# Newchurch Newsletter

#### **Eco Council Success**



We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded a Local School Nature Grant, thanks to players of the People's Postcode Lottery.



Our pupils will be benefitting from lots of lovely resources such as bird feeders, bug hotels, bird baths and a night camera to capture nocturnal activity on the school field.



In addition, staff will receive training to help children learn outdoors. Pupils played an important role in applying for the grant and selected equipment

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that they felt would benefit their peers.



The project is run by Learning through Landscapes and funded by People's Postcode Lottery, Postcode Neighbourhood Trust, Postcode Places Trust, Postcode Society Trust, Postcode Local Trust or Postcode Community Trust all of whom receive funding from players of People's Postcode Lottery.

Well done to The Eco Council, Mrs Storey and Miss Monks for their hard work in the submission of the grant.

# Safeguarding Crew and Junior Safety Officer Update



Our Safeguarding Crew and Junior Safety Officers have been spreading the message of kindness around the village with their Anti-bullying

messages. Well done to Miss Rendell and Mrs Worthington for coordinating this.



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# Reception

# **Anti-bullying Week**

#### **Kindness Messages**

The children created posters, using everybody's unique handprints and using a variety of colours. These posters were displayed around the classroom to promote kindness. Also, throughout the week the children discussed what it means to be kind and how they can be kind friends. They listened to a range of stories about kindness.



Parker – sharing is a kind thing to do. Rylee – I give people a hug if they are feeling sad.

Wynne – I play with lots of children and we play games together.

## **Leaf Man**

During this half term, the children have been sharing the text of the Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert. They used the text to investigate autumn, looking at environmental changes and discovering environmental art. They developed their language by describing the images in the text and they used the images in the book to recreated their own leaf man pictures using real autumn objects.

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Iris- I made a picture of a frog using leaves and conkers.

**Thomas** – In Autumn the leaves fall off the trees and they change colour.

#### Diwali

The children listened to the story of Rama and Sita and they watched a short video clip about the different ways in



which people celebrate Diwali. They created their own Diva lamps and Rangoli patterns.

**Bradley-** We made patterns using different coloured rice. **Eddie-** I made a lamp with clay.

## **Quentin Blake**



The children have been studying the artist Quentin Blake and they

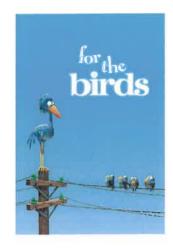
used their drawing skills to create their own enormous crocodile illustrations.

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## **Anti-Bullying Week 2023**

Year 1 kicked off the week by demonstrating the importance of how we can all be different and how we should celebrate each other's uniqueness. They started



with discussions around what Anti-Bullying Week is and why recognise and celebrate it each year. Children listened to the story 'For the Birds' and were able to reflect on how the story might make someone feel.

**Carter:** I liked listening to the story and recreating it with my friends!

**Aria:** I could use my computing skills to help me retell the story.

# The Three Little Pigs



One of the texts that year one have been working on was 'The Three Little Pigs'.
Children were able to

link their knowledge of their story with their science topic 'materials' and could discuss the suitability of the materials the little pigs used to

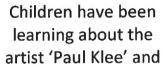
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build their houses.

Children were also able to think from the perspective of the wolf and imagine what materials they would like the pigs to use so that they would be able to blow their houses down!

Annabella: I would want them to build it from paper because it is easy to break.

#### Art





have been able to make links with art they have created themselves. Children tested a range of drawing tools to try out and getting a feel for their own styles before creating a

piece of art work inspired by Paul Klee.

# And the state of t

### RE

As part of their RE learning this half term, children have been able



to reflect on who they look up in their families. Children were able to make connections with how



Christians see God as a father figure and the role he plays in their lives.

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#### **English**

During English the children have been using the book The Dragon Machine to support their writing outcomes. It all began when the children came into school and noticed a mysterious box which after further inspection



had an egg inside. They used their amazing prediction skills and concluded that it could only be a dragon.

They have been working so hard on their writing and have created posters to warn the other children in the school about the dragon. They have written a diary entry in the role of one of the characters in the story and they have also written some fabulous character descriptions about the dragon, how it looks and what type of character they think it could be. They decided that it is a very cheeky, mischievous and clumsy character because it breaks lots of things.

Luna - It was so exciting when the dragon egg appeared in our classroom. We had to be detectives to work out who it belonged to.

#### Art

During Art this term, the children have been

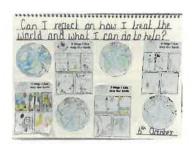
focussing on painting. The children have spent a lot of time looking at different techniques to draw and paint in the style of LS Lowry. The children loved this unit of work and many pieces of fabulous artwork have been created.



**Jacob - I** enjoyed mixing and making my own colours.

#### **November 2023**

In RE this term, Year 2 have been focussing on Christianity. Their main focus question was 'Does how we treat the world matter?' We have looked at how humans treat the world and why it should be treated with



respect as well as the creation story and the message/importance of it.

Edis - We learn that it is very important to look after the world as it does a lot of things for us that we don't really notice.

#### **Anti-bullying Week**

Through their PSHE topic, Year 2 began by

looking at how they are all unique and have similarities and differences. Each child designed their own shield which was personal to them and decorated with their special qualities and all of their favourite things.



Year 2 has also been reading the story 'The Rainbow Fish' and discussing the different ways in which they can be kind to one another. The children were very reflective and were able to recognise the small things they can do each day to make a big difference. They talked about issues that are raised in the story including; friendship,



sharing and giving and were able to have fantastic discussions about the choices that the characters in the story made and why they were right or wrong.

Nancy Ann - I really enjoyed creating my shield and show how we are all special and unique.

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## **November 2023**

# Year 3

#### **English**



Year Three focused on the story of 'Stone Age Boy' by Satoshi Kitamura. This story focuses on a boy from modern times who stumbles back in time to the Stone Age, and learns all about their way of life. The children used this fantastic story as an opportunity to explore a range of activities, such as writing stories, performing role play pieces and creating reports.

#### Art

In Art, Year Three have focused on drawing and considered the work of Tang Yau Hoong. In this unit, children learnt how to draw by geometric shape, sketch and shade, and use negative space in their artwork.



## **Religious Education**

In RE, Year Three have focused on the religion of Christianity. They considered the importance of role models (and the role models we have), the story of Jonah and the Whale and its message, and the

reason that Christians follow God in modern life.



#### **Anti-Bullying Week**

For Anti-Bullying Week, Year Three focused on disabilities, and the importance of celebrating our differences. The children learnt about different disabilities through research, and tried to put themselves in the shoes of people with these disabilities through practical activities. They also created a rap to celebrate differences and made placards to spread the message of our learning.



"Stone Age Boy was great because I enjoyed the interesting characters." - Charlotte

"My favourite part about Anti-Bullying Week was writing our own verses for the rap." - Lissiella

"I loved adding extra detail to the negative space of my artwork." - Finley R

#### **English**

Year 4 explored the book The Wizard, the Ugly and the Book of Shame. They looked at differing sentence structures and increased their vocabulary.

The Wizard, the Ugly and the Book of Shame, explores a character who feels ugly and is treated in a negative way by the townsfolk. Year 4 used this to create expanded noun phrases to describe the characters of Leitmeritz and Chancery.

Rose- I think the book is really good because even if you don't think you are pretty, you are, you just have to believe in yourself.

#### **Religious Education**

Year 4 began the unit of Hinduism by exploring whether good ever overcomes evil in real life. For this, they learned about the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr.

In preparation for Diwali, they learned the story of Rama and Sita, practising their acting skills, by retelling the story. Extending this learning further, they learned about how the story links with the Hindu festival of Diwali and how Hindu's celebrate this with firework displays and by creating Rangoli patterns. They then decorated the playground with their own Rangoli patterns using chalk.

Mariela- I enjoyed acting out in a group about the story of Rama and Sita. Meryn was the monkey king Hanuman and I was Sita.



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#### Art

Year 4 explored the work based on the artist George Braque. Initially, they critiqued different cubist artists, discussing what they liked or disliked about the pieces. After that, they explored with watercolours, completing the other half of a George Braque. Finally, they created their own paintings in the style of George Braque.

Cristopher- I liked painting because it taught me different skills. I liked mixing the



colours to make new colours.

#### **Anti- Bullying Week**

For Anti-bullying week, Year 4 learned about racism. Looking just at pictures, they discussed who was more dangerous. This challenged their stereotypes especially when they discovered that two pictures were the same person, just dressed differently. They used their imaginations in their writing by putting themselves in a footballer's shoes who experiences racism. Their responses were very thought- provoking and some

created some powerful pieces. To complete the week, they created poems either acrostic poems or haikus.



Oscar- I am really proud of the poem I created. I made a haiku.

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#### Reaching for the stars

Preparing to fly is more than a mission statement, it is everyone's ambition to give

our robins a flying start. In Year 5, the children have been looking at the life of Chris Hadfield and how a nervous young man overcame his fears and



attained his ambitions. Whilst learning about the solar system and how the planets formed and orbit the sun, our robins wrote biographies about famous members of the space race and key figures who have passed through the Earth's atmosphere. Their work incorporated their challenging mastery targets and showed their abundant and growing writing skills.

Halle: I loved our English text The Darkest Dark, which was written by the astronaut Chris Hadfield, because I loved learning about space and about how to write a biography. I wrote mine about the first man in space: Yuri Gagarin.

#### The importance of God

The Newchurch RE curriculum develops the children's appreciation of religion in the lives

of people around the world. Throughout the year, our Year 5 robins will be looking at Islam, Hinduism and Judaism; however, their year



started looking at the role of God in Christian belief. The children looked at how Christians encounter the word of God and how stories can teach us through their morals. Building on this, the children looked at the role of forgiveness and proved their maturity when discussing the challenges which come with forgiving the transgressions of others.

Noah: I enjoyed learning about sin and how sin came about through the story of Adam and Eve and the Garden of Eden, where the snake made Eve give into temptation.

#### **Anti-bullying week**

Our Year 5 robins have been looking at how stereotyping affects the lives of the people around us, limits their options and makes the world a worse place. Looking at homophobia, gender bias and how disability is a barrier to reaching goals.

As you can imagine, the children demonstrated their care, compassion and understanding of how they can make the world a better place for all and the role they can play in making stereotyping a thing of the past.



Anya: During anti-bullying week we've been learning that bullying is wrong and all about different stereotypes and forms of bullying.

#### Year Five goes POP!

Creativity is a key word that runs through every Newchurch robin. In Year 5 the children spent the first half term looking at the role of the Pop artists, notably Roy Lichtenstein.

Looking at how art can



comment on the world, society and the power it has to force change. Taking the spirit of the



Pop artists, our Year 5 artists applied their use of contours and comic art techniques to create their own social awareness images. From animal rights to public health, the artwork covered a wide range of themes.

Luna: Last half term, in art, we looked at the pop artist Roy Lichtenstein and how he used dots to create his drawings.

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#### Can we Save the Tiger?



Our first unit of work this year in English centred around a text which raises awareness of the plight of many animals across the globe which are critically endangered but

specifically, tigers. From this, the children have developed their non-fiction skills using cohesive devices effectively when producing an informative report about tigers and then using persuasive strategies when writing a balanced argument.

Arda: I loved researching the tigers to find out more about them. I'm pleased that our work is helping to raise awareness of the fact that they are critically endangered.

#### **Anti-Bullying Week**

The maturity of our children - particularly when dealing with sensitive matters - is always something that we're very proud of and this was particularly evident during Anti-Bullying Week. As part of their learning, the children in Y6 dealt with challenging issues such as cyber bullying, racism and homophobia. Their compassion and consideration for others was captured in many forms such as letters, posters and videos to support peers who may be affected by these topics. As ever, we were incredibly

proud of the children's attitude towards bullying.

Jack: It doesn't matter about your skin colour or who you fancy. What's most important



is that you are happy.

#### Wonderful Watercolours

Painting was the first media focus within the art curriculum this year and the children really immersed themselves into the learning. Inspired by the artists Fischer and Weiss, our robins developed their use of watercolours through experimental learning. This culminated in some truly spectacular paintings of sunsets which the children were rightfully proud of!



Ella: Experimenting with colour was really interesting and I've learnt new painting techniques in this topic.

#### **Religious Journeys**

Christianity has been the focus for Y6 in the Autumn term and they looked at how journeys are important both spiritually and metaphorically in our lives. The children thought about some journeys they had been on and were then able to apply this to significant religious events such as Baptisms and explored what this meant to a Christian.

Discussion was a key part of our shared learning and it was great to her different viewpoints with everyone



respecting each other's input

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Freddie (Y4) was awarded top tackler for the 2023 season at **Culcheth Eagles under 8s** presentation night. Congratulations, Freddie.



Halle (Y5) was awarded most improved player of

2023 in her rugby team. Congratulations, Halle. It looks

like Halle's sister (pPippa in Year 2) is following in her footsteps.



Many congratula tions to Oscar (Y4) for his

recent presentation as part of his rugby team and also his achievements in swimming.



fantastic trophy on his presentation night for Culcheth Eagles. He has not been playing long but has scored some tries and tackles anything on the pitch. Keep it up, Braden.



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Jessica (year 4) took part in her swimming club championships. She swam in 4 races over 3 weeks of galas for Atherton and Leigh swimming club. She made it to the final in all 4 of her different swimming stroke races and even came away with a 2nd place medal in back stroke and a 3rd place medal in the butterfly. She was very proud of herself for taking part and doing her best and is looking forward

to taking part in more swimming galas in the future

Nova (Reception) has completed this Month at Stars Champion of Champions at Aintree Racecourse . She was

Lead Rein Equitation Champion on her pony Wizard.



Niamh (Y4) did her first jump last week, each week she is growing her confidence and loves her horse riding lessons

Cruz (Y3) has been awarded Opposition Man of the Match two weeks running now. He has helped the team hang onto their lead by

displaying an excellent performance in defence. Not only that, he achieved his Swim 5 competed, now onto Swim 6. Cruz's sister, Milan (Y1), has progressed to cantering and is doing very well in horse riding. Here she is with Spike. She has also achived Swim 4. Well done, Milan.





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## Key Information







We have an attendance reward system for the whole school, which is based on each class's attendance at the end of the week. The award system works as follows:

100%	Gold award	10 points
Class with the highest attendance of the	Silver award	5 points
week		

The class with the most points accumillated at the end of the school year gets a very special treat of a trip paid for by school. Year 4 are currently leaders with fifteen points.

#### Attendance since the start of the year:

EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
95.0%	96.8%	93.2%	96.8%	96.4%	96.7%	95.8%

Our whole school target is 97%. Currently we are at 96.1%.

## Calling all Year 6!



When is it happening?	What is happening?	Who is involved?
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023	Christmas Fair	All families
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Watching performance at Culcheth High School	Year 5 and Year 6
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	KS1 Christmas Play dress rehearsal	KS1 classes
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December @ 9:15am	KS1 Christmas Play	KS1 classes and parents
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 @ 9:15am	KS1 Christmas Play	KS1 classes and parents
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 @ 11am	Christmas Tree Service at Newchurch Church	KS2 classes
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Pokemon and Match Attack swap day	All classes
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	KS2 Christmas Play dress rehearsal	KS2 classes
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 @ 9:15am and 6pm	KS2 Christmas Play	KS2 classes and parents
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Attendance Award Trip to Cineworld to watch Elf!	Year 5
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 @ 2pm	Children singing at Bents	Choir
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2023 @ 2pm	Y3 Museum Trip	Year 3
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023	Christmas Dinner, Christmas Jumper and Christmas Parties Day	All classes
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2023 @ 2pm	Christmas Assembly	

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