

Newsletter

September 2020



Hello everyone!

I thought I would send a brief Newsletter, even though it is so early in the term, to update you about our school community and provide gentle reminders to help you, your child and staff at school.

Headteacher's letter: please see attached letter.

Staffing

I am thrilled to announce that Mrs Matsangou has been appointed as the first Deputy Headteacher of Newton Leys. Mrs Matsangou joined me in April 2016 before the school opened and has worked tirelessly as my 'right hand man'! She is a part of the very fabric of our school and always has our children in the forefront of her mind. The school couldn't have a better Deputy!

It is lovely to announce that Mrs Moore (reception class) and Miss Clark (year 2) are both awaiting two new bundles at Christmas time. Although we will miss them for a period of time, it is lovely to hear their news and we look forward to being introduced to two new little people.

To maintain familiarity and consistency for the children in Mrs Moore's class, I am pleased to announce that Miss Haylett, who teaches alongside Mrs Moore, will step into Mrs Moore's shoes. Miss Dorrell and Mrs Clarke will continue supporting in the class as usual. We will be appointing a teaching assistant to replace Miss Clark in Year 2 until her return.

Over the last twelve months I have been developing and increasing the leadership team in the school and I am happy to announce who is part of that team:

Miss Reoch – Office Business Manager
Mrs Zagobelna – Finance Business Manager
Mr Ramsay – Upper Key Stage 2 Phase Lead & Maths Lead
Mrs Kitts – Lower Key Stage 2 Phase Lead & Writing Lead
Mrs Wright – Key Stage 1 Phase Lead
Mrs Villa (young!) – Assistant Headteacher & Early Years Lead
Mrs Verwey – Assistant Headteacher & Inclusion Manager
Mrs Matsangou – Deputy Headteacher

New members of the team

We have welcomed two new teachers to the team, Mrs Hanham in Year 3 and Miss Williamson in Year 2.

We also welcome, Mr Suleyman who is teaching PE across the school and Mrs Baker who is teaching music.

Gentle Reminders

Can I please remind you that we do not have room for back packs in classrooms. The children need a book bag for reading books and a PE bag with their kit in. All other resources/ equipment will be provided for them. Drinking water is available in all classrooms and the dinner hall.

Please ensure your child has the correct school uniform and PE kit. The school has plenty of pre-loved uniform for sale at much lower prices than if you purchase in shops. Please see the Office staff if you require uniform.

Please, please, please label your child's uniform including PE kit and book bag.

Please remind yourselves of the uniform policy (available on website) which includes expectations for haircuts, nail varnish, jewelry and hair accessories.

Those of you who joined the school when it opened, will remember that Governors decided to provide each child with their first book bag. When a replacement book bag is required, it can be purchased via SchoolComms. We are awaiting a new order of book bags that should arrive shortly.

Holiday Club

Holiday club will be held during October half term if adequate numbers book to cover costs. More information will be communicated towards the end of September and bookings can be done via SchoolComms.

After School Clubs

There will be no After School Clubs this term. We will review the situation for January 2021.

'Drop off' and 'Pick up'

Please follow the guidelines I have communicated with you in regard to 'drop off' and 'pick up'. These measures have been put in place to protect you, your child and staff. If one child tests positive, the impact will be a **minimum** of 30 children and two members of staff having to self-isolate. There are parents/carers and members of staff who are vulnerable, and some staff are looking after elderly relatives. It is important we do everything we can to reduce the risk of contagion. Please feel free to wear a face mask if it makes you feel more at ease. Staff have the option of wearing face masks but due to the age of our children, have decided that the way they communicate with the children it is better without.

I believe our school has always had an open and respectful attitude between parents/carers and staff. I do not enjoy having to communicate so many rules, regulations and procedures. Unfortunately, the present climate dictates that we all have to follow these directives and I hope you understand my responsibility in this.

Warm regards and stay safe!

Pippa

Dates for Diaries

23rd October

Inset (no children in school)

Half Term

26th – 30th October

18th December

Break up for Christmas Holidays

4th January

Inset day (no children in school)

5th January

Children return to school

15th – 19th February

Half Term

29th March – 9th April

Easter Holidays

31st May – 4th June

Half Term

22nd July

Break up for summer holidays