



Newton Hill Community School



Update: Term 1a 2022/2023

Ready for Learning - Ready for Life - Reach for the Stars

Telephone: 01924 303680 admin@newton-hill.org.uk www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk

Dear Parents & Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome you into school this term. I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look at your child's work and celebrate their achievements during our open session. I also hope you enjoyed the Christmas performances and that you have some wonderful memories that you will treasure. The children have worked incredibly hard this term and we are proud of each and every individual at Newton Hill. Thank you also to the staff for their continued hard work.

And finally, thank you to all our families for your continued support. From all the staff at Newton Hill we wish you a wonderful Christmas break and a Happy New Year.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact school on 01924 303680 or send an email to admin@newton-hill.org.uk. However, please note that the class emails and admin email will not be monitored through the holidays (Friday 16th December – Monday 2nd January). Emails will be checked on Tuesday 3rd January. I would just like to remind you that our class emails are for communication about learning only – any other queries/questions should be emailed to the office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Wheatley & all the staff



Please visit the school website for more information and please do follow us on Twitter. Just follow us @Newton_Hill_Sch or visit https://twitter.com/Newton_Hill_Sch

Winter Wellness: Information from Wakefield Council

The winter months bring with them a range of health issues. The weather is colder, the days are shorter, and there is also a higher chance you may catch a cold, or other winter bug. Many will also have the added worry of increasing bills and keeping houses warm. Wakefield Council have put together a guide on how to stay well over winter, including:

- How to manage COVID-19, flu, and other respiratory infections
- Keeping your home warm and how important this is for your health
- Looking after your mental health and wellbeing

For more information please visit the link below. Additional details are also attached.

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/health-care-and-advice/public-health/winter-wellness>

Christmas & Technology

Please visit the following site (Internet Matters) for help setting up devices to ensure everyone is safe.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/childrens-online-safety-this-festive-season/>

Useful Links for Parents Advice by age:

Younger children need different advice and guidance than older children. Older children need different advice and guidance than teens. It can be really difficult keeping up with everything that is online and what risks and issues may affect children of different ages, so on these pages there is some age-related advice and guidance for parents and carers:

Pre-school - <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/>

6 - 10 year olds - <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/6-10/>

11 - 13 year olds - <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/11-13/>

14 plus - <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/14plus/>

Setting up devices:

It can be difficult knowing all the different settings that are available on different devices to help protect children, this includes allowing or disallowing chat, friends, spending money, content filters and much more. On these pages you will find the details, as well as non-technical instructions, which will help you understand what is available to you and how to set up your child's devices.

Gaming consoles and devices - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/gaming-consoles/>

Smartphones - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/smartphones-and-other-devices/>

Broadband and mobile networks - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/broadband-mobile/>

Entertainment and search engines - <https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/>

Safety/privacy settings on social media:

With many children and young people using social media it is important to understand what features are available to you to help protect your children. This is also important because for the most part, all privacy settings are default off when a new account is created, but also because some social media providers change their features quite frequently, e.g. TikTok.

Take a look at this link to see what is available to you and how to set up your child's social media. We would also advise doing this with your child so that you can discuss the features together.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/social-media/>

Winter Water Safety

We have spoken to the children this week about keeping safe near water.

Winter Water Safety

Taking a nice walk in cold weather with your family, friends or dogs in tow can be really refreshing, but please remember the top safety tips listed below.

- Be aware of any ponds, rivers or lakes that may have frozen over, never attempt to walk on them no matter how solid they may look and teach your children about the dangers of frozen water.
- Do not go on the ice to rescue a dog.
- Keep dogs on leads
- Keep back from the edge
- Only walk around well lit areas
- Sturdy shoes or boots with good grips are ideal for walking on paths that may be slippery due to ice.

If you do find yourself or anyone else in danger shout for help and call 999 immediately.



Attendance

If your child is absent from school please let the school office know as soon as possible by leaving a voicemail through the school telephone system or emailing admin@newton-hill.org.uk.

If we do not know the reason why your child is absent we will follow our procedures - this is a telephone call to all contacts and possibly a home visit. If we are unable to make contact we will refer the absence to the local authority. If you know your child is going to be absent please complete an absence request form (available from the school office). Please note holidays in term time are not permitted.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Wellbeing - Wakefield Future in Mind MHST: Family Newsletter

Please see the attached Family Newsletter which you may find useful.

A little bit on self-care-

Self-care is important for everyone, children and adults alike. Sometimes as parents and carers, we forget that we need to prioritise our own wellbeing basics to be able to help those we care for. Looking after emotional wellbeing is a little bit like an oxygen mask on an aeroplane, we must put our own before we can help others.

You might find over the holidays in particular that your own stress bucket becomes full more easily than usual, at which point it will be important to use your own emotional first aid kit (your coping strategies) to relieve the impact of that stress.

Have a think what that might look like for you, some ideas might be;

- Talking to someone who is supportive.
- Sitting in a space alone with a cup of tea.
- Getting outside in nature.
- Doing exercise.
- Having a bath.
- Doing some DIY.
- Replacing your phone with a book or a guided relaxation at bedtime.

What's also brilliant, is that by practicing using our own coping tools as adults, we are able to model positive ways of dealing with difficult feelings and experiences to our children too.



Supporting your child's wellbeing

During the Christmas holidays children and their families can experience lots of different emotions, some positive ones and maybe some difficult ones.

The busy-ness, hustle and bustle and expectations that school holidays sometimes bring can cause us to feel stressed and at times overwhelmed. Something which will be really important this holiday is for you to support the children you care for to have some downtime to relax their body, calm their mind and balance their emotions. Calming strategies can be practised alone, but could be even better if you can spend some time together and learn a little bit more about what you enjoy and how certain activities and practices can make you feel.

We've included some of our festive favourites you could try at home.

Where to get extra help

If a child or young person needs to talk they can call **Childline** Open 24/7. Chat to a counsellor online at www.childline.org.uk. Call them on **0800 111**.

If a young person or adult needs to talk to someone they can call the **Samaritans** on **116 123**. It's open 24/7.

If a child, young person or parent/carers needs to talk to someone at night time they can call **Nightowls** (between 8pm and 8am) on **0800 1488244** or text **07984392700**.

If you need to access help from a **food bank** you can find more information about what's available here <https://wakefield.cityofsanctuary.org/food-banks>. You could also ask school if they know about other local practical support in your area.

Warm Spaces are places in your local community where people can gather for free in a warm welcoming space and enjoy a drink and some food. Find out more here; <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/more-money-in-my-pocket/warm-spaces>.

School Meals

School meals for children in Reception and KS1 are FREE but if you are considering a packed lunch option please have a look at the policy.

If your circumstances have changed you may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM). You can now apply on line at: <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/schools-and-children/free-school-meals>. If your child receives FSM the school will also receive additional funding to support your child.

School Uniform

We have lots of uniform in our lost property bins - **Please can we ask that all uniform/property is clearly labelled!**

Thank you to everyone who follows our uniform expectations. The pre-loved uniform is always available – please contact Mrs Dundas for further information or support. We have a range of uniform – all ages. Please make use of the uniform available - all requests will be dealt with confidentially.

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns or need any support or advice please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are: Mrs Wheatley, Mrs Whelerton, Mrs Luck, Mr Paine, Mrs Dundas, Mrs Myton and Miss Land.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> This website offers advice and guides for parents which you may find useful.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

If you need support or advice you can contact Wakefield Social Care Direct on 0345 8 503 503. There are other numbers you may find useful on our school website under Safeguarding.

<u>Dates for your diary</u>	<u>Event</u>
School breaks up for Christmas	Friday 16 th December 2022
Term 2 starts	Tuesday 3 rd January 2023
Tuesday 21 st March	9:15am EYFS Parent Workshop (further details will follow closer to the time)
INSET DAYS	Friday 31 st March Thursday 4 th May (Polling Day) Thursday 25 th May Friday 26 th May

Class Emails:

Class Teacher	Year Group	Contact Email
Mrs Luck (Assistant Headteacher/SENDSCO) and Mrs Greaux	Nursery	nursery2022@newton-hill.org.uk
Mrs Neal Mrs Austin (EYFS Leader)	Reception A Reception B	receptiona2022@newton-hill.org.uk receptionb2022@newton-hill.org.uk
Mrs. Cooke	Year 1	year12022@newton-hill.org.uk
Mrs Damton (KS1 Leader)	Year 1/2	year1-22022@newton-hill.org.uk
Mrs. Buttle	Year 2	year22022@newton-hill.org.uk
Mr Paine (KS2 Leader)	Year 3/4 A	year3-4a2022@newton-hill.org.uk
Miss Mosley	Year 3/4 B	year3-4b2022@newton-hill.org.uk
Mrs. Whelerton (Deputy Headteacher)	Year 5	year52022@newton-hill.org.uk
Mr Sharp	Year 6	year62022@newton-hill.org.uk



APPROVED SCHOOL CALENDAR 2022/23

August 2022							September 2022							October 2022							November 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
														31													

December 2022							January 2023							February 2023							March 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28						27	28	29	30	31		
							30	31																			

April 2023							May 2023							June 2023							July 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4					1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
																					31						

For your reference:

Unplanned School Closures – Snow/Adverse Weather

It is coming to that time of year when the weather can start to change. Although snow is welcomed by our children it can, as you know, cause issues with schools. We will always aim to notify you of any closures at the earliest opportunity and appreciate that this may be at short notice.

In the unlikely event of a school closure, for reasons out of our control, we will contact you via Parent Hub. We will also display messages/updates on our school website www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk.

We will always do our best to stay open, but if for any reason we have to close *during the day* we will contact you via Parent Hub, and information will be displayed on our website. A member of the Senior Leadership Team will always stay on site until all children have been collected.

Newts Provision – Adverse Weather

During adverse weather conditions, various considerations need to be assessed to see if school can open safely – for example the number of members of staff who can get to work safely, site safety and access.

Therefore, if there are any occasions of adverse weather (snow/ice/treacherous conditions), Newts provision will not be open for breakfast club. This is to allow sufficient time for school to assess if school can open safely and if there are enough staff able to travel to school safely.

Messages will be sent to all parents via Parent Hub as reminders should this be the case and we will always give advance notice if weather warnings are issued. We will aim to notify you by 7am should this be the case. We will always try to stay open during adverse weather conditions and school may offer a later opening time rather than a full closure depending on the circumstances. Thank you.
