

Newnham Junior School



23rd February 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

It's lovely to see all of the children back at school, rested and ready to learn. As always, they are full of enthusiasm and determined to make progress. It is so positive that the majority of the children share the school ethos and have intrinsic values for learning: they want to make progress and are working hard because that is what they want to do.

Parents Questionnaire – Thank you to everyone who filled this in and the results are attached on a separate sheet should you wish to see them. I am so pleased to see that 100% of the parents who completed it would recommend the school to other people. Even though the responses were extremely positive, I have contacted some parents to ask how we can improve Newnham further. One aspect which is never quite as positive is the question about extra-curricular clubs at the school. We are very proud of the amount of clubs we offer and every teacher at the school runs one, but we are open to suggestions as to how we could offer more. With this in mind, I would like to start up a parents working party to look at this aspect of school life. If you would be interested in joining this, please contact the school office via email.

Online safety – As part of our safeguarding procedures, we have recently undertaken Prevent Training which was run by a counter terrorist officer from the Metropolitan Police. One thing that stood out was how children need protection and monitoring while they are browsing on the web, playing online (including games like Roblox) or using social media. No parent would ever allow their children to visit a park that was full of paedophiles, bullies and terrorists, but too many happily let their children be on phones and devices without supervision. I would like to make it very clear that the chance of your child coming across paedophiles, bullies and terrorists is much more likely while they are online. As part of our safeguarding duty, I would like to make it very clear that:

- **No child should be on a smart phone without supervision**
- **No child should be playing online games without supervision**
- **No child should be browsing the internet (this includes TikTok and You Tube) without supervision**
- **No child should be on social media without supervision.**

Upcoming Eco Event - The Big Plastic Count - Nearly 100 billion pieces of plastic packaging is thrown away by UK households every year and just 12% is recycled in the UK. For one week in **March (11-17 March 2024)** thousands of schools, households, community groups and businesses will be coming together to count their plastic waste. The information will be used to build even more evidence for leaders to use during global talks about **plastic pollution**. In 2022, almost 250, 000 people took part in **The Big Plastic Count**. We can help by taking part this year. We will be learning more about this over the next few weeks. **It's quick and simple!** A tally sheet (recyclable of course) with instructions will follow shortly. If you would like to sign up any other groups/businesses or have any questions, please follow the link <https://thebigplasticcount.com/sign-up/households/digital>

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	62	54

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Reminder - World Book Day costume drop – As mentioned in our last newsletter, if your child has any outgrown costumes, please send them in by Thursday 29th February. These donated clothes will be available after school on **Friday 1st March** (ready for World Book day on Thursday 7th). Anything left over will be donated to charity.

200 books to read before you leave Newnham - We have compiled a list of books which is attached to this email, along with two useful website links. These are a great way to explore books that your child might enjoy. Regular reading impacts learning and development in all areas of the curriculum, as well as bringing a lot of pleasure to many! Extensive international research shows that being a frequent reader is associated with a range of academic, social and emotional benefits. We want to encourage pupils to read, discuss and enjoy a wide range of books and authors. If you have any questions or would like any support with encouraging your child to read at home, feel free to contact us.
Happy Reading! Mrs Robert - English Leader

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
FEBRUARY			
Monday 19 th	All	School restarts	8.45am
Friday 23 rd	All	FONJSA Race Night & Family Raffle	6.30 - 8.30pm
Monday 26 th	6	Support Plan meetings	All day
Tuesday 27 th	3 Eco Team	Support Plan meetings Eco Team visit to Forest school	All day 12 – 3.00pm
Wednesday 28 th	4 & 5BC	Support Plan meetings	All day
Thursday 29 th	5CU & 5N 6 All	Support Plan meetings School Journey 4 th payment due Last day for receipt of outgrown costumes	All day
MARCH			
Friday 1 st	6 All	Secondary Transfer Offer Day World Book Day costumes on the playground	3.15pm
Monday 4 th	Silver team 5 3K	Borough Netball Tournament Reading Café Class Museum event	1 – 4.30pm 1 – 3pm 2.15 – 3.10pm
Tuesday 5 th	6 3H	Reading Café Class Museum event	1.30 – 3pm 2.15 - 3.10pm
Wednesday 6 th	3LM	Class Museum event	2.15 – 3.10pm
Thursday 7 th	All Selected year 6 children	World Book Day Aspire netball tournament	1 – 4pm
Friday 8 th	4 3	Reading Café Reading Café	9.30 – 11am 1.30 – 3pm
11 th – 15 th	All	The big plastic count week	
Monday 11 th	6	Junior Citizens event at Brunel University	3.30pm return
Tuesday 12 th	All All	2 Johns - Safeguarding event 2 Johns Parent/Carers E-safety session - online	All day 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

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Sunday 17th	All	Deadline to pay for FONJSA Easter Disco	
18 th - 22 nd	All	Big Walk & Wheel Event	
Tuesday 19 th	4S 6	Class assembly Parent/carer meeting for SATs, school journey & SRE	9-10am 6-7pm
Wednesday 20 th	4UW Silver & Burgundy teams 4CH	Class assembly District netball tournament Class assembly	9-10am 1 – 4.30pm 2.30-3.15pm
Thursday 21 st	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	5N Burgundy, Midnight & Storm teams	Class Assembly (parents/carers welcome) B Team netball tournament	9 – 9.30am 1 – 4.30pm
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

FONJSA news – Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for tonight's Race Night and the Family raffle. If you didn't purchase a ticket but would like to attend there will be tickets available on the door this evening. You will not be able to purchase a hotdog but other food and snacks will be available. The prize winners will be announced next week.

Local Authority Information - Full details on our website

Brilliant Parents and Stronger Families Key working are running a fantastic new support project consisting of parent/carer drop ins. These sessions are an informal general advice drop ins. The first sessions commence in March 2024 and there are 3 hubs covering the borough so access for many hopefully.

Community events – Full details on our website

Eastcote library – will be holding an event for British science week on 12th March from 3.45pm to 4.30pm. Time is the theme of this year's British Science Week, and the idea is to create a digital and analogue clock to learn to tell the time. It will be a simple craft suitable for children aged 7-11 years, with some fun word searches /science quiz at the end.

Yours sincerely

Mr N Wilkey
Headteacher

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