



Newchurch Primary School

News from Newchurch Primary School and across the Federation

Executive Head teacher Miss K Howarth Head of School Mrs L Parkin

Office Administrators Mrs D Hoar Miss P Hopper

26th February 2021

Value of the week: HOPE

SEASON OF HOPE—A MESSAGE FROM MISS HOWARTH



Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term and I do hope you had a lovely, relaxing half term break. During the holidays I tried to dodge the raindrops and get out walking and it is lovely to see the snowdrops and even a few daffodils starting to push through—it helps to brighten the mood, things are starting to look up; the light at the end of the tunnel is starting to shine a little brighter!

At the start of this week the Prime Minister announced that he wants the current lockdown to be the last. He confirmed the plan that all pupils will return to school in England on Monday 8th March and this is exciting for us as we cannot wait to have our community back together again!

We know that we will still be subject to strict rules in order to keep ourselves safe and I will be updating the risk assessment accordingly in line with the new guidance that has been published. We will be sharing this on our website and would like to encourage everyone to play their part to make this return as successful as possible! I will be writing to parents next week to remind you all of the key information regarding the full return but as always please direct any questions that you may have at this stage to the staff making contact with you each week.

There has been much talk in the national media about schools deploying immediate strategies for 'catch up', 'recovery learning', 'filling gaps' etc however the priority for us all within our Federation family is to ensure that our children return to school feeling, settled, safe and secure. Only when they are ready to engage, are happy and feeling confident will we use our professional judgements to ascertain if there are bespoke interventions that may be required to support, help and guide individuals a little further.

After the year of disruption our children have faced I don't think that the media headlines of constantly telling them that they are falling behind or that they may have longer schools days, reduced life chances is the best way forward. The very large majority of our community have done an absolutely amazing job at keeping the learning going, despite, the craziness of the global situation and I would like to thank each and everyone of you for trying your very best. It is because of the efforts that you have made with your children that our work will be a little bit easier upon the return to school. I feel that our families need congratulating not made to feel, via the headlines, that they have not done a great job—please accept a very special heartfelt thank you from me and all the staff for all that you have done and will continue to do for what we hope will be the final week of remote learning.

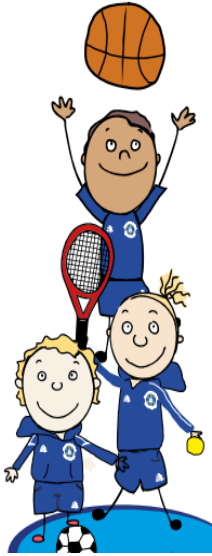
It should be noted that there are many positives to come out of the challenges we have faced this year and staff are already considering lessons learned and elements we will wish to retain going forward. Change is exciting and I hope that you are excited to go on this next phase of our journey with us!

Please continue to take care and stay safe.

STEP 1: 8 March

 Schools and colleges are open for all students. Practical Higher Education Courses.	 Recreation or exercise outdoors with household or one other person. No household mixing indoors.	 Wraparound childcare.
 Stay at home.		 Funerals (30), wakes and weddings (6).

MR TUCK'S CHALLENGE!



Hello everybody, have you heard of Geocaching? It's great fun, like a big real life treasure hunt!

All you need to do is ask your adults at home to download the free Geocaching app. Once you've logged in you will get a map showing where all the hidden 'treasure' is in your local area. Please note that many of these are free to access (green on the map) but some do involve a premium account (greyed out).

There are plenty on the map all over the Isle of Wight, the country and the world! The idea is that you use the map and written clues to find the hidden treasure - and some of it is very well hidden.

We would love to see the photos of you and your families finding treasure this weekend—let us know how many you find!

Good luck Geocachers!



SKIPPING SUPERSTARS!

A huge well done to all who took part in our recent skipping challenge in the final week of last term. The competition coincided with Healthy Heart Week and challenged all to see how many jumps they could do over the rope in 1 minute. Mr Tuck submitted our scores and they were compared to the other schools that entered the challenge on the Isle of Wight.



Amazingly, our KS1 children came 2nd out of the 15 schools entered, whilst our KS2 team were crowned Island skipping champions! Well done to Elsie and Theo in particular who were our KS1 skipping superstars and Sofia and Max J who recorded the best results in KS2.

We look forward to some more virtual competitions this coming term, and fingers crossed we may return to some 'real' competitions very soon.

COMMUNITY TESTING

We have been asked to alert our community to the fact that free rapid response testing is available for people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms and who cannot work from home. The facility will last for 6 weeks. This is called 'community testing'. Test site locations In our area include:

Sandown—The Heights, Leisure Centre

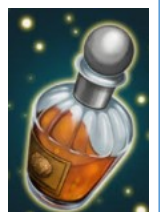
More information about how to book can be found at <https://keeptheislandsafe.org/communitytesting>



WORLD BOOK DAY 2021

World Book Day is being celebrated on March 4th 2021. Staff are busy preparing a whole host of activities for both remote and face to face learning but we wish to reassure parents that these **will not** involve any form of costume, dressing up or any form of mass preparation! It is our intention to design activities for the day that will enable the children to engage and reflect on their lockdown experiences prior to their return to school the following week through the use of a chosen text.

We are hoping that activities undertaken will contribute to a lovely, colourful display upon return so please do encourage your children to take part!



REMINDER—PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH

If your child is continuing to attend school it is essential that you notify us at the earliest opportunity should your child develop symptoms, be identified as a close contact or obtain a positive test result. It may be that the school needs to take action as a result and if we are made aware as soon as possible it enables us to work with Public Health England and inform any members of the community who may need to self-isolate as a result.



Should you need to make contact at the weekend please do so via an email to office@newchurchprimaryschool.co.uk the subject header **URGENT COVID UPDATE** and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as it has been read.

If your child is accessing work from home it is also helpful if you can notify us of any change in circumstance as this may impact your child's ability to engage with our remote learning offer.

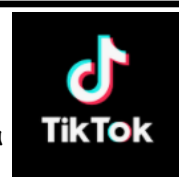
KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

For Parents - TikTok Family Safety Toolkit

The DQ Institute is an American-based charity and, along with TikTok, have created a comprehensive TikTok Family Safety Toolkit which we are sure many parents will find really helpful. It's quite a large guide (26 pages) and throughout there are links to digital citizenship tips and more in-depth subjects.

You can download the guide (PDF) [HERE](#)

Please remember that TikTok, although popular, should only be accessed by children 13 years or older.



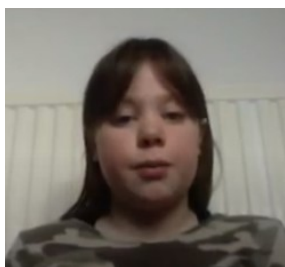
SCHOOL CAPTAINS SHARE TIPS FOR SUCCESS!

We would like to say a BIG thank you and well done to our school captains for sharing their motivational and wellbeing tips for managing learning in lockdown. It was great to hear and see Tom, Ruby, Billy, Annabelle and Amelia share tips for keeping focused, energised and on top of their learning!

They shared top tips including taking screen breaks, rewarding yourself with the occasional treat, keep hydrated, enjoy some exercise and try doing things that make you smile such as singing!

Their motivational video has been shared with the whole school and I am sure will prove a timely reminder for others about how to get the best out of the current situation.

Well done guys!



A little insight into the pupils' blended learning this week:



This week Team GB have fully embraced their learning. We are all really enjoying *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle and have been busy creating caterpillars out of very varying resources ... egg boxes, biscuits, pom poms and umbrellas are just a few of the splendid caterpillars that spring to mind. We have looked at how symmetrical butterfly wings are and enjoyed spotting other signs of symmetry in nature. We were inspired to create some beautiful symmetrical patterns of our own. We have been looking out for signs of Spring and have enjoyed taking photos of things we find.

This week in Iceland class we have been working really hard at learning the continents and oceans. I have seen some super videos from children working at home- some have even gone the extra mile and are including interesting facts about different countries in the continents. At school we have been using different actions to help us remember and this has worked very well! We have also been revising our addition and subtraction using number lines and by jumping forward or back to the friendly 10. As part of COOL time some of Iceland class have also been trying new foods from around the world.



Denmark have started the new half term showing dedication and positivity towards their learning - as always. We have started a new topic about *The Great Fire of London* and have lots of exciting virtual talks and tours to look forward to. We have started by verbal re-telling the story of the *Great Fire of London*, creating some exciting expanded noun phrases and some descriptive sentences to describe the scenes in London. We have looked at how London has changed and made comparisons between now and then.

Over the next couple of weeks, we will be revisiting previous mathematical learning - place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. The children have impressed Miss Read and myself with how much they have retained. Well done everyone for a fantastic first week back!

Welcome back to all Year 3. This week the children have been consolidating their learning by revisiting Place value and Addition and Subtraction in Maths. They have been completing problem solving and reasoning questions to help secure their knowledge. In English they have been completing reading comprehensions on subjects they have covered such as *The Stone Age* and *Animals and Humans*. In addition to this, they have started their topic for this term; *Plants and The Geography of the UK*. Well done to a great start back.



This week Sweden Class have been working with money in maths. In English we have designed our own *Isle of Berk* and written descriptively about the island. In science we made some rockets using straws and paper, the children in school experimented with different materials to see which rockets went the furthest.

Switzerland Class have gone all 'Greek'! We started off our new History topic with a (virtual) trip to modern day *Greece*. We looked at the landscape, the climate, the food and the historical places you can visit, whilst you are there. We visited the *National History Museum* in London (virtually), and looked at all the *Ancient Greek* artefacts, answering lots of questions about the exhibits and generated more questions about this period in time. In Maths, we have been looking at statistics and looking at line graphs, charts and timetables.



Brazil class have hit the ground running this week! In English, we have been looking at the poem '*The Dreadful Menace*' and coming up with our own ways of using personification to write a setting description based on the poem. We have also been looking at ways of using simile and metaphor within a poem and had a go at writing our own. We have had an introduction to our new topic, *The Mayan Civilisation*, by exploring one of the seven wonders of the world - *Chichen Itza*. We were amazed to discover that this ancient site is approximately 1,500 years old! We spent Wednesday afternoon designing Mayan masks and learning all about how they were made and what they were used for.

KEY STAGE 1 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY



Headteacher Awards

Yr R— Max K
Yr 1— Harvey R
Yr 2 - Tegan W



Star Spellers of the Week

Yr R— Emily C
Yr 1— Toby FS
Yr 2— Theo I



Star Readers of the Week

Yr R— Ophelia D
Yr 1— Eddie M



Mathematician of the Week Awards

Yr R— Woody M
Yr 1— Quinn H
Yr 2— Grace S



PE Superstar of the Week

Yr R- Kieran S
Yr 1—Oscar H
Yr 2—Amelia B
Yr 2—Jacob S



Star Writers of the Week

Yr R - Annie M
Yr 1— Taitum R
Yr 2— Phoebe N

Resilience Award

Oscar H



Sticker cards

Yr 1—Maya I

We are super proud of all of our winners !

Lunchtime Menu — Caterlink for week beginning 1st March 2021

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Choice 1	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Sausages & Wedges	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken Curry & Rice	Fish & Chips
Choice 2	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato
Desert	Fruit Crumble & Ice Cream	Vanilla Shortbread	Fruit & Ice Cream	Chocolate Sponge	Fresh Fruit Salad

Yoghurt & fresh fruit is available daily as a dessert choice

ALL HOT MEAL ORDERS MUST BE IN BY 9.15AM

DON'T BE LATE THE COOK CAN'T WAIT!!!

