

Newnham Junior School



7th October 2022

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope you are well.

Now that all of the year groups have had a chance to meet their class or group teachers, I want to stress that your opportunities to discuss your child's progress with them does not have to wait until the next report or meeting. The teachers will contact you if your child is not making progress and they would also like to hear from you if you have concerns. As mentioned at the meetings, the progress and the attainment your children make is all due to the positive relationship between teachers, parents/carers and children.

Rocket Fund – For your information, the Local Authority have agreed to refurbish all of the children's toilets in the school and this will happen during the Summer holidays in 2023. Thank you so much for all of the money raised to support this which will be used towards our contribution to the total costs.

Uniform – The majority of the children continue to look smart in both their uniform and PE kit. However, there are still a few children coming into school with logoed T shirts and larger logoed sweatshirts and hoodies and these are not allowed. Thank you to all of those who responded to the working group request and we will be in touch next week to arrange a date for the first meeting.

Boom Reader – There has been a huge improvement in the amount of children using this and a positive response from many parents/carers and staff. If your child is recording their own reading but using your phone, it is really important that they go to the bottom of the page, click on the browser and log on to their own personal account.

Food allergies – Please be aware, we have many children in the school who have food allergies, whether this be to dairy products, nuts, pulses, strawberries, eggs and even bananas (this list is not exhaustive). With this in mind, it is extremely important for your child to know that no food should be shared, either at break time or at lunchtime, to ensure the safety of all our children. We understand the seriousness of all allergies but are unable to ban all of these food groups in school. Our school brochure states *No chocolate, sweets, nuts, cans or fizzy drinks are permitted* and we would especially like to request that no whole nuts are brought into school for the safety of others.

Hillingdon Food Bank – This half term we are collecting for the Hillingdon food bank and every donation can make a difference. This year, due to the cost of living crisis, many food banks are reporting a drop in donations just as many more people need to use them. If your family is in need, please contact the school (in confidence) to receive a food parcel from the collection. Please send donations to school by **Wednesday 19th October** and donations should be in date long life food and toiletries. The food bank is particularly looking for:

Toilet roll	Tinned fruit
Toiletries	Tinned vegetables
Sugar	Long life milk
Sauces	Jam
Rice pudding/ custard	Tinned meat and fish

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Individual & Family School Photographs - Tuesday 8th November - As previously advised, the photographer will be in school on Tuesday 8th November and **all** children will be photographed individually. All children should wear school uniform on this day, even if they have PE or swimming. **If you are happy for your child to have their photograph taken, you do NOT need to do anything - their photograph will automatically be taken.** If you DO NOT wish your child to have their photograph taken and/or you have more than one child in either the Infant or Junior school and you wish them to have their photograph taken together, please complete this form <https://forms.gle/P3rqUStmiqHJ8DHA>

Year 4 Endangered Animals Fundraising Day on Thursday 20th October - The Year 4 children are learning in science about the positive and negative impact humans have on the environment. We will be learning about endangered animals and would like to adopt an endangered animal via the World Wildlife Fund. In order to do this, Year 4 are holding a fundraising day on **Thursday 20th October.** The children can come into school dressed as an endangered animal and make a small donation (suggested amount £1) via the School Gateway (no cash please). Please don't go to too much trouble with a costume - they can be as simple as face paint or a homemade mask. Thank you for support in this event. Year 4 teachers.

School Council Great Newnham Bake Off – Please see the attached flyer and note the deadline for entries is Wednesday 19th October.

Diwali - On Friday 21st October we will be celebrating Diwali at school. Children can come to school in their own clothes and they will be learning how Hindu and Sikh people celebrate Diwali.

Emotional Regulation Session - Thank you to the 70 parents who attended this session either in person or online. Please visit www.miindfulness.com for more support from Miindfulness and also to receive a 10% discount code for Newnham parents and carers using the code NEWNHAM10. Many people also expressed an interest in the videos shown and here is a link to the you tube channel to view more: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtnL4blKcvD1BSdoYFVSURw/featured>

Grammar Support - Would you be interested in a parent/carer session to find out more about the grammar we teach in school and the different vocabulary around it to help you support your child's writing at home? Please click on the link below so that we can gauge interest. <https://forms.gle/peiotstfL4D8mMJSh6>

EVENT REMINDERS:-

YEAR 3 TRIP TO THE CHILTERN OPEN AIR ON WEDNESDAY 19TH OCTOBER (BACK AT 4.15PM) - Payment and consent deadline - Wednesday 12th October.

YEAR 5 TRIP TO MOUNT FITCHET CASTLE ON MONDAY 31ST OCTOBER (BACK AT 4PM) - Payment and consent deadline - Friday 14th October.

SEND COFFEE MORNING : 9AM ON WEDNESDAY 19TH OCTOBER - No need to book - just come to the hall on the day.

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FONJSA Christmas Gift Shop - FONJSA are running this event again this year, during the week commencing Monday 21st November, where the children can pick and wrap a present at school for someone at home. They are looking for donations of gifts for the children to choose from, and can make use of items of any size e.g. toiletries, novelty toys and unwanted gift sets. If you have anything at home that you are able to donate, please bring into the Office by Friday 12th November. Thank you for your support.

October half term activities

- Primary Sporting Development Funweek – Held here. Details are available on our website.
- Adolescent Development Services presents #DoSomethingThisHalfTerm - Follow the link for more information <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/targeted-programmes>

Yours sincerely

Mr N Wilkey
Headteacher

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