



# 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 Administrator Mrs P Knight

9th May 2025

VALUE: MUTUAL RESPECT



### WE CAN LIVE RESPECTFULLY—ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

This week's assembly on Monday was all about Mutual Respect, which is our value this week, tied into the celebration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

The quote Mrs Parkin shared with the children was 'Mutual respect among everyone for one another and for one another's rights is an absolute prerequisite for peace.'



We then moved on to talk about a time when there wasn't peace in the world and Mrs Parkin gave the children a very brief synopsis of WW2 in order for them to understand VE Day and why this was celebrated in Britain and around the world.

The children enjoyed looking at the celebration pictures and made some very astute observations. We followed this up on Thursday where we had a two minutes respectful silence to mark VE Day.



### MAKING THE HEALTHY CHOICE TO KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON!

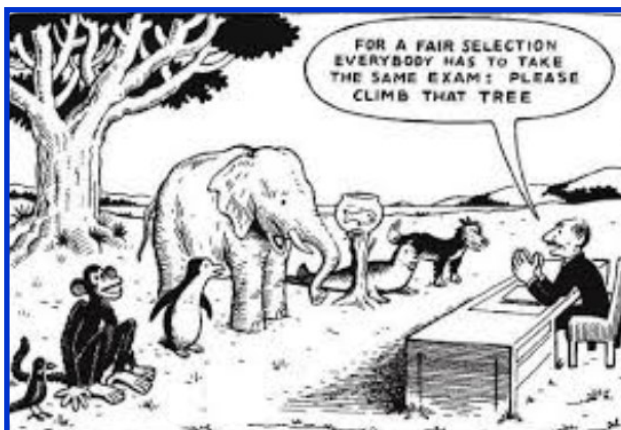
Next week is the national KS2 testing week.

Our Year 6 pupils will be taking part in the tests in reading, maths, spelling and grammar that will be taken at the same time by every Year 6 in the country.

The children have been prepared well but we need to remember that these tests do not measure everything. We value that our children are creative, athletic, artistic, confident, polite, kind, honest to name but a few qualities that the tests next week simply will not measure. We just know that our Year 6 will demonstrate their resilience next week and try their very best.

Some children will have special access arrangements to enable them to 'shine' and thank you to all staff and members of our wider community who have agreed to help and assist with the process.

It is really important that all children arrive in school in good time to sit the assessments and please remember that breakfast club is available to support families if it is required. Year 6 will be offered a special breakfast and we know that the children are already looking forward to their bacon sandwiches!



## MAKING THE HEALTHY CHOICE TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

At our school, we are proud of the strong and supportive community we have built, and this year's Mental Health Awareness Week theme, '**Community**', perfectly aligns with our values. The Mental Health Foundation highlights the importance of connection and belonging, and we see these principles reflected in our very own '**Mission Possibles**'—making healthy choices, being resilient, making it happen and making a difference.

**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
AWARENESS  
WEEK**  
12-18 MAY 2025

We believe that mental health is just as important as physical health. That's why our classrooms are designed with therapeutic principles in mind, ensuring our learning spaces are safe places where children can reflect, regulate, and grow. Through thoughtful adaptations, we are proud that we have created environments that nurture emotional wellbeing and help every child feel supported.



Next week we will be talking to all children about how to support their mental health and wellbeing. Staff will be sharing Wellbeing Wheels encouraging them to think about the commitments they can make to improve and enhance their own wellbeing by following 5 simple principles: connecting with others, being active, taking notice, being creative and giving to others. We look forward to sharing these with you on a display in school.



## YEAR 4 MAKE IT HAPPEN AT PGL

Year 4 have had the most incredible time on their PGL residential trip this week, packed with excitement, challenges, and teamwork from start to finish!

The children showed incredible bravery and enthusiasm as they tackled thrilling activities—from scaling the climbing wall to soaring down the zip wire and descending the abseiling tower. The vertical challenge tested their resilience, with teammates cheering each other on every step of the way.

Trust and teamwork were put to the test on the sensory trail, where everyone navigated muddy twists and turns blindfolded! Archery required precision and focus, while Survivor taught us essential outdoor survival skills, including shelter building. The Matrix was a real brain workout, as teams cracked codes and solved physical puzzles together.

The evenings have been just as fun—filled with classic PGL games that had everyone running, laughing, and bonding. Of course, the highlight for many was the campfire night, with songs, stories, and toasted marshmallows beneath the stars.

It was a week of adventure, friendship, and unforgettable moments—one that Year 4 will cherish forever!







## YEAR 5 MAKE IT HAPPEN AT BIKEABILITY

Last week, Year 5 has had an incredible time learning and mastering their cycling skills in Bikeability! From balancing and signalling to confidently navigating roads on our school playground, they showed fantastic resilience, determination and teamwork every step of the way.

It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they tackled each challenge. Now, they're ready to ride safely and enjoy the freedom that cycling brings!

A big well done to all our Year 5 cyclists—you should be super proud! Keep pedalling, stay safe, and have fun on your two-wheeled adventures!



## MAKING IT HAPPEN AT GOLF CLUB!



On a Wednesday afternoon, sixteen children have been lucky enough to have the chance to go to Westridge golf centre to have a lesson for the next ten weeks.



Each week, a coach from Westridge gives the children a challenge using a variety of clubs to increase their skill set. This week the children were given drivers. This is the club that the children have

been looking forward to since having the opportunity to come to Westridge every week. They were set the challenge of hitting the ball as far as they could.



After this the children were given the chance to play the Fish Game on their screens. In this, the further the ball goes the more chance of fishing a bigger fish. This turned into a thrilling competition between everyone.

## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE—ONLINE SAFETY ADVICE FOR PARENTS



Keeping children safe online is more important than ever. To support families in navigating the digital world safely, the Thames Valley Cyber Protect team is inviting parents and carers to join engaging and informative **Cyber Security online training presentations**.

These sessions will provide **easy-to-implement tips** for parents and carers to help safeguard their own and their family's online behaviours and device usage.

Topics covered:

1. **Emails and mobile phones:** Learn how to spot scams, including phishing tactics, and gain valuable hints and tips to share with your children.
2. **Social media safety:** Understand the risks associated with social engineering, disinformation, AI, privacy concerns, and hacked accounts.
3. **Gaming:** Discover potential risks for young people when gaming online and find ways to monitor and restrict usage.

**Password mastery and Two-Factor Authentication (2FA):** Learn best practices to secure your accounts and keep your family's online presence protected.

These sessions aim to empower parents and carers with knowledge and practical strategies to create a safer digital environment for their children.

 **Book your spot:** Online Safety for Parents [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/online-safety-for-parents-3386699?utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_source=GovDelivery](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/online-safety-for-parents-3386699?utm_medium=Email&utm_source=GovDelivery)



## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE—ROBLOX

We know that children at our school love playing online games. We are pleased to hear that Roblox, one of the most popular multiplayer games among children, has introduced a set of new parental controls designed to enhance online safety. Previously criticized for its lack of robust child protection tools, the platform has now implemented important changes to give parents greater oversight of their children's gaming experience. With these new features, parents can:

- Block specific individuals from contacting their children.
- Monitor and manage their child's game time more effectively.
- Benefit from improved real-time awareness measures that enhance safety during gameplay.

Roblox have also updated their [Safety Center](#) which is now redesigned as a hub for all safety-related resources, guides, and reporting tools.

These updates mark a significant step forward in making online gaming environments more secure for young players. To find out more please take a look at the following link

<https://corp.roblox.com/safety>





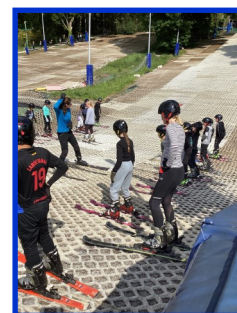


## YEAR 5 MAKE IT HAPPEN ON RESIDENTIAL

Yesterday morning, Year 5 were super excited for their adventure ahead. With bags packed and spirits high, they boarded the coach, ready to set off. Upon arrival in Southampton, the group headed to the park for lunch before the excitement of skiing and doughnutting in the afternoon! There was plenty of laughter and energy as they ran around, making the most of the sunny afternoon. Soon after they arrived at Alpine Snow Sports. Sliding down slopes and spinning around in giant inflatable rings, they had an amazing and exhilarating time. By the time the session finished they were tired but thrilled by the experience.

Next on the itinerary was Winchester Science Centre. Just before tea time the children arrived and got settled in for a fun and educational evening. Dinner was a special treat—pizza, freshly delivered and enjoyed by all. Before bedtime, the group worked together to make sandwiches for the next day, ensuring they were prepared for the journey ahead and finished the evening watching a movie in the planetarium!

Today they started with a hearty breakfast before they set off for Butser Ancient Farm. There, the students stepped back in time, exploring ancient history and learning about how people lived long ago. This really helped what they had been learning in class earlier in the year come to life! We can't wait to hear about their adventures when they get back to school next week.



## WE CAN LIVE RESPECTFULLY—VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Yesterday, our school joined the entire nation in celebrating **Victory in Europe (VE) Day**, marking the end of World War II in Europe.

Lots of the children have been talking excitedly about watching the military parades on the television and seeing the red arrows and the national fly past whilst on their Bank Holiday break and yesterday the school fell silent among with the nation to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the day in 1945 which marked the end of the Second World War in Europe.

As previously mentioned in the newsletter children at Newchurch were invited to create a design to be printed on commemorative mugs. We were delighted to share this week that the winners of the competition were:



Theo B in Year 1



Casper BM in Year 4



The High of the IOW Sheriff Jacque Gazzard presented the boys with their winning mugs. Here she is pictured with our school captains after her visit. Look out for this picture in the IOW Observer this weekend!

## MAKE IT HAPPEN AND JOIN OUR SCHOOL!




### Exciting News!

We unexpectedly have **TWO** spaces now available in our Primary School September 2025 Intake!




Do you know any friends/family members who have a child due to join school in September who may be keen to join team Newchurch?

We can offer...

-  A welcoming, nurturing environment
-  Creative, hands-on learning
-  Focused on every child's potential



 **Don't miss out — enquire via the school office today!**

## POETRY CORNER

A special poem for our Year 6's this week.....



So Year 6, the time has finally come,  
The dreaded SATs are here,  
But this is what you've worked for,  
Since you moved up into this year.

These tests will tell us what you've learned,  
And what you can recall,  
But there's a million things,  
The SATs won't tell us at all.

They won't tell us how you dance,  
Or draw, or sing, or run,  
Or tell us just how great you are,  
At any other things you've done.

The SATs don't measure super-ness,  
Or how kind or brave you are,  
They're just a way of helping to see,  
All you've learned so far.

So all we ask of each of you,  
Is to try the best you can,  
But no matter the score you'll get,  
We'll always be your fan!

You've worked your socks off this year through,  
And now the time has come  
By this time next week, you can say,  
Phew, the SATs are done.

So rest up, eat lots and get some sleep,  
So you're ready and raring to go,  
To show those SATs test who's the boss,  
And show them what you know!

*We all wish you lots of luck Year 6!*

On Wednesday, the Year 5 and 6 netball team attended the Island netball finals in Cowes.

Thirteen teams battled it out to become the Isle of Wight netball champions. The team were in a group with Nine Acres, Lanes End and Ryde School.

We won two games and narrowly lost to Ryde taking us to the playoff for 5th and 6th place, where we faced Queensgate and lost by one goal, to come 6th overall.



Well done to the team, you were amazing and played extremely well.





Save up  
to £457  
with FREE  
school meals

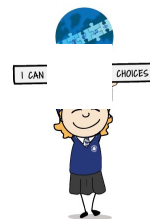


## MAKE THE HEALTHY CHOICE FOR A FREE SCHOOL MEAL!

School meals are **FREE** for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2!

Looking at our numbers over 30 families are not benefitting from this scheme at present and we would like to remind parents that the menu is published each week in the newsletter and ordering your child's meal is super easy on School Money.

Why not make the healthy choice to try a **FREE** meal next week?



I CAN MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES



## NEWCHURCH NINE

The Newchurch Nine is fast approaching! We thank everybody who has signed up to run as the entrance fee goes towards much needed funds for our school. The Newchurch Nine is our biggest fundraising event on the calendar!

If you would like to run but haven't entered yet, please do so as soon as possible. Miss Bartlett will be offering an extra PE lesson to the class who has the most entries so get your children booked in too! Don't forget that your entry automatically puts you into the raffle and there are some fantastic prizes this year!

If you would like to support the school with a monetary donation but are not able to run, please call us to see how you can do this. In addition to this, we ask for donations of cakes to come into school on Friday 16th May please. These cakes will be sold on our refreshment stall after the race. Thank you!



## CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Our lost property bin is overflowing! We will make sure the items are available to you outside of Reception next week and so please do take a look and take back any items that may belong to you.

## WE CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN— KEY EVENTS NEXT WEEK!

MONDAY 12th

TUESDAY 13TH

WEDNESDAY 14th

THURSDAY 15th

FRIDAY 16th

← **KS2 National Tests** →

Farm

Y5 Sailing

Meeting for Y4  
Parents  
Multiplication Check

Y1 Phonic Parent  
Meeting

Financial Friday  
Celebrations KS1

Y6 Trip

New Intake Meeting



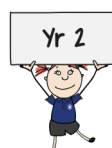
## SO WHAT HAVE WE BEEN LEARNING THIS WEEK?



This week Donaldson Class have been reading learning about the life cycle of a butterfly . We read The Very Hungry Caterpillar and had lots of questions so we did some research. Here are a few of the questions we wanted to know the answer to: Do caterpillars have teeth? What do caterpillars really eat? Do caterpillars have legs? Can caterpillars climb? How long does it take to change into a butterfly? Are caterpillars poisonous?

We were transfixed when we watched a video of a caterpillar transforming itself from a caterpillar into a cocoon and then emerging as a butterfly. How incredible! We've also been learning to sign the story of the Very Hungry Caterpillar and retold it to our families at our showcase assembly. We taught them a few signs too! We've been looking at the patterns on butterfly wings and talking about symmetry. We loved getting creative and making our own symmetrical prints at the craft table.

This week in Maths we have started to look at position and direction. We have been learning about positional language such as left, right, forwards, backwards, above and below, as well as, looking at ordinal language. We have continued to look at animals and have been learning about predators and prey. We have been finding out which characteristics predator and prey animals would have. In Art we have been continuing to look at self-portraits and spoken about which things; whether these are possessions, animals, hobbies etc we would use to represent us. We have also finished up our Design Technology topic on free standing structures by creating our own shelters for animals



Year 2 have had a fantastic week full of exciting learning opportunities! In English, we have been using the pictures in the book to order the book and write a short story about the book. We have been making sure we are including the adjectives we have learnt, the suffixes and our commons. During Maths, we have been focusing on measurement and looking at grams, kilograms, millilitres and comparing volume and capacity. We also had some hands-on lessons, where we had lots of ingredients and were using a range of different scales to measure flour, sugar, etc. Our focus in Art this week was exploring the features of Henri Rousseau's paintings and discussing if there's any similarities or differences between his paintings and other artists' paintings. Meanwhile, in our phonics lessons we have been looking at a range of words that have the sound 'zh' but the letters 'si' or 'su' and discussing how we can remember which words have which spellings.

This week in Wharton Class we have been working on equivalent masses and comparing mass, if you could do some home baking this will really help with their understanding of measuring mass and reading scales. In English we have continued our work on Charlotte's Web, we have researched different spiders and created a fact file about them. In PSHE we have been looking at the functions of different body parts such as the heart, lungs, blood and finding out how to keep our organs healthy.



Year 4 had an unforgettable time on their PGL residential trip – a fantastic adventure packed with fun, challenge, and teamwork from start to finish! The children threw themselves into every activity with enthusiasm and courage, making memories that will last a lifetime. Everyone showed amazing bravery and determination as they tackled the climbing wall, soared down the zip wire, and descended the abseiling tower. The vertical challenge really tested our nerves and resilience, as we climbed higher with each step, supported by cheers from our teammates. The sensory trail encouraged us to work together and trust each other while navigating blindfolded through muddy twists and turns! Our aim was put to the test during archery, where we learned how to shoot safely and accurately. In Survivor, we built shelters and learned basic survival skills in the great outdoors. The Matrix challenged our minds as we worked in teams to crack codes and solve physical puzzles. Evenings were just as exciting, filled with classic PGL games that had us running, laughing and bonding as a group. The magical campfire night was a perfect way to end the trip – with songs, stories, and toasted marshmallows under the stars. It was a brilliant week of growth, friendship, and adventure – one we'll never forget!

Duffy Class has continued with their sailing lessons this week. Tales of capsizing boats and running aground, were the topics of conversation. The class are really enjoying the freedom of sailing and benefitting from practical sessions. In maths we have continued to find decimals to the value of 1, using our number bonds to help us. In English, we started to write our descriptions of our new planets. We used the original speech to help us write our own. In history, we looked at Anglo-Saxon and Viking societies, including the law and the class system. In PSHE, we were looking at facts about the body, taking a quiz and thinking of our own questions we wanted to find out for ourselves. On Thursday and Friday we went on our Year 5 residential to Winchester Space Centre, where we slept in the museum, went skiing and went back in time to an Anglo-Saxon Village, Butser Farm.



It's been a very busy and full-on week for Year 6 preparing for next week's SATs! All of the staff in school are so very proud of how hard the children have been working and how well they have retained their previous learning.

This week, we have been focusing on fractions, decimals and percentages in Maths: working through multi-step problems in small groups. We have looked at the differences between dashes and hyphens, and colons and semi-colons too. In PSHE, we have looked at the meaning of 'risk' and what kind of risks the children encounter in day-to-day life. The class discussed how they might weigh up the positive and negative consequences of risks and how they can assess risky situations in order to make them safer. During computing lessons we have been creating 3D models on a program called 'tinkercad'; this week, the children explored colour, pattern, dimension and size on the programme by creating their own name badges. We have spent some time as a class practising mindfulness in class this week. The children have been taught some breathing techniques and strategies they can use to help ground themselves in stressful situations or when things become a bit too much. Bring on next week!



## CONVERSATION STARTERS!

Want to know what your children have been learning this week? Here are some conversation starters that may help you talk to them about what they have been up to in class!

### YEAR R

**Talk to me about ...** Caterpillars and butterflies

**Words to use ...** Egg, cocoon, wings, butterfly, metamorphosis, life cycle

**Top tips ...** have a look in your garden and see if you can spot symmetrical patterns in nature

**We have been reading ...** The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

### YEAR 2

**Talk to me about...** g, ml, kg

**Words to use...** different words that have 'su' or 'si' in them (confusion, casual)

**Tips for the week...** New homework in the children's bags.

**We are reading...** Evie and the Animals, by Matt Haig

### YEAR 4

**Talk to me about...** my favourite part of the residential trip.

**Words to use...** independence, teamwork, friendship, resilience, adventure.

**Tip of the week...** have a relaxing weekend after our adventure at PGL!

**We are reading...** George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl.

### YEAR 6

**Talk to me about...** food and drinks in Spanish

**Words to use...** me gusta (I like), el queso (cheese), un vaso de leche (milk), una botella de agua (water), las patatas fritas (chips), la hamburguesa (hamburger), en helado (ice cream), unos churros (churros)

**Tips for the week...** try practising some mindfulness this weekend to help prepare yourself for SATs next week.

**We have been reading...** our own books from home

### YEAR 1

**Talk to me about ...** predators and prey, position and direction

**Words to use ...** left, right, above, below, forwards, backwards

**Top tips ...** Can you direct someone through your house using positional language

**We have been reading ...** The Day the Crayons Quit, by Oliver Jeffers

### YEAR 3

**Talk to me about...** how food, water and air get into the body and blood.

**Words to use...** body parts, cooperation, science, teamwork

**Tips for the week...** do some cooking using scales to improve the children's'

**We have been reading...** Charlotte's Web by E.B.White

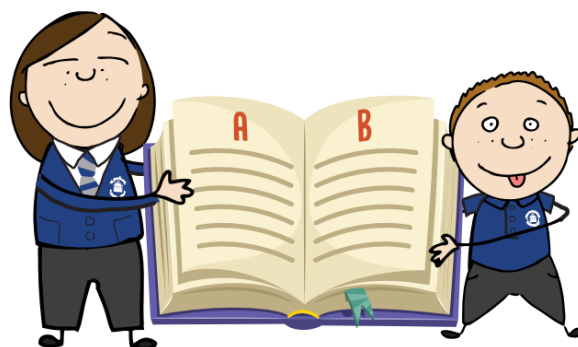
### YEAR 5

**Talk to me about.....** Viking and Anglo-Saxon societies.

**Words to use .....** ordeals, community, punishment, hierarchy, karls, slaves, landsmen.

**Tips for the week .....** pack light from our Year 5 residential.

**We have been reading.....** Pandora.



## Lunchtime Menu — Chartwells for week beginning 12th May 2025

	Monday 12th	Tuesday 13TH	Wednesday 14TH	Thursday 15th	Friday 16th
Main	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	BBQ Chicken & Rice	Roast Pork, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Beef burger & Wedges	Fish Fingers & Chips
Vegetarian	Broccoli And Leek Tart	Macaroni Cheese	Butternut Squash & Tomato Bake	Quorn Burger & Wedges	Veggie Fingers & Chips
Dessert	Chocolate Brownie	Fruits of the Forest Jelly	St Clements Cake	Strawberry Ice Cream	Ginger Biscuit & Fruit



**BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY**

With a choice of toppings  



**AVAILABLE DAILY**

Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



**Chartwells**  
Schools