

Newton Road News

November 2023

A message from Miss Mills



I hope that you all had a lovely half term and are managing to keep warm as the colder, more wintry weather settles in. It is hard to believe that we are already well into Term 2, and it won't be long before the festive season is upon us.

Parent Feedback

During the last week of term, at Parent's Evening we asked for your feedback and we were delighted with the responses and I promised to share these with you. There was much to be proud of but also some things for us as a school to reflect on. The fact 100% of our parents would recommend our school is an incredible achievement and staff were overwhelmed with your **PRIDE**.

We wanted to share with you some of the positivity that you have about our school:

- We are satisfied with everything
- Great School
- Extremely supported
- Great energy and enthusiasm
- Keep up the superb work
- Thank you for all your hard work
- Fabulous school very supportive staff and lovely teachers
- I always recommend to everyone
- Even before we joined we have been included within the school and get/got such good vibes from all staff
- I am thankful to staff for shaping the future for my child
- My child loves their teachers
- Staff are supportive and approachable
- Like the small, personal community feel that this school has and its staff and pupils create
- Always feel that we can raise any concerns and have them acknowledged.
- Newton Road has exceeded our expectations

When we reflected on the feedback we wanted to share our responses to some of the things you asked us to do:



You said...

Improve information about the curriculum and more information about other homework opportunities

Share with us how the children learn

We would like to know more about how the school supports your child's mental health and wellbeing

We did...

Curriculum letters were shared by the teachers over Arbor at the start of the term and shared homework opportunities.

Each newsletter will have a dedicated section about how we teach one of our curriculum areas

Each newsletter will have a dedicated section that shares ways you can either support your child or signposting to further support





Key Upcoming Events

Anti-Bullying Week



On **Monday 13th November** we are holding an **Odd Sock Day** as part of Anti-Bullying Week. Odd Sock Day is a chance for everyone to come into school wearing odd socks. Bright, colourful socks, stripy, spotty, cartoony socks, any socks you like, with the aim of celebrating that we are all different! If you don't want to wear odd socks that's OK too.

Throughout the week the children will be taking part in a range of activities to raise awareness about calling out bullying and unkind behaviour. We also have some exciting news about the next phase of our Junior Leadership Team linked to Anti-Bullying. More information to follow.



Children in Need

Children in Need is on Friday 17th November. On the day, we will be asking all of our children to come to school in non-uniform (wearing spots) for a donation.

During their PE Lessons across the week, we will also be arranging for the children to complete the following: **Pudsey Bearpees Challenge**

Joe Wicks is challenging schools to complete 1,000 Bearpees across Appeal Week, every day from Monday 13th to Friday 17th November!

In order to hit the 1,000 Bearpee target, we are going to work collectively together doing enough Bearpees each day to hit the target!

If any families want to join in at home, please send an email to office@newtonroadschool.co.uk with the number you as a family have completed. We would love to see any photos please!

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Thank you for the feedback on the parents questionnaire about mental health and wellbeing at Newton Road. In each newsletter there will be a mental health section with signposts, resources and ideas to support both your child and your own mental health and wellbeing.

As a Trust we have our own NET Wellbeing YouTube channel. Here you will find practical tools and tips to help manage emotions. These are great short videos that the children are familiar with as we use them in school. You can watch them together and use them at home to help build self-regulation and resilience.

[NET Wellbeing - YouTube](#)

Sports Round Up

I am delighted to share an update on our recent participation in the KS2 Cross Country Competition. Our school's performance highlighted our pupils unwavering positivity, determination and respectfulness. On the whole sportsmanship was shown in abundance! This event marked the first school trip for some of the children, and their behaviour was truly commendable. Their conduct was exemplary, illustrating their readiness and enthusiasm for new experiences.

I'm immensely proud to highlight the outstanding achievement of our Year 3 boys. Within their age category, they secured a notable 15th and 31st positions out of 200 participants, showcasing their dedication and admirable sportsmanship.

We would like to extend our gratitude to all families for their unwavering support with this event. Your encouragement and assistance played a vital role in making this experience possible for our students.



Community Round Up



On Wednesday 8th November, children from Y6 represented our school at the Service of Remembrance for Schools. We walked in the rain down to the war memorial and took part in the very special service, led by Lynne Baker from the Royal British Legion. The children laid a wreath on behalf of the school community and each child planted a cross in remembrance of a resident from Rushden who lost their life in World War 2. The children represented our school showing outstanding behaviour, respect and maturity. We are very proud of them all.



Rushden Parkrun



JOIN THE JUNIOR PARKRUN FAMILY

WALK, JOG, RUN, VOLUNTEER

or simply come and watch - it's up to you!

FAMILY-FRIENDLY 2K EVENTS

Every Sunday morning

FOR 4-14 YEAR OLDS

Adults can join in with the kids too!

EVERYONE WELCOME

Walk, jog, run, hop, skip or jump - it's up to you!

FREE & EASY TO TAKE PART

No special kit needed - wear whatever you like

HAVE FUN BEING ACTIVE

Share high fives and big smiles!

MAKE FRIENDS

Meet lots of new people

LEARN NEW SKILLS

Kids can volunteer in lots of roles

FEEL HAPPY AND PROUD

Try your best and celebrate your achievements

"We all do it together as a family. The volunteers are really nice, it's fun and you can walk if you want to!"

Register at parkrun.com

and head down to your local junior parkrun event!

notes:

Spencer Park junior parkrun - every Sunday at 9am
Spencer Park, Washbrook Road, Road, Rushden, NN10 6UL
email: spencerpark-juniors@parkrun.com



How we teach...

An introduction to Maths

Maths context:

Mathematics is essential to everyday life and forms the necessary connections to science, technology, and engineering. Mathematics is a necessary life skill, required for financial literacy, as well as essential for employment. It forms the foundation for understanding the world.

At Newton Road School, we aim to develop a positive attitude, whilst promoting curiosity, and enjoyment within learning. We believe that mathematics should provide experiences and links relating to everyday life and provide opportunities for children to make decisions and solve problems mathematically. We believe that all children should have a love of learning within mathematics and for children to 'Dream. Believe. Achieve'.

To develop the knowledge across maths we will:

- Teach in line with the National Curriculum, using White Rose Maths to support our teaching of this
- Use the mastery approach to maths to deliver the three aims of the National Curriculum: fluency, reasoning and problem solving
- Teach using small steps to ensure all our learners can make connections and apply their knowledge and skills to a range of problems
- Ensure all learners can access the content provided



Our Maths Intent:

At Newton Road School, our intent for mathematics is to teach our curriculum to develop an ability to solve problems, reason, think logically, work systematically and accurately. Our curriculum allows children to make a better sense of the world around them by making connections between mathematics and everyday life. To give all our children the best opportunity to achieve, concepts are introduced in small steps using a 'concrete, pictorial and abstract approach', enabling all children to experience hands on learning and aid their understanding. Key knowledge and skills are also revisited, allowing children the opportunity to embed their learning further. All children are challenged and encouraged to have high aspirations in Maths, regardless of their starting points. Mathematical thinking is essential in their learning and mathematical vocabulary is used to support this. Connections are essential in mathematics, and we support our learners with finding connections to existing and previous concepts.

Our Maths Implementation

At Newton Road School we use White Rose Maths. These schemes have been chosen as they meet the National Curriculum and are also inclusive for all pupils. We follow the small steps provided by these schemes, with some adaptations to support all our learners. This can be seen through our long-term planning documents. Alongside this, pupils in EYFS and KS1 and Key Stage Two have additional Mastering Number lessons, which happen four times a week. Pupils in Key Stage Two have timetabled multiplication practice. This is to support our pupils with developing number sense and number fluency.



How we teach...

An introduction to Maths

White Rose Maths - Lesson Structure

Date/ Learning Objective/Vocabulary

The short date (with roman numerals for KS2) and learning objective is shared with the pupils. Key vocabulary for the lesson is displayed for pupils to discuss the meaning of the words. On the next slide, the definitions and meanings are shared with pupils. This is to ensure clarity and consistency in vocabulary taught and learnt across the school

Problem Of the Day

The lesson begins with a problem, relating to the day's learning objective. The problem should build on previous learning from the previous lesson and offer a level of challenge. Practical resources are used to support pupils with solving the question. The problem allows pupils to work together to explore mathematical thinking, connections and explore reasoning. Teachers plan for misconceptions and use questioning to challenge and deepen mathematical thinking. The teacher asks for feedback from pairs and groups and forms a discussion to explore the range of possibilities for completing this problem. The teacher models their mathematical thinking, using the practical resources, alongside the pictorial (and abstract where appropriate). This is to support pupils with their knowledge and understanding, as well as their skills for problem solving.

Fluency

A range of carefully pre- selected fluency questions are shared with the class. This section of the lesson is about developing fluency. Fluency being making connections to previous learning (such as building on the previous lesson/ small step), as well as developing their number skills. Opportunities are made for pupils to use concrete and pictorial representations here, especially for our SEND pupils. Whiteboards can also be used to show answer and mathematical thinking – used as an assessment tool for the teacher to identify next steps. The teacher also uses this fluency section to model further representations and supports mathematical thinking.

Independent

Fluency – Pupils have fluency questions snipped onto a strip of paper and stuck into the books. The teacher supports SEND and pupils needing further support (as identified through the fluency input). Resources are also used to support children's learning. The fluency questions are snipped from the White Rose Maths worksheets, along with other appropriate maths resource sites (such as the NCETM).

Reasoning and Problem Solving – A selection of reasoning and problem-solving questions are snipped onto a strip of paper and stuck into the books. Children use the squared paper from the page to solve the questions, whilst also showing their mathematical thinking.

Pink Box Challenges

Pupils will have pink challenges relating to a range of different opportunities that can deepen their knowledge across the topic they are working on. Throughout the lesson the pupils may have opportunities to complete these where appropriate.

KS1 – Teacher led challenges should be given.

KS2 – Pupil led pink box challenges can be displayed on working walls or printed to be stuck into books.

To support our development of maths we will:

Provide Feedback

Teachers will mark each pupil book in line with the maths marking policy and identify pupils requiring further intervention. Books are marked each lesson to intervene effectively prior to the following lesson where possible. If incorrect answers are found, these are indicated to the pupils through a pink highlight of the question and to be attempted again at the next possible opportunity (within the lesson or outside of the lesson). Teachers use feedback as an assessment tool to identify next steps in learning and to ensure they are teaching to the needs of the children in front of them.