



# 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](#)

14th March 2025

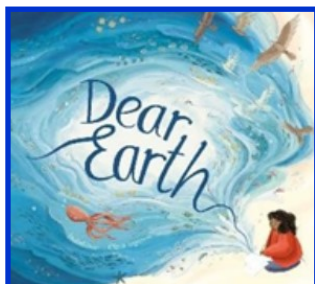
VALUE: COURAGE



### WE CAN LIVE RESPECTFULLY—ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK

Mrs Parkin warmly welcomed the children back to school for the start of the summer term. Mrs Parkin talked about courage, as this is our value for the next two weeks, and related this to our life at school. She spoke to the children about the fact that courage doesn't mean the absence of fear or worry, it's the triumph over it and spoke about the role we all have to support everyone in school to feel courageous.

For a bit of fun and to wake everyone up after a long spring holiday, Mrs Parkin held a shape quiz for the whole school! Every week this school year, we have had a shape of the week focus and before we begin with a new shape next week, Mrs Parkin wanted to recap what we've already learnt and check that this knowledge is going in! The children were brilliant and lived up to the challenge with many of them getting full marks and for those that didn't, they now know what they need to work on.



It is World Earth day this week and so Thursday's assembly focused on caring for the Earth, which the children reminded Mrs Parkin, is a sphere! We read the book *Dear Earth* and spoke about people who are courageously working hard to save our planet.



### THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

We're sad to share that two much-loved members of our Newchurch family, Mrs Hughes and Miss Shaw, will be leaving us this term.

Mrs Hughes has been with the school for over 21 years, and what an incredible journey it's been! She's seen so many changes over the years and has always been there, giving her all to our school community. Her dedication and kindness have touched so many lives, and while we'll miss her terribly, we're happy that she'll now have more time to spend with her own family—some of whom are all the way on the other side of the world!



Miss Shaw may have been with us for a shorter time, but what a big difference she's made! From leading school fixtures and sporting events to giving tailored support to the children who needed it most, her energy and commitment have been truly inspiring. She's off to begin an exciting new adventure working with the emergency services, and we know she'll continue to shine.

Both Mrs Hughes and Miss Shaw leave us with so much love and good wishes for the next chapters of their lives. They've each left their mark on Newchurch, and will always be part of our school family.

With these wonderful staff members moving on, we'll be looking for new team members to join our federation. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming part of our fantastic team, please keep an eye on our school website and Facebook page for details of the roles we'll soon have available.



## MISSION POSSIBLE PLAYTIME—MAKING IT HAPPEN!

Firstly, we'd just like to say thank you to all of the families who have donated something towards our new playtime venture. Your generosity has really started our week off with a bang and the children have absolutely loved the new playtime format. Please keep the donations coming!

In general this generation of children have less time outside and at play than ever before. We know how important play is for children's health, mental wellbeing and their learning and we are working hard to see how we can improve this for the children at our school.

So far, we have timetabled time into the school day for more time at uninterrupted play (whilst keeping disruptions to learning at a real minimum). We have ensured that our lunch time play encompasses more of the school grounds with more chance for the year groups to mix and play together.

The children have been involved in the process from the beginning and although we have a long way to go as we gradually introduce more play experiences to the children, their faces and comments say it all really...

Alfie J Y4 – *'Playtime is amazing and my favourite thing is the target practice with the frisbees.'*

Millie R Y2 – *'This has been the best playtime ever because we've had music!'*

Nixie N Y2 – *'I really enjoyed building a secret den in the Memorial Garden.'*

Max S Y5 – *'Playtime was really fun as there's a lot to do now and I enjoyed morning break too which is different to how it was before.'*



*We would love more donations so please think of us if you are having a tidy up/Spring clear out this weekend!*



## MAKE THE HEALTHY CHOICE TO JOIN THE NEWCHURCH NINE!

With only 3 weeks to go have you signed up yet for the Newchurch Nine?

This is the major fundraiser for Newchurch Primary School and we need your support to 'make it happen!' We currently have lots of keen runners signed up to join in with either the 900m, 4.5km or the 9km run so if you or friends and family are inspired by the London Marathon this weekend please join in with our mass participation event too!

Last year we raised almost £2500 for resources in school, can we top that this year?



The event is set to take place on **Sunday 18th May** and you can sign up via the link <https://www.eventrac.co.uk/e/the-newchurch-nine-2025-12826> or just search Newchurch Nine on [Eventrac.co.uk](https://www.eventrac.co.uk) Please note **online entries close before the event** although registration will be available on the morning of the event too!

We look forward to seeing as many of our community as possible!



## U11 SHOW GREAT RESILIENCE AND MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Last Friday, before half-term, the U11 Girls' football team embarked on an exciting journey to Bembridge to face Godshill in the Rural League final. With the coveted trophy in both teams' sights, we knew it was going to be an epic battle.

The game kicked off with a burst of energy as both teams fought hard for the upper hand. Thea, our goalkeeper, was a true superstar, pulling off a string of fantastic saves to deny Godshill during an intense series of attacks. Just before the half-time whistle, Maisie dazzled us all, weaving past three defenders and launching a powerful shot that heartbreakingly hit the inside of the post and refused to go in. The score remained 0-0 as the teams headed into the break.

The second half mirrored the first, with fierce determination on display from both sides. Grace came close to putting Newchurch in the lead, but the Godshill goalkeeper stood firm. As the final minutes ticked away, Amelia and Leah were rock-solid in defence, holding off Godshill's last attempts to break the deadlock. Full time arrived, and it was still 0-0.

Then came the moment everyone was dreading—penalties. Despite our best efforts and brilliant teamwork, the final score was 3-1 to Godshill. While Newchurch finished as runners-up, the girls can hold their heads high after an incredible season. Competing at such a high level and reaching the final is a tremendous achievement!



A special shout-out to Miss Newland, who has been instrumental in the team's success this year. Her dedication and guidance have been invaluable, leading the girls through another phenomenal season.

Well done, team! We're so proud of you all.





## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE—SMART WATCHES

We encourage the children to wear a watch to school to help them learn how to tell the time and to foster independence. We are aware that watches have many, many more functions these days and it seems timely (excuse the pun) to remind parents that smart watches with internet connectivity and messaging capabilities should not be worn to school.

Also, please be aware that the children wear watches at their own risk and the school cannot be held responsible for loss or damage to expensive items worn on site.



## WE CAN LIVE RESPECTFULLY— SUSTAINABLE UNIFORM

Please be reminded that we have a host of pre-loved uniform in school that is just longing for a new home!

If your child is in need of a new jumper, cardigan, shorts or summer dress for this term please contact the school office who will be happy to take a look to see if there are items that may meet your requirements.

Can we also remind parents to label all items of clothing that come into school as our lost property bin is already overflowing! If items are named they will return to their owner!



## KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE—IMAGE SHARING

Please can we kindly remind all parents of the importance of responsible image sharing, especially when it comes to photos from Seesaw. Some children have permission to appear on Seesaw but are not permitted on social media.

While celebrating your child's achievements is wonderful, we ask that you do not share any photos that you may have copied from Seesaw on social media that include other children from the class. To respect the privacy of all families, please only share images of your own child and avoid posting photos that include other children.

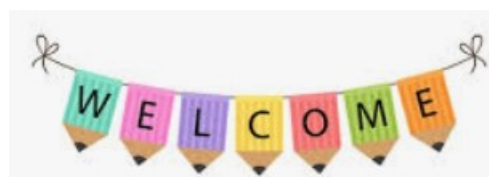
Your cooperation helps us create a safe and respectful environment for all children.

Thank you for your support.

## OUR COMMUNITY MAKE IT HAPPEN!



During the holiday, we were excited to receive confirmation of the new starters for our Reception Class this September. We were delighted that despite a fall in birth rate and confusion around school place planning that Newchurch remains a popular, school of choice on the Isle of Wight with our new class being full with 30 children ready to join us next academic year!



If you or your family have a child joining our school, we extend the warmest of welcomes to you! We will be in touch very soon with all the details of our transition programme, carefully designed to ensure your child feels safe, secure, and settled as they embark on their primary school journey.

We can't wait to meet our new little learners!

## IMPORTANT DATES

***DON'T FORGET THE BANK HOLIDAY.... MONDAY 5TH MAY***

***OR THE INSET DAYS MONDAY 2ND JUNE, FRIDAY 20TH JUNE, MONDAY 28TH JULY, TUESDAY 29TH JULY***

Important  
Information

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?



## POETRY CORNER

April is Stress Awareness month and so Michael Rosen's poem 'I am Angry' seems rather appropriate...

### I Am Angry

by Michael Rosen

I am angry  
really angry  
angry, angry, angry  
I'm so angry I'll jump up and down  
I'll roll on the ground  
Make a din  
Make you spin  
Pull out my hair  
Throw you in the air  
Pull down posts  
Hunt for ghosts  
Scare spiders  
Scare tigers  
Pull up trees  
Bully bees  
Rattle the radiators  
Frighten alligators  
Cut down flowers  
Bring down towers  
Bang all the bones  
Wake up stones  
Shake the tiles  
Stop all smiles  
Silence birds  
Boil words  
Mash up names  
Grind up games  
Crush tunes  
Squash moons  
Make giants run  
Terrify the sun  
Turn the sky red  
And then go to bed.



## MAKING HEALTHY CHOICES—ANYA APP

We have been alerted that parents and parents-to-be on the Isle of Wight can now access expert parenting support anytime, anywhere with the launch of free premium access to the Anya App.

Research highlights that the first 1,001 days from pregnancy until a child's second birthday are a crucial period for development, shaping a child's health, wellbeing and future outcomes. The Anya App is dedicated to supporting families through the first 1,001 days of parenthood with confidence.

Anya App provides a wealth of resources including: videos, articles and expert one to one support all on a phone:

- Extensive library resources including videos, articles, personalised programmes and more.
- Supportive community of parents and connect 1:1 with parenting and infant feeding specialists
- Ask Anya anything 24/7. Get instant answers anytime of the day—perfect for any middle of the night worries.

We have been asked to promote the app and it's use widely and so if you or anyone you know may benefit please take a look at [www.anya.health/isleofwight](http://www.anya.health/isleofwight) or by searching 'Anya Health' in your preferred app store.





## MAKING HEALTHY CHOICES—STRESS AWARENESS MONTH



April is national Stress Awareness Month. The month is dedicated to increasing public awareness about the causes and cures of stress.

The theme for this year is #LeadwithLove and the Stress Management Society wishes to encourage us to approach ourselves and others with kindness, compassion, and acceptance, no matter the challenges we face. This aim fits perfectly with our mission possible to make healthy choices and so we thought it would be a nice idea to share a kindness calendar that you may wish to use to share the love and kindness at home.

We would love to hear about the children's acts of kindness on Seesaw so please don't forget to celebrate their kindness success' with us!

### Kindness Calendar

<b>1</b> Make a thank you card and give it to someone.	<b>2</b> Help someone to do something.	<b>3</b> Say please and thank you.	<b>4</b> Say well done to someone.	<b>5</b> Make someone laugh today.	<b>6</b> Play with someone new today.	<b>7</b> Share your favourite game with someone.
<b>8</b> Help someone when they are upset.	<b>9</b> Offer to clean the classroom or your bedroom.	<b>10</b> Sit next to someone new at lunchtime.	<b>11</b> Help people who are on their own at playtime.	<b>12</b> Hold the door open for someone.	<b>13</b> Encourage someone to keep trying.	<b>14</b> Teach or share a new skill with someone.
<b>15</b> Write down something you love about yourself.	<b>16</b> Ask a friend if they are OK.	<b>17</b> Play nicely with your brothers, sisters, cousins or friends.	<b>18</b> Send a note to a friend saying why they are a good friend.	<b>19</b> Think about how you feel when you are kind to someone. Write at least three feelings.	<b>20</b> Take five minutes to think about the kindest thing you did today.	<b>21</b> Say well done to yourself for being you.
<b>22</b> Make a list of the best things about your parents/carers.	<b>23</b> Tell your friend a joke.	<b>24</b> Leave a message for someone to say why they are special to you.	<b>25</b> Spend time doing something you enjoy.	<b>26</b> Pick up litter and put it in a bin.	<b>27</b> Write down three favourite things about yourself.	<b>28</b> Create a picture of all the things that are important to you and give it to someone special.
<b>29</b> Tell someone why they are important to you.	<b>30</b> Take five minutes to think about how you can continue to be kind every day.					

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

MONDAY 28TH

Farm

TUESDAY 29TH

Y5 Sailing

WEDNESDAY 30TH

THURSDAY 1ST

Y5 Bikeability

FRIDAY 2ND

Y5 Bikeability

CLUBS START

Celebrations  
Assembly KS1



## SO WHAT HAVE WE BEEN LEARNING THIS WEEK?

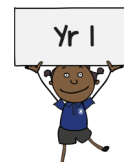
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Wow! Donaldson Class have really impressed us with how well they've settled back in and what good choices they've been making! They have been trying so hard to look after the classroom and the resources. We have been learning about animals that hatch from eggs and have enjoyed reading *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett and predicting what animal was going to hatch out. We found out that baby ducks are called ducklings, baby chickens are called chicks, baby owls are called owlets and baby flamingos are called flaminglettes, designed our own odd eggs and talked about what made them odd. Some were very big, some were very tiny, some were spotty, some had rainbow patterns and some were covered in diamonds. In maths we have been looking at ordering numbers and focusing on what comes before each number on the number line. We have been using our speedy fingers to take away one and show Mrs Starkey the answer. We have been using the language 'one less', 'take away' and 'before'.

Rosen class has had a busy first week back at school. In Maths we have started to look at multiplication and division. We have started this off by counting in twos, fives and tens, before looking at making equal groups. In PSHE we have been looking at 'Being my Best'. We have been looking at healthy foods and designing our healthy eating plate. In Science we have started to look at animal classification and how they are adapted to survive.

Yr 1



Yr 2



This week, Year 2 has been busy with exciting new topics! In English, we explored *The Night Gardener*, learning new words, creating a story map, and sequencing events. In Maths, we measured ourselves, our classroom, and the school hall using centimetres and metres. During PSHE, we discussed the importance of supporting each other and staying resilient when tasks are challenging. To top it off, the children enjoyed playing with the new playtime equipment, making it a fun and productive week!

This week in Wharton Class we have been working on fractions, we have been looking at equivalent fractions and counting in fractions. In English we have started to read *Charlotte's Web*, our work will be based on this book for the next few weeks. We have been finding out how to look after pigs this week. In PSHE we have recapped our knowledge about healthy eating. We have broadened our learning about a 'balanced diet' and talked about examples of foods that might make up a healthy balanced meal.

Yr 3



Yr 4



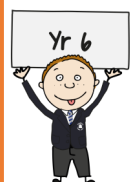
We've had a fantastic first week back after the Easter holidays in Year 4! In Maths, we explored partitioning, ordering, and comparing decimals, building our confidence working with numbers with up to two decimal places. In English, we began our exciting new text, *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl. We compared the characters of George and Grandma, using powerful adjectives to describe their personalities before writing our own character descriptions. In Art, we focused on joining techniques, experimenting with different ways to attach materials and strengthen our models. Our Science lesson was all about seed dispersal – we learned the different ways seeds travel and why it's important for plant survival. A great start to the term!

Duffy Class has started to learn about areas in maths this week, calculating areas of rectangles then progressed to composite shapes. They had to use their multiplication facts to help them and then use addition and subtraction to find the area of complicated shapes. In English, we are using a short film as inspiration for our writing, *Pandora*. This is all about a strange planet with different habitats and strange creatures. The class looked at the language and made up words used in the film, ready to write their own descriptions and create their own planets. In History, we introduced the Vikings to Anglo-Saxon Britain, learning what they were like and how they integrated into Britain at this time. And finally, half the class started their sailing lessons at Seaview this week. They all came back enthused and excited, talking about their first lesson.

Yr 5



Yr 6



Year 6 have fit a lot into a 4-day week! We have started a new learning journey in English, using *The Guardian's* short film "The Three Little Pigs." The film tells the story as a modern TV news report, putting the pigs on trial. We compared it with the traditional tale, then talked about how social media can share news quickly but can also spread false stories. Finally, the children wrote exciting diary entries as the police officer walking into the pigs' messy house. Beginning the three week countdown for SATS, we have been revisiting some key maths skills this week, including: long division, finding the mean, reading Roman numerals and translation of shapes. In art, the children have been researching the artist Edvard Munch; looking closely at his famous paintings *The Scream*, *Despair* and *Anxiety* and discussing how colour and line can show strong feelings. In PSHE we began the topic "Being Your Best," setting healthy goals for body and mind, and in Computing we started 3D modelling and have already built our first virtual objects. Our continued study of the Kingdom of Benin has, this week, moved on to its trade with Europe.

## 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 ...** Eggs

**Words to use ...** shell, hard, soft, hatch, birth, chick

**Top tips ...** keep practicing your tricky words. See how many you can before the timer runs out! If you're super confident at reading them, try learning to spell them.

**We have been reading ...** The Odd Egg by Emily Gravett

### YEAR 2

**Talk to me about...** how the spelling test went.

**Words to use...** cm, m, mm

**Tips for the week...** talk to the children about the first week back at school.

**We are reading...** The Night Gardener, by The Fan Brothers

### YEAR 4

**Talk to me about...** types of settlements

**Words to use...** hamlet, village, town, city, borough, county.

**Tip of the week...** remember to keep practising your times tables!

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

### YEAR 6

**Talk to me about...** Benin's relationship with Europe

**Words to use...** Nigeria, enslaved, transatlantic, trading, Europe

**Tips for the week...** Can you practise counting in 19s, 23s, 14s and 27s?

**We have been reading...** "Boy in the Tower" by Polly Ho-Yen (we're nearly finished)

### YEAR 1

**We have been learning ...** Multiplication and division

**Words to use ...** twos, fives, tens, equal, groups of, lots of

**Tips for the week ...** Can you practise counting in twos, fives and tens

**We have been reading ...** The Storm Whale

### YEAR 3

**Talk to me about...** healthy eating and healthy lifestyles

**Words to use...** balanced diet, proteins, muscles, dairy, teeth, bones, starchy carbohydrates, energy, fruit and veg

**Tips for the week...** talk about what you think about healthy meals when planning your food for the week

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

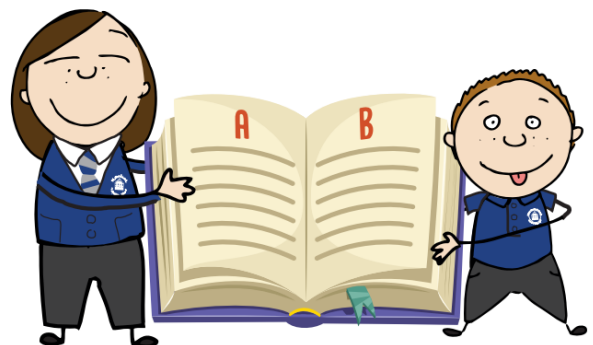
### YEAR 5

**Talk to me about.....** Vikings.

**Words to use .....**Scandinavia. sea-borne pagans, long boats, raids, brutal.

**Tips for the week .....**find some interesting facts about the Vikings as we have already found out, they did not have horns on their helmets!

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





# Key Stage 2 Celebration Assembly



Year 3: Fleur Davis

Year 4: Emily Case

Year 5: Bodhi McAllister

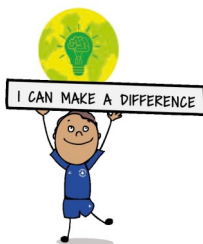
Year 6: Leah Hollis



Grace S



Casper BM



Stanley D



Rocco H



Maisie W

Sticker Cards:

YELLOW:

Toby FS (5) Mollie P (5)

BLUE:

Harriet F (9) Grace S (6)

GREEN

Annabel L (4)

**WELL DONE!**

**We are so proud of all of our winners!**

**NEW MENU**

Lunchtime Menu — Chartwells for week beginning 28th April 2025

	Monday 28th	Tuesday 29TH	Wednesday 30TH	Thursday 1st	Friday 2nd
Main	Macaroni Cheese	Chicken Pizza & Wedges	Roast Gammon, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken Tikka Masala & Rice	Fish Fingers & Chips
Vegetarian	Sweet Potato & Lentil Curry with Rice	Meatless Feast Cheesy Pizza	Tomato Pasta	Vegetable Fajita Wrap & Rice	Quorn Dippers & Chips
Dessert	Strawberry Jelly	Flapjack & Fruit	Apple & Golden Syrup Cake	Chocolate Ice Cream	Lemon Cake



**BAKED POTATOES SERVED DAILY**  
With a choice of toppings 🍌 🥬



**AVAILABLE DAILY**  
Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



**Chartwells**  
Schools