



World Mental Health Day



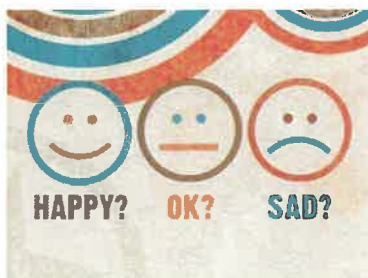
On 10th October, Newchurch recognised World Mental Health Day with a series of workshops for the children from our Mental Health Support Team profession, Louise.

As part of the workshops, Louise talked with the children about how to keep their minds healthy as well as their bodies. The children also focused on when to recognise when they had anxiety or low mood and the different ways they can help themselves but also get help for others.

Newchurch has always had a strong focus on well-being and focus awareness days and weeks are built into our curriculum throughout the year. We were delighted when Louise shared how impressed she was with the children's prior knowledge of mental health and ways they can keep mentally healthy.

Louise is available to work directly in school or support parents with their children. The school has a consultation with her and then she will look to see what the best way of supporting the children and family will be. If your child needs support, please make an appointment to speak with either Mrs Narraway or Mr Duckett.

In addition to this, Warrington has a great website which offers support to members of family. Please check it out:



Please check it out:
<https://happyoksad.warrington.gov.uk/>

There are a number of resources and links located on our school website should you need any support:
https://newchurch-primary.eschools.co.uk/website/supporting_mental_health/617455

Pupil Leadership at Newchurch

A focus of our School Improvement Plan is to further develop pupil leadership. With this in mind, our pupil leadership groups will be focusing on the following areas of school improvement:

School Council	Further encouraging pleasure for reading through organising a number of events throughout the year. Refurbishment of the school library. Audit of all our books in school.
Wellbeing Ambassadors	Raising awareness of ways to keep yourself physically and mentally healthy through organising events throughout the school year. Development of wellbeing activities at lunchtimes.
Eco Council	A focus on improving and raising awareness of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saving energy • Reducing waste • Biodiversity • Reducing litter in our community <p>Watch out for ways in which you can help.</p>
Safeguarding Crew	Raising awareness of ways to keep safe e.g. water safety, online safety, sun safety etc. Watch out for their updates in each of our newsletters.
Sports leaders	Organising lunchtime and sporting tournaments throughout the year.

You're never fully dressed without a smile!

In Reception, the children have been learning the important of keeping healthy and in particular how to keep their teeth healthy.



Within the classroom the children helped to set up their own dentist, as part of their role play area and they used the large toothbrush to clean the large set of teeth. The children began to use the vocabulary associated with teeth, decay and fillings. They also talked about how often they should clean their teeth and how many minutes it should take to brush them to ensure that they are clean.

Carter- I liked cleaning the teeth with the big brush.

Annabella- I put the mask on when I was looking at my friend's teeth, like I was the dentist.

Understanding of the World My Family and Me



Family is an important part of everyone's life, especially young children. To gain an understanding of the past, the children talked about their own lives and their families. Using the photographs in their Home School books the children spoke to their friends about who is important to them, and why.

The children designed their own family trees and could name the people within their families, including grandparents and aunts and uncles.

Ruairi- I have a lot of people in my family and we have lots of fun.

Kayla- My Grandad is special to me and I go to his house.

Understanding of the World My House

Linked with the topic of the children's families, we talked about where the children live. Through role play, the block area, creative area and outdoor learning the children investigated different styles of homes. They designed and created their own homes and, using small world, they used their imagination to create adventures in the homes and named the different rooms within their homes.



Black History Month – Rosa Parks

The children have been learning about Rosa Parks and how she made a change for black people in America. The children listened to the story and they discussed the reasons why Rosa would want to make a change. In the block area, the children created their own bus and they retold the story of Rosa Parks.

Aira – We listened to the story about Rosa Parks and the people were mean to her because of her skin.

Charlie- We made a bus using the big blocks.



PSHE: friends and relationships

In their PSHE lessons, the children in Year One have been learning about friendships and relationships and how to identify positive ones. Children were able to reflect on how they can recognise positive relationships and how actions might show that people care for and love them.

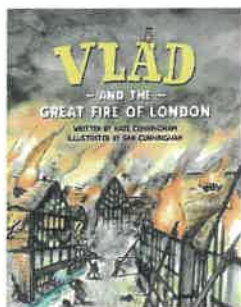
Bella: My mummy shows me love by looking after me.

Carter Mc: My grandma does lots of things to help me. She gets me to school so that I can learn.



London's Burning, London's Burning!

Year 1 have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London. They have learnt about how the fire started and why it spread so quickly. Their learning was consolidated in English when the children started a new text 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London' which



tells the tale of a flea and a rat experiencing the fire. The children went on to write a diary entry as Vlad and talked about their experiences of the event.



Jasmine: I would have been really scared if I had lived through the Great Fire of London.

Making Music Under the Sea

During their music topic Year 1 children have been able to make movements that are appropriate to the pulse and tempo of a piece of music. Children were able to choose instruments with appropriate timbre for different scenarios as well as being able to respond to dynamic changes in a piece of music.

Grace: I loved making sounds to match the fish!

Black History Month – Mary Seacole



As

part of Black History Month, children have been learning about Mary Seacole. They learnt about why she is significant and why we remember the things that she did. Children wrote their own reports about her and why she should be remembered.

Elliott: It isn't very nice that Mary couldn't help people even though she knew how just because of the colour of her skin.

Fighting loneliness, being a good friend.

During our PSHE lessons we have been focusing on friendships, in particular, what makes a good friendship and ways to choose, make and retain healthy and positive relationships. The children have also looked at how they can be welcoming to others to ensure that others aren't left out or what to do if they think someone is feeling lonely.

Jack B – We learnt that playing with each other nicely and not leaving others out makes a good friendship.

History – LS Lowry

During History, Year 2 have been learning about the life of LS Lowry and the place that he lived, which was Salford. They have been comparing differences between the area of Manchester in the past and how it has changed in the present day. They looked at how the industrial revolution has developed and influenced the



way we live and they had to discuss inventions from the past to say what they thought they were. They absolutely loved learning about how their lives are so different to children who lived in Victorian times. They were shocked to discover some children, some as young as four, had to go to work. They worked together to create an amazing fact file.

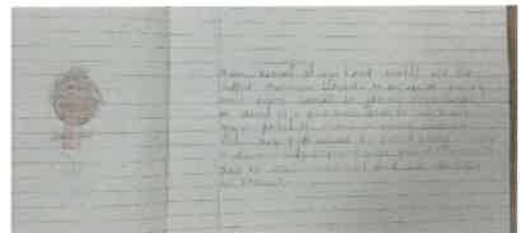
Florence L – When we were learning about how our lives are different to Victorian children we found out that four year olds were put up chimneys to clean them.

Black History Month – Marcus Rasford

To celebrate Black History Month, Year 2 researched the Manchester United star, Marcus Rashford. They created non-chronological reports writing about his early life and family, his football career and how he was an inspirationally supported families and children during the COVID pandemic to make sure that children received food packages.



Henry B – I liked finding out information about Marcus Rashford and I found out that he is a good footballer and he has helped lots of other people.



Music – Musical Me

During music this half term, we have been focussing on tuned and un-tuned instruments to create a piece of music based upon an initial song 'Once a man fell in a well'. The class began by singing along to the song then went on to follow along by either clapping or using egg shakers and keeping in time. They then went on to use glockenspiels to follow along to the tune following given notes, which then lead on to the children using letter notation to compose their own melody.



Archie – I really liked playing on the glockenspiels and being able to make my own piece of music.

Stone Age Workshop

To support their history learning about the Stone Age, Year 3 were lucky enough to take part in a workshop at school. They loved learning all about early humans and exploring the tools they used to hunt and prepare food. They got to make shelters and even developed their own language and signs to communicate with different tribes. They really enjoyed using drama to act out how people started to farm and set up settlements around the world.



Roberta: It was really fun and we learned lots of interesting things. I liked looking at the tools and learning about how people use to make fire.

Black History Month

In honour of Black History Month, Year 3 have been reflecting on the past and the ways that black people were treated differently. They took part in a great discussion about segregation and discrimination and enjoyed learning all about the life and achievements of **Jesse Owens**, the Olympic athlete. They cheered along when watching old videos of him winning his four Olympic gold medals and created fantastic fact files all about him.



Maggie: When Jesse went to the Olympics in Germany, lots of people thought that white athletes were better but Jesse won.

Music

In music, Year 3 have been exploring how to create soundscapes based on pictures and animations. They enjoyed watching a short animation without the sound and created their own sound effects and background music to match the mood and setting of what they saw.

Ukulele

Year 3 have been making great progress during their Ukulele lessons. They can hold their ukuleles correctly, strum the strings with confidence and have started to learn different chords to play along to various songs including Roar by Katy Perry!



PSHE

For World Mental Health Day, Year 3 had a visitor from the Mental Health Support Team who spoke to them about different feelings they might experience and the best ways to deal with them. During their PSHE lessons, they continued to explore this and focussed on the feeling of anger. They enjoyed watching the story of Angry Arthur and used colours and shapes to map his feelings throughout the story. They discussed the story and talked about things that made them angry and shared ideas on different ways to calm down e.g. getting a drink of water, singing a song or having a nap.



Riley: I learned that anger is a normal feeling and there are different things you can do to calm down and feel better.

PSHE – Positive Relationships

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.

Georgie - We learnt about positive and negative relationships. It's important to have good relationships.



History

Year 4 started their Ancient Greece topic this half term. They have identified where Ancient Greeks sit on a historical timeline of events and periods of time, and then answered the question 'Can I explain who the Greeks were?' They learnt that there are many things that come from the ancient Greeks, such as our alphabet. They have also looked at architectural features that are still seen today in buildings, this then led to them designing and making their own Greek inspired pots.

Beatrice - We have learnt all about the Olympics and how it started in Greece.



Music

This half term, the children have been learning all about body percussion. They have spent time understanding pieces of music that use body percussion and experimenting with their own bodies and the sounds they can make to inspire their own music. Using the Rainforest for inspiration the children composed a piece of music with 4 different layers to match the structure of the Rainforest. They children thoroughly enjoyed being creative and composing their own music.

Noah - We used body percussion to create the sounds of the rainforest. We then composed a piece of music to describe the sounds of the rainforest.

Black History Month

As part of Black History Month, Year 4 have been looking at the life of Martin Luther King Jr, who he is, how he lived his life and why he is still such an influential role model in the present day. They started by researching, gathering information and creating a fact file all about his life, what he believed in and how he influenced people to stand up for their rights and beliefs, which included listening to his infamous speech which began with "I have a dream."

Oscar - We learnt that Martin Luther King fought for the rights of black people and gave many powerful and inspiring speeches.



PSHE

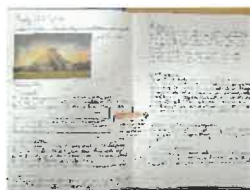
From time to time we all experience challenges and friendship can be the solution or cause of these problems. Year 5 have been looking at forging meaningful and supportive relationships at the start of the year through their PSHE studies. The children investigated what makes a good friend and the expectations we have of those around us. This developed into considering how relationships can be a negative or unhealthy influence on us, including peer pressure. The children showed that they can identify how to make their own lives more positive through the people they choose to surround themselves with and also how they can be that person for someone else. They concluded by considering where they can seek support if things are difficult.



Walter: I enjoyed working on relationships because we learned about how some can be healthy and how others are not healthy relationships.

Marvellous Mayans

During the Autumn term, the children are learning all about the Mayan civilisation. So far they have looked at the religious systems which the Maya believed in and compared the polytheistic gods to their previous knowledge of the Greek and Roman empires.



They have considered the importance of artefacts and how historians gain a clearer picture of the world around them from the objects and writings they discover. The children were presented with a wide range of artefacts which they used their knowledge of the Maya to identify and offer purpose to. The artefacts included features of pok-ta-pok – the Mayan ball game, jewellery and everyday items which defined Mayan life. The children have much more to learn as they take on the Mayan writing and number system in the coming weeks.

Harry: I enjoyed learning about the Maya in history particularly about the gods. My favourite part was learning about Chichen Itza and the Kukulchan Temple.

Music

Year 5 have started the school year by developing their understanding of musical composition and notation. Using the Egyptians as the canvas for their work, the children worked



individually and in pairs to compose their own pieces which they then played with the glockenspiels. The children really impressed with their ability to craft their own music and also comment on the techniques used by themselves and their peers.

The children's vocabulary has also developed as they have investigated the structure of a melody and how notation can be captured within the stave to give music structure.

Natalie: In music we have been learning how to play the glockenspiel to the song Egypt – The Gifts of the Nile.

Black History Month

The significance of October for the black community has not been lost on Year 5. They have been studying the work of Katherine Johnson whose mathematical skill was an essential part of mankind's journey to the moon.



The children used their studies of space to consider how Katherine Johnson's calculations allowed for astronauts to venture into space and return to Earth safely. However, they also focused on the challenges which Katherine faced in achieving her ambitious against a backdrop of racism and sexism in America.

Year 5 were so inspired that they made their own green screen videos all about their new heroine.

Daniel: In Black History Month we all tried Sphero to learn about how Katherine Johnson made a difference with her calculations.

Arete

Our trip to Arete was, without doubt, one of the most amazing experiences our Year 6 robins could have wished for! As soon as they arrived, they were immersed into the great outdoors and before they knew it, the children were kitted out and rafting across the picturesque Llyn Padarn.

Throughout the week, the rain persisted but it didn't stop the children from having an unforgettable experience. Amongst many other activities, mining and gorge walking were real highlights and it was lovely to see the children positively beaming as they shared their experiences with each other.



The aims of the trip were to push the children out of their comfort zones and learn to overcome challenges; to promote independence and responsibility and to develop teamwork skills. It is fair to say that the children exceeded our expectations in all of these areas.

We now hope that the skills learnt in Arete can be applied in the children's daily lives both in and out of school.



Jonah: I was really proud of myself for managing to complete tasks which I thought I wouldn't be able to do. My greatest achievement was abseiling down the cliff face.

Music

Gospel singing lessons began earlier in the term for Year 6 and it didn't take long for the children to begin filling the hall with uplifting music! Under the guidance of their teacher, Alex, the children have already learnt the importance of breathing techniques and the positioning of their mouths in helping to hit certain notes. The children are harmonising beautifully and are keen to volunteer for solo performances.

Charlotte: I'm enjoying learning about gospel singing and its roots and I'm really hoping to get a solo part in one of the songs.

Black History Month

As part of our Black History month celebrations, Year 6 children looked closely at the wonderful achievements of the famous poet, singer-songwriter, author and actor, Benjamin Zephaniah. Our robins researched Zephaniah's work and found out about his origins, education and his inspirations to want to bring change; firstly to his community and then to a wider audience through the medium of dub poetry. From this, they created their own politically-driven poems with ideas which had value to their own beliefs and some children even performed them to the whole class!



Isabelle: I created a poem about pigs inspired by Benjamin Zephaniah encouraging people to consider their views on veganism.



Celebrate SUCCESS

More success for our Cruz!



Cruz had a great weekend just before half term and is rightly quite proud of himself. He was awarded the Coaches'

Man of the match at football on the Saturday with a tough game ending in a 2-2 draw and then on Sunday went to to complete SWIM 3. There is no stopping this Newchurch Robin! Well done Cruz!

A true inspiration to others...



One of our older Newchurch robins, Faye in Year Six, was able to share some great news with us this term. After six years of training and dedication, she passed her 1st

Dan Black Belt!

The grading took place at the English Karate Academy and consisted of seven sections including: Kata, self defence, sparring, kumite, traditional and free fighting combinations. All of which took around 3 hours!

This was no easy task both physically and mentally and in her true style, Faye performed amazingly in all aspects whilst under pressure.

We hope that by sharing this, it will give some inspiration to the younger robins that if you are determined and resilient, you will be able to achieve your goals. Well done, Faye!

Park Run Superstars



Congratulations to Ellis in Year 4 for achieving his half marathon wrist band at Park Run. Ellis has been going to the Park Run to run 2k every week since July! What an achievement in such a short space of

time. Well done, Ellis.

And there to cheer not only her big brother on, but other runners is Avie. Avie volunteers at the Park Run two or three times a month, making sure everyone finishes the course and receives a time.



Two more Newchurch robins displaying our core values. Well done, Avie and Ellis.



Key Information



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 award 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. **Year 3 and Year 4 are currently joint leaders with ten points each.**

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.

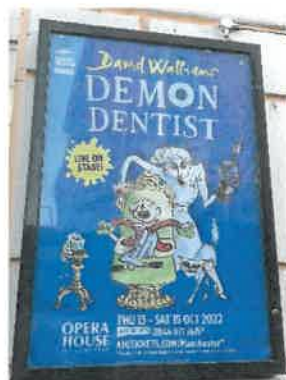
Attendance since the start of the year:

EYFS	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
94.9%	96.5%	98.8%	98.4%	97.2%	98.1%	98.7%

Our whole school target is 97%. Currently we are at 97.6%.

Attendance Awards

We keep a close eye on attendance at Newchurch, with the wonderful support from Warrington Authority and our link governors. We are keen to support all of our little robins and their families to ensure that they are able to experience a full and rewarding time in school. However, we also aim to celebrate the efforts our families put in to reach the highest attendance goals possible.



October 2022

During the 2021-22 academic year Newchurch was amongst the highest performing 20% of schools for attendance but no class managed to match the current Year 5 children. Their topping attendance score meant that they were the lucky recipients of an all expenses paid school trip generously supported by the PTA.



This year's reward was a trip to see David Walliams' Demon Dentist brought to life on the stage of the Manchester Opera House. The show, which was chilling at times, brought laughs and gasps from the crowd. The largest cheer was saved for the end when the author himself paid a visit, much to the surprise of the entire audience.

As their class teacher last year, Mrs Conreen accompanied the children on the trip along with Mr Boon and our attendance governor Mrs Ray. As ever, the children's attitude and core values were exemplary and they were true ambassadors for the school.



They even got to show off their own skills in front of the camera when they were interviewed following the play to give their views and recommendations.

The children were extremely positive and fully suggest that you get yourself to a theatre near you to catch the show for yourselves.

Who knows who will win this year's award and be the next deserving attendance champions.

Newchurch Community Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs J Narraway
www.newchurchprimary.co.uk

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