 – 7.45pm
Wednesday 27 th	4 All 5BC 6 All 5	Visit to Frameless, Marble Arch Interim reports issued Class assembly (parents/carers welcome) Maths Challenge Deadline to pay for FONJSA Break the rules day Deadline to consent for Hampton Court trip	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	

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APRIL			
Monday 15 th	All	School restarts for the Summer Term	8.45am

FONJSA news – Break the Rules Day – Thursday 28th March - FONJSA are encouraging the children to be unique and create their own look on the last day of term for our fundraising 'Break the Rules Day'. Please pay on the Gateway for the number of rules your child would like to break (£1 per rule) maximum payment £5 to break all 5. Use the comment box on the Gateway to specify which rules are being broken. Full details have been emailed home today detailing the rules which can be broken. **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT A NON UNIFORM DAY SO NORMAL SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOULD BE WORN UNLESS YOU HAVE PAID FOR YOUR CHILD TO BREAK A RULE**

Local Authority Information

World Oral Health Day 2024 - Wednesday 20th March 2024 is 'World Oral Health Day' which aims to remind us to take care of our mouths with an effective tooth brushing routine and regular visits to the dentist. This year's theme is 'A Happy Mouth is ... A Happy Body'. To help you celebrate and highlight the day, please see resources available on 'World Oral Health Day' website. Many thanks for your support with improving oral health in Hillingdon. [Resources to spread the word | World Oral Health Day](#)

Some interesting facts:

- Hillingdon has 28.2% of 5-Year-old children with decayed, missing or filled teeth, which is above the England average.
- Hillingdon has 16.7% of year 6 children with decayed, missing or filled teeth, which is above the England average.
- More 5-9-year-old children are hospitalized due to tooth decay than for any other reason.

Would you Like to Become a School Governor? - Volunteering as a school governor is a fantastic way to broaden your skills, experience and network. You can make a real difference in your community. No specific experience is necessary, just an interest in education, a desire to contribute and a willingness to learn. If you would like to find out more about becoming a governor at one of our schools, please see our website page [School governors](#) or email schoolgovernance@hillingdon.gov.uk for more information.

Community news

Easter holiday activities - Details are available on our website.

- Primary Sporting Development Funweeks – taking place at Newnham during the Easter holidays.
- Nick Jones Creative Tech club – taking place at Newnham during the Easter holidays.
- Evolution netball club – taking place at Newnham during the Easter holidays.
- Swimming lessons at Hillingdon Sports complex.
- Swimming crash courses at Northolt swimming pool
- Omega Sportz have partnered with Hillingdon council to bring a free Easter programme this holiday for children who are on free school meals. Paid places are also available. The children get involved in free daily activities and also get a free hot meal every day they attend.

Adolescent Development Services Team - #DoSomethingThisHoliday April 2024

- Have an active Easter with two fun-filled days of creative arts, sports, and a trip to Paccar Scout Camp for outdoor adventure and thrills. Ever wanted to hold an exotic animal? Well, you can do so this Easter with a visit from Zoo Labs, which specialises in ethical and engaging animal encounters.

Over the two days, we will focus on environment and animal welfare, fitness, wellbeing and teamwork. **Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th April 2024 for School years 4-6|10:00-15:00 |Ruislip Young**

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Peoples Centre Bury Street, Ruislip, HA4 7SX | off site trip to Paccar Scout Campsite Denham Ln, Chalfont St Peter, Gerrards Cross SL9 0QJ.

Last day of term - Please note that we finish on Thursday 28th March **at 1.30pm** for the Easter holidays. From everyone at the school, we hope you have an enjoyable break. Children can bring in their own games on the last day (not the electronic type please). This is a normal uniform day unless you have paid for your child to Break the Rules. We return to school on **Monday 15th April**.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Wilkey
Headteacher

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