

April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a new school term

I am really thrilled to be the new Headteacher at Newton Leys Primary School and Nursery and very much looking forward to getting to know each and every one of you. Mrs Villa has done a superb job in building the ethos and values of Newton Leys and I would like to reassure you that the reason that I applied for the headship here is because everything that is important to Newton Leys and the school community is exactly what I stand for. In partnership with the Governing Body, you the parents, and the fantastic staff team, I will be building upon the firm foundations that Mrs Villa and her team have already established to take the school forward on the next step of its exciting journey to 'outstanding'.

Often when a new headteacher starts at a school, there are worries from the community that there will be lots of changes that will be put in place. I would like to reassure you all that for you and the children the school will continue as normal. I will be ensuring that the children still have a fantastic educational experience and that the staff continue to be valued and respected. I look forward to building an even stronger Friends of Newton Leys (PTA) so that we can work together to fundraise for exciting projects for the children.

There are so many things that the school already does extremely well, and my job is to work with entire school community to make it even better! My mission as Headteacher, is for all the children who attend Newton Leys to be part of a primary school that celebrates childhood, a place where they experience kindness, security and happiness. I intend to keep the school at the heart of the community and will strive to ensure that every child who attends Newton Leys will continue to feel safe, nurtured and encouraged to fulfil both their personal and academic potential.

I have already had such a warm welcome from the staff, children and parent community and that has been truly wonderful. I am really looking forward to a successful term ahead.

Welcome to all new staff and children

I would like to welcome all of our new children and staff to the school. Miss Cassettare has joined the staff team as our school receptionist and Mr Charlton has joined us to teach in Key Stage 2.

Parking

Over the past couple of days, I have observed the parking at drop off and pick-up times. Please can you ensure that you do use the car park where possible and do not stop on the zigzags outside the school. A small minority of parents have been dropping off from the zigzags which in turn causes a problem for other parents and road users. I have noticed that many parents reverse park their cars into the parking spaces in the car park. I strongly recommend that you do this if you can as it will reduce delays in parents' ability to leave the car park.

Disabled bays

Please respect the fact that many of our community are registered disabled and are blue badge holders, they therefore need to have the designated disabled spaces available to them. Please do not park in those bays if you do not have a blue badge.

Face coverings

Please can you ensure that when you are dropping off and collecting your child you are wearing a face covering (unless you are medically exempt). It is essential that we are still protecting our school community against the spread of Covid-19 and following social distancing guidelines. Cases are still currently rising in Milton Keynes, so we need to take every precaution to ensure we are following the guidance.


Covid - 19 update

Households are entitled to free LFD tests which can be collected from Milton Keynes Library. It is important not to be complacent about social distancing measures even if you are getting a negative result from the LFD test. If you or your child gets a positive result from the LFD test, then you must book a PCR test immediately either online or by calling 119. It should be taken within 2 days. Any close contacts or members of the household should immediately self-isolate for at least 10 days. Further advice can be found here: www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the LFD test, and everyone can return to school/work.

Future events

I have been working closely with the SLT to plan in some of the traditional whole school events providing social distancing measures are lifted on 21st June, for example: Sports days and an end of year performance for Year 6. Please note the provisional dates below and that these may be subject to change depending on Government guidance.

Miss E Donoghue



Headteacher

Dates for Diaries

Friday 28th May	<i>Individual photos</i>
31st May – 4th June	<i>Half Term Holiday Club days to be confirmed</i>
Monday 7th June	<i>INSET day</i>
Tuesday 8th June	<i>Back to school for children</i>
Friday 11th June	<i>Class Photos</i>
Monday 5th July	<i>Reports out to parents</i>
Wednesday 7th July	<i>Transition Day – children move up to their new classes</i>
Wednesday 14th July	<i>Sports Day</i>
Tuesday 20th July 5.30pm	<i>Year 6 Production</i>
Wednesday 21st July 5.30pm	<i>Year 6 Production</i>
Thursday 22nd July	<i>Break up for summer holidays</i>