

New Mills Primary School  
 Newsletter No. 9  
 Friday 12 February 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Hello everyone at home and at school.

I'd like to start with a huge 'well done' to everyone at home and at school. This has certainly been a challenging half term for so many reasons. Thank you to all parents and carers at home for engaging so enthusiastically with the remote/home learning and to all the staff here in school for making this happen. Staff tell me all about the wonderful work that children are doing at home. This is time to congratulate yourselves and your wonderful children for their achievements.

You will have heard, on the news, that there may be a return to school shortly. We get these messages at the same time as you; we will be in touch as soon as possible with our plan for children's return depending on the regulations set for us by the Government.

Please note that staff will not be sending home work/activities during the half term holiday and I would ask that you do not contact your class teachers next week for anything that is not urgent. It's important that we all get a good break. Let's hope that the weather let us get out and about locally. Have a restful half term break.

**Parent Questionnaire**

Your annual questionnaire from the Governors came home last week via 2 links in the email. Please return them using Survey Monkey (anonymous) by 21.2.21. The information you send will be analysed by the Governors shortly after that date. Thankyou.

**Phone calls home**

Class teachers are making informal phone calls home over the next 3 school weeks...this is a chat with parents about how everyone is coping at home/school.

**COVID reminders:** Parents/carers must tell us as soon as you hear if a COVID test is positive or negative, we need to see this in writing too. Parents/carers must not access the school buildings/site at any time.

C Whetstone - Head teacher

The next newsletter will be on Friday 5 March 2021...by email!!

**Whole school building challenge...still running!**  
**Build the tallest structure you can.....the last date for this is**  
**Friday 19.2.21**

A challenge for everyone...in school and at home!

We would like you to build a tall structure, measure it, name it and photograph it. Send your photo and measurement into school via class email or Teams.

Prizes for...the tallest...the most original building materials...the best name...best family entry.

(Before half term please)

Parents. Please make sure that your child is supervised and safe throughout construction. **Closing date is Friday 19 February 2021.**

**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 Alice and George and Rae
- Y1 Heidi and Oliver B and Matilda
- Y2 Jack M and Elsie and Eva S
- Y3 Evie and Isla and Emily
- Y4 Leon and Jessica and Jay
- Y5 Jake and Charlie and Belle
- Y6 Joseph T and Thomas and Ellie

**Well done everyone!! 😊**

**Exciting news....Bridge challenge (in the email)**

We are pleased to launch our new whole school activity challenge for 2021. The challenge is '21 Bridges' and we hope children and parents will take part for fun or as part of a sponsored event. There are 3 elements to the challenge - a bridge treasure hunt, a photo competition and a model making competition. Children can take part in all or just one of the activities - hopefully there is something which appeals to everyone in there. The challenge will run until Easter 2021. We would love to see photos of your adventures. Details on where to send photos are included in the instructions attached to this email. **Closing date is Thursday 1 April 2021.**

**New Playground equipment in KS1**

The new play equipment in the Infant playground is a finally installed and is a great success. Thanks go to Mrs Fisher for coordinating a very long a complicated process and for working so hard to raise the funds, with the support of the PTA, to make this happen.

**Community information**

**New Mills Youth and Community Project...**

....raising funds for all schools in New Mills. They started a GoFundMe because schools have not been able to raise their own funds...they say ' many people would usually go to a school fete or take part in fundraising activities, we are raising much needed funds enabling education settings to purchase equipment and resources'.

**Thank you to them for their donation; £100 to school funds.**

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

Friday 19 February	Building challenge (see above)
Monday 15 February	Half term week (school closed)
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	PTA meeting @ 8pm online via Zoom
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.**

