



Welcome back!

What a great start to the school year we have had so far!

With the new school year and the welcoming of our newest Newchurch robins, September is always such an exciting time. We are delighted to share with you some of the wonderful work that has been going on in classes this month and details of events in school which have been planned to develop partnerships with our families, enrich the curriculum and also engage with the local community.

Follow your dreams!



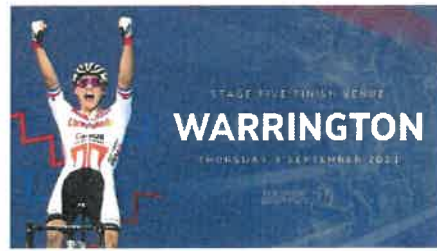
The children came together to look at the achievements of Emma Raducanu. They learned how she worked hard and showed great resilience to achieve her title. When asked which core value they felt she displayed the most, the children felt that she was very resourceful because she had managed to obtain fantastic grades in her studies whilst still striving for greatness. What a great role model for our Newchurch robins.

International Day of Peace



As part of their assembly, our Key Stage One children learned about 'Peace'. At first they thought it was referring to a piece of cake but very soon they were able to explain what 'PEACE' means. They learned about the International Day of Peace and how it seeks to remind people of all races and all nations to think about universal peace. Together we looked at ways of keeping our school peaceful and how to handle things when there may be a little conflict. What was very clear was how reflective our youngest children could be.

Tour of Britain



How exciting was it that the children were able to learn about the Tour of Britain and that Warrington was stage five of the event.

During our assembly, the children learned about the responsibility of each team member: the sprinter, the leader, the climber and the domestiques. They learned that no matter what role you had it was vital in the success of the whole team. Again, we were delighted to see how the children were able to identify how the teams had demonstrated our core values.

National Recycling Week



Talking to the children about National Recycling Week allowed us to share our mission of launching our very own Eco Council at Newchurch. The Eco Council are a group of children who meet each month to discuss eco friendly and environmental issues within school which prepares children to live their future lives with consideration for global issues. They will be involved in completing an environmental review, forming an action plan, developing curriculum plans for across the school, creating ways to inform and involve the whole school community, monitoring and evaluating and then establishing the 'Eco-Code' at Newchurch.

It is hoped that our assemblies allow the children to fulfil our mission statement which includes the children 'making a positive contribution to society.'

Forest School

Our Reception children have started their forest school experience this month and they have loved every minute of it! They have been building dens, making shelters, finding mini beasts and producing mud pies in the mud kitchen. They have used their team building skills and established new relationships.



Nancy-Ann – 'I liked being a fairy in forest school.'

Oscar – 'I carried big branches with my friends.'

Making New Friends

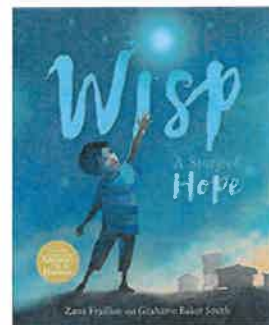
The children have settled into school quickly and they have all become Newchurch Robins. They have started to make new friends and they have enjoyed learning about each other by sharing their home school books and playing together. They have been chatting on the snack table, as this is very sociable time.



Lily 'I have made lots of new friends in my new school.'

Henry – 'I like playing outdoors with my friends.'

Wisp – A Story of Hope



As a school the children have been listening to the story of the Wisp. In Reception, the children created paintings of the wisp using wax candles and paint. They made swirling patterns with the wax candles and then they chose a bright colour to paint over the top.

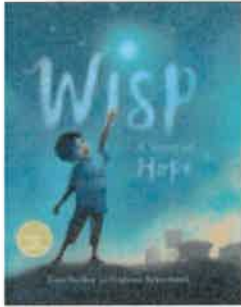


In PE, the children moved like the wisp using brightly coloured scarfs and they moved in a variety of ways.

Carter – 'I had a red scarf and I was the wisp.'

Bella – 'I twirled around with a blue scarf.'

The Wisp



Over the last few weeks Year 1 have been reading the book *Wisp, A Story of Hope*. The story follows a young refugee called Idris and shows how the arrival of a bright wisp brings him hope of a better life to come. They explored the story through **art, computing and dance**.

Art

In art, they examined images from the story, comparing Idris's world before and after the wisp arrived. They mixed paint colours to show the contrast between the darkness of the refugee camp and the colourful, happy future promised by the wisp. They experimented adding sand and glue to the paint to create texture and collected different materials to create objects seen in the story, such as tents, fences, trees and houses. They created amazing mixed media pieces to represent the two different worlds.



Olivia: It liked finding different materials to match the objects in the story.

Computing

In computing, they used different drawing tools and a drawing app to create illustrations to show how Idris was feeling at different points in the story. They photographed their work and used the ChatterPix app to record what they thought Idris might be saying. Scan the QR codes to see some examples.



Dance

In dance, they listened and moved to different examples of happy and sombre music and reflected on which parts of the story the music might represent. They created actions to symbolise key words from the story and linked them together to form a dance to convey Idris's feelings and experiences.



PSHE

In PSHE, Year 1 have been thinking about people who are special to them and what makes them special. They have started to explore how families are all different and the various ways that families help each other. They have listened to stories about different families and shared ideas on how these families are similar or different to their own.

PSHE

During our PSHE topic, the children have been very reflective. Our focus has been on making new friends and how we can maintain them. Children were able to reflect on their own experiences as well as being able to discuss scenarios they may encounter.

Take a look at some of the ideas children came up with when we discussed ways to maintain positive friendships.



Computing

In computing Year 2 spent some time exploring new applications. They used PicCollage, Popplet and iMovie. The children created a range of resources using these different apps and then compiled them altogether to create an iMovie to welcome Idris to Newchurch Primary School. Hover your phone camera over the QR code to take a look at some of the videos Year 2 created.



Dance

In our dance topic, we started by looking at particular pages of the story, and created dance moves to match some of the words.

We then went on to create a dance routine to a song that started off calmly and slowly and then got faster toward the end. The children were able to use the song to represent how Idris was feeling throughout the story and perform dance moves to correspond.



Art

During their art lessons, Year 2 really considered how they could portray the feelings of the main character in our art work. The children experimented with a range of textures, colours and sizes to create two different collages.

Firstly, children produced collages that demonstrated how miserable and lonely Idris felt at the start of the story.

The children then thought of ways they could present the change in tone of the story, and how Idris felt as the story went on. The children beautifully captured how his emotions changed.



PSHE

As part of PSHE, the children have been focussing on friendships and relationships



and identifying how families can be different in many different ways. The children have looked at their own families and how they might be different compared to somebody else's. They have also looked at the people they can talk to if they needed to speak to somebody, identifying a wide circle of people they can trust and confide in.

Edith – During PSHE ,we learnt that it is ok to be different and most families are.

The Wisp



The Wisp is a refugee story of extraordinary power and beauty which has been for focus of our curriculum for the first few weeks. The children used the text to inspire their writing, writing beautiful setting descriptions and are currently in the process of writing their own recount of the story.

Georgie – I enjoyed thinking about how Idris felt in the story.

Art

Motivated by the striking illustrations within the text, Year 3 have been experimenting with colour mixing to create their own interpretations of a wisp. They spent time practicing different techniques to apply and mix colours. For their final piece the children used brusho to create their own versions of the wisp and produced some fabulous artwork.



Phoebe W – I loved using brusho to make my wisp.

Dance

In our PE lessons, the children were focusing on expressing the emotions of the main character, Idris, through interpretive dance. They started by experimenting with how the body moves and the shapes it can make. They then looked at how to show emotion with their movements. The children were absolutely brilliant and we able to show exactly how Idris felt at different parts of the story.

Noah – I found it really fun working with my group to come up with different dance moves.

Computing

During our computing lessons, Year 3 have been thinking about what wonderful hopes and dreams they have for the future. They worked in groups to record videos where they talk about their hopes and dreams and then put them into iMovie to create a sequence. This iMovie was then made into an interactive QR code.



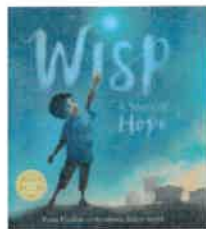
PSHE

During PSHE, the children have been focussing on friendships and relationships and identifying what would be classed as a good or healthy and how it can make us feel. The class have written their own calligrams about what being a good friend is. As part of their learning the children have also discussed and learnt about what it means to have positive relationships and stay safe on line and who they would talk to if someone was being unkind to them online.

Sophia: I liked learning and talking about bullying and being able to draw pictures about it instead of just writing.



The Wisp



The Wisp is a refugee story of extraordinary power and beauty about a young boy called Idris who was born into a world of tents and fences. He has known no other life than this. He has no memories of the world outside.

Then the Wisp arrives, floating in on the evening breeze. Everyone who holds it finds their memories reawakened, their hopes of freedom reborn.

Year 4 have incorporated many elements of learning linked to this beautiful story.

Art

They have focused on the medium of collage and the work of Eileen Downes to inspire their final piece based on different scenes from the story. Some have chosen to recreate the ocean scenes where as others have used the wonderful forest scene.



William C: I enjoyed that it was a bit hard ripping the paper to the shape that we needed it to be, but we didn't give up.

Harry B: I enjoyed art because it was a time to let our imagination go wild.

Dance

During dance the children have worked in groups to create their own dance routine. They have used the piece of music 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' as their inspiration as they felt that it represented the journey of the Wisp well as at first there was only one (the music is slow and steady) and then part way through the story there are hundreds flying through the sky (this is represented by the music becoming faster).

Aaliyah: I liked it how we all did different things and we all used different moves and styles of dancing.

Computing

Through computing the class have thought about what wonderful memories through visiting special places. They have created a short information video, using green screen, and talked about where and why these places are so special to them.

Jack G: I enjoyed how we could get the pictures of the iPads and then have those behind us on the green screen.

PSHE

The children have once again shown their limitless maturity and knowledge through their discussions linked to friendships and how to manage relationships. They have looked at what makes a positive relationship and how peer pressure can affect the decisions we make. They worked through a range of scenarios considering their own feelings and responses to each. As usual, this cohort demonstrated the core values which are central to our work in PSHE.

The promise...



Our wonderful Year 5 robins showed their abundant creative side with their written responses to *The Wisp*. Applying fronted adverbials, expanded noun phrases, complex sentences and more, they demonstrated that they have a vast vocabulary which they can use to paint impressive worlds for the reader to inhabit. They imagined the next stage of Idris' life, sometimes fraught with peril, others calm with the refugee camp a distant memory, but always beautifully crafted. Check out the display of our written work and artistic endeavour.

Hope for our world...



Inspired by the work of Zana Fraillon (*The Wisp*) and the poet Brian Bilston (*Refugees*), Year 5 used their art lessons to investigate the plight of those who have been uprooted around the world. They looked at memory and what the future holds for these pupil. The children's powerful collages used layering to simulate memory, gaining praise from the poem's author.

Mood through movement...

The Wisp is full of deep emotion and through dance the children explored some of these. They looked at how motifs could be drawn together to make sequence which tell a story and evoke emotion.



Flowing free...

In music, Year 5 have looked at the life of the river and compared this to the movements of the Wisp. They used a wide range of technical vocabulary, from tempo to texture, dynamics to ostinato with increased accuracy. They also showed that they can sing in the round and in harmony both individually and as a collective. It was great to hear the children sing again. They developed this further into Garageband and the sampling of live loops. The children looked to invoke the spirit and hope of the Wisp from its dramatic landing to its gentle interaction with Idris.

Small steps, big ideas...

Through computing, Year 5 looked at the evolution of animation, from basic flip books to zoetropes and beyond. They were able to study the work of stop motion animators Ray Harryhausen (*Sinbad*) and



Nick Park (*Wallace and Gromit*) and how creative individuals use tried and tested techniques to bring the inanimate to

life. The children applied their learning to the world of *The Wisp* and how the magical sprite was able to rekindle worlds long forgotten. The children used Stop Motion and iMovie to create their scenes, becoming adept at using the techniques for smooth and ambitious animation. Check a couple out here.



The Wisp



Our Year 6 children have been enjoying spending the first few weeks back by exploring the 'Wisp - A Story of Hope'. They have been incredibly creative in thinking of cross-curricular ways in which they can use the book in subjects such as computing, music, PE and art.

Art

Inspired by the beautiful illustrations within the text, Year 6 have been experimenting with water colours to create their own interpretations of a wisp. They skillfully developed techniques to showcase their use of hue, tint and tone and, in doing so, produced some beautiful artwork. One of the famous artists, Bridget Riley, Year 6 have produced beautifully eye-catching prints.

Computing

Through their understanding of the text, Year 6 decided that it would be really beneficial to others to have an audiobook version of 'Wisp' and the children quickly devised a plan to create one. Using a range of programs on the iPads, they were able to produce a movie of the text with seamless transitions from one page to the next, and then were able to add their own narrative over the movie using audio functions.



Lewis: I enjoyed the whole concept of it being an audiobook and being able to do this for the first time.

Music & PE

If 'Wisp' were to be a movie, what would the soundtrack be? This was the big question in music where we listened to a range of pieces and noted down the musical arrangements and how the musical families helped to draw out emotive elements from calmness all the way through to chaos! These ideas were then taken into PE where the children were expressing the emotions of the main character, Idris, through interpretive dance. The song used was entitled 'Salva Mea', which is Latin for 'Save Me' and the title and music perfectly depicts Idris' change of emotion throughout the story. The children were absolutely incredible in utilising different body shape, levels of the dance and the tempo to show exactly how Idris felt and the finished pieces were truly remarkable.

Alexander B: I enjoyed being able to choreograph my own dance and bring the story to life through dance.



PSHE

This half term, the children in Year 6 are exploring relationships and, more specifically, what an effective relationship looks like. Through a range of discussions, scenarios and tasks, the children were able to explain that communication, honesty and trust were some of the foundations of effective relationships. Throughout every PSHE lesson we have had thus far, their maturity has been a standout highlight, especially when dealing with some challenging subject matters.

Jessica T: We established through our conversations that effective communication is the most important thing in a good relationship.



Key Dates and Information

Diary of Dates

Date	Event	Class involved
1.10.2021	Harvest Donation	All classes
4-8.10.2021	Arete residential	Year 6
8.10.2021	Rainbow dress down day to mark Children's Mental Health	All classes
11.10.2021	Sean Perkins – author visit	KS1 classes
14.10.2021 @ 6:30pm	PTA Meeting	All parents welcome
22.10.2021	Monster Mayhem Day – bottle donations	All classes
22.10.2021	School Closes	
1.11.2021	School Opens	
3.11.2021	Lunchtime passport – India	All classes
8.11.2021	Sean Reid – author visit	KS2 classes
10.11.2021	Stone Age workshop	Year 3
12.11.2022	Dress Down Day for Christmas Fair – sweet jars	All classes
18.11.2021	Year 5 Parental Conferences	Year 5
19.11.2021	Year 6 Parental Conferences	Year 6
22.11.2021	Reception Parental Conferences	Reception
23.11.2021	Year 1 Parental Conferences	Year 1
24.11.2021	Year 2 Parental Conferences	Year 2
25.11.2021	Year 3 Parental Conferences	Year 3
26.11.2021	Year 4 Parental Conferences	Year 4
26.11.2022	Dress down day for Christmas Fair - tombola	All classes
2.12.2021	KS1 Dress Rehearsal (pm)	KS1 classes
3.12.2021 @ 9:30am	KS1 Christmas Play	KS1 classes
3.12.2021	Christmas Fair	
6.12.2021 @ 9:30am	KS1 Christmas Play	KS1 classes
10.12.2021	KS2 Dress Rehearsal	KS2 classes
13.12.2021 @ 1:30pm and 6pm	KS2 Christmas Play	KS2 classes
16.12.2021	Christmas dinner, jumper and party day	All classes
17.12.2021 @ 2pm	Christmas assembly	All classes
17.12.2021	School Closes	
2.1.2022	Lunchtime passport - Italy	All classes
1.2.2022	Lunchtime passport - China	All classes
5.1.2022	School Opens	
18.2.2022	School Closes	
28.2.2022	School Opens	

September 2021

Date	Event	Class involved
3.3.2022	World Book Day	All classes
7.3.2022	Reception Parental Conferences	Reception
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
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
11.7.2022	Reports sent home	
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 system 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 15 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.

Current attendance figures to date are:

EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
96.5%	96.1%	92.3%	93.1%	97.4%	96.2%	95.8%

Our school target is 97%. Currently we are at 95.3%

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