

New Mills Primary School
Newsletter No. 13
Friday 20 May 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have been taking part in a huge range of events; it's been an incredibly busy term! The visits to White Hall are always one of the highlights. Mrs Fisher and I will discuss plans for next year so that we give as much notice as possible for these visits; they are costly, but worth every penny. Summer is just around the corner and with it comes the summer fair, duck race, discos, end of year visits (possibly a whole school visit to the Peak Wildlife Park), year 5 and 6 productions, New Mills Carnival and photographs, to name but a few. Basically, it will be a very busy term!

Carol Taylor - Head teacher

Change to the finishing time

We are finishing at 2pm on Friday 22nd July 2022. This has been approved by the governing body of the school.

Staffing update:

Mrs Clarke will be absent until September. Mrs Shepley will be the Deputy Headteacher in her absence. Mrs Hadfield has been absent this term, we hope she will return after the holidays - Mrs Shepley has been covering the class as much as possible. Mrs McDonald and Mr McCance provide regular cover for us. Mrs Higton will be leaving after the Whit holiday - she has a new position, and we wish her every success in her new role. She's been an amazing teaching assistant and will be sorely missed by the staff and children.

Year 1 and 2 trip to Chester Zoo:

The weather was just right - not too hot or too cold! The children were amazing! Everyone had their favourite animal and we got to see a huge amount. Many children were mesmerised by the penguins that flitted past, waving at them, and watching the elephants munching on bamboo was fascinating. A brilliant day out for all.

Sponsored Triathlon:

The Year 1 children have been raising money for an endangered animal, following their trip to Chester Zoo. This week they completed a mini triathlon (cycling, scootering and running) with the help of some of our year 6's. We will let you know how much has been raised and which animal we are sponsoring.

KS1 and KS2 SATs:

These are all finished now. The children have been amazing during these formal tests. KS1 children did the reading twice because we were a pilot school for future tests!! We still have the phonics screening to do, in June. You'll be informed about the results of all the assessments at the end of the year when we give the reports out.

Literacy:

We've been working with a literacy consultant, just recently. The children have been working from picture books with short stories in them. The enthusiasm from the staff and children has been amazing, well done everyone!

MMU:

Year 4 and 5 are being offered additional tutoring through Manchester Metropolitan University. Information was sent via class Dojo today. We don't have any further information about it and we haven't done it before, so it would be great to give us feedback on how it went, if you decide to take part.

Other events have included:

Year 3 cricket festival, Year 4 White Hall residential (1 night), Year 5 and 6 Cyclocross, Year 3 day visit to White Hall, Year 3 and 4 rounders, Year 5 and 6 rounders competition, year 6 visit to Big at the New Mills Art Theatre. We've also had after school tennis, which has been very popular. We have lots of trips coming up in the next term too!

Tuck Shop:

Maxie and Jake (both in year 6) came up with the idea of having a Tuck Shop twice a week at play time. They have been supported by Miss Moody and between them they have run a successful little business. The school council said that they would like the return of strawberry or chocolate milkshake (they used to have this on Fridays). We will trial this, for KS2 children who would like some, next half term. Miss Moody will send updates on this. If your child would like the chocolate milk, this will be an additional 10p.

School Council:

These guys have been very busy! Each year group left the meeting with jobs to do, including: finding out if it's possible to have milkshake (mentioned above), new bins on the playground, researching which after school clubs children would like and getting new play equipment outside. Some of their other suggestions included: buddy benches, den building competition, archaeology day, parents visit the Woodland with their child/ren, and many more. We will keep working through the list. There are some 'Big Ticket items on the list - especially when it comes to developing the outdoor play area. The school council will keep you posted on how they get on and if they need any support, they will write to you.

HPKC:

We are represented at the High Peak Kids Council by two of our year 6 children. They attend half-termly meetings. They are working on developing 'Stride with Pride', an initiative that children across New Mills have instigated and it involves encouraging families to walk to school - I'm sure you will hear more about this quite soon. They will also be raising money for the Thomas Theyer Foundation.

In the children's words:

Transition Day - Brooke, Year 6:

Yesterday morning, year 6 had a transition morning with New Mills teachers. We met a nice lady called Sara. She came in and talked about how to make friends. She brought 2 past year 6's with her.

Whitehall Y3 - by Twyla & Elsie

The zipwire was very high but great! You didn't need to worry about falling off because you had a harness on. There was a rescue team that could also put us back up. We did rock climbing & canoeing and it was quite a challenge for us but we loved it!

Queen's Jubilee:

Next Thursday, 26th May, the children will be having a Jubilee Picnic. If the weather's nice, they will eat outside, if not we'll continue in the hall. Whether your child has school dinners or brings sandwiches, they will be able to take part. Children and staff can wear Red, White and Blue clothes (or any combination of them) on the day. The staff will do Jubilee activities with them during the day.

Whitehall Y4 - by Emily & Isla

We had great fun and everyone loved the events which included stream scrambling, zip wire, rock scrambling, rope course & caving. The indoor climbing wall was one of the favourites too.

Family Support Worker:

Becki Taylor, our family support worker, is planning a coffee morning for next term. It will be open to all parents and it will be an opportunity to meet her and her team to find out what they do for us. Last term, Becki worked with many of our families and she ran an Anxiety Gremlins Group for some of our Year 6 children.

Dates for your Diary (May to July) Something to look forward to

Wednesday 8 June to

Wednesday 13 July

New reception starters visiting

Thursday 9 June

Class photos by new school photographer

Friday 10 June

Non uniform day - bring a bottle

Saturday 11 June

Carnival day

Monday 13 June

Y4 Viking morning

Tuesday 14 June

New reception parents talk

Wednesday 15 June

PTA planning meeting *Masons Arms* 7pm

Thursday 16 June

Y4 trip to *Bridgewater Hall*

Thursday 23 June

Y6 transition talk from the police

Friday 24 June

Y6 Kinder walk (more info to follow)

Monday 27 June

Inset day

Thursday 30 June

KS2 Sports day

Friday 1 July

Non uniform day - donations of chocolate for the summer fair

Wednesday 6 July

Swimming festival

Thursday 7 July

Summer Fair 3.15 - 5.00 pm

Monday 11 July

Work experience pupils in school for 1 week

Tuesday 12 July

KS1 Sports day

Wednesday 13 July

Swimming gala

Thursday 14 July

Whole school water safety talk

Sunday 17 July

Y6 Leaving party (not in school)

Monday 18 July

Y6 Fun swim session

Wednesday 20 July

Summer disco KS1 5.30pm - 6.30pm KS2 6.45pm - 8.00pm

Thursday 21 July

Whole school trip to *Peak Wildlife Park* (more info soon)