

Half term News October 2019

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



WORSHIP AT NEWPORT CE

As you know, there is a daily act of worship in school. During each week, the children and staff participate in the following worships: whole school worship, class worship, key stage worship, class picture news worship and a community celebration worship.

Our worship theme this term has been 'The Words of Jesus.' During our times together, we have explored the meaning of some of Jesus' well-known sermons and reflected upon how his words can help us to make decisions in our lives.



Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life." JOHN 8.12

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God. MATTHEW 5.1-10

Do not judge others, so that God will not judge you, for God will judge you in the same way you judge others, and he will apply to you the same rules you apply to others. MATTHEW 7.1-5

In addition to our themed worships, we have also welcomed Open the Book twice this term – the children always enjoy the Bible stories that are shared with them.

Children whose parents read to them hear up to 1.4 million more words than those who don't

In KS1 reading is all about developing children's fluency to enable them to be able to talk confidently about what they have read, answer questions, infer about a character's thoughts and feelings and make predictions based on what they have read so far. We recommend 10 minutes reading a day at home. All research shows that children who read regularly are far more likely to achieve well in other subjects at school. If you would like any support with this or the opportunity to observe your child read with their teacher, please contact your child's teacher to make an appointment.

We also want to foster a love of reading and this involves reading books to them that are above their current reading level. Books open up a world of imagination and vocabulary to children and support their learning across the entire curriculum. At Newport CofE Primary school we feel passionate about sharing rich texts with children and ensure that all children have the opportunity to read for pleasure. In KS1 this involves reading to the class every day.



In KS1 the children are currently reading: The Magic Faraway Tree by Enid Blyton Y1, The Worlds's Worst Teachers by David Walliams Y2 and The Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton Y2. The children are really excited about this part of the day. It is time to relax and get lost in another world.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES IN UKS2

This term in UKS2 we began a trial of a new way of conducting parent teacher meetings. By handing control over to the students. Student Led Conferences are an opportunity for the students to review and reflect on their learning journey and gain experience of leading a meeting. We were all blown away by the students' presentation skills and clear explanations of their work – a highly informative experience for parents and teachers alike. Parent feedback has been very positive and we look forward to further developing the concept in the future.



THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

This half term in Key Stage 1 has been incredibly exciting and interesting; we have been developing our skills as historians and learning all about 'The Great Fire of London'.

Back in September 1666, a large area of London was engulfed with flames, all stemming from the bakery in Pudding Lane... So that is where we started. The children became the bakers of Pudding Lane, put on their bakers' aprons and hats and baked traditional fruit buns.



As historians, the children have learnt the importance of using sources to develop their learning and understanding about a historical event - especially when the event was a long time ago. The children have had a museum set up with original and authentic artefacts in; such as a firefighting plaque from the Great Fire, a leather bucket and a firefighting helmet - allowing the children to have a hands on enquiry based learning experience, as well as exploring paintings, Samuel Pepys' diary extracts, maps and newspaper cuttings from the event itself.

After exploring how and why the fire spread so quickly - wooden houses, narrow streets, poor firefighting skills and equipment and terribly strong winds, the children had the opportunity to create their own Tudor houses! But these didn't last long, for Pudding Lane was ablaze very soon after!



The Great Fire of London was recreated in the school playground to allow children to visualise how easily the fire spread – which the children thoroughly enjoyed! Special thanks to the local fire brigade for their assistance.



SPORTING NEWS

What a busy start to the sporting calendar it's already been for Newport CE. We started the year in buoyant mood fresh from receiving our first ever 'Gold Sportsmark Award' in the summer term, meaning our sports provision now rates gold nationally to couple with being recognised on the Island as the 'most improved' sporting school during the last academic year.

Back in September, we were absolutely blown away with the quite incredible effort from the children at our first ever 'Round the Boundary' fun run and the turnout from so many friends and family who were supporting on the day. We are delighted to

announce that a very healthy £3179 was raised, some of which we have already begun to spend on cultural enrichment trips for our students. On Saturday 9th of November, we are heading to Wembley with 50 of our keen girls footballers, the home of English football, to watch England women play Germany. The game has



already sold 80,000 tickets and promises to be a memorable occasion indeed. It has been lovely to see some of last year's students return to say hello, many of whom have gone on to play for their new secondary school teams and have joined teams outside of school in different sports, demonstrating that our improved provision is having a positive impact on pupils development, success and goals. This is the legacy we hope for all of our pupils. We also hope to plan more trips to witness elite level sport for our pupils and show them potential pathways.

In school we have been busy studying our first topic of the school year, Invasion Games. Invasion games require participants to analyse space, direction of play and focus on teamwork when attacking or defending targets. To this end, we concentrated on basketball and Tag Rugby. This has stood us in good stead with our Year 5/6 team qualifying for the Island Tag Rugby Finals, with the Y5/6 girls to play this week and Y3/4 to play the first week back after half term. In addition to rugby, the football season has kicked off brightly, with our Y5/6 boys defeating Nine Acres this week and advancing to the next round of the Island Cup. Among our sporting pursuits this term, we have taken part in a tennis doubles tournament at Ventnor and have a large team of 48 runners from Year 3 through to Year 6 taking part in the X-country Relay Championships on Friday at Shanklin C.G.

After half term there are already no fewer than eleven sporting events already in the diary, with football, table tennis, indoor athletics, indoor cricket and rugby all featuring. Exciting times.

Mr.Yates



News from UKS2. Test the Water - Y6 go sailing at UKSA

On Tuesday 24th September our Year 6 pupils took to the water at UKSA and all had the opportunity to 'Test the Water'. Upon arrival, they were all given the necessary equipment - wetsuits, helmets and life jackets - and quickly prepared for an afternoon of watersport. All the pupils listened carefully as their instructors went over water safety and taught them about the basics of sailing a dinghy.

Everyone then headed up the Medina River in dinghies and ribs to find a safe and sheltered spot to let out their sails.



Luckily for us, the rain stayed away and the wind calmed in order for pupils to sail back towards the UKSA base.

It was a fantastic afternoon and the children all showed great enthusiasm and teamwork. Well done to all our Year 6s!

NEWPORT C of E SCHOOL CHOIR



This has already been a busy half term for the newly-formed 30+ strong choir. With the help of Mr Holder, we have been busy practicing for the up-coming Isle Sing where we will be performing, along with other Island schools, our own version of Imagine (John Lennon) and One Vision (Queen) to an audience at Medina Theatre. We have also sung at Newport Congregational Church at the Age UK Dementia-friendly Harvest Service - who are very welcoming of our choir and the elderly that attended enjoy listening to them. After half term we will be getting ready for the Christmas season - we already have bookings at Age UK Christmas Service, the switching on of the Christmas Lights in Newport and various other opportunities in school and our community. We continue to grow in strength, numbers and confidence - so watch out for us in the coming months!

Mrs McQueen

Global School Strike

On Friday 20th September, **Lower Key Stage 2** walked into Newport to take part in the Global School Strike for the Climate. During this awareness-raising march, which coincided with events taking place in over 150 countries around the world, the children in Thunberg, Pankhurst and Nobel classes joined hundreds of people in the town centre. With our banners held high, we made our voices heard so that governments will hear that children feel strongly about the impact that climate change will have on their future.

Back in school, the children explored ways in which we can make small, but positive changes to help our environment. These include thinking carefully about our use of resources, recycling what we can and trying to make choices that help the environment. As Greta Thunberg says, "No one is too small to make a difference."



EYFS - SETTLING INTO SCHOOL

In our first few weeks, we enjoyed reading and learning about 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Some of the activities included creating bear caves using waffle blocks, bricks, wooden blocks and planks, and making bears out of playdough.

Recently, we have read the text, 'Pumpkin Soup' and have been fascinated about what is inside pumpkins. We hammered golf tees into the pumpkins before using a range of tools to pull the pumpkins apart,

exposing the flesh and seeds. Children described the seeds as 'slippery' and the flesh as 'sticky'. We have been matching the role of slicing, stirring and scooping to the animals from the text and seeing whether we can hear the initial sound in 'cat', 'squirrel' and 'duck'.



We have also been busy learning our phase 2 sounds in phonics. Children are getting very confident with saying the sound and using the corresponding action.

All children have settled into EYFS incredibly well and move around the setting with ease and confidence – we are SO proud of them!



GENERAL REMINDERS

Jewellery Please remove any jewellery from your child before sending them into school. When items get lost or damaged—which inevitably happens at break / lunch times—it does cause a lot of upset to a child. Always best to keep these items for out of school use. If your child has pierced ears, and cannot remove and replace them independently, please make sure that they are not wearing ear-rings on days when they have PE.

PE kits Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school Monday to Friday. As part teaching of children about living a healthy life, we want every child to benefit from taking part in PE twice a week.

ONLINE BOOKINGS / PAYMENTS Thank you to all the parents who have signed up to our online booking system for parent—teacher consultation evening appointments. We will be using our online booking & payment system for more school activities in the future, so if you haven't signed up yet Please do as soon as possible .

Newport APP There are still a number of parents who are not yet signed up to the Newport CE APP, and are missing out on messages, updates and school news. Don't wait....download the APP today.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 4th November	Children return to school
Monday 4th November	Y2 concert visit in Southampton
Tues 5th / Wed 6th Nov	Y5 & 6 Sandown Zoo visit
Friday 8th November	9.05 am Remembrance Service led by Pankhurst class
Saturday 9th November	Trip to Wembley - Women's Football Match
Wk Beg 11th November	Anti-Bullying Week—whole school theme
Monday 11th November	ODD SOCKS DAY
Tuesday 12th November	Isle Sing—Medina Theatre—evening performance
Tuesday 19th November	9.30—11.00 OPEN MORNING for reception 2020
Friday 22nd November	MUFTI day— in exchange for Wine or tombola gifts
Saturday 23rd November	Choir performing at St Thomas Square—Christmas Lights
Tuesday 26th November	Flu Vaccinations - details to follow
Friday 29th November	9.005am Ghandi Class led worship
Friday 29th November	MUFTI day—in exchange for Chocolate / biscuits or £1
Tuesday 3rd December	Y1 trip to Chichester Theatre—The Gruffalo
Saturday 7th December	FON Christmas Fair 1.00—3.30
Wednesday 11th December	2.00 & 6.00 pm KS1 Nativity performances—cast A
Thursday 12th December	2.00 & 6.00 pm KS1 Nativity performances—cast B
Friday 13th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 19th December	1.45 pm Carol Service - The Minster
Friday 20th December	Last day of term
Monday 6th January	School Closed - INSET DAY
Tuesday 7th January	Start of Spring term