



Newton Hill Community School – Newsletter Spring 1

Ready for Learning – Ready for Life

Telephone: 01924 303680 Email: admin@newton-hill.org.uk

www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk

Dates for your diary

Friday 2nd February at 2:30pm Year 1 and Year 2 class assembly

Friday 9th February at 2:30pm Year 3 and Year 4 class assembly

Week beginning 5th February: Well Being Week

Friday 16th February School breaks up for Half Term and returns on Monday 26th February

Week beginning 26th February: Aspirations Week (an additional letter to follow with more information)

Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th May will be INSET days.

(We are closed on Thursday 3rd May due to our school being a polling station)

Monday 7th May is also a Bank Holiday.

Keeping you informed...Visit our school website for Newsletters, class homework/newsletters, Safeguarding information, Newts information, calendars and much more. www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk

If you can't find what you are looking for please call in at the office.

We hope you have received a text about our new school app that allows you to see all important dates and messages. If you would like any assistance please contact Mrs Judd or Mrs Offord in our school office.

Expansion: 2017/2018

I am sure you have all seen the new fencing that has been put up in the playground, this is for phase 2 of our expansion to build 6 new classrooms. It will also involve obtaining the additional field and eventually, over summer 2018, changes to the school hall. This is a very exciting time for the school; however, there will be a few changes to school:

1. Y1 and Y2 children will access the school using the hall fire doors. Staff will meet children at the door as usual. Children will also be dismissed at the end of the day from these doors.
2. As part of the playground is now out of use, we have made changes break times and lunchtimes. KS1 and KS2 will now have separate breaks in the morning and the afternoon.
3. The new perimeter fencing for our new field has been delayed, work is due to start imminently. This will also involve removing the wall once the perimeter fence has been put up. Once this work commences, the playground will be out of use for a short time and extra care will need to be taken. When this work starts the gate near Year 5/6 entrance will stay locked and we would ask all parents to follow the path to our EYFS playground.

We will keep you updated as phase 2 develops. Thank you for your suggestions and patience at this time as we make changes to our normal school routines. We are here to help, so if you have any questions/queries please do not hesitate to call in at the school office or contact school either on 01924 303680 or at admin@newton-hill.org.uk.

School Attendance Matters



Our school attendance is improving but it is still below national. We need your help to improve our attendance.

Any absence from school is detrimental to a child's education and progress. It disrupts learning, routines and progress.

The link between attendance and attainment in school is clear. The more a pupil is in school the more they increase their opportunity to fulfil their potential.

If your child's attendance is under 95%, they are missing at least two weeks of learning time a year. If their attendance is at 90%, they are missing four weeks. If your child's attendance falls below 90% it is classed as persistent absence. Punctuality is important, if a child arrives 15 minutes late each school each day, they lose almost 2 weeks of education a year. If your child is late after registers close this is marked as a lost session. You will need to complete a **Holiday Request Form** if a holiday is to be taken in term time. Once this has been received you will then receive a letter from school regarding the absence. As a school we pass all requests for holidays to the Education Welfare Service. You will receive a letter/penalty notice from the EWO regarding your term time holiday.

Holiday Request Forms are available from the school office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact school.

Winter 2017/2018

In the unlikely event of a school closure, for reasons out of our control, we will send a text and messages will be displayed on our school website www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk

If we have severe weather, it may be that we open school slightly later to allow everyone to travel safely to school; we will contact you by text. (We will always do our utmost to stay open, but if for any reason during the day the weather deteriorates and we need to close, we will contact you by text).

Please ensure that you update the school office with any new numbers on 01924 303680 or you can download a change of details form from our website.

Keeping Everyone Safe

In school we endeavour to keep everyone safe below are some links which you may find useful.

'How to become an expert in your child's online world in 6 weeks' <https://nspcc.o2.co.uk/> This will provide information on all the different apps – what they are and if there is an age requirement.

NSPCC Underwear Rule - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/underwear-rule/>

If you have any safeguarding concerns please do not hesitate to contact the school - our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are:

Mrs Wheatley, Mr Duce, Mr Paine, Miss Hargreaves, Mrs Myton and Miss Land.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff. You can speak to class teachers at the end of the day or you can make an appointment if you prefer. We are here to help. Thank you for your continued support.