

Headteacher
Mrs H Causon



Deputy Headteacher
Mrs J Brennan

Newbold Verdon Primary School and Community Centre

Dear Parents/Carers,

A warm welcome back after the summer break! We hope that you all had a good summer holiday and are all refreshed, ready to go.

We have been delighted to see how the children are coming in independently every morning. This allows the children to come in to the classroom and focus on their Early Morning work. If you need to get a message to us, the adult on the door will gladly pass on anything you need to inform us about, or you can send in a note. We thank you for your support with this.

Water bottles – all children should bring in a named water bottle every day, which is kept in a box in the classroom. We have noticed that several children do not have water bottles,

Toast – thank you to all of you have already paid for the toast in advance. The costs this half-term are £3.20 for 1 slice, or £6.40 for 2 slices.

English – We will start the year with a poetry focus, based on wild animals and inspired by Rousseau's painting 'Tiger in a Tropical Storm'. Then we will be creating our own class book based on 'Would you rather...' Every child creates their own page of the giant book, inspired by the original. Then we are going to be studying and responding to a short animation film, where children will be asked to write their own ending to the story. And finally we will look at writing a set of instructions. After half-term, our first 4 weeks is based around the beautiful book 'Meerkat Mail' which ties in perfectly with our Geography topic. We will be responding to the story with postcards and diaries. Then we will move on to writing a non-chronological report about a wild animals of their choice, inspired and supported by what the children will have learnt in the Geography and Science topics.

Maths – In the first instance, we re-visit Place Value for 2-digit numbers. Then we start looking at Addition and Subtraction including money.

Art – Children will start the term with a Whole-school art focus. Our Year 2 chosen artist is Henri Rousseau, and we will be studying his painting 'Tiger in a Topical Storm'. Every child will produce their very own version of the painting. Then we will be looking at Earth Art – using nature to inspire art.

Topics For the first half of the Autumn term our Learning Challenge is 'What exciting things would Dora find in our village?' This is a Geography topic, based on using the character Dora the Explorer to look at, first, the continents and oceans of the world, followed by looking at the features of our village. After half-term we will be continuing the Geography focus, 'Why can't a Meerkat live in the North Pole?' This unit starts by looking at the climate and habitat of first Kenya and then the Arctic, including the creatures that live there and features of the landscape.

Science For the fist half-term we will be studying Growth and Survival – thjs looks at what animals, including humans, need to survive. After half-term we will then move on to Living in Habitats. This gives us the opportunity for lots of practical science - to explore habitats and micro-habitats around us. We will visit the Sensory garden and gather evidence from our wooded areas around school.

Reading Children will be asked to put their reading book and diary in the reading box each morning, so that we can see which books need to be changed. Please feel free to write any comments or questions

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you may have in here. We expect that all children should read at home daily if possible, as this really benefits their progress. Children will regularly read in a Guided Reading group to an adult.

Music The Year 2 focus composer this year will be Mozart. Throughout the year, the children will be listening to his works and finding out about his life. Then every child will be taught the Ocarina, starting in the Autumn Term. This will be followed by a unit 'How long is that sound?' Children will make and control long and short sounds using voices and instruments. This will be taught in conjunction with rehearsing for the Year 1 and 2 Christmas production.

RE In the first half-term we will look at 'How we should care for others and why does it matter?' After half-term, we will cover 'How do we celebrate special and sacred times?'

ICT We will start with e-safety and then we will be looking at using the internet.

PSHE This will include a visit to the Life Education Bus, where we will be talking about our feelings and what makes a good friend. We will look at the process of democracy through selecting and voting for our school council members. There will be a special focus on charities and why we support them.

DT We will be looking designing and modelling our own playground equipment.

PE During the first half-term, we will be doing Dance and Multi-skills. During the second half-term, the children will have Yoga sessions with a professional Yoga instructor along with Invasion games. Children should have both an indoor and outdoor PE kit in school every day, comprising of:

Indoor: white T-shirt, black shorts and plimsolls.

Outdoor: white T-shirt, warm jogging top, joggers and trainers

We would like to remind you that **no jewellery** should be worn for PE. Ears that are newly pierced may be **covered for the first 6 weeks** (we advise the use of micropore tape rather than plasters to cover ears). After this time, children must be able to remove earrings themselves or not wear them on PE days. This is part of our health and safety policy for all children.

Homework Children will be given a learning log with weekly tasks to complete. Homework will be given on a Friday, to be returned the following Wednesday.

We are looking forward to an exciting half-term and hope that you will be able to attend our introductory meeting after school on **Friday 13th September**. A reminder text will follow about this.

We thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Marlow and Mrs Brennan

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