

Newnham Junior School



24th March 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you are well. It has been another exciting week at Newnham. The Year 4 children visited the Verulamium Museum in St. Albans and the Year 5 children had half a day at Manor Farm in Ruislip. All of the staff were so impressed by the children's behaviour and the interest they showed during these trips. I also watched the orchestra practise during one of their rehearsals and I know some children are playing their instruments to their peers over lunch time today. Next week Year 4 will be performing their class assemblies and some of the Year 6 children are participating in various netball tournaments.

London School Games Netball Finals – The Year 6 Silver netball team attended this prestigious event as qualifiers from Hillingdon Borough. There were 32 schools attending, each of which was the best team from their respective borough. This means that the tournament was out of roughly 1500 schools. The team played some excellent netball qualifying for the top group and coming joint 16th overall. Though the girls were disappointed, they cheered up a bit when I told them 16th out of 1500 is quite an achievement.

Clubs – Can I remind you that all Spring term clubs have now finished. Sign up for the Summer term clubs has, as always, been very good. There are still limited spaces on the following clubs which can be booked via the Gateway unless specified otherwise:

- Year 5 Netball – Monday after school
- Year 3&4 Cheerleading – Wednesday before school (may be cancelled due to low numbers)
- Year 4 Film Club – Wednesday lunchtime
- Year 3-6 Street dance – Wednesday after school
- Year 5&6 Cricket – Wednesday after school
- Year 3&4 Reading Eggs – Thursday lunchtime
- Year 5&6 Drawing Club – Thursday after school
- Year 5&6 Football – Thursday after school (1 space)
- Year 3-6 Yoga – Thursday after school (details on the website about how to book)
- Year 3-6 Chess – Friday after school (details on the website about how to book)
- Year 3-6 Guitar - Friday after school (details on the website about how to book)

Fasting – If your child will be fasting during Ramadam please email the school office so that their teacher can be made aware.

Eco Team update - Thank you for recycling lots of pens this term. We had lots of fun in assembly seeing which class has collected the most so far. Well done 6S! Keep collecting everyone - the competition isn't over! We also shared an event happening on Saturday 25th March called the Earth Hour. People around the world will be switching off for an hour. It encourages people from around the globe to switch off their lights or reduce the amount of electricity they use. Remember, every little helps! Eco Team

Music News - Our "sell-out" Year 5 Lunchtime Concert was a huge success, featuring musicians who learn instruments either through Hillingdon or privately. 11 children played to a packed music room and took us through a huge range of styles, from jazz and folk, to classical and pop. What a creative group of musicians we have at Newnham! We all look forward to the turn of the Year 4s and 3s in the summer term. Thank you once again to our prefects for organising tickets, posters and sign-up sheets (in their own time). Great skills for the future.

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Date for your diary: Wednesday May 24th (tbc) - Upper School Choir members to take part in the Hillingdon Primary Schools Choir Competition at the Great Barn, Ruislip

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 27th March to guarantee a place. The form is on the website.

Payment/Consent Reminders:-

YEAR	DESCRIPTION	PAYMENT/CONSENT DEADLINE
6	School Journey - Second payment	1 st April
6	School Journey - Third payment	1 st May

Another reminder of forthcoming events for the rest of this term. Further details were provided in our newsletter dated 3rd March:-

DATE	YEAR	TIME	DETAILS
MARCH			
Monday 27 th	3 & 4	11.30am	Lower School Singing Festival at The Beck Theatre Back at 4.00pm
Tuesday 28 th	4UW	9am	Class Assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Tuesday 28 th	5B	11.30am	Last swimming lesson
Tuesday 28 th	6	1.15pm	Rearranged Borough netball tournament - here
Wednesday 29 th	4CH	9am	Class Assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Wednesday 29 th	6	1.30pm	B Team Netball Rally - here
Wednesday 29 th	4S	2.30pm	Class Assembly - Parents & carers welcome
Wednesday 29 th	ALL		FONJSA Children's Easter raffle draw
Thursday 30 th	5	All day	Visit to Hampton Court
Friday 31 st	All		FONJSA Break the rules for April Fools – details to follow
Friday 31 st	All	1.30pm	School closes for the holidays
APRIL			
Monday 17 th	All	8.30am	School restarts

Big Walk and Wheel 2023 - As previously mentioned, we're taking part in Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel challenge fortnight, running from 20th - 31st March and we would love everyone to be involved.

- **What do you need to do?** Encourage your child(ren) to walk, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event.
- **Why we are taking part** - Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing. Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. A 2021 YouGov study showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school and that children thought active travel was the best away to bring down these pollution levels.
- **There are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!**

Useful resources -To help you prepare, Sustrans has developed a free guide to walking, cycling or scooting to school. It is packed with advice to help you have hassle-free journey to school. Download your free family guide using this link: <https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sign-up-to-receive-your-free-school-run-guide/> . For more information about the event go to www.bigwalkandwheel.org.uk . Enjoy the challenge!

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E Safety- Phones - Phones are a huge part of our adult lives that many of us probably feel we couldn't live without. If you decide to allow your child to have a phone at primary age, it is essential to follow some guidelines to keep your child safe as having a phone can open them up to Cyberbullying and the possibility of being groomed.

- Set clear boundaries- no phone should be taken to bed or be used away from an adult.
- If your child joins Group chats via something like WhatsApp- they need to understand that their adult will monitor this. Children's group chats can be used to share inappropriate content and to bully.
- Do not give them their own data- use the home WiFi so you can filter content and be present when they are opened up to the internet.
- Keep conversations open and honest- tell them you will monitor their phone to keep them safe and remind them of being a responsible user of the internet.
- Be a role model- think about your own phone habits and what your child sees as acceptable phone/internet usage.

FONJSA news

FONJSA Easter Disco - The Year 3 & 4 disco starts straight after school today and finishes at 5pm. The Year 5 & 6 disco starts at 5.30pm through to 7pm. Tickets are not issued and FONJSA will have a list of the children who have signed up. Please note – we have had several phone calls and emails from parents/carers who forgot to book and their children are not able to attend. **We would urge you to pay early for these events before the deadline to avoid disappointment for your child.**

Easter Raffle - Tickets for our Easter Children's raffle are also available on the Gateway for £2.50 a ticket. Please purchase your tickets by **Tuesday 28th March** before the draw the following day. There are over 30 great prizes available.

Break the Rules for April Fools - 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'. Children can choose from 7 rules to break for a £1 per rule or break all 7 rules for £5 (paid via gateway). Please note, this is not a non-uniform day so normal uniform rules apply except when rules have been broken.

Easter Holiday Activities

Details are available on our website <https://www.newnham-jun.hillingdon.sch.uk/>

- PSD Easter Funweek 3-6 April - here
- Get Set for Tennis – Easter Holiday Tennis camp
- Jones Tuition Creative Tech club
- Easter Bunny Swimming Lessons
- ACE Multisports at Vyners school
- SEND Family Support Funday - Saturday 1st April
- Lawrence Rand Easter drawing competition
- AJs Football Camp
- Evolution netball
- Headstone Manor & Museum Easter Gnome Trail

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Local Authority information:-

Tell Us How the ULEZ Expansion Would Affect You - Did you know that if TfL's [Ultra Low Emission Zone \(ULEZ\)](#) is expanded to cover Hillingdon and you own a non-compliant car, it could cost you £12.50 a day just to do the school run? While we encourage people to use sustainable transport for the school drop-off and pick-up, we understand some people have little alternative but to use their cars. That's why Hillingdon Council has launched a survey to measure the probable impact of the expansion of the ULEZ on the borough's families and businesses.

The council is also keen to find out how many vehicle owners will be making use of TfL's scrappage scheme. The survey includes links for those taking part in the survey to check if their vehicle is ULEZ compliant. The survey will run until Sunday 16th April at www.hillingdon.gov.uk/ulez-survey.

Community information:-

Registration is now open to Year 5 parents for the South West Herts Consortium Schools tests (full details are on our website).

Yours sincerely

Mr N Wilkey
Headteacher

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