



Newlyn News

Newlyn School
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<http://www.newlynschool.co.uk/website> or see our Facebook page

25 June 2020

Summer 2020

What a pleasure it is to do something 'normal' and write a newsletter! I have been looking back over previous newsletters this year and have felt so much pride at our achievements as a school community. There are pictures of our very own Newlyn art gallery, our children playing musical instruments and dancing on St Piran's Day, exciting school trips like the Y6 trip down the mine, and our sporting achievements especially in hockey, cross country and swimming.



Things are still far from 'normal' as we cautiously welcome our children back into school. Those who have joined us have found the first day very daunting but have settled in well and are growing accustomed to the new measures that are in place. We have tried hard to get the balance between safety for our whole school community and the children's sense of well-being.

Lewis waiting patiently in his square until Mrs Gribben sends him up to his classroom.

Provision in school

We currently have Reception, Y1 and Y6 children in school as well as provision for our key worker and vulnerable children.

We were able to welcome some of our Y2 children back this week as well, which has been lovely and Mr Moore was delighted to see them.

My aim has always been to try and offer places to all year groups for children who want to return before the summer. Due to restrictions, any places offered need to be limited by numbers and by the space and staffing available. Every class has to be self-contained in its own 'bubble' which means that every change I make is very complicated! I am delighted to say that we have been able to offer places to Y5 children, for one week, from July 13th. This unfortunately means that Y6 provision will be ending on July 9th, but we will welcome them back during the final week in small groups to celebrate their time at Newlyn School.

I am now looking at different ways I can give Y3 and Y4 the opportunity to come back to school for a few days before we break up and will get in contact with parents as soon as I have any further information.

Attendance is still entirely voluntary. The majority of parents are still choosing to keep their children at home so please do not feel pressured to send your child back if you are not ready to do so. You need to do what is right for you and your family. We are happy to discuss any concerns with you.

Medically vulnerable children

If your child is medically vulnerable and you want your child to return to school then please contact us directly to discuss how to manage your child's return.

Parent Guidance

If your child is offered a place at school you will be sent the parent guidance document which you need to agree to follow. This has been written to keep everyone as safe as possible.

If you have not been following the government guidance on social distancing then you and your child must self-isolate for two weeks before any return to school will be possible.

If your child displays any symptoms at all, no matter how minor, we ask that you keep them at home and get them tested for the virus as soon as possible. If we have any concerns that someone in the 'bubble' may have the virus then the whole bubble will be sent home immediately and will need to self-isolate.

Classes next year

There will be some changes to classes next year which is due to huge financial constraints and changes to hours for some of our teachers. Our very lovely Mrs Gribben will now be working Monday-Wednesday and having a much needed rest and more time with her granddaughter the rest of the week. We are delighted to welcome back Miss Harrison who will be working Wednesday-Friday, sharing a class with Mrs Gribben. Miss Fitzgerald is also reducing her hours but will leave the class in the very capable hands of Mr Hickman when she is not there.

Reception/Y1: Mrs Gribben/Miss Harrison
Y1/Y2: Mr Moore
Y3: Mrs Holden
Y4: Miss Rollason
Y5: Miss Fitzgerald
Y6: Mrs Wood

Split classes

This is very common practice across many schools in the country so if your child is going to be in one of these classes then please do not worry. Our teachers are used to teaching children with a wide range of ability. There will be a very high ratio of adults to children in both classes and the Y1 children will come back together for daily phonics and for two afternoons a week. We will be contacting Y1 parents soon to let you know which class your child will be in.

2020 Cornwall Virtual School Games

I want to send a huge thank you to Mr Hickman for inspiring so many of you to take part in the Virtual School Games. I thought his was the stand out performance in the Opening Ceremony! Here are Y6 completing their gymnastics routine this week.



The school will close to all children on Tuesday 21st July.

September

We are still awaiting government guidance about what school will look like in September. As much as we all hope that things can go back to normal, I think we also have to be prepared for some disruption next year. We will continue to do everything we can to keep our school community safe but hope to have all our children back in September. I will contact you all again when we have a clear plan to share with you.

PSHE Policy

It will be a statutory requirement from September that schools have a PSHE Policy in place and that this covers Relationships and our approach to sex education. Ideally this would be discussed with parents but when we invited parents in no one attended which I hope is a good sign and that you have no concerns. We teach PSHE and relationships and sex education through the Jigsaw curriculum. Please see the website for further information.

I have attached the policy for you to have a look at and have an opportunity for feedback before it is approved by governors in July.

School Games

At the beginning of Lock-down we signposted a School Games App to all the children at Newlyn School. Aria in Year 3 signed up and has been doing very well, regularly finishing in the top 3 in her age group each week and for the month of May.

One of the tasks was to produce your own activity and submit it to the App. Aria was contacted and asked if they could use her activity as a demo on the App and that she had won a prize! Her demo is now live on the App and the Cornwall Games Page. We are very proud of her!

