



March 2022

Dear Families,

March has been another busy month at Newmill Primary with lots of class information to share within this month's newsletter. With many events still to come, please note the diary dates section at the end.

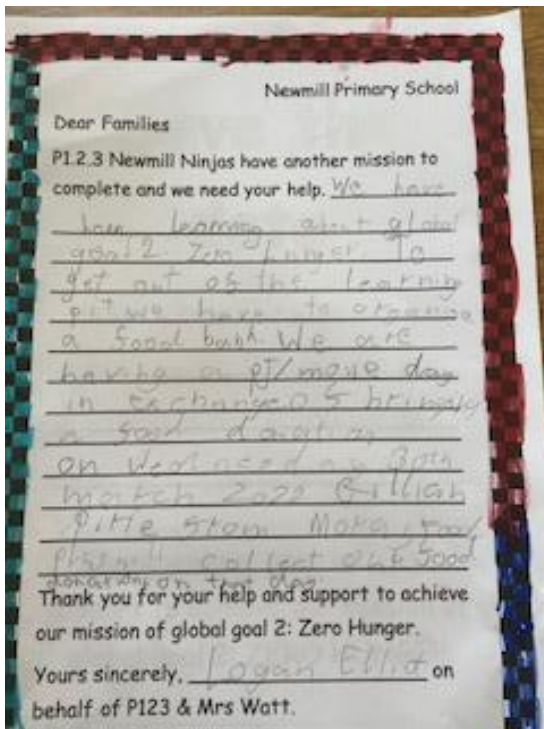


### RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

We must start with a huge well done to our Newmill Ninjas in P1/2/3. They have been demonstrating a 'Curious Carly' Newmill Ninja Mindset this month, keeping up to date with global events and acting swiftly to do what they can to support others. They quickly organised donations from Newmill Primary School to be delivered to the Ukraine. We must say a huge thank you Mrs Watt for organising the mission and Mr Watt for his part in delivering on our behalf. I had a really 'bucket filling' telephone call from one of the collection crew as they gathered our donations. Within each of the donations, our learners included messages to families using our school values as inspiration. The lady called to say our messages had made her feel quite emotional and were a lovely gesture. It was a lovely call to receive and prompted the presentation of class 'over and above' certificates in recognition of their words and actions used to 'SUPPORT' at a global level.



However, our Newmill Ninjas have another mission to complete and, once again, look to our families for support. I have said I would help by sharing their letter.....



"Dear families,  
P1.2.3 Newmill Ninjas have another mission to complete and we need your help. We have been learning about Global goal 2: Zero Hunger. To move through the learning pit we have to organise a food bank. We have decided to have a PJ and movie day in exchange for bringing in a food donation. On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March Gillian Pirie, Moray Foodbank, will visit to tell us all about the work of Moray food Bank and collect the food donated that day. Thank you for your help and support to achieve our mission.

Yours sincerely,  
Logan Elliot, on behalf of Mrs Watt and P1.2.3

However, we have a twist to the original letter as Newmill Primary received the following invite to take part in a Moray Wide Mission to support others.....



## MORAY UNICEF

Pennies for Peace

It is planned to fundraise for Ukraine and Moray UNICEF group would like to invite all schools in Moray to join in with this event by dressing in blue and yellow, the colours of the Ukrainian flag.

Any donation, of any value, will make a huge difference and initially will be collected in each school and then forwarded to the main UNICEF appeal. Representatives for UNICEF are already actively supporting the young people of Ukraine.

Please consider taking part in this event, thank you for your support.

Having discussed this invitation, we have decided to 'tweak' our original plan to support this. P1/2/3 would like to invite children to dress as they please with a blue and yellow theme (which can include the original idea of pyjamas) on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March. For those who can, we are inviting children to bring a donation for 'Pennies for Peace' and a Food Bank donation as part of our IDL focus on sustainable development goals.

### P7 Transition events

We are absolutely delighted with the opportunities we are able to provide to support P7 transition this year. In addition to Sessions offered by Loft, we have another partner agency who have offered additional sessions. Please see below:-

The Sonas Wellbeing Project at Action for Children are keen support transition of P7 pupils to their secondary schools. We understand this is an exciting, yet difficult time for young people. Our Bouncing Back programme is a FULLY FUNDED short programme, focused on building resilience and developing the skills we need to tackle life's challenges.

*Bouncing Back is delivered in two sessions. Each session lasts one hour. At the end of the programme, each participant will have developed an understanding of emotional wellbeing and been introduced to effective tools to improve their confidence, self-esteem, and personal resilience.*

**Newmill and Botriphnie** will join together to participate at Newmill on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 11-12. We will make sure to include details of impact in our next newsletter.

### **Young Leader's Award**

P6/7 have been working on their idea, designs and entry for the competition. This is the second year we have entered and, based on the children's feedback, it may become an annual event as part of Self-Directed- Learning (SDL) opportunities in Term 3.

*"We have entered the 'If I were an engineer' competition. I personally think Jo and Liam's designs are winning designs. Liam's is very creative and handy. Overall, I think we could have some winners in the class.*

*My design is a glove washer. It is a glove with a double sided cleaning function. One side has a washable cloth and the other side has bristles. The best part is that the inside has a moisturising liner!*

*I would consider the learning involved in the competition 'flow'. I really enjoyed it and have developed the skills: Successful Learner-plan-do-review. "*

*Megan, P7*

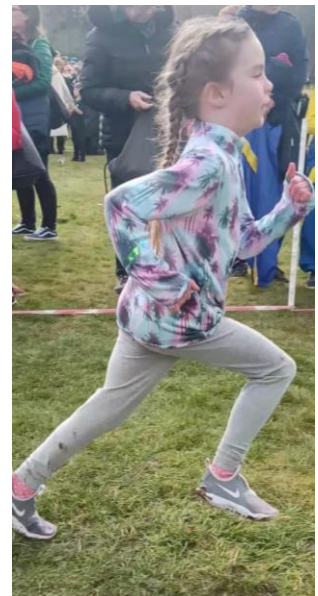
### **Cross Country**

Well done to everyone who took part in the Moray Cross Country last weekend. A big thank you to all the parents for transporting. Thanks to Gillian Stevenson and Jamie McIntosh for registering on the day and Donna Shepherd for bringing along the Newmill jackets for children to wear.

### **Opportunities for Wider Achievements**

At a recent staff meeting we discussed options to provide opportunities for children to participate in lunchtime clubs. Mrs Wright has decided to offer a Lego Club for P1-3 next term. Mrs Mair is keen to offer a typing club to develop digital literacy skills. Mrs Clayton has been learning about Table Cricket and as part of her training a Development Officer from Active Schools came to demonstrate with a taster session for P5. Here's what Jake Barclay had to say....

*"I used my build team strengths Newmill Ninja skills in table cricket because I would follow the rules, work our points to keep score. I really liked playing table cricket."*



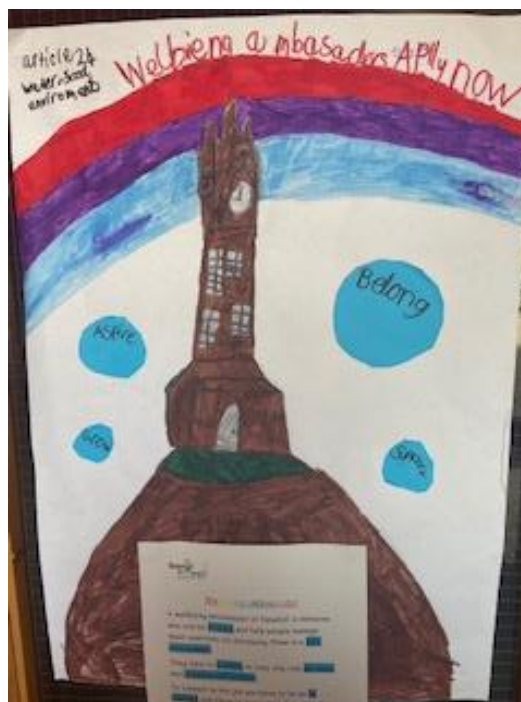


P6/7 had a great lesson on Friday, so much so, some of them wrote a drop for Mrs Wright's bucket to say thank you for the lesson. They were celebrating Holi, the Hindu Festival of Colours. It seemed messy but great fun. Here's what Brogan had to say....

*"We were learning about the festival of Holi. We put paper along the playground and then popped balloons filled with food colouring. We put paint powder on top and then threw water balloons on it. It looked really cool and was good fun."* Brogan, P7

### Wellbeing Ambassadors

On Friday P4-7 met to introduce a new leadership opportunity open to all P4-6 learners. P6/7 have developed the role to support wellbeing across the school and have made a short video explaining the role to their peers. The pupils are sharing their video at the next Parent Council Meeting. Children now have the opportunity to apply for the position of 'Wellbeing Ambassador' and many have picked up their application forms already. P7s will be helping with the interview process, where children will have the opportunity to discuss the skills they would bring to the role. We will then work with the Wellbeing Ambassadors to develop their role together. Part of the role may include buddying new P1s, Playmaker training, helping with lego club, library lending, etc. The group will also be able to lead on aspects of school improvement via regular meetings.



*R. Smith*

### Diary Dates

- **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March** -P7 Transition events- held in school.
- **Friday 25<sup>th</sup>**- P7 visit to KGS 2-3pm-No Loft session that night
- **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March**- Parent Council Meeting- virtual 10-11-link to follow
- **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March**-Dress in something yellow and blue(could be PJs)
- **Friday 1st April**- P7 trip to Pinz bowling in conjunction with the Loft as part of transition events