

Newington CE Primary School



Forgiving
Welcoming
Generous
Flourishing

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KINDNESS

PERSEVERENCE

RESPECT

HONESTY

Contents

**Note from Mr
Marshall**

Uniform

School Day

Staffing

Volunteers

Uniform

PFA

House points

**Summer
Holiday Club**

**SEPTEMBER
INFO**

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers

We have certainly had a busy year again, with many changes occurring around the school. This year we have seen the installation of our amphitheater and outdoor classroom which have provided additional outdoor seating and learning spaces.

Our Forest School has been developed further with a new covered area. This has been put to good use with children in every year group having regular slots. We were very proud to win the wilder Kent bronze award from the Kent Wildlife Trust which shows the high quality of our work in school regarding the natural environment.

A large amount of money has been spent on early years this year, with the nursery and Acorn classrooms receiving a revamp. The nursery has been painted, new flooring laid and the old worn furniture replaced with natural wood. Acorns had a redecoration last year but have benefitted from new style wooden furniture this year. All resources are now more easily accessible to the children. The change in their engagement, creativity and levels of independence has been really impressive. The joining of the nursery and school this year has been a huge success with the teams working closely together to slowly align practice and allow a seamless transition from nursery class to reception class. Getting this right is so important and it has been lovely seeing the leadership of both classes work together to make big plans for September.

The teachers have all been busy ensuring that they get the best out of the children and gaps left from Covid continue to be filled using interventions and other catch up support. As always the staff have gone above and beyond to provide exciting learning opportunities and continued support for the children in their care as befits our school's Christian vision.

Thank you for your ongoing support for the Newington team. We wish you a very restful summer and we look forward to seeing all of you on Monday 4th September.

Kind regards

Mrs Deevoy and Mr Krafft

NOTE FROM CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

On behalf of the governors, I would like to say thank you to all the staff and senior leaders for their hard work this year in helping the children reach their full potential.

This year we have secured additional income and been able to make significant improvements to our outside area including; the installation of the amphitheater, outside classroom and the development of our forest school area.

As ever, your role as parents is very important and looking at data it is clear that the children who attend regularly have continued to achieve well in school. Your support with ensuring your children are in school has improved our overall attendance. We hope that next year we can build on this to further improve our attendance to ensure that we are in line with government expectations.

This year reading has still been a focus for the school; I would like to thank you all for the support that you have given your children with reading at home. I hope that this continues into next year for all children. We do have a number of kind volunteers who listen to children in school where possible, but nothing can truly replace the support of a parent or carer.

I look forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

Have an enjoyable break and stay safe and well.

Peter Marshall



VOLUNTEERS



Our volunteer readers and club helpers have a key role to play and we all benefit from them giving freely of their time. We are so grateful for all of their support and the amazing work they do. They deserve a special mention as they make a real difference to the children they work with.

PARENT AND TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Yet again our PTA heroes have done a stellar job this year, raising money for the school, and providing some really memorable moments. The PTA does more than just raise money, they work tirelessly to plan events to enrich the children's time at school and involve families and the community such as meeting Father Christmas, school discos, cake sales, leaver's hoodies etc. I'm sure you will all join me in thanking them for their ongoing efforts. Please do offer to volunteer to help out at an event if you can, as these events can only run with your support.

HOUSE POINT WINNERS



On sports day Canterbury and Southwark triumphed with a great performance, scoring 178 points each!

This year the overall winners were Rochester with a huge 3239 points!

1 st	Rochester	3239
2 nd	Southwark	3153
3 rd	Canterbury	3130
4 th	Chichester	3124

House points are hotly contested and a great source of pride for houses. The system reflects our commitment to our values and vision as the children can earn house points in a range of ways, not just for academic success.

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB



We have a summer holiday club running again this year, based at Lower Halstow Primary School. Last summer it was great to see so many Newington pupils taking part in the daily sporting activities. Tetita childcare will be providing the club with a wide range of activities. Please book using the contact details below.

Tetita - Belema 07724664724 www.tetitachildcare.co.uk

SEPTEMBER INFORMATION

MORNING AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUB

Morning club will continue to run from 8am each day in the hall. Please ensure you book in advance via the office email to ensure that we have sufficient staff to cover the club.

Extra-Curricular after school clubs will be running from the second week of term.

ENTRY TO SCHOOL

Classrooms open at **8.30am** and pupils need to be in school by **8.45am** at the latest.

Y1 – Y6 please continue to drop your children at the main playground gate by the office.

New reception parents will use the main playground gate by the office but will drop off at **9am** for the first 2 weeks. We will continue to staff the entrance to the gravel car park and operate a vehicle free site. Feel free to drop your child off in the gravel car park instead of walking them in, as staff on duty

will ensure they make it to class. New pupils can be dropped off and collected with older siblings if you wish.

PICK UP FROM SCHOOL

3.15pm pick-up for Y1 – Y6. (Year 1, 4 and 5 Office Playground Gate) (Year 2, 3, 6 Car Park Playground Gates)

New reception pupils will be finishing at 3pm for the first 2 weeks and will be collected from the wooden pedestrian gate.

Please can everyone remember to stand where the class teacher can see you to allow us to dismiss the children quickly. If you want your child to walk home, please ensure you have emailed the office with permission for this.

SNACKS

Tuck shop for KS2 pupils will be starting from Monday 11th September run by Year 6 supported by our PTA. Everything is 20p. Details of what is on offer will be in a ping at the start of term as this is dependent on what Mrs Wright can obtain from the wholesalers. Please provide a suitable break-time snack for the first week back – fruit, savoury crackers, breadsticks etc. EYFS & KS1 are provided with fruit by the school, so no break-time snack is needed.

PACKED LUNCHES

Please save the chocolate and sweets for home. These will be removed from packed lunches as they adversely affect afternoon learning, so please do not put them in lunchboxes as this causes unnecessary upset. Please use common sense, for example, cereal bars containing a few chocolate drops & Fruit Winders are fine, but snacks such as chocolate covered raisins are not as these melt and cause a mess. Plain raisins are just as sweet.

BAGS

Book bags & drawstring bags only. Just a reminder about this rule. If your child brings a large rucksack the contents will be emptied into a named carrier bag which they can hang on their peg and the rucksack sent to the office to be collected by parents. As the school population has grown we are really pushed for corridor hanging space and this measure has helped keep corridors safe and clear for everyone. Thank you for continuing to help with this.

WATER BOTTLES

Pupils need to bring their own clearly named water bottle – any bottles with juice will be emptied and replaced with water so please only send water in. Juice boxes etc. can be included in packed lunches.

UNIFORM REMINDERS

We encourage ALL pupils to wear PLAIN black trainers to school as we undertake the daily mile, yoga, dance and have active playtimes with a variety of sports on offer. Plain black school shoes are still

permitted if you prefer these but they ***should be suitable for active playtimes*** and sporting activities, including PE lessons.

We also allow pupils to wear an 'active' uniform daily if they wish, not just on PE days. This means that PLAIN black leggings or jersey jogging bottoms will be allowed in addition to the usual grey skirts, shorts or trousers. Please do not buy expensive logoed items or trainers for your child as we will ask them to change into spare kit. Children should still wear white polo shirts and royal blue sweatshirts / cardigans. White T-shirts / Blue shorts can still be worn on PE days if you wish but most pupils are now wearing white polos everyday including for PE so we are relaxing our PE uniform to take account of this preference. This also means that no one needs to worry about which top is needed on which day!

We will continue to ask pupils to wear their blue sweatshirts or cardigans everyday including PE days. No other sportswear is permitted. In order to maximise the amount of time spent on sporting activity we will no longer be allowing the pupils to change into their own sportswear for clubs and they will be expected to wear their active uniform. Please see below a summary of the options now available.

Footwear PLAIN black trainers or shoes suitable for sport (optional black plimsolls or plain white trainers on PE days if you wish)

Tops Plain/logoed White polo shirt (optional white T-shirt on PE days if you wish)
Plain/logoed Royal Blue sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece

Bottoms PLAIN black leggings, shorts or jersey jogging bottoms (not shiny style with zips)
Grey trousers, skirts, shorts (optional blue shorts on PE days if you wish)

Summer dresses /playsuits are also still part of our uniform.

This is designed to simplify matters for those families who wish their child to wear the same outfit each day, whilst still giving the option of a PE kit for those families who wish to differentiate. This will also ensure that all pupils are dressed appropriately for daily physical activity.

No item of uniform has been stopped, so you can still use any items you have purchased or hand items down if you have siblings in school.

Forsters www.forsterskent.co.uk and School Trends www.schooltrends.co.uk our uniform suppliers offer all these items but plain items, including footwear are also available from all supermarkets.

Please remember that only small **stud** earrings are allowed in school and pupils must be able to remove these themselves for PE. If your child arrives at school with hooped hearings, they will be asked to remove them.

Please also ensure your child has coat, hat, sunscreen as appropriate for the weather as we will continue to use the school grounds for outdoor learning and the British weather is notoriously changeable.

UNICYCLE - SCHOOL UNIFORM RECYCLING

As a school, both staff and children wish to do as much as they can to be environmentally friendly. With this in mind we want to introduce **UNICYCLE**, recycling of school uniform.

How can you be involved?

1. Please donate to school, through the school office any unwanted Newington school uniform that are still in good condition and have been washed. This can include outdoor coats.
2. Please regularly look through lost property, as unnamed items that are unclaimed, after a long period, will be recycled through **UNICYCLE**.
3. Look out for PING notifications for **UNICYCLE SESSIONS**. Washed and sorted items will be available free of charge or if you wish for a small donation to school, from the school hall.

Please help us start thinking green as well as blue with school uniform!



Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 4th September!