

# End of half-term News May 2019

**A snapshot of learning opportunities and achievements over the last half term.**



## Upper Key stage 2.....F1 STEM Challenge

A group of Y5 and 6 future engineers have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a STEM club and challenge, led by Mr Holder, over the past term. Here is one pupil's report on this event:

*In the STEM Challenge (STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), we had to design and build our own little car, filling out a portfolio along the way. When we got to CE Camms (Centre of Excellence for computers, advanced manufacturing and marine), we had to host some talks about how we built our car and, eventually, we did the penultimate challenge: the race! The car was fitted with little CO2 canisters which, when we let them go, meant they would reach 60mph in less than a second. This is even faster than a Ferrari! The club and final challenge also helped our students to develop their teamwork skills and it was great to observe how they all supported each other throughout the process.*



## Year 5 .....Wheelchair Basketball

Year 5 pupils have also been fortunate enough to be invited to St George's School this term to take part in wheelchair basketball sessions. One year 5 boy said, 'Wheelchair basketball at St George's was the most fun I have had in a long time.



*The staff there told us some rules and we were able to practise shooting and passing.'*

Upon their return, many of the pupils told us how surprised they were by how strong your muscles needed to be in order to stop and change directions. This was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to visit another local school and also learn more about a sport that was previously unfamiliar to most of them.

## Lower Key stage 2.... Making their voices heard

Over the past couple of weeks all the children in LKS2 have been working on their singing skills with representatives of Portsmouth Cathedral Choir. Adrian, who has been leading the workshops, has been showing different ways of warming up our voices ready for singing and how we can put volume into our sound.

We have learnt some fun songs such as 'What shall we do with a Drunken Sailor?' and 'Swing Low Sweet Chariot' where we have practiced speeding up and going up in key changes. We have then spent time learning more serious songs such as 'We are sailing' and a more unfamiliar song called 'Homeward Bound'.

At the end of the term, all of LKS2 will be going to the Minster and will have the opportunity to perform our songs as a full choir. We may also have the chance to perform with some of the choir from the Cathedral.



## McDonalds comes to EYFS!

During this term the children in EYFS have enjoyed a range of role play areas, however we have chosen just two to share with you, one from inside and one from outside.



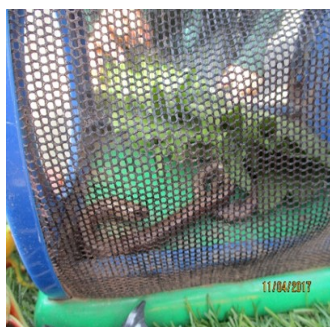
The most popular role play area inside has been our McDonald's. The children helped to build up the role play. They decided we needed trays to carry our food on, so they went to the school kitchen and asked to borrow four trays.

The area captured the children's interest and they were able to develop their phonic skills through taking orders from their friends. The children then took it in their own direction, designing their own McDonald's meals and creating them using junk modelling materials. The children were

literally queuing up to order their Happy Meals!



Outside, the children have been thoroughly enjoying the bug investigation lab. They have explored their interest in mini-beasts by



using magnifying glasses to look closely at their features. The children made links to their own past experiences of finding insects in their gardens. One day, to their great excitement, they even found a slowworm! This allowed the children to

use an iPad to find out if it was a worm or a snake and how to look after it. The children spent the whole day looking after it, digging up worms and finding slugs to feed it and making sure it had water.



## Staff changes for September.....

Sadly we will be saying good-bye to a few staff who are moving onto new challenges: Mrs Lawrence is taking on the post of Head of School at The Bay CE Primary. Miss Tavener is starting her teacher training course and Mrs Cobden has chosen to reduce her current teaching commitments. We will certainly miss them all as they have contributed so much to the success of Newport during their time with us. We wish them every success in their new ventures.

We are delighted to welcome two new teachers to Newport in September, Mr Taylor and Mr Whiting. Both are experienced teachers and looking forward to joining the staff team.



## sports kit....

Along with our new logo we are updating our sports t-shirt, which is now available from Kids & Co in Ryde. The new shirts are made of a better quality material which washes better, holds its shape for longer and therefore should last longer.

Every child needs to have their PE kit in school every day so that they can take a full part in the sporting opportunities on offer at Newport.





## KS1 go back in time ..... To the Victorian era

To capture the children's imaginations we started this topic with a visit to a gallery, which had been set up in the school's Art room. Children viewed pictures of Queen Victoria and her family alongside pictures of Queen Elizabeth and her family. Children were quick to recognise that the photos and portraits of Victoria were older but they also noticed several similarities in their appearance.

We followed this session with a visit from Mrs Bosworth who spoke to the children about Queen Victoria and her children prior to their visit to Osborne house. We were lucky enough to have some real sources to look at and we discovered many interesting facts about her 7 children. We also found out that Princess Beatrice opened part of the school in 1909.



Our trip to Osborne House was a marvellous day out and we were very fortunate that the weather took a turn for the better towards the end of the week. As well as visiting Swiss Cottage and finding out more about how Victoria's children lived, we had a very memorable session with the housekeeper Mrs Pilkington. In mere minutes, she had the children behaving impeccably and she put them through their paces as they auditioned to

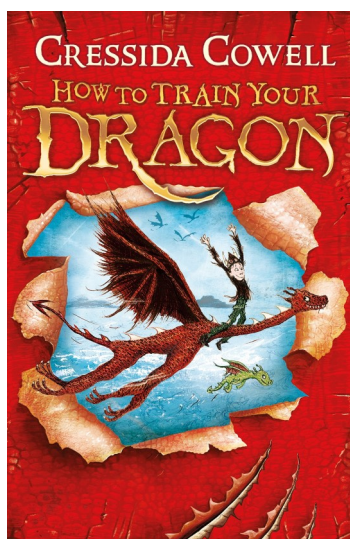
be a servant in the main house. A great honour indeed. Children found out they would be expected to work six and a half days a week and would be paid the huge sum of £6 a year! At the end of the session, the children were amazed to find out that Mrs Pilkington was only an actor and was in fact a lovely lady called Holly, who wasn't a Victorian at all! The teachers have decided that many of her techniques would be very useful in the classroom!





## Teaching English at Newport

At NCEP our English curriculum is text-driven. This means teachers begin with a book selected to interest the children and plan from there. First the book's themes, characters, setting and plot are explored through a range of rich activities aimed at developing children's reading and spoken language skills. Aspects of punctuation and grammar are then explored in the context of the book. Finally, children produce a longer piece of writing utilising the skills they have learnt, thinking carefully about the intended audience and purpose of their writing. Children have opportunities for writing, evaluating and editing their work throughout. The children have told us they really enjoy learning in this way and enjoy writing their own stories influenced by the book they have been reading. We are proud of their enthusiasm and commitment.



This half term Years 3 and 4 have been reading *How to Train your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell in their English lessons. ..

*Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third is a smallish Viking with a longish name. Hiccup's father is chief of the Hairy Hooligan tribe which means Hiccup is the Hope and the Heir to the Hairy Hooligan throne - but most of the time Hiccup feels like a very ordinary boy, finding it hard to be a Hero.*

In the first *How to Train Your Dragon* book Hiccup must lead ten novices in their initiation into the Hairy Hooligan Tribe. They have to train their dragons or be BANISHED from the tribe FOR EVER!

But what if Hiccup's dragon resembles an ickle brown bunny with wings? And has NO TEETH? The Seadragonus Giganticus Maximus is stirring and wants to devour every Viking on the Isle of Berk . . . Can Hiccup save the tribe - and become a Hero?

## Word of the day

**Vocabulary** plays an **important** part in **learning** to read. Beginning readers must use the words they hear orally to make sense of the words they see in print.

**Vocabulary** is key to reading comprehension. Readers cannot understand what they are reading without knowing what most of the words mean.

Studies indicate that young children whose parents read them five books a day enter school having heard about 1.4 million more words than those who are never read to.

In school, we are constantly introducing new vocabulary to the children. This term, we have been sharing our 'words of the day' on the APP. Here are a few examples:

<b>PREPOSTEROUS</b>	<b>SURPRISED</b>	<b>OXYGEN</b>
<b>CALIGINOUS</b>	<b>FEROCIOUS</b>	<b>ADOLESCENCE</b>
<b>SEVERAL</b>	<b>RESURRECTION</b>	

## Reverend Bagg

We have been lucky enough to welcome Reverend Bagg (St Mary's, Carisbrooke) to school this term to talk to all of the children about his work and to answer their questions about God, Christianity and faith in general. He was very impressed with the quality of the questions asked and the thoughtfulness that the children showed in their discussions. Here are some of the questions that were asked and discussed:

*Sol : Can God control people's minds?*

*Emma : Is there more than one God?*

*Grace : How did God get his power?*

*Liam: Did God have help to create the world?*

*Katelyn: If God created the world, who made God?*

*Molly: Is there a possibility that God is female?*

*Darcy : Who created the world – God or the 'Big Bang'?*

*Katie: Did God make any mistakes whilst creating the world?*

*Dylan: Where does God live?*

*Robyn: What happens if someone doesn't believe in God?*

*Kylan: Can God help us with anything?*

*Kate: Why do people pray?*

*Linzi: What happens when we die?*

## Newport sports news

It's fair to say that for a short term, it's been a very busy one! We started the term on a high, being awarded and recognised at the Isle of Wight Sports Awards, as the 'Most Improved Sporting School'. This was a fantastic achievement and vindication for all the effort that has gone in to enhancing the sporting provision here at our school. Our aim for the coming years, is for Newport Primary to be synonymous with Island sport. Sport at Newport Primary is truly alive and kicking!



Our focus subject in P.E this half term has been cricket, with the children trying several different forms of the game including Kwik Cricket, Diamond Cricket and Continuous Cricket. This has stood us in good stead so far this cricket season, as we are currently undefeated in the U11 Incrediball competition, U11 boys Kwik Cricket and U11 girls Kwik Cricket competitions with all teams advancing to the later rounds and with our U10s and U9s who have games upcoming in their competition group stages. In addition, we took sixty children to an all day cricket event at Victoria Recreation Ground to compete against other Newport schools. I believe that this exposure to healthy competition is so important for our children and we have seen the positive changes in attitude and identity that come as a result of doing well and taking pride in their personal achievements. To this end, we have attended and competed in no fewer than thirteen sporting events across the Island in the last five weeks, included in this was the IW Netball Final, U11 Hockey and Y5/6 Quad Kids athletics.

We also broke our previous record for participants in the Walk the Wight Schools Walk, with over fifty children signed up. Well done to all who walked and thank you to those who walked with us on the day. On the 1<sup>st</sup> June we have a full coach load of girls travelling to Brighton to watch elite sport as the England women's national team play their last warm up game against New Zealand before they leave as one of the favourites for the World Cup in France this summer. This is a culmination of an incredibly successful year at Newport Primary for girls football which has been a huge success story of our sporting year, and promises to be a memorable day.





## Healthy playtimes

You may have seen that our new play gym and traverse climbing wall have been finished and the children are already enjoying the new area. It is part of our commitment to promoting healthy active lives and helps us ensure that no opportunity is wasted for them to be so. It is also important to their sense of independent play and self-challenge, and we hope this will help them develop these skills. We have also designed a new P.E shirt that will be available soon to purchase, complete with the new Newport Primary badge. We think it looks really smart, and look forward to the kids of Newport wearing them in P.E and to the many sporting events that we now attend. After all, when you look the part, you feel the part.



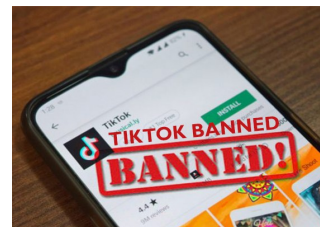
Lastly, I wanted to close on the success of our Hi5 Newport Netball League that we have been running in its inaugural year over this half term. The league features three other schools, Nine Acres Primary, St. Thomas' Primary and Carisbrooke CE Primary School. We created the league to offer more opportunities to children in the local area to take part in this growing version of the game and hope to develop the league further in the coming years to involve more local schools. The children who have participated in the league have represented our school superbly and yesterday we hosted the finals after school, and lots of parents from all the schools were here to cheer the teams on.

Next term promises to be an exciting one, with Newport hosting the first ever Federation Games against our partner school, Carisbrooke CE Primary. The finals of the cricket season and we also have sports day to look forward to, Year 5 sea swimming as well as a trip to watch elite international cricket at the ICC Cricket World Cup. Busy times indeed.



## Keeping children safe online..... Some info for parents **What is TikTok?**

TikTok is a video-sharing app. Users can upload and share short videos of themselves lip-synching to songs or acting out comedy sketches, and add special effects. They can gain followers ('fans') and browse other people's videos. You may have heard of the app by its previous name: Musically. Everything that was on Musically is now on TikTok. If a child previously had a Musically account they will be able to access their content on TikTok. The age recommendation is 13 and above. However, you don't have to prove your age when creating an account, so younger children can still use it easily. It's most popular with under-16s. TikTok is free to download on Android and iOS devices (Apple phones and tablets). It carries ads and offers in-app purchases. It has about 150 million active users worldwide and is available in over 30 languages.



### **What are the concerns?**

On the surface, nothing. TikTok has a reputation for being unusually free of trolling and danger. But you may have seen news reports or heard concerns about some users harassing children for nude images and videos. User profiles which talk about 'trading' or swapping pictures/videos. Use of emojis that are commonly considered to be sexually suggestive (such as the aubergine) Hashtags, such as #tradefortrade, which clearly suggest the user is looking to trade illicit content. The lyrical content of some songs – parents have raised concerns that it's not always age-appropriate. Users cannot exchange images and videos via in-app messaging, but once they've made contact they move on to another platform to trade, such as Snapchat.

## **NEW SNACK MENU**

**Each snack only costs 30p**

Starting after half term our new healthy snack menu will be on offer at morning break.

**Daily :** Wholemeal toast or homemade wholemeal tea-bread **Fridays:** Fruit smoothie or milkshake

**A varying choice of:** Homemade flapjack or banana bread or apple & carrot muffins or fruit & oat cookies

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<b>Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Half term – school closed</b>
<b>Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fri 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Year 6 Residential at Medina Valley</b>
<b>Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June</b>	<b>EYFS trip to IOW Zoo</b>
<b>Wed 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Country dancing festival</b>
<b>Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>FON – Summer Fayre</b>
<b>Tues 25<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Inter-Federation Games</b>
<b>Wed 26<sup>th</sup> June am</b>	<b>KS1 Sports day pm KS2 Sport day</b>
<b>Thu 27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Yr 5 &amp; 6 trip to Winchester Science Museum</b>
<b>Thu 4<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Yr 6 Leavers Service – Portsmouth Cathedral</b>
<b>Fri 5<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Newport Olympics (Yr 5&amp;6)</b>
<b>Thu 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>OPEN EVENING – new classes announced</b>
<b>Thu 11<sup>th</sup> &amp; Fri 12<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Yr 6 Secondary transfer days / Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Moving up day</b>
<b>Tues 16<sup>th</sup> July pm</b>	<b>Newport Extravaganza performance</b>
<b>Thu 18<sup>th</sup> July pm</b>	<b>Yr 6 Leavers presentation</b>
<b>Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July 10am</b>	<b>End of year service - St John's Church</b>
<b>Fri 19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Last day of term</b>