



# FRIDAY NEWCHURCH

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

Dear parents,

I wanted to write to you to let you know that I am now back from secondment and will resume as full time Head Teacher at Newchurch. I am thrilled to be back and I look forward to working in partnership with you again. I would like to thank the senior leadership team who were expertly led by Mrs Narraway in running the school in my absence. There will be no changes made to teaching staff in any classes so your children will continue to receive the excellent and consistent teaching and learning they have had since the beginning of the year. Thank you for your continued support.

**Mrs Lawrenson**

## ANTI BULLYING WEEK

This week, we have been thrilled with the children's understanding of what bullying is. They recognise that bullying is: persistent, intentional and has an imbalance of power. On Monday, **Adrian Derbyshire, a gold medallist paralympian**, Olympic torch bearer and victim of bullying, visited Newchurch to share his experiences with the children. He was so impressed with the children that he has asked us to help him create Christmas decorations with an anti-bullying theme to adorn the Christmas tree he will be erecting in Chester Cathedral as part of raising awareness. This will be visited by the Royal Family.

**Faye Pryce Y1:** He had been bullied and he wanted us to tell someone, if it happened to us.

On Tuesday, the whole school joined together to share their commitment to living in a community that does not tolerate bullying and hate crimes. We set off 35 balloons with a message sharing our commitment to tackling bullying and hate crimes. Please check out our website to see the images of the event.

As you are aware, the children have been asked to spread the message of zero tolerance to bullying as geographically far as they possibly can. We already have children saying they can send the message as far as

Japan, New Zealand, Canada, Slovakia and Australia! We have already started receiving emails from around the world.

**Mason Holland Y2:** We have enjoyed making our anti-bullying badges and releasing the blue balloons.

On Thursday, **PC Kelly Meredith** praised Years 3 and 4 who with her, to explore bullying in society and the impact of this on people's mental health and well-being.

**Finley Edwards Y3:** She showed that the inside of the apple had been bruised because she had been unkind to it.

Over the course of the week, all the classes have explored different aspects of bullying which could occur: name calling, physical bullying, hate crimes linked to disabilities, race and sexual orientation. They have created anti-bullying raps, animations, poems, art work etc. The staff have been extremely impressed with the children and each year we can see the growth of awareness in them.

**Elodie Walsh Reception:** We have talked about making friends.

In addition, each class has worked on a mini-enterprise: badge-making, book marks, t-shirt designs, friendship bracelets etc, all with an anti-bullying message. On Monday, there will be a market place where the children can purchase the items and the funds will go to support a charity which helps victims of bullying.

## HAPPILY EVER AFTER PRODUCTION

As part of Anti-bullying week, Year Five and Six were lucky enough to watch a performance of 'Happily Ever After' this Tuesday. The production was inspired by the children's book 'King and King' by Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland. This is a book based on a traditional tale which explores same sex love and relationships.

Following the performance, the children had a discussion with the performers, which allowed the classes to discuss mature topics, ask questions and explore issues within the play. The work, carried out by the children, educated them about a diverse range of people and the children showed real maturity and asked some very sensible and interesting questions.

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**If you have any concerns about Child Protection or Health and Safety,  
Please contact school**

**Action Transport Theatre:** The Y5 and Y6 children were open, accepting and mature in their reaction to our play. They asked probing questions, some we had not been asked before.

**Lucy Hague Y5:** I liked that the performance was unusual as it was all done without speaking.

**Abi Taylor Y6:** I liked how the show taught us that it doesn't matter if we are different to others, we should still be supportive.

## END OF TERM READING CHAMPIONS

Our School Council came up with a wonderful idea about how to raise the profile of reading at Newchurch. They decided to use the weekly reading ladder to calculate the mean of each class. The class with the highest mean over the half term would receive a special treat. We are thrilled to announce that the winning class for Autumn A 2017 is...Year 4 with a mean score of 91%. How impressive!

The other class means were as follows:

EYFS: 87%

Year 1: 73%

Year 2: 71%

Year 3: 86%

Year 5: 79%

Year 6: 72%

Let's see which class will be this half term's Reading Champions.

## YEAR 3 and 4 WRITING PROJECT

Three of our many talented writers from Year 3 visited Bradshaw Primary School and Year 4 visited St Bridget's to work with four other schools as part of a writing project. The children used the a text as a stimulus for their poetry. Their work, alongside the children's from the other schools, will be published later in the year.

**William Connolly:** I learned that poetry can be fun and it was nice to work with other schools.

**Wilson Bate:** I enjoyed the book and how it was written. I really liked the theme of it and I think my poem is great!

**Emily Hall:** I enjoyed writing my poem and it was lots of fun. I learned about how to change the word order around which made my poem better.

**Mrs Narraway:** What a privilege it was to accompany these children! They simply shone as writers and as ambassadors for Newchurch. It is just a shame we only had

three places as we have so many talented children in Year 3.

## Y4 UPDATE

Arriving back at school on the eve of Halloween, the children in Year 4 discovered that their class had been visited by a mysterious gnome. Whilst seeming pleasant at first, they soon realised that he was much more evil and dastardly than they had first imagined. The children became detectives, searching for clues to uncover the truth about the gnome and used all of their excitement to help create some fantastic written work based on it. They created poems which described its features and also produced a set of instructions to explain how to become an evil gnome.

This week is particularly exciting for the Year 4 children as they will find out who they will be playing in the Christmas play. This year, the play is 'Cinders' and over the next few weeks the children will be working hard to learn their lines, develop their acting skills and become increasingly confident at performing in front of an audience.

**Oliver Buckley:** The gnome had tipped all of the chairs over. We wrote about how to be an evil gnome. It was good fun.

**Isabelle McCormack-Pym:** On Tuesday we had auditions for the Christmas play. I am excited that I got the part of Buttons.

## ON THE LOOSE!

All the children at Newchurch took part in a Writing Super Day! Mysteriously, different things happened early in the morning in all the classrooms. This was the children's first clue! Following a whole school assembly, the children found their next clue within the unlucky dip and the investigations began. All the children produced some fantastic instructions based on the intruder in their class.

**Miss Toone:** The school had a buzz for writing! Everyone was involved and it was lovely to see the children all discussing what had happened around school.

**Jack Rickard EYFS:** We have made some monster food to catch the monster; we put glitter in the pasta!

**Cara Steedman Y1:** I liked that it was different. There was hair all over the floor.

**Sara Goprikrishnan Y5:** I enjoyed imagining what it would be like if aliens invaded. We received an important letter from NASA and had to help them with our instructions.

## YEAR 1 VISIT TO NEWCHURCH PARISH CHURCH

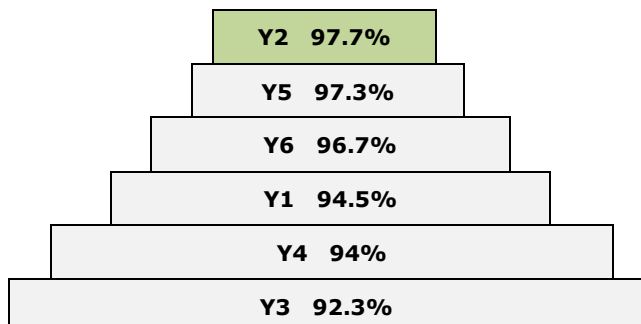
On Wednesday, Year 1 visited Newchurch Parish Church to explore what Baptism is and what it means to Christians. Year 1 listened carefully to Reverend Chris Jones and asked some really thoughtful questions. We all learned a lot about the meaning behind some of the symbols associated with Baptism and Year 1 loved exploring the church. A huge thank you to our parent helpers and a big well done to Year 1!

**Mrs Wormleighton:** Year 1 really impressed me by how responsible, respectful and reflective they were, I felt very proud of them.

### READING LADDER w/e 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017

	<b>REC 95%</b>	<b>=</b>
	<b>Y4 88%</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Y3 83%</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Y5 75%</b>	<b>-</b>
	<b>Y6 67%</b>	<b>=</b>
	<b>Y2 60%</b>	<b>=</b>
	<b>Y1 59%</b>	<b>+</b>

Attendance w/e 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017  
Our whole target is 97.5%



Please remember to telephone school if your child is unwell so that such absences can be recorded as authorised. If permission is not given for a holiday or we are not informed of the reason for an absence, it will have to be recorded as unauthorised. Thank you.

### SCHOOL DIARY DATES

10.11.17	Bottle donations
13.11.17	Progress Week
17.11.17	Sweetie Jar donations
23.11.17	Parents' evening
24.11.17	Hamper donations
28.11.17	Stay and Play
29.11.17	Y2 Christmas Journey trip
30.11.17	Bags2school collection 9am
1.12.17	Christmas Fair and cake donations
<b>6.12.17</b>	<b>Parent Board 6:15pm</b>
11.12.17	KS1 Christmas Play 9:30am
12.12.17	KS1 Christmas Play 9:30am
20.12.17	KS2 Christmas Play 1:30pm and 6:30pm
22.12.17	Christmas Assembly 2pm
12.1.18	Y4 Cake and Coffee morning
26.1.18	Family Quiz
2.2.18	Y3 Cake and Coffee morning
6.2.18	Stay and Play
15.2.18	Valentine's Disco
2.3.18	Y2 Cake and Coffee morning
9.3.18	Thankyou Service (9:30am)
15.3.18	Dress down day for Easter eggs
29.3.18	Easter Bingo
29.3.18	School Closes for Easter Weekend
3.4.18	School Opens
6.4.18	Y1 Cake and Coffee morning
6.4.18	School closes
17.4.18	School opens
24.4.18	Stay and Play
7.5.18	School closed for May Bank Holiday
11.5.18	Reception Cake and Coffee morning
24.5.18	Summer Disco
25.5.18	School closes
11.6.18	School opens
15.6.18	Reading Picnic
22.6.18	Sleepover (KS2 only)
13.7.18	BBQ
2.7.18-6.7.18	Book Fair

**To help with family financial planning, please be aware, pupils in Year 5 will be going to Kingswood in October and Y4 will be going to Beeston in July.**

### SCHOOL BLOG

Please look at our School Blogs on the front page of our website this weekend for the latest class news.

**THIS WEEK IT IS THE TURN OF:**

NEWCHURCH BLOG

**Y4**

MATHEMATICS

**Y2**

READING BLOG

**EYFS**

Have a lovely weekend  
Mrs Lawrenson