

End of half term News FEB 22

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



Newport C E
PRIMARY SCHOOL
Endurance Fellowship Compassion Peace

Prayer for Peace

Peace go with you.
God's quiet within the noise.
God's hope within uncertainty.
God's rest within the toil.
God's presence within your soul.
Peace go with you.

www.lords-prayer-words.com

We all know that when working together we are able to achieve far more than when we work alone.; something that is evident every day at Newport CE, where the staff and children continue to support each other in learning; whether this is in the classroom trying to understand a tricky concept or on the playground trying to agree the rules for a game. Thank you to all parents who continue to support our work by making sure your child comes to school every day and is encouraged to take part in the many opportunities provided .

Katherine Marshall—Executive Headteacher

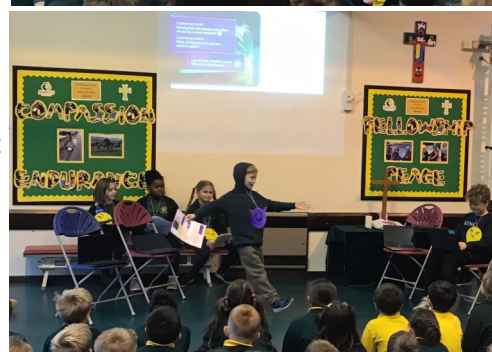
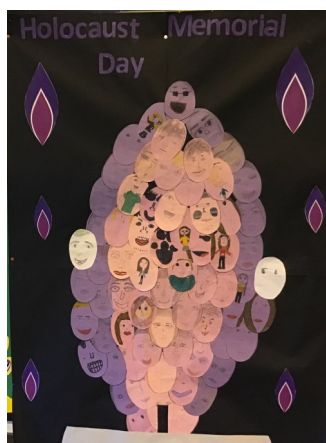
This half-term we have been lucky enough to enjoy three class led worships, all on very different themes.

Wonder Class led a wonderful worship for us to mark Holocaust Remembrance Day. They taught us all about the events of the Holocaust and shared the stories of some people from the time, including Anne Frank. The children then asked us to reflect upon how we act when we see injustice around us. Maddie urged us to 'remember to use your voice for good and speak out if someone is being treated unfairly, even if it is a difficult thing for you to do.'

Last week, Burtynsky Class marked Safer Internet Day with a wonderfully interactive look at how to keep ourselves safe if we enjoy playing games online. The children gave us several scenarios and we had to judge whether or not the child's online behaviour was appropriate. They then gave us time to reflect upon this and consider how the child should have reacted.

Finally, Banjo Class entertained us all with their fabulous singing – they used songs to teach us the names of the continents and the world's oceans in a geography themed assembly. It was so much fun that the whole school then joined in!

It is truly wonderful to be able to let classes lead worships in front of an audience once again and we very much hope to be welcoming parents back soon to enjoy these moments too.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

The table below shows the impact that attendance can have on your child's academic progress. It highlights days absent – and reflects what this looks like in weeks and lessons your child misses out on.

ATTENDANCE	DAYS ABSENT	WEEKS ABSENT	LESSONS MISSED
95%	9 DAYS	2 WEEKS	50
90%	19 DAYS	4 WEEKS	100
85%	29 DAYS	6 WEEKS	150
80%	38 DAYS	8 WEEKS	200
75%	48 DAYS	10 WEEKS	250
70%	57 DAYS	11.5 WEEKS	290
65%	67 DAYS	13.5 WEEKS	340





News from the Catering team

The Christmas holidays seems like a distance memory now and our new spring menu has been going down a treat. We have had an increase on some days that matches a Fishy Friday!

A few weeks ago I sent out a questionnaire to each class asking the children if they were enjoying their school dinners and any suggestions for our summer menus. From the replies nearly all of the children have been enjoying their dinners and their ideas for our next menu have been incorporated in the new summer menu.

Some of the children's ideas were a little too 'junk foodie' for a school lunch and I wanted to explain why. Part of my job is to get children into healthy eating habits and to ensure they are getting enough energy and nutrition for their school day. There are also government guidelines I have to follow as well.

I do this by offering a food they are familiar with and adding as many vegetables to that dish as I can - in view and hidden! I enjoy sourcing the best ingredients and putting together new foods they may not have tasted before. The children are always encouraged to try new foods and I have produce some 'Well done' stickers encouraging them to finish their dinners, clear their plates away and try a new food or dish.

Our chicken nuggets for example are whole muscle nuggets. The nugget contains a whole piece of chicken, not chopped pieces. Our salad bar is stocked with salad, fruits and vegetables the children know and like, such as cucumber and carrot sticks and unfamiliar foods such as candy cane beetroot and celery, mangos and lemons! Our pasta sauce contains at least five vegetables, such as onion, peppers, sweet potato, courgettes, mushrooms, butternut squash, sweetcorn and spinach, all whizzed up and hidden from view! I am always looking into ways of combining foods the children are familiar with, with a healthy tweak!



On the 1st February we had a change of menu for Chinese New Year. Lots of yummy new dishes to try, including Crispy Beef Noodles, Spring Roll, Salt and Pepper Chicken and Prawn Crackers and everyone's favourite: chips and curry sauce! We had the most uptake for dinners with adults and children since Christmas lunch. At Breakfast Club we made two dragons to decorate the service area. It was a very lovely lunchtime seeing everyone eating and we had lots of positive feedback.

I have a few more exciting menu changes coming up this term, including a Valentines lunch, Comic Relief lunch and a lovely Tea party picnic for the Queens jubilee. If you or your child would like to recommend a meal please contact kitchen@newportcofe.com - it will be great to read your ideas.

A huge THANK YOU to each and every one of you that voted for our Breakfast club in the Tesco Community Grant. We came 2nd! And won £1000 Amazing news – we will let you know our plans as soon as everything is in place.

Thank you all for your continue support – Skye, Catering Manager

PE AT NEWPORT—GOING FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

It's been a busy seven weeks since we came back from our Christmas holidays. PE saw us move inside and out of the rain and wind, somewhat of a novelty as our last two years of PE have taken place exclusively outside! It meant that we could turn all our focus to indoor activities such as vaulting and gymnastics. However, our main topic focus this half term has been sportshall athletics. Year 2 upwards have had an in depth look at all things indoor athletics, focusing on jumping, throwing and running events. Pupils have learnt how to maximise their standing long jump for greater distances, the vertical jump and the speed bounce. Throwing skills have improved with a particular focus on technique for both the vortex and the chest throw. Classes have held in-class competitions to compete with their peers, each class demonstrating a high level of ability. Our Year 5/6 team backed this up with a brilliant performance in a multi-school's competition, coming out as winners to qualify for the Island finals. The finals saw the top 10 Primary teams on the island battle it out to see who would qualify to represent the IOW in Hampshire. The level of competition was among the highest I've seen to date, highlighting the huge promise and talent we have on the island and in our schools. We worked hard to finish in 8th place, a good result on an island of over 40 Primary Schools. **If your child is interested in athletics then IW Athletics meet at The Fairway in Sandown on Monday evening.** It's a great club and our Newport contingent is steadily growing there, so your child might just see some friendly faces.

As the school's football season draws to a close we have recorded some great results. Our 5/6 boys reached the quarter final of the Island Cup only to lose narrowly to an excellent Queensgate side. The boys have also performed well in the Island League this year and play their quarter final against Ryde School on Wednesday this week. Not to be outdone, our team of 5/6 girls have also qualified for the quarter finals of the Island League, with their tie against Binstead Primary to be played after half term for a spot in the semi-finals. Good luck to both teams! Our 3/4 girls and boys both had some good results this year in what was for many their first times playing competitive football. We are lucky to have so many excellent youth sides right across the island, so if your child enjoys football then there's almost certainly a team near you. **This includes our new link with Wight Eagles FC in East Cowes, the island's only all-female club that play from juniors right through to seniors.**

Finally, we are in the midst of the IW Council's February Active Travel competition, so don't forget to grab a chart from the office if you'd like to join in. Prizes include a bike and lots of other great gear, as well as our school prize for the child who records the most active journeys throughout the month. This could be a walk to school, a ride through the forest, a scoot around the neighborhood or your best efforts at Junior Park Run on a Sunday morning. With it being half-term there's no better time to get moving and it all counts, so write it down on your chart and make sure to hand them in at the end of the month to be in with a chance to win. Good luck!

In closing, I would like to say a **BIG** thank you to all of you who have helped accompany our sports teams on their many fixtures. Without your help we wouldn't be able to offer our pupils all of the opportunities we do. It would also mean that staff would have to be taken out of the classroom where they are so needed to help continue the high standards of learning that we are proud of at our school. Your continued support is appreciated.

Have a wonderful half-term, with fingers crossed for bright, sunny weather on the horizon.

Mr. Yates

Geography in KS1 - Spring 1

We are Global Explorers.

KS1 have donned their invisible expedition gear, packed their bags and set off to explore the world. We started this discovery unit by collecting countries hidden in our courtyard, bringing them back to class to then research which of these made up the UK.



Our next mission was to identify the continents of the world ensuring we knew where the UK was found. We have learnt a song about the continents to help with this, so please ask one of our KS1 children to sing it to you, but watch out, it is very catchy!

Oceans were our next area to explore. Once we had mastered where each ocean was located, we used this knowledge to plot a journey to include the continents and oceans we have learnt.



Year One using Beebots to plot their route.



As we examined the continents and oceans, we found out about the climate and weather in some of these places. We wondered why was the weather hot in some countries but cold in others? Hopefully some of our pictures can help you see why!

Using our compasses to take us as far south as we could go, we found ourselves having to wrap up warm to explore Antarctica. Examining photographs, maps and Google Earth, we went onto identify physical and human features found there.



Banjo Class shared their geographical knowledge in their class assembly.



We concluded our expedition back on the Isle of Wight, where we used our skills to consider our location in relation to the rest of the world. Then, identifying the human and physical features found on our Island and all the other facts and skills we have learnt, we compared the Isle of Wight to Antarctica. We've had great fun learning about our world!



Reading for Pleasure: developing a love of Reading at School and at Home

Relaunch of the Library

We are very excited that all classes are now enjoying their weekly sessions in the school library. We are extremely grateful to the parents who volunteered (and continue to do so) to help get the library back up and running. Please encourage your child to share their chosen library book with you at home and remind them to return it to school on the correct day for their class.



Reading Captains

We have been building time each day to share books and poems across the school. Our Reading Captains got involved during National Storytelling Week and read stories to classes across the school.



Scholastic Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who purchased books through our recent book fair. This is a great way to buy new books and to fundraise for the school. We look forward to sharing the total raised shortly and will be asking the children for recommendations of books they feel we should be adding to our school collections.

Sharing Books at Home

There is so much research that shows just how important reading with your child is to their future success as a learner, as well as a reader. Reading books aloud to children stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and supports their writing development as they experience such a range of sentence structures and vocabulary choices. Even after children learn to read by themselves, it's still important for you to read together.



Even more ways to develop a love of reading

There are many ways to build reading with your child into your family life:

- Snuggle up, turn off the screens and share a story at bedtime.
- Have a family book shelf and build your collection together.
- Visit the library – it is free and you can borrow up to 30 books at a time!
- Read together – when you pick up the newspaper or a magazine, encourage your child to read alongside you.
- Do some cooking and read the recipe together.
- Play a board game and read the instructions and the rules together.
- Talk about what you are reading together. Ask questions about what your child is reading to ensure they understand it.
- Reread favourite books together. Build a list of your top 10 to share at bedtime.
- Listen to audiobooks, pausing occasionally to discuss the characters or to talk about what is happening.
- Share picture books. Even books with no words can lead to lots of discussion as you make up the story together. Picture books can be enjoyed by children of all ages.
- Use books to talk about tricky topics together. They can be a great way to open up a chat about your child's emotions, hopes, dreams, fears and worries. Give your child space to talk and ask them how they feel about the situations in the story.

Be open to what your child wants to read. We all have our own preferences and it is important to encourage and value reading of lots of different things: novels, picture books, catalogues, comics, graphic novels, magazines, information books and more.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March 2022. This year's theme is "You are a Reader" and we are looking forward to a day focusing on reading and the enjoyment of a good book. There are lots of exciting activities planned for the week, including celebrating the 25th Anniversary of World Book Day by reading 25 books across each phase during the week.

As a holiday challenge, we would like children to create a list of their 25 Top Reads. These lists should be brought into school on Monday 28th February 2022 to share in classes. During the week, classes will discuss the books on these lists and share as many of the stories as possible.

On World Book Day, Thursday 3rd March 2022, children are welcome to dress as their favourite book character but this will not be a competition. If children do not wish to dress as a book character, they are welcome to make and wear a Book Cover t-shirt, dress as a word, wear pyjamas to celebrate bedtime stories or they can choose to wear mufti on the day.

On Friday 4th March 2022, we have arranged for the whole school to visit Waterstones in Newport where the children will swap their WBD voucher for a book, which they have already selected from this year's list. If they want to, children are welcome to bring additional money to buy a book in the shop during their visit. If you are able to accompany your child's class to Waterstones, please let the class teacher know.



Holocaust Memorial Day

Wonder Class led their class worship to remember those who lost their lives during the holocaust and to make sure that such crimes are never repeated again. The children led the Worship and explained all about discrimination, the Nazi's and the crimes that were committed. They spoke clearly and with sensitivity towards the issue. Wonder Class also wrote their own prayers which were shared and reflected upon during the worship. In English lessons, year 5 and 6 have been studying 'Number The Stars' by Lois Lowry which tells the story of a young Danish girl and her Jewish friend who have to make a daring escape from Nazi occupied Denmark. The children wrote flashback stories, telling of this event. Wonder Class sung 'I wish I knew how it feels to be free' which although not directly attributed to the Holocaust, conveyed the message that not everyone has always enjoyed the basic rights that we all take for granted. Also displayed during the service was a piece of collaborative art, made using faces from children in UKS2, which represents the Holocaust Memorial Day flame, a worldwide symbol of peace and remembrance. The worship ended with the following prayer which you may want to reflect upon at home:



Six million, because too few people questioned what was happening.

Six million people dying because of hate.

Six million.

Help me to say 'No'.

Help me to stand up for what is right, against the crowd, for justice.

Help me to say, 'Never ever again'.

Amen.



History in LKS2

This half term in History, Years 3 and 4 have been learning about the changes that occurred in pre-history from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. They started the unit of work with a workshop led by Estelle Baker, who is from the Isle of Wight Heritage Education Service. During this, they enjoyed various activities as they travelled between these periods of history. There were Stone Age artefacts for them to hold and use for roleplay. They even held some artefacts that were found on the Isle of Wight and they learned that over 1000 artefacts have been discovered at Priory Bay from about 400,000 years ago! Also, animals such as bison, aurochs and deer were hunted with stone tools on the Isle of Wight. The children enjoyed experiencing wheat grinding, which they realised wasn't as easy as it looked, axe polishing, excavating a Bronze Age sandpit, as well as making a clay pot and more.


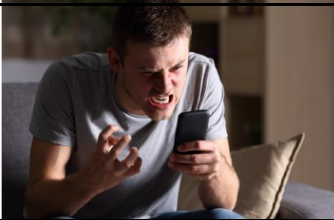


During our History work in the classrooms, the children discovered more about these prehistoric times. They created their own cave paintings, became historians by working out what various evidence has told us and even tried to create Stonehenge out of biscuits, after discussing how and why it was built. This linked with our PSHE work, of how to work in a team to complete a challenge. The children realised how hard it must have been to build the real Stonehenge, because they found it difficult with biscuits!



PSHE Healthy Me UKS2

This half term in PSHE, UKS2 have been discussing the importance of remaining healthy mentally and physically. Following the Jigsaw curriculum, we covered six lessons that included discussion about everything from how to recognise and tackle poor mental health to recognising the potential negative impacts of substance misuse. The children all showed great insight and maturity when discussing these topics and we hope the lessons prove memorable in the future.

	<h3>Learning Journey</h3> <h3>Healthy Me</h3>	
KQ1: What do you need to do to take responsibility for yourself?		
KQ2: What tips would you give to keep someone safe from using drugs?		
KQ3: How can you recognise exploitation?		
KQ4: What advice would you give to someone at risk of joining a gang?		
KQ5: What are the warning signs of poor mental health?		
KQ6: What strategies can you use to manage the effects of stress and pressure?		



KQ2: What tips would you give to keep someone safe from using drugs?

A small group discussion where the children had to work together sorting and matching stories to support strategies.



KQ6: What strategies can you use to manage the effects of stress and pressure?

Using role play as a vehicle for discussion and exploration of stress and pressure relieving strategies.






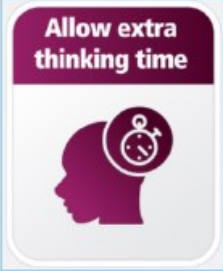


Guidance for parents on how to support children with mental health issues can be found at:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/make-it-count-guide-for-parents-and-carers>

Alternatively, you can of course contact anyone here at school and we can guide you to appropriate support.

Speech, Language and Communication Needs

Top Tips to build speech clarity, vocabulary and sentence structure

 <p>Keep language simple & short</p>	<p>It's so easy to try to give loads of information, but try to keep to the basics.</p> <p><i>"Coat, shoes, door!"</i></p>	 <p>Make it visual</p>	<p>If at all possible, use pictures or concrete objects to support what you are saying.</p> <p><i>"Would you like the doll or the car?"</i> while holding both objects.</p> <p>We also use Widget symbols in school.</p>
 <p>Use gestures</p>	<p>Use gestures consistently for key vocabulary.</p> <p>You can sign up for free resources on www.makaton.org</p> <p>And there are also tonnes of videos on YouTube on Makaton signing.</p>	 <p>Use gap fills</p>	<p>Ask your child to fill in the gaps in a sentence, that way they don't have to think of the entire sentence.</p> <p><i>"Tonight, I would like _____ to eat."</i></p>
 <p>Provide repetition</p>	<p>Repetition is key. Repeat the same word or phrase often, ensuring that your child can see the way your mouth forms the words when possible.</p>	 <p>Allow extra thinking time</p>	<p>This can feel very difficult, especially when you are in a rush... but try to give children take up and response time.</p>
 <p>Offer forced choices</p>	<p>Try to give choices, rather than open questions.</p> <p><i>"Do you want to watch Encanto or Ice Age?"</i></p> <p>And then model the response in a full sentence if needed.</p>	 <p>Acknowledge attempts</p>	<p>Always acknowledge and praise attempts at new vocabulary or sentence structures – learning can be tough!</p> <p><i>"Well done for trying that tricky word. Let's say it together... Tri-ce-ra-tops."</i></p>

If you would any more advice or information about speech, language and communication needs, please get in contact with Mrs Exell, SENCO.



Phonics Teaching in Key Stage 1

This academic year we have started a new phonics programme called Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. It has been recommended that all schools follow a government recommended scheme so after careful consideration it was decided that Little Wandle was the best fit for us as a school and linked with our previous teaching. So far the children have been really enjoying the lessons and their progress over the past term and a half has been wonderful.

As well as a phonics lesson every day the children also do two guided reading sessions a week in groups no bigger than 6. These sessions are 20 minutes long and over two weeks the children read the same book four times. The first two sessions are based on developing the children's fluency, unpicking the meaning behind new vocabulary and ensuring we can recognise taught sounds in words as well as our tricky words. The next session is all around developing children's expression when reading. The final session is comprehension. By now the children should be able to read the book fluently and are able to answer questions using the text to justify their responses. Children are carefully assessed to ensure they can read 90% of the text on their first attempt and are never given books with sounds or tricky words in that they have not already been taught. The idea is that children see themselves as readers and enjoy the process. It really has been a joy to read with the children in this way and such a delight to see how so many children now see themselves as readers.



Our main phonics sessions follow a similar pattern to previous teaching but once again reading is the cornerstone of this scheme and there is a focus on the key skills needed for reading throughout. Children continue to learn to segment for spelling as well as exploring tricky words in detail and looking at the part of the word that makes it tricky.

Little Wandle has a fantastic website which includes a tab for parents. It is well worth exploring if you would like to know more about this scheme. There are loads of great videos that show you the correct pronunciation of each sound, explain how words are taught when reading and spelling and give guidance around reading with your child at home. For parents with children in reception

it also gives you the guidance for letter formation and the catchphrase the children learn to accompany each taught digraph (2 letters making 1 sound) and trigraph (3 letters making 1 sound).



tail in the rain

'ai'

*Example catchphrase
from*

[www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/
resources/for-parents](http://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents)