

New Mills Primary School
Newsletter No. 4
Friday 19th November 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

Well, I have now had two visits to Kingswood and been able to spend time getting to know the year 5 and 6 children. It's been a blast!! The children have been fantastic - a real credit to you. The children were set the challenge of putting themselves out of their comfort zone and they certainly did that. For many, it was their first time away from home and there was some home sickness. I was totally impressed that everyone (including the staff) managed to get a decent night's sleep!! The activities were challenging, fun and sometimes, quite scary! The food was a big hit - a full cooked breakfast with pancakes, fruit, cereal, porridge, etc. A wide choice at lunch and dinnertime and fruit available all day. Mrs Fisher and I have discussed plans for further residentials, for different age groups and we'll send out more information when we've worked out practicalities and costs.

Carol Taylor - Head teacher

Traffic on Meadow Street

Last week, we had two near misses with children and cars - one child was very close to being run over. Even as a witness, it leaves you feeling shaky and upset. None of us want to imagine the devastation that could be caused. Therefore, we must ask again for your support with this and ask that you let family/friends/ childminders - or anybody else who may be collecting your child - know that they should not drive up or down Meadow Street whilst children are being dropped off or collected. The High Peak Kids Council are going to be working with children from other local schools to tackle this issue. We take the safety of your children very seriously and this is an on-going problem which despite our best efforts has not been resolved for years. We would welcome your ideas and thoughts on this matter. Please contact me - ctaylor@newmills-pri.derbyshire.sch.uk or 01663 744453.

HPKC

The High Peak Kids Council met for the first time last week. Our pupil representatives are Belle and Freya from Year 6. This is a fabulous opportunity for children to meet with children from other PEGS schools and to have their voices heard. Freya and Belle will discuss the outcomes of each meeting with classes in school and they will report back to the council any feedback from the children.

Parents Evening

It was lovely to see so many of you in person at our parent's evenings last week. Many comments were made about how enjoyable it was being able to come into the school building and look at your child's work.

We also had very positive comments about our refurbished Year 1 and 2 classrooms. These areas provide a fabulous learning environment for our children. We aim to update other areas in the school on a 3-year plan.

Community Events

Light Up A Life workshop Saturday 20th November 10-12 Blythe House is inviting children who have experienced the death of a loved one to join them to create a tea-light holder in memory of the person that has died. For further information email booking@blythehouse.co.uk

Sunshine Shoeboxes 2021

Thank you to everyone who put together a shoebox of gifts for a child in Ghana. These boxes have now been collected and are on their way!

Covid

The advice is still for any pupils with COVID 19 symptoms (see recent letter emailed home with extended symptoms) to stay at home, self-isolate and book a PCR test and remain at home until the PCR result comes through. Appropriate self-isolation should follow if the result is positive. Any worries or questions, please ring the school office.

Uniform Change?

Thank you very much for the responses we have had regarding a change to the uniform. As is often the case, this has opened up a wider discussion and we need to ask more questions. During the pandemic, when bubbles were operating in school, the children were asked to wear an 'Active Uniform' on the days they had PE. Walking through school, I can see that many children are wearing an active uniform on non-PE days. I have asked many children which uniform they prefer - some say they like to be very comfortable and prefer the leggings/jogging pants. Others say we should be smart and have a traditional uniform (skirts, trousers, etc.). Mrs Fisher, who leads PE within school, has created a survey with just 7 questions. This will be sent out on Monday. Please take a few minutes to complete it. We will be asking the children for their thoughts - so please answer the questions based on what you would like your children to wear.

Children in Need 2021 - THANK YOU!!

Every year we love to support this event. Thank you for the donations you have sent in today. The children look fabulous in their spotty and sparkly outfits. The total raised is £164.05, thank you for your support.

Dates for your Diary 2021 (Autumn Term 2)

November 2021

Wednesday 24th Basketball competition

December 2021

Wednesday 1st KS1 Bench ball competition

Tuesday 7th Reception class trip to Chatsworth

Friday 10th Save the Children Christmas Jumper day

Tuesday 14th 2pm KS1 Nativity for reception parents

Thursday 16th 9.30 am KS1 Nativity for Y1 parents

Thursday 16th 2pm KS1 Nativity for Y2 parents

Wednesday 15th Xmas dinner day in school

Wednesday 15th Table tennis festival

Tuesday 21st Santa Dash all classes

Wednesday 22nd Y6 trip to Lowry theatre (late return)

Thursday 23rd School Inset day

Friday 24th Christmas holidays

January 2022

Monday 10th School reopens

