

New Mills Primary School
Newsletter No. 1
Friday 9th September 2022



Dear Parents and Carers, Welcome back -

A huge welcome back to everyone! It was so nice to stand outside on Monday morning and see all the children waiting to return. They all looked so smart in their new uniforms, too. It's been a brilliant return to school. The staff have worked incredibly hard, during the holidays, to make the learning environment calm, cosy and inviting. An extra special welcome must go to our new Reception families. Thank you so much for choosing New Mills Primary School. The children attended several transitions sessions and they've started the new school year brilliantly. We hope you have a fantastic seven years with us.

Carol Taylor - Head teacher

RWI meeting

We are holding a Read Write Inc (RWI) meeting, in school, for Reception and Year 1 parents on Monday 19th September 2.40 - 3.10 pm in the school hall. RWI is our phonics programme - it's how we teach children to read and write. If you're like me, you didn't do phonics at school, so it's very important that we share the basic structure of the programme and suggest ways to support your child at home.

Meet the Teachers

We'd like to welcome you into school so that you can meet the teachers and support staff. You can ask any questions you might have and spend some time in your child's learning environment. We'll show you some of the new resources we have put in place, too.

Tuesday 20th September - EYFS and KS1 - 2:45 to 3:10 pm.

Wednesday 21st September - KS2 - 2:45 to 3:10 pm.

Rock Star Day Key Stage 2 'Rock Star Day' - Friday

7th October 2022 On Friday 7th October, we will be having a 'Rock Star Day' for KS2 to relaunch Times Tables Rockstars across the key stage. We have introduced the programme in recent years to help support children with learning key maths facts, along with assisting Year 4 with preparation for their multiplication tables check at the end of the year. We will be planning a fun filled day with special times tables based activities and the chance to compete with others across the school. **On the day, children in Key Stage 2 are invited to come to school dressed as a rock star if they wish, with their air guitars at the ready! We cannot wait to see the rock star attitude that the children will bring to the day!** Times Tables are such an important part of developing a secure understanding in Maths and we thank you in advance for supporting your child with this at home.

Rocking Robots Day Key Stage 1 'Rocking Robots Day' - Friday

7th October 2022 On Friday 7th October, we will be having a 'Rocking Robots Day' for KS1 to launch Numbots across the Key Stage. Numbots is linked to Times Tables Rockstars (used in KS2) and helps support the children with learning key number facts. We will be planning a fun filled day with special activities planned - **on this day, the children in Key Stage 1 are invited to come to school dressed as robots if they wish!**

Tuck Shop:

The KS2 tuck shop will start on **Friday 16 September**. The cost is 20p for juice (own water bottle) and a snack. If your child would like the chocolate milk, this will be an additional 10p on a Monday morning only.

Home learning

We are changing our approach to Home Learning. The aim is to make it more practical and child centred. We're working through the format now and the children will start Home Learning on Friday 23rd September. More information will be shared next week.

New curriculum

Curriculum Maestro is our new and exciting curriculum. It follows the National Curriculum and has a wealth of learning opportunities for the children. Children's knowledge is meant to build over time - we call it Sticky Knowledge - we learn facts about a topic and build on those facts in other subjects. Sticky knowledge is **effectively knowledge that will stay with us forever**. In other words, an alteration has happened to our long-term memory. Knowledge Builders will be shared on the website as soon as it has been reviewed.

Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

The language we have chosen to work on is French. This will be taught in Key Stage 2 and will start in a few weeks. We will let you know when 😊

Reading

Literacy lessons changed last year when the children started learning through short stories. High quality, engaging texts with age-appropriate language were chosen and the children read part of the book each day. To further support children's reading, we are reintroducing Guided Reading for all children who finish the RWI programme. Guided Reading involves reading in small groups with children being taught how to read and comprehend using books at their reading level. This happens daily. As we will be reading with children during lesson time, we won't need to hear them read their home/school reading books. Children will still be bringing a book home from school, and they can change it once they have finished it. They will be able to choose books from the shelves or from the library area - we hope they will enjoy reading this wider range of texts.

Reading in EYFS and KS1 has not changed since last year. Children will have 3 books to read: their RWI book, which is familiar to them because they have been reading it in school; a Book Bag Book which is unfamiliar but contains all the sounds they have learnt; and a Family Book - designed for parents to read aloud to share their love of reading.

Reading plus is an electronic resource that we started using last year. The children read texts, using a device, and are asked questions afterwards. Children are offered lots of incentives to support their reading. It's a great system which can be accessed at home; login details will be sent home when the children have completed their initial assessments.

Uniform

We still have a supply of purple uniform in school for pupils on free school meals who need additional sweatshirts. They are new. Please speak to me if you are interested. **Hoodies** are not part of the uniform and never have been. Please make the change to a sweatshirt or cardigan as soon as possible. Thank you for your support with this.

PLEASE can you make sure your child's uniform is labelled!! We want the correct clothes to stay with the correct child.

Collecting your child

If you have arranged for another parent to collect your child, please send a message on class dojo to your class teacher or email into school. We have lots of children going to friends houses! Thank you.

Harvest Festival

This was always a big event when I was at school. It seems to have dipped away in recent years (possibly due to Covid). We've chosen **Thursday October 20th** as our Harvest Festival day. All donations will go to New Mills Food Bank. Please send a donation in, non perishable items. If you can - no pressure! The children will learn more about the role of the Food Bank during the day. **Children are welcome to wear 'Earthy' colours for the festival.**

Dates for your Diary September Something to look forward to

Monday 12 th & Tuesday 13 th September	Y5 Bikeability
Wednesday 14 th September	Swimming gala
Wednesday 14 th September	Y4 Wider opps music starts
Friday 16 September	KS2 Tuck shop - 20p
Monday 19 th September	RWI meeting 2.40 - 3.10 pm in the school hall for Reception & Y1 parents
Monday 19 th & Tuesday 20 th September	Y5 Bikeability
Monday 19 th September	Y5 Swimming starts
Tuesday 20 th September	Meet the teacher EYFS and KS1 - 2:45 to 3:10 pm
Wednesday 21 st September	Meet the teacher KS2 - 2:45 to 3:10 pm
Wednesday 21 st September	Y3 & Y4 Football girls
Friday 23 rd September	Jeans for Genes day, wear your jeans - £1.00 donation on Parent Pay
Monday 26 th & Tuesday 27 th September	Y5 Bikeability
Tuesday 27 th September	Y4 Mobile recycling event
Wednesday 28 th September	Y5 & Y6 Football girls
Friday 7 th October	KS1 & KS2 Rockstar/Rocking Robots day
Monday 10 th October	School photographer AM individual photos
Monday 10 th October	Parents evening
Wednesday 12 th October	Y3 & Y4 Football boys
Wednesday 12 th October	Parents evening
Thursday 20 th October	Harvest festival day
Friday 21st October	Inset day school is closed
Thursday 10 th November	NHS flu immunisations in school (info has been emailed)