



MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2024

# News at Newfield

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new term and a new year.

We have had a good start to the term. Pupils are working hard and have settled back into routines. Reading is at the heart of all we do at Newfield. We have started additional reading groups in Years 1 and 2 this term to help accelerate progress for all of our pupils. This term, teachers have been working hard to plan how to extend the highest attainers in all subjects, including Reading, as well as continuing to support those pupils who are struggling with their phonics and reading skills. Please support your child at home by encouraging them to read their Home Readers- these might be books linked to their phonic learning in school or reading for pleasure books. You can never read enough books- the more you read, the more you learn and the better your vocabulary!

We believe that we have a fantastic curriculum at Newfield. Pupils are given a high-quality education in all subjects. The curriculum at Newfield is available on the school website- please have a look at what your child will be learning this term. [www.newfield.brent.sch.uk](http://www.newfield.brent.sch.uk).

As you know we offer a lot of trips and enrichments at Newfield. Year 4 and Year 5 have already been out on trips to enhance their learning experiences- Year 4 to the London Mithraeum and Year 5 to Kew Gardens. Next week Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to watch a pantomime in the West End, which staff and pupils are very excited about. Some of the West London Zone pupils are taking part in a woodwork project, which sounds wonderful.

Many of our clubs are up and running already or will start next week – including Football, Multi-skills, Netball, Running, Art, Gardening and Sensory Circuits. Year 6 Boosters are also taking place. Please contact the school office if you want to find out any more about any of these clubs.

Included in this Newsletter are some key dates and events for the term. Children's Mental Health Week is just before half term. The theme this year is "Your Voice Matters". We always listen to our pupils at Newfield and they continually help us to make changes and improve the school. We have recently undertaken surveys and discussion groups to try to improve the current menu and to further improve school meals. Hopefully, a new menu will be shared soon.

This half term we are thinking of ways to help quieter pupils and those for whom communication is challenging to find ways to make their voice heard. Emotional health and pupil well-being are a high priority for us: we use a resource called "My Happy Mind" to help all pupils to talk about their brain, feelings and emotions. We also use Zones of Regulations to help children to understand how they are feeling and we support them to find ways to regulate when they do not feel happy. Ask your child about this- I hope that they can tell you all about My Happy Mind and Zones of Regulation.

(Continues on the next page.)

## Attendance

Our school target for attendance is 95%.

### Yearly attendance 4<sup>th</sup> Sept – 12<sup>th</sup> Jan

Nursery: 94.4%  
Reception: 89.1%  
Year 1: 92.9%  
Year 2: 93%  
Year 3: 94.6%  
Year 4: 94.9%  
Year 5: 95.1%  
Year 6 Palm: 92.2%  
Year 6 Elm: 93.5%  
ARP: 85.2%

Total school attendance this academic year:  
**93%**

## Attendance

Our school target for attendance is 95%.

### Weekly attendance Tue 9<sup>th</sup> – Fri 12<sup>th</sup> January:

Nursery: 89.8%  
Reception: 86.9%  
Year 1: 88.3%  
Year 2: 90.7%  
Year 3: 97.7%  
Year 4: 94%  
Year 5: 95.2%  
Year 6 Palm: 81.3%  
Year 6 Elm: 87.5%  
ARP: 87.5%

Total school attendance for the week:  
**91.3%**

## Spring Term 1 Key Dates

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January  
Y6 SATS Parents meeting (9am)

Y3 trip: Willesden Fire Station (10:30)

Y5 and Y6 trip: Beauty and the Beast Pantomime (1pm - 6:30pm)

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January  
5 Cedar Assembly 9am

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Jan – Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb  
National Storytelling Week  
Scholastic Book Fair

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> February  
1 Maple Assembly 9am

Mon 5<sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Children's Mental Health Week

Tue 6<sup>th</sup> February  
Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February  
Parent workshop: Online Safety

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February  
2 Ash Assembly

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February  
Staff Inset- School closed for pupils

Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Spring Half Term

Another key theme for this term is Online Safety. We teach online safety as part of every computing lesson that we teach throughout the year and we talk to the pupils about being safe online continually. We understand that keeping children safe on line is challenging for parents: technology is everywhere and so easily accessible; children are enthralled by technology and do not always understand the harm that online content can do them. We will be running a workshop to support parents with this. We will also be sharing resources with pupils and parents to help them in safer online use for children.

School attendance data remains disappointing overall. I would like to see a significant improvement this term. We will be contacting parents individually where their child's attendance is below expectations. You are reminded that holidays in term time are not permitted at Newfield. Please make sure that your child is in school every day and on time. Some of you will have seen your child coming home with a 100% Attendance medal. Well done if that was your child! I would also like to say a big 'well done' to 5 Cedar who have the best attendance to date.

Pupils who have had no yellow or red behaviour marks should also have come home with a certificate to celebrate their success. Well done to all of those children!

Finally, I am delighted to inform you that Ms To has been appointed as the permanent Deputy Headteacher at Newfield. She was appointed by the School Governors at the end of last term. We are very lucky to have her here and I look forward to working with her now and in the future.

Enjoy the rest of the term- it is a short term, but one where I hope to see continued progress and improvement for every child and for the school as a whole.

Ms Bolt

## Spring Term 2 Key Dates

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February  
School open- Spring term 2 begins

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February  
4 Beech Assembly 9am

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March  
6 Palm Assembly 9am

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
World Book Day

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March  
6 Elm Assembly 9am

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> March – Fri 15<sup>th</sup> March  
British Science Week

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March  
Mother's Day

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March  
3 Cherry Assembly 9am  
Comic Relief Day

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March  
Newfield Spelling Bee Final

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March  
Poetry Recital Assembly 9am

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March  
Last day of Spring term  
Learners of the Term Assembly

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April  
Easter Holidays

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NEW **THE PANDAS WHO PROMISE D** £7.99

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**Date:**  
When: Monday 29th January - Friday 2nd February 2024

**Where:** School Library

**What time:** 3:20pm - 4:00pm every day that week

Scan the QR code to pay online!

## Anti-Racism

This year, we continue to work alongside Brent local authority to raise further awareness about racism, and ensure that we have an **anti-racist** approach to everything that we do.

Anti-racism is built into the school's culture and key values, which include respect and tolerance of all races, ethnicities and faiths. We pride ourselves on our inclusivity, and we openly celebrate diversity among the staff, pupils and families.

Over the next few months, we will work hard to make sure that our curriculum reflects the community that we serve and ensure that pupils are given more opportunities to voice their opinions on this matter.

Please remember the following message:

Anti-racism is rooted in action. It is about taking steps to eliminate racism at the individual, institutional and structural levels. Simply being 'not racist' is not enough. We must actively challenge racism and be anti-racist.

