

Newfield

Inspire | Support | Achieve | Together

WORLD BOOK DAY

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.

Another very strange term, after having most children back in for the Autumn, we went back into national lockdown and saw a return to home learning for most children in January, only for schools to re-open fully by the end of this term! We can't keep up with the changes and it is

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

certainly a challenge for families and staff alike!

Nonetheless, the Newfield Family has continued to work hard to ensure that learning continues and children are happy & safe and families are well supported by school.

We have managed to deliver what we hope you have found a helpful variety of <u>live online sessions</u>, recorded videos and work packs and resources as appropriate.

In school we have tried to keep going with curriculum developments and special events LEARNING AT HOME AND IN SCHOOL

such as Children's Mental Health Week and World Book Day.

The days are getting brighter and we are hopeful that we will be able to stay open for good now and get back to normal.

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

We hope you can take the time with your family to enjoy some activities home and keep each other safe.

Fingers crossed for better times!



Message from the Headteacher

Well what a strange term this one has been - after a happy Autumn in school we have been in lockdown for spring so far. We have been delighted to see most children back in school for the end of the term and staff and families have been doing amazing work together, in school and at home, to try to keep children safe and learning following the easing of lockdown restrictions. I must thank families for their patience and understanding through the early part of this term as we tried to keep numbers in school as low as possible to reduce transmission rates. I recognise how hard it will have been for some of you and I hope you and your children were kept entertained and amused by some of the amazing videos and lessons planned, prepared, recorded and

delivered by our talented teachers, many of which are available on our YouTube channel.

Hopefully, online learning will be a thing of the past and we can look forward to brighter days ahead. Already, the children are getting back in to the swing of being back in school full time and it's wonderful to go around school and see the smiles, engagement and learning in classes.

I am optimistic that it won't be long until I can welcome you all back in to school to celebrate the achievement of our children. Until then, I wish you all continued good health and thank you once more for supporting the school through such a period of challenge.

You can read about all these events and more on the blog on the school's website.

ELLBEING ACTIV

The School Council held online meetings and were joined by Mental Health Support Team staff to talk about what they can do to help children's wellbeing.





The Magic Breakfast initiative that we have been involved in continues, with families receiving bagels and cereals each fortnight. Many families were able to take advantage of this, and whenever we had leftovers, we took them down to the Blackburn Foodbank to make sure local families also benefitted from the goods.

In February we were lucky to have a donation of pizza kits from Morrisons supermarket, which again we were able to send home to some families.







EASTER AND MOTHERS' DAY

We celebrated Mothers' Day with children making cards and gift to take home, as well as older pupils making cards to sell to staff as part of their enterprise learning.



The group also made items to sell for Easter and later in the year they will spend their wages on some treats of their choice!

Across both schools we enjoyed Easter Sensory Activities.





GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK!

Deputy Head, Helen Willett, leaves us at Easter to take up a Head teacher post at a school in Yorkshire. Helen has been with us for three years and obviously, this is a wonderful opportunity for her. I am sure you will join us in wishing Helen the very best of luck in her new role.







We celebrate Red Nose Day and raised money for the charity Comic Relief, dressing in red and being super heroes for the day! We even had super dog Eddie in his cape in school!















dog, <u>cookery sessions</u>, <u>outdoor countryside walks</u> and even some <u>chickens!</u>

Teacher Danielle recorded a <u>special message to our</u> <u>parents & carers</u> and we hope if you haven't watched it that you do - we all think you are amazing!

We've added links to some of the YouTube videos here in case you missed them - We had art & <u>craft activities</u>, <u>stories about being worried</u> and feeling better about things, dance and <u>yoga sessions</u>, a '<u>bring your pet to school</u>' virtual session, a virtual <u>visit from Baxter</u> the PAT

While we were all stuck at home in lockdown at the start

recorded on YouTube - to help children and families focus

of February, we really wanted to think about our wellbeing - and luckily it was <u>Children's Mental Health</u> <u>Week</u>, which gave us time to focus on this important area.

We put on a whole load of events - live on line and

on things to keep them healthy and well.

It was a very busy but very positive week and we think it fell perfectly, when everyone was fed up of winter and lockdown - we hope it cheered families up at home as much as it did staff making the sessions and videos for children!







BOOK DAY

4 MARCH 2021

On <u>World Book Day</u> we took part in the Newfield Big Read - with lots of members of staff reading parts of the story '<u>What the ladybird heard</u>' by Julia Donaldson. You can view this on YouTube and it is brilliant - children and families in school and at home all watched it and took part in related activities including making <u>ladybird finger puppets</u>, enjoying '<u>What the ladybird heard on holiday</u>' and a listening matching activity about the sounds on the farm. The kitchen made a special lunch with <u>ladybird cakes</u> and we all had a wonderful time! We also shared a very special live version of the <u>Very Hungry Caterpillar</u>, with Dawn from EYFS taking the starring role!











Easter Holiday
School closes:
Friday 26th March 2021
School re-opens to pupils:
Monday 12th April 2021

Mayday Closure: Monday 3rd May 2021

Summer Half Term Holiday School closes: Friday 28th May 2021 School re-opens: Monday 7th June 2021

Newfield School, Old Bank Lane, Blackburn, Lancashire. BB1 2PW

Tel: **01254 588600**

Web: newfield.org.uk
Twitter: @newfieldbwd
Twitter: @newfieldautism

