



April 2025



Dear Families,

Welcome to term four! Transitions feature heavily as a main theme this month as we welcome our new P1s on a weekly basis and support our P7s through various opportunities on their journey to secondary school. Of course, there have been many 'in house' transitions as Mrs Wright adapts to her new role in the P1-3 class. We welcome Miss Stewart to team Newmill and look forward to supporting her to transition to her new role in P3/4/5/6. We are delighted Mrs Watt has agreed to support P3/4/5/6 through this transition period on a Monday and Tuesday. Mrs Mair will be absent from work for a month this term for medical reasons. As a result, Mrs Watt will be teaching P6/7 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and I will be in Monday and Tuesday to provide continuity for our children and their learning. We have a number of diary dates for you all as we prepare for the whole school to visit Aberdeen Science Centre, Adventurous Activity Week, Transition Week, Sports, Scottish Opera, etc. It's going to be a busy term, fingers crossed the lovely weather continues to ensure everything can go ahead as planned. Please make sure to hand in all permission slips ahead of excursions.

Opportunities for Personal Achievement - Cross Country

Mrs Simmers was delighted with the Newmill Ninja mind-sets on display at the Cross Country Event on Saturday 22nd March. Eight Newmill Ninjas participated...well done to all of them. We presented their certificates at assembly. Brodie was awarded with his medal on the day after coming first in P1-3 race. Thank you to Mrs Simmers for supporting at the event as Team Lead for Newmill.



Opportunities for Personal Achievement - Bikeability

We were delighted to be able to work with Outfit Moray to provide all P7 pupils with the opportunity to test their cycling skills. With all P7s able to cycle independently, the Outfit Moray Team provided an outdoor experience to apply their cycle skills in a more challenging environment- Fochabers Bike Trails. Here's what our learners had to say...

"On Thursday, lots of people were excited...Biking Day! It was very fun. We practised first and then we went on the hard trails. First, the orange trail, which was extreme level, then blue, which was medium level and red which was very hard. I really enjoyed it and I am

definitely doing it in the holidays. I demonstrated a 'Persevering Pete' Mindset for trying the hardest trails." Aria, P7

"On Thursday, all of p7 girls went cycling. We went to the winding walks. First, we drove there then we got our helmets and gear on. Next we got our bikes and started exploring. We went really long bike trails. I went on all of them. It was really hard and fun at the same time. I want to go back there in Summer." Millie H, P7



Opportunities for

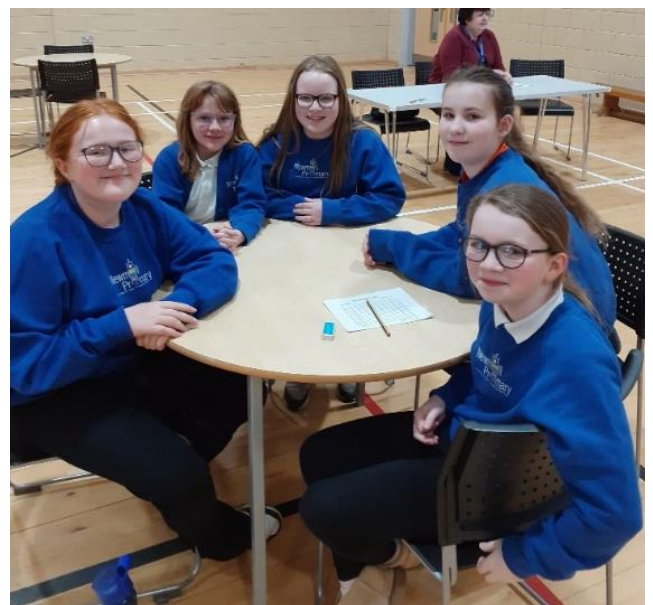
Personal Achievement - Young Leaders Well done to Aria who was presented with her Active Schools Young Leaders hoody at the end of last term. The presentation was to mark ten hours of volunteering to support children within the Keith area to participate in sporting activities. Next, Aria and Harlo have volunteered to run sporting activities on Friday lunchtimes, here at Newmill Primary, throughout term four. If any parents are interested in supporting their child to pursue a pathway as Sports Leader, please get in touch with Amanda Walker or us here at school where we can advise and support.

Wellbeing Ambassador Role

All P6s will receive training from Mrs Watt on Monday afternoons to prepare them for their leadership role- buddying new P1s. They will learn how to lead a variety of games and activities to support our new recruits as they visit regularly throughout this term.

Opportunities for Personal Achievement - Rotary Quiz

A big shout out to our Rotary Quiz Team who demonstrated a real 'Resilient Ruby' Mind-set to the experience. They really put in a huge effort preparing for the event. The team were regularly spotted huddled in corners throughout the school, during break and lunch, practising questions. A big thank you to Mrs Jamieson for supporting their preparation. I know she was really proud of their performance on the day as it was very close indeed, with Newmill awarded second place overall. Thanks to all parents for transporting and supporting at the event. Abi and Mia are looking forward to next year already.



Curricular Skills- Reading Schools Update

The whole school was delighted to welcome Mr Leitch (KGS Librarian) back to Newmill at the end of last term. Mr Leitch prepared an input with a focus on Scottish Authors and Scots books to link in with our IDL study last term 'The Cultural Classroom'. Once again, our learners were inspired and talked about the experience with great enthusiasm.

Next on our Reading Schools agenda, is the procurement of a specific reading bench and area for our playground. We have our fingers crossed that we can persuade Mr Watt to decorate it. Many visitors comment on the fantastic artwork on our sheds ...we are very lucky to have his support.



IDL- The Cultural Classroom

I was delighted to be able to join P1-3 for their performance for parents to share their learning. Once again, the children presented as confident individuals, keen and eager to share a wide variety of songs, poems, information and dances. It was great to see so many parents and wider family members within the audience...thank you for your support. A big thank you to Mrs Watt and Miss Riddell for their hard work putting it all together. I know how much work goes on behind the scenes to prepare with the children. The event was also a great opportunity to mark the end of Mrs Watt's time as permanent teacher here at Newmill Primary. Her bucket was overflowing with all the kind words and gestures to thank her for her commitment to the pupils of Newmill Primary School.

There are many opportunities for parental involvement planned for the term. Please see below. We look forward to seeing you all throughout the term.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Smith'.

Rachael Smith, HeadLearner

DIARY DATES

- **Friday 25th April**- Newmill Nursery visiting 10.45-11.15
- **Tuesday 29th April**- Newmill Nursery visiting 10.45-11.15
- **Thursday 1st May**- Parent Council meeting at 6pm Newmill Primary School
- **Monday 5th May**- May Day Holiday- school closed
- **Tuesday 6th May**- Newmill Nursery Visiting 10.45-11.15
- **Wednesday 7th May**- Active Schools -P6/7 Rugby Taster Session
- **Thursday 8th May**- Generation Science Workshops
- **Thursday 8th May**- Joining Big Live VE80 assembly - Reverend Amy Bender hoping to join.
- **Tuesday 13th May**- Newmill Nursery Visiting 10.45-11.30
- **Wednesday 14th May**- P6/7 Active school Rugby taster session
- **Wednesday 14th May**- P6 to KGS for Science Fair led by KGS pupils
- **Friday 16th May**- P1/2/3 and P3/4/5/6 class trips to Aberdeen Science Centre
- **Tuesday 20th May** - Newmill Nursery visiting
- **Wednesday 21st May**- P5-7 trip to Aberdeen Science Centre with Newmill Primary P6/7
- **Monday 26th May 2025**- Scottish Opera at Keith Primary School for P6 and P7 pupils -Parents welcome to watch the performance- more details to follow.
- **Tuesday 27th May**- P1 Parental information Session 9am Newmill Primary School
- **Wednesday 28th May**- P6/7 Taster Rugby session
- **Monday 2nd June**- School Closed - Occasional Day Holiday
- **Tuesday 3rd June**- P6/7 Farm Trip in association with RNCI
- **Thursday 5th June**- Newmill/ Botriphnie Sports day 1-2.30pm Newmill Park
- **Tuesday 10th/ Wednesday 11th/ Thursday 12th June**-KGS induction
- **Week beginning 16/06/25** Adventurous Activity week for P7s and Transition week for whole school with all children moving to their new class for most of the week.
- **Tuesday 17th June**- **P7** Afternoon Tea 3pm- 4pm -provided by Newmill Primary School- no cost
- **Monday 23rd June**- P1/2/3 Active Schools Taster Badminton Sessions

