



**NEWDIGATE CofE INFANT SCHOOL**  
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22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

**Newsletter 2**

Dear Parents,

We can't believe how quickly the weeks are flying by! Summer holidays are already a distant memory for us now and the pace of school life continues to increase. Your children are doing you proud and throwing themselves into their learning. There has understandably been a more

**Our value this half-term is love & compassion.**



**We show love and compassion for each other.**  
*John 15:12*  
*Love each other as I have loved you.*

sombre mood over the last few weeks as we mourned the late Queen Elizabeth II. To allow the children to show their respects and think about the legacy she has left behind, Mrs Priestley has created a reflective 'Empty Chair' space that children can visit and read our school commemorative book that contains a comment from every child. The space also includes

artefacts and photographs of the Queen for children to look at and hold. Feel free to visit the space after school if you would like to. We have also been asked by Andrew Coe to collate comments from adults at the school that will be compiled into a St. Peter's Church commemorative book. Please ask at the office if you would like to contribute.

**Curriculum**

We will also be holding a **'Meet the Teacher-Information about learning and the curriculum'** on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September from 6-7 p.m.

As we have some families with children in both Year 2 and Reception classes, we will be offering a Year 2 session @ 6-6.25 p.m. and a Year 1/Reception session at 6.35 -7 p.m. Please join us for a drink and chat in the middle session (between 6.25 and 6.35 p.m.) **We know that this can be difficult for parents to make arrangements to attend meetings after school, but we would urge you to put this in your diary as we will be sharing lots of information that will support your child's learning.** Getting the very best outcomes for your child depends upon us working together to overcome any learning gaps or problems they have.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**



We have supported this charity for many years and hope to do the same again this year; this year we can even do it in the hall!

We are looking for a team of parents to help us run an outside event after school next Friday as well as volunteers to bake cakes and bring them into school on the day. Please can you let Mrs Priestley know if you are able to support us.

**Parent Questionnaire July 2022**

The school received 21 responses to our annual questionnaire. I have summarised the main questions below. Once again, the responses were overwhelmingly positive, so thank you for your feedback. As always, there are areas for improvement. This year we will continue to work on better communication and will be looking at our extended services offer.

**100% of parents would recommend the school to another parent.**

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My child enjoys school.	57%	43%	-	-	-
My child feels safe at school.	67%	29%	5%	-	-
The school community reflects the Christian faith in its day to day life.	48%	38%	14%	-	-
The school meets the academic needs of my child.	38%	52%	10%	0%	-
The school is proactive in providing extended services for my child.	33%	24%	29%	14%	-
The school encourages a healthy life-style.	60%	34%	3%	3%	-
When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	48%	24%	24%	5%	--
My child does well.	48%	43%	10%	-	-
The school provides a good foundation for the future.	57%	38%	5%	-	-

The school staff are welcoming and approachable.	71%	24%	5%	-	-
The school lets me know how my child is doing.	43%	48%	5%	5%	--
The school meets the academic needs of my child	38%	52%	10%		
The school make sure its pupils are well behaved.	33%	43%	19%	-	-
My child has been bullied and the school dealt with it quickly and effectively.	5%	10%	24%	--	5%
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	43%	48%	5%	5%	--
Communication is good.	24%	43%	19%	14%	--

## Reading Café



You also gave us 3 words to describe our school and we have made a wordle to capture those words:

9 respondents (50%) answered **Nurturing** for this question.



Our breakfast and after school clubs will continue to run as usual this term. They are now often full so we would urge you to book early to avoid disappointment. You can book these through your Parentmail App – see <https://vimeo.com/380507523> for how to do this.



Thank you for the amazing turn out for our reading café today. It always creates a real buzz around the school and shows how important reading is to us all. Reading provides opportunities for children to explore and learn, to be transported to far away lands! It develops their imagination, creativity and empathy, and of course allows children to understand and navigate their world and communicate with others. It will always be a priority for us and hopefully you know more about that now.

## **Goodbye**

Finally, I need to finish with some sad news. After many years of dedicated service we are saying goodbye to two of our valued staff members. Mrs Llewellyn and Mrs Rennles are going to be leaving us at the end of September and moving onto pastures new. They are both moving to the social care sector, where they can use their warm and nurturing qualities with adults rather than children. We want to thank them both for their amazing contribution to Newdigate school, we will miss them more than we care to think about! Thank you, Mrs Rennles, for being our drama queen and making us laugh and sing and act and smile a million times more than we did before! Thank you, Mrs Llewellyn, for sorting us out, for making every child feel valued and special and for creating such a warm and welcoming start to the children's time at school. We wish you both well. Fortunately for us they have promised to keep in touch and even come back and help when they can. If you would like to make a contribution towards their leaving presents, please bring it to the office next week.

We will be welcoming back Miss Cannon to both the Year 2 and Early years team, as well as saying hello to Mrs Copus, who will also be joining the early years team. We are sure they will quickly settle in and become part of the Newdigate family.

**Have a fabulous weekend.**

**Mrs Paula Bliss  
(Headteacher)**

## Diary Dates Autumn 2022

<b>01.09.22</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>02.09.22</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
05.09.22	Back to School (Yr 1 and Yr 2)
22.09.22	8.50 a.m. Reading café – whole school
28.09.22	6.00 p.m. Curriculum Evening (Whole School) (possible FONS AGM, tbc)
30.9.22	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon 3.10 p.m. School Hall
05.10.22	Individual school photos.
18.10.22	Fantastic Fred Experience a.m. Whole School - travelling NHS funded show about mental health
20.10.22	2.00 p.m. Harvest Festival Service in St. Peter's Church (tbc)
<b>21.10.22</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
<b>24.10.22</b>	<b>Half Term Week</b>
31.10.22	Back to school
09.11.22	Meet the Teacher: Parent Consultations (3.30 p.m.- 6.00 p.m.)
16.11.22	Meet the Teacher: Parent Consultations (5.30 p.m. – 8.00 p.m)
25.11.22	Hoops to go home
02.12.22	Hoops up in Hall
03.12.22	School Xmas Fayre (tbc)
05.12.22	Dress rehearsal for Christmas Performance
06.12.22	10.00 a.m. Christmas performance in school hall
07.12.22	10.00 a.m. Christmas performance in school hall
09.12.22	Nasal Flu immunisation
09.12.22	Christmas Jumper Day
15.12.22	6.00 p.m School Christingle Family Service at St. Peter's Church, everybody welcome (tbc)
16.12.22	Last day of school, break up for Christmas, 2.00 p.m. finish

