

New Mills Primary School  
Newsletter No. 7  
Friday 21 January 2021



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to school! I am stood outside school most days at school drop off and pick up. I am trying to get to know as many parents as possible so please come and say hello and I will try to help with any questions you have. Thank you.

Carol Taylor - Head teacher

**Cars and Parking outside school**

The car parked on Meadow Street, that has been heavily vandalised, has been reported to the local council. We are waiting for somebody to visit the site to find out what our next steps are. Hopefully, action will be taken soon.

With regard to cars parking on Meadow Street at drop off and collection times, Derbyshire County Council has been informed of the issue and, the local councillor, Anne Clarke, has offered her support, too. We will keep you informed of any new developments. I am aware of 3 near misses that have happened whilst I have been here and I will continue to look into this dangerous issue until something can be done.

The High Peak Kids Council are also looking into traffic and parking so this must be a concern for other schools in the area as well.

**Holidays in term time**

At NMPS, we follow DFE and DCC guidelines and do not authorise holidays during term time unless there are specific and exceptional circumstances. There is more information about this on our school website. If children do not attend school during term time DCC may issue a financial penalty.

**RWI/Phonics/Reading**

The reading system that links directly to Read Write Inc (our phonics programme) is almost in place. There are still some tweaks to be made but we have organised everything so that books/ditty sheets can be sent home this week.

**Before and after school childcare; information.....**

The timings are from 7.30 in the mornings and up to 6.00 pm after school.

Costings are 7.30-school start £3.50, 8.00-start £3.00, end of day-5.00 pm is £7.00 and end - 6.00pm is £9.00. Please ensure you have paid through Parent Pay for the week ahead so we can sort out staffing!

If you need a booking form, please email Miss Moody in the office. The booking forms are sent out on a Monday also! **Please note, if you use vouchers to pay for this, you must declare on the form which vouchers you are using!!**

**Vision Screening - Reception Class**

Derbyshire Family Health Service will no longer be doing vision screening in school. You have been emailed a letter from them asking you to take your child for a FREE NHS eye test at a high street optician.

**COVID Update**

Please continue to be extra vigilant with COVID symptoms and take any necessary precautions, including testing. We have had a noteworthy rise in cases over the last few weeks.

**Warm Clothing in School ...Reminder and Update**

One of the requirements of the Covid Risk assessment is to keep windows and doors open in classrooms and around the school as much as possible. This allows good ventilation for everyone but it also means that the classrooms and workspaces may not feel as warm as usual. As the weather is colder, staff have been asked to close doors if it is too cold to work, to open them for short periods and during break times.

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.

**Class Dojo**

Class Dojo letters went out last week. More than half of the school is now set up. There are already lots of pictures and messages on there. Until half term, we will continue to use the messaging service and class dojo. After half term, we aim to only use class Dojo. Mrs Broadley has been instrumental in getting this set up and is happy to support parents who still need to complete the set up.

Class Dojo is become the main messaging service in school. The reason we have chosen this system is so that we can communicate directly with parents, and they can respond to messages. It is a two-way process, that doesn't have a word limit, so it should enhance the communication between us.

**Planned staff absence**

Mrs Williams has had her operation and I'm sure you'll join me in wishing her a speedy recovery. Mrs Clarke has not had her operation yet and is still working hard in school. Mrs McDonald, who has joined us to help cover the absences, is currently timetabled to teach in Year 1, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.

**Recycling in School**

We collect small ink cartridges, batteries, used stamps & clothes. Please have a clear out and prevent them going to landfill!

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

Tuesday 1 February - 8pm	PTA Zoom meeting 8pm (link has been emailed out)
Friday 18 February	Last day in school for half term
Monday 28 February	Return to school
Friday 8 April	Last day in school for Easter holidays
Monday 25 April	Return to school

**Inset days: 02.09.21, 03.09.21, 21.10.21, 22.10.21, 23.12.21, 27.6.22**

**May Day is Monday 2 May 2022**

