

New Mills Primary School
Newsletter No. 10
Friday 12 March 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been so good to see everyone back in school again this week. Staff are making sure that their children have lots of time to rebuild friendships and to enjoy being back together again, There are so many happy faces around school.

World Book day: there were great costumes for the first day back in school....book vouchers should be in school bags.

Parents evening phone calls: teachers will be making phone calls home for parents evening the week beginning 4 May 2021.

Teaching spelling: A new approach to teaching spelling. Research tells us that spelling tests do not help children to spell well. With this in mind staff are now going to send home lists of spellings weekly on Teams. There will be explanations here around activities/strategies to use at home to help your child to learn these spellings. These will not be tested in school. Spelling words will be taught and practiced in Literacy lessons.

Covid guidelines; there are no changes to our Covid guidelines in school. Children are washing and hand sanitising many times during the day and staying in their bubbles at all times. This has worked well for the school before lockdown and we hope that we are able to keep everyone safe going forwards.

Catch up: The teachers are looking closely at the literacy and maths work the children are doing this week to help them make decisions about the best way to help pupils catch up on work they have missed or work they need more help with. They will, of course, let you know if there are any specific areas you can help with at home.

New communication links: class teachers tell me that the 'Teams' communication links made with pupils and parents at home during school closure have been excellent. With this in mind we propose that Teams will continue to be a communication route between school and home. Class teachers will send home messages related to your class through Teams. They will also start to set homework here. There will be reminders in text to begin with to help with access and staff are now very skilled in helping parents with technical IT issues.

C Whetstone - Head teacher

The next newsletter will be on Friday 26 March 2021....by email!!

Whole school building challenge...

Building the tallest tower....the results!!

Well there were some fantastic entries for this competition! Some looked like they needed some high level engineering skills to build them. Thank you for everyone who took part.

It was very difficult selecting a winner in each class and some winners are joint entries.....

Rec	Fox
Year 1	Sam and Emily
Year 2	Eliza
Year 3	Arlo
Year 4	Gregory and Toby
Year 5	Oscar and Mathilda
Year 6	Robin

**Stars of the Week -last 2 weeks
working at home and in school**

A celebration of the child that has shown something extra special this week...one from every class....
this includes the children working at home of course...

...we will save your certificates!

Rec Teddy and Rae
Y1 Alice B and Xavier
Y2 Martha and Eliza
Y3 Finchley and Caitlyn
Y4 Matthew and Saoirse
Y5 Olly and George
Y6 Tully and Sophie

Well done everyone!! 😊

Exciting news....Bridges challenge (in the email)

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the families who have embraced our 21 Bridges challenge over the last few months. We have loved seeing all the photos of your adventures and hope you have visited a few places which you otherwise might not have. So far over 80 children have sent us photos of their bridges challenge walks and 17 children have completed all 21 bridges! We have had 12 entries into the bridge modelling competition and over 50 entries into the photo competition - it has been really interesting to see the children's perspectives on the world through these images. You still have until the 29th March to complete as many bridges as you can and send your entries in to us.

**All participants will receive a certificate,
silver medals for more than 10 bridges visited
and Gold medals for all 21 Bridges visited.**

Fund Raising

**Advance warning....Thursday 1 April...Spring Bake off
and dress up day £1.00 entry.**

Come into school dressed for Spring.

Bake some cakes for the Bake off competition.

Bring in pocket money to buy cakes in your classes.

Plant Sale letters & forms have been sent home this week. Please return **no later** than Wednesday 31 March as we need to get the order to the supplier! Thank you

Red Nose day...Friday 19 March.

Come dressed as your favourite Super Hero for £1.00 please pay on parent pay or send cash into school. There is also a direct link on your Parent Pay page (emailed out to you) which sends the money straight to Comic Relief -

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=3005>

We will also be selling red noses starting Monday 15 March for £1.50 each. Please send cash in with your child.

Dates for your Diary 2021 (January - Easter) ... Something to look forward to

Monday 15 March	Forest Schools starts after school for Y2/3
Monday 15 March	Red noses will be sold (£1.50 each) in school each afternoon
Wednesday 31 March	PTA plant sale form & payment return date
Thursday 1 April	PTA dress up and bake off day (more info to follow on a flier)
Thursday 1 April	Bridges challenge (see above)
Thursday 1 April	Last day of term; Easter holidays begin

Future PTA meetings are Wednesday 28th April, 8pm & Wednesday 16th June, 8pm on Zoom all welcome to attend.

Inset days 2.9.20, 3.9.20, 4.9.20, 18.12.20, 21.6.21

Return to school in September 2021...Inset days 2 and 3 September 2021.

First day back Monday 6 September 2021.



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