



6th September, 2017

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you have enjoyed the holidays and your child(ren) are ready to start a new and exciting term. We welcome all new parents and children to our school. Our school motto is "Together We Achieve" – with your support we are sure your child will achieve their goals now and in the future.

A lot of new information is contained in this newsletter so please ensure you read it fully. The autumn term is always a busy term so I hope the attached diary dates will be useful.

Please also take a look at our website (www.northnewtonschool.co.uk) for information about our school, newsletters, handbook, etc. as well as photographs of class and school activities. Don't forget to press F5 on your computer to refresh the page each time.

NEWSLETTERS

We endeavour to distribute newsletters via the youngest child in school, so please check your child's reading folder/bag to find your copy. The first newsletter of each half term will be distributed via hard copy; all further newsletters for the half-term will be emailed if at all possible.



STAFF NEWS

Hedgehogs Class: Mrs Crow, Mrs Adams and the children will be joined by Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Larcombe.

Foxes Class: A change to the arrangements made in July. Mrs. O'Leary will teach on Mondays and Tuesdays and Mrs. Tucker will teach on Wednesday mornings, Thursdays and Fridays! I will still be taking the class swimming on Wednesdays. I am delighted Mrs. Tucker has agreed to teach on Fridays, as I will now be teaching in Badgers Class.

Squirrels Class: Congratulations to Miss Hudson on her marriage to Mr. Kevin Elkington during the summer holidays...it will take a little time to get used to the name change, but we'll get there!

Badgers Class: Mr. Day has made the decision to reduce his teaching commitment to 4 days. I will now teach Badgers class on Fridays and take them swimming.

Miss Denise Rogers, Administrative Assistant, left us at the end of the summer term to take up a full-time position.

Mrs Vicky Cole, MDSA, has also left us and we wish her well in her new ventures.

JOB VACANCY – LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR

5 days, term time only. 1230 – 1330

Due to Mrs Cole leaving us, we have a vacancy.
Would you like to help?

We would consider x2 part-time supervisors.

SCHOOL OFFICE

Please would parents note that the School Office will not be open on Tuesdays. Any urgent messages should be left with either the class teachers/teaching assistants or a message can be left on the answer-machine which will be listened to throughout the day.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

During the summer holidays a lot of work has taken place in and around the school. We hope you will be delighted with the improvements!

Windows: The County Council approved and paid for new windows throughout the main school building. We are delighted with the appearance of them which will offer better insulation for the classes and make our site more secure. Completion of the 3 large arched windows will take place during the October half-term.

Folding Screen/New Lighting/New Carpet: The County Council also paid for a sound-proof screen between Squirrels and Foxes classes, new lighting and new carpet. The project resulted in extra work which has delayed the installation of the screen. A temporary, fixed screen has been installed for this half-term and the new folding screen will be installed during the October half-term.

Perimeter Fencing: In accordance with advice from County Security Services, we have added an extra section of fencing, and have added a metal grill to our front gate. Both alternations were essential and now satisfy the requirements, when we are inspected.

Behind Badgers Class: Work is 'in progress' to build a smaller quiet area for those who need to 'Take 5'. If you would like to help complete one of my summer

jobs, please let me know. You must be able to mix up concrete and lay a patio. Perhaps a weekend team could finish what was started. I am grateful to Mrs. Larcombe who donated the sand.

SCHOOL DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Start of the Day: The school day starts at 9.00 a.m. however children may come into school from 8.45 a.m. (unless a part of the Breakfast Club). Children in **Foxes, Squirrels and Badgers** classes are encouraged to say goodbye to their parents in the playground so they can organise themselves and begin their learning in a settled manner. I will be on the gate as much as I can, but please be aware I am unable to do this every day due to teaching and other commitments.

During the first few weeks, parents of children in **Hedgehogs** class are invited into the classroom to ensure their child is settled, but please be aware your extended presence will affect your child's ability to settle for the day.

In order teachers begin teaching promptly, should you wish to see your class teacher, please make an appointment via the office. Of course, if it is essential please come to your child's classroom, but before 0850.

End of the Day: Children are the responsibility of their parents and not the school (unless children are taking part in an after school activity) at the end of the school day. Parents should wait in the main playground and ensure preschool children remain in their care at all times. Once children have been dismissed from their classes, they too should remain with their parents and not play in the school gardens, main playground or on the play equipment.

CLASS MEETINGS

Class meetings for years 1-6 will be held to explain the year ahead. It is important every parent attends these sessions or that a representative is made available to take notes (children are invited to the meetings). The meetings will be held in each class room from 3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. as follows:

Foxes: Thursday, 7th September
 Squirrels: Monday, 11th September
 Badgers: Tuesday, 12th September



BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to all those children who are celebrating birthdays in September:

Taylor Perry
 George Grindrod
 Isla Furzer
 Cormac Pickford
 Alfie Prickett
 Brandon Burton
 Jakob Jones



Callum Little
 Libby Quinn
 William Irish
 Rory Hancock
 Jack Irish
 Jackson Mantyk

SCHOOL UNIFORM/PE KIT

I am delighted to see the majority of children have returned to school wearing the appropriate school uniform, including shoes. We do keep a supply of sweatshirts/cardigans in stock so if you need to place an order please speak to Mrs. Hodge in the Office; uniform can also be ordered directly from www.jual.co.uk.

Name Label: It is essential all items of uniform are clearly named, preferably with a sewn in name label.

Jewellery/Make-up/Accessories: Children are not permitted to wear jewellery or make-up (including nail varnish) to school nor should children wear excessive accessories or hair dye. Jo-Jo bands only in blue, please. If children have pierced ears, small temporary studs may be worn however these must be removed or covered for all PE lessons and swimming.

PE Kit - please ensure your child has PE kit available in school **every day** for PE lessons. Trainers are preferable to daps as they give more ankle support – and are more waterproof (velcro trainers are available)! School PE kit is to be worn as opposed to other sports tops. During the winter months, children may wear navy/black jogging bottoms.

SWIMMING

Children in Foxes and Squirrels classes will be swimming at the Blackbrook Pavilion Pool, Badgers class will be swimming at Taunton Pool as follows:

	Day	Leave School	Return School
Foxes	Wednesdays	1.30 p.m.	3.00 p.m.
Squirrels	Tuesdays	2.00 p.m.	3.30 p.m.
Badgers	Fridays	1.00 p.m.	2.30 p.m.

Children will travel in the school minibuses. If any parents are available to help with escorting children to swimming, please speak to your child's class teaching assistant or Mrs. Hodge in the school office. If Foxes girls could avoid wearing tights on their swimming days, this would make it easier for them!

NEW 'GLL' RULINGS - Swimming Hats:

From September **ALL** children are required to wear a GLL (Greenwich Leisure Ltd.) swimming hat under their 'traffic light' system. Each child will be supplied with **1 hat free of charge**; if they lose this hat they will be required to purchase a new hat for £1.00. They are not permitted to swim without their hat.

Girls should wear swimming costumes (not bikinis) and boys should wear swimming trunks (not baggy shorts).

The cost for your child's swimming will be increasing to £2.80 per week. This charge covers transport to and from the pool, entrance fee, hire of swimming instructors and certificates for children gaining the various awards available. If you are exempt from charges (see exemptions later in the newsletter), no payment is necessary. Please return your payment with the attached form as soon as possible.

Prices for this half-term are:

Foxes and Badgers Classes: £19.60
Squirrels Class = £16.80
or £2.80 per week.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

We run an extensive extra-curricular programme – see letter enclosed. Clubs start next week (wb 11th Sept); please return the form by **Friday, 8th September**.

MUSIC LESSONS

Music tuition will start week beginning 11th September. Mr. Rob Tribe will teach guitar and ukulele on Monday and Friday afternoons and Miss Frances Webb will be teaching piano and keyboard on Tuesday afternoons. If your child would like to start lessons, please contact the tutor direct (see Extra-Curricular letter).



Music teachers will invoice parents directly in advance of lessons and payment should be made promptly. Parents must give half-term's notice in writing to both the music teacher and school if they wish to stop their child's tuition.

Children in Years 3 and 4 (Squirrels) will also be having free class ukulele lessons for this half-term and brass lessons after October half-term.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Parents are invited to join us in our weekly Celebration Assemblies at 2.45 p.m. on Friday afternoons when children will be able to show examples of work, receive certificates and also we'll find out who are the English and Maths class stars of the week! The first Celebration Assembly for this term will be on **Friday, 15th September**.

As we are unable to fold the temporary screen between Foxes and Squirrels class, Celebration Assemblies for this half-term will take place either on the playground (weather permitting) or in the village hall. We will inform you on the day.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The role of the Board of Governors is a strategic one and its key functions are to:

- set the aims and objectives for the school
- set the policies for achieving those aims and objectives

- set the targets for achieving those aims and objectives
- monitor and evaluate the progress the school is making towards achievement of its aims and objectives
- be a source of challenge and support to the headteacher (a critical friend)

Details of who is on the School's Board of Governors can be found on our school website: www.northnewtonschool.co.uk

PAYMENTS

All payments to the school should be placed in a sealed envelope with your child's name clearly written on it and put in the wooden boxes in each classroom. To ease administration, please ensure payment is made by cheque or the correct cash is enclosed. Payments in cash which require a receipt should be brought directly to the School Office.

EXEMPTIONS

It is the current policy of the Governing Body to remit charges for school activities to parents in receipt of Income Support; Income Based Jobseekers Allowance; support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or in receipt of Child Tax Credit and whose annual income, as assessed by The Inland Revenue, does not exceed £16190. If you are in this position it is important that you present proof to Mrs. Hodge in the School Office as soon as possible – Tax Credit Award Notice, TC602, which you will have received from the Inland Revenue, is ideal.

EARLY BIRDS BREAKFAST CLUB

The Early Birds Breakfast Club runs at North Newton School every week day morning, term time only, between 7.30 - 8.45 a.m.



The Club provides children with a healthy breakfast and a good start to the day as well as the opportunity for children to enjoy mixing socially with their friends and having access to play facilities and organised games. The full session is £4.00 per child, per day, or parents may prefer their child(ren) to join the Club from 8.15-8.45 a.m. for a reduced rate of £2.00 per child, per day to receive child care but no breakfast.

The Club is registered to accept Child Care Vouchers from Edenred and Sodexo. Please ask for a registration pack if your child would like to use the Early Birds Breakfast Club.

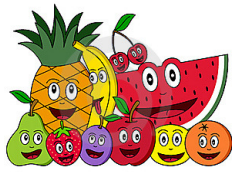
TAYLOR SHAW

Menus will continue to be distributed in three week batches. Please ensure that menus are returned by the **WEDNESDAY** preceding the week meals are required; **late orders may not be accepted in the future**. Children in Years R-2 are exempt from

payment; children in Years 3-6 will be charged £2.60 per meal.

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES/ WATER BOTTLES

Our school is part of the '5-a-day' healthy school initiative where we actively encourage children to eat 5 portions of fruit and/or vegetables a day. Children in Hedgehogs and Foxes classes will have a piece of fruit or veg provided free of charge each morning; children in Squirrels and Badgers classes may bring fruit to enjoy at snack time. **Crisps, chocolate bars or sweets are not allowed at break time.**



Water Bottles: Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school to ensure they have plenty to drink during the day.

DISCLOSURE

I am sure you are all aware of the need for all persons who have contact with children to obtain police clearance through the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). We are only able to use the help of parents and friends of the school for driving, assistance in classrooms, help on school visits, etc. when they have completed and successfully undergone this quick process. If you are able and would like to help in school or with driving please speak to Mrs. Hodge who will advise you of the process required to gain Disclosure.

TEXT MESSAGING/SOCIAL MEDIA

The school often uses a text messaging service to advise parents of important events and activities. We are only able to send one text per family and these are normally sent to the mother being the first point of contact. Should parents wish the father to receive texts, please advise the School Office.

Please enjoy our school Facebook page, which will allow you to see some of the exciting events taking place. Should you have any concerns or comments about our school, please come in and talk to us rather than using social media.



MILK

Mid-morning milk is available to all children at 22p per day. Milk is supplied via CoolMilk and any parents wishing their child to start milk should visit www.coolmilk.com. Children up to age 5 are entitled to free milk.

DATA COLLECTION FORMS

Enclosed with this newsletter is a Data Collection form detailing all the personal information the school holds on your child. It is important that you check this information carefully, amend any missing/incorrect data and return it to the School Office **as soon as possible.**

MEDICATION/NURSING PROCEDURES

Should your child need to receive medication during the school day it is essential that an "Administration of Medication" form is completed, available from your child's classroom. Please speak to the Teaching Assistant in your child's class who will provide you with the appropriate form. This form needs to be completed for all medicines, including asthmatic inhalers, before any medication can be administered by the school staff to your child.

Absence: If your child is unable to attend school, please ring the office to let us know. If we have not heard from you by 9.30 a.m. we shall contact you to ensure that you are aware your child is not present at school.



Asthma: Children who suffer from asthma must ensure they have their inhaler in school at all times.

Sickness/Diarrhoea: Should your child contract a sickness/diarrhoea bug they should not return to School for at least 48 hours after their last bout of illness.

CONSENT FORMS

It is the policy at North Newton School for parents to complete a Consent Form. This form authorises the school to administer first aid; agree to children being transported on school trips; undertake walks around the village; allow photographs to be used on the school's website; and for children to use filtered email/internet services. For those children who have recently joined the school a form is attached for completion. Any parents who have completed a Consent Form in the past and wish to amend or check their details should speak to Mrs. Hodge.

ABSENCES/HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Holidays: We continue to adhere to the guidance from the Local Authority regarding holiday requests in term-time (full details can be obtained from the Office or the school's website).

If parents wish to take their child(ren) out of school for a single day, please send a letter to school (there is no need to complete a holiday form). A copy of the 2017-18 term dates is available on the school website.

Please take special note of SATs Tests (week beginning 14th May, 2018) and Phonic Assessments (week beginning 11th June, 2018) and avoid absences during these very periods.

SECURITY

Access to the school is via the front automated gate. The gate will open for Breakfast Club between 7.30-8.15 a.m. and again from 8.45-9.05 a.m. The gate will be locked throughout the day and will open again at 3.15 p.m. Any parents wishing to enter the school outside of these times should use the intercom system

which connects through to the school offices and Hedgehogs classroom.

PARKING

Parents are fully aware parking is difficult and we are continually grateful to the Harvest Moon for allowing us to use the pub car park at the beginning and end of the school day.

Please note: cars should not be parked in the pub car park or the village hall car park at any other time of the day.

Please impress upon your children the need to be careful when crossing the road – the village is very busy at pick up time so please keep a close watch on your child.

When parking in the village please be considerate; we have received too many complaints from residents when cars have been parked across driveways or opposite driveways thereby restricting access.

If at all possible, please walk/cycle to school to reduce the difficulties of parking.

In order to further help the situation, I have contacted local residents and some have kindly offered staff to park in their drive, thus freeing up spaces in the car park, and keeping cars off the road. This is another example of the wonderful community spirit which exists in North Newton, but we all must work together to ensure this is maintained.

FOR SALE!!

Quality curved adult's desk for sale.

Approximately 150cm x 80cm.

Please contact the office if you are interested.

A simple donation to the school is the price.

AND FINALLY . . .

May I wish for this term to be a successful one, working together with you and your child(ren) in order they overcome challenges, achieve objectives, take pride in their learning and have fun along the way!

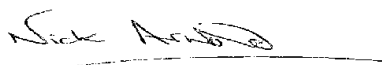
We are a very special school and as a staff we are privileged to be a part of developing each child. We want the best for your children and are dedicated and committed to the role we play.

parish of North Petherton
(North Newton/NorthPetherton/Somerset Bridge)

Entrance £1.00/Children under 12 FREE

Please come and support this great project.

Yours sincerely,



N. Arnold
Headteacher

EAST QUANTOCKS PROBUS CLUB

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 9th September
North Petherton Community Centre
10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon



Raising funds to buy books for three schools in the

AUTUMN TERM 2017

Monday, 4 th September	Inset Day
Tuesday, 5 th September	Inset Day
Thursday, 7 th September	3.30 p.m. Foxes Class Meet the Teacher
Saturday, 9 th September	10.00 a.m. East Quantoxhead Coffee Morning, North Petherton Community Centre
Monday, 11 th September	3.30 p.m. Squirrels Class Meet the Teacher
Tuesday, 12 th September	3.30 p.m. Badgers Class Meet the Teacher
Monday, 18 th September	7.00 p.m. PTFA Meeting – all welcome
Tuesday, 19 th September	Badgers' Class WOW Day
Wednesday, 27 th September	9.15-12.00 a.m. Year 5 MFL at RBSC
Thursday, 28 th September	8.00 a.m. Finance and Business Committee Meeting
Friday, 29 th September	9.00 a.m. Individual Photographs 3.15 p.m. Macmillan Coffee/Tea Afternoon
Monday, 2 nd October	4.00-5.30 p.m. Small Schools' Boys' Football Tournament, RBSC
Thursday, 12 th October	10.00-12.00 a.m. "Farm to Fork" – Foxes Class
Monday, 23 rd – Friday, 27 th October	HALF-Term
Tuesday, 7 th November	3.30-6.30 p.m. Parents' Consultation Evening (all classes)
Wednesday, 8 th November	3.30-6.30 p.m. Parents' Consultation Evening (Foxes/Squirrels/Badgers)
Friday, 10 th November	11.00 a.m. Great War Remembrance Service (Year 6 only)
Saturday, 25 th November	2.00 p.m. PTFA Christmas Fayre
Monday, 18 th December	1.30 p.m. KS1 Christmas Play Dress Rehearsal, Village Hall
Tuesday, 19 th December	10.00 a.m. KS1 Christmas Play, Village Hall 6.00 p.m. KS1 Christmas Play, Village Hall
Thursday, 21 st December	1.30-3.00 p.m. Christmas Parties
Friday, 22 nd December – Friday, 5 th January	Christmas Holiday

SPRING / SUMMER TERMS 2018

Monday, 12 th – Friday, 16 th February	Half-Term
Monday, 19 th February	INSET DAY – School Closed to Children
Monday, 5 th – Wednesday, 7 th March	Years 3 & 4 Residential – Kilve Court Outdoor Centre
Monday, 26 th March – Friday, 6 th April	Easter Holidays
Monday, 9 th April	INSET DAY – School Closed to Children
Monday, 7 th May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday, 14 th -Friday, 18 th May	KS2 SATs week
Monday, 28 th May – Friday, 1 st June	Half-Term
Monday, 4 th June	INSET DAY – School Closed to Children
Monday, 11 th – Friday, 15 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Thursday, 14 th June	9.15 a.m. Class/Team Photographs
Mon 25 th – Thurs 28 th June	Years 5 & 6 Residential Trip. Rock & Rapid, N. Devon.
Tuesday, 24 th July	2.15 p.m. Leavers' Assembly

NORTH NEWTON COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

SWIMMING PAYMENT

(6th September – 20th October, 2017)

NAME

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.....

I enclose payment for swimming as follows:

Foxes Class – £19.60
Squirrels Class – £16.80
Badgers Class - £19.60

or £2.80 per week.

I am exempt from charges and have provided proof.

SWIMMING VOUCHERS

I attach . . . swimming vouchers - please deduct
this amount from your swimming payment
(£2.80 per voucher)

Signed

.....
.....Parent