



June 2025



Dear Families,

June has passed in a flash and it is hard to believe we are at the end of another school year.

Life and Work of the School as a Community- Sports Day

A big thank you to everyone who came along to support Sports day. It was a brilliant afternoon, with lots of fabulous 'Have a Go Jo' Mindsets on display throughout the afternoon and not one drop of rain! Thank you to Mrs Simmers for organising the white lines on the park and set up for Sports. Next, we have 'Potted Sports' to look forward to on Thursday afternoon. Our P7s have organised different Newmill Ninja themed stations for the rest of the school to enjoy. Fingers crossed the weather is kind once again.



Life and Work of the School as a Community-Transition Week

Transition week was a great success on many levels. Feedback from P7 Adventurous Activity week has been positive, with everyone demonstrating a fab 'Have a Go Jo' Newmill Ninja mind-set. It's a great opportunity to test mind-set and build resilience. They thoroughly enjoyed their time together, trialling a range of different outdoor activities. Back in school, everyone had the opportunity to 'move up' for most of the week in their absence. As usual, we had arranged some four in the pit experts to share their knowledge and expertise around different curricular areas. This year, Mr Thain returned to offer some fitness taster sessions. Mr Morrison returned to deliver some digital learning sessions across the school. Thanks to everyone for supporting Newmill Primary RAG BAG as

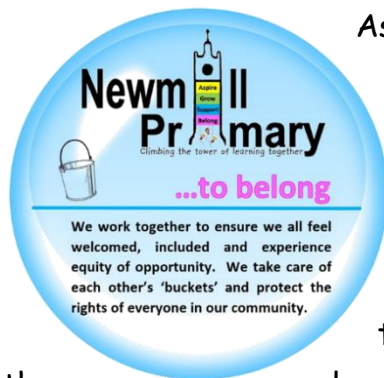


the money received helps organise wider experiences for all learners. Here's what our learners had to say...

"We were using microbits, put one on our wrist and one on our computer. It's a new thing called microbit AI. It tracked movements- we had five motions to try. I chose to do a 'High Five', 'Wave' and 'Push Up'. I thought it was great fun but some of the time it was quite glitchy and we needed Mr Morrison's help to sort it." Colton, P5

"I actually really liked Tae-Kwon -Do because it was the first time I've ever done it. It was like being at the gym. We had to kick pads four times. We had to punch the pads too. We also played some racing games. I would definitely go again. P4 is my favourite Primary so far and I enjoyed spending four days in my new class. I am looking forward to August. " Elliot, P3

Life and Work of the School as a Community-Thank you to our Wellbeing Ambassadors for their work as 'Buddies'



As head learner, it is a real bucket filler to see, hear and feel the motivation our pupils have for transition week. The enthusiasm for, either meeting their new teacher or mixing with a new variety of learners, is enough to keep engagement levels soaring to the very end of term. Mrs Wright has been delighted with how our new P1 recruits have transitioned smoothly, confidently approaching their first week at 'big school'. They've been made a real fuss of in

the playground, with a swarm of helpers around to make sure they feel like they belong. Lovely to see so many committing so deeply to using words and actions which demonstrate our school values. In a recent questionnaire to P1 parents, they recognised the key role 'P7 Buddies' as a positive influence supporting an effective transition. 'Over and Above' certificates coming their way!

Life and Work of the school as a Community -Parent Council AGM

Thank you to everyone who came along to the AGM last week. Donna Shepherd, who has been Chair for a number of years, stood down from her position. I would encourage all parents to take some time to look through the report Donna put together, outlining the wide variety of ways parents support Newmill Primary School, using the link below. I would like to say a big thank you to Donna for her commitment to the role over the years. We are delighted to have managed to appoint a new Chairperson and welcome Gillian Stevenson as a returning parent Council Office Bearer. Gillian has already made contact via Facebook Group to find out when would be best for our next meeting.

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/vDrLNd1qNgPGiCuB>

Life and Work of the School as a Community -Farm Trip

We would like to say a big thank you to Billy, Mary and Philip Stewart for welcoming P6/7 to his farm on Monday morning as well as Alison, from RNCI. The children thoroughly enjoyed their morning and had lots to say on return...



"On Monday, we visited Mrs Stewart's farm. Her husband, Billy, introduced us and started answering the questions we sent to them a couple of weeks ago. One question I had was... 'What was the most lambs you've had in a year' and Billy said '851!' That is SO many! I was shocked. Once he was finished talking, he showed us around the farm. He first showed us the sheep dogs. Billy has three sheep dogs. They are called Glen, Bob, and Joe. Bob was older so he was quite



scared, but the Glen and Joe were very excited. Then we went to see some sheep. We saw lots of 'Black Face' sheep. Some sheep were only half shaved, and it was very funny. Mrs Stewart led us outside but before we went outside, we went into a metal container and the container was attached to wires and it measured us! We all had to be 'Patient' and 'Have Our Listening Ears On' so we knew how to stay safe and be careful. We had our break then went outside. Once we were outside, we got a class picture with Molly at the front. We also got to go into vehicles and explore the things you attached to the back of tractors or quad bikes! It was so fun. We also must clean our feet and hands a lot since a virus is going round. Their farm currently only has sheep right now but the sometimes they buy cattle. I learnt lots of new things like you can't grow barley in the same spaces and some sheep wools are very rare and expensive. I didn't have a lot of previous knowledge to build on. Billy explained a lot of things and now I know lot more about farming! We were also all 'Curious Carly's and asked lots of questions. Aria, P7

Life and Work of the School- P7 Leavers

Yet another wonderful school year is drawing to a close, and although we are all looking forward to the holidays, there is also a sense of loss as we contemplate our P7 learners moving on. The children are such an integral part of all our lives and we enjoy such positive relationships in the school that we really miss them. We were delighted to enjoy an 'Afternoon Tea' together to celebrate the end of Primary School. On Friday, Barron Stevenson has very kindly agreed to come along and pipe out our P7s as the chapter on Primary School closes and the next begins. Parents are welcome to come along and support from 2.50pm. Hankies ready!



Staffing update

I am delighted to announce that we appointed a new teacher to P3/4/5. Mrs Holly Allardice was successful at interview this week and will join Miss Stewart as job-share partner at some point next term. Final dates have yet to be confirmed. Mrs Allardice will replace Mrs Watt on a Monday and Tuesday. Miss Stewart will become Mrs Fletcher over the Summer Holiday period. We wish Mrs Allardice a warm welcome and Miss Stewart a wonderful wedding day!

Session 25/26

I have booked Bikeability for all pupils within the first two weeks back. Bikeability 1 (P1-5) during the first week back from Wednesday -Friday and Bikeability 2 (aimed at P6/7) the following week. Just a reminder bikes are not required to participate. However, it is a good opportunity to access bike health checks. More details will follow on Monday/ Tuesday when staff return.

Wishing our wonderful school community an awesome Summer holiday!

Warm regards,
Rachael Smith

DIARY DATES

- **Friday 27th June-** Last Day of Term -P7 being piped out from 2.50pm.
- **Monday 18th August-** In Service Closure
- **Tuesday 19th August-**In Service Closure
- **Wednesday 20th August-** Children return to school