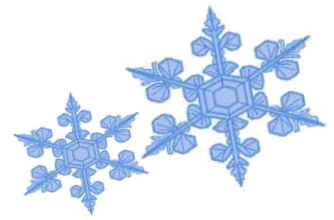


NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2019



Dates for your Diary

Friday 15th February – Last day of Term 3.

Monday 25th February- Inset Day school closed to pupils

Tuesday 26th February- Start of Term 4.

Friday 5th April- Last day of Term 4.

Tuesday 23rd April- Inset Day school closed to pupils.

Wednesday 24th April- Start of Term 5

Staffing Updates

Over Christmas we said goodbye to Mr Hearn our Assistant Sports Coach and Mrs Brown from the Office Team. We wish them all the best with their future ventures!

Mrs Cramphorn, a long-standing member of our Mid-day Meals Supervisors team is sadly retiring due to ongoing health issues. Mrs Cramphorn has worked at Newlands for 32 years and we would like to thank her for all her hard work and dedication over the years.

We will soon be welcoming Mrs Farbrace as the new Assistant Head of Newlands. Mrs Farbrace will be working at Newlands part-time until Easter when she will join us full-time.

Welcome to Mrs Mileham our new Sports Coach Assistant. Mrs Mileham will be working alongside Mr Berwick to teach PE and run after-school sports clubs.

We also Welcome Mrs Chatfield who will be joining our Teaching Assistant team and will be working with our SENCo to support our pupils with Speech and Language.

PTFA NEWS

Thank you to all staff and parents who helped with our Christmas Fair.

We raised **£1,200** for the school.

Regretfully, as of Wednesday 9th January 2019, the Parent Teachers and Friends Association of Newlands will no longer be running.

Over the years the PTFA have been a tremendous support to the school and has raised funds for equipment, premises projects, treats and much more for the children of Newlands. This has included the hard work of organising the Christmas and Summer Fairs.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank the PTFA for all their time and effort.

Attendance

Whole school attendance is **94.43%**. This must improve. We need to work towards **96%**. Your child's attendance is vitally important to their education. Thank you to everyone who continues to support the school by ensuring your children attend regularly and on time. Please come in and see us if you are experiencing problems getting your child to school, so that we can see what we can do to support you.

Please note that there is now a facility on the schools phone system to leave a message for our attendance officer regarding your child's absence (01843 593086 option 1). You must always provide a reason for your child's absence.

Curriculum Enrichment Afternoons - NEWS!

The Friday afternoon Curriculum Enrichment Programme has been a great success. These afternoons include Performance, Crafting, Life Skills, Charity projects and Forestry/Outdoor Environment activities. The children are mixed by year group into their school Houses for these afternoons. This gives the children an opportunity to build friendships and work alongside their siblings. Every term each House takes their turn a different activity.

This term, Mary Seacole House (Yellow Team) will be making goods to sell as part of their enterprise project. They will be learning about budgets and hoping to raise a profit that will be spent on improving an area in school. **These goods will be available for children to buy during Monday break times and will consist of an edible treat, e.g. cornflake cakes and/or a craft trinket, e.g. friendship bands.**

If you would like your child to support this project they can bring some money (no more than £1) in on Mondays to buy the goods on offer at break-time. Items will be sold on a first come first served basis.

Thank you for your support!

Mrs Saunders, Mrs Raisbeck and Mary Seacole House

Polite Reminders

Sports Clubs & PE:

Please be aware that school sports clubs change on a bi-termly basis. We have a number of clubs available this term. Please ensure you complete the sign up forms for your child if they wish to attend one of our sports clubs.

Please ensure your child has their correct PE Kit in school everyday.

Collection arrangements:

If collection arrangements for your child change (e.g. someone else is collecting them) please ensure that you inform your child's class teacher or the school office in plenty of time. **Messages should be given by 11am** unless in the case of a real emergency. If a late message is given this puts pressure on the office staff and there is a risk of messages not being passed on in sufficient time.

Breakfast Club Reminder:

Breakfast Club must be booked and paid for in advance through the parent-pay system. We cannot accept drop-ins as the club cannot exceed its capacity for Health and Safety reasons.

Uniform Swap Shop:

We are no longer accepting uniform donations for our swap shop. The swap shop will be discontinuing, however there are a number of items still in stock which are available should you require them.

Parent-Pay: We are now a Cashless school!

PE T-shirts, School Trips and Breakfast club etc. now **MUST** be paid for online through our Parent-Pay System. The only items excluded from this are school meals (see below) and charitable contributions.

If you have not yet activated your account and/or you need help setting up your account please contact the school office who will be happy to assist you. We still have 10% of families who have not signed up for parent-pay. Thank you to all those who have signed up and supported this transition.

School Meals: Principals catering is the company that we use to provide our children with their school meals. Principals will continue to charge **£2.15** each day for school meals. **Payment must be made in advance** of the meal being taken. You can pay for your child's school meals online at principals-catering.com




School Arrival time and Road Safety

It has come to our attention that during arrival time the area around the school gates has become quite dangerous and parents and children have been pushed into the road or forced to walk in the road due to the pavement being blocked.

The school gates open at **8:40am**, please can we remind you **not** to arrive before this time as that will ease congestion along the road. We appreciate that space is limited on the pavement and along Dumpton Lane in general, therefore,

We need your co-operation to make sure that the pavements and roads around the school are kept safe!

Please ensure you:

-  **Always supervise your children whilst walking along Dumpton Lane**
-  **Always Leave enough space for others to pass along the pavement safely**
-  **Always keep buggies/prams and children close to the hedge and away from the edge of the road**

 **DO NOT Park on the pavements**

 **DO NOT park on the yellow lines**

Thank You

Phone Numbers

Could you please ensure our office have your latest contact details. We often send communication via text and do not want you to miss any news!

Alternatively, you can help us save money by signing up for instant alerts via the Schoolcomms App.



See Below for more details:

A new, **free, smartphone app** is now available for parents to download. The app is called 'School Gateway' and is available on Apple (iOS 8 on the iPhone 4S or later, iPad, iPod Touch) and Android (4.0 / Ice Cream Sandwich version or later) devices.

Please could you download this new app to your phone, as it will help us improve communication with parents – and save school money, which can be used better elsewhere to improve what we can provide for your child.

The set-up process is simple and should take no more than a couple of minutes.

Search for "School Gateway" in the Apple App Store/Google Play or on your phone go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android)

When you launch School Gateway for the first time, please select 'New User' and enter the email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the school

If you would like to find out more visit:
<https://schoolgateway.co.uk/>