## **Newchurch Community Primary School**

4<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

## PET AS THERAPY DOG PROGRAMME

Miss Ingham and her Dog Holly have recently undergone a 'Pet As Therapy' dog programme. Pets As Therapy is a national charity founded in 1983 by Lesley Scott-Ordish. 'Pets As Therapy' dogs enhance health and wellbeing in the community through the visits of trusted volunteers with their behaviourally assessed animals. In schools they are used to improve literacy in children by developing their confidence, interest and enjoyment in reading through their Read2Dogs scheme.

Newchurch Primary School feels fortunate to be involved in the Read2Dogs scheme. Miss Ingham and Holly are going to be working with groups of children across our school. The programme is aimed at building confidence when children are reading aloud and helping our children to feel relaxed. Not all children are involved in this at any one time, your child may be included in group sessions over the next two terms.

More information can be found on our school website in the Therapy Dog section.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to either myself or Miss Ingham.

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Lawrenson Headteacher

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