



Newton Hill Community School – Newsletter Autumn 2017

Ready for Learning – Ready for Life

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www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk

Welcome back to school everyone and welcome to our new families who have joined Newton Hill!

- *Dates for your diary 2017/2018. An academic calendar is being created with key dates.*
- *New staff*
- *Phase 1 school expansion*
- *Attendance information – changes for September 2017*
- *Learning Mentor information*
- *Keeping Everyone Safe: Online Safety Workshop for parents*

Dates for your diary

- NSPCC Meeting for Parents - Tuesday 19th September at 2:15pm (all parents & carers welcome). Please see earlier letter for more information.
- Year 1 & Year 2 - class assembly Thursday 21st September at 2:45pm
- Book Week – 9th October to 13th October (letter to follow).
- EYFS & KS1 Harvest Assembly - Monday 16th October at 9:15
- KS2 Harvest Assembly - Wednesday 18th October at 2:45pm
- Week of the 16th October – Consultation evenings for parents and carers (letter to follow).
- Clubs have started this week. There will be a variety of clubs run by staff and coaches over the year which will change each ½ term.
Mrs Wrench will also be running a lunchtime choir club and leading a trip to Young Voices, a letter will follow shortly.

Our New Staff

We would like to welcome a number of new staff to the Newton Hill team:

Mr Duce – our new Deputy Headteacher and Year 6 teacher

Miss Cannon – our new Reception teacher

Miss Hargreaves – our new Learning Mentor

Mrs Hashim and **Miss Firth** have also joined the KS1 team as our new teaching assistants.

Expansion: Phase 1

It has been a busy summer break and we are just adding finishing touches to our wonderful new Reception Unit and Year 6 classroom.

Phase 2 of the expansion is due to start this term and we will keep you updated. Keeping everyone safe is a priority and when work begins there will no longer be access across the school field. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

School Attendance Matters

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

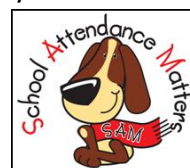
The link between attendance and attainment in school is clear. The more a pupil is in school the more they increase their opportunity to fulfil their potential.

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.

From September 2017, 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 will consider issuing fines in line with the LA and other local schools for holidays taken in term time from September 2017. You may receive a letter from the EWO regarding term time holidays.

Holiday Request Forms are available from the school office.

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



Meet our new Learning Mentor – Miss Hargreaves

Miss Hargreaves is our new school Learning Mentor.

Miss Hargreaves will support with pastoral care, behavioural support and attendance. She will also be a Designated Safeguarding Lead in school.

Miss Hargreaves will be available before and after school to speak with parents/carers about any concerns.

Keeping Everyone Safe

With all the new developments in the area we invited Taylor Wimpey into school last term to speak to the children about keeping safe near building sites over summer. It was a very informative and interactive session for the children with key messages about keeping safe.

This term the NSPCC will be visiting school to talk to everyone about their programme:

Speak out. Stay Safe.



I would also like to invite all parents/carers to an Online Safety Information workshop/information session on **Tuesday 19th September 2:15-3:15pm.**

You may also find the following link useful, 'How to become an expert in your child's online world in 6 weeks'.

<https://nspcc.o2.co.uk/>

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

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

www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk

Visit our website for: safeguarding links and information, class newsletters, News information, newsletters, calendars. If you can't find what you are looking for please call in at the office.

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. Thank you for your continued support.