



When taking parents of prospective Newchurch robins around school, we are always proud of our children. They are respectful and enthusiastic about their learning and share all the wonderful experiences they have in school.

What is extremely noticeable is how children the children share the level of responsibility they have and the opportunities we give them as a school. Here are just a few examples of how the children are given responsibility in school:

School Council



At the start of the half term, our School Council met to discuss ways in which we could work together to reduce waste and slow down climate change. Each class were told the story of 'The Boy and the Starfish' which shared the message that if every person did just one thing better for the planet, it would make a difference. These are the children's ideas for both inside and outside school:

- More recycling bins around school and for the community to use
- Each class to take responsibility for litter picking on a different day
- Increase awareness through posters and pieces of art work linked to the theme of climate change and reducing waste

- Look at ways to reduce single use plastic and alternatives such as bamboo and metal reusable straws
- Look at the heating timings, turning lights off in classrooms and look at other ways of reducing the need to waste energy
- People using electric cars more
- Repurposing items to make into something new
- Donations to Team Seas <https://teamseas.org/>
- Plant more trees
- Reclaimed materials design competition
- Create a recycling story
- Creating a club called 'Protectors of the Green'
- Recycling display in school or a bok corner display using only recycled materials
- Try to use less paper
- Making sure you clear your plate a lunchtime and not waste food
- Only buy what you need when shopping
- Looking after equipment so it lasts longer and being more responsible for our belongings

Protectors of the Green

We are pleased to announce that we have a new Eco Council who have named themselves, 'Protectors of the Green'. May we introduce Carlota, Sofia, Charlotte and Amelia who have all put themselves forward to be responsible for leading the Newchurch Family into a more environmentally friendly way of living oth at home and in school.

Digital Leaders



Digital leaders from our Year 5 class support Mr Duckett in his after school Computing club each week, sharing their expertise with younger children and hoping to inspire them to develop this area of interest. They do an excellent job and we think we may have a few teachers in the making!

Maths – Capacity

Over the past few weeks the children have been comparing mass - heavier and lighter than and measuring capacity. They have been investigating which objects weigh more and how they can make the scales balance. They selected objects from around the classroom and they had to estimate which objects would be the heaviest. They have had lots of fun!

Carter: "I made the scales balance, I used the tangerines."

Nancy-Ann: "I put 4 spades of sand in to fill my bucket."



PE - Apparatus

The children have been exploring the large apparatus, where they have been using their balancing and climbing skills. Each week, the children have been taking more risks by climbing higher on the climbing frame and on the ropes.



Grace: "I can balance on the bench."

Jaxon: "I can climb up the rope."

Science – Bird Watch

In Forest School this month the children have been making bird feeders and preparing bird hides ready for the Big Garden Bird Watch that takes place this weekend. They have thoroughly enjoyed looking for different types of birds. They have been researching the most common birds in the North West of England.

Betsy: "We made bird feeders using peanut butter and seeds."



Sophie: "I found lots of blackbirds and I used the spotting sheet."



Block Play- London Landmarks

The children have been learning about all the famous landmarks in London. Using block play the children have been recreating landmarks such as Big Ben, Tower Bridge and even Number Ten Downing Street.



Marvellous Maths

In maths, Year 1 have been exploring place value. They have been practising counting both forward and backward and have been using lots of resources to show different ways to represent numbers to twenty. They have also been exploring tens and ones, using equipment to show how many tens and ones are in different two digit numbers.

Ella: 16 is equal to 1 ten and 6 ones.



Perfect PE

In PE, Year 1 have been focussing on gymnastics. They have started to explore different ways to travel across a space and how to make shapes with their bodies. They have practised balancing using various parts of their bodies and loved timing themselves to see how long they could hold different balances.

Florence: I can make a wide star shape using my arms and legs.

Finley: I can balance on one leg and hold my arms out to keep me steady.



Super Science

Year 1 have been having lots of fun exploring their current science topic - animals. They have been identifying and sorting different animals, learning all about the animal groups that they belong to and looking at the similarities and differences between animals in each group. They have explored what different animals eat and even made their own zoo in the construction area!

Archie: A shark is a fish. It breathes using gills.

Jack: Humans and elephants are both mammals but they look very different. Humans use their nose to smell but elephants use a trunk!



Year 2

January 2022

Pulse Racing PE!

Year 2's current topic in PE is tagging games. The children have thoroughly enjoyed playing competitively with their classmates and have enjoyed taking turns tagging and being tagged in our games. The children have used a range of skills including running, dodging and ducking to tag and avoid being tagged.



Freddie: I liked Spiders and Scorpions because I was good at being a scorpion and tagging people.

Isabelle: Recharge was my favourite because I liked doing the exercises to fill my battery.

Marvellous Maths

Year 2 have started a new topic of multiplication and division this term. Children have enjoyed using resources to represent number sentences. Children particularly enjoyed using sweets to show equal groups and then writing out the number sentence to go with it.

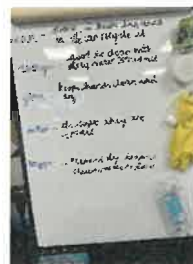


Science

Year 2's current science topic is materials and their everyday uses. The children have been exploring why we use certain materials to make items that we use every day.

So far, the children have enjoyed exploring a range of materials and discussing why they think the materials are used and what makes them suitable.

Rose: If you made a bench out of chocolate it would melt and people would hurt themselves!



Finley: If the sponges weren't in a packet they might be dirty when you buy them.

Dangerous Dragons



Some naughty dragons were spotted in the Year 2 classroom! Our Year 2 Robins were all very surprised to learn that they had messed up our classroom, but were very good at warning people to stay away and keep safe!

The children made posters to warn the rest of the school and wrote letters to Mrs Narraway to ask her what we could do to get rid of our dragon infestation.

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Marvellous Maths

Year 3 have been working on their multiplication and division skills for the past few weeks. To help support their own learning they have been using resources such as base ten counters and multilink. From this they used their previous knowledge of different methods to help when working with bigger numbers and the bus stop method.

Bobby - I like using the counters because they are helping me with my learning.



Forces and Magnets

Our current science topic is forces and magnets. So far the children have been exploring what a force is and looking at how pushes and pulls are used in daily life. The children have also investigated friction and how different surfaces affect how an object moves along it.

Phoebe W - We did an experiment to see how different materials affect the amount of friction. It was interesting!



Ukulele

On the last day before the Christmas break, Year 3 amazed everybody when they performed all of their skills they have learnt in our weekly ukulele lessons in their ukulele concert. The children were able to showcase some of the skills they have learnt by performing songs such as ROAR by Katy Perry and Can't Stop the Feeling by Justin Timberlake in front of friends and family.

Oscar - I really enjoy learning the different chords such as yellow A, blue C and red F.



Volleyball

Year 3's current topic in PE is volleyball. The children have thoroughly enjoyed playing competitively with their classmates and have enjoyed learning a new sport. The children have used a range of skills including the volley, the dig as well as practicing their footwork. They have just started to play over the net which they have found challenging, but they are thoroughly enjoying the challenge.

Edith - I liked using the nets to practise the different skills I have been learning. It made me realise I needed to get the ball higher.



Marvellous Maths

Year 4 have been fine tuning their multiplication and division skills during maths over the past few weeks. They have been supporting their learning by using resources such as pegboards to find factors and factor pairs of numbers. They have now moved on to more formal written methods of working by using expanded column and column methods.



William C- I really liked how we have had to use different methods for our multiplications because it has made it easier.

Let's get physical...

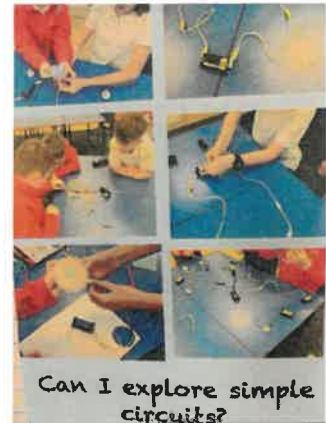
This term year 4 will be taking part in two different sports. They will be further developing their passing, defending and team work skills by learning and applying the rules of bench ball to compete in teams as well as having their weekly swimming lessons. During swimming they have been mastering many different skills and swimming strokes and are becoming more able and competent swimmers.



Ralph H - I like how the other team is throwing the ball at us and we have to dodge it and work as a team.

Bright Sparks

We have started our new science topic 'Bright Sparks' by investigating how electrical circuits work. The children were giving a number of different components and had to create circuits of their own to include switches, lights, buzzers and motors.



Phoebe H - It was fun making the different circuits because we could experiment with different materials and we now know what a conductor is.

Andy Goldsworthy

Sculpture is Year 4's new art topic. The children have been learning about the life and work of Andy Goldsworthy who creates amazing pieces of art from natural resources. To begin with, the children made the most of the snowy weather and made patterns and different textures on the playground. They then discussed different pieces of his art, what each piece was made from and what they liked and disliked about it. They then gathered their own resources and created their own inspirational 2D pieces.



Natalie - I enjoyed going around the school to find natural things to turn into a piece of art.

Year 5

January 2022

Marvellous Maths

There have been some big changes to the way in which we teach and learn about mathematics at Newchurch since



Christmas and this is certainly true in Year 5. Having worked our way through multiplication and division, we are now focusing on fractions and how we can link this to division. Our studies have allowed



us to use representations and objects more to explain our reasoning and even when we

get the right answer we have to be able to prove it. We are also starting to use things called stem sentences which help us to remember mathematical truths, such as how building a fraction is a division of the whole shape.

James: We have been using counters and other objects to help us with our mathematics and it is really cool to learn new things.

Badminton



We have been very energetic so far this year as we have been working on our badminton skills. Using chase

and lunge along with a varied grips for forehand and backhand, we have become



more accurate in building rallies. Our next challenge is to think about how we can out-smart our opponent.

Carlota: I am enjoying badminton as it feels like a mix between tennis and volleyball.

Super Scientists

We have begun to move on from Sir Isaac Newton and his laws of motion and are now



considering the properties of materials. This has included investigating how objects can be

separated and the weird and wonderful world of magnetism. We built wet compasses – which also help us with our mapping topic – by magnetising needles. Our future studies will include tricky vocabulary such as solvent, solute, solution and solubility. Lots to learn.

Charlotte C: We have been learning about how we can boil water to evaporate it and also making compasses which can find north.

Budding Cartographers

As budding cartographers, we have begun to study mapping and the rich information it gives



us. So far we have looked at ways in which the planet is divided and have recently



investigated the various areas of our local community - looking for patterns. We identified why commercial areas

may be central, how educational establishment link to residential and the way in which growth pushes agriculture and industry to the outskirts.

Isabelle W: We have been learning all about how to use maps and about the continents, countries and oceans.

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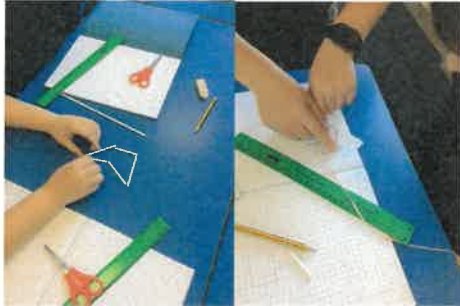
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Maths Manipulatives

This half term, Year 6 began their learning by using manipulatives to help develop their understanding of problem solving and reasoning in maths. When identifying the perimeter of shapes with curved lines, the children soon realised that using string may be a more effective approach.

Further to this, the children investigated the perimeter of irregular polygons in comparison to regular polygons when modifying the moveable sides.

More recently, the children have been working out the percentage of an amount, as well as identifying the relationship between fractions, decimals and percentages.



Benjamin: Because I have been using TT Rockstars so much, I'm finding that it is helping me to solve problems much quicker than I used to.

Evolution and Inheritance

Evolution and Inheritance are the two key areas of learning in our science learning this half term. The topic has linked in with our English text 'Island: A Story of Galapagos' where the famous scientist, Charles Darwin becomes the forefront of our learning. The children knew very little

of his work but their enthusiasm for developing their scientific knowledge has led them to becoming experts in his theories of evolution. Further to this, they have a strong understanding of inherited genetic traits, adaptation and variation.

Oliver M: It has been fascinating to learn about Darwin's ideas and how they relate to our life now. I also enjoyed learning about the Galapagos Islands and how natural selection continues to shape life on the Islands.

Budding Gymnasts

This half term, Year 6 are thoroughly enjoying their gymnastics lessons and have been looking at ways to develop attributes such as balance, coordination, strength and control. Using the apparatus in the hall, the children have been working at different heights; challenging themselves to more intricate movements whilst maintaining a strong posture. In particular, they have loved working on the ropes and using grip strength to attempt to climb higher, and even manoeuvre themselves from one rope to the next.



Beth: I have been challenging myself to do flips on the ropes. It wasn't easy at first but I'm getting much better at it.



Celebrate SUCCESS

This is a new page for our newsletter which provides us with the opportunity to recognise the children's talents both inside and outside of school. Please feel free to send us information about any achievements your child has had with perhaps a photograph and a little explanation to help us make a feature of it in our newsletter.

An act of kindness for our NHS workers



For the past two years, Phoebe, has shown such thoughtfulness to the staff at Warrington Hospital by making them special gifts and distributing on Christmas Day. It is becoming a little of a tradition and we are so proud she is a Newchurch robin.



Before Christmas, Niamh one of our Year One robins, attended a competition called Stars Champion of Champions which was held at Aintree Racecourse. She has worked extremely hard over the summer to qualify for this event, representing her riding club, Wilmslow Riding Club. She listened to everything she was told and tried extremely hard resulting in her achieving 3rd place out of 45 other riders and ponies from across the country. We are so very proud of her achievement and cannot wait to see what 2022 brings with her new pony, Supernova!

Riding to success!



Culcheth Dragons

'Jacob has ever show interests in football until he joined the Newchurch family and made so many friends who play for the Culcheth Dragons - they all work so hard so well done everyone in the dragons team.'



It is great to see that activities taught in school are inspiring children to continue developing their skills and talents beyond the classroom.



Key Dates and Information

January 2022

Dairy of Dates

Date	Event	Class involved
31.1.2022	Liverpool Cathedral Trip	Year 6
1.2.2022	Lunchtime passport – China	All classes
8.2.2022 @ 6pm	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Parents' Meeting	Year 1 parents
11.2.2022	Mini Basketball	
18.2.2022	School Closes	
28.2.2022	School Opens	
3.3.2022	World Book Day	All classes
3.3.2022 @ 6pm	KS1 and KS2 SATs Meetings	Year 2 and Year 6 parents
7.3.2022	Reception Parental Conferences	Reception
7.3.2022 – 9.3.2022 and 14.3.2022 – 16.3.2022	Bike Right	Year 5
8.3.2022	Year 2 Parental Conferences	Year 2
9.3.2022	Year 3 Parental Conferences	Year 3
10.3.2022	Year 4 Parental Conferences	Year 4
11.3.2022	Year 5 Parental Conferences	Year 5
14.3.2022	Year 6 Parental Conferences	Year 6
15.3.2022	Year 1 Parental Conferences	Year 1
18.3.2022	Red Nose Day – World Sleep Day	All classes
23.3.2022	Lunchtime passport – Mexico Donations of Easter Eggs	All classes
25.3.2022 @ 2pm	Thank you service	All classes
1.4.2022	Easter Bingo	All classes
7.4.2022	School Closes	
19.4.2022	School Opens	
19.4.2022	Easter Eggstravaganza	All classes
20-22.4.2022	Kingswood residential	Year 4
5.5.2022	TTRockstars Day	All classes
9-13.5.2022	KS2 SATS week	Year 6
16-20.5.2022	KS1 SATS week	Year 2
25.5.2022	Lunchtime passport – Greece	All classes

Date	Event	Class involved
27.5.2022	School Closes	
13.6.2022	School Opens	
13.6.2022	Multiplication Checks	Year 4
24.6.2022	Dare to be different day	All classes
7-8.7.2022	Burwardsley residential	Year 2
4.7.2022	Chester Zoo visit	Year 1
7.7.2022	Year 1 Warrington Museum	Year 1
7.7.2022	Synagogue visit	Year 5
11.7.2022	Reports sent home	
14.7.2022	Feast of Choirs	Year 6
15.7.2021	Robinifest	
18.7.2022	KS1 Sports Day	KS1 classes
19.7.2022	KS2 Sports Day	KS2 classes
20.7.2022 @ 9:30am	Year 6 Production	Year 6
20.7.2022 @ 5:30pm	Year 6 Production and award ceremony	Year 6
21.7.2022	School Closes	



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 works as follows:

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

The class with the most points accumulated at the end of the school year gets a very special treat of a trip paid for by school. At the moment **YEAR FOUR** are the ones to beat who have 30 points.

Point to note...

Obviously, if your child is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, please **do not** send your child in – this will be classes as an authorised absence anyway on the system.

Attendance:

EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
93%	93.9%	93.4%	94.3%	94.2%	91.3%	90.2%

Our whole school target is 97%. Currently we are at 92.8% - 6.2% authorised due to COVID

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