

Ready for Learning - Ready for Life -

Newton Hill Community School Update - Term 2 2023/2024

February 2024

Dear Parents & Carers,

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February will be an optional non-uniform day** where children can dress in something to express themselves\*. During the week the children will be taking part in a number of activities to learn about mental health and wellbeing.

Place2Be's theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'. My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

This year, Place2Be's aim is to empower children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing. Our aim for Children's Mental Health Week - we want all children and young people to be able to say - and believe - "My Voice Matters."

As parents and carers, you play an important role in your child's mental health. You can visit the site below for more information and resources.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>



*\*We do ask that children wear sensible and appropriate clothing and footwear for school. Thank you.*



**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

| <u>Dates for your diary</u>   | <u>Event</u>   |
|---|--|
| INSET Days<br>2023/2024<br>(School is closed on the following days).  | Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September<br>Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November<br>Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December<br>Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May (Polling Day)<br>Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July   |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February                                       | NSPCC Number Day – children can come dressed as a digit/number themed outfit on this day.  |
| Week beginning<br>Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February                     | Children's Mental Health Week  |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February                                      | Safer Internet Day   |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February                                       | Optional non-uniform day for Children's Mental Health Week.<br>Wear something to express yourself or that makes you feel good.   |
| Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February                                     | Year 5 visit to Cannon Hall Farm for a WWII evacuee day in conjunction with Barnsley Museum.   |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> -<br>Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February      | Year 6 Residential visit to Robin Wood.  |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> February<br>6 <sup>th</sup> March | KS1 Family Numeracy Programme (see previous letter)  |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March   | Save the Date:<br><u>Parent &amp; Carer Wellbeing Coffee Afternoon</u><br>Please arrive at 2:00pm for refreshments. The session will start at 2:15pm until 3:15pm.<br><br>Information sharing session by our Future in Mind practitioner: <b>Understanding and Managing Big Emotions</b> |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June  | Save the Date – NHCS Summer Fair 3:30pm  |

## For your reference:

### Attendance

**Please can you let school know if your child is going to be absent from school.**

If we do not know the reason why your child is absent, we will follow our procedures - this is a telephone call to all contacts and a home visit. If we are unable to make contact with you, we will refer the absence to the local authority. If you know your child is going to be absent, please complete an absence request form (available from the school office). Please note holidays in term time are not permitted. Following Local Authority guidance, penalty notices may be issued for holidays taken in term time. If your child is absent from school, please let the school office know as soon as possible by leaving a voicemail through the school telephone system or emailing [admin@newton-hill.org.uk](mailto:admin@newton-hill.org.uk). Thank you for your cooperation.



### Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed you may be eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) until Year 6, please contact school as the application process is changing. There is no difference for how children order or receive meals if they are eligible for FSM. If your child receives FSM (Reception to Year 6) the school will also receive additional funding to support your child. Children in receipt of FSM also received confidential support with educational visits.

School meals for children in Reception and KS1 are FREE – this is part of the universal free school meal offer.

### Our Local Community

Just a polite reminder to park safely and to be respectful to our local residents when picking up and dropping off particularly on Newton Avenue and East Street.

Thank you.



## **School Uniform**

Please can we ask that all uniform/property is clearly labelled.

Thank you to everyone who follows our uniform expectations. The pre-loved uniform is always available – please contact Mrs Dundas for further information or support. We have a range of uniform – all ages. Please make use of the uniform available - all requests will be dealt with confidentially.

## **Safeguarding**

If you have any safeguarding concerns or need any support or advice, please do not hesitate to contact the school.



Our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are: Mrs Wheatley, Mrs Whelerton, Mrs Luck, Mr Paine, Mrs Dundas, Mrs Myton and Miss Land.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> This website offers advice and guides for parents which you may find useful.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

If you need support or advice, you can also contact Wakefield Social Care Direct on 0345 8 503 503. There are other numbers you may find useful on our school website under Safeguarding.

## **Keeping Safe Online**

You may find the following sites and information useful:

[Keep Children Safe Online: Information, Advice, Support - Internet Matters](#)

[What is the metaverse? - What parents need to know | Internet Matters](#)

[Social Media Checklists | SWGfL](#)

## **Mental Health Team**

We have a number of staff members who are mental health first aiders who can offer advice and support for your child and you. Please contact the school if you would like any support.



Telephone: 01924 303680

[admin@newton-hill.org.uk](mailto:admin@newton-hill.org.uk)

[www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk](http://www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk)

### **Unplanned School Closures – Snow/Adverse Weather**

Although snow is welcomed by our children it can, as you know, cause issues with schools. We will always aim to notify you of any closures at the earliest opportunity and appreciate that this may be at short notice.

In the unlikely event of a school closure, for reasons out of our control, we will contact you via Parent Hub. We will also display messages/updates on our school website [www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk](http://www.newtonhill.wakefield.sch.uk).

We will always do our best to stay open, but if for any reason we have to close *during the day* we will contact you via Parent Hub, and information will be displayed on our website. A member of the Leadership Team will always stay on site until all children have been collected.

### **Newts Provision – Adverse Weather**

During adverse weather conditions, various considerations need to be assessed to see if school can open safely – for example the number of members of staff who can get to work safely, site safety and access.

Therefore, if there are any occasions of adverse weather (snow/treacherous conditions), Newts provision will not be open for breakfast club. This is to allow sufficient time for school to assess if school can open safely and if there are enough staff able to travel to school safely.

Messages will be sent to all parents via Parent Hub as reminders should this be the case and we will always give advance notice if weather warnings are issued. We will aim to notify you by 7am should this be the case. We will always try to stay open during adverse weather conditions and school may offer a later opening time rather than a full closure depending on the circumstances.

| August 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M           | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|             | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7           | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14          | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21          | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28          | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

| September 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M              | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|                |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4              | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11             | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18             | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25             | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

| October 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M            | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|              |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2            | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9            | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16           | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23           | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30           | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

| November 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|               |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6             | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13            | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20            | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27            | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

| December 2023 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|               |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4             | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11            | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18            | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25            | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| January 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M            | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
| 1            | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8            | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15           | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22           | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29           | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

| February 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M             | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|               |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5             | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12            | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19            | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26            | 27 | 28 | 29 |    |    |    |

| March 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|            |    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| 4          | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11         | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18         | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25         | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| April 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M          | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
| 1          | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8          | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15         | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22         | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29         | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

| May 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M        | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|          |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  |
| 6        | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13       | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20       | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27       | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

| June 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|           |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3         | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10        | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17        | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24        | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |

| July 2024 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M         | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
| 1         | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8         | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22        | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29        | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

- = Bank Holidays
- = School Holidays
- = UK Parliamentary, West Yorkshire Combined Authority Mayoral and District Council Elections (schools will need the authorisation of the Returning Officer if they are to be used as a Polling Station and wish to remain open on this day. Otherwise schools used as a polling station should be closed for INSET). Schools not used for election purposes may arrange alternative closures for INSET. Individual schools may decide the dates of the remaining 4 INSET dates.

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Number of pupil days:        | 195 |
| Less INSET days to be fixed: | 5   |
| Total number of pupil days:  | 190 |