

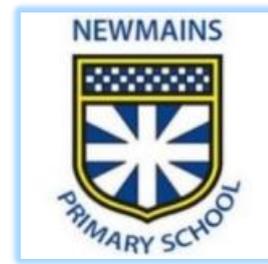


0300 300 0172

newmainsenquiries@renfrewshire.gov.uk

blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/Newmains

@NewmainsPS



Session: 2023 - 2024

Newsletter 3

9 November 2023

Staff News

Mrs Carlin and Miss Pinkett will soon start their maternity leave. We wish them well and look forward to hearing their exciting news soon. I will inform P4/3 parents as soon as I can confirm who will replace Mrs Carlin.

Road Safety Parent/Carer Questionnaire

We are committed to making the area around the school safer and I appreciate the efforts parents and carers go to, to support us with that.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who took the time to answer the road safety questionnaire. I have drawn out a few highlights from it below:

- ★ 80% of parents reported they were concerned about the traffic at the front of the school.
- ★ Inconsiderate parking, manoeuvring and the number of vehicles were the top 3 concerns.
- ★ The majority of parents reported seeing a difference in the front of the school recently with the additional measures in place.
- ★ The top 3 benefits were reported as safer for pedestrians, reduced concern and anxiety for parents and increased independence for pupils.

There were a number of suggestions as to help improve the situations such as:

- ★ Retractable bollards
- ★ SLT stopping cars entering Lang Avenue
- ★ Road closure for arrival and departure times from school
- ★ Involvement of Police and Traffic Wardens
- ★ Increased signage and road markings

We are an ambitious school where everyone works together and feels part of the Newmains Team

♥ We are caring

♥ We are kind

♥ We are fair

♥ We strive for success



Other concerns raised by a number of parents were:

- ★ The number of cars still entering Lang Avenue
- ★ The number of parents and carers at the gates blocking the entry and exit.
- ★ The number of dogs around the gates
- ★ Parents continuing to drop off in the school car park.

We continue to work with the roads team and suggestions will be shared with them. As the Head Teacher I have little jurisdiction and have no power to shut or block the road. I can only ask that community collaboration will keep the pupils of Newmains safe as we all work together. There is currently another Renfrewshire Council consultation taking place with residents on Lang Avenue related to the planters that were introduced as a traffic control measure.

PATHS

Following staff training at the October in-service we are introducing the PATHS programme across the school to help with emotional regulation. PATHS stands for Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies and focuses on supporting learners to understand their feelings and respond appropriately in a range of situations.

All staff have been issued with materials and resources to use in class and these will form a substantial part of our HWB programme going forward.

A parent and carer opportunity will be held later in the year as many of the approaches would be useful at home and in other settings also.

Groupcall

All schools in Renfrewshire have moved to a new communication service called Groupcall. You may receive emails or text messages from the school under the title Groupcall. Please ensure you open these in order to receive information particularly from the school office. All other communication remains on Seesaw.

Nut allergy - important

We have several pupils in school with a nut allergy and it is really important that items containing nuts are not brought into school such as Nutella, peanut butter, some cereal bars, and crackers. Please be vigilant when sending in products for your child as part of their snack or lunch.

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Important Dates

13 th - 17 th November 2023	Anti-bullying week
13 th November 2023	Pupil Council Odd socks day
17 th November 2023	Brian Donnelly's parent/carer workshops
17 th November 2023	Parent Council Come as YOU are day - donations of books and toys for Christmas Fair
17 th November 2023	Pupil Council Christmas Jumper swap day
30 th November 2023	St Andrew's Day holiday - school closed
4 th December 2023	Parent Council Christmas Movie night
7 th December 2023	Pupil Council Christmas Jumper Charity Day
7 th December 2023	Parent Council Christmas Fair
13 th - 15 th December 2023	Christmas Concerts
22 nd December 2023	School closes for Winter holiday at 2.30pm
8 th January 2024	School reopens for pupils
22 nd - 26 th January 2024	Scottish Week
26 th January 2024	Scottish celebration
6 th February 2024	Safer Internet Day
8 th February 2024	Learning Conversations
12 th and 13 th February 2024	School Holidays
14 th February 2024	Inservice day - staff only
15 th February 2024	Pupils return
29 th February 2024	Parent Council Disco
7 th March 2024	World Book Day
11 th March 2024	STEM week
15 th March 2024	STEM open afternoon
28 th March 2024	PC Easter event
28 th March 2024	School closes for Spring Holiday at 2.30pm
15 th April 2024	Pupils return
2 nd May 2024	Inservice Day - staff only
6 th May 2024	May holiday
7 th - 10 th May 2024	P7 Residential trip to Ardentiny
22 nd and 23 rd May 2024	P7 induction at Renfrew HS P1 induction at Newmains
24 th and 27 th May 2024	May holidays
13 th June 2024	Sports Day
27 th June 2024	School closes for summer holiday at 1pm

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Christmas Events

Included in the dates below are the Christmas events taking place this year. More information will follow about tickets for the Christmas Concerts in order for parents and carers to attend.

A message was sent out this week for Christmas lunch orders and should be completed as soon as possible to allow the catering staff to order the correct amounts.

Focus Weeks

Maths week and Newmains book week were both an enormous success with a number of different activities and challenges for pupils. Next week is Anti-bullying week which includes a parent carer opportunity to work with Brian Donnelly, a leading expert in Anti-bullying who has collaborated with the school on many occasions before. Mr McGauley will issue more information regarding times for the sessions via Seesaw.

Newmains Parent Council

The Parent Council runs many events throughout the year for pupils and their families, of the school and we are incredibly grateful for their valuable support. If you are interested in joining the parent council or supporting their events, please contact a member via the Newmains Parent Council Facebook page or a member of office staff who can pass on your details.

Thank you for your ongoing support which is invaluable to the success of Newmains. Please contact us at school if we can be of help in any way.

Louise Dunn

Louise Dunn

Head Teacher

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