

NEWCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL

9<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parent/Carers,

You may be aware that Miss Ingham and her dog, Holly, have completed a number of programmes last year aimed at support children across the school. Holly is a hypoallergenic cockapoo who is very calm and friendly.

We would like to take this opportunity to explain the programme with you as we would like to widen the opportunity to receive the programme to more of our Newchurch robins.

**Pets as Therapy Programme**

Pets as Therapy is a national charity founded in 1983 by Lesly Scott-Ordish. Research shows that 'Pets as Therapy' dogs enhance the emotional and mental health and wellbeing in the community through the visits of trusted volunteers with their behaviourally assessed animals.

**Read2 Dog Scheme**

Research shows that some children feel anxious and self-conscious when reading, particularly when they are in a group situation. By introducing Holly to the reading session, the children feel more relaxed and confident when reading aloud. Due to Holly being non-judgemental, the children's reading confidence, enthusiasm for reading and reading ability is heightened. However, we have found that many children love to have the experience and we wish to increase the number of children Holly is available to.

Holly will be around school at different points throughout the week. A full risk assessment has been completed and I can assure you that all measures have been taken to ensure the safety of the children.

Should your child be chosen, we sincerely hope that you will consent to this wonderful opportunity. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel come and speak with myself and Miss Ingham.

Kindest regards,



Jayne Narraway

Headteacher

Therapy Dog Consent

Name \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ pupil: \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
group: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please tick as many as appropriate:**

I give consent for my child to work alongside Holly within the classroom context.	
I give consent for my child to take part in the Read2Dog Scheme	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_