

End of term News Oct 2021

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



Welcome to the first newsletter of this academic year, a year which we are very much hoping will continue to be a more normal year. Particular welcome to all the new families who have joined Newport with children in reception or indeed other year groups. As you can see from the photos scattered across this newsletter, there has been a lot of learning going on in every corner of the school—with the children enjoying sharing time and learning alongside their friends.

I can share with you that there is a lovely atmosphere across the school: it is great to have live worships with larger groups of children pondering about some of those BIG questions. Listening to them sing again has brought a lump in the throat for many of us as it brings such a resounding sense of joy. We are hoping that we can regularly invite groups of parents into school in the very near future—and are certainly looking forward to meeting individual parents at the consultation evenings after half term, when you will all have the chance to look through the wonderful work your child has completed so far this year.

New reception 2022

If you do know of any parent who has a child due to start school next September and would like to visit Newport, we have a further Open Morning on Wednesday 10th November. Visits do need to be booked via the school office.

Katherine Marshall—Executive Headteacher

Round the Boundary 2021

On Friday 24th September, the whole school headed over to Victoria Rec for our second 'Round the Boundary' fun run. The weather was glorious as the children tackled one of three distances: 1km, 2km or 5km. They were wonderful all afternoon, participating with lots of enthusiasm and supporting each other. The look of pride on all of their faces at the end was just wonderful.

We were blown away with how determined every single child was to complete their run – in fact, most did a few extra laps! It was a very special occasion for many reasons, not least because we were able to celebrate and enjoy an event as a whole school for the first time since March 2020.



After-school Clubs

Our after-school clubs have proven to be very popular this term and we have been able to provide a wide range of activities including dance, football, Lego, arts & crafts, chess and music clubs. After school clubs are a wonderful opportunity for children to try new hobbies and to meet new children. It has been especially lovely to restart our choir after such a long hiatus and we already have some bookings for the Christmas season! We hope that even more children sign up for clubs next half term.



TRANSITIONING INTO EYFS!

Our EYFS children have transitioned into the setting with ease as they began school life with stay and play sessions with a family member, before building up to half days and then full time. This allowed them to become familiar with our setting and routines, build new friendships and get to know members of our EYFS team.



All children have completed their Reception Baseline Assessment and had great fun with all the different resources provided with it!

We have already been on a journey linked to the text, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', and are now focusing on the text 'Owl Babies'. We have exciting activities both indoors and out for the children to explore!

Focus child observations have started, where we observe four children a week and add activities to the setting based around their interests, which are also proving to be big hits!

There's certainly been lots of fun in EYFS this half term!





Hello everyone, from your new kitchen crew.

It has been a whirlwind since we started back in September. Everything is running smoothly and I am happy to report we have an increase in up take for school dinners already, which I am so happy about.

With our new pasta pots, turkey baguettes and new dinners, we seem to be catering for the likes of many.

We have a feedback form available if you or your child has any feedback you would like to give.

Our competition winner's drawings have been displayed in the dining hall throughout this term. Congratulations again Emily H, Henry B, Jacob P, and Reece W. Their fabulous pictures have been brightening up lunchtimes. I will be changing the pictures in the spring term, so keep an eye out - you may see your work up soon.

Harvest Festival Lunch

This Harvest Festival, I designed a special meal to coincide with all the delicious food our farmers bring in at this time of year.

We also had a competition. Six lucky winners from across all the year groups who found a pumpkin under their plate won a small prize. It was a lot of fun and a bit messy!

New Recipe Ideas

Soon I will writing the new menus for spring. I thought it would be a lovely idea that if you have a special family meal or recipe that your children love or your whole family enjoys, you could email your recipes to me. I can then incorporate this meal into our new spring menu. Maybe your family meal will become a firm favourite on our new menu and other children will love it to.

Please send any recipes to kitchen@newportcofe.com

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club runs from 7.45 to 8.45 each morning. We have lots going on, football, table tennis, crafts, word searches and Lego. At the moment we are making paper flowers for a display with the Royal Marines Association for Remembrance Sunday.

There is also plenty of toast, cereal, bagels and drinks. If for any reason your child needs a breakfast and they are not attending breakfast club, food is still available to them. Please just pop in.

Please contact the school office if you would like a place at Breakfast Club.

I would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone, children, parents and staff for all your support since we opened.

Skye Sydenham

Catering Manager

Your half term DT challenge

It's time for your Design Technology challenge to get you through October's half term! Most year groups have explored free standing structures over the Summer Term last year so have practised using different techniques to make sure their playground equipment, fair ground rides or bridges stood up... on their own!

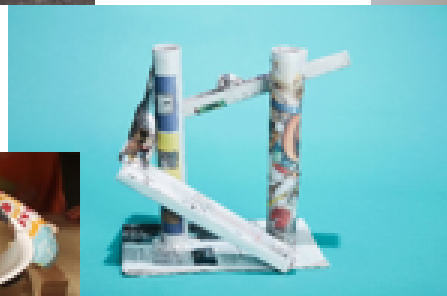
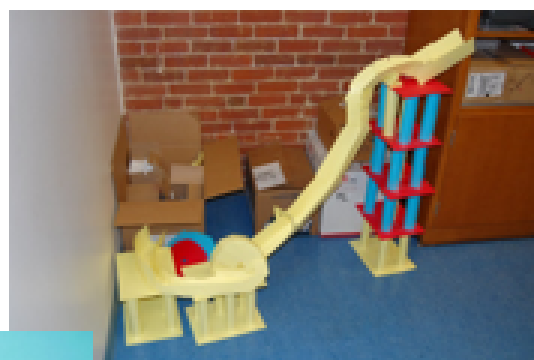
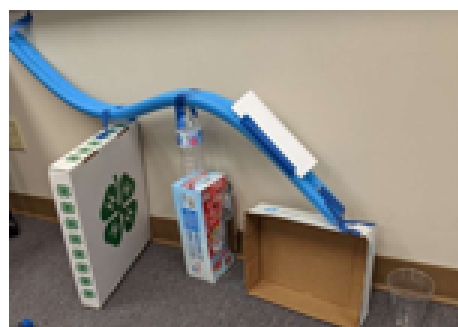
The challenge I would like to set you is:

Can you make a marble rollercoaster?

Your rollercoaster must:

- 1) Stand up on its own
- 2) Have at least 2 twists, turns or dips in it
- 3) Allow the marble to run on its own once it's been released at the top

If you want to challenge yourself even further, see if you can make your rollercoaster at least 1 metre tall, without any drops of longer than 5cm.



Please send your entries to your class teacher via dojo, either photos or videos. Every entry will receive a dojo reward!

How are you feeling today?

Blue	Green	Yellow	Red
			
Low	Happy	Wobbly	Angry
Running Slow	Good to Go	Caution	STOP
unhappy tired withdrawn tearful	positive proud calm focused	excited nervous frustrated annoyed	mad furious yelling aggressive

Zones of Regulation

At Newport C of E Primary School, we recognise the importance of promoting positive mental health and emotional wellbeing to all our pupils and their families. We aim to create an open culture around the discussion of mental health and wellbeing and to empower our children be able to regulate their emotions. To help us to do, we received training on *Zones of Regulation* at the start of the school year.

By implementing the *Zones of Regulation* curriculum we aim to teach our pupils to identify emotions in themselves and others and provide them with bank of strategies to help regulate their emotions and improve their wellbeing.

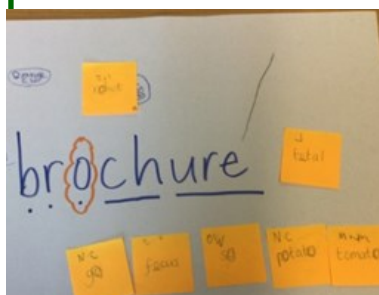
The *Zones of Regulation* is a curriculum based around the use of four colours to help children self-identify how they're feeling and categorise it based on colour. The curriculum also helps children better understand their emotions, sensory needs and thinking patterns. The children learn different strategies to cope and manage their emotions based on which colour zone they're in. Additionally, the *Zones of Regulation* helps children to recognise their own triggers, learn to read facial expressions, develop problem-solving skills, and become more attuned to how their actions affect other people.

We use and model using the *Zones of Regulation* in and around the school so that we all become aware of how others are feeling. We're also support the fact that it is ok to be in any of the zones, and sometimes even useful. (You want to be in the Yellow Zone when you are out on the playground with your friends!) If you would like any more information about the *Zones of Regulation* or any of the strategies we use, please get in contact with your child's class teacher. Alternatively, if you would like some resources to use at home, get in touch with Mrs Exell via the school office.

Spelling

Building on the work children do with their phonics in KS1, we have changed the way we teach spelling. This is so that children have more time to develop the strategies they need to use when spelling in their independent work.

We are no longer sending home lists of words for children to learn in Years 2 to 6. Instead, children will carry out a range of spelling tasks in class each week to develop their spelling skills. Each unit of work begins with a spelling investigation where the children explore spelling patterns and the rules that govern English spelling. They are given a hypothesis and then, in small groups and as a whole class, explore this statement to see whether it is sometimes, always or never true. This helps children to build a bank of knowledge about how English spelling works so that they can better apply it to the words they want to use in their own writing.



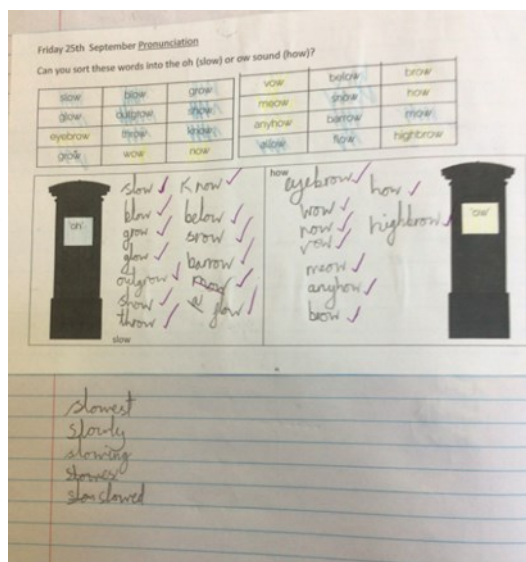
Each spelling unit also includes a series of short spelling tasks. These provide time for the children to revisit previously taught rules, to practice their decoding and phonic skills and to develop editing skills by looking at common spelling errors.



Across each spelling unit, the class will focus on 15 key words. These are words taken from the National Curriculum spelling lists or words that demonstrate the spelling patterns and rules for the year group or phase. The class will explore these words in a number of ways, which may include sound buttons to revise phonics, syllable chunking, pattern matching, identifying tricky parts, creating mnemonics to help remember the spellings. Pattern matching is where children find other words that use the same tricky spelling patterns. These words are used for progress checks where children focus on applying their learning. This means that the expectations for each child might be slightly different or the support given may differ in order for all children to develop the next step in learning and using correct spelling patterns. For example, whilst some children will do the progress check in the form of a standard spelling test, others may be given sound buttons, grapheme charts or may be expected to pattern match during the progress check.

The final part of the spelling programme is called My Focus Five. This is where children, with the help of their teacher, identify their individual spelling words. These targeted, personalised words are then worked on in class and children are given opportunities to spell their words in their independent work. When each word has been used correctly three times, a new word is selected.

In this way, children are all accessing age appropriate spelling lessons with their class as well as having personalised individual spelling words on which to focus. We still have Spelling Shed where weekly homework is set to practise key words or other words that have been covered in class.



PE at Newport this half term

It's hard to believe we've only been back for just over 6 weeks, partly because the time has flown but also because we've been so busy with sporting fixtures, tournaments and finals already. In PE three topics have run simultaneously - fitness, invasion games and a focus on football. Often a divisive subject, we have taken the time to strip football back and approach it afresh. A topic we don't ordinarily cover due to its already significant profile, it's been great to change opinions that may have been borne out of a lack of either understanding, 'playground rules' or a perceived lack of ability. Children who once held these views or feelings now display a better understanding of task, enjoyment of the game and a developed sense of confidence. Many have asked about directing them into training and clubs outside of school, something that I am always happy to do. Please contact me if your child is looking to develop an interest sports outside of school for club contacts and information. I am more than happy to help where I can. We have a growing number of children participating in Junior Park Run on Sunday mornings which we are delighted about, so if your new to it your child will hopefully see a friendly face on the start line lining up alongside them. Myself and Ms Wallace are discussing ways in which we can go further in helping to facilitate directing children into extra-curricular sporting pathways, so watch this space as we will hopefully have an announcement soon!

The last few weeks saw our football seasons get underway for our Y3/4 U9s and Y5/6 U11 girls and boys. Our Y5/6 girls' and boys' teams both won their qualifying games well with a 5-2 victory against Carisbrooke and a 2-1 win against Lanesend respectively, to make it to the finals of their Danone Cup competitions. At the finals the standard was very high, a great sign of a healthy grassroots football scene on the island, and while our efforts couldn't be faulted both teams were left with too much to do after losing the opening matches of both finals' evenings 1-0. Draws for both in the second game meant that the final was out of reach. Our Y3/4 boys also got their league campaign underway, in what was for many their first time representing the school when they took on Dover Park at home. The game was well attended with lots of enthusiastic support which was great to see after the long pandemic. The team played some lovely football with good combination play, but ultimately fell to a 2-1 defeat. All were very happy to kick off their school sporting careers though and will have gained great experience for the future. This week, our Y5/6 girls take on the competition in our first Rugby competition of the year and our Y5/6 boys football team get their league underway against Greenmount at home. After half-term there are already another seven dates penciled in the diary for sporting fixtures across the year groups including our Y3/4 girls football team season starter against Carisbrooke, so look out for those letters coming home. Well done to all children who do get selected to represent the school, as to do so they need to demonstrate an excellent attitude to learning in PE and in class. So, take a moment to pause and reflect on the hard work they have undertaken and the positive direction in which they are headed. We are proud of our extensive sports provision and look forward to offering pupils opportunities across the year groups in a variety of sports this year. So, here's to an excellent start to the academic year and to hoping for a full, uninterrupted year full of sport.

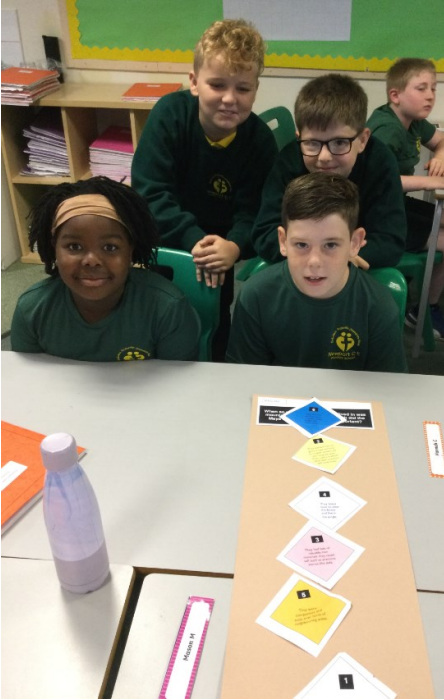
Happy half-term,

Mr.Yates

(p.yates@newportcofe.com)

The Mayans UKS2

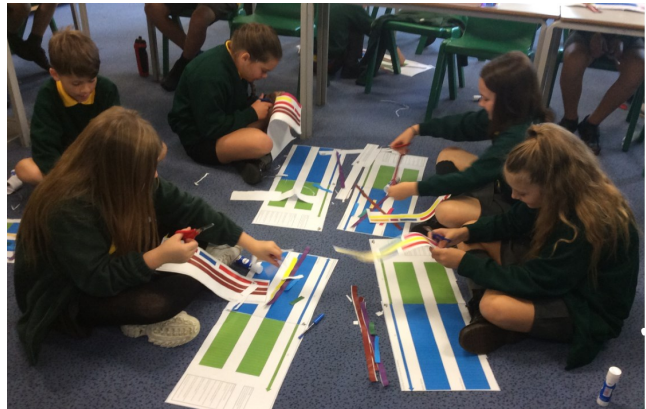
This half term in History lessons, UKS2 have been learning all about the Ancient Mayan Civilization. Travelling back to 2600BC in central America, the children have been on a journey of discovery, answering key questions such as, "How bloodthirsty were the Mayans?" and "How can we possibly tell what life was like such a long time ago?" These pictures show some of the activities we took part in:



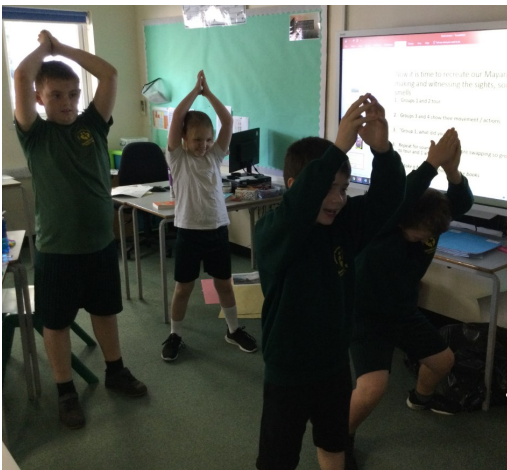
Burtynsky Class ordering the reasons for the Mayans longevity in order of importance.



Gorman Class making a 'human continuum' to decide how bloodthirsty the Mayans were compared to how civilized they were.



Wonder Class making timelines to show what was happening in Britain in comparison to other civilizations around the world



Acting out what a visitor might see when taking a tour of the ancient city of Tikal. We thought about the sights, smells and sounds of the busy city plaza.



We made Mayan masks. There were two forms: death masks to wear when a lord or king died or event masks, which are based on animals, to wear at a festival or celebration.

E - safety UKS2

This half term in PSHE, UKS2 have been discussing the importance of remaining safe online. Using the Play, Like, Share resources that were developed with the PSHE Association and NCA, the children followed the journey of four young musicians as they created a band and began sharing videos and responding to comments. The unit of work taught the children the importance of maintaining privacy settings to friends and family only and gave them tips for recognising when someone might be acting dishonestly online.



How you can get involved

You can watch a short trailer and all three brief episodes of *Play Like Share* at

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/playlikeshare.

It is a great idea for you to have conversations with your child about the subjects covered. To help you do so, please see the attached **Play Like Share Parents and Carers Helpsheet**, with:

- Ideas for starting conversations about online safety with your child

- Links to more advice and support on how to keep your child safe online

- Information about how to get help if you are worried about your child

You will also find plenty of advice and support about keeping your child safe online at the Thinkuknow

Parents and Carers Website: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents.

How you can use Play Like Share to help keep your child safe online

Watch *Play Like Share* with your child, and start a conversation about the internet and staying safe.

There are three episodes so you could do this over a few days.

Start with positives, finding out as much as you can about what your child does online and what it means to them.

You could:

- Ask your child to show you their favourite websites, apps and social media services and what they do on them. Listen and show interest. You could also encourage them to teach you the basics of the site or app.
- Ask them if anything ever bothers or worries them about going online. You could use examples of events from the films and ask if they've ever heard of something similar happening. Talk in general about what children can do to stay safe online.
- Use examples from *Play Like Share* to start a conversation about online 'friends' or 'followers'. Ask them about who they chat to online, and whether they know and trust them 'in real life'.
- Talk about the importance of privacy settings and how they can help your child stay in control of what they share with others. Together, look at the privacy settings for the services they use, encourage them to only share things with people they know and trust in real life.
- Using examples from *Play Like Share*, talk to your child about what it might be appropriate or inappropriate to share online – this includes photos, videos, comments and personal information.
- Talk to your child about how their online actions can affect others. Remind them to consider how someone else might feel before they post or share something.
- Ensure your child understands that if anything ever happens online which worries or upsets them, they should always tell you.
- Explain that you would never blame them for anything that might happen online, and you will always give them calm and non-judgemental support.
- Make online safety an on-going conversation in your house and involve the rest of the family in the conversation too.

Music at Newport

Year 1 and 2 have been very busy making music this half term. Year 1 have been with Mr Mulhern learning how to play tunes on the Glockenspiel such as Row Row Row Your Boat and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star. This week they even composed their own songs!

Year 2 have been playing the Boomwhackers with Mr Holder learning lots of great pieces including Popcorn, Tetris and Paris, and exploring different pitches.

It has been great to be back in the hall singing, we have been learning assembly and harvest songs including Big Blue Tractor and Harvest Samba.





Our Library Needs You!

After being closed for almost two years, our lovely little library is going to be relaunched this Christmas. The books have desperately missed the children and we are keen to assemble a team of library volunteers to help us achieve our dream of a winter opening.

We are looking for some parents, grandparents and carers who have some time available during the day and, possibly, after school for a club.

If you would like to volunteer some of your time, please email Mrs Eagle on: v.eagle@newportcofe.com.

Thank you so much! We look forward to hearing from you!

