

New Mills Primary School  
 Newsletter No. 3  
 Friday 9 October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

I wanted to tell you about all the wonderful Outdoor Education happening this term!

There is a new Outdoor Learning programme for all classes. This includes cooking in the woodland, identifying plants and trees, developing mapping skills, orienteering, building insect homes, creating a waterproof camp...the oldest children will even collect and purify their own water.

In addition, staff will be taking pupils to learn outside more often for English and Maths inspired lessons. Don't forget that our Outdoor PE sessions cover a very wide range of sports and fitness activities too. Scooting is the current favourite and this can now happen at lunch times and in PE sessions. Having your own helmet in school for your scooting day is a great help. Please help your child enjoy learning outside by making sure that they come to school with the correct footwear...details are in your class newsletters. We will keep this up throughout the winter so wrap up everyone. Photos on Twitter!

C Whetstone - Head teacher

The next newsletter will be on Friday 6 November ...by email!!

**Daily Mile.....successes and Reception.**

It's great to see that Reception pupils are already running a mile! Mrs Fisher reports that all classes are doing a great job running too. Remember its Y3/4/5/6 on Mon, Wed, Fri after drop off Y1/Y2 Tuesday and Thursday after drop off.

**Communication with school and next steps...**

A reminder that the usual communication options remain open for all parents and carers...text the office, phone or email your class teacher. It is sad that we cannot meet you at drop off and collection as we have always done in the past; thank you for respecting this, We will shortly be announcing school 'Teams' log ins for pupils. This will allow us to send work/messages home using Microsoft Teams.

**Warm clothing in school!**

One of the requirements of the Covid Risk assessment is to keep windows and doors open in classrooms and around the school. This allows good ventilation for everyone but it also means that the classrooms and workspaces may not feel as warm as usual. Please ensure that your child wears a (labelled) school sweatshirt every day. **They can also wear a fleece jacket on top of sweatshirts** in classrooms. They will need a coat for outdoor play and break times. Thank you.

**Drop Off and Collection...reminder**

Thankyou...this is working well. Please can all Y6 and Y5 pupils move onto the car park space when they arrive. This will free up more space for parents of younger pupils.

**Public Health reminder:** All parents should do their best to distance from other parents/carers wherever possible. Public Health England have asked that we remind **parents that they should 2m distance at the school gates**. The risk of Covid spread is not great in school, as young children do not spread it massively; the risk outside of school is far greater.

..... and thank you too for not driving into Meadow Street!

**Parents' evenings**

These will take place by phone after half term...more info soon!

**Stars of the week...**

**A celebration of the child that has shown something extra special this week...one from every class.**

Rec Jack and Elliot	Y4 Briony and Alex
Y1 Millie and Frankie	Y5 Joel and Robyn
Y2 Marlie and Rowan	Y6 Robin and Joseph T
Y3 Freya and Madison	
Well done everyone 😊	

**KS1 new playground equipment.....delayed unfortunately.**

We made the decision that the kit being fitted was too large. It will be replaced in January. Apologies for the delay.

**Safeguarding message**

We have been made aware that a person in a car has recently been asking children, in the Stockport area, for directions and then asking them to get in the car to show them the way. The police have been informed. Please remind your children the importance of personal safety and of avoiding strangers. Thank you.

**Spooky school day....Thursday 22 October**

Come to school dressed in a spooky costume. Bring one decorated cupcake ...the spookier the better! Prizes for the best costume and the most imaginative cake. A suggested donation to PTA funds of £2 please.

**School Council and HPKC .... Election time at NMPS**

The children will be electing representatives for School Council and the High Peak Kids Council. HPKC is all about pupils from all local schools discussing issues important to young people in the High Peak. The first elections will be for **HPKC reps and this will take place wk. beg 19 October**. Y6 pupils standing for election will produce their manifestos and present them virtually to all classes so that everyone can choose who to vote for.

**Picture News for KS2 pupils**

The Picture News posters are on the whiteboard at the top of the Junior stairs. Pupils in Y3/4/5/6 can ask their teachers if they can have a look and add a comment/thought. As always, please explain your idea/thought and add your name. Thankyou (PTA funded resource)

**An important message for Y6 parents on the next page!**

### Transfer to Secondary School 2020-21

The DCC application process has been open since 14 September. It closes on 31 October 2020.

Admission to Primary school (Reception places) opens 9 November and closes 15 January 2021.

Please go to the Derbyshire County Council website for more information & to apply.

### Dates for your Diary (September - December) .... Something to look forward to

Wednesday 21 October	School RE day
Thursday 22 October	Spooky school day
Friday 23 October	Y6 'Relax kids' session

#### Half term (26-30 October)

Y5 day trips to Whitehall

Tuesday 3-Thursday 5 November	Flu immunisation day (all classes)
Wednesday 11 November	Y6 day trips to Whitehall
Monday 7 - 9 December	Christmas dinner in school today
Wednesday 16 December	last day of term
Friday 18 December	



Sadly...none of the usual school Christmas events are planned.  
Planning for virtual celebrations and communications are ongoing...watch this space!  
There will be class celebrations and parties during the last week of the school term.

**Inset days 2.9.20, 3.9.20, 4.9.20, 21.6.21, 22.7.21**

#### Don't forget.....!

After Schools Clubs

Monday - Being Outdoors Y2 & Y3 **prebooked only**

Tuesday - Netball Y5 **prebooked only**

Thursday - PAS Y1, Y3 & Y4 **prebooked only**

Music Lessons in School

- Guitar .....Friday afternoon
- Woodwind (Y4 only) Wednesday
- Woodwind Wednesday
- Piano Friday afternoons
- Viola/violin Friday mornings on line



#### Special Events.....

the PTA are looking to plan special events that will work within our new restricted school opening arrangements. They are looking to recruit new members and welcome your suggestions. Get in touch through school or look out for their Facebook page.

#### A message from Headmasters (school uniform supplier)...

They are in new premises; 11 Union Road, New Mills, SK22 3EL. They are happy to take calls or contact them by email - 01663 744254 [info@headmasters-schoolwear.co.uk](mailto:info@headmasters-schoolwear.co.uk)