

Headteacher
Mrs H Causon
J Brennan



Deputy Headteacher
Mrs



Newbold Verdon Primary School and Community Centre

September 2020

Autumn term 2020: Mrs Johnson's class

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been wonderful to see all the children again and get back to some sort of normality after such a long and strange time away from school. I am looking forward to getting to know your children and working with them this year. We understand that the last 6 months have been tricky due to Covid 19 and we will focus on supporting the children socially and emotionally as well as academically. Mrs Flowitt is remaining with me in year 3 and will be supporting the children's learning, whilst Mrs Carey will cover my class on Monday afternoons and Mr March will cover the class for half an hour on a Wednesday afternoon.

For the first 4 full weeks of term, we will revise elements of the Year 2 English and maths curriculum that were missed due to lockdown. In the afternoons we will teach wider curriculum lessons as well as completing short burst maths and English tasks that we will call 'Rapid Reasoning' and 'Express English'. This, as well as small group interventions, should help the children to transition back to a more normal curriculum. We will assess the children at the end of this time and use it as a starting point for the rest of the academic year.

As we begin the new academic year, here are a few reminders of how you can support your child during their time at Newbold Verdon Primary School:

PE Kit - Please make sure that your child has the correct PE kit in school on the appropriate days. We are trying to teach PE outside as much as possible. Kit should comprise of a white t-shirt, black shorts, jogging bottoms, sweatshirt and trainers. We will not be providing children with spare kit due to the risk of Covid. Earrings should be removed for PE. If their ears have been recently pierced, your child should bring micro-pore tape to cover them for the initial 6 weeks and they will need to be able to apply and remove this themselves.

School uniform should be worn at all other times. This includes black or grey trousers/skirt/shorts and a white or blue polo shirt. In addition a royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan should be worn and shoes should be black. No jewellery other than watches and ear studs should be worn.

We are going to be keeping windows and doors open throughout the day to allow for airflow around the classroom. With this in mind, children are allowed to 'layer up' so long as they have the school sweatshirt or cardigan over the top. There is also the option of wearing a school fleece over the top of this.



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'Dragons fly high, show respect and have fun!'



Water bottles - We ask children to take their water bottles home every night and bring them the next morning. This will stop children needing to fill them up during school time and will ensure bottles are regularly cleaned. This year, they will be allowed to keep their bottles on their tables.

Homework will be set and collected in every Friday and your support with this homework is greatly appreciated. The homework will consist of one grammar and one maths piece of work, which will be set on Seesaw (the online platform used during lockdown). Please let us know if you require paper copies instead. The homework should be completed by the following Friday to receive an extra Dragon Wing. Children should not spend more than 20 minutes on each of these, unless of course they wish to do more. The children will also be encouraged to continue to practice their times tables – on TTRockstars. Homework Club will continue to run after school (letters to be handed out shortly).

Reading diaries will be checked every Friday so please can you make sure that you or your child sign for every date that they read. It is expected that children will read 3/5 times per week – even if it is only for 5 minutes. This can be done independently. Children who read 5 times or more in a week will receive an extra Dragon Wing!

Please be aware that reading in Key Stage 2 is quite different to reading at school in Key Stage 1. We do not listen to the children read individually on a regular basis as they have been up to year 2. We will be assessing their reading on return to school to ensure that they are on the right level (due to the long break), however reading in year 3 moves towards whole class reading with a major focus on comprehension. Children who are struggling with their reading will however receive extra support as necessary. Therefore, extra reading at home (even in short bursts) is greatly appreciated and will support your child's development.

We will begin this year with a week's focus on geography comparing two areas in New York state: Broadway and Harriman National Park using the book, The Bear and the Piano. Our main topic for autumn will be the Ancient Greeks and children will be bringing home a knowledge organiser for the history and science topics with facts to learn. There will be a short quiz at the end of the topics so please encourage your child to try to learn as many of these key facts as possible.

English (guided reading and writing):

Revising and consolidating the Year 2 English Curriculum
The Heart and the Bottle
Seasonal poetry

Maths:

Place value and number
Additive reasoning (using +/- to solve calculations and problems)
Multiplicative reasoning (using x/÷ to solve calculations and problems)



History:

Ancient Greece:



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'Together we will give all our children the educational experiences necessary to fulfil their potential.'

Who were the Ancient Greeks and what did we learn from them?

PSHE:

Me and my relationships
Valuing difference

Computing:

E-safety
Coding

Science:

Health and Movement
Light and Shadow

RE:

What does it mean to be a Christian in Britain today?

Art/D&T:

Greek Art and Design: mosaics, masks and sculptures

French:

A specialist French teacher will teach 30 minutes of French every week.

Music:

What was that composer thinking? (Prokofiev)
How musical is our playground?

PE:

PE is timetabled for Monday and Friday this term. We will be covering dodgeball, yoga, gymnastics and outdoor adventure activities.

Please arrange to speak to me, via the office, if you have any issues or concerns regarding this year.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Johnson
Year 3 Class Teacher

