



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,

A big thank you for all your harvest donations which have been gratefully received by St Catherine's Food Bank, Wakefield.

This half term we have enjoyed a whole school steel pan workshop as part of celebrating Black History Month. Each class took part in the workshop playing the steel pans, joining in with singing and dancing. The children have also taken part in lots of lovely learning activities this half term.

It was lovely to see you at school for your parent consultations this week. On Thursday 8th December 3:15-4:15pm we will be holding an optional open session after school so that you can visit with your child and look at their work.



Sport Update

Congratulations to our Year 6 children who were crowned winners of the tag rugby competition against four other local cluster schools! The squad remained unbeaten on the day and showed amazing skills and resilience throughout the tournament. Well done Year 6!

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

Playground Development

We are delighted with our new outdoor cabin which will be utilised by everyone in school. We have used part of our school fund to contribute to this development so thank you for supporting our fund-raising events. We are also extremely pleased with our own school harvest this year – potatoes, pumpkins and sunflowers – all planted from seeds by the children. We are hoping next year will be bigger and better!



Parent Workshops

We are really looking forward to re-starting our parent workshops. This is an opportunity for you to come into school and work with your child. This can be anyone from your family – parent, carer, grandparent – as long as they are willing to participate in the activities and sometimes get a little messy! We would love you to attend but it is an optional visit. These sessions will be held in the hall so you can enter the hall after drop off.



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.

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 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.

Here are some dates for your diaries:

<u>Dates for your diary</u>	<u>Event</u>
Term 1b	Start: Monday 31 st October
Tuesday 1 st and Thursday 3 rd November	Year 1 and Year 2 Parent Workshop at 9:15am (see previous information sent by KS1 team)
Thursday 3 rd November	Halloween Disco – Fundraiser for school (see previous letter from FOTS)
Tuesday 8 th November	9:15 Year 3/4 Mrs Wrench – Parent Workshop
Thursday 10 th November	9:15 Year 3/4 Mr Paine – Parent Workshop
Wednesday 16 th November	Year 5 and Year 6 Parent Workshop at 9:15am
Friday 18 th November	Children in Need – Further information will follow after half term from the school council.
W/C 14 th November	Anti-bullying Week

New parents meeting – for new Reception starters - September 2023	Wednesday 23 rd November 5:00-6:00pm (Please book by contacting the school office)
Thursday 8 th December	3:15-4:15 Whole School open session to look at your child's work (optional)
Thursday 8 th December (This year it is on Thursday – not Friday as in previous years)	Christmas Jumper Day – wear your festive knits or non-uniform and bring a donation for Save the Children.
Tuesday 13 th December	9:15am KS2 Christmas Assembly for parents & carers
Wednesday 14 th December	9:15am KS1 Christmas Assembly for parents & carers
Thursday 15 th December	9:30 am EYFS Christmas Assembly for parents & carers
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

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.

Wishing you a lovely half term break from all the staff at Newton Hill.

Kind regards,

Mrs Wheatley



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.
