



# 17th October 2024 Newsletter

Newbold Verdon  
Primary School

**We Inspire Our Dragons to Fly Higher!**

Dear Parents/Carers

Last year I promised you I would send out Newsletters every month – I tried very hard but failed. We teach the children that the cleverest minds such as Thomas Edison, who invented the lightbulb, failed many times before they had success. I am going to adjust my own expectations and endeavour to be successful this year – I will be sending Newsletters out each half term instead. Small steps!

**We are very proud of our school values and hope you can see the value in them for your children also!**

### **Aspirational – Aim high**

Year 4 have the amazing opportunity to learn how to play the violin with the Leicestershire Music Service this year. They have been learning how to care for their instrument safely and have now learnt the string names. They have shown perseverance when beginning to play the violin. It has been great to see all of the children having a go and enjoying our music lessons. I have been so proud of them and can't wait to see them progress with their musical skills.



### **Uniqueness – Celebrate differences**

Our new Unit children are settling well into class and the new children in Foundation and Pre-School have made a great start to their educational journey.

The Unit are experiencing a special Diwali Day on 30<sup>th</sup> November. This is going to be a great event to give the children the opportunity to understand the celebration of Diwali.

Children enjoyed Dress Down Day and created prizes for the Bingo Night. Thank you.

Mrs Brennan has recently sent out a questionnaire regarding the PINS (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools). Your answers will go back to the project. This is to support the school in training for how to support children with Neurodiverse needs.

### **Curiosity – Wanting to know more**

Miss Bell has completed her Forest Schools Training enabling her to take Forest School in addition to Mrs North.

We are embarking on the Food For Life programme which will encourage healthier eating in school. EYFS staff have had two Foundation Open Evenings which were attended well.

Wrap Around have been running special Halloween Themed Nights including making paper pumpkin lanterns, strawberry ghosts and watching spooky movies.

### **Perseverance – Keep trying**

Congratulations to Ms Hicks for passing her Driving Test and Lewis Corral for passing his Level 3 Childcare qualification. It is wonderful to see the hard work and effort they have put into their personal and professional development.

Many children have taken part in a range of sporting events including cross country and girls football.

### **Courage – Have a go**

For many in Year 3, it was the children's first night away from home when they went to Beaumanor Hall for their residential. It was a resounding success with pirate fun for all the children concerned. The boys slept beautifully and let Mr Wright and Mrs North have a good night's sleep. Not so for Mrs Allcock and Ms Dyson! Thank you to all who supported and contributed to a successful trip including the whole of Year 3.

Ms Hicks drove herself to school yesterday and didn't crash. What courage!

### **Empathy – Think of others**

As part of our Harvest Festival Celebrations children have supported the Elohim Food Pantry with donations of food. I delivered these personally last week and it was great to see the impact this group have.

Rachel Arnold has completed her Well-being lead course to support both adults and children's well-being across the school.

## **Celebrations**

Celebration assemblies take place on a Friday afternoon at 2.45pm. Starting after half term parents of those children receiving a values certificate will be receiving an invite to join us. Please don't tell your children so we can make it a nice surprise for them.

On another note, we have broken out the jelly babies as Mrs Younger is blooming with the pregnancy of her second child. We are very excited for her and wish her lots of squidges and hugs. For those in Year 6, we are currently auditioning teachers to take on the maternity leave until the Summer. Thank you for your patience in this.

## **Leavers and changes**

Wendy Armsden from the unit left us over the Summer to support her family and grandchildren more. This was an unexpected exit but Wendy will be missed amongst the staff as she has worked in the school for well over 20 years.

Mr Coleman has left the school to pursue a career in timber. Good luck Mr Coleman! We know the children will miss you.

Mr Collins has been quite poorly recently and we are hoping he will be back with us after Christmas.

Miss Farrington has left to seek new endeavours. We wish her well.

## **Community**

The school has been consistently involved in the local community. In September we hosted the Scout Gala. It was once again a great event with full engagement of all aspects of the community. The children have visited the local library. They are becoming increasingly familiar with the purpose of the library and can access books.

Friends of Newbold Verdon have recently hosted Bingo Night, which was a great success. They are also running the Halloween Disco coming up on 29<sup>th</sup> October and Quiz Night on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. I'm sure there will be numerous other events before Christmas. Thank you.

Unit parents have met for a coffee morning and another Unit Coffee Morning is set for 29<sup>th</sup> November 9-11am.

## **Lateness and the school car park**

Thank you to all those parents who have brought their children on time through the playground. This has really helped in regulating the children and has provided them with much more stability at the start of the day. Thank you.

## **Wrap Around Provision and Clubs**

Our Wrap Around Provision is fun and exciting – there are lots of special events happening and children are enjoying the range of activities available. If you require childcare please contact the office.

If you are concerned about the cost of the provision then I have been informed that many parents including those in work are able to get the clubs subsidised heavily by applying for <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> Use the link and navigate to the section described below.

## TAX-FREE CHILDCARE

GET  
UP TO  
**£2000**  
PER CHILD

- For **working families**, including the self-employed, **in the UK**
- Earning **under £100k** and **an average of £167** per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage) each over three months
- Who **aren't** receiving Tax Credits, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers
- With children aged 0-11 (or 0-16 if disabled)
- For every £8 you pay into an online account, the government will add an extra £2, **up to £2,000 per child per year**

Is it for me? 