

# Newfield

Inspire | Support | Achieve | Together

# CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

#### Hello and welcome...

... to our termly e-newsletter! Don't forget to visit our website or click any of the many links which will take you directly to the blogs and photos on the website for each event and article.

This term has been as busy and exciting as ever at Newfield, with many aspects of life returning to normal, but done in a COVID secure manner.

Children have been able to take part in trips and <u>visits</u>, we have been able to have <u>guests</u> in school to enrich learning including <u>space camp</u> and a performance of <u>Snow White</u>, as well as adventures in <u>a planetarium</u> and bringing the

FOCUS ON FAMILY WELLBEING

wild ones to school too! There was even a circus and a film night!

We have been especially happy to finally, after over 18 months, been able to use our hydro pool again - fantastic!

We continue to try to enhance how we work with and support our support families with the introduction of our <u>Family</u> <u>Wellbeing Coordinators</u>.

Many of our staff have been able to take part in training to develop their own skills - which in turn helps the children of course.

We continue to be so proud of our children, families and staff - everyone has coped so well INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM ADVENTURES

in these challenging times and we continue to work together to be successful and strong.

Thanks as always for all of your help, commitment and support for school.

We wish you a very restful, happy holidays - if you are celebrating Christmas, we hope it is special for you and your family, and if not we wish you a very happy holidays.

We really look forward to being able to see you in school in 2022 for more exciting Newfield Adventures...



### "

## Message from the Headteacher, Rik

Well what a strange year we have had due to the COVID pandemic and the peaks and troughs of working within full school openings, lockdowns and everything in between! I continue to be amazed by our wonderful, resilient children and the dedication of our staff. It has been lovely recently to have been able to have more parents and visitors come into school, and I appreciate the understanding that you have shown during this time, pulling together as a family should.

Sadly I am leaving Newfield at the end of this term, to take up a head teacher post in a school in Yorkshire. I have enjoyed leading the school in what has turned out to be a very turbulent time and will take with me many memories. An interim head teacher has been appointed, with the governing body looking to recruit a permanent head teacher in the new year.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who plays their part in making Newfield the magical place it is, all the staff and children, and the families for your support.

I wish you all a very happy and joyful Christmas and look forward to a more settled year for everyone in 2022.

Rik



#### GOODBYE RIK... & EDDIE!

And so at the end of this term, we have said good by e to our headteacher of the last 2 and a bit years, Rik Robinson. He and Eddie the dog will be taking over running a school closer to home in Yorkshire in the New Year.

Thank you Rik, we wish you and Eddie all the best in your new school.



### SPECIAL EVENTS

This term we have taken part in number of charity events, raising awareness and money to help others. We have ensured we carry out these events in smaller groups, rather than the whole school coming together, to keep them covid secure... but still as much fun as possible!

In September, we started off the year's special events by celebrating the hard work of our support staff on EHCA Appreciation Day.

Later that week we began all our fundraising by wearing denim to celebrate <u>Jeans for Genes</u> day and there was also a poster competition with prizes.

We were delighted to join in <u>European Day of Language</u> at the end of September, when classes chose a world country and culture to celebrate and learn a bit about - it involved songs, dancing, food and communication and it was great fun.

<u>Harvest celebrations</u> were held in both schools and we collected food for the Blackburn Foodbank, as well as money, to support our friends in the Love for Kenya Orphanage and school who have been badly affected by the pandemic.

We focused again on everyone's wellbeing on <u>World Mental Health Day</u> in October, making sure that everyone did at least one thing to make them feel good and thinking about the importance of 'being kind'.

In November we had a lovely <u>Remembrance assembly</u> with poppies and the 'last post' all over school.

We then went spotty again, taking part in lots of fun events with some unexpected visitors - <u>Pudsey and Baxter</u> - for <u>Children in Need</u>.

In December, as well as the Christmas celebrations, we took part in a reverse advent calendar, making lovely Christmas hampers for the Foodbank for our <u>Charity at Christmas</u>.







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### TAKEOVER WEEK

In November we once again took part in Takeover Week, where young people take on adult roles. They all had a fantastic time, learnt lots and thoroughly enjoyed the experience of taking on adult responsibilities.



Ethan loved working with Nicole in the office and making deliveries all over school.



Hannah supporting younger children in the early years classes.



**Takeover** Challenge









Zuha in the kitchen and Mackenzie keeping order on the carpark

### CURRICULUM ACTIVITIES

We have continued to try to develop our curriculum into a meaningful offer for our very special learners here at Newfield - here are some of the adventures that children have accessed to enhance their engagement in learning and development of skills to prepare them for happy, adult lives.

<u>Literacy skills</u> in a weekly news update from S2.



Learning at the Library.



Investigating art, relaxation and wellbeing and retail therapy!



Promoting pupil voice, whilst putting our communication skills into practise, with our Rights Respecting School Steering Group and School Council Meetings.



Physical development in the community gym for A12.





AnnMarie and Mathilde have been supporting families to be more involved in school life -Stay and Play - <u>Learning with our families</u> with our youngest children in SEND inviting their families into class to share activities, meet each other and see how hard everyone is working and having fun! Coffee Mornings and questionnaires to find out how they can help families more.



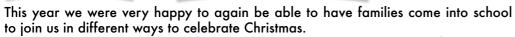












We had our annual <u>Christmas fair</u>, which was well attended by many families and friends of Newfield, attending in allocated slots.

We had several Christmas performances - starting with the <u>Christmas Story</u> in the primary classes in the school for Autism.

The next was from our SEND school <u>EYFS classes</u> with singing and dancing. Our older primary children in the school for SEND performed <u>a traditional nativity</u> and sang beautifully.



## **Christmas Celebrations**

Pupils also enjoyed a huge range of <u>Christmas activities</u>, including Christmas jumper day and lunch, an online carol concert with children singing and dancing and virtual visits from Father Christmas!







Christmas Holiday
School closes:

Thursday 16th December 2021

School re-opens to staff: Tuesday 4th January 2022 School re-opens to pupils: Wednesday 5th January 2022

Spring Half Term Holiday

**School closes:** Friday 11th February 2022

School re-opens:

Monday 21st February 2022

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