

**New Mills Primary School**  
**Newsletter No. 8**  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Hopefully, the snow has finished pestering us now and we can get on with our everyday business without any more interruptions. Thank you for your support last week. It's very hard to make the right decisions because the weather is so unpredictable! The school is a hive of productivity, at the moment. Years 3 and 4 are very busy getting ready for their performance. They are learning their lines and practising songs; it's all coming along nicely. Everyone else is working hard and making good strides with their learning. We have been using a consultant to support with literacy across school; the children are really enjoying the books they have been working from and their writing is always a pleasure to read.

**Carol Taylor – Head teacher**

**Book sale – raised £28.00**

Children from the school council organised the book sale, they thought it would be a lovely idea to bring books in that they no longer wanted and sell them to other children. The money raised has gone towards buying new books for each class. We will be changing the library area upstairs and plan to have further book sales.

**Wraparound Change:**

The governors have approved a third Pay Point for Wraparound after school club. This will start after Easter. This should help our families who don't need the service until 5pm (which was originally the first Pay Point). Now, the first Pay Point will be at 4:15 pm and will cost £3.50. The other two Pay Points are the same as before (from 3:15 to 5pm is £7 and from 3:15 to 6pm is £9) and there is no change to wraparound breakfast club costs.

**Parking:**

There have been further complaints about parking outside school. We have contacted the PCSO who will be coming to check that parking is being done considerately. Dangerous parking, and driving up and down Meadow Street, puts children's lives at risk and it is not acceptable. If you are late in the morning, we will still welcome your child/ren into school and if you aren't on time for pick up, we will keep hold of them until you arrive. Parking across the bottom of the street is dangerous. PLEASE keep our children safe from harm.

**FiveDinners.com**

Below is a message from the founder of FiveDinners.com. We haven't used this service before, so some feedback would be much appreciated (email or Dojo):

**Limited time offer – get FREE lifetime membership to FiveDinners.com!**

We know how hard times are now, so the folks at FiveDinners.com – online meal planning service - have decided to give away FREE lifetime memberships to try and help you save money on food shopping and reduce the mental load of deciding what to eat every night. There's no catch or restrictions, simply full access to our meal plans to make your dinnertimes a little easier and cheaper.

FiveDinners.com is an online meal planning service co-founded by author and TV chef Theo Michaels. To help with the cost-of-living crisis so many families and individuals are facing Theo has decided to offer their meal planning service for FREE (usually £49.99 per year); every week they publish a new meal plan with an automatically generated shopping list; set to your serving size so you know exactly what you need for the week ahead. It saves you time, money on food shopping and ultimately takes away the headache of deciding what to cook every night. You can even create and save your own meal plans choosing from hundreds of recipes.

Simply head to <https://FiveDinners.com> and click green Join button now.

**Family Support Worker:**

The family support team that has been working with us, for over three years, will be changing after Easter. We will be employing a family support manager to work with a cluster of 11 primary and nursery schools after Easter. We will keep you informed about who we employ and when they will start. We will continue to work with the current family support team during the transition phase, however, we will not have the same level of support and waiting times for assistance will be longer.

**Year 3 and Year 4 Performance:**

The performance now has a name - Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies – performances will be on: 28 & 29 March 2023. The children have already started learning the songs and if the singing at Christmas is anything to go by, this is going to be very enjoyable to watch.

**Healthy Snacks at Play Time:**

We have noticed that over time, more and more unhealthy snacks are entering school. Added to this is the litter that is left behind each day. For many years, only fruit or vegetables were allowed. **From Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March, we are going to go back to just fruit and vegetables.** Please support us with this as we strive to be a healthy school.

**SATs:**

The Standard Assessment Tests are completed each year in Year 2 and Year 6. In Year 2, they are very informal, and children won't really know they're happening. These need to be completed before the end of May and teachers will organise when they do them.

In year 6, because of the extra bank holiday for the King's coronation, the SATs will take place from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May. This year, we will be running the usual breakfast club (more details will follow nearer the time) and we're hoping to offer the children a cooked breakfast, if they'd like one!

**Speech and Language Therapist:**

After Easter, we will have a speech and language therapist working with us for half a day every week. There are many children across school who will benefit from having group or individual support. Please message myself or your class teacher if you would like more information.

**School Uniform:**

Reminder about school uniform: most children are wearing the correct uniform every day – thank you very much. The red and black uniform can still be worn so we would expect to see red, black or purple across the school. Below the waist is black (leggings, joggers, trousers, skirts, etc.) **and footwear is black. Following on from this message, parents will be contacted directly if children are not in the correct uniform.**

### The next three Fridays:

March 17<sup>th</sup> was Red Nose Day, total raised is £127.00, thank you for everyone's support. 😊

March 24<sup>th</sup> is Blue for Blythe – we'd like to see a sea of blue across school, £1 donation on parent pay.

March 31<sup>st</sup> is PTA Break the Rules Day – this was a big hit with children last year. They bring in 50p for each rule they decide to break. Feel sorry for us, it could be a chaotic day!! A poster from the PTA will be sent this week.

**Go Blue for Blythe – next Friday (24<sup>th</sup> March)** - 9 of our year 4 girls are going to be doing their Charity Badge as part of Brownies. They are: Twyla, Nancy, Eva, Amelie, Maisy, Martha, Eliza, Emily and Elsie. The children are raising money for Blythe House Hospice. Some of the children have been for counselling there and we want to support a local charity. We all know that Blythe House Hospice does amazing work and always appreciates any fundraising we do. The girls will be making cakes and they are going to try and make enough so that everyone can have one each. They will be asking you to guess how many sweets are in the jar and you will have the chance to win a large bunny. **Each of the 3 activities will be 20p. The cake sale will be on Friday (20p per cake) and the girls will go round school on Wednesday and Thursday for the Guess the Sweets and the Bunny Competition (20p a go).** Well done, girls, I hope you all manage to earn your Charity Badge.

### Clothing for recycling:

The big, green clothing bank is on site, please use it for all your unwanted clothing items (not uniform), shoes, blankets, duvet covers etc. All must be clean! This is emptied on a monthly basis and all proceeds go towards supporting the school with trips.

We also recycle batteries and small printer cartridges in school & used stamps 😊

### Dates for your Diary January 2023 onwards .... Something to look forward to:

Wednesday 22 March	-	Y2 & Y6 Fire safety talk (rescheduled)
Wednesday 22 March	-	Boccia
Friday 24 March	-	Blue for Blythe House
Tuesday 28 March	-	Y3/Y4 production Y3 parents PM
Wednesday 29 March	-	Y3/Y4 production Y4 parents PM
Friday 31 March	-	Break the rules day (PTA event)
Friday 31 March	-	School finishes for Easter holidays
Monday 17 April	-	Duck race design return date
Thursday 20 April	-	Spring bake off
Friday 21 April	-	Plant sale return date (PTA event)
Monday 1 May	-	Bank holiday school is closed
Tuesday 2 May		
& Wednesday 3 May	-	Y3 Whitehall residential overnight
Monday 8 May	-	Bank holiday school is closed
Tuesday 9 – Fri 12 May	-	SATS weeks
Tuesday 9 May		
& Wednesday 10 May	-	Y4 Whitehall residential overnight
Sunday 21 May	-	Duck race (tickets will be on sale soon)
Friday 26 May	-	School finishes for half term
Friday 9 June	-	Y2 Whitehall day visit
Saturday 10 June	-	Carnival