

Newchurch Community Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs J Narraway

8th March 2021

Dear parent/carer,

We are delighted to welcome back our Year Six class today and hope that they are able to continue to be together as a cohort until the end of the academic year. We appreciate that, when your child has been a member of their primary school for almost seven years, you are keen for them to have the best experience possible as they make the transition to secondary school. Therefore, we would like to briefly outline what we have planned for you and your child leading up to the end of this academic year.

Assessment

As you are probably aware, the Year Six Statutory Aptitude Tests (SATs) have been cancelled for this academic year. The Department for Education (DfE) has not provided any further information other than informing schools that teacher assessments will be used to assess the level the children will be given. It is anticipated that we will receive further clarity soon once the DfE have finalised the arrangements for GCSEs and A-levels students. We will keep you informed. What we can promise is that we are committed to ensuring that your child is Year 7 ready and ready to fly.

Transition

Over the last five years, Newchurch has worked in partnership with Culcheth High to create a 'Robins to Eagles' transition unit covering a range of subjects including Maths and English. The transition unit is now used across all feeder primary schools in the locality. If your child is attending another high school, we will work with them to provide the best transition possible.

As their class teacher, Mrs Singleton will meet with a member of staff from the high school. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information about your child which will support them in their transition. If your child has Special Educational Needs, the Special Needs Coordinator will also be liaised with.

Within the next few months, the high school will contact you detailing the form your child is in. As you can appreciate, the organisation of children from a number of primary schools into forms is difficult. As part of your secondary school application or as part of the communication from the high school, you may have been given the opportunity to name children your child would like to be with. We need you to be aware that we do not have any control over this; we will not suggest who children should be placed in a form with and we are not able to ask the high school to change your child's form.

What I can do, as a parent of a Year 12 and Year 7 child, is reassure you that they make friends with children from other schools so quickly and for you not to worry. It is a good thing that they are able to widen their friendships



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after being with the same children since Reception and within just a few weeks you will hear your child talking about lots of new peers.

Year Six Prom

Unfortunately, last year's cohort were not able to have their Year Six Prom which was such a shame. This is an area of the Year Six end of year celebrations that we do not organise. Usually, there are a few parents who organise this and communicate it to the rest of the Year Six parents. If you are not part of the Year Six Facebook group, it might be worth making a friend request to ease communication regarding the prom.

Year Six Performance

Due to the uncertainty of whether school would be open last year, Year Six were not able to have their moment to shine on stage. This year, we feel confident that we will be able to facilitate the children producing a performance and we are delighted with this. They are a particularly talented cohort and it would be such a shame if they were not able to light up the stage for us one more time.

It may be that by July, we are able to have small audiences back in school but we cannot promise anything at this moment in time. Depending on the guidance provided nearer the time, it may be that we have to have an outdoor performance instead or film it for you to watch at your leisure. We will keep you posted.

Awards Ceremony

Usually, we have the award ceremony for Year Six at the end of the performance but this year we have decided to do it a little differently if we are allowed to. We have provisionally booked Newchurch Church for an award ceremony for the children and their families on Monday 19th July.

Of course, everything is dependent on the 'roadmap' set out by the government but hopefully you can see that we have carefully considered (well in advance) the final few months of your child being at Newchurch. They are special to us and we want to give them the celebration they deserve. We want them to be prepared to fly!

Kind regards,

Mrs Jayne Narraway

Head Teacher



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