



# 'Newsham News'



## **Newsham 7 Rs**

*"All that we are and  
All that we do"*

**R – Relentless**

**R – Responsible**

**R – Reasoning**

**R – Reflective**

**R – Resourceful**

**R – Respectful**

**R - Resilient**

<u>2019-20</u>	<u>Diary Dates</u>
<b>Day</b>	<b>What is happening</b>
Monday 9th March	Y5 Bikeability 3.15pm - 4.15pm Y5/6 Hockey
Tuesday 10th March	Y5 Bikeability
Wednesday 11th March	Y5 Bikeability 3.15pm - 4.30pm Maths Club Mrs Rowley
Thursday 12th March	8.05am - Y2 & Y5 Morning Maths Club Y5 Bikeability am - Y1 Multiskills 9am - Y4 Parent Assembly 2.15pm - Whole School Assembly
Friday 13th March	8.05am - Y3 & Y4 Morning Maths Club 1pm - Submarines Swimming Lesson

## Coronavirus

Just a quick post about Coronavirus as I'm aware some parents and carers might be feeling generally concerned or may just have watched the documentary on BBC1 earlier this week.

I wanted to reassure everyone that Public Health England and the Department for Education are providing Headteachers with advice and updates on an ongoing basis and Northumberland County Council are also including briefings in their correspondence to schools. I am reading them all carefully and will inform everybody of any specific advice for schools if it becomes necessary.

As Headteacher of Newsham Primary School I am obviously keeping up to date with the current situation and monitoring the reasons for any pupil or staff absences very closely.

Today in assembly for pupils in Y1 through to Y6, we provided a practical demonstration to the children of how to wash and dry your hands thoroughly. Interestingly, we talked about using the time it takes to sing Happy Birthday twice as an indication of how long everyone should spend washing their hands and this is exactly what has just been suggested on the BBC documentary. We also talked about the disposal of paper towels and tissues and if the children have to cough or sneeze unexpectedly, to do so into the crook of their arm/elbow, which will keep any germs away from their hands, minimising the risk of transfer. We will arrange a similar session for our children in Nursery and Reception that is appropriate for their age group.

The hygiene measures we adopt at Newsham are sensible irrespective of this outbreak and are an effective way of tackling all viral illnesses. That said, they become even more important when there is talk of a pandemic and I wanted you to be aware of the actions we are taking.

I do not want any parents and carers to panic or become alarmed. This is not necessary.

Indeed, I hope this post reassures everyone that as usual, Newsham is taking the very greatest care of everyone connected to life at our school and I will provide you with any updates that are relevant to schools as they occur.

Please help us by reinforcing the hygiene messages we have been reminding the children about. Other than that, it is school as normal.

### **Y2 Assembly**

Many thanks to parents and carers of Y2 children who were able to join our year group assembly yesterday. The children were wonderful and it was such a pleasure to witness their enthusiasm and love of learning. Well done everyone!

### **Y3 Beach Visit**

Y3 pupils enjoyed their visit to the beach last week to look at rock formations and enhance their studies in geography. Unfortunately, the weather was not kind to us and so the staff decided to return to school earlier than expected. Despite the rain, everyone came back through the door having loved the experience! Well done everyone.

### **Pupil Voice at The Blyth Academy**

Last week, eight of our pupils in Upper KS2 came with me to The Blyth Academy to take part in a pupil voice consultation regarding the development of Blyth town centre. Blyth looks likely to receive a significant cash injection from both the government and Northumberland County Council. This will be spent on the development of the area around the Market Place and the children representing Newsham thought of some brilliant ideas that could be included in the project. I was really impressed by their maturity and thoughtfulness. They considered environmental factors, the young, the elderly and the vulnerable. I was very proud of them all. Well done children.

### **World Book Day**

Many thanks to everyone who was able to support our activities for world Book Day and our efforts to further develop the children's love of reading. Everyone had a great day and we will let you know how much we raised as soon as possible.

### **Head lice**

It has been brought to our attention that there are cases of head lice across school. Whilst the infection could have occurred outside school, for example at football training or on a sleepover, as a school we do have a duty of care to pass on the information.

Please be aware that the level of incidence of head lice is fairly constant throughout the year and this letter is not an indication that there is an 'outbreak'. Rather we are raising your awareness of the situation so that you are reminded to check your child's hair thoroughly and on a regular basis through wet combing using conditioner and a fine toothed comb. It is also recommended to check the hair of every family member.

### **Stars of the Week - 24th February 2020**

Starfish - Lola, Seahorses - Jacob, Puffins - Daisy, Penguins - Ardenis, Lifeboats - Henry, Coastguards - Demi, Kittiwakes - Callum, Oystercatchers - Riley, Whales - Eymen, Dolphins - Arsel, Galleons - Reid, Submarines - Liam and Kai, Neptune - Ameliah and Atlantis - Liam.

### **Stars of the Month- February 2020**

Congratulations to the following children who have been awarded Star of the Month, Evie, Emily, Jack, Annabelle, Ben, Brooke, Michael, Charlie, Aleisha, Amelia, Ellie, Kai, Owen and William.

### **Pupil Success**

Well done to Alex who came 3rd in his recent North East Judo Development Competition! Well done also to Jacob who was awarded his 200m badge at swimming this week!

Good luck to Lacey and the girls at Strut for their upcoming dance competition this weekend.

Yours sincerely  
Mrs A-M Armstrong  
Headteacher