

Half term News December 2019

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



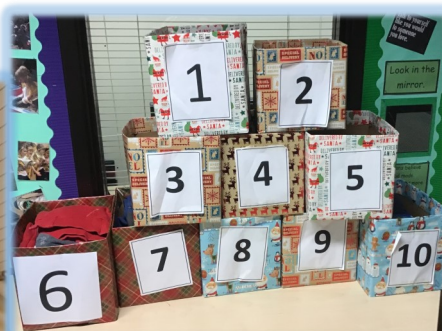
Newport C E

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Endurance Fellowship Compassion Peace

CHRISTMAS AT NEWPORT CE

Over the past few weeks our whole school and class workshops have been following the theme of Advent and sharing the story of the first Christmas. Our RE lessons have looked in depth at different aspects of this important Christian festival—covering themes such as ‘Prophecy’, The Trinity’ and ‘Incarnation’. We had KS1 and EYFS performing their version of the Nativity and KS2 have been practicing the carols for our Christmas Service which will be led by LKS2. Our Charity House Captains have arranged the reverse advent which will then be donated to the Foodbank and our Spirit Captains have been looking at reflection corners in all the classrooms to ensure consistency and interaction; and of course Christmas decorations have brightened up our hall.



NEWPORT CE SCHOOL CHOIR

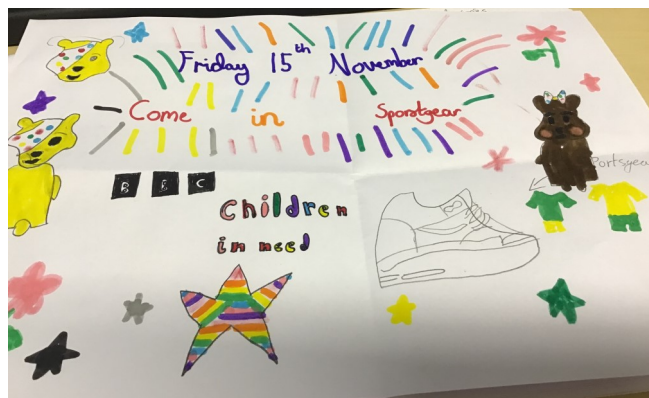
Last month, 30 KS2 children experienced singing as part of a choir, on a stage in front of a huge audience and 5 other school choirs. They did an absolutely amazing performance of John Lennon’s ‘Imagine’ and Queen’s ‘One Voice’, as well as performing a larger choir with all the other schools. They represented themselves and the school so well. We were all extremely proud of them and the feedback that was given about their performance. This was just the start of a very



busy calendar for the choir with performances at Newport Minster as part of the Christmas lights switch on; the school fayre; Osborne House; Somers Brooke Court and the KS2 Christmas Service. Every time the choir are now performing, they will be wearing their new t-shirts which were kindly funded by the FoN – the children are wearing them with such pride.

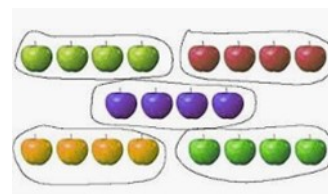
ANTI—BULLYING WEEK / ODD SOCKS DAY

This year we again marked Anti-bullying Week by wearing odd socks. There were some wonderfully creative and wacky socks on show throughout the day. The theme for this year's Anti-bullying Week was "change starts with us". It was great to see the children all making a personal change to challenge negative behaviour no matter how small it seems at the time. The theme also tied in brilliantly with the Children In Need theme – "help a friend in need".



Tips for learning your multiplication tables

What does multiplication mean? Make sure that your child understands what the numbers in the multiplication really represent. Use concrete objects to show 'so many' groups of 'this much'. In this example 5 groups of 4 apples = 20 apples.



Learn to double numbers! This really helps with making connections between the 2, 4 and 8 times table, the 3, 6 and 12 times table and the 5 and 10 times table.

Use it as a time filler. When you are stuck in traffic, walking to school or waiting at the supermarket, recite the times tables. Little and often is much more manageable than spending hours practising.

Use the right vocabulary. Take a simple multiplication sum, $3 \times 5 = 15$. The 3 and the 5 are what we call factors of 15 and 15 is a multiple of 3 and 5.

Use a number grid. You can print off a simple 10 x 10 grid and use it to spot sequences and patterns within different multiplication tables.

Learn the division facts alongside the multiplication facts. If I know that $3 \times 4 = 12$, then I also know that $12 \div 3 = 4$ and $12 \div 4 = 3$.

Make it real. Try to find opportunities for your child to use multiplication in problem solving, such as calculating the price of more than one item of shopping or scaling up a recipe.

Create a challenge! Make it a competition by keeping a record of their scores or timing them. Websites such as Timestables.co.uk allow you to print off tests at home or Mathsframe.co.uk will set timed challenges.



Use Sumdog. When you are logged into your city, look at the menu on the left hand-side. If you click on the green rectangle that says 'Training' you can change this to 'Tables'. Sumdog will then let you practise your times tables while playing your favourite games!

SPORTING NEWS

The Christmas term is always a busy one across the school, and this was certainly the case for Sport and P.E at Newport CE. No fewer than 18 competitive sporting events have been organised across the term, in spite of some challenging weather conditions. Children have represented our school competitively in the sports of tag rugby, football, cross country, indoor cricket, table tennis, boccia, kurling and indoor athletics all in just the past 7 weeks.



Our Y5/6 tag rugby team qualified in impressive fashion for the island finals, losing out in the semi-final to a last second extra-time try. The recent Harwoods X-Country Championships saw 48 of our pupils compete with distinction, securing our school 10th place from 31 schools. Newport CE maintained its strong form from the summer cricket season, where we made the U9s finals, and won the U11 Island trophy, by qualifying for the indoor cricket island finals in the New Year after winning our cluster competition. Table tennis, boccia and kurling were all brought into the children's consciousness with teams representing Newport CE in competition and learning plenty about the sports along the way. As I write this on the last Friday before the last Friday, we will be busy up until the end with football fixtures and indoor athletics competitions both taking place before we break up.

In school our P.E focus has been on leadership, with each year group from Y2 up to Y6 having the chance to design, construct, lead and teach their lessons to their peers in the class. While it was a gamble to extend them such a significant opportunity to teach and lead, the results have been very positive, with children having the chance to come to the fore and really shine outside of their comfort zones. I believe this exposure to leadership situations is vital for their development as young people and have been most impressed by many. I have been told by more than a few that they would love to become P.E teachers one day, and having seen them, I wouldn't doubt them!

Lastly, this week saw us say goodbye to Alberto Ibernón-Aviles, a Spanish student who has been with us since September as part of his sports degree. He has brought culture and a smile to Newport CE, and has progressed hugely over his time with us. The kids and staff will be sad to see him go, but wish him luck for the future.

Have a wonderfully active(ish) Christmas

Mr Yates



News from UKS2. OUR TRIP TO THE ZOO

At the beginning of this half term UKS2 visited the IoW Zoo as part of their new science topic – lifecycles and classification. The children had a wonderful time exploring the Zoo and the incredible animals that live there, many of whom have been rescued. There was also an opportunity for the students to get up close and personal with different animals whilst the extremely knowledgeable zoo keeper gave a presentation on how different animals are classified. A brilliant start to an exciting science topic!



FON NEWS



A huge WELL DONE and THANK YOU to the 'Friends of Newport' group who organized a sparkling school disco, which was very much enjoyed by all the children. The Christmas fayre was also a great success raising a grand total of £2304.13. Funds have been used to purchase t-Shirts for the school choir, captain badges, new reading books and fund a pantomime treat for all the children taking place in January.

Year 1 Theatre Trip

On Tuesday the 3rd of December Year 1 met bright and early at the Wightlink ferry terminal ready for our trip to see the Gruffalo at the Chichester Minerva Theatre. Despite the early start, spirits were high and there was much excitement as we boarded the Ferry. We had a lovely crossing and sat in the panoramic seating where we got to see the sun rise over the Solent. We were collected by a very friendly coach driver who took us to the theatre. When we arrived there was time to stretch our legs in the park and have a quick snack before the show started. The theatre was set up to resemble the deep, dark wood and we took our seats quickly, eager to see what would happen. We were not disappointed the story was told through song, dance and acting; audience participation was a must. The children loved joining in with the repeated phrases and helped the mouse to outwit the fox, owl and snake. The Gruffalo turned out to be not so scary and even asked if he could go home with the children in the audience as he ran away from the mouse. On the way home the children were just as excited and we had fun discussing our favourite parts. For many of us it was all of it! It was a wonderful day and a great experience for all children. The children were beautifully behaved and were a credit to the school. We were very proud of them all.



KS1 NATIVITY



The KS1 nativity this year was a delightful version of 'Away in a Manger' that told the story of Maurice (a mule) who was extremely proud of his manger.

One day, just before he was about to take a nap he heard a commotion coming from the manger that turned out to be hens. Not long after being shooed away by the goats; some mice decided to play hide and seek in it, this really bothered Maurice as he was tired. Then a bird tried to build a nest in it, then a spider tried to spin a web in it too! Maurice was very upset, as he simply wanted to take a nap!

Eventually, Mary and Joseph found their way to his manger and that is where baby Jesus was born. Maurice was amazed by this and welcomed Shepherds and Kings that were shown the way by a bright star above the stable. All of the children then came together to celebrate the birth of the new born King.



The Year 2 children told this story beautifully and with such confidence. With each child either being a narrator or having an acting role in the story, there were a lot of lines to learn and songs to be sung.



The Year 1 children, were all dressed as the animals that went into Maurice's manger. They all performed fantastically and with great enthusiasm.

Our youngest EYFS children, were all stars and they sparkled throughout! They remembered all of their songs and sung with huge smiles on their faces.

For anyone that had the pleasure of watching the nativity, you will know just how fabulous it was. We are all really proud of them all!

Well done and Merry Christmas! From EYFS and the KS1 team.



HISTORY AT NEWPORT

Newport CE Primary operates a two-year rolling programme and the teaching of History follows an enquiry-based model and is taught in blocks (1 to 4 weeks). Unit plans are designed to follow an overarching line of enquiry about a particular event, person or period in history and each lesson, or sequence of lessons, is based on the exploration of a 'key question'.

The following key areas of study will be covered in each phase of the school (KS1, LKS2, UKS2): chronology, characteristic features, continuity & change, cause & consequence, historical significance, historical interpretation and historical enquiry.

As children move through the school, new learning builds upon what has been studied previously and knowledge and skills are developed over time (cumulative learning).

UKS2 studied the Maya civilisation in History this Autumn. The children learnt what life was like for this ancient civilization and how the Maya became such a rich and powerful society. The topic launched with a Mayan ceremony of chocolate eating (who knew that we have the Mayans to thank for the chocolate we love to eat today?) with a 'sacrifice' or two thrown in for good measure!

The children completely immersed themselves in this topic:

"The Mayan topic was exciting, fun and funny. I really enjoyed it. It really made the lessons fun and I enjoyed acting out the ceremony in our assembly." Freya

"I thought that the Mayans were really interesting. I really enjoyed it when we made our very own Mayan masks and had a Mayan ceremony." Rosie



CAPTAIN SYSTEM



This year we have decided to change the way in which we select and use our captains. Children in Years 5 & 6 are now appointed to a captaincy for a half-term. They meet with an adult in school to write and agree an action plan for the half-term and are just about to complete their evaluations before handing the reins to the next team! We hope that this new approach will help all of our children to grow in confidence and recognise the contribution they can make to the school community.

Leo & Sol: "We like that we have the chance to help in the school."

Bonnie: "Being a charity captain has been extraordinary - the best job ever!"

Freya: "It's been really fun and interesting because we get to work with lots of different people across the school."

Phew! EYFS have been so busy...



We explored how much water we needed to add to the mud to create mud Gingerbread men! Inside we then made real Gingerbread men, using the scales to weigh out the ingredients...



Outside we investigated and worked as a team to create a model to take the Gingerbread man across the river. The weather turned cold, so we turned our thoughts to the wildlife in our garden and decided to create bird feeders.



We have loved our recent text, Stickman, and have enjoyed creating a Stickman using a variety of natural and manmade resources. One of our interests this term has been mermaids. Here we had a go at creating our own mermaid tail by manipulating the playdoh to the shape of a tail, and then using sequins to decorate it! Our Santa's workshop has been a huge hit, and we have really enjoyed wrapping presents, and thinking about who we will send our present to and writing a tag!



CLUBS

At Newport CE we are continuing to build the selection of after school clubs on offer to our pupils. Alongside our usual selection of sporting clubs, this term we have had Isle Sing, Ukulele club, lego club and sumdog club. This term, we also had a new club: audio visual club. Dylan (Yr5) has written a description for us:



"Each week we have a topic such photography or animation. This week, we will be using a green screen and putting pictures behind us. Mr Holder runs the club for years 4,5 and 6."

GENERAL REMINDERS

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

New..... Newport APP Our school APP has been upgraded and the new APP can be downloaded from the APP store. Just search for 'Jigsaw School APP ' and scroll down to locate Newport CE Primary.

Library News At Newport C of E we are really lucky to have a wonderful school library. There's a wide selection of fiction and non-fiction titles available, including DVDs, annuals and graphic novels. The children love visiting the library and borrowing books. We had a new carpet fitted at the start of the half term, so it is now even cosier than ever. Our Years 5 and 6 library captains are available in the library each lunchtime to support children wishing to change their books and are doing a super job keeping it tidy. We are on the lookout for volunteers to help run the library. If you would like help keep the library organised and / or read with small groups of children please get in touch via the school office.

BUGS.... We are concerned that some children have been sent into school too soon after episodes of sickness and diarrhoea, causing unpleasant bugs to be spread to other children and staff. If a child has been repeatedly sick and had diarrhoea they must not return to school for 48 hours after the last incident.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6th January	School Closed - INSET DAY
Tuesday 7th January	Start of Spring term
Thursday 16th January	Choir to visit Portsmouth Guildhall— to see BSO concert
Friday 17th January	9.00 am Thunberg class led worship
Monday 20th January	FON treat— Robin Hood Pantomime
Thursday 6th February	Space Camp for Y5—details to follow
Thursday 6th February	9.00am—Nightingale Class led worship
Monday 10th February	ISLE DANCE— performance at Medina Theatre
Tuesday 11th February	3.30 –5.30 Parent consultation meetings
Wednesday 12th February	5.00—8.00 Parent consultation meetings
Friday 14th February	Y2 trip to Chichester Minerva Theatre—details to follow
Mon 17th—Fri 21st February	HALF TERM—school closed
Tuesday 3rd March	Spelling Bee competition
Friday 13th March	SPORTS RELIEF DAY
Thursday 2nd April	Easter Service
Mon 6th—Fri 17th April	EASTER BREAK— school closed

*Wishing you all a very merry Christmas and happy New Year
From all the staff at Newport CE Primary*