

Friday 20th October 2017

Dear Parents & Friends,

As this is our first newsletter this school year, it is my privilege to welcome you back and give a special welcome to all parents who are new to our school. As always, my door is open so do please speak to me as needed. I am looking forward to continuing our close partnership over the coming year.

Uniform

Please name all articles of clothing and footwear as we cannot return them to the owners if they are not labelled. Footwear needs to be plain black school shoes - trainers are not acceptable. If your child persistently comes to school wearing non uniform items then I will be writing to you personally about this.

PE kit needs to be in school every day, but do feel free to take it home over a weekend for a wash whenever you see fit. PE kits are always sent home for washing each holiday. All children from reception up to year 6 need both indoor and outdoor footwear for PE, jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt or tracksuit for outdoor PE. All children should have a school logo PE t-shirt for indoor and outdoor PE – available to order via the school office or website.

As a reminder, make up, nail varnish and temporary tattoos / transfers are not permitted in school. Any earrings worn need to be small studs. If your child is unable to remove them for PE then the earrings will need to be covered with first aid tape for that lesson please. Headscarves and oversized bows need to be avoided please. It is important that our children take pride in their appearance, and we look forward to your continued support with this.

Lunchtime

The cost of school meals has been kept at £2 per day. Please can parents pay dinner monies in advance of each week's lunches – payments therefore are due on a Monday. The school Dinner Money Policy states that should a parent have a dinner money debt that exceeds £10 for a child, a formal letter will be sent informing them to provide their child/children with a packed lunch to prevent further arrears.

Please speak to Mrs Bradshaw in the school office if you have yet to start using the School Monies online payment system. This makes paying for school lunches, as well as trips and other such expenses, much easier and safer.

All school receive Pupil Premium funding for children entitled to free school meals. Each year the money is used to give specific additional support to these children. Now that all infant children are given a school meal free of charge, it is becoming increasingly difficult to ensure that the children entitled to this support are receiving it. If you receive benefits then you may well be entitled to free school meals (Pupil Premium) so please contact the school office in confidence. It is well worth applying, even though meals are free for infant children, as pupil premium funding makes a huge difference to the individual support that can be offered.

School Management Team / Pupil voice

At the end of the summer the year 6 class were asked who would like to put themselves forward to be considered for our School Management Team. All the children were keen to be involved, and all presented their manifestos to the whole school during assembly. Each class held a vote (democracy rules at NCS) and 6 children were elected to become the SMT: Molly, Hollie, Abby, Jasmine, Aiden and Alfie. Congratulations to you all! Already the SMT has begun work on some fundraising ideas for school. Well done team – looking forward to what more you have planned for the course of the year! As well as the SMT, we are continuing to work with children on our anti-bullying council (Lucas, Carleigh, Molly, Devon, Jack) Tech team (Darcy, Lucas, Ben, Lily, Harrison, Ameelia, Bailey, Regan) and Worship Team (Oliver, Jessica, Ameelia, Matthew, George, Lydia). As a school we are

committed to encouraging the children to have a greater say in how their school is run, and developing their own education. If anyone has any more ideas about giving opportunities for the children's voice, please do contact me.

Helping in school

We are grateful that so many of you have been able to come into school and work with the children over the years. The children really benefit from the support of extra adults in class. If you would like to help, please catch me on the gate in the morning, or contact the school office. We do have tight procedures regarding police checks for child protection reasons and will need you to fill in a form for this.

The beginning and end of the school day

As a parent myself, I understand that we all need to settle our children and ensure they are happy at the beginning of the school day. However, congestion from parents and pushchairs on corridors continues to compromise the health and safety of our children. Please could I ask that parents of children in Y2 – Y6 allow the children to come into school unaccompanied. All pushchairs should be left in the quad area if / when a parent does need to come into school. If you would like to speak to a teacher, please contact school beforehand between 8.30 – 8.45am or after school. If possible, telephone the school office and make an appointment – this ensures you have the class teacher's undivided attention (the school office is open 8.30am – 4pm). Could I also ask that the entrance into school via the school office is only used by parents needing to see Mrs Brown or Mrs Bradshaw. At the beginning and end of the day children should enter and leave the building via the doors on the Quad or outside the EYFS classroom.

To keep our children safe it is important that any bikes or scooters are **pushed** down the school path please.

If your child is absent from school, please telephone the school office by 9am. We need this information to come directly from the child's next of kin. For any children absent without explanation, we will contact you from 9am.

For infant children, if there is a change to who is collecting your children, please let us know, as we cannot hand over children without your permission.

Safeguarding

The staff and I work extremely hard in school to ensure that your children are kept safe at all times. Please can I ask that if parents are leaving the school site when the main gate is closed ensure that they DO NOT hold the gate open for any other visitor to school, but instead close the gate and ask the visitor to buzz the office. It is vital that the staff know who adults are that are entering our building, including friends and parents. I hope you understand the need for me to stress the importance **NOT** to open that gate for anybody to gain entrance to the school site.

Car Parking

We have had many concerns raised by parents because of cars parked illegally at the front of school. Poor parking often means that the bus route is blocked, or that drivers are unable to pass along Cranborne Road, and more importantly that our children cannot see clearly to enable them to cross the road safely. We are aware that parking is not always easy, but please support us with this and help us to be good neighbours and keep our children safe.

Attendance

As you are aware, we have been working hard to improve the attendance rates of the children at NCS. Today's 100% attendance award was won by Lucas in Y5, who has come to school every session during this half term. (89 children in total were submitted to the prize draw). The end of term 'traffic light' letters you have received today (via email) will give you an indication as to how your child's attendance is looking so far this year. Since September 2015 the Department for Education class any child who has an attendance rate of lower than 90% as a 'persistent absence' and as such could be visited by our school EWO to offer help and support in ensuring children are in school.

Head lice

This holiday is an ideal opportunity to ensure your family are clear from head lice. Please ensure you check and treat, so that we can begin our next term as a head lice free zone!

Severe weather

Please be assured that we will always do our best to keep the school open, but if closing school becomes unavoidable details are as follows:

- On the school Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/newboldchurchschool/>
- Text messages will be sent to all parents. If you have not been receiving these, please let us know as soon as possible.
- On Peak FM, although this can take some time to come through.

Updating details

Don't forget, if you have any changes to phone numbers, address, email or emergency contact details, it is vital that you let the school office know, so that we contact you in the case of an emergency, and also so you continue to receive regular updates from the school. Thank you.

Cupcake decorating competition

Annie, our school cook, is taking part in the Derbyshire Cupcake Decorating Competition for schools. If you fancy taking part, all you need to do is bake and decorate a cupcake at home with your child, then bring it in to school on Wednesday 15th November to be judged by Annie and me! (all entries to the school office please). The winning child from our school will receive a prize, and a photograph of their submission will be sent to Head Office at Matlock, to be judged in the county final. The winner of that final wins serious amount of baking equipment for the school!

Talking of food – School Christmas Lunch will be served on 13th December 2017. More details to follow!

Dates for your Diary

October 2017

20	Last day of term
30	INSET Day - No School
31	First day of Term

November 2017

2	PTA DISCO (Infants 5.00pm to 6.00pm / Juniors 6.00pm to 7.30pm)
7/9	Parent's Evenings
27	Winter sports presentation evening / infant bedtime reading event

December 2017

6	Christingle in School - 9.15am
7	Flu Vaccinations – EYFS to Y4
13	Mass in school - 9.15am
14 & 15	Infant Christmas Production 2pm
18	Panto in school
18	Junior Christmas Carols in Church - 6pm
19	Last Day of Term

January 2018

2/3	INSET Day - No School
4	First Day of Term

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank all the parents and friends of the school for their continued support. As you already know, my door is always open and should you have any worries or queries (or even just nice things to say!) please do not hesitate to contact me. I try my hardest to stand by the school gate most mornings, so if you want to keep things informal, just grab me for a 'chat' then.

Mrs K Marsh
Headteacher

A message from the police

NO waiting No parking NO EXCUSE

Parking outside school?

Please park in a safe and legal manner and consider others when leaving your vehicle.



in an emergency always call 999 www.derbyshire.police.uk



Parking outside school?

Park safely • Park legally

- **DO NOT** stop or park near a school entrance keep off school keep clear markings
- **DO NOT** double park to pick up or drop off children from vehicles
- **DO** consider parking further away from the school and walking the last 5 or 10 minutes
- **DO** consider local residents and whether they have immediate access onto and off their driveway
- **DO** remember that people in wheelchairs or using push chairs may need to pass by your car on the pavement.

The police can remove your unattended vehicle if you cause an obstruction. This means blocking a driveway or a path even for a short amount of time.

Civil Enforcement Officers can issue you with a penalty charge notice for stopping on school keep clear/entrance markings so keep them clear.

Please park in a safe and legal manner and consider others when leaving your vehicle.